

2009 YEAR END REPORT

PALOUSE COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA



Moscow Mountain, behind some of the Palouse's famous rolling hills

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INTRODUCTION:

The Palouse Cooperative Weed Management Area (Palouse CWMA) is located in the North Central region of Idaho, and it encompasses most of Latah County, some of Clearwater County, and small portions of Benewah and Nez Perce Counties. It essentially is the Palouse River drainage, the Potlatch River drainage, and Elk River drainage. The Palouse CWMA was formed because land ownership in the region varies among large and small private landowners, non federal government, and the federal government, and it is extremely intermingled. Since noxious weeds and invasive plants do not recognize property boundaries, it makes sense for landowners in the Palouse CWMA to cooperate in the war on weeds.

The main goals of the Palouse CWMA are:

- To prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of noxious weeds and invasive plants in the CWMA.
- Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds and invasive plants in the CWMA to levels that are acceptable.
- Implement the most economical and effective Integrated Weed Management Programs to control noxious weeds and invasive plants in the CWMA.
- Use GPS and GIS technology for a noxious weed mapping database and a noxious weed inventory within the CWMA.
- Educate the public as to the importance of proper weed identification and weed management and control.

Major noxious weed problems in the Palouse CWMA are:

Canada Thistle	Matgrass	Tansy Ragwort
Dalmatian Toadflax	Orange Hawkweed	White Bryony
Field Bindweed	Oxeye Daisy	Whitetop
Houndstongue	Poison Hemlock	Yellow Hawkweed
Jointed Goatgrass	Rush Skeletonweed	Yellow Starthistle
Knotweeds	Scotch Broom	Yellow Toadflax
Leafy Spurge	Spotted Knapweed	

Major invasive plants in the Palouse CWMA are:

Common Tansy	Sulfur Cinquefoil
St. John's Wort	Ventanada

INTRODUCTION (cont):

Palouse CWMA Members and Partners

- Bennett Lumber Company
- Clearwater County Weed Control
- University of Idaho Experimental Forest
- Idaho Transportation Department
- The Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council
- The Latah Soil and Water Conservation District
- US Forest Service - Clearwater National Forest
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- The Nez Perce Tribe Bio Control Center
- The Linden / Park Neighborhood Weed Group
- Idaho Department of Lands
- Latah County Weed Control
- Potlatch Corporation
- The University of Idaho – PSES

There is a Memorandum of Understanding for the Palouse CWMA, and it was signed in December of 2007.

The Palouse CWMA Co-Chairs are Alan Martinson, Latah County Weed Control, and Suzanne Qualmann, US Forest Service, Palouse Ranger District.

2009 PROJECT SUMMARIES

NEIGHBORHOOD WEED GROUPS



Goats munching on weeds for the Linden / Park neighborhood group.

Nine private landowners with over 9,000 acres make up the Linden Road / Park Road neighborhood group. Members are reimbursed for herbicide purchases for controlling noxious weeds on their property, which consists mostly of pasture and rangeland, hay ground and CRP. Members use mechanical and bio controls as well in their integrated weed management to control the weeds. Several members also participated in our Weed ID classes and bio control workshop.

TANSY RAGWORT

The Tansy ragwort populations in the Palouse CWMA of are in the Meadow Creek and Gold Creek drainages, near the Latah and Benewah County boundary.

Tansy ragwort Bio Control: Marianna Szucs, under Dr. Mark Schwarzlaender at the U of I PSES finished her doctorate degree on the establishment of the Tansy Ragwort Flea Beetle in the Palouse CWMA. The Palouse CWMA has been helping sponsor Marianna's work since 2004. Marianna has determined the beetles can survive the winters in the Palouse region, and will seek out Tansy Ragwort plants. The CWMA has 2 areas in Meadow Creek for nursery sites, so we know there will be a source of beetles for the future.



Tansy Ragwort rosette with damage from the *Senecio Jacobae*, the Tansy Ragwort Flea Beetle.



Marianna vacuuming up Tansy Ragwort Flea Beetles so they can be counted.

Herbicide & Mechanical Control Efforts: The Meadow Creek and Gold Creek areas are popular hunting, camping, off road vehicle, and hiking areas, as well as livestock range. Given the high uses of the area, the chance of spreading Tansy Ragwort is very good, so we use an aggressive herbicide focusing on roadsides, campsites, trailheads, areas with known high plant densities, as well as the perimeter of the Tansy area to try to keep it contained. Two herbicide treatments were done in 2009 using backpack sprayers and ATV sprayers. A work day was held in June to clip and bag Tansy Ragwort seed heads. 8 CWMA members worked to cover over 40 acres and collected 10 bags of seed heads, which were burned in Bennett Lumber's incinerator.

Tansy Ragwort Inventory: Northwest Management did the 2009 Tansy ragwort inventory, focusing on the perimeter of the Tansy Ragwort infestation, and the areas with high densities. By annually monitoring the perimeter of the Tansy ragwort infestation, and treating areas where Tansy Ragwort is found, we have been able to keep the spread of Tansy Ragwort to a minimum.

WHITE BRYONY

White Bryony is a viney weed that acts similar to Kudzu, climbing over and smothering the plants it grows on. It is infesting and taking over areas of native Black Hawthorne trees on the Palouse. Tiege Ulschmid, from IDFG, coordinated the project focusing on the area known as Palouse Prairie which is South and East of Moscow. Private landowners were contacted for permission to scout and control any white bryony that potentially occurred on the property. The opportunity also provided a means to educate the landowner of the specie's presence. Direct injection method was used in an attempt to eradicate the plant. Upon finding the vine the base was exposed, the top scalped with a shovel, and approximately 1.25ml of Round-up Pro was injected into each tuber using a syringe. All sites were inventoried with a GPS to provide the opportunity to evaluate success rates with the direct injection method in 2010. A total of 392.25 acres were inventoried, 546 total plants were treated, and 66 private landowners contacted.



White Bryony plants smothering and killing native Black Hawthorne trees near Moscow.

HERBICIDE CONTROL



Out spraying Matgrass in a meadow near Bovill Idaho.

Herbicides continue to be a large part of the Palouse CWMA's war on weeds, as they are a cost effective way to many weeds over large areas. High use areas like campgrounds and camping areas, hiking trails and trailheads, and ATV and OHV recreation areas are a main focus as well as transportation corridors, roadsides, rockpits, and sites of weeds that are new invaders. Our contract sprayers also inventoried, GPSed and mapped the areas that they sprayed this year. Over 2,675 acres were treated in 2009.

RESTORATION / REVEGETATION

Restoration and Revegetation continue to be an important part of the Palouse CWMA's Weed Management strategy. Even though the logging industry has slowed down, they continue to make new roads for hauling logs to the mills. Roadsides are reseeded with desirable grasses and legumes to compete with Yellow Hawkweed and Spotted knapweed, as well as to help control erosion. Potlatch Corporation used certified weed free straw for the 4th year. Idaho Fish and Game worked with a private landowner to reseed 40 acres of Yellow Starthistle infested land that had burned in the fall of 2008. The area was reseeded with a mix to compete against the YST and provide wildlife habitat.

CWMA BIOCONTROL

Bio control continues to be large part of our Integrated Weed Management program. We are seeing increasing levels of *Eustenopus villosus* (YST), have successfully established *Mecinus Janthinus* (Dalmatian Toadflax), *Larinus minutus* (Spotted knapweed), *Apthona sp* (Leafy spurge) and *Galerucella sp* (Purple loosestrife) in the CWMA. We have also released *Cyphocleonus*

achates (spotted knapweed) and agents for Scotch broom and Canada thistle. The Bio Control workshop in Troy was well attended, and participants got to take home a release of *Larinus minutus* to release on their property. Over 60 sites in the CWMA received a bio control agent release in 2009 and 2 2 trend monitoring sites were set up.



Paul Brusven, Nez Perce Bio Control Center, and Suzanne Qualmann, USFS, setting up a trend monitoring site for Spotted Knapweed.



"I think there's some bugs in here"
Looking for *Eustenopus villosus* during a collection day.



Cyphocleonus achates and *Larinus minutus* found at the trend monitoring site at Bishop Creek.

NOXIOUS WEED EDUCATION



Noxious Weed information on the info board at Moose Creek Reservoir

Our Weed ID classes continue to be in high demand, and Dr Rich Old did another fantastic job teaching people how to use various plant characteristics to identify the weed. Live samples of Noxious Weeds, as well as plants brought by the participants are used by Dr Old. After lunch a field trip around the area is done to look at and identify plants where they are normally found. 25 people attended the class, which was held in Kendrick. CWMA

members also gave weed talks for Master Gardeners, Garden clubs, and at the regional quarterly breakfast meeting of Latah Co, Whitman Co. (WA), U of I, WSU, and the city of Moscow. The CWMA sponsored a booth at the Latah County Fair and gave away a backpack sprayer. And over 300 copies of the Idaho's Noxious Weed Book were given out to the public.



Dr. Rich Old talking about Japanese Knotweed during the "field trip" portion of the Weed ID class

PLANNING MEETINGS / ADMINISTRATION

Six planning meetings were held in 2009, hosted at different CWMA partners. Winter and spring meetings focused on planning our 2008 projects while summer and fall meetings focused on progress of the Palouse CWMA projects, and planning for 2010. Meetings pertaining to specific CWMA projects were also held as needed and attended by the members involved in those projects.

GROSS INFESTED ACRES AND PERCENTAGES

For Gross Infested Acres, percent of acres infested and density of the infestation of noxious weeds in the Palouse CWMA please refer to our 2010 cost share application (exhibit #3) part A

CHEMICALS PURCHASES WITH ISDA FUNDS

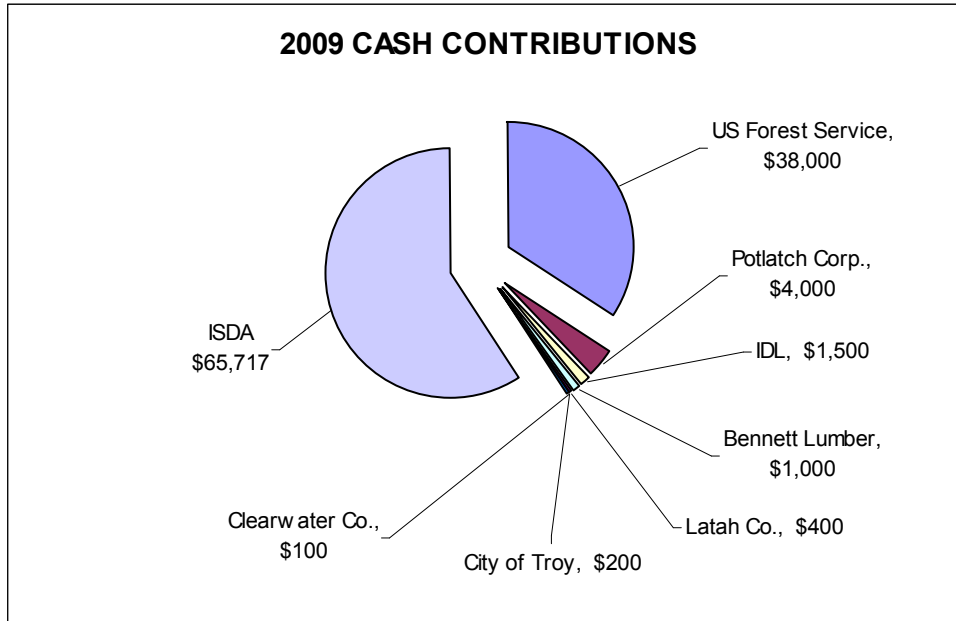
Chemical / Description	Amount	Purpose / Project
Milestone	6.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
2,4-D - Various Brands	10 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Banvel	7.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Curtail	32.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Picloram	1 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Glyphosate	2.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Surfactants - Various Brands	17.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
HI Lite Dye	2.5 Gal	Kill Weeds - Neighborhood Reimbursement
Milestone	.53 Qts	Kill Weeds - Tansy Project
2,4-D - Various Brands	.93 Gal	Kill Weeds - Tansy Project
Garlon 3A	3 Oz	Kill Weeds - Tansy Project
Milestone	5.6 Qts	Kill Weeds - Herbicide Project
2,4-D - Various Brands	103.8 Gal	Kill Weeds - Herbicide Project
Picloram	48.8 Gal	Kill Weeds - Herbicide Project
Escort	195 Oz	Kill Weeds - Herbicide Project

NEXT YEAR: 2010

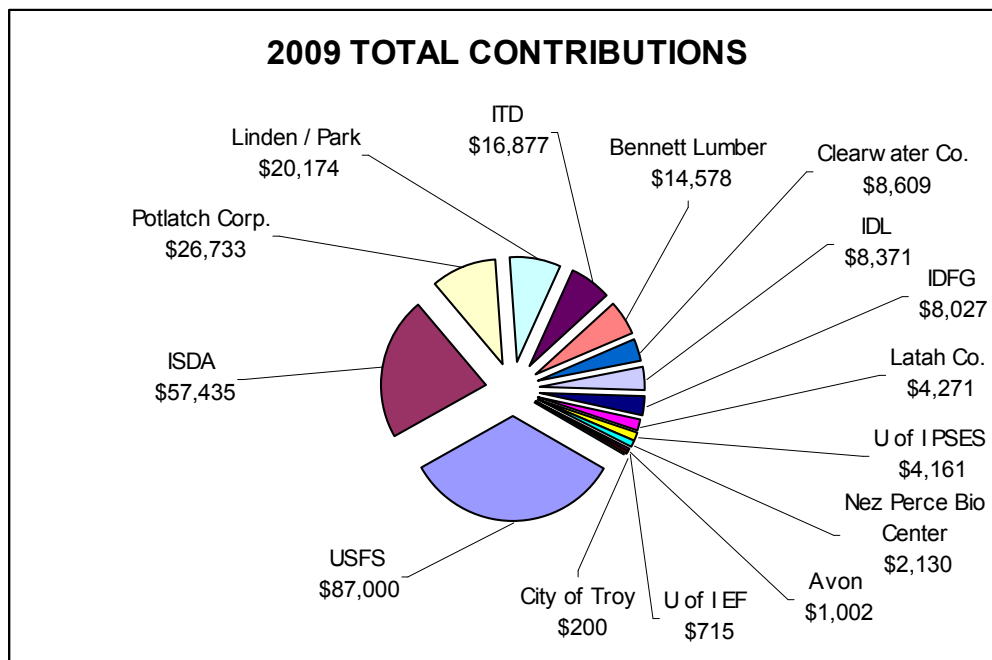
As a new decade begins, The Palouse CWMA looks to have a busy 2010 in the war on noxious weeds. The Neighborhood Weed program looks to expand, by adding another 3 Groups. Logging operations will begin in the Tansy ragwort area, so increased emphasis on inventory and herbicide control will be made. We will continue to work on White Bryony, to try and prevent it from killing the Black Hawthorne tree native to the Palouse Region. We will supplement our populations of established bio control agents and release agents that are not as well established and conduct a bio control workshop in 2010. High use areas and transportation corridors, and attacking new invaders will remain the focus of the herbicide program. Continued reseeding on sides of roads used for logging haul routes, and planting Yellow Star Fighter mix on some of the Potlatch river canyon, and reseeding some native grasses is the focus of the restoration project. We want to start weed bounty program, giving cash rewards to people who discover selected noxious weeds in new areas. The CWMA will have a booth at the Latah County Fair, and hold 2 weed ID classes with Dr. Rich Old. For more details on the Palouse CWMA's plans for next year see our 2010 Annual Operating Plan.

2009 PALOUSE CWMA CONTRIBUTIONS

Cash Contributions to the Palouse CWMA in 2009 totaled \$94,635



Total Contributions to the Palouse CWMA totaled \$260,283



APPENDIX I – STEERING COMMITTEE

<p>CO-CHAIR Alan Martinson Latah County PO Box 8066 Moscow, ID 83843 208-883-7210 amartinson@latah.id.us</p>	<p>CO-CHAIR Suzanne Qualmann Palouse Ranger District, USFS 1700 Hwy 6 Potlatch, ID 83855 208-875-1739 sjqualmann@fs.fed.us</p>	<p>Dennis Williams Clearwater County PO Box 812 Orofino, ID 83544 208-476-4918 ccweeddept@orofino-id.com</p>
<p>Ross Appelgren U of I Experimental Forest PO Box 441133 Moscow, ID 83844-1133 208-885-7517 rapple@uidaho.edu</p>	<p>Tiege Ulschmid Idaho Department F & G 212 # 5th St RM 212 C Moscow, ID 83843 208-790-3933 tulschmid@idfg.idaho.gov</p>	<p>Shayne Watkins Potlatch Forest Holdings P.O. Box 229 Deary, ID 83823 Phone: (208) 877-0104 Shayne.watkins@potlatchcorp.com</p>
<p>Margo Welch Idaho Department of Lands 3130 State Hwy 3 Deary, ID 83823 208-877-1121 mwelch@idl.state.id.us</p>	<p>Myron Emerson Bennett Lumber Products PO Box 49 Princeton, ID 83857 208-875-1121 myron@blpi.com</p>	<p>Rikki Osborn Idaho Dept of Transportation PO Box 837 Lewiston, ID 83501 208-799-5090 Rik.Osborn@itd.idaho.gov</p>
<p>Stu Goldstein Latah SWCD 1010 Ranch Road Moscow, ID 83843 (208) 883-8349 bluedog@moscow.com</p>	<p>Ree Brannon Clearwater R, C & D Council PO Box 9576 Moscow, ID 83843 208-882-4960 ree.brannon@id.usda.gov</p>	<p>Mark Schwarzlaender U of I PSES Ag Sciences Bldg University of Idaho Moscow, ID 83843 208-885-9319 markschw@uidaho.edu</p>
<p>Paul Gravelle Linden / Park Neighborhood PO Box 286 Juliaetta ID 83535 (208) 464-1229 gravel@tds.net</p>	<p>Paul Brusven Nez Perce Bio Control Center 260 Beaver Grade Lapwai, ID 83540 (208) 843-9374 pbrusven@nezperce.org</p>	

APPENDIX II – PROJECT SUMMARIES

PROJECT	WEEDS	TREATMENT	ACRES	COMMENTS
Neighborhood Weed Groups				
	Spotted Knapweed, Yellow Starthistle, Orange and Meadow Hawkweed, Oxeye Daisy	Chemical, Mechanical, and Bio Control	Over 600 acres treated	Noxious Weeds sprayed, mowed, pulled, or grazed. Spotted knapweed bio control releases done.
Tansy Ragwort				
	Tansy Ragwort	Inventory	Over 2,500 acres	GPS, inventory and map
	Tansy Ragwort	Chemical	16 acres, and 15 miles of roadsides	Herbicide Applications
	Tansy Ragwort	Mechanical	Over 40 acres treated	Seed head clipping
	Tansy Ragwort	Bio Control	10 acres	<i>Longitarsus jacobae</i> at 2 nursery sites
White Bryony				
	White Bryony	Inventory	Over 100 acres	GPS, inventory and map
	White Bryony	Chemical and Mechanical Control	Over 100 acres treated	Herbicide Applications, Root Digging
	White Bryony	Education	Over 100 acres	66 private landowners contacted
Herbicide				
	Spotted Knapweed, Orange and Yellow Hawkweed, Houndstongue, Canada thistle, Rush skeletonweed, Dalmatian toadflax, Matgrass, Plumeless thistle, Oxeye daisy, Whitetop.	Chemical	Over 2,675 acres treated	Herbicide Applications
Restoration / Revegetation				
	Spotted Knapweed, Orange and Yellow Hawkweed, Houndstongue, Canada thistle, Dalmatian toadflax, Oxeye daisy, Yellow Starthistle	Reseeding	Over 60 miles of roadsides reseeded, 40 acres YST infested land reseeded	Roadsides, wildlife habitat

APPENDIX II – PROJECT SUMMARIES

CWMA Biocontrol

	Spotted Knapweed	Bio Control releases	300 acres	<i>Cyphocleonus achates</i> released at over 20 sites.
	Spotted Knapweed	Bio Control workshop & releases	125 Acres	<i>Larinus minutus</i> released at 40 sites
	Yellow Starthistle	Bio Control release	30 acres	<i>Eustenopus villosus</i> released at 6 sites.
	Scotch Broom	Bio Control release	20 Acres	<i>Bruchidius</i> and <i>Exapion</i> released at 2 sites each

Education

	All Noxious, Invasive and Other Weeds	Noxious weed identification and control advise	Over 500 people contacted	Weed ID Classes, Latah and Clearwater County Fairs, Workshops, Master Gardeners and individual contacts.
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APPENDIX III – MAPS

