Invasive Species: Prevention Measures

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The Western Arena

- Invasive Noxious Weeds
  - History & Background
    - Example Species
      - Spotted Knapweed; Leafy spurge; Dalmation Toadflax

Spotted Knapweed

Spotted Knapweed: 3 mile game range – Bitterroot Valley

Leafy Spurge

Spurge & Knap – MT & ID

This is what we don’t want!

If you don't got it, you don't want it!!!

Prevention Measures

- Prevention Measure #1: Vehicle Washers
  - Initial Need
  - Development
  - Application

Wildfire Incident Requirements:

- Fire Contracting hire qualified Vehicle Washer Contractor to stage equipment at Incident Command Post.
- Incident Commander's Team decides what vehicles with we washed and when.
- Such as:
  - When first arriving at Incident.
  - A demob requirement on checklist.

U.S. GOVERNMENT
I168484

Administrative Vehicle Weed Prevention

- Some field units own power washing equipment and/or weed washing stations.
- Some utilized available commercial vehicle washing units. Emphasizing undercarriage cleaning and inspection.

AGENCY VEHICLES: Need to find creative ways to make sure agency vehicles are not spreading weeds…….

Timber Sale Provisions

- Requiring cleaning/washing of off road vehicles prior to transport on to National Forest Timber Sale Area.
  - Site to be agreed to ahead of time.
  - Inspection and clearance by Sale Administrator
    - Visual Inspection
  - Note: FS does not tell Contractor how to clean vehicles or with what tools.

Prevention: Washing Equipment

Equipment that may operate off road

Timber sales
Fuels reduction projects
Road maintenance
Fire suppression
Rehabilitation projects

Prevention Measures

- Prevention Measure #2: Weed Free Forage
  - Initial Need
  - Development
  - Application

Standards are designed . . .

- To provide assurance to all participants that the product is certified through this program meets a minimum acceptable standard
- To provide **continuity** between the various provinces, states and counties in the program

Weed list

- There are 54 species on the North American Weed Free List
- For a copy of the list see our website at: www.nawma.org
- This list is comprised of a combination of several states' lists

NEED FOR WEED FREE STRAW

YST BROUGHT IN IN STRAW BALES

Sierra National Forest

Prevention: Weed Free Products

State Certified Products Required on all FS lands in:

Montana
Idaho
Utah
Nevada
Wyoming
Colorado
South Dakota
Nebraska

Ongoing: Washington, Oregon, California, New Mexico, Arizona

YOU MUST USE CERTIFIED FORAGE IN RESTRICTED AREAS

Certified forage must have one of the following:

- Special colored twine/strapping
- Galvanized baling wire
- Forage tag with:
  - "North American Weed Free Forage Certification Program"
  - A number system (for tracking purposes)
  - Province/state of issue
  - Province/state telephone number (responsible official)
  - "Certified to the North American Standards"

(Source: www.nawma.org)

States with Weed Free Forage programs: Alaska – Arizona – Colorado – Idaho – Indiana – Illinois – Iowa – Kansas – Kentucky – Michigan Montana – Minnesota – Missouri – Nebraska – Nevada – North Dakota – Ohio – Oregon – South Dakota – Utah – Washington – Wisconsin – Wyoming

For more information including where to buy certified forage products, contact your State Department of Agriculture or the following:

Some state programs and tags may not be approved by NAWMA. For further information contact the North American Weed Management Association at www.nawma.org

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

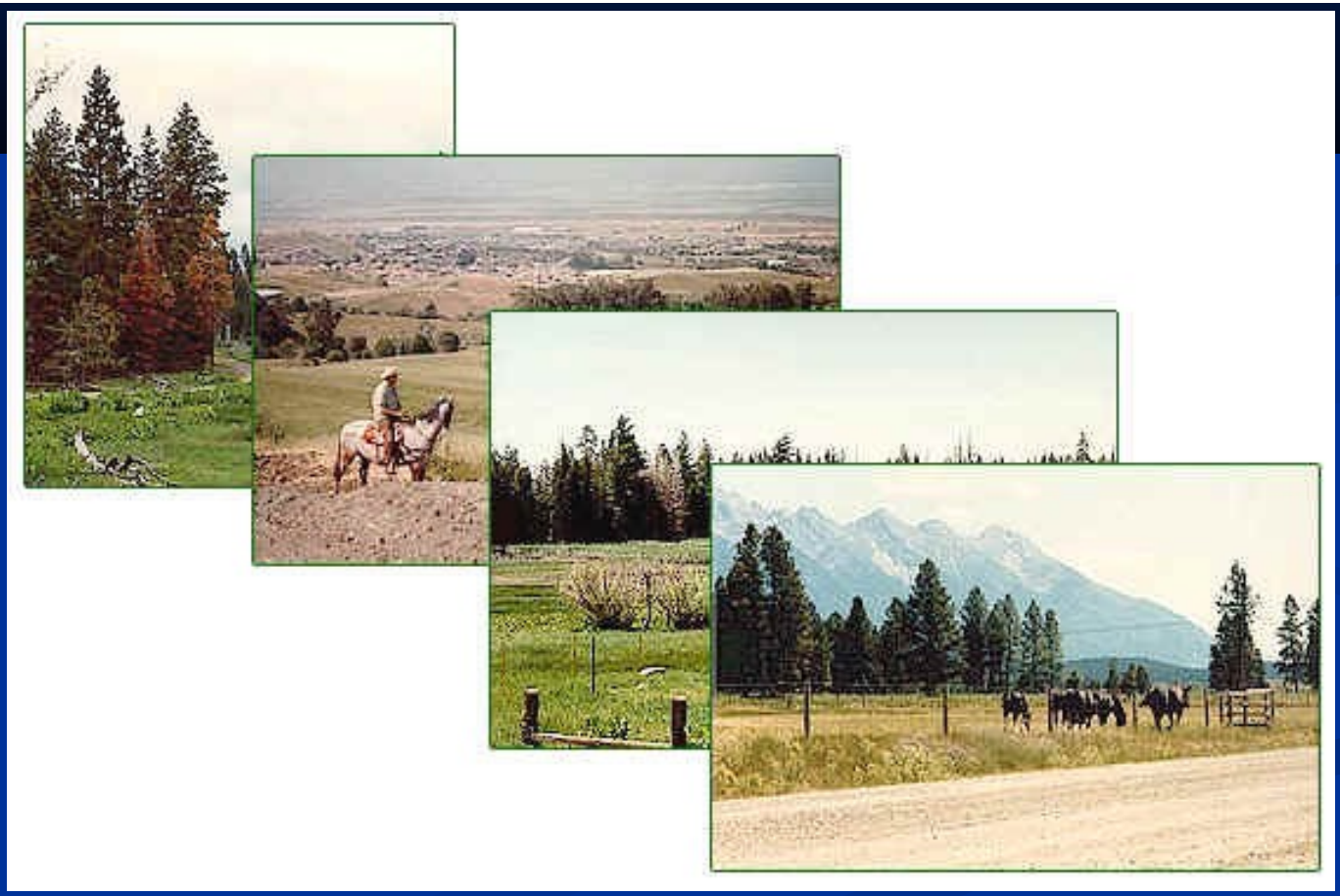
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NORTH AMERICAN WEED MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

www.weedfreefeed.com

Weed Free Feed

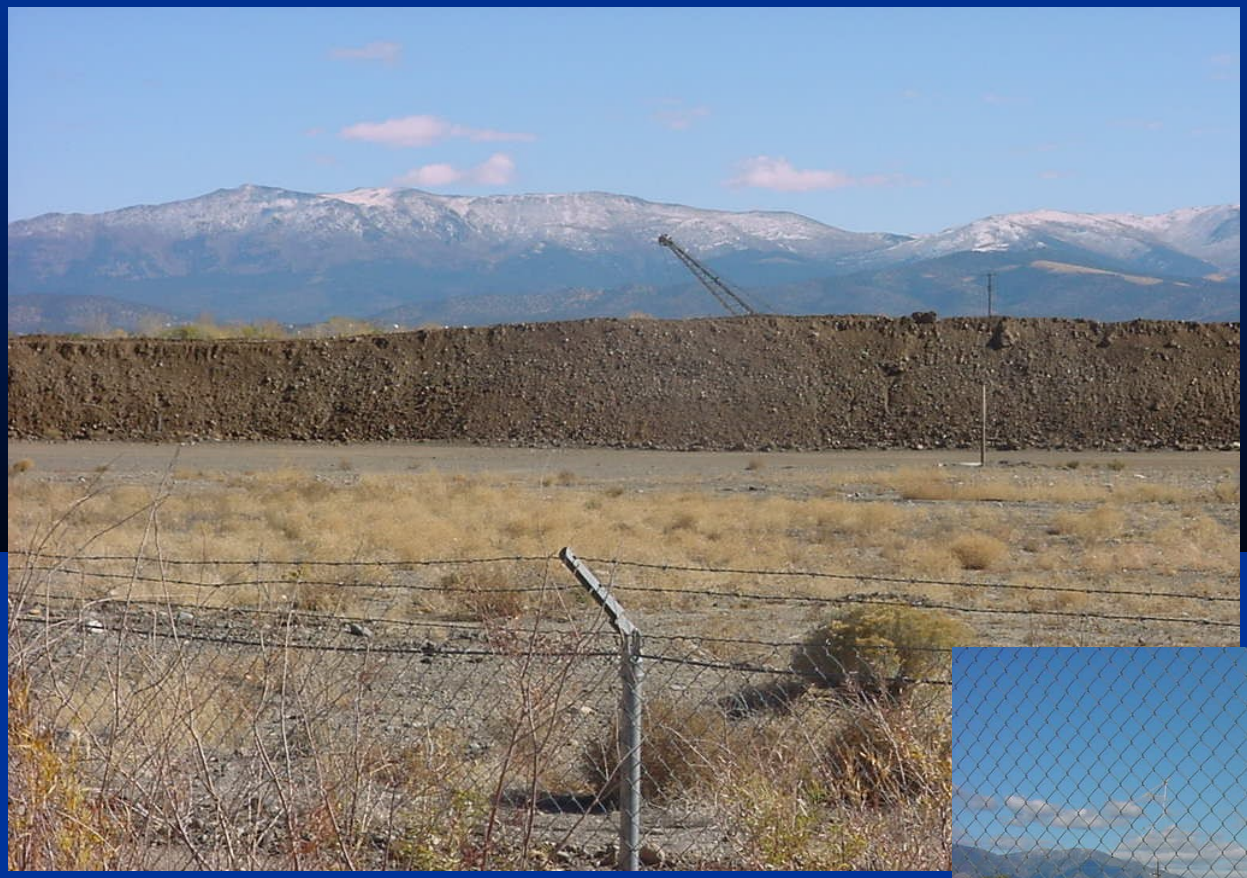
Horsemen Protecting Public Lands from Invasive Weeds



Prevention Measures

- Prevention Measure #3: Certified Gravel
  - Initial need
  - Development
  - Application

FILL MATERIAL USED FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR



Gravel source contaminated
With diffuse knapweed
- being treated with chemicals, but apparently spread to new sites is occurring

Prevention: Management of Gravel Sources

Certification of specific gravel and fill material sources at the project level.

Standards cont'd

- Gravel shall be inspected prior to movement
- Area which contains noxious weeds may be certified if the following requirements are met
  - Area upon which the material was mined is treated to prevent seed formation or seed ripening to the degree there is no danger of dissemination of the seed or any injurious portion from which such noxious weed or parts of the weed are capable of producing a new plant

Gravel standards

- Gravel shall be inspected in the State of origin by proper authority
- Shall be inspected in the area of origin (area shall include, but not limited to, surrounding ditches, top soil piles, gravel/sand piles, fence rows, roads, easement, rights-of-way, working area, storage areas, and buffer zone surrounding the entire area)

Standards cont'd

- There is a disclaimer on the certificate that seeds from previous years may still be viable and pesticides are not able to kill seeds
- The certificate shall document all of the previous requirements based upon a reasonable and prudent visual inspection

Prevention Measure #4: Certified Seed

- Certified Weed free seed
  - Blue tag certified
    - Correct species
    - Viable seed
  - State Seed Lab Tests:
    - All States Noxious Weed List

Certified Seed Services

- Key Reference:

- Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies
  - www.aosca.org

Other Prevention Measures

- Cleaning personal field gear.

- Cleaning office parking lots and bone yards.

Internal Collaboration:

- Fire
  - Include risk factors & prevention considerations in Training
  - Establish network of helispots, camps and staging areas in weed-free conditions
  - Inspect & clean fire vehicles, coming & going to their home base.

Best Management Practices

- http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/