



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

INVASIVE PLANT COMMITTEE MEETING

A G E N D A

for the meeting to be held on Thursday, January 4, 2018
at the Regional District offices, **1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC**
commencing at 2:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Election of Chair/Vice-Chair:**
2. **Notice of New Business:**
3. **Adoption of the Agenda:**
4. **Adoption of the Minutes:**
 - M-1 Invasive Plant Committee Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2017
 - M-2 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2017.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
6. **Correspondence:**
7. **Delegation:**
8. **Reports:**
 - R-1 December 29, 2017 report from Kari Bondaroff, Invasive Plant Program Manager regarding recommendations from the November 28, 2017 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting.
 - R-2 Report from the Technical Advisory Committee regarding Scentless Chamomile
 - R-3 Invasive Plant Program 2017 Annual Report
9. **New Business:**
10. **Items for Information – Committee Terms of Reference**
11. **Adjournment:**



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

M-1

Invasive Plant Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, April 5, 2017

PLACE: Regional District offices, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Director Leonard Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'
Director Brad Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'
Director Karen Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'

Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services
Kari Bondaroff, Invasive Plant Program Manager
Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

1) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm

2) Election of Committee Chair: The Invasive Plant Program Manager called for nominations for the office of Committee Chair for 2017.

Director Sperling nominated Director Hiebert for the office of Committee Chair for 2017. Director Goodings seconded the nomination.

Director Hiebert accepted the nomination.

The Invasive Plant Program Manager called a second time for nominations for the office of Committee Chair for 2017.

Hearing none, the Invasive Plant Program Manager declared Director Hiebert Chair of the Invasive Plant Committee for 2017.

3) Election of Vice-Chair: The Invasive Plant Program Manager called for nominations for the office of Committee Vice-Chair for 2017.

Director Sperling nominated Director Goodings for the office of Committee Vice-Chair for 2017. Director Hiebert seconded the nomination.

Director Goodings accepted the nomination.

The Invasive Plant Program Manager called a second time for nominations for the office of Committee Vice-Chair for 2017.

Hearing none, the Invasive Plant Program Manager declared Director Goodings Vice-Chair of the Invasive Plant Committee for 2017.

Adoption of the Agenda:

4) Adoption of the Agenda: MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Goodings, That the Invasive Plant Committee meeting agenda for the April 5, 2017 meeting be adopted.

Call to Order:

Election of Chair/Vice-Chair:

Notice of New Business:

Adoption of the Agenda:

Adoption of the Minutes:

M-1 Invasive Plant Committee Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2016

January 4, 2018

4) Adoption of the
Agenda
(continued)

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Reports:

R-1 Report to ratify recommendations from the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting of April 5, 2017.

New Business:

Adjournment:

CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

5) Item 3
Industry Invasive
Plant Plans

It was noted that the Regional District has received several invasive plant management plans from industry working in the area, i.e. Alta Gas. The Invasive Plant Program Manager will check which management plans have not been received and confirm with Directors. This information is part of the oil and gas referral process that the Rural Directors provide comments on.

REPORTS:

6) R-1
Rec No. 1
2016 Report

MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Goodings,
That the Invasive Plant Committee recommends to the Regional Board that the Invasive Plant Program 2016 Annual Report be adopted.

CARRIED.

Rec No. 2
Strat Plan

MOVED by Director Goodings, SECONDED by Director Sperling,
That the Invasive Plant Committee recommends to the Regional Board that the 2017 Invasive Plant Program Strategic Plan and Profile be adopted.

CARRIED.

Rec No. 3
Plant Species

MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Goodings,
That the Invasive Plant Committee recommends to the Regional Board that the 2017 Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the Regional District be approved.

CARRIED.

It was noted that upon approval by the Regional Board, all three documents will be posted to the Regional District website.

NEW BUSINESS:

7) Bio-control

It was noted that bio-control could be carried out at Cecil Lake, Pouce River and Landry Crossing (Rolla) areas. The Invasive Plant Program Manager will GPS exact locations, determine the type of invasive plants and forward the information to the Ministry of Forests, Range and Natural Resource Operations. The Ministry will provide and release the bio-control agents in the specified areas. The Regional District will erect signage in the areas.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm

Leonard Hiebert
Chair

Suzanne Garrett
Corporate Services Coordinator



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, November 28, 2017
PLACE: Regional District offices, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Director Leonard Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D', Committee Chair
Art Seidl, Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association
Mike Pangman, MGP Contracting
Paul Hawkins, Louisiana Pacific
Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture
Dessa Nicholson, Saddle Hills County, Alberta
Elaine Armagost, Saddle Hills County, Alberta
Marika Cameron
Wallace Roach, District of Hudson's Hope
Glen Holmes, ARC Resources
Brian Stratuliak, Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association
Stan Mracek
Jim Collins
Bill Wilson, PRFA, 1:00 p.m.

By teleconference

Director Karen Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'
Manny Mariotto, Ministry of Environment
Denise McLean, Min Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Dev.
Katharine Graham, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Kristine Lambie, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Vaughn Leuschen, DOW Chemical

Staff

Paulo Eichelberger, General Manager of Environmental Services
Kari Bondaroff, Manager of Invasive Plants, Environmental Services
and Field Services Program
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager
Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

- 1) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda: MOVED by Director Goodings, SECONDED by Elaine Armagost, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting agenda for the November 28, 2017 meeting, including additional items for the agenda, be adopted as amended:
- Notice of New Business:**
Adoption of the Minutes:
M-1 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2017

2) Adoption of
Agenda
(continued)

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Correspondence:

- C-1 October 10, 2017 letter from Saddle Hills County - Scentless Chamomile
- C-2 November 1, 2017 letter from Arthur Hadland, Area C resident - program

Reports:

- R-1 2017 Contractor Report – Mike Pangman, Area Controller
- R-2 2017 Field Season activities: Compliance and Enforcement; Education and Awareness; Invasive Plant bins; and provincial efficacy monitoring
- R-3 Roundtable 2017 Agency Program reports:
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; BC Hydro; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; rancher program; aboriginal groups; oil and gas sectors; other agencies

New Business:

- NB-1 2017 Strategic Plan and Profile – any suggested changes for 2018
- NB-2 2017 Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the PRRD – feedback

Items for Information

- I-1 IPC Monitoring Committee Terms of Reference
- I-2 Northeast Peace Invasive Species Training Program

Adjournment:

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- 3) M-1 SPPIPMC MOVED by Brian Stratuliak, SECONDED by Art Seidl,
Mtg. Min. of Apr 5, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting
2017 minutes of April 5, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 4) BA-1 re: R-1 Committee members were advised that equipment used for the “solarization of
solarization weeds” (composting bagged weeds) is very expensive. The Invasive Species Council
discussed the topic at its forum and will keep it on its radar, it is felt that education,
at this point in time, is the best route.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 5) C-1 re: The County of Saddle Hills has elevated “scentless chamomile” (SH) to its prohibited
Scentless category. The County will be rolling out a campaign over the winter months called
Chamomile Destroy Daisies. As part of the campaign the County is advising its neighbours, with
shared borders, that it is taking a stand against chamomile.

It is felt that SH is an issue for the agricultural community in the Peace Region as well, and should be raised to a different category in the Profile of Invasive Plant Species list.

6) C-2 re: renewal of weed program (handout) The Weed Control Program has changed much over the years and Mr. Hadland's letter is in support of boosting the existing program. It was noted that there is not enough funding in the budget to hire more weed inspectors or equipment. One concern is scentless chamomile, it is more widespread now. The Regional District treats its own properties, and works with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development on priority areas as depicted in the Plan – target those areas closest to agricultural areas.

Does the Committee need to change its strategy – make SH higher on the list – what is feasible? How would this impact the other invasives, such as Hawkweed, higher priorities are dealt with first. Solution should include an increased awareness – general public and industry (equipment / storage sites). If SH is raised in the priority list it will increase the budget – is the suggestion that the Regional District increase taxes?

It was suggested that Creeping (Canada) Thistle (CT) be replaced with SH on the priority list as CT can be chemically controlled.

MOVED by Director Goodings, SECONDED by Brian Stratuliak, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that the Regional District be requested to increase the invasive plant budget to enable the hiring of a minimum of two additional seasonal invasive plant personnel, one in the North Peace and one in the South Peace.

CARRIED.

REPORTS:

- 7) R-1 re: 2017 Contractor report Mr. Pangman, PRRD Area Controller
- 101 sites, 8.4 ha treated
 - Category A and B species treated - Bull Thistle, Orange/Yellow Hawkweed, Burdock
 - two passes up the highway to Pink Mountain
 - reduction in treatments from 8.5 in 2016 to 8.4 in 2017
- 8) Recess The meeting recessed at 12:05 pm
- 9) Reconvene The meeting reconvened at 12:55 pm

10) R-3 Agency Program Reports (continued)

Kari Bondaroff, Manager of Invasive Plants

- new cost share program “Good Neighbour” introduced in May
- Weed Warrior Characters big hit on Facebook
- hiring of two seasonal staff
- Outreach activities – school visits, science fairs, Canfor, Peace River Forage Association, Parks Day, local fairs
- Education materials – landfills and transfer stations, pet stores, hunting stores, garden centres, tourist information centres and First Nation weed pulls.
- Increase in invasive plant material disposed of 2016 = 19,940 kg; 2017 = 37,620 kg.

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

- Joint contracts with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- managed 460 sites
- agriculture zone developed
- REDRR target species included Yellow and Orange Hawkweeds, March Plume Thistle
- Bio-control still active, ongoing monitoring of SH sites, Radar Lake Gravel pit to become active soon so will need to move the bio-control from this site
- actively managing knapweed sites - Peace Canyon and Pouce Coupe bridge areas

Ministry of Transportation and Highways

- 844 sites treated, 136 sites within the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality
- redoing Pest Management Plans
- developing maintenance guidebooks for contractors
- huge component of invasives along roadsides, increase education to reduce the spread of plants

ARC Resources

- Sites include Attachie, Parkland, Dawson, Progress – wells and pipelines
 - chemical and mechanical control took place (4 contractors).
 - Spent \$5,000 on Orange Hawkweed on private land, Landowner worked with ARC.
 - New PMP
 - handpicked 2,000 lbs of Scentless Chamomile area
- It was suggested that the orange hawkweed site be added to IAPP as the plant can spread as much as 40% in a year. If the site is in IAPP it can be monitored.

MOVED by Elaine Armagost, SECONDED by Art Seidl,
that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that a letter be forwarded to Mayor and Council, City of Dawson Creek requesting that Council consider the establishment of an invasive plant program bylaw.

CARRIED.

10) R-3 Agency Program Reports (continued)

Louisiana Pacific

- new PMP
- awareness training for loggers, contractors
- no treatments conducted

Saddle Hills

- Orange Hawkweed infested creek banks
- Enforcement 41 weed notices, 1 through court system
- working with Trans Canada
- outreach 3200 residents

Rancher Program

- Sunset Pasture – successful program – CT, SH and others

NEW BUSINESS:

11) NB-1 and NB-2 It was suggested that the invasive plant program increase educational ads with respect to SH, increase treatment - medium priority, high priority treatment if close to agriculture. Elevate without being forced to “bring down the hammer.”

MOVED by Brian Stratuliak, SECONDED by Jim Collins, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that Scentless Chamomile be raised from the Category B Medium Priority to Category A High Priority list in the “Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the Regional District.”

CARRIED.

MOVED by Elaine Armagost, SECONDED by Art Seidl,

- a) that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee strike a technical committee to develop a strategy to deal with Scentless Chamomile in the region, with respect to:
- What makes Scentless Chamomile such an invasive plant that it should be escalated from Category B to Category A?
 - If this plant was to be elevated, what would the implications be to residents and users of lands within the PRRD?
 - If this plant were to be escalated, what would the implications be to the PRRD Invasive Plant staff?
 - What changes would have to be made?
 - What strategies could be piloted or implemented that would be within the current budget?
 - What alternative strategies could be implemented that would require increased budgets?
 - How would the program measure the success of change? (how would we know that what we are doing is working or not working?); and

- b) that the technical committee consist of the following members:
Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture
TBD, PRMV (Crop Insurance)
Denise McLean, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development
Rick Kantz, BC Grain Producers Association
Glyn Evans, BC Regional Cattlemen's Association
Kathryn Graham, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
TBD, Seed Growers Association
Jim Collins; and
- c) report back to the Invasive Plant Committee with its findings.

CARRIED.

12) Strategic Plan and Profile Members were encouraged to review and forward comments and/or suggested changes to the "Strategic Plan and Profile" and the "Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the PRRD" Kari.Bondaroff@prrd.bc.ca by February 28, 2018. Revisions will be compiled into the document for Committee review at the spring meeting.

It was noted that some of the invasive plant pictures will be updated.

Documents can be found at: <http://prrd.bc.ca/services/invasive-plants/plans-reports-invasive-plants/>

A draft of the new carabiner's will be forwarded to members for comments/suggestions by December 1, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm

Leonard Hiebert
Chair

Suzanne Garrett
Corporate Services Coordinator



Peace River Regional District REPORT

To: Invasive Plant Committee Date: December 29, 2017

From: Kari Bondaroff, Invasive Plant Program Manager

Subject: **Recommendations from the November 28, 2017 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting**

RECOMMENDATION No. 1 – Increase to the Invasive Plant Budget

that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that the Regional District be requested to increase the invasive plant budget to enable the hiring of a minimum of two additional seasonal invasive plant personnel, one in the North Peace and one in the South Peace.

RECOMMENDATION No. 2 – Invasive Plant Program establishment bylaw

that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that a letter be forwarded to Mayor and Council, City of Dawson Creek requesting that Council consider the establishment of an invasive plant program bylaw.

RECOMMENDATION No. 3 – Scentless Chamomile

that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee recommends to the Invasive Plant Committee that Scentless Chamomile be raised from the Category B Medium Priority to Category A High Priority list in the “Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the Regional District.”

RECOMMENDATION No. 4 – Technical Advisory Committee

- a) that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee strike a technical committee to develop a strategy to deal with Scentless Chamomile in the region, with respect to:
- What makes Scentless Chamomile such an invasive plant that it should be escalated from Category B to Category A?
 - If this plant was to be elevated, what would the implications be to residents and users of lands within the PRRD?
 - If this plant were to be escalated, what would the implications be to the PRRD Invasive Plant staff?
 - What changes would have to be made?
 - What strategies could be piloted or implemented that would be within the current budget?
 - What alternative strategies could be implemented that would require increased budgets?

- How would the program measure the success of change? (how would we know that what we are doing is working or not working?); and

b) that the technical committee consist of the following members:

Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture
TBD, PRMV (Crop Insurance)
Denise McLean, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development
Rick Kantz, BC Grain Producers Association
Glyn Evans, BC Regional Cattlemen's Association
Kathryn Graham, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
TBD, Seed Growers Association
Jim Collins; and

c) report back to the Invasive Plant Committee with its findings.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE: None

OPTIONS: None

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE: Environmental Services

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S): None

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S): None

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S): These recommendations were passed at the November 28, 2017 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting and are presented to the Invasive Plant Committee for its consideration.

Composition of contributors: South Peace Cattlemen's, Jim Collins, OGC, PRRD, MoTI, M.Ag.

History of Scentless Chamomile in the Peace River Regional District:

Many years ago, the Nurnberger farm in North Pine brought in forage seed which was contaminated with scentless chamomile. The infestation spread throughout their 3000 acre farm and adjacent lands plus land they recently developed adjacent to the Blueberry River. The farm was subsequently owned by S.O.S. Kinderdorf and Bickford Farms, both of which fought the scentless chamomile infestation and continue to do so today. The infestation has spread to oil/gas roads in the community.

About 30 years ago, MOTI did some road upgrades which required re-vegetation to grasses and legumes. Unfortunately, the seed mix used was contaminated with scentless chamomile. This led to the introduction of scentless chamomile north along the 271 Rd starting at the Alaska Highway. Farms that were infested included Wuthrich and Ostergaard; the contamination of these fields can still be seen today. The Prespatou Road north of the Blueberry River was also seeded with the contaminated mix, leading to the infestation of adjacent fields that landowners are still managing to this day. More recently, scentless chamomile was transported to the Milligan Creek area from Rose Prairie. The infestation became quite serious on the road for about 25 km which required significant effort by MOTI to obtain some reasonable control.

On Sec. 32-87-17 there is an oil/gas lease which was contaminated 40+ years ago that remains infested.

I am sure there are many other examples that could be included in a long story of problems in this plant.

In fields committed to long term pasture it seems that scentless chamomile is very hard to control. The use of ALLY® is effective, though only approved for agriculture use, for use with cereals (barley, spring wheat) and grasses (creeping red fescue, orchard grass, wheatgrass, timothy), but it removes the legumes such as alsike clover. But even with an effective herbicide treatment, scentless chamomile can reappears some years later after the loss of activity of the herbicide. Thus it is an ongoing battle.

In summary, this weed is proliferating and has an economic impact on agriculture in the Peace. More stringent rules are required to ensure that infestations are controlled.

1. What makes Scentless Chamomile such an invasive plant that it should be escalated from Category B to Category A?

Category A: These invasive plants are highly competitive, have the ability to spread rapidly and pose a significant threat. They have been aggressively managed over time and their populations are minimal at the landscape level. These plants require continued persistent treatment over time in order to achieve eradication.

Category B: These plants have established themselves at the landscape level and are still aggressively treated by the agriculture sector to protect crop yields and production of other agriculture products. These plants are expected to be managed where they threaten environmental, social, or economical values.

Why we should escalate it to a Category A

- ✦ Extreme ability to propagate. A single plant can produce 1 million seeds, which can lead to 1.8 million plants per m² ([http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex871](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex871))
- ✦ Cannot be controlled with herbicides if legumes are present (Peas, Alfalfa, Clover).
- ✦ Zero tolerance for scentless chamomile contamination in forage seed production (Fescue, Timothy, Brome, Alsike, Red Clover, Alfalfa). Huge potential risk to this industry
- ✦ Ingestion by livestock does not kill all seed; 26 % remain viable
[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex871](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex871)
- ✦ Plants produce viable seed in less than 60 days and are able to germinate throughout the season and are indeterminate flowering, whereby plants have flowers, and mature and immature seeds. Multiple treatment applications are necessary from early summer early fall.
- ✦ Its prevalence along roadways makes it hard for the agriculture community to control
- ✦ It has the ability to outcompete in post-drought conditions, and the region's tendency to have high precipitation years along with large spring runoffs provides such conditions.
- ✦ Seeds can remain viable for up to 15 years. <http://bcinvasives.ca/documents/Scentless Chamomile TIPS Final 08 06 2014.pdf>
- ✦ Mechanical eradication is an option for treatment if it is not chemically treated right away – this is labour intensive

Why we should not escalate it to a Category B

- ✦ Scentless Chamomile is well established within the PRRD and will never be eradicated.
- ✦ Currently, there are over 1300 scentless chamomile Crown sites within the PRRD totaling around 288 ha.
- ✦ Many sites are not reported, such as O&G, due to privacy issues and non-regulation IAPP utilization.
- ✦ Each site is estimated to cost the Province \$300 to treat. This would mean a budget of over \$390,000 to treat scentless chamomile alone.
- ✦ There are many other invasive plant species that are also being treated that have an actual chance of eradication. Reallocating the budget to focus on scentless chamomile could increase the risk that these other Category A species get away from us.
- ✦ Biocontrol exists and is established on Scentless Chamomile within the PRRD.

2. If this plant were to be escalated, what would the implications be to residents and users of lands within the PRRD?

- ✦ There would need to be a large education campaign to explain to landowners what their legal obligation is to control.

- It is anticipated that the OGC will recognize the Weed Control Regulation plant list by order, allowing our C&E department to take action against activity owners in contravention. Though this cannot be grandfathered in, it is expected that the oil and gas industry will continue to align with this regulation for all of their sites. It is believed that a renewed effort to invasive plant management will be seen.
- Scentless chamomile is on the OGC list of Identified Weeds and Invasive Plants in NE BC and industry often looks to work on a *level playing field*, it seems that the potential escalation on the PRRD list would show residents that it is aligned with other stakeholders in the region. Oil and gas already are mandated to control scentless chamomile on their sites so no change would occur for them. If anything, it might make it easier to get under control if all land users were subjected to the same standards (assuming they are treating it all)
- It is important that residents treat new invaders first. We can prioritize Crown treatment in certain areas. If residents were being forced to treat scentless chamomile, it would put increased pressure on the Province to treat all of the scentless chamomile and this would take away funds from higher priority, less established, species.
- Residents would bear responsibility of controlling weeds. Includes city of Dawson Creek. It is easy to say that residents would bear the cost and responsibility of control, but this would take a fairly strong enforcement arm. Is this realistic? This would be a big shift for the PRRD

3. If this plant were to be escalated, what would the implications be to the PRRD Invasive Plant staff?

a. What changes would have to be made?

- Provincial support** of this elevation would be necessary in order to elevate treatments on scentless chamomile and make decisions on reduction of treatments on other high priority invasive plant species.
- It would take increased staff time or a refocus. A fairly large education campaign would have to occur to educate landowners about the changes and implications.
- Currently, the PRRD has a compliance and enforcement matrix that guides the process through the bylaw enforcement and introduction of the *Weed Control Act*. With elevation, increased staffing would be necessary in order to complete initial inspections, and to follow the C&E process as set out by the PRRD bylaw and Provincial regulations. Crown occupiers are not held to local bylaws, especially if they are showing that they are trying to manage invasive plant infestations through biological, mechanical, chemical treatments, prioritization of treatments, planning, and responding to weed complaints from agriculture producers.
- Enforcement would have to become higher priority.
- The Province must increase treatment and control of roadside infestations if they want to limit infestations of adjoining fields and waterways.
- Municipalities would have to create their own bylaws to manage within their jurisdictional boundaries.

b. What strategies could be piloted or implemented that would be within the current budget?

Saddle Hills is preparing to launch a Destroy Daisies campaign in 2018. The PRRD could mimic this campaign to increasing public awareness of scentless chamomile and oxeye daisy. This would involve newspaper inserts, mail inserts to PRRD land occupiers, increased social media posts on daisies, public incentives to deliver “daisies” to the local landfills for free dumping, increased community weed pull events, and increased involvement by Municipalities to get involved in the campaign.

Work with OGC to ensure C&E on sites they are responsible for

Solicit opinions from a broader group of stakeholders to determine treatment area priorities that are feasible within the current budget Education with agriculture producers on effective ways to treat scentless chamomile – from small infestations to larger ones (i.e. closing hoppers and tarping empty trucks needs to be improved

More rancher contracts to allow more pesticide applicators to get out there and help combat the problem. However, we, wouldn’t want to see money taken away from prioritizing our REDRR species.

Increase cooperative programs with producer, livestock groups to control current infestations especially on crown lands. (The Rancher contract has the ability to do just this, it is run through the M.FLNROD).

c. What alternative strategies could be implemented that would require increased budgets?

Increased staffing (minimum of 2) to conduct seasonal weed inspector duties such as:

- Responding to weed reports
- Conducting initial inspections
- Delivering educational materials
- Spotting and reporting infestations in parking lots and storage yards of industrial, agricultural, and high traffic areas.

Alternative strategies with an increased budget would allow for more treatment sites (not really alternative though as the budget would have to be increased at the Provincial level).

Reinstate the pooled treatment idea for a more coordinated approach to treating invasive plants. This might help all partners work within their pre-existing budget? FLNRORD and MOTI would not support this.

4. How would we measure the success of change? (how would we know that what we are doing is working or not working?)

Analyze contravention notice trends over the years following implementation of the plant list, as well as complaints filed.

A reduction in infestations sizes. IAPP is used as a tool to track infestation sizes.

Increase in plant materials received at the local landfills.

Increase in weed reports would indicate increased awareness.

Increased requests for treatment methods for daisies

Less complaints from the agriculture community.

Invasive Plant Program Manager – PRRD – 2017 Year at a Glance – Annual Report

2017 saw the introduction of a new cost share, good neighbor program in May. The program included an invasive plant swap followed by the opportunity for the PRRD to share first time treatment of category A and B invasive plants. In addition, the launch of the Weed Warrior Characters were a hit through the Facebook posts, and Agriculture Kyle found himself in the Forage Association's quarterly publication and the June field tour activities.

May targeted residential homes with Mountain bluet growing in their gardens and found many people very accepting of their removal and disposal. The initial Facebook post involving a found infestation at a local school prompted many reports, self-declarations of ownership and thus voluntary removals. Two warning letters were mailed out for Compliance and Enforcement purposes, one financial penalty was awarded, and one orange hawkweed infestation was chemically treated following a "Report-A-Weed" report with a subsequent follow-up visit/inspection with the landowner.

The hiring of two seasonal staff from May 1 to September 1 turned into one at the end of June. Due to contractual commitments to the Province, the PRRD staff were obliged to spend a healthy portion of time on monitoring treatments within the PRRD. Treatments were focused on high priority invasive's on Crown lands and roadways that border agriculture in vast lengths. There was a noticeable difference in Scentless chamomile infestations along roadsides this 2017 season.

Outreach activities included many school visits, science fairs, Canfor, Peace River Forage Association, Parks Day, local fairs as well has material delivery to landfill and transfer stations, pet stores, hunting stores, garden centres, tourist information centres, and First Nations weed pulls.

As always, the Invasive Plant Program is looking forward to the new opportunities that will unfold for the 2018 year.







Together • Prevent • Report















Kari Bondaroff, P.Ag









The following subsequent table follows the work plan as outlined within the 2017 Strategic Plan and Profile.





2017 Invasive Plant Program Work Plan






Priorities	Results
Planning	
 Prioritize the 101 PRRD owned/occupied properties using the IAPP data for reported invasive plant species infestations.	North Peace: 22 Chemical, 13 mechanical (9 are duplicates), equates to a total of 26 sites infested. South Peace: 14 chemical, 7 mechanical (all are duplicates) equates to a total of 14 infested sites. Pine Pass: 9 chemical, 7 mechanical (6 are duplicates) equates to a total of 10 sites infested. 50 sites received treatment, 51 sites are weed free.
 Create a schedule of treatment months to ensure proper timing of treatment.	Treatments occurred from June-September 2017.
 Evaluate the PRRD IAPP data for invasive species infestations and outline sensitive areas that need to be visited in 2017.	Planning sessions occurred between FLNRO (MoTI represented through FLNRO), M.Ag, and PRRD on March 1, 2017 to outline areas in need of high priority treatments.
 Inventory current outreach materials and update/purchase as required.	Materials were purchased as required. Weed warrior cards have been sent to the printer and videos are on their final review. New carabiner designs have been completed in-house and are scheduled for printing in Dec 2017/January 2018. Will need to replenish "Plantwise" brochures and weed ID booklets in 2018.
Inventory and Surveys	
 Site visits required for 1/3 of PRRD owned/occupied lands.	Contractor visited 101 sites. 50 sites were treated and of those 50, 10 were monitored for efficacy.
 Survey of historical Regional EDRR sites.	The following plants were surveyed in the 2017 season: South Peace: Himalayan Balsam, Marsh Plume Thistle, and many mountain bluet infestations in municipal, private gardens. Pine Pass: Chicory, Cypress spurge, Wild parsnip North Peace: Bighead Knapweed, mountain bluet.







<p>Treatment</p>	
<p> Treat all invasive species surveyed/inventoried on PRRD owned/occupied lands using the designated three pass system.</p>	<p>All PRRD sites were visited and infested sites were treated 1-4 times as per requirements.</p>
<p> Identify 3 sites for biocontrol release for Scentsless Chamomile adjacent to water.</p>	<p>One site has been identified to relocated established biocontrol agents to in the spring or fall of 2018. Plants must be dug while dormant, transported and planted in known infestations that are not going to be treated. Site 232632 has been identified as an area FLNRO would like to see as a control site. We will establish biocontrol signage along with “PLAYCLEANGO” boot cleaning stations at this site as it is a parking area and entrance to a hiking trail to the dinosaur tracks.</p>
<p>Treatment Monitoring</p>	
<p> As this is the 1st year of the Area Controllers contract, 80% of the PRRD sites will be monitored for treatment in 2017.</p>	<p>Due to time and resource restrictions, this was an unattainable goal. 10/50 treated sites were monitored for efficacy.</p>
<p> The PRRD has offered its services to conduct treatment monitoring for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations. Contract negotiations are to occur prior to May 2017. All monitoring will be completed as per the contract agreement.</p>	<p>155 sites were monitored for treatment efficacy as per the contract. These sites were spread within the boundaries of the PRRD as well as 10 sites within the Northern Rockies Municipality. All required documentation has been submitted to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure as per the contract. See the attached map. The contract as written is for 2 years of monitoring for a total of \$50,000. We have one year left for this contract.</p>
<p>Data Entry</p>	
<p> 100% of inventory, survey, or treatment documentation will be entered into IAPP within 3 working days of completing the data collection.</p>	<p>IP staff were very diligent in data entry this season. All data entry was completed within 3 working days of data collection.</p>









Education and Awareness	
 Continue to support the Peace River Forage Association’s quarterly seminars.	PRRD held an information session at the June 17 event. As well, attended the R&D committee meeting to assist with 2018 project planning.
 Host a formal or non-formal Pesticide Applicators Course within the PRRD to include both staff and stakeholders.	2 PAC courses were held by ISCBC in May and June. PRRD staff attended the May session and sponsored 4 local First Nations to attend the June session.
 Continue to promote the activities of teaching livestock to eat weeds through research, outreach articles, and knowledge transfer.	The 3 rd Phase of the training was led by Julie Robinson of Blackbird Consulting. The PRRD offered \$5000 towards the funding of the project, sat on the advisory committee of this project, attended planning session, and assisted with training of field staff and location of historical monitoring sites.
 Continue to offer Regional support to stakeholders through invasive plant ID, outreach materials, integrated pest management planning, and best management practices.	Completed as per requests. Organic producers, and Canfor were new participators this year.
 Attend local events that promote environmental health and sustainability including regional fall fairs, 4-H events, local garden tours, career fair days, and science fairs.	Staff attended regional fall fairs, science fairs, garden centers, forage tours, parks day, and First Nations IPM days.
 Continue to engage youth in biodiversity and ecological sustainability activities that focus on the prevention and awareness of invasive plant infestations.	Programming that the IP staff offer is ever changing and adapting to meet the needs of the audience. All activities are hands-on and focused on biodiversity and ecological sustainability with an Invasive Plant focus.
 Continue to utilize “Weedy Wednesday” Facebook posts to promote events, highlight invasive plant species, and offer information about integrated pest management techniques.	Weedy Wednesday posts were very popular this season. Due to an unforeseen hacking incident, FB posts ceased after August 5. 2018 FB posts have been created and will be posted by the Communications Staff. 22 posts made with 1254 average people reached.







 <p>Continue to conduct presentations on issues and knowledge obtained within the PRRD with shareholders. These presentations may include but are not exclusive to Facebook posts, physical presentations, seminars, and YouTube videos.</p>	<p>Information, resources, lessons, presentation, and activities are shared upon request.</p>
 <p>Educational materials will be replaced upon depletion of resources.</p>	<p>Ongoing – boot brushes, air fresheners, little red wagon punch-outs, “Plantwise”, and “PlayCleanGo” materials are well stocked. Carabiners are being recreated as well as playing cards and teacher/instructor cards.</p>
 <p>New educational materials will be purchased as they come available and if they are applicable within the PRRD.</p>	<p>New materials for 2017 include: PRRD activity books, 4 videos/commercials, and carabiners, playing cards, and instructor cards for launch in 2018.</p>
 <p>PRRD staff will continue to attend professional development activities as per their work plans.</p>	<p>Social Media Camp, Fierce Summit, Pesticide Applicators Certification Course, EOC – Planning Officer.</p>
 <p>PRRD staff will continue to develop new and useful materials to deliver to PRRD residents.</p>	<p>New updated carabineer cards designed and developed for the Peace Region.</p>
<p>Coordination and Partnership Building</p>	
 <p>Hold two IPCPRRD and SPPIPMC meetings.</p>	<p>Meeting held April 5 and Nov 28, 2017.</p>
 <p>Engage a minimum of two First Nations Partnerships in activities such as Weed ID, community weed pulls, or treatment of existing infestations.</p>	<p>Invasive Plant First Nation presentation in coordination with the OGC First Nations Liaison group. Sauleau FN Plants 101 June 13, 2017, Sauleau Weed Pull July 18, Chetwynd Pesticide Applicators Course sponsorship for FN participants on June 21-23, 2017.</p>
<p>Continue to support the ISCBC programs.</p>	<p>“Plantwise,” “Don’t let it loose,” “Clean Drain Dry,” “PlayCleanGo” all communicated through the PRRD.</p>
 <p>Continue to participate in the monthly provincial coordinator calls, and quarterly ISCBC board member meetings.</p>	<p>All ISCBC Board Member meetings attended. Majority of Coordinator calls are pertaining to IP species that are not currently present within the PRRD. Attendance has been as per the agenda and topics to be discussed.</p>

 <p>Continue to actively participate in the teaching livestock to eat weeds project in partnership with the Peace River Forage Association and Ministry of Agriculture through a financial donation and staff resources.</p>	<p>Staff participated in phase 3 of this project in May, June, and August of 2017. \$5000 was offered in support of IP research and development to the Peace River Forage Association.</p>
 <p>Continue to partner with industry to promote Best Management practices by offering plant identification resources, offering free commercial dumping at the three local landfills, and partnering in outreach events.</p>	<p>Free dumping was offered at the three landfills this season (North Peace, Bessborough, and Chetwynd) for both residential and commercial users. Staff noted the amount of plant material received at the sites jumped from 14,940 kg in 2016 to 37,620 kg in 2017, an increase of over 250%.</p>
 <p>Continue to promote and support the local Rancher contracts offered by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations to enable local crown grazing occupants to treat high priority and other regionally listed invasive plant species.</p>	<p>One rancher contract was again held between FLNRO and Sunset Community Pasture. Monitoring of treatment occurred on September 5, 2017.</p>
 <p>Continue to work with local governments and municipalities increase residents awareness of invasive plant species through joint inspections and sharing of outreach materials.</p>	<p>One property in Dawson Creek municipality has an open C&E file for a Scentless Chamomile and Canada thistle infestation. Warning ticket and follow-up monetary penalty has been offered. Follow-up on treatment activities will occur in the spring. Many door knockers, invasive plant weed bags, and information packages were handed out within the city of Dawson Creek for Mountain bluet. All infestations reported in FSJ were passed along to their Bylaw department. Tumbler Ridge municipality requested ID of hawkweed and suggested treatment methods for the found infestations.</p>

 <p>Continue to support PlayCleanGo.org in partnership with PRRD parks, BC Parks, and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource operations to expand the education and outreach programs to include users of local parks and trails located in areas that have identified invasive plant infestations.</p>	<p>Flatbed pools, Hudson’s Hope Dinosaur lakes, Blackfoot park, Minaker park, Montney park, North West Mounted Police Trail, Sundance and Spencer Tuck parks, Wapiti Lake, Radar Lake, Bear Mountain ski trails, Bear Mountain wind park, and Bear Mountain community forest were all hosts to the PlayCleanGo.org signage and boot stations. In addition, the PRRD parks department has purchased “Don’t let it loose” signage for 4 regional parks to display with the boot brush stands.</p>
 <p>Host an outreach event in partnership with PRRD parks staff.</p>	<p>This event was held July 29 in Montney Regional Park. Summer staff attended the event.</p>
 <p>Increase awareness of the “Grow Me Instead”/“Plantwise” programs through local nursery visits, delivery of outreach materials.</p>	<p>“Plantwise” and “Grow Me Instead” documentation as well as the PRRD plants document were distributed to Garden centres in Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, and Chetwynd.</p>
 <p>Initiate a Good Neighbour Cost share program which allows non-commercial residents to access between 50-75% of costs, up to \$500-\$750 of treatment or chemical costs on a one-time, pre-approved, basis.</p>	<p>This program was initiated this year in May (a little late) and offered to all residents that were issued either an information package or a warning ticket for an infestation found on their property. There was no up-take for the 2017 season. Increased advertisement of the program will be initiated in March/April of 2018.</p>
 <p>Initiate a Trade-A-Weed program for gardeners that allows participants to document removal and disposal of an invasive plant from their flower garden in exchange for a \$20 gift certificate to a garden centre of their choice for the purchase of a “Plantwise” perennial from May 8-12, 2017.</p>	<p>Mountain bluet plants were traded for Jacob’s ladder and Spiderwort at Frank Ross Elementary when an infestation was discovered. Facebook posts were made regarding the event with many comments and views. For 2018, all REDRR plants will be made available for trade-a-weed through the entire month of May.</p>

Leveraging Additional Resources	
 Additional financial resources will be received from the Ministry of Transportation. This will cover the cost of monitoring treatments conducted by MoTI and FLNRO contractors within the three PRRD Invasive Plant Management Areas.	A \$25,000 contract was negotiated between the PRRD and MoTI for efficacy monitoring of IP treatments within the Pine Pass, South Peace, and North Peace invasive plant management areas as well as the Northern Rockies Municipality.
 Staff will continue to work with and support the Peace River Forage Association leverage funds to increase the capacity of the teaching livestock to eat weeds project.	A funding proposal was submitted to IAF for third phase funding. \$92,590 was granted to the project. In addition, funds were awarded from PRAD to supplement the project. A letter of support was written in support of this project.
Provincial EDRR Support	
 When requested, invasive plant program staff will support the efforts of the Provincial EDRR staff in verifying reported infestations and coordinating any further actions required.	None requested within the 2017 season.
“Report-A-Weed” Verification	
 When requested, invasive plant program staff will support the efforts of the Provincial Invasive Plant Specialist in verifying reported infestations and coordinating any further actions required.	None requested in 2017.
 Staff will continue to promote the “Report-A-Weed” app through communications within the PRRD.	The “Report-A-Weed” app is listed within the Strategic plan and profile of the Invasive Plant program.
 All invasive plant reports received within the office of the PRRD will receive follow-up within 3 working days of receipt. Any follow-up required will follow the policies and procedures outlined in the C&E manual.	Procedures were followed according to the C&E manual and documentation of communications was made. 73 individuals called in to report infestations. This included 6 “Report-A-Weed” reports, and 81 sites. Of the sites this is how they break out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City of Dawson Creek Residential: 32 ○ City of Dawson Creek: 6 ○ City of FSJ Jurisdiction: 2 ○ Pouce Coupe Residential/Industrial: 3 ○ PRRD Residential/Industrial: 8

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crown: 19 ○ Oil and Gas: 9
Reporting and Data Management	
When requested, invasive plant program staff will provide updates to the PRRD Board on operational activities conducted by the program.	As per requests.
 An annual report will be conducted for the 2017 year.	Yet to be completed. Deadline is January 31, 2018.
 Any and all reporting requirements as per contract agreements will be met by or before the outlined due dates.	All requirements completed and submitted as per contractual agreements between the PRRD and MoTI.
 IAPP data will be handled with utmost care to prevent potential errors.	IAPP data has been double checked and any errors corrected or passed on for correction. At this point, all data is found to be accurate.
 PRRD invasive plant staff will enter IAPP data for other jurisdictions as per their request.	None requested in 2017.
 The Strategic Plan and Profile will be maintained to reflect current operations and will be approved by the IPCPRD committee following the spring meeting.	Suggestions for improvements and updates will be requested at the November 28, 2017 meeting. Any changes will be made prior to the spring 2018 meeting.
 All manuals, policies and procedures, and operational plans will be posted on the PRRD website for shareholders to utilize.	Completed.
Other program Activities	
 All requests for support from the Invasive Plant Program staff will be reviewed and conducted as per the discretion of the IPCPRD committee members.	IP staff requested to assist with communications for the Agriculture Advisory Committee by staff.
 When requested, invasive plant program staff will participate in research trials that have the potential to increase the resources available to PRRD land occupiers in preventing, controlling, suppressing, or eradicating invasive plants.	No new requests for 2017.

<p>Compliance and Enforcement</p>	
<p> Appointed Weed Officers/Weed Inspectors of the PRRD will follow all policies and procedures outlined by Provincial Legislation, Local Legislation, and the C&E policies and procedures manual.</p>	<p>Throughout the 2017 season, Paulo Eichelberger, Kari Bondaroff, and Mike Pangman were appointed by the board as weed officers and inspectors. In 2017: 30 information packages were handed out 2 Warning Tickets were mailed 1 Financial penalty was awarded and paid. The remainder of the calls were passed along to the appropriate jurisdictions for treatment or inspection.</p>
<p>Special Projects</p>	
<p> New programs to be added to the Invasive Plant Program: -2 commercials are to be created utilizing the characters in delivering best management practices for invasive plant management.</p>	<p>4 Commercials have been created to target recreation, agriculture, industry, and residential audiences of the PRRD. These will be posted on our FB page and shown at the local Movie Theatre starting in the spring.</p>
<p> Free invasive plant dumping for all users (residential and commercial) will continue at the three local landfills (Bessborough, Chetwynd, and North Peace). ○ Complete a cost analysis of placing invasive plant bins at level 1 and 2 transfer stations.</p>	<p>This year saw an increase from 14,940 kg to 37,620 kg of invasive plant material disposed of from 2016-2017. A cost analysis was completed in January, 2017. Results were sent to the Board of Directors and it was deemed that the project would be too costly for the number of residential participants that utilize this program. See “ Feb9Brdminutes ,”pg 7</p>
<p> Create a Request for Proposal and advertise for the Area Controller Contract for 2017.</p>	<p>An RFP was posted early in 2017. Three applicants were evaluated and MGP Contracting won the bid. Mike Pangman has now completed his first year of the contract.</p>
<p> Hire two seasonal staff for the field season from May 1 – August 31, 2017.</p>	<p>2 Seasonal staff were hired for May 1, 2017. At the end of June, one of the staff was discontinued. Devre Gibson successfully worked in areas such as outreach, monitoring, planning and data entry.</p>
<p> Support, conduct, and participate in a Pesticide Applicators Course in May, 2017 within the PRRD.</p>	<p>The PRRD participated in the first PAC course delivered by ISCBC in May. The Program Manager and both of the Seasonal staff participated. A second course was offered in June in Chetwynd where the PRRD sponsored First Nation’s member’s course fees.</p>

Thank You Funders

Ministry of **Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations**



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure



Invasive Plant Committee of the Peace River Regional District Terms of Reference

1. Goal

To complement the **Mission, Vision and Goals** of the Regional District by: *“protecting our economy, environment and social values from invasive plants and ensuring that existing infestations are managed with integrated pest management.”*

2. Purpose

The general purpose of the Invasive Plant Committee of the Peace River Regional District (IPCPRRD) will include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. To act as the conduit between the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants Monitoring Committee (SPIP) and the Peace River Regional District Board regarding matters relating to noxious/invasive plants in the region.

3. Accountability and Committee Organization

The Committee will be comprised of:

- i. A minimum of three directors appointed by the Chair of the Regional Board
- ii. The General Manager of Environmental Services
- iii. The Manager of Invasive Plants

Provisions for a Standing Committee are provided for in Board Procedure Bylaw No. 2200, 2015

4. Roles and Responsibilities

To ensure regulatory provisions are appropriate to program delivery and recommend amendments to the Board and staff.

- a. Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants
- b. Program delivery
- c. Compliance and Enforcement Policy
- d. Budget

The above are intended to be reviewed annually.