

INNOVATIVE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT: STRETCHING NOXIOUS WEED BUDGETS

NO COST PARTICIPATING AGREEMENT WITH WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND WY STATE FORESTRY DIVISION TO TREAT WEEDS IN THE WHOOPUP FIRE



PURPOSE: To treat 1,075 of weeds post WhoopUp fire on Elk Mountain. Many areas of weeds growing in large bowls that could not be accessed by UTV or truck sprayers. USFS

partnered with the State of WY Forestry Division and Newcastle Honor Farm to provide free labor and oversight for the project.

2012 SUCCESSES: A total of 157 chemically treated acres (3,257 gallons of mix) applied by backpack sprayer with FREE labor (only cost to USFS was supervision and chemical.) The project lasted three weeks. The crew ranged from 2 to 22 DOC applicators per day with an average of 14 applicators per day.



By the end of July over 1,075 acres of treatment had been accomplished using backpacks, UTV sprayers, truck hose and reel sprayers and boom mounted sprayer. Other collaborators on the project included Custer County Weed and Pest, Boxelder Job Corps Students, Hell Canyon Fire Shop, Missoula Technology Development Center and Newcastle BLM.



CAVE AREA WEED TREATMENT PLANNING IN COORDINATION WITH:

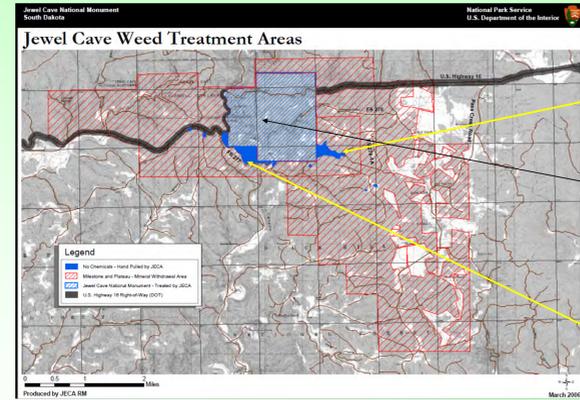
Black Hills National Forest, Wind Cave National Park, Jewel Cave National Monument, Custer County Weed and Pest, Fall River Weed and Pest, South Dakota Department of Transportation.

PURPOSE:

Annual meeting to collaborate on noxious weed treatments to protect cave resources through use of biological control, hand pulling, and best available herbicides. Sharing of resources and duties above the cave systems. Sharing of best available science and ideas.

2012 SUCCESSES: Creation of new biological control site for Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) 120 total new releases above Upper Stockade Springs. Biological controls released were a mix of thistle stem gall flies (*Urophora cardui*) and Canada thistle stem weevil (*Ceutorhynchus litura*). We are hoping this site will become a future insectary that we all can use.

Visible decrease in leafy spurge populations along the Hell Canyon Road.

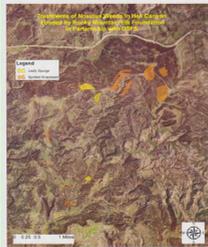


WORKING WITH CHEMICAL COMPANIES TO CREATE TEST PLOTS

Jim Daniel, technical service consultant from Dupont helped District establish new test plots and monitoring

GRANTS

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation: Detection and treatment of spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*) in Hell Canyon. Expanding populations were used as starting points to gridded the area, find, treat, and map populations. A total of 4 acres were treated with the grant.



Working with two to six Boxelder Job Corp students to educate them on what noxious weeds are, why they should care about them, the effects of noxious weeds and various treatments. Students helped in backpack spraying in WhoopUp Fire Area, Mechanical Control, Monitoring, Riparian Habitat Improvement and with range structural improvements.

JOB CORP STUDENTS

FIELD TESTING NEW EQUIPMENT/ Technology Development Grant

MISSOULA TECHNOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT CENTER & BKNF



PURPOSE:

In 2010 the District's proposal for spray mapping technology and record hosting was accepted by the Missoula Technology and Development Center. During the 2012 field season Wes Throop from MTDC spent a week on the District helping us calibrate and setting up two different mapping system prototypes. The system maps weeds once the spray gun trigger is pulled, we hope in the future to link this spray system to TESP-Invasives.

Pennington County RAC: Treatment of weeds within Black Elk Wilderness. A total of 33 acres was treated using horse mounted spray systems.



Without these grants for our partners these special projects would not have been funded to take place.

EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESPONSE (EDDR):

PURPOSE: Look for, map and treat new invaders that the

district has/has not found, or are on the boundaries of other districts or other landownership. Early detection and treatment is a way to prevent population increases and saves time and money in the future.



2012 SUCCESSES: Working with Wind Cave National Park, Custer County Weed and Pest, State of South Dakota Department of Agriculture, and Custer County Weed Board we were able to declare white horehound a local noxious weed. This was important because the Forest could use existing NEPA to treat new populations that may appear after the Myrtle Fire. We believe white horehound is likely to increase based on populations found in timber sales treated under the Custer County MOU and the experience at Wind Cave.

Whitetop Treatments are still confined to two locations on Boles Canyon Road and in the Highway 16 ROW. Crewmembers have been diligently scouting for this new District invader with cooperation from Custer and Fall River Weed and Pests. Garlic Mustard one plant located in Black Elk Wilderness in 2011 was removed no new plants have been detected.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

PURPOSE: Teach citizens young and old about invasive species prevention, education and control.

2012 SUCCESSES: Hosted a Newcastle High School intern. Presented several programs at Newcastle Middle School's WISER Wednesdays. Materials available to public at District Offices and during Home Shows. Partnered with Newcastle Field Office Bureau of Land Management "Take it Outside" Upton Discovery Summer Partnership.

The Crew won 1st Place AG Olympic Weston County Fair!

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

In Cooperation with: Custer and Fall River Counties

PURPOSE:

To treat Forest Service land adjacent to private lands, treat timber sale areas within counties and provide needed help in large scale fire areas within those counties through treatments in right of ways, rehabbed dozer line, parking areas, adjacent private lands and recreation areas.

2012 SUCCESSES: Custer County provided 728 acres of treatment.

Fall River provided 67 acres of treatment.



ATTEND TRAINING, WEBINARS, CONFERENCES AND ACTIVITIES.

- * National and WY Society of Range Management
- * South Dakota Invasive Species Management Association (SISMA)
- * Wyoming Weed Association
- * Black Hills Weed Coalition
- * Health Habitats Coalition
- * Local Trainings provided by Black Hills National Forest (Gene Bolka) and Crop Production Services (Bill Walker)
- * Utilize Local Extension Agents CSU, UW, SDSU And MANY MANY More Resources Available.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICAL. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BUYING IN BULK SAVINGS, USE PREFERRED SUPPLIERS, FREE SHIPPING, AND GROUP ORDERS.

