
Accomplishments – 2006

Information clearinghouse

- Redesigned and updated a **web site clearinghouse** with comprehensive information about invasive plants in western North America, including weed profiles, searchable databases, educational curricula, grants and other resources available to weed management areas.
- Expanded website to 93 pages by adding **new weed prevention and tech-transfer pages** plus 120 pdfs from the regional Tamarisk Research Conference.
- On the CIPM website, documented an **11% increase** in average daily page views (to 943) and visitor sessions (to 501) and an **18% increase** in returning visitors (to 45 per day) in the past year.
- Responded to **daily requests** from people nationwide for weed-related information and resources.

Creating products and tools for land managers

- Coordinated and published *Inventory and Survey Methods for Nonindigenous Plant Species*, a 75-page book written by 20 experts from throughout the West. Related training offered at tribal conference in Sparks, NV.
- Published (online and hardcopy) *The Role of Wildfire in the Establishment and Expansion of Nonnative Plant Species into Natural Areas*. This 80-page synthesis is the result of a 2003 CIPM research grant.
- Distributed approximately 2,984 life-sized **plastic weed models** of four of the most troublesome weed species in the West. Educators, land managers, and weed management area coordinators from throughout the U.S. and Canada have ordered boxes of the “fake weeds” for outreach activities and conference displays.
- Began production of an **additional four species of weed models**, at the request of CIPM stakeholders nationally.
- Distributed over 4,535 **weed ID cards**; 1,028 copies of the CIPM booklet *Invasive Plant Prevention Guidelines*; 1,658 laminated, fold-out, CIPM-designed **weed guides** illustrating plants on the national weed-seed-free forage list; and 20 **leafy spurge root rollouts**.

Building coalitions and fostering cooperation

- Facilitated a **five-state initiative** (MT, ND, SD, WY, NE) to manage saltcedar along the Missouri River.
- Awarded \$93,042 in competitive grants for on-the-ground weed management through **Cooperative Weed Management Areas**. Nineteen grants were awarded to community-based weed efforts in 12 western states.
- Helped formulate three-state (MT, ID, WY) **weed-free border project**.
- Co-sponsored **National Tribal Invasive Species Conference** in Nevada.
- Testified at a USDA **Cooperative Conservation** hearing in Montana.
- Facilitated session on weed management issues by **nongovernmental organizations** at National Invasive Weed Awareness Week in Washington, DC. Conducted ongoing email discussion to follow up.
- Helped plan a **multistate yellow starthistle initiative** for the West.

Correlating science and management

- Co-sponsored and managed technology transfer components of the regional **Tamarisk Research Conference** for more than 275 scientists, land managers, and policymakers.
- Presented an eight-week **online distance-learning workshop** in ecologically-based invasive plant management for professional land managers. Instructors from four western universities developed a curriculum that offers a process for prioritizing management strategies. Twenty-one land managers from 14 states and 1 Canadian province participated.
- Awarded \$111,821 in competitive grants for **ecological weed management research** in the categories of Seed Money, Information Synthesis and Assessment, and Management Decision-Making. The 15 grantees were located in 9 states.
- Published and distributed **results of CIPM’s 2004 research grants** online and in hard copy.
- In partnership with the Weed Science Society of America, conducted a national survey of land managers and scientists regarding **establishment of a peer-reviewed journal** of invasive plant management.
- Organized and moderated Invasive Plant Species panel at the **Governor’s Restoration Forum** in Montana.
- Helped plan regional, two-day **Knotweed Symposium** for 2007 in cooperation with the Western Society of Weed Science. In addition, chaired a regional committee to plan an **Arundo Symposium** for 2008.
- Conducted symposium on *Teaching Ecological IPM in Natural Areas* for **national IPM Symposium**.