



Montana Invasive Species Council

Meeting Materials Packet for December 15-16, 2025

Contents

1. Meeting Agenda for December 15-16, 2025
2. October 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes
3. MISC Budget & Future Projects List
4. Pathways Word Cloud-From 10/16/25 Menti
5. Notes from SAP Invasiveness 10/24/25 Meeting
6. SAP Discussion 10/16/25 Meeting
7. SAP Process and 2022 Ideas
8. 4P List Summary December 2025 Update
9. MISC 2023-2026 Workplan
10. Strategic Plan Overview 2015-2016



December 15- 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda

Location: DNRC Office
1539 11th Ave, Helena, MT 59601

Participants **must register to attend before December 11, 2025.**
[Registration Link](#)

December 15th

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 11:30 AM | Lunch |
| 1:00 PM | Welcome, Roll Call & Minutes
Action: Vote on Meeting Minutes |
| 1:30 PM | MISC Staff Updates |
| 2:30 PM | Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council
Chet Neufeld, Executive Director |
| 3:15 PM | Committee Updates
2026 Summit Discussion
Woody Invasives: Sara Ricklefs - ISAN
Citizen Science: Bryce Maxel – MT Natural Heritage Program
Science Advisory Panels |
| 4:00 PM | Strategic Planning & Work Plan |
| 4:45 PM | Action: Vote on discussion items from Day 1 |
| 5:00 PM | Conclude Day 1

No-host group dinner to follow meeting |

December 16th

8:30 AM	AIS Response Plan Tom Woolf - MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
9:30 AM	EQC & SJ42 Jasmine Chaffee – MT Department of Agriculture
10:00 AM	NAISMA Recap
10:30 AM	Round Robin Updates
11:45 AM	Public Comment
Noon	Wrap-Up & Adjourn

-
- The agenda is subject to change and times are approximate; actual times may vary up to one hour.
 - This meeting is open to the public. Persons who want to attend in-person or virtually must register before the end of day on December 12, 2025. Meeting information is available at invasivespecies.mt.gov/misc/meeting-schedule.
 - The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in the public meeting.
 - For questions about this meeting contact Russ Hartzell at 406-324-0021 or russ.hartzell2@mt.gov

MEETING MINUTES

These abbreviated summary minutes will become the official adopted minutes at the next Montana Invasive Species Council meeting when they will be approved. Until then, they are considered a draft.

Meeting Name:	Montana Invasive Species Council		
Date of Meeting:	October 16, 2025	Time:	8:30 am
Minutes Prepared By:	Nicole Hallsten & Liz Lodman	Location:	Fort Peck Fish Hatchery / Zoom
Attendees:			
<p><i>MISC: <u>Charles Headdress</u>, <u>Dylan Brown</u>, <u>Jasmine Chaffee</u>, <u>Jason Allen</u>, <u>Karen Latitala</u>, <u>Michael Bias</u>, <u>Sara Ricklefs</u>, <u>Steve Wanderaas</u>, <u>Tom Woolf</u>, <u>Rose Picklo</u> (proxy for Jake Chadwell). Virtual: <u>Pam Schwend</u>, <u>Jared Beaver</u></i></p> <p><i>MISC Staff: Liz Lodman, Russ Hartzell, Nicole Hallsten</i></p> <p><i>Absent members: Andy Welch, Dennis Longknife, Taylor Tidwell, Martin Charlo, Paul Rossignol, Sean Fritzler, Tracy Tyner and all federal members.</i></p> <p><i>Partners & Guests: Brent Smith, Emily Kaleczyc, James Bolyard, , Tahnee Szymanski, Todd Anderson, Trish Smith, Isayava Valverde-Vindas, Carley Chapman. Virtual: Bryce Christiaens, Molly Masters, Bryce Maxwell, Casey Lewis, Clarissa Orton, Sara Owen, Jason Mohr, Amber Burch, Stephen Phillips, Hannah Walker, Ben Holen, Doug Ekberg, Emily Henry, Josh Wagoner</i></p> <p><small>*MISC voting members are underlined.</small></p>			
Agenda & Notes, Decisions, Issues			
Topic	Discussion		
Welcome, Role Call & Minutes	<p>Steve Wanderaas (Chair) opened the meeting at 8:34 am. Conducted roll call and confirmed the quorum.</p> <p>Attendees introduced themselves. Recorded presentation does not follow agenda in order to accommodate speaker schedules.</p> <p>*ACTION: Motion to approve minutes from the July meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Sara Ricklefs</p> <p>Second: Jason Allen</p> <p>No further discussion.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>		
MISC Staff Updates Liz Lodman Russ Hartzell	<p><u>Council Member Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charles Headdress, representing Fort Peck tribes, will not reapply for another term with MISC. <p><u>Budget:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY25: Final accounting figures were shared for fiscal year 2025 and reviewed by category. FY26: Accounts have not yet been updated by DNRC so there is nothing to share. 		

MISC Staff Updates
Liz Lodman
Russ Hartzell

4-P: Share idea inputs for workplans

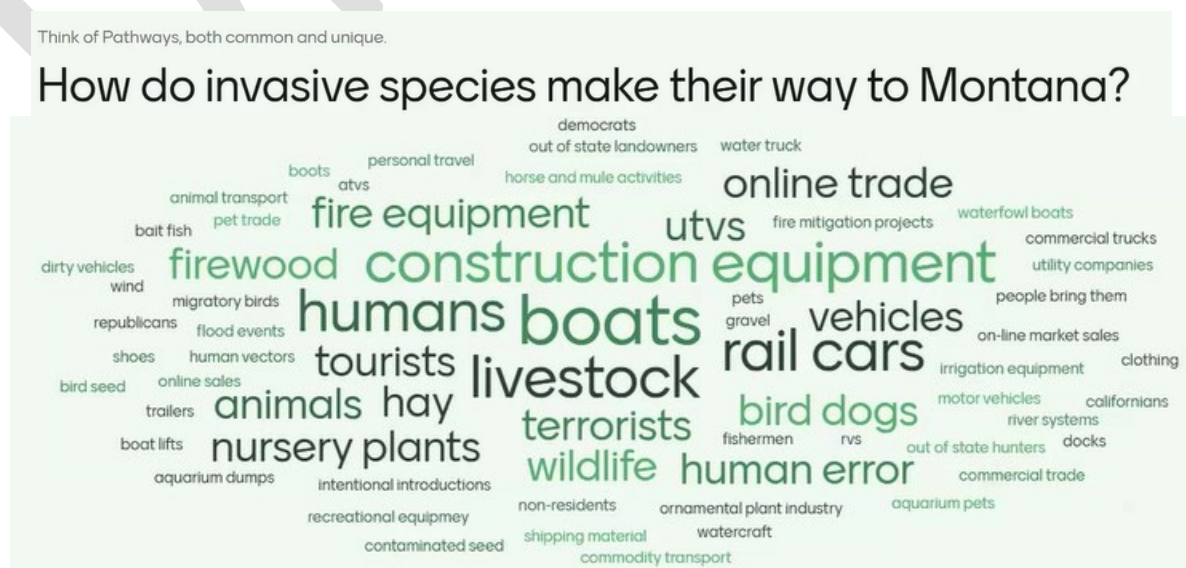
- The 4-P document (proposed projects, programs and priorities) was shared *again*. Council needs to provide guidance for actions.
- Comments:
 - Make sure agenda of the council is driven by the council. Council members need to speak up.
 - Disconnect between hunters and feral swine control. Do we need more targeted outreach to hunting groups, wildlife society
 - Suggest working with social media and influencers
 - Invite influencers to meetings, like Ryan Calahan/Meateater or Randy Newberg
 - Opportunity for listening session or focus groups to see how they would frame a message to their peers
 - Can MISC have a discussion about ticks
 - GEO tags for specific locations can be useful

Summit 2026

Summits are held every 2 years; the next one is in 2026. This group needs to decide:

- Dates: October or November
- Location: Butte, Great Falls or Helena
- Topic: Pathways
 - What are outcomes if we choose this topic
 - Could include communications session
 - Funding is often associated with a species and not a pathway, so pathways get left out
- Facilitator: need to decide process
- Planning Committee: Steve, Karen, Tom, & Pam volunteered
 - Need to check with federal partners for input and to join committee

Responses to the Menti prompt about pathways:



MISC Staff Updates
Liz Lodman
Russ Hartzell

AIS Management Plan – Section G

Plan is available on the FWP website. Last FWP plan is from 2004. Plan is under review by Aquatic Nuisance Species Task in DC. Final approval of management plan has been delayed due to government shutdown.

- **G.1.2: AIS list**
 - Dept of Ag workgroup voted to make separate priority for aquatic plants (3 noxious, 2 regulated). FWP is writing language for management. Makes clear between terrestrial and aquatic who is responsible. FWP will add 8 more plants to list. The proposal is currently before Ag and FWP Directors for review. Will go through public review/hearing by spring 2026. This will move Eurasian watermilfoil, curlyleaf pondweed, and flowering rush under FWP management.
- **G.1.2.1 Add species to prohibited species list**
 - FWP plans to add these species to prohibited list - golden mussels, corbicula clams, mystery snails (species available in aquarium trade). MISC will support this effort.
- **G.1.3 Pull the plug legislation**
 - Effort in western states to harmonize this law so plugs are out during transport. Pulled plugs would help with draining boats and improve enforcement.
- **G.1.4 Increased penalties for non-compliance**
 - No action, HB242 passed in 2025 legislature increased penalties.
- **G.1.5 AIS trust fund**
 - Balance is currently \$3,625,796.26. Capped at \$100 million before it can be utilized. At future meeting have discussion about function of trust funds.
- **G.1.6 Review and clarify overlapping AIS responsibilities**
 - FWP will initiate a meeting between directors of FWP and DNRC
- **G.1.7 Statutory requirement for integrating tech-based inspect before launch verification**
 - FWP and MISC will monitor new developments. Look into I-LIDS (Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor) that Ben Holden mentioned in his presentation.
- **Other tasks: Explore ways to promote acknowledgement of AIS staff through awards, recognition, and appreciation.**
 - This was discussed at AIS partner meeting. MISC is a good avenue to help with this. Look at the Montana Weed Control Association award program.

Department of Commerce

- Liz and Russ met with Taylor Tidwell to discuss ways that Commerce can assist with invasive species effort and messaging. Several ideas were shared.
- Need to work with Pat Doyle about the Visit MT website that targets tourists

<p>MISC Staff Updates Liz Lodman Russ Hartzell</p>	<p><u>Don't Move Firewood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MISC has hosted 2 interns to promote this effort; Fern McBride in 2024 and Mia White in 2025. MISC needs a partner in eastern Montana for 2026 efforts. • DNRC mailed 9 thousand postcards to out-of-state hunters with message to not bring firewood. Through our Forest Service Grant, MISC donated \$1k to cover postage costs. <p><u>Communications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: MISC has been sharing a survey to gather input from organizations that would benefit from attending a communications workshop. • Webinars: what topics would benefit partners, MISC can help organize. • MISC e-Newsletter: starting a segment called <i>Stories from the Front-Line</i> to share on-the-ground and good news stories. Please share your ideas, videos, etc. • T-shirts: to promote the <i>invasive species to watch</i> list, t-shirts featuring zebra mussels, bullfrogs, and eastern heath snail have arrived. Plan to continue this series with rush skeleton weed and feral swine. Could turn designs into stickers.
<p>Committee Updates</p>	<p><u>Science Advisory Panel (SAP)</u> Assess Invasiveness SAP - Bryce Christiaens This SAP sought to explore tools for assessment of invasive species that could come to Montana, determine if the legal definition of invasive species is adequate, and assess impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suggest clarifying word changes to the definition of invasive species ○ Apply tools from other states ○ Continue discussing <i>pathways</i> rather than specific <i>species</i> • Next steps: Meeting Oct 24th to look at tools and strategies that will fit with work done at MTHNP and fund a prototype assessment trainer. <p>Future SAP topics – group discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective messages to change behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WRP is working on this and it's too big for an SAP project • Frontiers in control – what's changed to improve management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drones, thermal cameras, AI programs, eDNA technology • Invasive annual grasses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Other states use fuels money to treat invasive grasses, should Montana pursue this? ○ How does Montana keep up with western states in causing landscape scale changes in annual grasses? • Climate change – risks for known invasives and potential shifts • Next meeting: council will ask for input and other ideas, prioritize options, and vote on topic; need a champion move forward

Committee Updates	<p><u>Citizen Science - Bryce Maxell</u></p> <p>Montana Natural Heritage Program is partnering with MISC to promote invasive species reporting in conjunction with existing citizen science efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote growth of reporting and connection to species around us (native & invasive) ○ Enhance early detection and rapid responses ○ Create websites with links to citizen science effort and resources • Workgroup formed to develop this project. Plan to create a postcard, wanted poster, and training materials. <p>*MISC will send an invite for next meeting.</p> <p><u>Woody Invasives - Sara Ricklefs</u></p> <p>Efforts to Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held 3 working groups meeting 2023 through 2025 • Hosted 2 Science Advisory Panels through a contract with MISC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2023: Management Best Practices-see what other have ○ 2024: Ecological/ Economic Impacts • Created outreach materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification tri-fold brochure ○ IPM Guides for each species • Advertising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Radio, online, social media, and sponsored content article • Management Plan draft will be out by end of October. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public comment on draft open for 1 month • Impact study being conducted by Flathead Lake Bio Station through a sub-contract from MISC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Could present at the December MISC meeting • Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning a field tour for summer 2026 – contacts are Molly Masters and Amy Seaman ○ Host working group meeting annually ○ Update Management Plan as needed (ideally every 5-10 years) ○ Ideas for more funding? Land management, WRCDC, sponsorships? <p>Q: If funds were available, is it beneficial to continue the working group and is ISAN interested.</p> <p>A: Coordination money is hard to come by, more funding is available for management. Stakeholders need to decide if meeting is beneficial. Still possible to apply for Noxious Weed Trust Fund grants for bigger projects.</p> <p>*MISC agreed the Woody Invasives Working Group is valuable and MISC should continue to be involved.</p>

Feral Swine Updates

Dept of Livestock - Feral Swine - Tahnee Szymanski

Update on feral swine reports in Montana and Phillips county detection

- Feral swine laws can be found here:
 - [MCA 81-29-101 to 106](#) – definition, control, presence, prohibitions, and penalties.
 - [MCA 81-4-201](#) – Animals running at large

	Reports	Live pigs	Carcass or pig sign	Confirmed as domestic	Other Outcomes
2025	5	4	1	3*	No swine observed, domestic animal population to be removed*.
2024	9	6	3	4	No swine observed, use of aerial surveillance, game cameras, and local canvassing
2023	4	3	1	3	Genetic testing

- Recent detection in Phillips County. Reported as bear damage. USDA-WS investigated and found pig sign.
 - Determined to be domestic swine living uncontained, estimated 125 pigs.
 - Trapping operations are currently underway. Game cameras are in place.
 - Pigs will be shipped to Producer Partnerships for processing.
 - Cooperative operation between the owners, MT Dept of Livestock, MT Fish Wildlife & Parks, and USDA-Wildlife Services.
- Introduction of new veterinarian Dr. Emily Kaleczyc.
- Dept. of Livestock request MISC to provide SWAG for people reporting feral swine, ballcaps and t-shirts.

Q: Do you have concerns about Colorado hog hunting ranch.

A: This type of operation is not allowed in Montana. Need to keep amplifying the message that feral pigs are restricted in Montana.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corp (SCIC) - Dale Knouse

Update on SCIC Feral Wild Boar Control Program

- SCIC coordinates sightings, monitoring and removal. Investigate every sighting and employ qualified hunters/trapper to work with landowners and rural municipalities. Have removed 1,000 pigs since 2017.
- Provide compensation for wildlife damage of crops or livestock.
 - In 2024 SCIC paid \$14,000 for feral swine damage compared to \$24 million for all other wildlife damage.

- In 1980- 90's swine were imported from Europe for livestock diversification efforts then released intentionally or accidentally when markets were not realized.
- SK still has wild boar farms (hunting and production) but now require licenses, fencing, and inspections. Cannot sell farms, only passed on through family succession.
- Website with map of wild pig reports at <https://www.wildpigs.ca>
 - Black dot = verified report of any type of pig (domestic or wild)
 - Blue square = field activities where a province is investigating the sighting
 - Orange square = areas with wild pigs and field activates



Saskatchewan Feral Swine Management

Sighting and Trapping Statistics

2024 Reported Sightings

- 13 domestic pig
- 15 wild boar
- 21 unverified

Animals Removed

- 2021 season – 186
- 2022 season – 186
- 2023 season – 128
- 2024 season – 65

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach awareness strategies include <i>Squeal On Pigs</i> billboards, YouTube ads, and Facebook ads. <p>Q: How much is spent to manage feral swine. A: get \$200,000 <i>Canadian</i> each year for trapper wages, adjustor expenses, and promotion.</p> <p>Q: Will map be updated? A: Yes, it will be updated annually.</p>
AIS Updates	<p><u>Montana FWP Aquatic Invasive Species – Tom Woolf</u></p> <p>AIS Update for 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 FWP funded watercraft stations, 8 still open through October 26th Over 97,000 vessels inspected in 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37 mussel fouled vessels, 21 were destined for Montana waters 550 weed fouled vessels Boats transported by brokers from mid-west are a problem Fort Peck BIG project interviewed 117 boaters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over half were from North Dakota; only 3 had not been inspected – entered at night or road did not pass by inspection station Over 2,300 early detection samples <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No invasive mussel detections Tom shared information about Golden Mussels in California, Quagga mussels in Idaho’s Snake River, and Zebra mussels in Colorado and Smishek Lake in North Dakota AIS Summit is Oct 29-30 in Helena <p><u>North Dakota Game & Fish Aquatic Nuisance Species– Ben Holen</u></p> <p>Zebra Mussels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First found in Red River in 2010. Currently in 3 rivers and 7 lakes. Explanation of ANS history, funding, staff enhancements, outreach and laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used boat docks and lifts infested mussel are a big issue Hire 20 roving watercraft inspectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11,000+ watercraft inspections 8 fouled watercraft Piloted contract inspection program Equipment Inspections (out-of-state barges, tugboats, large workboats) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200+ pieces of large commercial equipment inspected 30 pieces had mussels Prevention Devices – wash stations, CD3, and I-LIDS Bait inspections, hatchery inspections, pet store visits Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 170 waterbodies and 2,000+ plankton tow net samples Vegetation samples, substrate checks, snorkel surveys <p>Smishek Lake Mussel Detection - 2025 Reservoir is 195 acres, 2 miles long, 20 ft deep; 70 miles from Montana’s border</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept 25: veligers identified and adults mussels confirmed • Sept 26-27: Follow up sampling downstream • Sept 29 – Oct 3: Treatment planning, additional sampling, consultation with White Earth • Oct 6-10: Finalize treatment plan & post treatment monitoring, press release and notify stakeholders, receive EarthtecQZ • Oct 13-17: Treatment and monitoring • May-June 2026: plan a triple dose treatment
Round Robin Updates	<p>Jason Allen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rush skeleton weed is showing up randomly all over the state. MDT and counties have jumped on treating. <p>Jasmine Chaffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SJ42 bill looks at all noxious weed laws so the EQC task is huge. EQC will have a report by end of next year. Email thoughts about weed laws to Jasmine. • EDRR species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rush skeletonweed: Beaverhead county-4 new sites, Broadwater county-1 site, East Helena-1 site, Flathead county-1 site, Ravalli county-2 large sites. ○ Dyers Wold: no new sites this year ○ Phragmites: Three Forks/Willow Creek-1 site, Bozeman-1, Hill/Blaine county along railroad-1 site, near Hwy 93 north of Missoula-1 site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dept of Ag has tested all suspect sites to determine native vs. invasive. ○ Palmer amaranth: found a plant in Hill county ○ Water hemp: plants are established in northern part of state • Noxious weed trust fund: Grants close January 6, 2026. All Forest Service funding has opened up. Several council member positions are open. • Weed free materials: Gaining traction on gravel pit inspections. Got funding to purchase a drone and will test at gravel pit and weed free forage inspections. • Education: Still working on website, need to make ADA compliant. New materials are being printed. • Ag Corps: Funding was cut, but 4 of the 8 members were shifted to another program and stayed on. Next year Ag will have full funding for 14 members. <p>Karen Laitala</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For EQC SJ42 recommend updating law that requires both a weed board and weed coordinator. Current law only requires a weed board. • Weed coordinators are winterizing equipment, finishing projects, writing reports and proposals. <p>Mike Bias</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOAM hosts an advanced guide school called <i>Guiding for the Future</i>, Tom Woolf presents about AIS at these schools. Hosted a school in Maine in 2023. Working with Wyoming to establish a professional fishing guide business license and school.

Round Robin
Updates

Charles Headdress

- Lost position that hires young people that tested water quality and worked with FWP fisheries crews.
- Natural Resource Department looks for weeds on reservation.
- Stepping down from MISC but will recommend a replacement after their tribal election.

Rose Picklo

- DNRC deployed 61 traps for spongy moths around Missoula – all negative.
- 2024 Spongy moth positive detection at Red Lodge-Basin campground. Conducted delineation survey in 2025 - all negative.
- Updated the Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan this spring. Amy Gannon is talking to Idaho about response planning.
- In 2017 DNRC started to look at impacts of white pine blister rust on limber pine along Rocky Mountain Front. This year visited 24 of 31 survey sites.
- Suggest a MISC field trip to Rocky Mountain Front to look at white pine blister rust. Nature Conservancy has a compound where we could meet.
- Service Forester in Miles City is hanging up Don't Move Firewood signs at rest areas. *MISC will look into visiting with this group.

Sara Ricklefs

- Third pet rehoming event was held in Helena. Received 40 fish (29 goldfish). Seeing a steady increase in surrendered pets and requests to come back to communities. This is filling a great need. Zoo Montana and pet stores who help rehome pets are valuable partners.
 - Next event in Bozeman in spring 2026.
- Working with 4-H and Fair boards to suggest goldfish not be given away during the fair.

Q: Does ISAN still visit pet stores with Don't Let It Loose program.

A. No, FWP has taken over these visits and got resources (bags and stickers) from ISAN.

Dylan Brown

- His company has consistently treated rush skeletonweed at a site in Wyoming and it has not increased or moved.

Jared Beaver

- Wrote a feral swine article for *Lives and Landscapes* magazine and is working on *MontGuide* for feral swine.

Pam Schwend

- Recently became an associate member of the Conservation Board, will bring MISC issue to CD. Filled in for the Stillwater Co Extension Agent at NILE and taught 415-4th graders about rangeland.

<p>Round Robin Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February is National Invasive Species Awareness Week – need to start planning. *MISC will help plan. <p>Steve Wanderaas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> McCone CD is planning a drone workshop in Circle in November. Attended the Watercraft Inspection Partners meeting in Great Falls; CD operated WIS are rolling along good. Going to NAISMA. Presented to MaCO about funding needs for weed districts and that the effort needs to be led by county commissioners. There was no discussion afterwards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spoke with Director Kaster who suggested follow up discussion with Governor’s Budget Director and include Natural Resource Advisor Rich Roth. Need to bring Dept of Ag Director into conversation.
<p>Wrap Up & Adjourn</p>	<p>Public Comment:</p> <p>CEMIST - Brent Smith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIS train the trainer workshop is next week in Billings; participants are down due to government shutdown Planning an invasive annual grasses workshop in Winnett in February or March. Inviting presenters from MSU extension, Dept of Ag and University of Wyoming IMAGINE group. CEMIST has over 2,800 direct contacts on invasive species for the year. Held the AIS Lake Elmo Days, funded by an AIS grant. Worked with FWP AIS crew. Invite surrounding schools; had 171 kids over 1.5 days. <p>Bryce Maxell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated invasive risk models for vascular plants-Link Added species: everlasting (used in floral arrangements) recorded near Troy, sessile fruit arrowhead in northern Idaho but not Montana yet, spotted lantern fly potential occurrence in MT, garden forget me knot, weak leaf bursage. 1+ million observation records for non-native species in Montana. EQC asked for fact sheet on how MTNHP centralized data. Suggest for Steve’s discussion about noxious weed management to add representatives from industry -- Northwestern Energy, Forest Council. <p>MISC Exe Com meeting scheduled for Oct 20 is cancelled.</p> <p>*Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting Motion: Karen Laitala Second: Dylan Brown No further discussion Motion passed unanimously</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.</p>

FY26 Expenses July - November

3309 Invasive Species Support

MISC Events		
Don't Move Firewood	travel and meeting	\$ 206
Conferences - Tables		
MRCDC-RR	Aug 25-26 <i>Malta</i>	\$ 358
WIWG	Sept 10 <i>Lewistown</i>	\$ 42
MWCC	Sept 16-18 <i>Billings & Winnett</i>	\$ 893
AWRA	Oct 8 <i>Great Falls</i>	\$ 24
MT Farmers Union	Oct 31-Nov 1 <i>Lewistown</i>	\$ 413
NAISMA	Nov 4-6 <i>Nevada</i>	\$ 1,104
MT Farm Bureau	Nov 17-20 <i>Missoula</i>	\$ 300
MACD	Nov 17-20 <i>Billings</i>	\$ 590
Outreach - Materials - Dues		
Dues & Fees	MWCA	\$ 190
Educational Supplies	MSU ID Guides	\$ 2,002
Printing	MCDEE brochures, Grow Wild color books	\$ 7,600
Clothing	T-shirts	\$ 4,256
Outreach Support	WIS appreciation	\$ 39
		\$ 18,017

FY26 Expenses July - November

3303 MISC Council

MISC Events		
MISC	July 28-30 <i>Trout Creek</i>	\$ 2,278
MISC	Oct 15-17 <i>Fort Peck</i>	\$ 3,092
Council Travel		
Various meeting	WIWG, FWP, MaCO, FF	\$ 1,772
Material - Supplies - Print		
Meeting Supplies	cooler	\$ 90
		\$ 7,232

MISC Future Projects

Estimate	Project
\$ 20,000	Summit facilitator
\$ 4,000	Summit meeting room
\$ 2,000	SAP 2025- assessment trainer
\$ 6,000	Strategic Plan
	SAP 2026
\$ 1,200	Woody Invasive Working Group support
	Compendium of Laws update
	Sponsorships - AIS Short Course, MWCC, GPFWA
	Eastern Heath Snail outreach and planning
	Don't Move Firewood Intern
	Citizen Science
	Marketing contract
	Outreach to visitors, recreators, hunters, landowners
	Research project or impact report
	Website update
	Hunter & Angler focus groups for messaging

MISC Meeting - October 16, 2025

Think of Pathways, both common and unique.

How do invasive species make their way to Montana?



Assess Invasiveness SAP – meeting

#2 October 24 Agenda & Notes

2. Determine Strategy for completing species assessment
 - a. Identify participants
 - b. Identify tools
 - i. Are there other tools not listed in the report to consider?
 - c. Roll of MTNHP
 - d. Funding to conduct assessments
 - e. Find assessment that works across jurisdictions
3. Next meeting

Invited: Bryce Christiaens; Jane Mangold; Bryce Maxell; Tom Woolf; Steve Wanderaas; Jason Allen; Jasmine Chaffee; Russ Hartzell; Michelle Cox ; Erik Norderud

Attendance: Bryce C, Jane M, Jasmine C, Steve W, Tom W., Jason A.

a. Identify participants

Working group: this group will identify species to be assessed and ask questions to ensure we get information needed from this process.

- Weeds: Jane & Jasmine
- Tree Pests: Amy
- Vertebrates: Tahnee, Kristina Smucker
- AIS & fish: Tom

Or classify working group members by :

- Plants
- Vertebrates
- Insects
- Pathogens

Assessment Tool Leaders: Use and adapt an existing tool for Montana's needs.

- Deah L. and Bryce Maxell

Other groups: Seed lab, Nursery

b. Identify tools

e. Find assessment that works across jurisdictions

Tool: NatureServe with Deah's modifications is the recommended tool. Deah has modified it to include climate, socio-economic, and management difficulties. Bryce is interested in using this tool.

Questions:

- NatureServe is listed as STATUS assessment, and we want a RISK assessment. Can NatureServe be modified?
- Can it be used for all-taxa?
- Can we borrow risk assessments from other locations?
- **Risk assessment** is for species outside the state with the concern they will come into Montana. Could we assess new arrivals ?
- For AIS risk assessments, can we adopt horizon scans from USFWS and risk assessment from the Great Lakes?

c. Roll of MTNHP

Bryce Maxell would like MTNHP to conduct the assessments

d. Funding to conduct assessments

MISC can fund tool development and cover funds for Deah to come to Montana (\$5,000)

- Tom – MISC needs to get priorities laid out before allocating funds

Funding MTNHP to conduct assessment is yet to be determined

Note: Why should we do all-taxa invasive species assessments? An assessment report would justify why a decision has been made and/or action taken; gives something quantifiable.

Action: Create an all-taxa working group of experts that identifies species to bring forth for an assessment.

Action: Meet with Deah over zoom to talk thru before inviting out to Montana

Next meeting: Check in with this group in December.

From: Bryce Christiaens <bchristiaens@missoulacounty.us>

Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 9:46 AM

To: swbarsw@midrivers.com; Lodman Stine, Liz <liz.lodman@mt.gov>; Hartzell, Russ <Russ.Hartzell2@mt.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] notes from SAP follow up meeting!

Hi Steve!

Apologies for it taking me a week to get this to you! Here are the notes/takeaways that I put down:

- a. Identify participants
 - i. Conversation on developing committee for species selection that has expertise that represents every taxa (Plant, Insect, Pathogens, Vertabrates) as well as taxa type like AIS, Terrestrial, or Tree Pest issues. Still need some brainstorming on this, but names included Jasmine, Jane, Bryce for terrestrial plants, Amy Gannon for Tree Pest, Kristina Smucker, Tahnee for Vertabrates and pathogens, Tom for AIS. Short discussion on role of industry groups like nursery, seed and pet trades as well as hunters, but settled on those groups being brought in after assessments are done to understand repercussions of a species to their industry
 - ii. Conversation on Bryce M. and Deah as core group for conducting assessments, with above group informing process
- b. Identify tools
 - i. Identified Nature Serve and Deah's Modifications as process that makes the most sense but had clarifying questions for Deah (1. They are listed in spreadsheet as status assessment tools, not risk assessment tools? Can they be used for Risk Assessments? 2) Can they be effectively used for all Taxa?). this conversation could either occur at NAISMA, or we could set up a call with Liz, Bryce, Russ and Deah to talk through if needed
- c. Roll of MTNHP
 - i. We should fully take advantage of Bryce M's interest and willingness to participate in the development of our process, then assist in finding funds for conducting full assessments once tool is created
- d. Funding to conduct assessments
 - i. Propose to council to pay for Deah's time (and if needed Bryce's time) to assist in tool development (a max of \$5000 was discussed as a potential proposal to MISC board)
- e. Find assessment that works across jurisdictions
 - i. Insure that the tool does so in development process
- f. Next Meeting: Early to Mid December after clarifying convo with Deah and MISC exec board

Happy Halloween! If you have any questions on anything above let me know! bryce

SAP Discussion at MISC meeting – October 16, 2025

Future SAP topics – group discussion

- Effective messages to change behavior
 - WRP is working on this and it's too big for an SAP project
- Frontiers in control – what's changed to improve management
 - Drones, thermal cameras, AI programs, eDNA technology
- Invasive annual grasses
 - Other states use fuels money to treat invasive grasses, should Montana pursue this?
 - How does Montana keep up with western states in causing landscape scale changes in annual grasses?
- Climate change – risks for known invasives and potential shifts

Action Item:

- Next meeting: council will ask for input and other ideas, prioritize options, and vote on topic; need a champion move forward

Science Advisory Panel Process

"When the panel ends, the work begins."

Amy Gannon, Chair for the May 2022 Firewood SAP.

Phase 1

Start: MISC Council confirms the topic at a council meeting.

- The topic is refined and focused in discussion.
- A lead Council member is identified.
 - The lead identifies a planning team.
 - The planning team identifies the potential participants or areas of expertise that would benefit the discussion.

Scope:

- Discussions with the potential panel participants are used to develop specific questions to focus the discussion.
 - The Council approves the scope and confirms the goal for the SAP. This can include an application for an action like releasing a biological control organism, a best practices document, or other management focused outcome.
 - The questions are developed into a request for written responses from the panelists and sent out.

Phase 2

Logistics:

- Participating panelists are identified and commit to attending. Fall, winter, and early spring panels avoid the field season from April through September.
 - Panelists and the discussion team suggest moderators and the moderator is engaged as part of the planning team.
 - The location is decided and the venue is booked. If there is a substantial international component to the meeting Zoom worked well to reduce travel costs and allow accommodations for shorter meetings over a week-long period to spread out the discussion.
 - An after-hours or informal venue is suggested (this was a popular part of the Firewood SAP).

Process:

- The panelist's written answers to the questions are compiled anonymously into a background document. The planning team reviews and approves a draft to be sent out to the panel. The team picks a set of questions to focus the live discussion.
 - The agenda is built around the discussion questions.
 - Public meeting notices and invitations are sent.
 - Final logistics: panelist's lodging, catering, meeting supplies.

Phase 3

Outcome:

- Panel meeting: notes and summary drafted and added to the compiled panelist written responses as the basis of the final report.
 - Report drafting, follow up questions with the panelists and planning team.
 - Draft report is presented to MISC for approval.

End: MISC approves the recommendations and distributes them to partners.

Montana Invasive Species Council

2022 Summit
October 25 & 26, 2022

WORK SESSION #3: Science Advisory Panels.

Question: What topics would benefit from a Science Advisory Panel review?

- Climate Change, will the risk for known invasive species change and will native species shift their behavior
- Invasive annual grass impacts, including the benefits of control, landowner buy-in, impacts to recreation, secondary invasions
- Developing effective messages to change behavior
- Best practices from integrated weed management through revegetation
- Noxious weed pathways: identifying the vectors and improving prevention
- Feral hogs: What is the plan
- Feral cat impacts from urban areas to rural populations
- Data sharing and standards
- Impacts of aquatic invasive plant control with herbicides on aquatic plant communities
- Effective techniques for vehicle decontamination from terrestrial weeds and pests
- eDNA technology has evolved, beyond mussels, how can it be used
- Legislative tools and regulatory harmonization
- Best practices for roadside vegetation management
 - Balance best practices for weed control with providing pollinator habitat and not attracting herbivores to the road
- Frontiers in control: What has changed that can improve management
- Praying mantis



Proposed Projects, Programs, and Priorities for MISC 2025-26 (4-P)

This is a working draft, brainstorming document. Feel free to save as with your edits, comments, suggestions, and additions and email back to Liz and Russ.

Alternatively/additionally, after reviewing please use this survey to provide your comments, thoughts and suggestions.

[MISC Member Input for Workplan - Intellistack](#)

MISC Website Revamp

- Investigate options to reorganize the invasivespecies.mt.gov web pages. Make website easier to navigate and remove pages about UC3. Combine MISC page and Invasive Species page into one instead of two separate pages.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. Agree. At one point we discussed the website as a clearinghouse for all taxa information. Is that still needed?
2. I would like to see some tribal tidbit info or general tribes' info in the MISC Website Revamp.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

What is next? Investigate with government entities how to make these changes. Starting fresh might be faster and cheaper.

Ongoing-impacted/integrated with mandatory compliance with accessibility standards.

[New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:](#)

- "The MISC website revamp is necessary for ease of use. I find myself Googling things like 'MT Invasive Species Science Advisory Panel eDNA' to find specific documents or resources because they're difficult to find from the home page/menu. Cleaning up the menu and footers would be helpful."
- "Aware of the ADA compliance initiative and supportive of that - give kudos for that because it's not easy!"
- "With a new detection of Rush Skeletonweed on HYW 12, this brings to mind a potential MISC website/social media/other 'outlet' to help get new invader detections out quickly and regionally."

Social Media Presence

- Establish Montana Invasive Species Facebook and Instagram accounts to promote MISC projects, events, and invasive species issues. Share content from other partners.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. See montanafwp on Instagram for a good example of entertaining and informational. Can we post through their Instagram to get people connected to the resource?

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

What is the process? Who approves the content? Do Canadians have social media we can piggy back off of?

Ongoing-unlikely to receive departmental ok to move forward with own social media, options?

Outreach and Education

- Host Don't Move Firewood intern (through MT Conservation Corps) to build on 2024 accomplishments. Investigate creating a video to for campground hosts.
- Investigate TU's Trout in the Classroom curriculum to include invasive species awareness.
- Create a display for Eastern Heath Snail showing massing behavior.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. EAB is an invasive species that could impact large part of MT population and would be a good candidate for education. Consider larger effort on EAB education/outreach including how to identify, what is it, threats to natural and urban areas, costs (control, increased energy bills with less shade), replacement trees, where to get replacement trees/how to plant....
2. DNRC is working on updating the EAB Response Plan in 2025.
3. Help with coordination and creation of community based social marketing outreach strategies and materials to help integrate into MISC member outreach campaigns.
4. For education-outreach maybe add a part for what tribes should include, for example: At our annual pow-wows and ceremonial events, we get a lot of traffic from outside the reservation, and Brochures that include how Invasive species awareness would go along way to protect our reservations (times when extreme weather hits like, Floods, Drought, Wildfires, when state or out of state resources arrive and Invasive species can spread). Maybe a Display for education-outreach, showing a Picture of a Fancy Shawl Dancer, and below has a saying, "Protect Our

Mother Earth, please don't spread invasive weeds". We could get our local schools and students involved by having a contest, with the winners Drawing/picture being used for our Outreach.

5. Leverage MISC to expand targeted outreach through Dept of Commerce. Get AIS info and requirements targeted to boaters, but also firewood info, weed info, etc.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

Discussion about trout in the classroom what goes into the permitting process, etc. Highlighted that many local organizers do a good job incorporating AIS messaging in the curriculum. Roll that messaging into the larger curriculum. CBSM workshop targeting invasive plant management in Montana is in the works. Alternatives to ash in regards to EAB planning.

Updates 10/2025, goals identified above. Hosted an intern who visited over 150 sites in 2025 for DMF outreach. Exploring partnership options for more Eastern Montana visits in 2026 and beyond. Do have enough remaining campsite to host a intern in Central/Western Montana as well in 2026. Held meeting with FWP and discussed TITC, understanding is that permit language will be updated to say that fish will not be released. Continue to explore NTITC curriculum. Liz made an EHS display that shows massing for tabling events, working with Jason/MDT on a display for Armington Junction rest area.

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

From Jason Allen "Add work with myself and MDT to put an Eastern Heath Snail display in the Belt rest area. Currently waiting to put this in process as MDT has not filled the Facility chief position."

From Sara:

- Support for DMF intern continuation and partnership
- "I don't know much about TU's program, but am supportive of MISC working with TU to incorporate invasive species awareness within that curriculum."
- "I love the idea of a display of EHS behavior, fully support. MISC does a good job of tabling at events getting invasive species messaging to audiences that don't get it elsewhere."
- CBSM principles: "I think as initiatives grow, incorporating CBSM principles into materials will occur. As MISC continues to create new or update existing materials, that messaging can be inserted."
- Baseline awareness surveys: "I would heavily support MISC helping to look for or fund baseline survey efforts on awareness across key users. We still have a lot of questions that seem to be discussed with assumptions and/or anecdotal observations."

From Pam:

- "I'm hung up on the Eastern Heath Snail. I think there is more that can be done. I just don't know where those sources would come from."

Quarterly Webinar Series/Ask an expert video series

- Host webinars on high priority topics of interest to our stakeholders and citizens. Topics TBD. Use webinars to build interest or prompt actions.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. My suggestion is to have really clear goals and objectives for the webinar series (topics, outcomes, measurable effectiveness) prior to launch (even if that's on a year-to-year basis). Some questions I have:
 - Will they incorporate open Q&A?
 - Are these topics value added and not available from other partners? I only bring this up because I've seen webinar series lacking attendance lately.
 - Maybe weigh the value of a long-form quarterly webinar series with a short-form series (YouTube/socials) that occurs more often?
 - Is there something that's currently missing in Montana invasive species communications (e.g., a success story series, a series highlighting invasive species careers/collaborations, focusing on new research or innovations)?
2. Gather list of stakeholder groups to distribute information through. Topics? Include resources available for public in each webinar and where to find them.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

Q&A should be integrated, not just talked to during meetings, make it an open forum. Tell success stories. There are so many webinars out there, look at what already exists and piggy back onto those. Collaborate with other groups and reach new audiences. Check with council members what already exists and be a guest for those. Some discussion about podcasts.

Update 10/25: This has been discussed to work in conjunction with the citizen science workgroup. One of the initial webinars will be citizen science/reporting focused. Would still like to coordinate with other groups on webinars/hold some.

Partnerships

- Continue to invest in partnerships with all stakeholders, attend events, support projects, be a resource, and explore opportunities for collaborative efforts and projects. This task is vital and requires substantial staff time.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. Partnerships in general. What it takes to create and maintain them. Just a short paragraph in the list that captures this.
2. Help acknowledge AIS efforts and accomplishments through MISC. Especially those on the ground that make invasive species programs successful. Maybe annual MISC awards or recognition? Noxious weed folks provide awards at their annual events. Not sure who else in the invasive world actively acknowledges efforts. This could fit into multiple places on the 4p list.

Additional Comments/Summary from Quarterly meeting discussion:

October 2025 meeting discussion included desire to work more closely with hunting groups and organizations, potential to have influencer partnerships with some of those groups. We will explore engagement with these groups moving forward.

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

- "Top Priorities for FWP:
 - Help promote and amplify existing invasive species activities, messaging and outreach.
 - Promote tools to support invasive species detection and reporting.
 - Promote leveraging invasive species messaging through Dept Commerce and the Office of Tourism."

More ideas from Tom:

- "Encourage Council members to attend / participate / represent MISC at events / meetings."
- "What do you want to see from the Council?" - suggests regular member engagement consultation

From Karen:

- "I would be willing to help represent MISC at events and also strongly support leveraging invasive species messaging, which often leads to detection and reporting."

Citizen Science Workgroup

- Develop program to encourage Montana citizens to report invasive species. Work with partners to determine need and goals. Build webpage with resources for persons interested in being part of the "Montana Invasive Species Detector

Network". Provide both online and in-person training opportunities. Look into potential funding from farm bill.

- This effort could be baseline and structured around building parcels into existing programs if our agency partners would prefer that.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. I think this is a great idea and to my knowledge not being done comprehensively (all taxa, all demographics) by anyone else in MT.
2. How many species? This could be a full-time position to coordinate...
3. Developing a Community Science Project could be really great. As part of that, maybe develop materials that could be handed off to partners to help expand early detection participation and reporting.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

Underreported species, building awareness to get more reports. Could be a great project for the council to work MTNHP on iNaturalist and other reporting formats, to get information to managers on new reports, and council can build utility of reporting. Montana AG live as an option for building interest.

11/3/2025 Update: Survey to solicit interest and ideas was sent out and feedback compiled. First meeting of work group (chaired by Bryce Maxell) took place in late October. Website updates and handouts are being designed to use at winter meetings.

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

Sara Ricklefs (Formstack):

- "I'm very excited for the Community Science Workgroup effort!!! I think Bryce taking lead is smart and I'm very excited to see where this goes! We all know that public observations are critical to rapid response and early detection. Fully support, foot on the gas pedal, etc."

Species to Watch List Updates

- Check-in with species experts to update invasion curve status as needed.
- Determine fish species to include on list.
- Review species of concern reported at the 2024 MT Invasive Species Summit.

No significant change from previous watch list. Keep thinking of species to add to address unique pathways?

Additional Comments/Summary from Quarterly meeting discussion:

Bucket biology and fish species discussion with FWP, having that conversation is progress.

Workshops and Science Advisory Panels on Priority Issues

- Changing Climate and Invasive Species workshop?
- Communication Workshop
- Science Advisory Panel topic for 2026
- Summit 2026 (Pathways)
- Review past SAP recommendations and capture additional needed follow-up.

Council member comments/suggestions:

1. We had the Spatial Analysis Lab from MSU speak at a woody invasives meeting. It was higher level content than what I was hoping for, but I think understanding and applying remote sensing/satellite imaging for invasive species could be a really good topic, especially highlighting applications from various taxa.
2. Great idea. Have you talked to Jane Mangold? She wants to start giving communication trainings.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

We don't want to lose sight of climate change as an issue, keep it on the radar.

Jane Mangold will be a good contact on the communications workshop.

Not mandated to hold a SAP but have typically held every year. Change in land use/population increase and impacts to invasive species. Specific discussion on noxious weed expansions that could be related to land use and population growth.

Additional Comments/Summary from February Quarterly meeting discussion:

Recommended to review the workplan annually or at each meeting.

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

Summit 2026

From Sara:

"Potential Summit Theme - MT Management Assessment 10-Year Revisit:

Council member suggestion: Rather than traditional programmatic updates and project presentations, consider focusing the entire 2026 Summit around revisiting the 2016 MT Management Assessment of Invasive Species document.

Key questions to explore:

- Are we better or worse off than we were in 2016 (based on Key Gaps and Challenges from that report)?
- What needs to happen between now and 2036 to ensure Montana is better off?
- Can this focus help move critical discussions into constructive action?

Note: Not necessarily seeking a formal report, but more of a 'State of the State' response on invasive species prevention, awareness, management, and progress on key gaps.

Recommendation: Would need to determine if Summit is the most appropriate venue, or if a separate strategic planning process would be more effective."

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

New Category: "Council Member Support and Engagement"

From Sara Ricklefs (Formstack):

- "The Council could benefit from some clear direction (dare I say policies?) on expectations from members. Everything from attendance at Quarterly Meetings to participation in Executive Committee meetings. I was very confused at my first AIS hearing because I didn't think the comment review period was open to non-grant committee members and then to find out it was expected of me (I felt terrible). I know now and promise to meet those expectations."

From Tom's email/formstack:

- "Engage MISC Members: 'What do you want to see from the Council?'"
- "Ensure priorities are established by the Council."
- "Ensure staff activities align with priorities established by the Council."
- "Encourage Council members to attend/participate/represent MISC at meetings/events."
- "Bring Council members together to leverage existing efforts. Regular updates on AIS grant progress."

From Pamela Schwend (Formstack):

- "I feel the staff had adequately provided opportunities for me. I don't know of anything else that can be done at this time. There may be something come up in the future."

New Feedback from Formstack/Email Added December 2025:

New Category: "Strategic Planning Process"

Council feedback indicates strong support for formal workplan/strategic planning process.

Recommendations:

- Establish clear council member expectations and policies
- Define what council members want to see from MISC
- Ensure staff capacity aligns with established priorities
- Clarify how different initiatives benefit invasive species awareness/management
- Assess staff capacity for new projects

MONTANA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

2023-2026 Work Plan

The governor's office established the Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC) in 2015. The Council is a diverse group of scientists and resource managers charged with developing "a science-based, comprehensive program to identify, prevent, eliminate, reduce, and mitigate the impacts of invasive species in Montana."

The Montana Invasive Species Council has addressed urgent management needs by drawing together agencies and partners from across jurisdictions. Responses to high priority species including zebra mussels and feral swine have been supported by the Council.

Looking ahead, the invasive species concerns of Montana's stakeholders were used to create the 2023-26 Work Plan to focus the efforts of staff and the Council on the issues and species causing impact now.

SCIENCE ADVISORY PANELS

These panels "inform Montana's efforts based on the current status, trends, and emerging technology as they relate to invasive species management in Montana." Past panels included recommendations for using eDNA to detect invasive mussels, biological control of houndstongue, the spread of eastern heath snail into pulse and wheat production counties, and actions to reduce the risk of firewood as a vector for the spread of invasive forest pests.

NEXT SCIENCE ADVISORY PANEL

To develop a process to assess the potential invasiveness of a species by effectively quantifying its impact to Montana's economy and environment.

IMPACTS OF INVASIVE SPECIES

MISC has collaborated with researchers and economists to determine the economic impact of invasive species in Montana. Past studies include invasive mussel impacts and the increased costs to grain and pulse producers in the Golden Triangle if eastern heath snails become widespread.



BUILDING CAPACITY AND IDENTIFYING NEW THREATS

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS MISC WILL:



Work with vested stakeholders to develop long-term, on-the-ground solutions to salt cedar, Russian olive and other woody invasive species impacting riparian areas in Central and Eastern Montana.



Provide land management professionals with the tools necessary to effectively communicate the importance of invasive species management to new and diverse audiences.



Continue its work to improve compliance with existing statewide regulations.



Engage regional experts in a workshop addressing the impact of a changing climate on the spread of invasive species.

NEXT IMPACT STUDY

The "10 Invasive Species to Watch" list developed at the 2022 Montana Invasive Species Summit will be used to identify cumulative impacts and management gaps.

Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
2015-2016 Strategic Plan Overview



MISAC VISION

Our vision is for the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council (MISAC) to foster coordinated efforts in Montana that lead to positive changes in the state coordination, prevention, detection, rapid response, and management of invasive species.

MISAC MISSION

Our mission is to protect Montana's economy, ecological resources and public health and safety by assessing and bolstering Montana's invasive species efforts through a coordinated approach to keep invasive species out of Montana and to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of invasive species already established in the state.