

2022
MONTANA
INVASIVE
SPECIES
SUMMIT



UNITING TO PROTECT MONTANA

Addressing Montana's priority invasive species issues and collaborating to protect our lands, waters, cultural assets, and native species.



HOSTED BY:
Montana Invasive Species Council
Best Western Great Northern Hotel in Helena
October 25 & 26, 2022

Agenda-at-a-Glance

Tuesday, October 25th

8:00am - 9:00am	Registration Desk Open, Coffee and Light Breakfast
9:00am - 10:00am	Welcome and Agency Remarks
10:00am - 10:15am	Break
10:15am - 11:00am	Work Session #1: Top 10 Invasive Species to Watch
11:00am - 11:15am	Update: Eastern Heath Snail
11:15am - 12:00pm	Work Session #2: Quantify the Impacts of Invasive Species
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch - Provided
1:00am - 1:10am	DNRC Agency Director's Welcome
1:10pm - 1:25pm	Success Story
1:25pm - 2:15pm	Panel: Legislators
2:15pm - 2:30pm	Break
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Success Story
2:45pm - 3:45pm	Panel: Recognizing the Values of Managing Invasive Species
3:45pm - 4:15pm	Reports from Partners
5:00pm - 6:30pm	<i>Reception at the Brew House, lower level</i>

Wednesday, October 26th

8:00am - 9:00am	Coffee and Light Breakfast
9:00am - 9:10am	Welcome Back
9:10am - 9:25am	Update: Firewood Science Advisory Panel
9:25am - 10:15am	Work Session #3: Science Advisory Panels
10:15am - 10:30am	Break
10:30am - 10:45pm	Update: Feral Swine
10:45am - 11:30am	Work Session #4: Focused Efforts to Increase Capacity
11:30am - 12:00pm	Reports from Partners
12:00pm - 12:45pm	Lunch - Provided
12:45pm - 1:00pm	Success Story
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Panel: Regional Neighbors
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Break
2:45pm - 3:00pm	Montana Institution for Tourism and Recreation Research
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Panel: Sharing Your Message
4:00pm	Report Out: Work Plan Priorities
5:00pm - 6:30pm	<i>Gathering at Lewis & Clark Brewery</i>

8:00-9:00	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN, COFFEE AND LIGHT BREAKFAST
9:00-10:00	WELCOME FROM MISC AND AGENCY REMARKS Bryce Christiaens, MISC Chair – <i>Missoula County Weed District Manager</i> Our Purpose: MISC framework and our shared priorities, listening session feedback, work plan process.
10:00-10:15	BREAK
10:15-11:00	WORK SESSION #1: TOP 10 INVASIVE SPECIES TO WATCH Moderator: Mindy Wilkinson Question: What are Montana's top invasive species and what is their impact? Outcome: List 10 invasive species that are important to Montana.
11:00-11:15	UPDATE: EASTERN HEATH SNAIL Gary Adams* – <i>USDA, APHIS, PPQ - State Plant Health Director</i>
11:15-12:00	WORK SESSION #2: QUANTIFY THE IMPACTS OF INVASIVE SPECIES Moderator: Mindy Wilkinson Question: What invasive species issues would benefit from clearly quantifying the impacts? Outcome: Identify the top three topics to support with research or review.
12:00-1:00	LUNCH - PROVIDED
1:00-1:10	DNRC WELCOME Director Amanda Kaster
1:10-1:25	SUCCESS STORY: DYER'S WOAD TASK FORCE Amber Burch – <i>Beaverhead County Weed District</i> Ngaio Richards – <i>Working Dogs for Conservation</i>
1:25-2:15	LEGISLATIVE PANEL Moderator: Steve Wanderaas* – <i>McCone Conservation District Chair</i> Senator Mike Cuffe Representative Marilyn Marler Representative Neil Duram Representative Willis Curdy
2:15-2:30	BREAK
2:30-2:45	SUCCESS STORY: INVASIVE BULLFROG AND TURTLE REMOVAL - A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT Kristina Smucker – <i>Fish, Wildlife and Parks WP Nongame Program Supervisor</i>
2:45-3:45	PANEL: RECOGNIZING THE VALUES OF MANAGING INVASIVE SPECIES. Moderator: Tom Woolf* - <i>Fish, Wildlife and Parks AIS Bureau Chief</i> Jennifer Mohler - <i>Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance</i> Virgil Dupuis - <i>Salish Kootenai College Extension</i> Diane Medler - <i>Discover Kalispell</i> Clayton Elliott - <i>Montana Trout Unlimited</i>
3:45-4:15	REPORTS FROM PARTNERS
5:00-6:30	RECEPTION AT THE BREW HOUSE - BOTTOM LEVEL

8:00-9:00	ROOM OPEN, COFFEE AND LIGHT BREAKFAST
9:00-9:10	WELCOME BACK Jane Mangold* – <i>Montana State University Extension Invasive Plant Specialist</i>
9:10-9:25	UPDATE: FIREWOOD SCIENCE ADVISORY PANEL Amy Gannon* – <i>DNRC Forest Pest Management Program Coordinator</i>
9:25-10:15	WORK SESSION #3: SCIENCE ADVISORY PANELS Moderator: Mindy Wilkinson Question: What topics would benefit from a Science Advisory Panel review? Outcome: List of three topics that should be developed over the next 3 years.
10:15-10:30	BREAK
10:30-10:45	UPDATE: FERAL SWINE Tahnee Szymanski – <i>Department of Livestock Assistant State Veterinarian</i>
10:45-11:30	WORK SESSION #4: FOCUSED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PROGRAMS AND INCREASE CAPACITY Moderator: Mindy Wilkinson Question: What invasive species issues or initiatives should MISC support with focused effort including trainings, jurisdictional review, workshops, tabletop exercises, or outreach? Outcome: List of four topic areas that would benefit from focused support.
11:30-12:00	REPORTS FROM PARTNERS
12:00-12:45	LUNCH - PROVIDED
12:45-1:00	SUCCESS STORY 3: INVASIVE CLAM REMOVAL AT LAKE ELMO Craig McLane - <i>Fish, Wildlife and Parks AIS Early Detection & Monitoring Coordinator</i>
1:00-2:30	PANEL: REGIONAL NEIGHBORS - OUTLOOK, REPORTS, AND CURRENT CONCERNS Moderator: Jasmine Chaffee* – <i>Dept of Ag State Weed Coordinator</i> Megan Evans - <i>Alberta Invasive Species Council (virtual)</i> Gail Wallin - <i>Invasive Species Council of British Columbia (virtual)</i> Richard Weisz - <i>North Dakota Department of Agriculture</i> Lloyd Knight - <i>Idaho State Department of Agriculture (virtual)</i> Josh Shorb - <i>Wyoming's Park County Weed and Pest District</i> Jacob Bradford - <i>Regional Invasive Species Coordinator Bureau of Reclamation</i>
2:30-2:45	BREAK
2:45-3:00	MONTANA INSTITUTION FOR TOURISM AND RECREATION RESEARCH Megan Schultz – <i>ITRR Project Manager and Research Associate</i> Melissa Weddell – <i>ITRR Director and Research Faculty</i>
3:00-4:00	PANEL: SHARING YOUR MESSAGE - COORDINATED COMMUNICATIONS, MESSAGES AND METHODS THAT ARE BETTER ADAPTED TO A CHANGING POPULATION Moderator: Kate Wilson – <i>UC3 Administrator</i> Cassidy Bender – <i>UC3 / Clean, Drain, Dry</i> Jennifer Riddle – <i>ISAN / Don't Let It Loose</i> Leigh Greenwood* – <i>The Nature Conservancy / Don't Move Firewood</i>
4:00	REPORT OUT: WORK PLAN PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES OF WORK SESSIONS 1-4
5:00-6:30	GATHERING AT LEWIS & CLARK BREWERY

SCIENCE ADVISORY PANELS

MISC is tasked with organizing Scientific Advisory Panels. The panels “inform Montana’s efforts based on the current status, trends, and emerging technology as they relate to invasive species management in Montana.” Panels are organized by a subcommittee of MISC and are composed of subject experts most relevant to the topic. Final reports can be found at invasivespecies.mt.gov/misc/Science-Advisory-Panel.

The use of eDNA for Dreissenid Mussel Early Detection

2018

The panel evaluated the use of environmental DNA (eDNA) for dreissenid mussel early detection and provided input and guidance to managers regarding its use. The panel recommended the need to develop and refine methods/standards, use consistent language and develop clear communication protocols to reduce barriers for using eDNA as a detection method in multiple jurisdictions. The panel recognized this issue affects aquatic invasive species prevention and management beyond the boundaries of Montana, and steps forward will benefit agencies and stakeholders across jurisdictions.



2019

Scoping the potential approval of *Mogulones crucifer* for classical biological control of houndstongue in the U.S.

Introducing classical biological control for any weed requires meeting USDA APHIS and USFWS ecological criteria to determine the safety to native and crop plants. The panel identified the research needed prior to releasing *M. crucifer* as a biological control in the U.S. The panel provided input and guidance to managers if the organism is encountered in the field and recommended the development of a petition to release this insect.



Investigation of known information about Eastern Heath Snail - *Xerolenta obvia*

2020

The eastern heath snail is found in two locations in North America resulting in a limited national response and many questions about the potential distribution of this species and its impacts. The panel recommended that USDA redevelop and modify their 2012 Environmental Review for this snail including treatment recommendations. The panel suggested Montana develop a cooperative management plan, conduct an economic impact analysis and create outreach materials.



2022

Review of firewood management and communicating risk with partners and the public

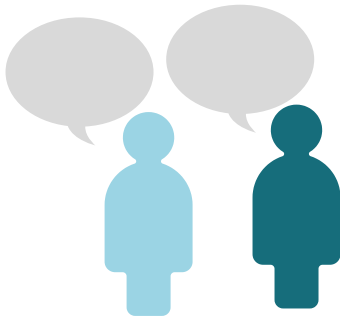
The panel identified opportunities for managing out-of-state transport of firewood into Montana as a pathway for invasive tree pest. Panelists representing forest industries, tourism, research, and management recommended expanding markets for locally produced firewood, developing positive messages focused on protecting Montana’s resources, and sharing that message with partners and visitors to Montana.



1-2-4-ALL



Silent Reflection



**Generate ideas in pairs,
building on ideas from
self reflection**



**Share and develop ideas
from your pair in
foursome**



**Each group shares
important ideas with their
table and prepares to
report to the room.**

WHAT WE DO

The Montana Invasive Species Council is a statewide partnership working to protect Montana's economy, natural resources and cultural resources, and public health through a coordinated approach to combat invasive species.

MONTANA INVASIVE SPECIES STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: A STRATEGY FOR MEETING OUR INVASIVE SPECIES CHALLENGES

Developed collaboratively with the public, stakeholders and partners, the Council finalized the Montana Invasive Species Strategic Framework in 2016. The Framework includes over 90 coordinated actions that would better protect Montana from invasive species, five key areas highlighted for improvements are listed below:

COORDINATION:

Respond to invasive species as a shared responsibility and a common priority across the state by integrating and strengthening Montana's management.

PREVENTION:

Reduce the transport of invasive species into and within Montana by fully engaging existing entities and resources.

DETECTION:

Identify invasive species and responsibly share the locations of high priority invasive species across jurisdictions in Montana to focus and improve management.

RAPID RESPONSE:

Develop a generalized rapid response plan for emerging invasive species.

CONTROL:

Grow both capacity and expertise in managing invasive species in Montana to improve program effectiveness.

WHO WE ARE - MISC COUNCIL

Bryce Christiaens, Chair

Missoula County Weed District Manager

Steve Wanderaas, Vice Chair

McCone County Conservation District

Tom Woolf, Vice Chair

AIS Bureau Chief, Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Amy Gannon

Forest Pest Management Coordinator, Department of Natural Resources

Andy Welch

Hydropower Compliance Specialist, Northwestern Energy

Bob Gilbert

Private Landowner Representative

Brandon Gopher

Chippewa Cree Tribe

Charles Headdress

Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribe

Dennis Longknife

Climate Change Coordinator, Fort Belknap Indian Community

Gerald "Buzz" Cobell

Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department

Jan Stoddard

Tourism Office Program Manager, BrandMT, Department of Commerce

Jane Mangold

Noxious Weed Specialist, Montana State University - Extension

Jasmine Chaffee

State Weed Coordinator, Department of Agriculture

Jason Allen

Noxious Weed Coordinator, Department of Transportation

Leigh Greenwood

Conservation Organization Representative

Martin Charlo

Tribal Council, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Michael Bias

Fishing Organization Representation

Paul Rossignol

Wildlife Organization Representative

Steve Tyrrel

Agriculture Representative

Federal Partners

Cara Riwai-Couch

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Gary Adams

U.S. Dept of Agriculture, APHIS

Jessica Zarate

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Michelle Cox

U.S. Forest Service

Monica Pokorny

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Services

Nadja Seymore

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Patricia Gilbert

U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers

Steve Bekedam

Yellowstone National Park

Wendy Velman

U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Council Coordinators

Liz Lodman

MISC Administrator

Anna Passage

MISC Administrative Assistant



**Pulling Together
against Noxious
Weeds**

weedawareness.org

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.



**Help Stop the
Spread of AIS**
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**Growing Prosperity
under the Big Sky**
agr.mt.gov



ISAN
INVASIVE SPECIES ACTION NETWORK

**Promoting
Responsible Pet
Ownership**

dontletitloose.com



**Protect
Montana from
Feral Swine**

squealonpigsmt.gov

**BUY IT WHERE
YOU BURN IT.**



**Don't Move
Firewood**

dontmovefirewood.org



**Protecting American
Agriculture and Natural
Resources**

aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth



**Keep the Adventure,
Leave the Invasive Species**

playcleango.org

UPPER COLUMBIA CONSERVATION COMMISSION



**Partners in managing
the spread of aquatic
invasive species**

invasivespecies.mt.gov/UC3/