



GOVERNOR'S SUMMIT ON INVASIVE SPECIES



Assessing the Past – Strategizing the Future

April 12–13, 2016

Hosted by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council

Gateway Center, 1710 National Avenue, Helena, MT

PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
9:00am – 9:30am	Welcome (<i>Governor Steve Bullock, DNRC Director Tubbs</i>)
9:30am – 10:00am	An International Invasive Species Perspective (<i>B. Gibbs, Canadian Council on Invasive Species</i>)
10:00am – 10:30am	A National Context for Montana’s Invasive Species Efforts (<i>Mike Ielmini, US Forest Service</i>)
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 11:00am	Montana’s History Addressing Invasive Species – Protecting the State’s Natural Resources and Quality of Life (<i>Jerry Marks, Missoula County MSU Extension Office/Weed District</i>)
11:00am – NOON	Panel Discussion: Exploring models to improve coordination and collaboration (<i>Mike Ielmini – US Forest Service, Barry Gibbs – Canadian Council on Invasive Species, Karen Laitala – Blackfoot Challenge, Rachel Frost – Missouri River Conservation Council</i>)
NOON – 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Setting the Stage: The Results of the 2015 Statewide Invasive Species Assessment (<i>Lisa DeBruyckere – Creative Resource Strategies, LLC</i>)
1:30pm – 4:30pm	Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (breakout sessions)
4:30pm – 5:00pm	WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and REVIEW OF TOMORROW’S AGENDA
5:00pm – 7:00pm	Reception at Lewis and Clark Brewing Company, 1517 Dodge Avenue

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:00am – 8:00am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
8:00am – 8:15am	Welcome, Yesterday Recap, Today’s Agenda
8:15am – 10:00am	Panel Discussion: Making Substantive Changes to Montana’s Legislation to Advance Invasive Species Prevention Efforts (<i>Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Ray Shaw, Sen. Jon Sesso, Sen. Pat Connell</i>)
10:00am – 10:15am	BREAK
10:15am – Noon	Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (breakout sessions)
Noon – 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:00pm – 2:30pm	(Continued) Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (breakout sessions)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and KEY NEXT STEPS

AGENDA

Montana Invasive Species Summit
Hosted by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council
April 12–13, 2016
Gateway Center, 1710 National Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601

Goal: Convene agency, tribal sovereign nations, private landowners, industry, academic and nonprofit leaders and policy makers (and others contributing to invasive species efforts in Montana) to:

- Share the results of the Montana Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee statewide invasive species assessment;
- Develop a shared understanding of the core elements of a Montana statewide invasive species framework and identify key priority actions;
- Identify key gaps in existing Montana legislation; and
- Describe key next steps.

Expected Work Products:

- Identified key priorities and elements to develop a statewide invasive species framework

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (provided)
9:00m – 9:30am	Welcome, Conference Overview (<i>Governor Steve Bullock, DNRC Director Tubbs</i>)
9:30am – 10:00am	An International Invasive Species Perspective (<i>Barry Gibbs, Canadian Council on Invasive Species</i>) Montana’s border with Canada creates opportunities for collaboration and coordination to address regional and international invasive species issues. Barry Gibbs from the Canadian Council on Invasive Species and the Alberta Invasive Species Council will share his perspectives on both challenges and opportunities.
10:00am – 10:30am	A National Context for Montana’s Invasive Species Efforts (<i>Mike Ielmini, US Forest Service</i>) As a member of the National Invasive Species Council, Mike Ielmini will share his perspectives about invasive species challenges and opportunities in the United States, including opportunities to collaborate with Canadian partners.
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 11:00am	Montana’s History Addressing Invasive Species – Protecting the State’s Natural Resources and Quality of Life (<i>Jerry Marks, Missoula County MSU</i>)

Extension Office/Weed District)

Montana has had successes and challenges associated with invasive species management in the past 25 years. A historical look back at the successes and challenges as well as a description of the current condition and emerging issues will pave the way for summit discussions.

11:00am – NOON

Panel Discussion: Exploring models to improve coordination and collaboration (*Mike Ielmini - USFS, Barry Gibbs - Canada Council on Invasive Species, Karen Laitala - Blackfoot Challenge, Rachel Frost - Missouri River Conservation Districts Council*)

Case studies will be presented to expose summit attendees to different types and elements of collaborative models Montana could use to advance invasive species efforts – pros and cons of each approach will be presented and discussed with summit attendees.

NOON – 1:00pm

LUNCH (provided)

1:00pm – 1:30pm

Setting the Stage: The Results of the 2015 Statewide Invasive Species Assessment (*Lisa DeBruyckere, Creative Resource Strategies*)

Summit attendees will work in breakout sessions to address key gaps and additional elements needed to inform Montana's invasive species implementation plan.

**1:30pm – 4:30pm
(BREAK included)**

Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues (*Breakout sessions*)

4:30pm – 5:00pm

WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and REVIEW OF TOMORROW'S AGENDA

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Reception at Lewis and Clark Brewing, 1517 Dodge Avenue

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:00am – 8:00am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00am – 8:15am

Welcome, Yesterday Recap, Today's Agenda

8:15am – 10:00am

Panel Discussion: Making Substantive Changes to Montana's Legislation to Advance Invasive Species Prevention Efforts (*Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Ray Shaw, Rep. Pat Connell, Sen. Jon Sesso*)

A panel discussion of five Montana legislators will discuss their vision for a comprehensive, collaborative, effective invasive species effort in Montana, addressing key issues:

- What are the likely hurdles to introducing the legislation and moving it through the legislative process?
 - What information and data is needed to support the legislation?
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- What can summit attendees and invasive species supporters do to help legislators support introduced legislation?

10:00am – 10:15am	BREAK
10:15am – Noon	<p>Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues</p> <p>Summit attendees will work in breakout sessions to address key gaps and additional elements needed to inform Montana’s invasive species implementation plan.</p>
Noon – 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:00pm – 2:30pm	<p>(Continued) Developing Actions – Key Steps Montana Can Take to Address Statewide Invasive Species Issues</p> <p>Summit attendees will work in breakout sessions to address key gaps and additional elements needed to inform Montana’s invasive species implementation plan.</p>
2:30pm – 3:00pm	WRAP-UP, SUMMARY, and KEY NEXT STEPS

List of Exhibitors

Ag in the Classroom
 Animal Plant Health Inspection Service—Plant Protection and Quarantine, Veterinary Services, Wildlife Services
 Invasive Species Action Network
 Montana Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage
 Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Rangelands Program

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
 Montana Noxious Weed Education Campaign/PlayCleanGo
 Montana State University Schutter Lab
 Montana Weed Control Association
 Northwest Energy Coalition
 The Nature Conservancy—Don’t Move Firewood
 US Customs and Border Protection
 Wilderness Society

Legislative Panel

(Left to Right): Rep. Janet Ellis, Rep. Mark Noland, Rep. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Ray Shaw, Rep. Pat Connell, and Sen. Jon Sesso





Barry Gibbs is the Executive Director of the Alberta Invasive Species Council and Co-chair of the Canadian Council on Invasive Species. He has an Agriculture degree from the University of Saskatchewan, and worked for 35 years for Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc. on research, regulatory issues, sales, marketing and management. He has been working with invasive species and nonprofit organizations provincially, nationally and internationally for several years. He serves as Past Chair on the Board of the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia, Resources Committee for SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative), and the Alberta Weed Regulations Advisory Committee.

Mike Ielmini is the National Invasive Species Program Manager with the USDA Forest Service National Forest System in Washington, DC. Mike has more than 34 years of landscape-scale natural resources conservation experience at the state and federal levels. Mike served as a refuge manager and biologist on 11 national wildlife refuges in 6 states. For the past 13 years, Mike has served as the National Invasive Species Program Manager, overseeing the program's management operations, policy, budget, and performance issues across the 193 million-acre National Forest System.



Jerry Marks is the Department Head for the Missoula County MSU Extension Office/Weed District. Jerry has over four decades of experience with invasive species education. He led the establishment of the Montana Biological Weed Control program and has encouraged expanding knowledge on the ecology of terrestrial vegetation communities and aquatic systems as key to successful invasive species management. He has organized numerous partnerships of private, public land managers, scientists, conservation groups, regulatory agencies and policy decision makers to implement projects and bring about positive change.

Rachel Frost is the Coordinator for the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council (MRCDC), which is comprised of the 15 Conservation Districts that border or contain the main stem of the Missouri River in Montana. Rachel works with Districts to develop natural resource and education projects that cross district and ownership boundaries. The MRCDC coordinates the Montana Saltcedar Team, which suppresses saltcedar on the Missouri and Musselshell Rivers through a partnership approach and landscape based control efforts.



Karen Laitala has a BS in Environmental Field Biology from Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, Idaho, with an emphasis on Botany and an MS in Plant Science from the University of Idaho, Moscow, with an emphasis on Weed Science. She has worked as the Project Coordinator for the Powell County Weed District for the past 6 years, and as the Weed Coordinator for the Blackfoot Challenge for the past three years.

Lisa DeBruyckere is President of Creative Resource Strategies, LLC, a company that specializes in helping organizations with their natural resource communication and outreach needs. Lisa has worked throughout the West and Pacific Northwest Economic Region for almost two decades. She wrote the Dreissenid Prevention Framework for the Pacific Northwest in 2015, works with western aquatic invasive coordinators in 19 states to achieve consensus on aquatic invasive species prevention efforts, conducted statewide management assessments of invasive species for Montana and Oregon, and was the Oregon Invasive Species Council Coordinator for seven years.

