



GOVERNOR'S SUMMIT ON INVASIVE SPECIES

Assessing the Past – Strategizing the Future



April 12–13, 2016

Hosted by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
Gateway Center, 1710 National Avenue, Helena, MT

PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND HEARTY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
9:00am – 9:30am	Welcome (<i>Governor Steve Bullock, State agency directors</i>)
9:30am – 10:00am	An International Invasive Species Perspective (<i>B. Gibbs</i>)
10:00am – 10:30am	A National Context for Montana's Invasive Species Efforts (<i>M. Ielmini</i>)
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 11:00am	Montana's History Addressing Invasive Species – Protecting the State's Natural Resources and Quality of Life (<i>J. Marks</i>)
11:00am – NOON	Panel Discussion: Exploring models to improve coordination and collaboration (<i>M. Ielmini, B. Gibbs, K. Laitala, R. Frost</i>)
NOON – 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Setting the Stage: The Results of the 2015 Statewide Invasive Species Assessment (<i>L. DeBruyckere</i>)
1:30pm – 4:30pm	Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (breakout sessions)
4:30pm – 5:00pm	WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and REVIEW OF TOMORROW'S AGENDA
5:00pm – 7:00pm	Reception at Lewis and Clark Brewing Company, 1517 Dodge Avenue

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:00am – 8:00am	HEARTY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
8:00am – 8:15am	Welcome, Yesterday Recap, Today's Agenda
8:15am – 10:00am	Panel Discussion: Making Substantive Changes to Montana's Legislation to Advance Invasive Species Prevention Efforts (<i>Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Ray Shaw, Sen. Jon Sesso, Sen. Pat Connell</i>)
10:00am – 10:15am	BREAK
10:15am – Noon	Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (breakout sessions)
Noon – 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:00pm – 2:30pm	(Continued) Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take
2:30pm – 3:00pm	WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and KEY NEXT STEPS

List of Exhibitors

Ag in the Classroom	MT Noxious Weed Education Campaign/PlayCleanGo
Animal Plant Health Inspection Service—PPQ, VS, WS	Montana State University Schutter Lab
Invasive Species Action Network	Montana Weed Control Association
Montana DOA Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage	Northwest Energy Coalition
Montana DNRC Rangelands Program	The Nature Conservancy—Don't Move Firewood
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	US Customs and Border Protection
Montana Natural Heritage Program	Wilderness Society

AGENDA

Montana Invasive Species Summit
Hosted by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
April 12–13, 2016
Gateway Center, 1710 National Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601

Goal: Convene agency, tribal sovereign nations, private landowners, industry, academic and nonprofit leaders and policy makers (and others contributing to invasive species efforts in Montana) to:

- Share the results of the Montana Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee statewide invasive species assessment;
- Develop a shared understanding of the core elements of a Montana statewide invasive species framework and identify key priority actions;
- Identify key gaps in existing Montana legislation; and
- Describe key next steps.

Expected Work Product: Identified key priorities and actions to develop a statewide invasive species framework

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND HEARTY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
9:00am – 9:30am	Welcome, Conference Overview (<i>Governor Steve Bullock, State agency directors</i>)
9:30am – 10:00am	An International Invasive Species Perspective (<i>Barry Gibbs, Canadian Council on Invasive Species</i>) Montana's border with Canada creates opportunities for collaboration to address regional and international invasive species issues. Barry Gibbs from the Canadian Council on Invasive Species and the Alberta Invasive Species Council will share his perspectives on both challenges and opportunities.
10:00am – 10:30am	A National Context for Montana's Invasive Species Efforts (<i>Mike Ielmini, US Forest Service</i>) As a member of the National Invasive Species Council, Mike Ielmini will share his perspectives about invasive species challenges and opportunities in the United States, including opportunities to collaborate with Canadian partners.
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 11:00am	Montana's History Addressing Invasive Species – Protecting the State's Natural Resources and Quality of Life (<i>Jerry Marks, Missoula County MSU Extension Office/Weed District</i>)

Montana has had successes and challenges associated with invasive species management in the past 25 years. A historical look back at the successes and challenges as well as a description of the current condition and emerging issues will pave the way for summit discussions.

11:00am – NOON

Panel Discussion: Exploring models to improve collaboration (*Mike Ielmini - USFS, Barry Gibbs - Canada Council on Invasive Species, Karen Laitala - Blackfoot Challenge, Rachel Frost - Missouri River Conservation Districts Council*)
Case studies will be presented to expose summit attendees to different types and elements of collaborative models Montana could use to advance invasive species efforts – pros and cons of each approach will be presented and discussed with summit attendees.

NOON – 1:00pm

LUNCH (provided)

1:00pm – 1:30pm

Setting the Stage: The Results of the 2015 Statewide Invasive Species Assessment (*Lisa DeBruyckere, Creative Resource Strategies*)
Summit attendees will work in breakout sessions to address key gaps and elements needed to inform Montana's invasive species implementation plan.

**1:30pm – 4:30pm
(BREAK included)**

Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (*Breakout sessions*)

1. **FUNDING**
 - a) What are key funding gaps?
 - b) What can Montana do to improve the amount of funding available to address invasive species?
 2. **REGULATIONS**
 - a) What are the key gaps in Montana's invasive species regulations?
 - b) What key regulatory changes should be implemented within the next 2 years to improve Montana's ability to effectively deal with invasive species?
 - c) The next 5 years?
 3. **SPECIES PRIORITIZATION**
 - a) What gaps and challenges occur in Montana's ability to prioritize invasive species?
 - b) What needs to occur to implement a systematic approach to prioritizing invasive species (terrestrial and aquatic) (consider a variety of scales, e.g., county, statewide, watershed)?
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4:30pm – 5:00pm

WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and REVIEW OF TOMORROW'S AGENDA

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Reception at Lewis and Clark Brewing, 1517 Dodge Avenue

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:00am – 8:00am

HEARTY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00am – 8:15am

Welcome, Yesterday Recap, Today's Agenda

8:15am – 10:00am

Panel Discussion: Making Substantive Changes to Montana’s Legislation to Advance Invasive Species Prevention Efforts (Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Ray Shaw, Rep. Pat Connell, Sen. Jon Sesso)

A panel of legislators will discuss their vision for a comprehensive, collaborative, effective invasive species effort in Montana:

- What are the likely hurdles to introducing the legislation and moving it through the legislative process?
- What information and data is needed to support the legislation?
- What can summit attendees and invasive species supporters do to help legislators support introduced legislation?

(Left to Right): Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Ray Shaw, Rep. Pat Connell, and Sen. Jon Sesso



10:00am – 10:15am

BREAK

10:15am – Noon

Developing Actions – Key Steps to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues

Summit attendees will work in breakout sessions to address key gaps and actions needed to inform Montana’s invasive species implementation plan.

4. **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**
 - a) What gaps and challenges exist in invasive species outreach and education efforts?
 - b) What can we do to improve public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the importance of invasive species issues?
5. **FRAMEWORK MOVING FORWARD**
 - a) What key coordination gaps and challenges exist in the delivery of invasive species programs in Montana?
 - b) What core elements of a statewide framework would address existing gaps and challenges and result in a systematic, comprehensive, tiered, all-taxa approach to addressing invasive species? (e.g., county-based, watershed-based, etc.; funding, coordination, etc.)

Noon – 1:00pm

LUNCH (provided)

1:00pm – 2:30pm

(Continued) Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues

6. **PRIVATE LANDOWNERS**
 - a) What are the barriers to the public participating in invasive species programs?
 - b) What solutions would improve public engagement in invasive species prevention, early detection, rapid response, and control efforts?

2:30pm – 3:00pm

WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and KEY NEXT STEPS

Speaker Biographies



Barry Gibbs is Executive Director of the Alberta Invasive Species Council and Co-chair of the Canadian Council on Invasive Species. He has an Agriculture degree from the University of Saskatchewan, and worked for 35 years for Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc. on research, regulatory issues, sales, marketing and management. He has been working with invasive species provincially, nationally and internationally for several years. He serves as Past Chair on the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia Board, Resources Committee for Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and the Alberta Weed Regulations Advisory Committee.

Mike Ielmini is the National Invasive Species Program Manager with the USDA Forest Service National Forest System in Washington, DC. Mike has more than 34 years of landscape-scale natural resources conservation experience at the state and federal levels. Mike served as a refuge manager and biologist on 11 national wildlife refuges in 6 states. For the past 13 years, Mike has served as the National Invasive Species Program Manager, overseeing the program's management operations, policy, budget, and performance issues across the 193 million-acre National Forest System.



Jerry Marks is the Department Head for the Missoula County MSU Extension Office/Weed District. Jerry has over four decades of experience with invasive species education. He led the establishment of the Montana Biological Weed Control program and has encouraged expanding knowledge on the ecology of terrestrial vegetation communities and aquatic systems as key to successful invasive species management. He has organized numerous partnerships of private, public land managers, scientists, conservation groups, regulatory agencies and policy decision makers to implement projects and bring about positive change.

Rachel Frost is the Coordinator for the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council (MRCDC), which is comprised of the 15 Conservation Districts that border or contain the main stem of the Missouri River in Montana. Rachel works with Districts to develop natural resource and education projects that cross district and ownership boundaries. The MRCDC coordinates the Montana Saltcedar Team, which suppresses saltcedar on the Missouri and Musselshell Rivers through a partnership approach and landscape based control efforts.



Karen Laitala has a BS in Environmental Field Biology from Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, Idaho, with an emphasis on Botany and an MS in Plant Science from the University of Idaho, Moscow, with an emphasis on Weed Science. She has worked as the Project Coordinator for the Powell County Weed District for the past 6 years, and as the Weed Coordinator for the Blackfoot Challenge for the past three years.

Lisa DeBruyckere is President of Creative Resource Strategies, LLC, a company that specializes in helping organizations with their natural resource communication and outreach needs. Lisa has worked throughout the West and Pacific Northwest Economic Region for almost two decades. She wrote the Dreissenid Prevention Framework for the Pacific Northwest in 2015, works with western aquatic invasive coordinators in 19 states to achieve consensus on aquatic invasive species prevention efforts, conducted statewide management assessments of invasive species for Montana and Oregon, and was the Oregon Invasive Species Council Coordinator for seven years.



Key Gaps and Challenges Identified in the 2015 Montana Management Assessment of Invasive Species

FUNDING – Adequate, long-term, sustainable funding for invasive species programs as well as coordination of programs, including grant programs.

SPECIES PRIORITIES – A mechanism to assess and reassess existing and emerging priorities on an ongoing basis to ensure Montana is investing its resources in the highest invasive species priorities.

STANDARDIZED MONITORING PROTOCOLS – Consistent monitoring protocols and reporting of monitoring results in a shared accessible all-taxa database.

STATEWIDE FRAMEWORK – A statewide framework that addresses existing gaps in invasive species coverage, inefficiencies, redundancies, and inconsistencies on an ongoing basis, and an approach that incorporates all taxa and priorities across numerous jurisdictions.

PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS – Inconsistencies in how programs evaluate effectiveness; lack of an adaptive management framework to ensure continual evaluation and course corrections to improve efficiencies and effectiveness.

PRIVATE LANDOWNERS – Lack of awareness and understanding of landowner responsibilities, differing priorities from state and other authorities, lack of resources to address existing and emerging invasives as well as monitoring, and lack of consistency in the statewide approach used to work with private landowners.

REGULATIONS – Numerous gaps and challenges in terrestrial and aquatic regulations, shortcomings in enforcement and management, and insufficient funding to support mechanisms to administer invasive species programs.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT – Lack of a shared single portal or clearinghouse for entities to input and access invasive species abundance, distribution, monitoring, and management information.

OUTREACH – A comprehensive outreach and education program that addresses pathways of introduction, engages landowners, and informs political will and support to address existing and emerging invasive species issues.

PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS – Address gaps, overlaps and potential for streamlining the number of partnerships and agreements with individual entities.

Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council



WHAT WE DO

The purpose of the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council shall be to advise the Governor on a science-based, comprehensive program to identify, prevent, eliminate, reduce, and mitigate the impacts of invasive species in Montana.

MISAC's role is to:

- Provide recommendations, direction, and planning for combating infestations of invasive species throughout the state, while preventing the introduction of others;
- To foster cooperation, communication, and coordinated approaches that support international, federal, regional, state, local, and tribal initiatives for the prevention, early detection and control of invasive species;
- Serve as a nonpartisan forum that would achieve a science-based interdisciplinary and comprehensive understanding of the current status, trends and potential threats of invasive species in Montana;
- Identify priorities for prevention and control of invasive species in Montana;
- Recommend and take measures that will encourage prevention, early detection, and control of harmful invasive species in Montana;
- Champion priority invasive species issues identified by stakeholders to best protect the state; and\
- Advise and work with agency personnel, local efforts, and the scientific community to implement program priorities.

WHO WE ARE

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Term Start</u>	<u>Term End</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Bryce Christiaens, Chair	Missoula	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	County Weed Districts; Missoula County Weed District
Tom Boos, Vice Chair	Helena	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Steven Hertel, Vice Chair	Moore	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Private Landowners; Private Landowner
Amy Gannon	Missoula	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Chip Weber	Kalispell	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	U.S. Forest Service
Dave Burch	Helena	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	MT Department of Agriculture
Floyd Thompson	Billings	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Bureau of Land Management U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal, Plant Health Inspection Service
Gary Adams	Helena	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Inspection Service
Jane Mangold	Bozeman	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Montana State University Extension
Jeffrey Baumberger	Billings	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Jim Jacobs	Bozeman	07/31/2015	12/01/2016	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Lindy Garner	Great Falls	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Mark Aagenes	Missoula	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Conservation Organizations; The Nature Conservancy
Mark Reller	Helena	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Hydropower Utility; Bonneville Power Administration
Mike Miller	Helena	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Department of Transportation
Patricia Gilbert	Fort Peck	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Steven Bekedam	Livingston	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	U.S. National Park Service
Steven Tyrrel	Billings	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Private Industry; Integrated Ag. Services Inc. Montana Conservation Districts; McCone Conservation District
Steve Wanderaas	Vida	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Natural Resource Organizations, Flathead Basin
Thompson Smith	Charlo	09/11/2015	12/01/2016	Commission
Virgil Dupuis	Pablo	02/20/2015	12/01/2016	Tribal Government