



Missouri River Watershed Coalition

Reporting Invasive Species Sightings Using the MRWC Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS)

What is EDDMapS?

In September 2010, the Missouri River Watershed Coalition (MRWC) and the Center for Invasive Plant Management at Montana State University launched an Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS). The system provides a means of reporting new sightings of select invasive species, a mechanism for alerting appropriate individuals to the reports, and generates distribution maps for the reported species.

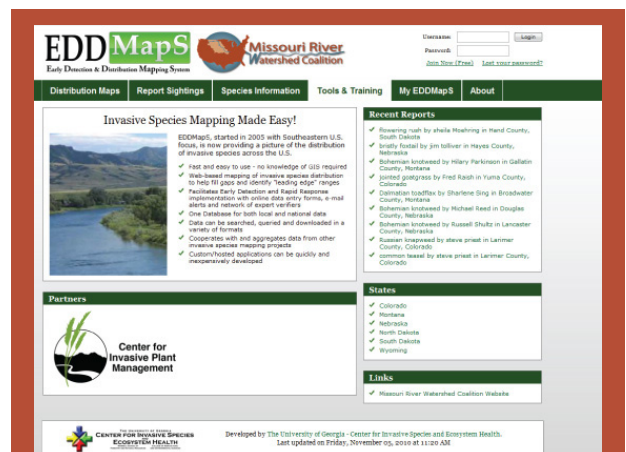
Created and hosted by the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health (also known as Bugwood) at the University of Georgia, the customized EDDMapS focuses on species that are new or potential new invaders to the Coalition states (Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming). Each state maintains a list of target species that is updated constantly. The reports generated form the database, rather than historical or current distribution data, for all invasive species within the six states.

MRWC-EDDMapS is quick, easy to use, and freely available to anyone concerned with invasive plants in the Missouri River Watershed area. It is going to take all of us—land owners, land managers, recreationists, and concerned citizens—working together and sharing information as quickly as possible to keep ahead of new weed invaders.

How Does EDDMapS Work?

Online species reporting using EDDMapS is simple and takes just a few minutes. Users complete a reporting form, entering information about the infestation, including size and habitat, location (via Google Maps or GPS coordinates), images, and contact information.

Upon submission, reports are sent electronically to the respective state weed coordinator who immediately begins the verification process. Verified EDDMapS reports are incorporated into a database that combines both local and national data, including data from other invasive species mapping projects. Verified reports appear on the MRWC-EDDMapS homepage as they are confirmed.



The MRWC-EDDMapS homepage includes links to distribution maps, online species reporting, species information, tools and training resources, and the My EDDMapS feature.



(Clockwise from top left) Orange hawkweed, dyer's woad, rush skeletonweed, and yellow starthistle are just four of the target species in the Missouri River Watershed states.

To learn more about the MRWC, our partners, goals, and projects, visit www.weedcenter.org/MRWC.

MRWC Executive Committee

Andy Canham, *President*, Mid-Dakota Vegetation Management | Karie Decker, *Vice President*, University of Nebraska | Liz Galli-Noble, *Financial Officer*, CIPM
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Getting Started

Register and report a new sighting in just five simple steps:

1. **Register** as an EDDMapS user for free at www.eddmaps.org/mrwc.
2. **Sign-in** and click the *Report Sightings* tab at the top of the page.
3. **Select** your state.
4. **Complete** the reporting form. Fields marked with red are required. For more information on a form field, click on the question mark beside it.
5. **Submit** your report!

I Submitted a Report. What Happens Next?

When you click submit, your report is automatically sent to the appropriate state weed coordinator for verification. As soon as your report is confirmed, it will appear in your *My EDDMapS* profile, on the distribution maps, and in the *Recent Reports* section on the MRWC–EDDMapS homepage.

MyEDDMapS

On the MRWC–EDDMapS homepage, click the *My EDDMapS* tab to access several personalized features, including:

- **Your Stats** View your EDDMapS reporting statistics, including the number of reports you have submitted and the number of species, states, and counties included in your reports.
- **Your Data** Submit a new report; edit or update the data in a previously submitted report by clicking on *Manage My Reports*; download reports you have already submitted; batch upload data (an advanced feature); and view and edit your EDDMapS profile.
- **Your Alerts** This feature allows you to sign-up to receive email alerts when new reports are confirmed. Just click *Create an Alert* and select the type of alert you would like to receive: state, county, or species. To modify your alert settings, click *Manage My Alerts*.

Useful Resources for EDDMapS

- **Instructional Video** This video provides step-by-step instructions for using EDDMapS and allows users to follow along while completing the reporting form: www.eddmaps.org/mrwc/training.
- **MRWC–EDDMapS Project Page** Learn more about the MRWC–EDDMapS project and view updated priority species lists: www.weedcenter.org/mrwc/edrr-project.html.

MRWC–EDDMapS Website Features

Distribution Maps

View species distribution by state, county, or points on Google maps.

Species Information

This section contains images, distribution maps, and identification information for each species.

Recent Reports

As reports are submitted and confirmed, they appear in this section—a great way to see EDDMapS in action!

Educational Resources

This section includes direct links to EDDMapS tools and training resources.

States

This list of MRWC–EDDMapS participating states offers links to each state's Department of Agriculture website.

Tools and Training

This section offers a variety of helpful resources for using EDDMapS, including database and mapping tools, control resources, training materials, videos, printable reporting forms, and the EDDMapS Mapping Handbook.

My EDDMapS

Personalized features in this section include: your reporting statistics, access to your submitted reports, and an email alert system for newly confirmed reports.

About

This section includes information on invasive species, the importance of collecting data, early detection and rapid response, frequently asked questions, how EDDMapS works, and how it got started.

Species of Concern in the Missouri River Watershed Include:

African mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*)
African rue (*Peganum harmala*)
Babysbreath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*)
Bohemian knotweed (*Fallopia x bohemica*)
Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)
Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*)
Cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica*)
Common crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*)
Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
Cypress spurge (*Euphorbia cyparissias*)
Dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)
Elongated mustard (*Brassica elongata*)
Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
False chamomile (*Tripleurospermum perforatum*)
Flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)
Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
Giant reed (*Arundo donax*)
Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)
Grecian foxglove (*Digitalis lanata*)
Hairy willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*)
Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*)
Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)
Hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*)
Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
Hydrilla (*Hydrilla certicillata*)
Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
Meadow hawkweed (*Hieracium caespitosum*)
Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea x moncktonii*)
Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethiops*)
Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)
Myrtle spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*)
Onionweed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*)
Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)
Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
Purple pampasgrass (*Cortaderia jubata*)
Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
Russian mallow (*Althaea armenica*)
Sakhalin knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*)
Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)
Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)
Sickleweed (*Falcaria vulgaris*)
Spurge flax (*Thymelaea passerina*)
Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata*)
St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
Swainson pea (*Sphaerophysa salsula*)
Syrian beancaper (*Zygophyllum fabago*)
Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)
Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)
Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)
White bryony (*Bryonia alba*)
Wooly distaff thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*)
Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

To view the complete list of target species in the Missouri River Watershed states, go to: www.eddmaps.org/mrwc/species.