

Dates Set for MISAC Listening Sessions

Please join the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Committee as they conclude two years of discussions and research to build a better invasive species management plan for Montana. A series of Listening Sessions will be held across Montana to present a draft invasive species framework. The listening sessions will be held on the afternoon of September 28 in Miles City (Field Office Bureau of Land Management, 1-4PM), the afternoon of September 29 in Wolf Point (Fort Peck Community College, Wolf Point Campus community room, 1-4PM), the afternoon of October 4 in Great Falls (Focus on pathogens, border protection, and forest pests, Hampton Inn, 1-4PM), and the evening of October 6 in Pablo (Salish Kootenai College, Camas Room 4-7PM).

The Montana Invasive Species Advisory Committee was created two years ago with the purpose of advising the Governor on a science-based, comprehensive program to identify, prevent, eliminate, reduce, and mitigate the impacts of invasive species in Montana. This group has completed a Statewide Assessment of the individuals, groups and agencies working on invasive species, their management priorities, and an estimate of their expenditures in March of 2016. Following this Assessment, the group hosted a Summit attended by 175 representatives from across the state in April 2016 to prioritize the invasive species management challenges faced by a state with many habitats, borders, and partners. From that discussion a Framework or plan of action is their final assignment. The goal of the listening sessions is to include partners in the process of prioritizing and carrying out the recommendations in the Statewide Framework. All invasive species partners are encouraged to attend and identify regional and local opportunities for future collaboration, connect with the ongoing statewide effort to improve invasive species management, identify measurable tasks that support Montana's invasive species management priorities, and prioritize tasks and resources for the next 2-5 years that will reduce the impact of invasive species on Montana.

September 28: Miles City (Field Office Bureau of Land Management, 1-4PM),

September 29: Wolf Point (Fort Peck Community College, Wolf Point Campus, Community Room, 1-4PM),

October 4: Great Falls (Focus on pathogens, border protection, and forest pests, Hampton Inn, 1-4PM),

October 6: Pablo (Salish Kootenai College, Camas Room 4-7PM).

For more information about MISAC and to access archives of this e-newsletter go to: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/MISAC>