Roundtable Introductions
Approximately 30 meeting attendees representing five states (MT, ND, NE, SD, WY, CO) introduced themselves and checked off their name or signed an attendance list which will be distributed after the meeting via email.

State and Agency Reports
Comments during state reports included:

- Saltcedar awareness has increased greatly in South Dakota in the past four years. SDSU has created a saltcedar Extension bulletin. It has been helpful to take a live plant to events to show the public.
- There is evidence of establishment of biocontrol agents in South Dakota.
- Saltcedar treatments were effective on the North Platte River in Wyoming this summer. Russian olive is being targeted on the Nebraska border.
- University of Wyoming is helping manage data from hyperspectral aerial mapping in Wyoming.
- A mulching project is being conducted on the Powder River in northeastern Wyoming. Herbicides are also being used. Quail and whitetail deer are returning and the area is again useful for livestock grazing. However, land managers note damage on cottonwoods in sandy soils. Bill Walker will check with Dow.
- More private landowners are getting involved in saltcedar management in the Big Horn (WY) area. A biocontrol site generated lots of agents for redistribution this summer.
- Counties on the Yellowstone River in Montana are actively treating saltcedar, working from the top of watersheds down. The Army Corps of Engineers has been especially active on the Fort Peck Reservoir.
- New projects were initiated in Nebraska funded by a $2 million grant program. More saltcedar is being found and treated. It is often mixed with Russian olive and phragmites.
- It is often difficult to spend sudden windfalls of money well by short-term deadlines. Long-term follow-up management is crucial to success. Continuous funding is needed.
- More information is needed regarding 1) saltcedar seed viability and 2) post-saltcedar land restoration in northern states.
- A new eight-county weed management area is forming in Nebraska. The group received funding for mapping Russian olive and saltcedar.
- “The Weed Watch,” an eight-page publication produced by PRIDE Weed Management Area and the High Plains Weed Management Association, was distributed to 40,000 households in the 11 Panhandle counties of Nebraska in Fall 2007.
- The Army Corps of Engineers has been very active in managing saltcedar in North Dakota.
- Although a plant species may be prohibited to be sold or distributed in one state, the plant can often be purchased in a neighboring state and brought across the border. There is an opportunity for states to work together on this issue.
• The BLM has completed its programmatic EIS for the nation. It is also creating a nationwide database and GIS system with information on inventory and control as well as weed management areas.
• The Forest Service is having to put much funding into fuels management, resulting in less funding for on-the-ground invasive plant management.

Russian Olive Summit
The MRWC voted to be an official supporter of the Russian Olive Summit that will be held May 6-8, 2008, in Scottsbluff, NE. The summit will focus on watershed-scale management of Russian olive, saltcedar, and phragmites. Other supporters include the National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Tamarisk Coalition, Center for Invasive Plant Management, and others. MRWC will create a poster/display for the Summit.

Legislation
• The Saltcedar Demonstration Act has appropriation support from several senators, particularly those from Colorado, Nebraska, and New Mexico. People are encouraged to contact their congressmen about this legislation next Feb/March; 20-24 senators are needed to sign on.
• The 2007 Farm Bill may have new opportunities for invasive species control in riparian areas and wetlands.
• There is some cause to feel optimistic about appropriations for the Weed Eradication Act (assigned under APHIS) in 2008.
• DuPont is hosting a legislative summit in Colorado in June 2008 to encourage recognition of invasive plant problems.
• A grassroots group – tentatively called National Coalition for Invasive Plant Advocacy – is forming to track legislation and federal funding for invasive plant management. The group will help organize lobbying efforts on issues of national concern.

Outreach to Other States/Tribes Along the Missouri
Kevin Fridley (SD Dept Agric) will give a presentation about the MRWC on Dec. 11 to the Missouri River Basin Association of States and Tribes in Pierre, SD.

Angostura Reservoir (SD) Saltcedar Project
Dennie M. (SD Game, Fish & Parks) reported on a project that treated 715 acres of saltcedar around the reservoir in low-water conditions. The project will continue in future years.

USDA-ARS Biocontrol Research
ARS representatives did not attend the MRWC meeting as planned.

MRWC Management Plan
Colorado has been incorporated into the MRWC Management Plan. Kelly Uhing submitted Colorado saltcedar info (presence/absence by county) to Kelly Sharp and a new six-state map has been created. It is available on the Mid-Dakota website. A copy will be posted on the MRWC website.
MRWC Committee Updates

- **Management**: A map of T&E species for South Dakota was overlaid on the state saltcedar map. A similar map created for all six states could help tell the story of the importance of healthy riparian habitat in the Missouri River watershed. On the other hand, it could also be used to argue against some forms of management in fragile habitats. The group agreed to submit info for the states and Ron Moehring would compile it.

- **Education**: Kristi Paul (NE) drafted a trifold saltcedar brochure aimed at hunters and fishermen. The brochure could be used throughout the Missouri River watershed. She will accept comments through Nov. 9. The final brochure will be posted on the MRWC website for anyone to download and use.

- **Communication**: A website for the MRWC has been created and can be found at [http://www.weedcenter.org/Missouri_wtrshd/miss_watershed.htm](http://www.weedcenter.org/Missouri_wtrshd/miss_watershed.htm), hosted by the Center for Invasive Plant Management.

- **MRWC Executive Committee**: Under the leadership of Ron M., the six state weed coordinators drafted a MRWC constitution and bylaws. Copies were distributed. Ron will send it out electronically and accept comments through Dec. 31. The Executive Committee (reps of the six state Depts of Agric) will finalize the document and present it to the membership at the next (May 6) meeting. The group agreed that it is important to formalize the MRWC as a legal entity and perhaps pursue 501(c)3 tax status.

Committee Discussions and Action Items

- **Coordination/Communication**: 1) A six-state framework for Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) will be established. Dave Burch will send other state weed coordinators a sample flowchart/template for communication. A framework will be finalized at the May 6 meeting.

- **Management**: 1) A comprehensive six-state map with four overlays will be devised by Ron M. and Kelly S. with input from state weed coordinators. 2) MRWC endorses NAWMA mapping standards. 3) Stories of successes and failures will be submitted to the MRWC website by a designated representative from each state. A questionnaire will be sent (by whom?) (to whom?) (when?).

- **Education**: 1) CIPM will create a new MRWC one-pager to include a bullet point from each state highlighting something. 2) Each state will write up two saltcedar projects and distribute it to the media in the state. 3) Kevin Fridley will draft a press release about the MRWC and distribute to all to be adapted to their states.
Action Items

Next meeting: May 6, 2008, at Scottsbluff, Nebraska, in conjunction with the Russian Olive Summit

Action items determined at October 2007 meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What?</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>When?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compile T&amp;E data and send to Ron Moehring (SD) to overlay on six-state saltcedar occurrence map</td>
<td>State weed coordinators</td>
<td>By Dec. 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review draft brochure and send comments to Kristi Paul (NE)</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>By Nov. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post finalized brochure on MRWC website for others to download and use as needed</td>
<td>Kristi P., CIPM</td>
<td>By Dec. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post updated six-state map on the MRWC website</td>
<td>CIPM, Kelly S.</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post .jpg of six-state map created by JHS, Inc., on MRWC website</td>
<td>CIPM, Dave B.</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send proposed MRWC constitution and bylaws to the listserv for review and comment.</td>
<td>Ron M.</td>
<td>Finalize documents at May 6, 2008, MRWC meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compile annual evaluation of MRWC project; distribute to group for review</td>
<td>CIPM</td>
<td>By Nov. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrange for meeting space for MRWC at Russian Olive Summit</td>
<td>Dennis B., Mike S.</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a MRWC poster/display for the Russian Olive Summit next May – everyone to send pictures of their projects to Kristi P. or Mike S.</td>
<td>Kristi P., Mike S., and everyone else</td>
<td>By April 1, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow up on six-state MOA; get it signed by all six state departments of agriculture.</td>
<td>CIPM</td>
<td>ASAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send sample communication flowchart to other state weed coordinators to start building a six-state EDRR system.</td>
<td>Dave B.</td>
<td>By Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four overlays (?) will be developed for the MRWC map.</td>
<td>Ron M., Kelly S., Bill W.</td>
<td>By May 6, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create new MRWC one-pager</td>
<td>CIPM</td>
<td>By Jan. 1, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write up two saltcedar projects and distribute to media and legislators statewide</td>
<td>State weed coordinators</td>
<td>By May 6, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft press release about MRWC to be adapted and distributed by members</td>
<td>Kevin F.</td>
<td>By Dec. 31</td>
</tr>
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</table>