

"The Valley doesn't look this way by accident." -Bill West



Invasive Species Management

Overview

The Centennial Valley is one of the most pristine and remote valleys in Montana and has relatively few weeds established. Partnerships with the Centennial Valley Association, The Nature Conservancy, Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, BLM, Beaverhead County, and landowners have protected the valley to keep new invaders from establishing and established populations from spreading.



Goals

- Active involvement and high degree of literacy on invasive species among community members.
- Maintain the Early Detection, Rapid Response model to prevent new invaders from establishing in the Centennial and managing currently established invasives and preventing them from spreading.

Activities

- Mapping Weed Locations on Public Lands
- Present weed results annually
- Organize and assist in Spray Days and Weed Weeks
- Education and Outreach on Invasive Species

How We Measure Success

- Increased landowner participation; 100% landowner participation
- Maintain a low-early invader level of invasives with no new invaders

2014 Successes

- Increased landowner outreach efforts for County Spray Days
- Arranged an Applicators Training for landowners in Lima
- Provided funding to partners for chemicals to spray weeds in Centennial

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Target Weed Species

- Spotted Knapweed
- Houndstongue
- Hoary Alyssum



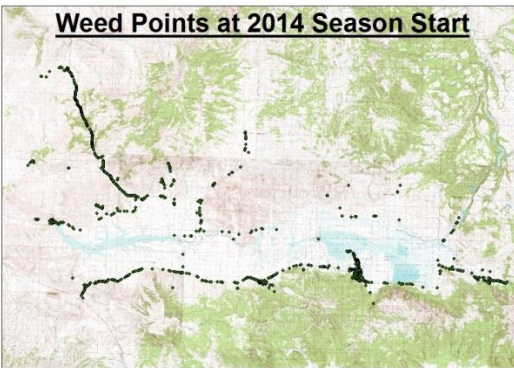
How a Weed Season Works

- Communicate with Beaverhead County and determine when Spray Days will occur throughout the summer.
 - Share with landowners when and where Spray Days will be held.
- Create 2 Weed Weeks in the Centennial to focus intensely on target species.
- Visit every weed GPS point in the Valley to observe presence/absence and treat chemically or manually.
- Incorporate every GPS point in ArcGIS and Access Database for mapping and tracking purposes into future seasons.
- If a weed point has not been observed for 4 consecutive seasons, it is deemed eradicated and removed from mapping purposes.

Current Range of Weeds in the Centennial

At the start of the 2014 Weed Season, there were 2,078 Weed Points documented in the Centennial Valley. For the start of the 2015 Weed Season, there are only 1,491 Weed Points to be focused on.

Weed Points at 2014 Season Start



Weed Points at 2015 Season Start

