

INVENTORY MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Inventory –

Need for action (3/11) Increased allocation of revenue toward field inventory, and developing/funding a suitable statewide data storage and retrieval system for noxious weeds is need in Montana.

Action Items (5-9)

1) Increase funding for weed detection and survey, data storage and retrieval.

Responsibility: Weed District, agencies, NRIS

Action required: Amount of funding needed to adequately support weed survey and data storage/retrieval (\$54mil in 2010)

Keever – I wasn't able to get a source for the date and dollar amount identified in this item. I was hoping that Celestine would have some of this info. Many of the federal agencies are putting resources to develop these on their own. BLM, FS, NPS, FWS all have their own storage/retrieval systems up and running or almost to this point. Meshing these data may present complications in populating a state centered system although I believe everyone has committed to the NAWMA standard. This would be a good issue for the mapping workgroup (if reformed)

The plan outlines 2 types of data storage for MT, section based and plant based. I don't know if this item encompasses just one or both.

2) Redesign and implement a weed survey data entry, storage, and retrieval system for Montana

Responsibility: NRIS, NHP, MDA, other state and federal agencies, weed districts.

Action required: develop and implement data storage and retrieval system.

Keever – This is in the works. In May 08, there was a meeting in Helena to see were agencies/counties were at with individual attempts at developing this. Linda Vance from the NHP is taking the lead on this, however, it will most likely not be until fall 08 that she pick it up due to field work.

3) Update and improve section-based inventories on Category I Weeds

Responsibility: Weed District, NRIS

Action required: Improve when new data entry, storage and retrieval system is operational

Keever – This is where the rubber meets the road and east and west collide. Past attempts have had problems in getting information into the system by whatever means. It is hard for some

counties to commit the time and resources to doing this. Other counties don't have personnel capable (not trained or refuse to learn) of completing the task. One of the reasons being that many of our county weed folks are actually multidisciplinary members of county government or are part time with a ranch/business that pays most of the bills for them. So in the interest of time they are "killing" weeds and whatever else they can fit in is cake. We can try to make a system work, but we need some incentive for getting this work done. Could this be a required component of the 2 year planning process that is required by MDA if the system is reworked for easier access?

4)Encourage yearly completion of internet-based data collection

Responsibility: Weed District, agencies, MDA

Action required: Train weed district coordinators and other agencies on NRIS program.

Keever- See discussion on item 3.

5)Encourage participation in the state survey system.

Responsibility: Weed District, agencies, CWMA

Action required:

Keever- See discussion on item 3.

6)Provide Regional and National Leadership for the weed survey processes.

Responsibility: MDA, MWCA, NRIS, mapping work group

Action required:

Keever – I would say that this should not yet be a very high priority until we get a system for the state firmed up.

9)Annually monitor/survey known high-risk sites to prevent weed establishment.

Responsibility: Weed District, agencies, CWMA

Action required: Identify high-risk areas and monitor/survey for weeds

Keever – this is already being done across the state and across weed districts and agencies. I don't know to what extent, but increased emphasis on new invaders, the migration of folks to this state and increases in development have all drawn attention (and regulation) to this item.

10)Create a distribution site for plant based data

Responsibility: Invaders Database, MDA

Action required:

Keever -Peter Rice is the contact for Invaders. I think that the plant based and section based would be better housed/accessed in the same location. The weakness of invaders is there seems to be very few people providing information. Both sets of information could be derived from the same dataset.

11)Evaluate and monitor weed management programs in MT.

Responsibility: MDA, agencies, weed districts

Action required: Continue to evaluate and monitor programs and prioritize areas for management

12)Encourage implementation of monitoring and evaluation efforts following “Guidelines for Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds” to measure status of projects.

Responsibility: MDA, agencies, Weed Districts, universities, MAES

Action required: