



# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012

### Concurrent/Breakout Session - Restoration and Rehabilitation

1:30 – 2:30 pm

2:35 – 3:35 pm

### Concurrent/Breakout Session - CWMA Success Stories

1:30 – 2:30 pm

#### The Success of the Selkirk CWMA – Brad Bluemer & Terry Guthrie

- 1- Small infestations ( Invading noxious weeds that occupy less than 500 acres throughout the CWMA) and how we manage them, will also discuss widespread problem weeds within the Selkirk CWMA.
- 2- Neighborhood Coop's Program ( a spray program designed for landowners to help control Noxious weeds on private properties.
- 3- Bio-Control with effective results ( the use of insects to control noxious weeds)
- 4- Aquatic weed control
- 5- Mapping weeds and Bio-control release sites
- 6- Regional Weed Book for North Idaho Landowners

2:35 – 3:35 pm

#### The Success of Gem County CWMA – Jake Wyant

Gem County is 359,000 acres located northwest of Ada County in the Payette River drainage, with the City of Emmett being the County Seat. With an elevation of 2,300 feet where the Payette River leaves the County to 7,900 feet on a ridge at the north tip of the County, we run the gauntlet of land types ranging from agricultural valley bottoms to rangeland with foothills leading to forested mountains. With the northern or upper half of the county having similar land types as neighbors Valley and Boise Counties, we partner as the Upper Payette CWMA. Many ranchers have received help through our Landowner Assistance Project for Scotch and Canada Thistles, Whitetop, Houndstongue, Poison Hemlock, and Rush Skeletonweed. Other large infestations have been targeted through Projects where all CWMA participants, including Gem, Valley, and Boise Counties, USFS, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Idaho Fish & Game meet for three days to treat Dalmatian Toadflax on private and BLM land, Canada Thistle in Montour on BOR land, and Houndstongue on Forest Service land. Another Project has Gem County treating Yellow Starthistle on two private ranches, to make sure it is contained and eradicated.

As the lower or southern half of Gem County is farmland, ranches, range, and foothills with somewhat different weed problems, the Lower Gem CWMA has been working with the City of Emmett on Puncturevine, the local Railroad on all noxious weeds on their Right-of-Ways, private landowners needing assistance treating any noxious weed, and helping private landowners stop Rush Skeletonweed from invading their ranches.

3:45 – 4:15 pm

#### Submitting Weed Samples for Identification – Richard Old

Weed identification is really the bottom line in weed control. If you don't know the name of the plant, you can't know its biology. If you don't know the biology, the odds of effective control are greatly reduced. Submitting plants to the Erickson Weed Diagnostic Laboratory is one of the best ways to determine their identification. Whether you are submitting physical

specimens or digital images, there are certain guidelines that will increase the odds of your receiving an accurate and timely identification.

## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012**

### **Concurrent/Breakout Session I (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.): Herbicide Management**

8:00 – 9:10 a.m.      Esplanade 200SC: A Bayer Innovation for Industrial Vegetation Management –Matt Nespeca / Mel Shumway

Esplanade 200 SC is a newly registered herbicide for effective and long-lasting pre-emergent control of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in areas such as roadsides, industrial sites and railroads. Esplanade contains the active ingredient indaziflam, a cellulose biosynthesis inhibitor (CBI), and represents a novel mode of action for resistance management and long-term residual activity. As a low use rate suspension concentrate, Esplanade has proven to be highly efficacious at labeled rates of 3.5-7 oz/acre, which represents significant use benefits compared to many currently used industrial vegetation management products.

Esplanade provides superior broad-spectrum control of over 75 weed species, including grasses, broadleaf weeds and annual sedges. Research trials and operational applications have shown the long-term performance of Esplanade tank mixes on tough broadleaf weeds such as marehail, kochia, Russian thistle and yellow starthistle, as well as annual grasses such as cheatgrass, crabgrass, medusahead and sprangletop.

University trials, internal Bayer research, and operational demonstrations will be presented, as well as the other operational benefits of utilizing Esplanade as an industrial vegetation management tool.

9:05 – 10:05 a.m.      Herbicide Toxicology and Risk Assessment –Jeffrey Jenkins

A general discussion of the basic principles toxicology and key elements of pesticide human health risk assessment will be presented. Topics will include how toxicity data is used to understand pesticide risks as a part of pesticide registration, the determination of mitigation measures, and periodic evaluation pesticide use practices to determine re-registration eligibility.

10:35 – 11:35 a.m.      Adjuvants 101 – The Basics – Dave Robbins

“Adjuvants are recommended on pesticide labels. The reasons for these recommendations will be discussed. Also, how to distinguish which adjuvants to use will be presented. Various types of tank mix adjuvants including water conditioners, crop oil concentrates, methylated seed oils surfactants, and deposition aids, along with utility adjuvants such as defoamers, compatibility agents and tank cleaners and the reasons for their use will be explained. The types of tests and what they can show the educated user will show, for instance, that not all ‘90/10’s are the same.”

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.      REPEAT – Herbicide Toxicology and Risk Assessment – Jeffrey Jenkins

A general discussion of the basic principles toxicology and key elements of pesticide human health risk assessment will be presented. Topics will include how toxicity data is used to understand pesticide risks as a part of pesticide registration, the determination of mitigation measures, and periodic evaluation pesticide use practices to determine re-registration eligibility.

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.      Rangeland Restoration – Steven Paulsen

Rangeland restorations in the arid regions of the western United States have taken on many changes in the last decade. Weeds and weed inclusions in the landscape have

been a large part of historic challenges in restoration, and as such, have been a focal point in emerging technologies. Understanding the concepts of stewarding vs. maintaining landscapes “on a landscape level will be included in the course of the lecture. Looking at a landscape restoration as a means of mitigating weeds and promoting landscape stability is not a new concept, but one that now has more tools available to the practitioner. Steven Paulsen will be talking about some of these new tools and concepts of land stewardship that ultimately promote native re-vegetation efforts in these arid cold desert habitats.

## **Concurrent/Breakout Session II (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.): Technologies**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

### Computer Aided Plant Identification – Richard Old

Most weed identifications are currently attempted by flipping the pages in reference books looking for a picture that seems to match. There is a better way!! See how the XID Identification System can make the process faster, easier, and more accurate. Not only is the technique more efficient, the XID database contains more than twice the number of weeds that occur in Idaho than can be found in the most common reference book used, thus greatly increasing your chances of coming up with a correct identification.

9:05 -- 10:05 a.m.

### Choosing the Right GPS Unit For Your Job – Nathan Bentley

GPS technologies are always changing, selecting the correct GPS unit for your application can be both time consuming and daunting, not to mention expensive. This presentation will walk through a decision tree matrix to assist in identifying your needs and what types of GPS units fulfill those needs.

10:35 – 11:35 a.m.

### Missouri River Watershed Coalition – Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System – A Regional Approach to EDRR – Liz Galli-Noble

Liz Galli-Noble (Director, Center for Invasive Plant Management at Montana State University) will present on behalf of the Missouri River Watershed Coalition and their project partner Chuck Bargeron (Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health at the University of Georgia). Ms. Galli-Noble’s presentation will showcase the MRWC’s Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System -- a regional approach to early detection and rapid response -- which now serves 11 western states (including Idaho). In addition, she will also provide an overview of the “parent” CISEH EDDMapS program. For more information on the MRWC EDDMapS, visit their website at: <http://www.eddmaps.org/mrwc/>.

12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

### REPEAT: Computer Aided Plant Identification – Richard Old

Most weed identifications are currently attempted by flipping the pages in reference books looking for a picture that seems to match. There is a better way!! See how the XID Identification System can make the process faster, easier, and more accurate. Not only is the technique more efficient, the XID database contains more than twice the number of weeds that occur in Idaho than can be found in the most common reference book used, thus greatly increasing your chances of coming up with a correct identification.

2:15 - 3:15 p.m.

### Equipment in the Field -- Jeffrey Pettingill; Connie Marshall; Brian Wilbur

There have been many recent Innovations’ in the delivery of herbicides for weed control. Thanks to all the advances in the computer age we are now able to complete two types of application at one time. This enables us not to drive the roads several types for the different types of treatments such as under guardrails or for solid spraying of broadleaf control. It is due to a spray truck with capabilities of carrying 1300 gallons of carrier and for different types of herbicides by injection system.

## Concurrent/Breakout Session III (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.): IPM Solutions

- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.      Update on New Bugs for Rush Skeletonweed and an Overview of RMRS Chemical Ecology Research –Justin Runyon  
10 Year Summary of Biological Weed Control Research -- Mark Schwarzlander
- The search for new agents for rush skeletonweed is continuing and is now focused on two root-feeding insects. Progress on these potential biocontrol insects, a crown-feeding moth and a root-boring beetle, will be discussed. Also, some new research applying plant-insect chemical ecology to biocontrol of weeds will be summarized. This work at the Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) seeks to better understand the interactions between biocontrol agents and their weedy host plants to identify factors which promote or limit successful biocontrol. Because chemistry is a central factor regulating plant-insect interactions, it should provide information that can be used to better choose effective agents. One example is induced plant responses – defenses produced by plants in response to insect feeding – and the potential role these costly chemicals play in determining the success or failure of biocontrol. Early results from research on houndstongue, rush skeletonweed, and tansy ragwort will be presented.
- This portion of the session will provide a ten year summary of biological weed control research in Idaho focusing on houndstongue hoary cress and rush skeletonweed. During this session, we will try to assess what we have accomplished in Idaho and where we fell short of expectations. This will be an interactive session with the audience.
- 9:05 – 10:05 a.m.      Truly Integrated Projects – Goats, Bio Control, Herbicide – Bonnie Davis, Ray Holtz, Joey Milan
- Along the Weiser River Corridor several treatment types have been utilized in an attempt to control leafy spurge, the primary target in that area. A truly integrated approach utilizing herbicide, revegetation, biological control and grazing has shown dramatic results. This presentation will discuss each of these methods and how they play a part in achieving the desired management objectives in this area. Also discussed will be the strategy moving forward along the Weiser River.
- 10:35 – 11:35 a.m.      Utilizing Grazing as a Control Method – Shannon Williams
- Grazing can be utilized as a noxious weed control tool when targeted toward specific noxious weeds. Goats, sheep, and cattle grazing can be used. The key to grazing successfully for weed control is to understand the grazing pattern/preferences of the species of livestock and the biology of the weed being targeted. Various weeds located in the west will be discussed and the species of livestock that will successfully graze them.
- 12:45 – 1:45 p.m.      Prevention Methods to Reduce the spread of Noxious Weeds – Dan Safford
- The Noxious Weed Free-Forage and Straw (NWFFS) program is a preventative program to prevent the introduction and spread of noxious weeds onto US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands. Today's talk will cover the following: Why noxious weeds are a threat to ecosystems; explanation of the Idaho certification and a National certification; the list of noxious weeds in Idaho; how noxious weeds spreads and how to prevent this; the certification process; what forage products can be certified; methods of marking a product certified; and a brief overview neighboring state's NWFFS programs.
- 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.      Cultural Control Methods – Don Morishita
- Integrated pest management is an interdisciplinary practice involving entomology, nematology, plant pathology, weed science, horticulture, agronomy, ecology, economics, and systems science. It consists of three main elements: using multiple tactics; maintaining pest populations below economic damage threshold levels; and

preserving environmental quality. Cultural weed management is just one component of an Integrated Weed Management program. The central objective of IWM is to manipulate the crop-weed relationship so that growth of the crop is favored over that of the weeds. Cultural management practices include those practices that do not include chemical, mechanical or biological weed management. It incorporates ecological principles while utilizing plant interference and crop-weed competition to give the advantage to the crop or other desirable species over the weed or unwanted species.

#### **Concurrent/Breakout Session IV (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.): Smorgasbord**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.      Toxic Plants – Daniel Cook

Natural and managed plant communities contain plants that are poisonous to livestock, wildlife and humans. These toxic plants or their seeds may also be harvested with grains and forages, resulting in contamination of feeds and food. The risk of poisoning from toxic plants interferes with the optimum use of ranges, pastures and contaminated feeds and food. The mission of the Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory is to identify toxic plants, isolate and identify plant toxins, determine the mechanism of toxicity, document toxin metabolism and clearance from tissues, develop diagnostic and prognostic procedures, identify conditions of poisoning, and develop management strategies, antidotes, treatments and other recommendations to reduce losses, insure product quality and promote animal and human health.

9:05 -- 10:05 a.m.      Weed Treatment Planner – Tim Prather

10:35 – 11:35 a.m.      Healthy Habitats Coalition – John Cantlon

“HHC promotes conservation of the nation’s natural resources and economic interests by promoting efficient management of invasive species to curtail the associated harm. Through state and federal leadership, HHC seeks legislation and appropriations that improve private, local, state, and federal land managers on-the-ground control efforts.”

In order to “jump start” more robust invasive control programs, HHC has these ASKs:

ASK 1. Over five years, Federal land management agencies shall increase their on-the-ground control obligation by five-fold and decrease current infested acres by 25%.

ASK 2. Federal agencies shall provide a state pass through fund assessed at 25 cents on each state’s federally managed acre. A State entity shall submit a request for this critical pool of money based upon a consistent set of criteria with a measurable control strategy to reduce current infestation levels or stop new invasions on any lands or waters of the state. Federal funds may be passed to the Governor annually. A goal of 50% of the funds should be utilized to control any tax prioritized by the state. Money should be appropriated directly to a state’s IS programs in order to maximize impact and avoid costly overhead.

ASK3. Each state should develop and implement an invasive species plan and law to receive and manage invasive species funding with control tactics equivalent to Washington or Idaho laws.

ASK 4. States are encouraged to work in regional and national concert to educate the public through television and social media methods focusing on metro areas. To reduce redundancy, natural resource management agencies, state/local governments, universities, nonprofit organizations, industry, and the private sector should collaborate to form partnerships to protect land and water assets and resources.

#### **Current Policy Leader Support or Legislation Issues for HHC effort:**

WGA Resolution 2010-4 “Combating Invasive Species”. June 2010.

([www.westgov.org](http://www.westgov.org)) .

NGA . Improve Cooperative Management on Invasive Species. Effective 2010 – 2012.

NASDA Adoption F (Elevate invasive species issues). Submitted by WASDA. September 2010.

GAO Report to Executive Agency Officials: INVASIVE SPECIES, Clearer Focus and Greater Commitment Needed to Effectively Manage the Problem. October 2002.

OIG Report to USFS. Invasive Species Program Review for needed improvement. September 2010.

Executive Order 13112 (President Clinton, 1999) and the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) Strategy. ([www.invasivespecies.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.gov)).

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

2012-2017 Invasive Species Strategy in Regards to Noxious Weeds – Amy Ferriter

Idaho's first *Strategic Plan for Managing Noxious Weeds* (1999) was published as a result of the Governor's Weed Summit held in 1998. This forward-thinking plan set into motion a wide variety of efforts to coordinate weed management in Idaho. This plan sparked the nationally-recognized Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) concept and established the Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee (IWCC). The IWCC updated the *Strategic Plan for Managing Noxious Weeds* in 2005, and continues to strive to promote cooperation among participating agencies and entities.

In 2005, the newly-established Idaho Invasive Species Council (IISC) prepared *Idaho's Action Plan for Invasive Species* for then-Governor Kempthorne. In the past 5 years, the Council and partners have completed many of the tasks laid out in the Action Plan. Idaho now has a comprehensive Invasive Species Law, a dedicated Invasive Species Fund and a progressive statewide prevention program.

The 2005 weed and invasive species strategies have successfully guided the two programs for the last five years. Idaho has surpassed most of the benchmarks these plans established. In addition, Idaho's programs have become a model for many western states. This new strategy aims to build off those successes and develop an "all taxa" blueprint for the next five years.

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

ICL – Views of Weed Control & Concerns – Lara Rozzell

Habitat for Greater Sage-Grouse is disappearing, moving the birds closer to an Endangered Species listing. Sage-grouse are a species of concern to many Idahoans, whether they are hunting, grazing livestock, or building new houses or energy projects. Much of the habitat loss is direct, as weed species replace healthy sage-brush communities. The indirect loss is much larger, as annual weeds create larger and faster wildfires. Finding the best ways to stop annual weed spread and help sagebrush communities recover will be key in the recovery of sage-grouse. Sagebrush community recovery may be a slow and costly process, and the sources for dollars are slim. When new projects such as powerlines are proposed, land management agencies can estimate the impacts of the project on the landscape and require developers to pay mitigation dollars. The *Conservation Plan for Greater Sage-grouse in Idaho* called for creation of a statewide mitigation framework for sage-grouse habitat. ICL, Idaho Power, The Nature Conservancy, the BLM, Idaho Fish and Game, and other groups came together to create a vision of what this mitigation framework could look like. If the framework is adopted by the state, it can make important contributions to weed control as an aspect of total ecosystem health.