

In this issue...

Coordinator Comments.....	1
Program Director's "Directions" ..	2
Introducing EDDMaps	3
News and Notes	4
Book Review: Guide helps weed out invasive plants.....	4
Spotlight on: Flowering Rush ...	5

Around the Province:

• Edmonton: <i>Albertans can take action on harmful species.</i> ...	6
• Waterton: <i>Parks Canada's battle continues.</i>	7
• Stop the spread of Flowering Rush	8
• Rocky View: <i>Flowering rush found in Rocky View</i>	8
• Fort Macleod: <i>Battling invasives in River Valley Wilderness Park</i>	9
• Regulated weed garden.....	10
• Fish Creek: <i>Purging the Spurge.</i>	10
• The problem with the anti-pesticide movement....	11

Beyond our Backyard:

• Montana: <i>Evaluating the costs & benefits of alternative weed management strategies</i>	12
• Europe: <i>Interactive identification key for seeds in birdseed</i>	12
• Atlanta: <i>Teen inventor combats kudzu menace</i>	13
• Montana: <i>Vehicles aid in weed seed dispersal</i>	14
• Wild Dakota TV, MRWC partner to bring invasive species message to sportsmen	14
Upcoming Events	15

Coordinator comments



Summer has flown by...

By VIRGINIA BATTISTE

SUMMER HAS flown by in a haze of activity that is unusual for this position—I usually take a summer hiatus, but not so this year! A great deal of time and attention went into funding proposals/reports, activities which under ordinary circumstances usually take place at other times of the year!

Approval has been obtained from Environment Canada's Invasive Alien Species Partnership Program (IASPP) which will, among other activities, see the University of Georgia's EDDMapS—Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System—extended into Alberta, which is the first formal agreement for EDDMaps to come in to Canada! AIPC is leading the way in making this a North American wide mapping system. Watch for rollout in the coming weeks/months.

Also, featured prominently in the activities will be completion of the Fact Sheets to match all the species listed in the AB Weed Regulation. Some two dozen more species will be covered and posted to the website. Speaking of the website, we will be doing a redesign/update through other funding, so watch for a “new” look within the next several months. Additional educational resources will also be developed over the next several months. Watch for them!

AIPC will continue with the Regional Meetings to focus on developing cooperative weed management initiatives and strategies in local areas. Funding for this will also come from the IASPP funding. Another focus of activity will be to work with the horticultural industry and gardening sector in broadening awareness of the AB Weed Control Act and enhancing education and awareness activities with them (see photo at right).

One of the highlights of the summer was attending the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER)

Summit in Portland, OR, to participate in the Invasive Species Conference. PNWER, the only statutory, non-partisan, bi-national, public/private partnership in North America, facilitates working groups consisting of public and private leaders to address specific issues impacting the regional economy. The Delegate Council includes the Premiers and Governors of the participating provinces/territories and states including Alaska, Alberta, BC, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, NWT, Saskatchewan, Washington & Yukon as well as MLA's and State Representatives.

With 75 people crowded into the room for the Invasive Species Conference, it was the largest breakout session of the 16 working groups which met. AIPC was invited to participate in the Steering Committee of the Invasive Species Working Group which is developing an Action Plan for regional implementation.

continued on page 2



PHOTO: VIRGINIA BATTISTE

Greenhouse owner/operator Pam Murphy of Murphy's Greenhouses in Caroline, Alberta, displays AIPC's *Weed Wise Gardening in Alberta* brochure to distribute to customers.

Coordinator comments

continued from page 1

The PNWER Summit was a golden opportunity to network with public and private representatives from across the economic region. Whether it was entering into lively discussions with other not-for-profit representatives from participating US States, as well as BC & Saskatchewan, or meeting elected officials from Alaska and NWT, or greeting Hon. Mel Knight and Hon. Iris Evans and providing info on AIPC to the two Alberta MLA's who attended the Invasive Species Conference, it was worth its weight in gold to be in attendance and be recognized as the source of information on invasive plants for Alberta.

It was also an opportunity to distribute AIPC placemats and the Weed Wise Brochure. Watch for more on the involvement with PNWER Invasive Species Working Group—it is a force to be reckoned with on a public/private level across the Pacific Northwest.

A reminder: the AIPC placemats are available at no cost for your lunch/dinner event in multiples of 100. Contact Candice Manshreck at (403) 394-6824 or e-mail: cmanshreck@dow.com to have them shipped out for your event. Hint: far-sighted municipal staff in Fort Macleod and MD of Acadia have provided the placemats to their local restaurants as an educational item on invasive plants for patrons. Way to go guys!

With new funding in place, the fall is shaping up to be an interesting and active time. Hope to see

“The PNWER Summit was a golden opportunity to network with public and private representatives from across the economic region. It was worth its weight in gold to be in attendance and be recognized as the source of information on invasive plants for Alberta.”

many of you in your local area as regional meetings gear up. Fort McMurray, you are on the AIPC radar for a visit! (Hopefully before the snow flies!)

Have a great fall, everyone!



By DON BATTISTE

WHILE SPEAKING recently at a summer village event, I made a surprising discovery: a masterfully designed water garden adjacent to the hotel property where I was housed featured flowering rush!

As a designer I was admiring the layout of the water garden. When I walked closer I was startled to see that the feature plant in the middle was a 2 square metre patch of flowering rush. Ironically, this pond is maybe less than one kilometre from the lake which the watershed association is fighting so hard to protect and improve.

It reminded me of how important the role is of professional landscape designers and architects. The choices they make in designs can affect invasive plant prevention and management in a locality. I look forward to having opportunities for dialogue with design professionals on these issues. There are always good alternatives.

While speaking, participants reported invasive plants that were identified from the presentation. Discoveries like this underline the importance of Albertans knowing, finding and reporting

Program Director's "directions"

what they find. If we multiply this by a thousand Albertans, it will repeatedly save local situations by early interventions, and save overstretched budgets as well.

Secondly, new sites like these would likely not have been discovered and may have led to further disaster locally in that watershed, except that an enthusiastic watershed association grasped the truth that invasive plant knowledge and control are foundational to any natural area care and restoration. They cared enough to invite someone out to educate them and their constituents.

AIPC has just been approved for new federal IASPP funding which brings with it some attached provincial funds that will propel us forward and bring with it, I believe, some real added value to weed managers, and all Albertans.

With that funding, one of the key initiatives is to roll out EDDMapS Alberta. I expect that this user friendly North American mapping system and its website will catch the imaginations and interests of Albertans in diverse professions and vocations. Whether for early detection, mapping, facilitating rapid response, or just using the photo collection and information on species and management that is freely available, I am sure that Albertans in many sectors will find unique value in it.

In fact, this past growing season, Albertans in every part of the province, including non-professionals, are contacting AIPC to report or in-

quire about invasive plants. We have taken some potentially important reports of new invaders and sent them through channels to verify, and have then alerted local authorities for follow-up. This will basically be no different than the process that will happen with EDDMapS, but I expect there will be far more inputs, and with a much more clearly defined process.

Look in this issue of *The Invader* for the flowering rush articles—control work has been done at Isle Lake east of Edmonton, and a new discovery took place this year in an irrigation canal in Rocky View County just east of Calgary. My compliments go out to the personnel in SRD, Fish and Wildlife Branch, and to Rocky View County and their partners for their work in this, and what they are adding to everyone's capabilities through their experiences.

Finally, this fall I will begin to arrange new regional meetings, and will be contacting personnel in areas that AIPC has not yet reached. We will be calling together rural and urban personnel who have a stake in invasive plant work. Be in touch if you want something in your area.

For those who had a regional meeting earlier this year, consider what date would be best to have a follow up to discuss successes and challenges after this summer season, and possibilities for co-operation locally. AIPC can help if needed.

Keep up the good work everyone and remember to support AIPC. Also, we are always looking for good photos. Send them along.

Introducing EDDMapS: <http://www.eddmaps.org/> **Invasive Species Mapping Made Easy!**



EDDMapS (Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System), started in 2005 with Southeastern U.S. focus, is now providing a picture of the distribution of invasive species across the U.S.

- Fast and easy to use – no knowledge of GIS required
- Web-based mapping of invasive species distribution to help fill gaps and identify “leading edge” ranges
- Facilitates Early Detection and Rapid Response implementation with online data entry forms, e-mail alerts and network of expert verifiers
- One Database for both local and national data
- Data can be searched, queried and downloaded in a variety of formats
- Cooperates with and aggregates data from other invasive species mapping projects
- Custom/hosted applications can be quickly and inexpensively developed

EDDMapS New Features

USER PROFILES

A user profile is a way to add credibility to the reports an EDDMapS user submits. Setting up a profile is easy and quick, requiring a name, organization/company and e-mail address. There are

several additional fields that provide a more comprehensive overview of the users’ experience and provide a way for reviewers and experts to contact the user to confirm reports. The Bio section can include formal/informal training, degrees earned, employment history, or other relevant information. Most of the current profiles are listed as “Private” which means that other EDDMapS users cannot view any information the profile contains. Marking the profile as “Public” lets others see more information on who is reporting, what they have recently reported, and their contact information, and Bio. We encourage you to visit the “My EDDMapS” section of the EDDMapS website and make your profile public.

EDDMapS INVASIVE PLANT MAPPING HANDBOOK

Recently, the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health at the University of Georgia published a handbook on invasive plant mapping for EDDMapS. This book, funded by the U.S. Forest Service in cooperation with the Georgia Forestry Commission through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, covers why plants become invasive, why it is important to report invasive plants, how to prepare for a surveying trip, and how to fill out the EDDMapS reporting form. The book also defines the fields in the online reporting form and gives descriptive and photographic examples of how to properly report an invasive species sighting. An Adobe Acrobat (pdf) version of the handbook is available on the EDDMapS website at <http://www.eddmaps.org/training/EDD-mapS.pdf>

EDDMapS DATA DICTIONARY

For small amounts of data, the online form is perfect for uploading data points. However, when recruiting data from agencies and organizations that survey annually over large areas, generating large data sets the online form is inconvenient to use. We have received numerous requests on how

to format the data to make it as ready to upload as possible. The data dictionary was created to aid reporters in beginning the formatting process to send bulk data to EDDMapS for upload. The dictionary displays the fields EDDMapS is capable of accommodating, the type of data appropriate for each field, a definition of the field, an example of the type of data appropriate, and a description listing the field as: Required, Recommended, or Optional. With this, we are hoping to reduce the “back-and-forth” e-mails that can sometimes accompany bulk data. The data dictionary can be accessed at <http://www.eddmaps.org/tools/data-dictionary.pdf>

ALERT SYSTEM

We have had a lot of favorable responses from EDDMapS users that have signed up for the Alert System! The alert system is an excellent tool for a variety of users and can be tailored to the user’s specific interests. Alerts can be set up is to send the user an e-mail when a new or existing invasive plant and/or animal is reported in a particular state or county. An alert can also be set to send an e-mail to the user when a specific species has been reported or when it is reported in a new county. To set up an alert, click on “My EDDMapS” on the EDDMapS Homepage and from there the user can click to “Create an Alert” or “Manage My Alerts”. Alerts are sent at 8:00 eastern each morning with any updates in the past 24 hours.

EDDMapS MOBILE

Taking advantage of the millions of people using smartphones, a mobile web version of the EDDMapS reporting system has been developed. Traditionally, surveying for invasive plants involved a variety of tools to log the GPS coordinates, take pictures, and record information about the plant or habitat. A smart phone with built-in GPS and camera and the Mobile EDDMapS website can replace those tools and make reporting invasive species much easier. This website also allows the user to view information and pictures on selected invasive plants scaled for the mobile browser screen. Currently, only Android-based phones are allowed to upload pictures directly from their phones onto the reporting page. iPhone users will need to upload the images from desktop computers, though we are working on iPhone applications to solve this issue. The website for EDDMapS Mobile is <http://mobile.eddmaps.org/>

News & Notes:

International kudos for AIPC's e-newsletter, The Invader!

IPMnet, Integrated Pest Management Network, c/o Integrated Plant Protection Center, Oregon State University, included the following comments in its July/August newsletter:

** The Invader is the Alberta (CANADA) Invasive Plants Council's periodic e-newsletter, and a lively and informative one it is. Editor V. Battiste colorfully meets the Council's goals of communication, education, and awareness by reporting on news and features of current interest in an attractive format. See it at: <http://tinyurl.com/3otesvx>. -> AIPC.coordinator@gmail.com.*

Special thanks goes to our Graphic Designer, Christine Pearce, for always making the Newsletter, and all our print resources, look so good!
~ Virginia Battiste

New weed magazine launches

(report from IPMnet News)

The Australian government's National Weeds and Productivity Research Program the Rural Industries Research and Development Corp. (RIRDC) has launched *Weed Solutions*. The colourful, well-designed, 24-page initial issue, dated July 2011, introduces the national program and its goals and activities. A FREE downloadable version is available at <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/11-078>



BOOK REVIEW

Guide helps weed out invasive plants

By DAVID BARE
Winston-Salem Journal, North Carolina
Published: July 8, 2011

I OFTEN WONDER — while I am down on my knees with salty sweat burning in my eyes — how young I would be if I was given back all the years I've spent weeding. The tenacious and wandering rhizomes of Bermuda grass alone have occupied several years, being at least a bi-weekly occupation through the hottest summer months.

The other day I picked up a book called *"Invasive Plants: Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species"* by Sylvan Ramsey Kaufman and Wallace Kaufman. A quick glance yields many familiar faces, as you might expect. What came as a surprise was how some of these plants I had purposely planted. Things like lantana that I recommend often as a drought-tolerant, all-summer, flowering annual are extraordinarily invasive a little farther south.

"Lantana can form dense stands and the soil under these stands becomes enriched with nitrogen and poisoned with allelochemicals released from the roots and stems. In some areas of the world, it is ranked as one of the 100 worst invaders." Fortunately, its sensitivity to frost leaves lantana in the ornamental category in our climes.

I confess to having planted a few butterfly bushes in my time as well. I have a long-standing association with this shrub. I spent many hours of my childhood capturing butterflies on its flowering branches. But it is considered an invasive.

"Butterfly bush can form dense stands, particularly along streams or wetland edges, blocking light to understory plants and new growth. Also considered invasive in western Europe and a major problem in New Zealand."

A great thing about this book is the historic description of each plant under the heading "How It Came to North America." Here you learn that Woolly Mullein is a common roadside weed. There is a spectacular patch on Silas Creek Parkway near Sherwood Forest Elementary. It was introduced to Virginia in the 1700s from Europe. There, it was used as "a fish poison because

the leaves contain rotenone" (also used as an organic insecticide).

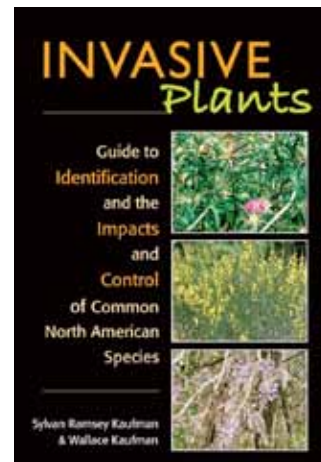
Since Europeans had used it for more than 2,000 years as an herb, colonists undoubtedly brought it

to North America as a remedy for coughs and diarrhea and other ills. The authors go on to say that "despite its medicinal uses, readers should note that it contains not only the insecticide rotenone, but coumarin (often used in rat poison), which has been linked to liver damage and internal bleeding."

Kudzu is featured with a flower photo worthy of the "White Flower Farm" catalog, not that they would do such a thing. "The Japanese government's garden of native plants at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia included kudzu. Americans began using it in the Southeast to shade porches with its broad leaves and sweet blossoms. In the 1930s, as small farmers in the South abandoned unprofitable red clay soils, government work crews planted thousands of acres of kudzu for erosion control. In the 1940s, government helped spread kudzu by paying farmers \$8 an acre to plant kudzu in old fields. The U.S. Department of Agriculture removed kudzu from its approved cover crop in 1953."

This little field guide is full of interesting bits about invasives. Andre Michaux, the famous botanical explorer from France, introduced the mimosa tree to Charleston in the 1700s, and Thomas Jefferson grew it at Monticello. The tree of heaven, a ubiquitous member of any urban flora, was introduced from China, where it grew out of the rocks on mountain heights. The sap contains quassinoids, chemicals that have caused heart problems and debilitating headaches and nausea in people who do not protect themselves from exposure when cutting and handling the trees.

All this is very interesting, and it may even make weeding a little less tedious. But I'd still rather just have the years back.



Spotlight on...

Flowering Rush

(Butomus umbellatus)

PROVINCIAL DESIGNATION: **Prohibited Noxious**

Overview:

Flowering rush is a perennial aquatic shoreline plant, native to Eurasia and was likely introduced as a garden plant in the late 1800s. Flowering rush can now be found from Nova Scotia to British Columbia and is very hardy, being able to survive in a large range of temperatures. It is a popular ornamental water garden plant that is widely available in garden centres and nurseries.

Characteristics:

Flowering rush is easiest to identify when it produces its characteristic umbrella-shaped clusters of upright flowers. Each individual flower has 3 petals and 3 sepals that vary in colour from white to a deep pink. The leaves are long and narrow with a triangular cross-section and the tips are generally twisted in a spiral shape. Depending on depth, the leaves will be erect when in shallow water and floating when in deeper water. It can grow submersed in water up to 3 m (9.8 ft) deep but grows 1 m (3.3 ft) tall along the shoreline and is primarily an emergent plant. It appears the plants need the energy from the sun to set seed and generally produce flowers in very shallow water or on dryer sites.

Flowering rush grows and spreads primarily from thick, creeping rhizomes and when disturbed, can break to form new plants. The rhizomes also produce many small tubers that can break off to form new plants. In addition, the plants also produce many seeds and sometimes produces tiny bulblets that can be carried by currents to form new plants. Flowering rush tends to colonize areas where new land is exposed as a result of lower water levels.

Distribution:

The first observations of flowering rush was around the Montreal area in 1897 and from that time it spread down the St. Lawrence River to the mouth where salinity levels limit its further spread. Flowering rush is now widespread

along the St. Lawrence River, in Lakes Ontario, Champlain, Erie, St. Clair and Michigan. It occurs in eight provinces and 14 states from the east coast to the west. Most of the distribution of these other locations for flowering rush are widely scattered which suggests that this is a result of escapes from ornamental gardens.

Impact:

Flowering rush is described as aggressive and appears to be able to spread and displace native shoreline vegetation such as bulrushes, willows and cattails because of its thick root system. The ecological and environmental impacts of flowering rush on native flora and fauna are still not entirely known. Muskrats have been observed using the roots and stems of flowering rush to build their houses but this activity may also lead to further spread from root fragments.

In areas of abundance where flowering rush is submerged, its dense vegetation can interfere with boating and other recreational activities.

Prevention:

Once in a watershed, small pieces of roots and rhizome pieces that break off can be carried to different areas to form new plants. Therefore, removing flowering rush by the roots is almost impossible without breakage or leaving fragments behind that form new plants. Cutting flowering rush below the water surface will not kill the plant but will limit its abundance and nuisance. Repeated cutting may also weaken the plant over time. Removing all plant pieces is necessary to limit spread and should be dried and composted completely, away from water or wet areas.

The best measure of preventing the spread of flowering rush into new watersheds is to not buy it and plant it. Many nurseries, garden centres, aquarium centres and the internet offer flowering rush for sale and when it escapes into wild areas, it generally survives and spreads due to its aggressive nature.



Albertans can take action on harmful species

JUNE 13, 2011

EDMONTON—As summer approaches, Albertans are reminded of simple things they can do to prevent the spread of harmful, non-native land and aquatic organisms. Such organisms are invasive alien species that have been introduced, intentionally or unintentionally, from other countries or ecosystems and threaten Alberta's ecosystems and biodiversity.

"Government, business and industry, stewardship groups and the public all have a role in controlling invasive species," said Mel Knight, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. "We are working with our partners to improve invasive species management through better legislation, public awareness and tools to coordinate control efforts."

Albertans can take these precautions during recreational, gardening and agricultural activities:

- Clean vegetation and soil off agricultural, recreational (off-highway vehicles, boats, gear), construction and industrial equipment. Wash and dry them before moving to another area.
- Do not transfer live fish from one water body to another and do not release aquarium fish or plants into water bodies, storm drains or down the toilet.
- Learn about invasive plants before going to gardening stores.
- Avoid buying packets of wildflower seeds as they often contain invasive plant seeds. Use local seed mixes or buy packets of individual flowers.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

(L-R): Hon. Mel Knight, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development, Chris Saunders of the City of Edmonton, and Jim Hole of Hole's Greenhouses band together to pull garlic mustard in Edmonton's Mill Creek Ravine.

- Use weed-free hay.
- Use Certified #1 seed and request a seed certificate analysis from the supplier or grower to ensure the seed is weed-free.

The Alberta government continues to gather feedback on its Invasive Alien Species Risk Assessment Tool. The web-based tool evaluates an invasive species' likelihood of establishing and spreading, its possible effects on an area and whether a management response is needed.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

AIPC's Don Battiste (left) and SRD Forest Health Officer and AIPC Board Member Andrea Sharpe show their stuff.

The tool's design allows for adaptability and is being used provincially, federally and internationally. To use the tool or submit feedback, visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/risktool.

Alberta addresses the regional impact of invasive species as a partner in the Pacific Northwest Economic Region's (PNWER) Invasive Species Working Group. The working group identifies priorities and solutions and shares best practices, such as Alberta's Certified Weed Free program, to protect the region from invasive species. PNWER is a regional multilateral forum that brings together legislative, government and private sector leaders from Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

In June 2010, Alberta's new Weed Control Act expanded the list of invasive plants that require various control measures, such as inspection and enforcement. The Act also includes provisions for recovery of expenses in cases of non-compliance and mandates the licensing of seed-cleaning facilities and mechanisms. For more information, visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca.

After habitat destruction, invasive alien species are considered the next greatest threat to biodiversity. Other effects of invasive species may include foul odours, allergies or impacts on recreation and the economy. For more information on invasive alien species, visit www.srd.alberta.ca and click on Biodiversity and Stewardship.

Parks Canada's battle with invasive plant species continues

By RYAN PARKER
Waterton Boundary

PARKS CANADA has started spraying for weeds again, and when it comes to combating the invasive weeds they aren't cutting any corners.

Since the 1970s Waterton Lakes Park has been working to control numerous plants on the prohibited noxious weed list of the Alberta Weed Control Act. One plant at the top of the list is spotted knapweed. Spotted knapweed has become a problem not just in Alberta, but in B.C. and the some of the United States as well.

It's considered a very aggressive weed which, given the opportunity, will take over pasture land, like that of Waterton Park where thousands of elk graze on fescue grass. Some grazers will eat small amounts of the spotted knapweed but it is certainly not one of their preferred food sources.

Most likely the weed made its way over to North America attached to something coming here from Central Asia or was brought here just because someone liked the way the flower blooms.

"Waterton Park has the greatest area of plant life biodiversity, abundance, diversity of species; more so than any other place in Alberta and many species would be affected by spotted knapweed if we let it go wild," said Edwin Knox, Resource Management and Public Safety Specialist for Waterton Lakes National Park.

Besides fescue grass one of the species that would be pushed out by the spotted knapweed, or at least put into decline, is the silvery lupine which grows in abundance in certain places within the park boundaries.

The herbicide used by the park to control the spotted knapweed only affects broadleaf plants, so the native grasses aren't in any danger from it.

"We do all of our herbicide treatment by spot treatment, one plant at a time basically," said Knox.



PHOTO: JOHN M. RANDALL
ab-conservation.com

According to the literature provided by the manufacturer of the herbicide, it has a "very low toxicity to birds, fish, mammals, and aquatic invertebrates."

"Much of the attraction of Waterton seen by motorists driving through is because right next to the roadside edge we have a great diversity of native plants, so this spot treatment allows folks coming in for the Wildflower Festival to see wildflowers right from the road's edge," Knox said. "We're managing the weeds in a very different way than other jurisdictions do, and what

“Waterton Park has the greatest area of plant life biodiversity, abundance [and] diversity of species ... many species would be affected by spotted knapweed if we let it go wild.”

EDWIN KNOX, Resource Management and Public Safety Specialist, Waterton Lakes National Park

they do is boom spray. Where they'll have a large vehicle loaded up with a tank, a minimum of six hundred litres in the tank, a large boom spray out over the ditch and they drive slowly spraying herbicide. It kills every broadleaf plant under the mist of the spray, so of course it's going to get the native plants as well."

This means crews of people must walk both sides of park roads dealing with each weed individually. On wet days when the herbicides don't work, the crews must pull the weeds by hand or use a digging tool to remove the deeply rooted plants.

If the unwanted plant has flowered by the time it is removed, it must be bagged and sent for incineration at one of the burn piles so there's no chance that it can spread its seeds.

AIPC Salutes our 2011 Funding Sponsors



- AB ARD Ag. Initiatives
- AB SRD

\$2000 Platinum Sponsor:

- Wheatland County

\$1000 Gold Sponsors:

- Cypress County
- Yellowhead County
- Dow AgroSciences

\$500 Silver Sponsors:

- Kneehill County
- MD of Peace

- Strathcona County
- TrueNorth Specialty Products

\$250 Bronze Sponsors:

- ACE Vegetation Control Services Ltd.
- Clearwater County
- Engage Agro
- E.I. DuPont
- Mountain View County
- MD of Northern Lights
- MD of Ranchland
- MD of Smoky River
- City of St. Albert
- County of Warner

Around the Province



the spread of Flowering rush

*and other aquatic invasive
species in Alberta*

By KARI HAMILTON, B.Sc.

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
Fish & Wildlife Division, Cold Lake, Alberta

FLOWERING RUSH is a very aggressive perennial plant found in aquatic and wetland ecosystems including rivers, lakes, retention ponds, marshes, gravel pits and even along roadside ditches. It can grow in wet soil, shallow or fully submerged water.

Flowering rush is hard to identify and is commonly mistaken for bulrushes. It is green in color, has triangular leaves, but is best distinguished by its umbrella shaped cluster of whitish-pink flowers. If submerged however, leaves are limp and plants will not flower. Once in the watershed, it easily spreads by rhizomes and root pieces which break off, if disturbed. Recreational equipment, water, ice and wildlife can move these fragments within or to a new water-body forming new plant communities. These communities can develop into dense stands which may interfere with recreational use, crowd out native vegetation such as cattails, and, ultimately, reduce biological diversity of the ecosystem, harming fish and wildlife.

Flowering rush was most likely introduced by gardeners and is spreading throughout Alberta.

Take these simple precautions to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species like Flowering rush.

CHECK YOUR BOAT

Before leaving the water body, closely inspect your boat and all fishing gear. Remove all forms of aquatic plants, animals, debris or mud and leave them at the site.

When purchasing a boat outside of Alberta, be sure to wash it at that location before bringing it back to Alberta.

CLEAN

Clean all equipment, clothing or anything else

that may have come into contact with the water. If you find something you believe came from the original water body, do not wash it down the drain. Bag the item and throw it in the garbage. Non-absorbent items should be soaked and scrubbed for at least one minute in a two per cent bleach solution (20 ml of bleach per litre of water).

Absorbent items like felt-soled waders should be soaked in hot water for more than 40 minutes.

Items can also be frozen to kill off remnants of invasive species.

DRAIN

Before leaving the dock, drain all the water from your boat and equipment, such as coolers, live wells, bilge or buckets.

DRY YOUR GEAR

Before visiting a new water body, ensure that all boating and fishing gear has been thoroughly cleaned and allowed to dry. Leave equipment to dry for at least another 48 hours.

WEAR NON-FELT-SOLED WADERS

It is unlawful to move live fish from one water body to another. Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that water body.

When disposing unused bait, put the bait back in its original packaging and put it in a garbage container.

If you suspect you have an invasive species in or around your lake or on your lake property, call the nearest Fish and Wildlife office at 310-0000.

CONTACT:

Kari Hamilton, B.Sc.

Tel: (780)594-7874

Fax: (780)594-3340

E-mail: Kari.Hamilton@gov.ab.ca

Flowering rush found in Rocky View County

By CARRIE ANDERSON

Weed Inspector, Divisions 4 & 5
Agricultural Services, Rocky View County

FLOWERING RUSH (*Butomus umbellatus*), an aquatic perennial, was introduced to North America as an ornamental plant. It grows in shallow water or in water as deep as two meters along the shores of slow moving water bodies and flowers continuously from July to September.

This rush like plant has pink, three petal flowers. The leaves originate from the base of the plant and have a triangular cross section. The tips of the leaves twist as they age. Not only does flowering rush reproduce by seed, but also by the spread of broken rhizome and root fragments which makes flowering rush very difficult to control by mechanical methods. Its aquatic nature and leaf characteristics also make herbicide application difficult.

In 2010, a possible site of flowering rush was reported in Rocky View County late in the season which was not investigated until mid-May, 2011. Upon inspection at that point, a few small groupings of 3-4 triangular leaves was found. The site continued to be monitored until the flowers began appearing at the beginning of July. The presence of a flower made it possible to confirm its species as *Butomus umbellatus* through photo identification by Chris Neeser, AB Weed Scientist.

A survey was then conducted to investigate the extent of the infestation. The flowering rush had spread in the Western Irrigation District & Alberta Environment canal from Calgary to the mouth of Chestermere Lake. Alberta Environment agreed to cut and bag flowering heads to cease the spread of seed. Since the plant flowers continually, this needed to be repeated throughout the remainder of the season.

Later in the fall when the canal is drained herbicide application can be utilized to kill the roots. A suitable chemical is presently being researched by Tim Dietlzer, Ag. Fieldman, Rocky View County. Further action included communication with the City of Calgary to establish the full extent to which flowering rush had spread.

Fort Macleod battles invasives in River Valley Wilderness Park

By **KELLY COOLEY**
Southern Alberta Weed Coordinator

ON JUNE 18, 2011, several dedicated individuals braved the mosquitoes to tackle the invasive weed problem threatening Fort Macleod's River Valley Wilderness Park. The ground conditions, however, were excellent for pulling weeds due to the precipitation in recent weeks.

The event provided an opportunity to teach participants how to identify invasive plant species and remove them before they spread. The town's bylaw enforcement officer with the Town of Fort Macleod was on site that day to assist, along with staff from the Agricultural Services Board of the MD of Willow Creek, members of the local 4H Club, community volunteers and Fort Macleod Environment Committee members.

The group was given a brief overview of the targeted species for the weed pull (and the reasons they were an issue) by the new Southern Alberta Weed Coordinator, Kelly Cooley. His work is funded via a partnership between most of the

PHOTOS: SUPPLIED
(Above and right):
Volunteers braved the mosquitoes to tackle invasive weeds in Fort Macleod's River Valley Wilderness Park.



Southern Alberta Agricultural Service Boards (ASB's), and supervised by a committee of Southern Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, who manage weed issues in rural municipalities around the southern portion of the province.

As a result of the weed pull, many hundreds of thousands of seeds of the following invasive plants were prevented from taking root in the River Valley Wilderness Park: Spotted Knapweed, Common Burdock, Downy Brome, Leafy Spurge, Blueweed, Dalmatian Toadflax, and Common Mullein. The weed pull was sponsored by the Old Man Watershed Council, Town of Fort Macleod, and MD of Willow Creek and

organized by the Fort Macleod Environment Committee. This was a first time for a community weed pull event in Fort Macleod.

It should be noted that this weed control event is not the end of the battle against invasive weeds in Fort Macleod. With ongoing, broad based community effort, the citizens of the town can tackle these weed issues with the goal of reducing their extent, or even of eliminating them altogether. Many thanks to all those who participated, their efforts made a positive and direct contribution to preserving the natural landscapes of the River Valley Wilderness Park in Fort Macleod.

WEEDS

Struggling with the identification of the new species in the AB Weed Control Act? Need to train new personnel?

Why not plan to attend the "Regulated Weed Garden" located in Edmonton. There are already 39 species from the Act, all growing in one location, with on-going expansion as we acquire more samples and seed. Being able to identify all the species in the AB Weed Control Act is essential in our efforts to institute an early detection and rapid response program.

SPECIES IN REGULATED WEED GARDEN:

PROHIBITED NOXIOUS — Himalayan Balsam, Sulphur Cinquefoil, Dyer's Woad, Flowering Rush, Garlic Mustard, Meadow Hawkweed, Mouse-ear Hawkweed, Orange Hawkweed, Hoary Alyssum, Pale Yellow Iris, Bighead Knapweed, Diffuse Knapweed, Spotted Knapweed, Purple Loosestrife, Common St John's-wort, Nodding Thistle

NOXIOUS — Common Baby's-breath, Creeping Bellflower, Blueweed, Downy Brome, Japanese Brome, Great Burdock, Woolly Burdock, Tall Buttercup, Scentless Chamomile, Yellow Clematis, White Cockle, Oxeye Daisy, Dame's Rocket, Black Henbane, Hound's-tongue, Common Mullein, Field Scabious, Perennial Sow-thistle, Leafy spurge, Common Tansy, Canada Thistle, Dalmatian Toadflax, Yellow Toadflax.



Regulated Weed Garden tour arrangements can be coordinated through Nicole Kimmel (nicole.kimmel@gov.ab.ca).

Many of you have been asked for seed or plant samples, by Maureen Vadnais or me, all in efforts to make our garden as complete, as possible. Thanks for all your efforts! If you have any species that I am missing, then I would be delighted to try to coordinate a weed exchange.

NICOLE KIMMEL, Weed Specialist
Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
17507 Fort Road NW
Edmonton, AB T5Y 6H3
Phone: (780) 422-0885 • Cell: (780) 288-9265



PHOTOS: SUPPLIED

Purging the Spurge in Fish Creek Provincial Park... 13 years running

By **KATIE PEARSON**
Project & Programs Director, Friends of Fish Creek

DESPITE JUNE 18TH'S cool and windy weather, volunteers came out ready to lend a hand in the battle against leafy spurge in Fish Creek Park. The wind kept the mosquitoes at bay and the rain courteously stayed in the clouds until we were done.

The Friends are taking a new approach to invasive plants this year, focusing on smaller patches of newly established invasive plants, rather than tackling large areas of well-established ones. By concentrating on new patches, we are fighting more "winnable battles" against invasives in the park.

As part of this new strategy, this year's Purge-

the-Spurge volunteers purged several small patches of leafy spurge in the Bow Valley Ranch area and around the Stream Changes Trail on the south side of the Creek.

Our volunteers also did a great job of educating passers-by about the threat posed by invasive plants and how they can make it difficult for native plants to thrive due to the lack of space, moisture, and nutrients, leaving less forage for native wildlife.

Two young people, out for a stroll in the park, spontaneously joined in and started pulling leafy spurge alongside our experienced volunteers – thank you Simone and Kirk for lending a hand!

There is still more work to do! This park has many invasives and many hands make light work.

Want to get involved? Please consider joining us on one of our upcoming weed pulls – we'll be pulling yellow clematis vines, bagging common tansy, scentless chamomile, and burdock, and, of course, purging leafy spurge!

For more information or to get on our Weed Whackers email list, email katie@friendsoffishcreek.org.



EDITORIAL COMMENT:

The problem with the anti-pesticide movement

By ROB BREAKENRIDGE
www.qr77.com (AM770 CHQR)

MAY 30, 2011

It's not really asking too much, I don't think, that if a product is going to be banned, that the danger of that product be established.

Controversial pesticide 2, 4-D has been the subject of bans in other parts of the country, and there are those here in Calgary who for years

have been pushing city council to ban the pesticide.

There are those on council who support a ban, and the issue is likely to surface again.

Proponents of a ban speak ominously about chemicals and invoke the precautionary principle, but never seem to offer any hard science to justify a ban on 2, 4-D.

Late last week the scientific emptiness of the anti-pesticide position was exposed in the settlement of a NAFTA trade dispute involving Quebec and the US-based maker of 2, 4-D.

Quebec banned the product, claiming, in part, that it was a carcinogen. But now in this settlement, Quebec acknowledges that the pesticide does not pose a significant risk to human health or the environment. Yet, strangely, the ban remains.

Quebec is at least acknowledging what the science has found. In 2008, a sweeping review of 2,4-D by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency confirmed exactly what Quebec has now admitted.

Moreover, that conclusion was backed up by an independent science advisory panel comprised of government and university expert in toxicology, epidemiology and biology.

We also know that adjusted for age, cancer rates have remained stable over the past three decades—they have not been going up as pesticide opponents like to claim.

Other studies have shown no increase in the incidence of cancer in populations that have been subjected to pesticides.

If we're going to continue to debate whether to ban pesticides, let's try and include more science and less fearmongering.

MORE...

PESTICIDES: SCIENCE VS. EMOTION

<http://www.qr77.com/Blogs/RobBreakenridge/BlogEntry.aspx?BlogEntryID=10029601>

Rob Breakenridge's daily editorial comments air on QR77 weekday mornings at 6:12 with Bruce Kenyon and the Morning News, and again at 12:20pm with Wayne Nelson and *Today So Far*.

ORDER YOUR PLACEMATS!

AIPC placemats are available at no cost for your lunch/dinner event in multiples of 100.

Contact Candice Manshreck at (403) 394-6824 or e-mail: cmanshreck@dow.com to have them shipped out for your event.

Top: front view
Bottom: back view



Evaluating the costs and benefits of alternative weed management strategies

By BRAD BAUER

The Nature Conservancy (Montana)
Centre for Invasive Plant Management Quarterly,
Summer 2011

THE OLD ADAGE that a stitch in time saves nine might well be applied to the battle against noxious weeds. When faced with a choice between attacking a large, well-established patch of weeds or jumping on the first few plants to show, it's probably more effective to go for the new outbreaks.

That's one of the findings in a new report produced by The Nature Conservancy in Montana and ESSA Technologies. Through ecological modeling and cost-benefit analyses, the study offers guidance on how to produce the greatest success on the land for both ranching and conservation.

As the battle against the spread of invasive plants has intensified across the West, weed management studies at smaller scales leave serious questions about long-term success in large landscapes with complex ownership patterns. It is not clear whether current strategies will result in long-term success, or even what that success could look like. Some experts maintain that nearly anything is possible if we work hard enough at it, while others predict a tsunami of invasive plants, exacerbated by land use and climate change that are disrupting native communities.

These uncertainties prompted The Nature Conservancy and ESSA Technologies to engage weed managers, researchers, computer modelers, public land managers, and private landowners in developing a spatially explicit, predictive model for weed spread and weed control effects across three rural Montana landscapes. These landscapes have varied levels of weed infestations, but all have cooperative weed management programs with their sights on long-term success. The model simulated different funding levels and management strategies over 40-year periods

“When faced with a choice between attacking a large, well-established patch of weeds or jumping on the first few plants to show, it's probably more effective to go for the new outbreaks.”

to compare area invaded, treatment costs, and the economic benefits of weed control, based on livestock grazing revenue lost to weeds.

Here are some results:

- (1) Not surprisingly, the analysis found that any treatment is better than none; yet not all treatments are equal and the decisions we make now have profound effects on our future options.
- (2) Early detection and rapid response (EDRR) of new outbreaks was more effective than focusing on large, established patches. Traditionally, the latter get attention because they are often most visible.
- (3) Delaying treatment or applying it inconsistently leads to greater invasion down the road and a sharp decline in long-term economic benefits. Despite the consistency of these findings with other studies, weed budgets for public land management agencies are often inadequate or inconsistent from year to year.

While our results suggest that success is possible in landscapes with relatively few weeds and with communities committed to conserving intact habitats, it is by no means guaranteed. Only through the application of effective strategies and careful implementation can long-term benefits be maximized.

Weed management continues to evolve and we hope the development and use of these model results will contribute to the effectiveness of collaborative weed management programs across Montana. To learn more about this project please refer to the Executive Summary or Full Report at: <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/montanaweedmodel>.

Interactive identification key for seeds in birdseed

AN INTERACTIVE identification key to identify 143 seeds, either traded birdseeds, and of seeds of contaminants and of plants considered as quarantine weeds in Russia has been developed and is available online.



PHOTO COURTESY blog.oregonlive.com

This key is a multiple-entry and image-driven tool, i.e. observed characters can be scored in any order and these characters are all illustrated with pictures. Possible results for the identification of a seed can easily be compared with high-quality photographs.

This tool is currently being used by Dutch inspectors at borders and thorough knowledge of technical (botanical) terms is not necessary. This interactive key is one of the six keys envisaged (seeds, seedlings, weeds in bonsai plants, terrestrial plants, aquatic plants in the field, aquatic plants in trade) for the Invasive Plants database (<http://www.q-bank.eu/Plants/>) belonging to the Q-bank project.

The Invasive Plants database facilitates the identification of about 80 alien plants that pose a (potential) threat to biodiversity in Northern Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and North-Western France, or of species that are regulated by third countries and are likely to be present as contaminants in commercial exports originating from the Netherlands.

Information on species, the fact sheets and the interactive identification tools are freely available online at http://www.nationaalherbarium.nl/invasieven/key_seeds/Invasive%20plant%20seeds%20of%20the%20Netherlands.html

CONTACT:

Johan van Valkenburg, Dutch Plant Protection Service. Email: j.l.c.h.van.valkenburg@minInv.nl

Teen inventor combats kudzu menace

By NATALIE SNEDDEN, CNN
www.cnn.com

ATLANTA (CNN)—Jacob Schindler is not your typical American teenager.

He spends his days battling kudzu, an invasive plant that has overrun millions of acres of land throughout the Southeastern United States.

Kudzu, native to Asia, was first brought to the United States during the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. In the 1930s and 40s, more than 1.2 million acres of kudzu was planted as a means of erosion control by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

“The (United States Department for Agriculture) would actually pay farmers to grow it around their crops, to prevent erosion,” Schindler said.

But in 1998, kudzu was listed by the U.S. Congress as a “Federal Noxious Weed” and is estimated to cover over seven million acres of land in the U.S.

For his sixth grade science project, Schindler—now 17 years old—came up with the idea of planting kudzu on Mars.

“We breathe in oxygen, we breathe out CO₂, and plants breathe in CO₂ and breathe out oxygen. I started asking what would make it impossible to grow kudzu on Mars,” he said.

Experimenting with different gasses led him to find that helium killed the kudzu but without harming the other plants around it.

“At this point it was still very much, let’s grow kudzu on Mars,” Schindler said. “But what it re-



PHOTO COURTESY CNN.COM

This screen capture shows Jacob Schindler demonstrating his modified drill shaft in his effort to combat the invasive kudzu in Atlanta. To watch the video, go to <http://www.cnn.com/2011/TECH/innovation/07/18/teen.scientist.kudzu.killer/>

ally became is: How can I eliminate kudzu in an environmentally-friendly way?”

He came up with a modified drill shaft that hooks up to a helium tank. “I drill the actual device into the ground which allows me to have something underground to disperse the helium with,” he explained. His mom, Julie, has helped him apply for a patent on the device and his methodology.

Stephen Enloe, assistant professor of agronomy at Auburn University agrees that Jacob’s approach is truly a novel one. He has been working with Schindler junior on a research grant sponsored by the Weed Science Society of America.

“When I first heard about Jacob’s ideas, I was a little skeptical. But the more I thought about it, I realized it could have some merit. Kudzu has large tubers and if the helium is choking out the oxygen, it could be suffocating them,” Enloe said.

He and Schindler have been recreating the initial kudzu experiments in a laboratory. They expect to have some initial results soon.

In the meantime, Schindler has been testing out using kudzu as an alternative food source for

“When I first heard about Jacob’s ideas, I was a little skeptical. But the more I thought about it, I realized it could have some merit.”

STEPHEN ENLOE,
Assistant Professor of Agronomy,
Auburn University

Georgia’s Governor’s Honor Program—a summer education project for talented high school students in the state.

“The roots are a starch; it can be used as wine, salads, cakes and kudzu salsa. I’m interested in getting kudzu off the weed list and back on the plant list. It has many uses,” he said.

A 2005 study by Harvard Medical School found that a compound made from kudzu could help reduce alcohol cravings.

“Hopefully I’ve developed my future career,” Schindler said. “If not, I’ve learned a lot of life skills: research, public speaking, making connections. It’s opened a lot of doors for me. Otherwise, I would probably be home this summer, just washing the truck.”

Beyond our Backyard

Vehicles aid in weed seed dispersal

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Press Release
www.msuextension.org

JUNE 23, 2011

BOZEMAN, MONTANA—Noxious weeds are often found growing along roads and trails and vehicles have long been suspected of picking up weed seeds and dispersing them to new locations. A new Montana State University Extension publication describes field studies conducted by the university's weed ecology and management group that showed the extent to which vehicles pick up and disperse seeds.

Three separate field studies quantified the number of seeds gained and lost by vehicles over varying distances. The first study determined how many seeds all-terrain vehicles pick up driving on and off-trail in Montana. The second study examined the number of seeds gained by military vehicles (Humvees, trucks, ATVs and tanks) in military training areas in Montana and Idaho. The final study determined how long seeds stay attached to a truck before they are dispersed when driven along paved and unpaved roads under both wet and dry conditions.

In the first study, ATVs collected a large number of seeds in both spring and fall when driven on and off-trail. Not surprisingly, ATVs picked up more seeds when driven off-trail than on-trail. In the fall, up to 5,500 seeds per mile were picked up off-trail compared to about 400 seeds per mile on-trail. The number of seeds picked up in spring was much lower. The study at the military sites determined that many times more seeds were collected by vehicles driven under wet conditions than under dry conditions and tracked vehicles picked up more seeds than wheeled vehicles. The final study found that up to 99 percent of seeds stayed attached to a truck after traveling 160 miles under dry conditions, but seed retention was much lower under wet conditions, where seed retention varied from zero to 60 percent, depending on where the seed was attached to the vehicle and whether the road was paved or unpaved.

This research showed that vehicles can pick up large numbers of seeds, especially when driven off-trail and under wet conditions. If seeds are picked up in mud, which then dries on the vehicle, they can travel almost indefinitely until it rains or the road surface is wet, allowing for extremely long distance transport of seeds.

Outdoor recreationists who drive on remote roads to trailheads or who ride ATVs off-road or on designated trails may unknowingly spread weeds with their vehicles. Preventing the spread of weeds into non-infested areas is the most effective and efficient way to manage weeds over the long term. To help prevent the spread of weeds, washing vehicles frequently is beneficial with particular concentration on wheel wells. Washing vehicles is especially important before and after driving on roads with high densities of weeds along the edges or after driving off-road or trail.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Read more about this research in the MSU Extension publication "**Weed Seed Dispersal by Vehicles**" (MT201105AG). The publication is free and can be downloaded or ordered through MSU Extension publications online at www.msuextension.org/store; by calling (406)994-3272; or by sending an email to orderpubs@montana.edu.

CONTACT:

Jane Mangold – jane.mangold@montana.edu

Wild Dakota TV, MRWC partner to bring invasive species message to sportsmen

ARTICLE COURTESY
Centre for Invasive Plant Management Quarterly,
Summer 2011

IN LATE 2010, the Missouri River Watershed Coalition (MRWC) partnered with Wild Dakota Outdoor Television to develop a series of eight video segments to raise awareness among sportsmen of invasive species and the problems they cause. The videos explain how sportsmen can get involved and prevent the spread of invasives, exploring themes such as early detection and rapid response, how to report sightings, and economic and ecological impacts. The later segments will also showcase several of the worst invasive species in the Missouri River Watershed area.

Wild Dakota, which began airing in 2003, is a regional television show that

targets hunters and anglers in South Dakota and surrounding states. The show is estimated to attract over 500,000 viewers each week on TV alone, with clips from each episode reaching additional viewers on YouTube and Facebook. Wild Dakota features entertaining, informative video stories on hunting and fishing adventures, along with hints, tips, places, and products that help viewers get the most out of their own experiences.



A partnership between the MRWC and Wild Dakota is a perfect fit, as one of the Coalition's primary goals is to promote awareness of invasive species issues. Due to its large audience and

its geographic focus, Wild Dakota is uniquely positioned to help the Coalition reach this important audience.

The video series will include a total of eight segments, written and produced by Wild Dakota. To date, four videos have aired: "Overview of Sportsmen and Invasives," "No Hitchhikers," "Fight Five," and "Early Detection/Rapid Response." The videos, which feature MRWC members Andy Canham, Ron Moehring, and Kelly Sharp, were viewed more than 47,000 times on Facebook alone!

The first three video segments are available for streaming on the MRWC website. Additional videos will be posted as they become available. Watch for the next video, "Fishermen and Invasive Species," due to air on June 26 on Fox 17 and UTV.

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2011

Society for Range Management
pacific northwest section

RANGELAND PARTNERSHIPS: SUCSESSES AND CHALLENGES ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS

The Rancher's Perspective

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2011
CRANBROOK, BRITISH COLUMBIA

REGISTRATION: www.rangelands.org
OR register by phone: 1-800-627-0326 specify SRM.

FOR MORE INFO

contact: Rae Haddow (250-426-1780) rae.haddow@gov.bc.ca

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

Alberta Ecotrust Foundation in collaboration with the
Alberta Stewardship Network

RIVER RALLY 2011

NOON, SEPTEMBER 23 – 1:30 PM, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

- High-impact, hands-on workshops: Visit <http://tinyurl.com/Rally-Program> to see the new detail program with speaker bios. You won't want to miss this!
- Low registration fee: We've dropped \$30.00 from our "last minute" registration fee. That means you get two and a half days of workshops, networking, meals, and a "raft 'n learn" river session for \$100!
- \$1500 Watershed Mini-Grant: To celebrate World Rivers Day we will hold a draw for a \$1500 mini-grant that a lucky watershed group can use to advance its mission. (Groups must be registered and present to win.)
- Bursaries available: Courtesy of our Community Resource Fund, 30 travel and registration bursaries are available for watershed groups with limited revenue and no paid staff.
- Free 'River Buses' from different regions of the province will reduce transportation costs. Let us know if you need a ride!
- Love the limelight? Feel passionate about your work? We're looking for four to six people willing to tell us all about the great things they're doing. Participants will use a Pecha Kucha style slide show (20 slides and 20 seconds per slide) to present on the theme of "Our watershed, our work and our hopes for the future" to a plenary gathering on Saturday night. If you're interested, email Bart Robinson at b.robinson@albertaecotrust.com.

DETAILS/REGISTRATION:

<http://www.albertaecotrust.com/rally2011>

SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2011

23rd Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society Conference WEED MANAGEMENT IN A CHANGING WORLD

SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2011
THE SEBEL CAIRNS,
QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

The Conference is packed with innovative scientific ideas and it will include 100 oral presentations, 50 poster presentations and 6 keynote speakers.

See weed management in practice and learn about new ideas from papers focusing on:

- Threats and risks in the Asian-Pacific region
- Sustainable weed management in the Asian-Pacific region
- Weed solutions for the Asian-Pacific region
- Challenges for weed management

Interactive field trips will be organised to demonstrate weed issues affecting North Queensland and activities undertaken to reduce their impact.

DETAILS/REGISTRATION: <http://www.apwss2011.com/>

OCTOBER 5, 2011

California Invasive Plants Council 20TH ANNUAL CAL-IPC SYMPOSIUM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5 - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011
GRANLIBAKKEN RESORT
TAHOE CITY, CA

"Invasive Plants and Ecological Change"

INFO & REGISTRATION: <http://www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/index.php>

OCTOBER 11-12, 2011

Missouri River Watershed Coalition FALL MEETING AND TOUR

OCTOBER 11-12, 2011
MILES CITY, MONTANA

We will be meeting in person on October 11 in Miles City, Montana, as well as linking to the meeting via Adobe Connect (hosted by CIPM/ Montana State University). The meeting will be followed by a Eurasian Watermilfoil Tour at Fort Peck Reservoir, Montana (hosted by the Montana Department of Agriculture and the US Army Corps of Engineers) on October 12, 2011.

DETAILS/REGISTRATION:

<http://www.weedcenter.org/mrwc/docs/MRWC%20Fall%20Meeting%20Details.pdf>

Upcoming Events

continued from page 15

OCTOBER 18-19, 2011

The Invasive Plant Council of BC's 2nd RESEARCH FORUM: RESPONDING TO INVASIVE SPECIES

OCTOBER 18-19, 2011
RICHMOND, BC
DELTA VANCOUVER AIRPORT HOTEL

SOME IMPORTANT UPDATES:

- Due to excellent sponsor support, we've been able to reduce our registration fees! Please register before September 16th to take advantage of Early-Bird rates: \$250 members; \$225 students and NGOs.
- Take a look at the conference agenda: Dr. Richard Mack, Washington State University will discuss causes of invasion; Dr. Richard Shaw, CABI will explain the UK's knotweed story, and the social aspects that played a part. In addition, representatives from universities, private sector, and government in British Columbia, Canada and the US will focus on new concepts in invasion biology, the ecology of invasive species, pathways of invasion, management strategies, and more.
- Consider sharing your research with the greater invasive species community! The poster submission deadline has been extended to September 30th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Including registration forms, updated draft agenda, hotel information and poster presentation submissions, please visit our website at www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca

1-888-WEEDSBC (1-888-933-3722) or email glucier@fraserbasin.bc.ca.

Registration is now underway for the IVS Management Training Program for FALL, 2011

Environmental Science Technology Program INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

NEWS ALERT

Southeastern Community College in Whiteville, N.C., has classified the SCC Online IVS Management Training Program as self supporting. This means that the new tuition rate (currently \$66.00 per class/lab hour) will be the same for both in-state and out-of-state students. This will make it readily available to many students and agencies outside of North Carolina who/that could not pay the regular out-of-state tuition rate (currently \$258.00 per class/lab hour).

Since online courses can be initiated at any time, we will start the next course series when a minimum of 10 new students sign up for the program.

INFORMATION: Call Rebecca Westbrooks at 910-642-7141, Ext. 291
E-mail: rwestbrooks@scnc.edu



4563 Chadbourn Hwy, P.O. Box 151,
Whiteville, NC 28472 USA
www.sccnc.edu

SCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution

AIPC IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS
for two upcoming events:

THE GREEN INDUSTRY SHOW & CONFERENCE - AIPC BOOTH

NOVEMBER 17 & 18, 2011
EDMONTON EXPO CENTRE AT NORTHLANDS
116 AVENUE & WAYNE GRETZKY DRIVE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Volunteers are needed to work 2 or 3 hr. shifts between 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17, and between 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18.

DUTIES: Minding the AIPC display booth, engaging the public, handing out Weed Wise Gardening brochures & AIPC info. pamphlets and fielding questions on invasive plants. Having 2 or 3 people for each shift works best.

TO VOLUNTEER: Contact aipc.coordinator@gmail.com indicating the day/hours you are available. *Thanks!!!*

AIPC CASINO - 2-DAY CASINO BOOKED

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 & MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2012.
DEERFOOT INN & CASINO
#1000, 11500 - 35TH STREET SE
CALGARY, ALBERTA

This is a "labour intensive" effort, so AIPC will need many willing hands! 34 positions need to be filled each day with 2 shifts daily: 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m & 6:30 p.m. to closing.

If you are up for this and can be available for one or both days, contact any one of the following to obtain Casino Volunteer Worker Applications: aipc.coordinator@gmail.com; Casino Co-Chairs, Dwight Tannas, dwright.tannas@mdbighorn.ca; or Candice Manshreck, cmanshreck@dow.com.

Come, and bring a friend, or a family member! Great time will be had by all!!!