



The Region of BC's Best

Summer 2018



INVASIVE PLANTS UPDATE

New Invasive Plant Management Committee

The Thompson Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee (TNIPMC) includes representation from agencies and organizations that manage invasive plants in the region. The purpose of the committee is to encourage collaboration

on invasive plant management within the Thompson-Nicola Regional District.

We've had a great start with the new committee this year, with well over 100 direct contacts with landowners, municipalities,

and First Nations talking about everything from areas needing treatment to new weeds of concern.

More information on the TNIPMC, Invasive Plants and control programs can be found at www.TNIPMC.com

EVENTS

Great turnout for Merritt field day

The TNIPMC held its inaugural education event on July 23 at the Laurie Guichon Memorial site, located south of Merritt.

The day was a great success with 75 ranchers, First Nations, and members of the general public getting together with invasive plant control experts to talk about integrated pest management. We heard from excellent speakers on the topic of controlling weeds with bugs, cows, goats and herbicides.

We would like to thank our partners at Agrowest Consulting and Purity Farm for helping to put this event together.

The TNIPMC also sponsored local information sessions in Barriere on August 9 and Pritchard on August 16 that were well attended.

We are currently planning an information session for the Elephant Hill wildfire area.



UPCOMING EVENTS

THE TNIPMC WILL BE SPONSORING A WEED INFORMATION DAY THIS WINTER NEAR CLINTON TO TALK ABOUT INVASIVE PLANT IDENTIFICATION, CONTROL AND PROGRAMS IN THE ELEPHANT HILL FIRE AREA. WATCH FOR DETAILS. IF THERE IS INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THERE CONTACT US AT INVASIVEPLANTS@TNRD.CA





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Invasive Plants of Note

Our first newsletter features the plant that is likely the best known weed in the area. Despite best efforts over the years spotted knapweed continues to infest thousands of hectares in the TNRD and has spread to most corners of the province.

For the last two years, Highway 5A between Kamloops and Merritt has been treated, along with the Tranquille/Criss Creek area, Tunkwa and Mamit Lake Roads, side roads in Knutsford and a number of small areas around the TNRD to support local work being done under our "Good Neighbour" program. We are currently preparing plans for 2019 and future treatment areas. If you see any areas of concern, please pass them along to invasiveplants@tnrd.ca

There is also significant work done on private lands within the TNRD every year. Some of this is supported by TNRD programs, such as the 50/50 Cost Share program. More details can be found on our website.



The biological control program for knapweeds has been ongoing for decades and there have been some real successes, particularly with diffuse knapweed. The TNRD currently supports distribution of the **Cyphocleonus weevil** (known as the knapwood root weevil) on private lands to ensure that this slower moving bioagent gets around to do its work. This is a long-term investment in weakening weed populations. Weevils are being collected and distributed this month.