



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

Invasive Plant Monitoring Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

November 30, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC

	Pages
1. Call to Order	
1.1. Director Hiebert to Chair the Meeting	
2. Directors' Notice of New Business	
3. Adoption of Agenda	
4. Gallery Comments or Questions	
5. Adoption of Minutes	
5.1. Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2021	3
6. Business Arising from the Minutes	
7. Delegations	6
7.1. Sue Staniforth, Invasive Species Council of BC, Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program update (10:30 am)	7
8. Correspondence	
9. Reports	
9.1. Verbal - Roundtable updates 2021 Agency Programs; Ministry of FLNRORD; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Rancher Program (attached); First Nations; oil and gas sector; others.	8
9.2. Verbal - 2021 PRRD Contractor Report, Mike Pangman, Area Controller	
9.3. Review of Draft 2021 Annual Report	9
9.4. Invasive Plant categorization discussion	16
9.5. Review of Draft 2022 Strategic Plan and Profile - feedback on suggested changes	17
10. New Business	

11. Diary

12. Item(s) for Information

12.1. Terms of Reference

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13. Adjournment



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROFILE OF INVASIVE PLANT MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021

LOCATION Peace River Regional District Office, Dawson Creek, BC

ATTENDANCE

Directors (via Zoom)

Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D' – Committee Chair
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'

Staff

Paulo Eichelberger, GM of Environmental Services
Kari Bondaroff, Environmental Services Manager
Suzanne Garrett, Recorder

Committee Members (via Zoom)

Denise McLean, Ministry FLNRORD
Eric Nijboer, Spectrum Resource Group
Mae Whyte, Blueberry River First Nation
Robin Routledge, BC Hydro
Satish Prasad, Ministry of Transportation
Charity Schmidt, Shell Canada
Peter Smith – Oil and Gas
Brian Stratuliak, PR Regional Cattlemen's Association

Ella Head, District of Tumbler Ridge
Glen Holmes, ARC Resources
Mike Pangman, MGP Contracting
Paul Hawkins, Louisiana Pacific
Shelley Fulmes, Argo Roads
Dan Tisseur, Enbridge
Jim Little, local producer
Aviva Jones, Blueberry River First Nation

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

The draft 2021 Strategic Plan and Profile of the Invasive Plants was shared via email to members. Included in that email was a partner and stakeholder survey requesting feedback from members regarding 2020 invasive plant activities, strategies, newly reported invaders and successes as well as recommendations for 2021 activities.

The purpose of today's meeting is to check in with members to provide updates on their 2020 year and invasive plant management plans for 2021.

Committee members were asked to report on:

1. 2020 invasive plant successes
2. invasive plant management plans for 2021
3. identify support that the Regional District could provide

Argo Roads

2. continue to monitor roads and ditches for invasive species
3. ongoing staff training, how can ARGO support Regional District's efforts

PR Regional Cattlemen's
Association

1. Ranchers contracts – 5 years good success
2. Ranchers treated 7 sites (26.2 ha.), Ministry Forests and Lands treated 11 sites
3. continue with the Ranchers contracts

Shell Canada

1. Continue monitoring Canada Thistle one pipeline right-of-ways and community pastures. Treat areas if requested by landowners.
2. Continue with monitoring and re-seeding of areas



Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. treating highest priority areas within the North, South and West Peace areas2. Continue with Regional EDRR for Marsh Plume Thistle3. Province wide there will be no joint contracts for public lands this year. <p>The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has funds and will be doing their contracts as usual.</p>
Jim Little	<p>Beatton/Doig Pasture – large problem with Canada Thistle – no weed control takes place. North Peace Farmer's Institute has concerns. The Ministry of Transportation should consider mowing ditches earlier to alleviate some of the spread of weed seeds. Another issue is control of water in ditches, Chamomile likes to grow in damp areas, need a solution. Biological control worked last time.</p>
BC Hydro	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continue to manage construction site and off site projects, highway realignment and power lines. Spring inventory of 3,000 ha. – found 44.8 ha with invasive species. Fall inventory found 5.9 ha. significant reduction. Monitoring trend for last three years. Three year biocontrol project on Dalmatian toadflax, resulted in big impact on site.2. Currently gearing up for the season.3. Ditch lines on regional roads getting worse. Finding invasive species we have not seen in 10 years. Need to refocus on that, coordinate work with Regional District.
ARC Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 3 different local spray contractors, successful year. Increased Orange Hawkweed in Tower Lake areas, starting to spread. Looking at better ways to control foxtail barley. Did more mowing.2. Tendering work. Working with landowners in the Rolla area. Monitoring residual effects.3. Road control and increased mowing. Enforcement issue, local oil and gas company not spraying – poor approach.
Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Contract, industrial part of Fort Nelson, intense assessment and control took place in the second half of summer2. NRRD Invasive Plant Committee – leftover funding from the pooled funding model. Trying to determine best use of funds. Have invasive plant site list for possible treatment. Also need to focus on education.
MGP Contracting	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Area Controller for the Regional District. Slow and steady, lots of spraying2. Continue with monitoring and treatment3. Continued support from staff. Operational questions answered within the hour.
Enbridge	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. maintaining program for ground disturbance, large expansion going on – increased risk of invasive migration.2. 2021 starting up survey, and survey response in the Pine Pass area.
Spectra Resource Group	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. continue working with numerous stakeholders, IP Management, local government and others2. continue to support PRRD IAPP
Ministry of Transportation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. continue providing support



- Louisiana Pacific
1. continue working with industrial users, monitoring roads, seeding, cut blocks
 2. Awareness program – pre-works program, training for reporting and using IAPP, treated 3 sites. Logging training, post harvest assessments.
 3. Regional District has great resources.
- Blueberry First Nations
2. Invasives not a number 1 priority currently. Continue with outreach and engagement
 3. Share materials that could be posted to our website.
- Regional District
- Reporting:
- Report a Weed App
 - Call office – Regional District has a Compliance and Enforcement Officer
 - Roadside or industrial – report directly to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure or the BC Oil and Gas Commission
- Wash stations
- Concern was expressed that vehicles from industrial sites are not being adequately washed to stop the transference of weed seeds, needs to be addressed.
- It was noted that there is a full rinse station located at Old Fort - all vehicles coming in or going out – have seen a dramatic decrease in the spread of seeds. BC Hydro continues to work with contractors on “off site” locations – points of inspection prior to exiting onto highway or shared roads. Well received at BC Hydro, increase education to prevent the spread of weeds by wheel.
- Funding for invasive plant program
- Concern was expressed that the Province is not recognizing the economic contribution agriculture makes to the province. It was recognized that cancellation of treatment work on public lands by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operation and Resource Development (FLNRORD) could result in the spread of invasive plants on FLNRORD lands going unchecked and affecting neighbouring agricultural lands. There was consensus that a letter be forwarded to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operation and Resource Development (FLNRORD); Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (BC Parks and Conservation divisions) emphasizing the economic benefits agriculture provides versus the detrimental costs of cancelling treatments of invasive plants on FLNRORD lands.
- Fall Meeting
- Members were asked to forward any topics or issues to the Regional District for the fall meeting. Or call if anyone has any pressing issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the Meeting at 11:30 am.

Director Hiebert, Meeting Chair

S. Garrett, Recorder

November 12, 2021

“Invasive Species Management Project for the Northeast”

Meeting: Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee

Peace River Regional District

Tuesday November 30, 2021

Overview

The Invasive Species Council of BC (ISCBC) has received funding from BC Hydro through the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. The project provides training and invasive species management opportunities for First Nations and members of the agricultural and industry community. The project involves:

- » Working with the Peace River Regional District's Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee (IPMC) to *help guide the project*, assess key invasive species of concern, identify regional training/ information needs and share resources,
- » Providing *community workshops and webinars* including a Pesticide Applicator Certification course,
- » Working directly with several *First Nations* in the region to assess their needs in terms of training, signage, resources and community information,
- » Providing practical invasive species training for 2-4 individuals in each partner Nation community, including invasive species identification, management techniques and field skills.
- » The development in partnership of an *Invasive Species Management Plan* specifically for selected regions, based on an inventory of priority areas and infestations.

We have been working to adapt the project to the changing Covid-19 situation in BC and have been able to accomplish some of the activities virtually, including the development and launch of online Pesticide Applicator Certification and invasive species identification training courses. Several virtual meetings were completed with Saulteau, West Moberley and Blueberry River First Nations, but covid outbreaks and closures have prevented any in-person meetings or workshops.

During the 2021 Fall meeting of the IPMC, ISCBC will provide a short presentation and survey to solicit feedback on:

- a) a draft list of priority invasive species of concern**
- b) identify regional training needs**
- c) a gap analysis of resources needed for invasive plant identification & management**

All comments welcome, either on this document via email or directly at the Fall meeting. Many thanks for your attention to this!

Sue Staniforth, Education and Outreach Manager, Invasive Species Council of BC
education@bcinvasives.ca (250) 871-1527

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Rancher's Contract Update
Submitted by Brian Stratuliak









To the dismay of the Sunset Prairie Livestock Association, we were made aware during our April meeting that the funding of the Rancher's Contract with the Ministry of FLNRORD was canceled. The SPLA sent letters to the Ministries of FLNRORD, Environment, & Agriculture, the ALC, our local MLAs, and the corresponding Liberal critics to voice our displeasure with their decision. We also contacted, and got support from, the Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association, BCCA, South Peace Stockmen's Association and other individuals in trying to reverse the government's decision. The SPLA would like to thank the PRRD Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee for writing a letter to help reinstate our funding.











On June 10, I received an email from Darlene Dresser of FLNRORD informing us that they were proceeding with our contract, with a slight increase in our funding. We were then able to continue our work this summer with controlling invasive weeds in our pasture. This program has been a huge success, and we are treating less acres of invasive weeds every year.







The government funded portion of the Rancher's Contract is to spray high priority invasive weeds on crown grazing land. The SPLA also sprays Canada Thistle on the crown grazing land, but with the labor at their own expense. This year the government paid for surveying, spraying &/or hand pulling of weeds on 8 sites, all Scentless Chamomile. They sprayed .04 ha (.09 acre) with Clearview, and hand pulled 2 sites (40 plants). The SPLA sprayed 2 sites for Canada Thistle with an area of 46.1178 ha (113.9596 acres) and the chemicals used were Clearview, Milestone and Grazon XC.










2021 Invasive Plant Program Work Plan Priorities and Results








Priorities	Results
Planning	
 Update the list of PRRD owned/occupied properties and cross-reference the properties for historical invasive plant infestation using the IAPP data.	An updated list was created for the Area Controller contract. This included the new Area B water stations. GIS continues to update the property list as new information becomes available. 63 sites were surveyed, 52 sites were treated.
 Create a schedule of treatment months to ensure proper timing of treatment.	Treatments occurred from June-September 2021 by MGP Contracting.
 Evaluate the PRRD IAPP data for invasive species infestations and outline sensitive areas that need to be visited in 2021.	All report-a-weed notifications that came in late in the 2020 season were visited in private land. As well, the newly reported and treated sites on private lands were inspected.
 Inventory current outreach materials and update/purchase as required.	No new outreach materials required.
Inventory and Surveys	
 Site visits required for 1/3 of PRRD owned/occupied lands.	Contractor visited all PRRD sites as per the contractual obligations. 52 sites were treated and all parks and SW and wastewater sites were monitored for efficacy.
 Survey of historical Regional EDRR sites for 10% of sites entered into IAPP.	The following plants were surveyed in the 2021 season: 2- Chicory 1- Bighead Knapweed No plants were found during the surveys.
Treatment	
 Treat all invasive species surveyed/inventoried on PRRD owned/occupied lands using the designated three pass system.	All PRRD sites were visited and infested sites were treated 1-4 times as per requirements.
Treatment Monitoring	
 This is the 2nd year of the Area Controllers contract, 30% of the PRRD	Due to staff shortages, sites were visually inspected for the presence of invasive plants during inspections.


sites will be monitored for treatment in 2021.	
Data Entry	
 100% of inventory, survey, or treatment documentation will be entered into IAPP within 3 working days of completing the data collection.	100% of the data entry was completed within 3 working days by the area controller.
Education and Awareness	
 Continue to support the Peace River Forage Association's quarterly seminars.	PRRD provided the association 200 newsletter inserts for the "Eye on Hawkweeds".
 Support a formal or non-formal Pesticide Applicators Course within the PRRD to include both staff and stakeholders.	No Pesticide Applicators courses were held within the PRRD in the 2021 year that required support.
 Continue to promote the activities of teaching livestock to eat weeds through research, outreach articles, and knowledge transfer.	Recipe templates were sent to producers wishing to engage in their own training session for their cattle to learn to incorporate Canada thistles into their diets.
 Continue to offer Regional support to stakeholders through invasive plant ID, outreach materials, integrated pest management planning, and best management practices.	On-going. As requests come in from organization, materials are prepared to be mailed, or for pick-up. ID booklets, carabineers, and destroy daisy kits were the most popular in 2021.
 Attend local events that promote environmental health and sustainability.	Due to the COVID-19, local events were cancelled for the 2021 season.
 Continue to engage youth in biodiversity and ecological sustainability activities that focus on the prevention and awareness of invasive plant infestations.	Due to COVID, no requests were made for attendance in 2021.
 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 successful this season. There were 55 posts with an average of 825 people reached for each post.

 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.	Information, resources, lessons, presentation, and activities are shared upon request.
 Educational materials will be replaced upon depletion of resources.	Ongoing.
 New educational materials will be purchased as they come available and if they are applicable within the PRRD.	No new educational materials were purchased.
 PRRD staff will continue to attend professional development activities as per their work plans.	For 2021, these activities were conducted remotely through zoom calls and webinars.
 PRRD staff will continue to develop new and useful materials to deliver to PRRD residents.	New materials were created this year.
Coordination and Partnership Building	
 Hold IPCPRRD meetings.	A budget meeting was held in January of 2021 and a planning meeting is scheduled for December 2021.
 Engage a minimum of two First Nations Partnerships in activities such as Weed ID, community weed pulls, or treatment of existing infestations.	Due to COVID, First Nations partnerships were put on hold to due to alternative priorities.
 Continue to support the ISCBC programs.	"Plantwise," "Don't let it loose," "Clean Drain Dry," "PlayCleanGo" are all communicated through the PRRD.
 Participate in provincial coordination meetings and interprovincial meetings as requested and applicable	None held.
 Continue to partner with industry to promote Best Management practices by offering plant identification resources, offering free commercial dumping at the	Free dumping was offered at the three landfills this season (North Peace, Bessborough, and Chetwynd) for both residential and commercial users. Bessborough received 3579 kg (1829 residential, 1750 commercial), Chetwynd

three local landfills, and partnering in outreach events.	received 240 kg (0 residential, 240 commercial), and North Peace received 7543 kg (0 residential, 7543 commercial).
 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.	No support requested for 2021.
 Continue to work with local governments and municipalities increase residents awareness of invasive plant species through joint inspections and sharing of outreach materials.	Follow-up on treatment activities occurred in the spring. Many door knockers, invasive plant weed bags, and information packages were handed out within all of the neighbouring municipalities.
 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.	14 Parks, both Regional and Provincial, were hosts to the PlayCleanGo.org signage and boot stations for the 4 th year. BC Parks hosts 4 signs in their own parks to promote the program.
 Host an outreach event in partnership with PRRD parks staff.	Due to COVID-19, this event was cancelled for 2021.
 Increase awareness of the “Grow Me Instead”/“Plantwise” programs through local nursery visits, delivery of outreach materials.	“Plantwise” and “Grow Me Instead” documentation as well as the PRRD plants document were distributed to Garden centres in Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Hudson’s Hope, Taylor, and Chetwynd.
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 2021 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 2021.
 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, within our deck of cards, and within the destroy daisy commercial. Applicable materials will be updated in 2022 with the “Report Invasives” app.
 All invasive plant reports received within the office of the PRRD will receive follow-up within 5 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. ⁹¹ actionable weed reports were received via phone call, email, and sent in weed report forms. This included 4 “Report-A-Weed” reports.
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.
 Write a 2021 annual report	Deadline is January 31, 2021.
 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 the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.
 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 2021.
 The Strategic Plan and Profile will be maintained to reflect current operations and will be approved by the IPCPRD committee.	Suggestions for improvements and updates will be presented at the November 2021 meeting.

 All operational plans will be posted on the PRRD website for shareholders to utilize.	Completed in January of 2021.
Other Program Activities	
 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 2021.
Compliance and Enforcement	
 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.	Throughout the 2021 season, Paulo Eichelberger, Kari Bondaroff, and Mike Pangman and Cathy Ashcroft were appointed by the Board as weed officers and inspectors. Will update in spring 2022.
 Hire one seasonal staff for the field season from June 15 – Sept 15, 2021 to increase compliance and enforcement efforts throughout the summer months.	Cathy Ashcroft returned in July of 2021 and was actively employed for 12 weeks.
Special Projects	
 Continue to promote the Destroy Daisy Campaign to increase public awareness of invasive daisies such as scentless chamomile and oxeeye daisy.	Newspaper ads were run in the coffee talk, FB posts were plentiful, the destroy daisy commercial was played at the local movie theatre and the audio commercials were played at our local radio stations.
 Free invasive plant dumping for all users (residential and commercial) will continue at the three local landfills (Bessborough, Chetwynd, and North Peace).	This 2021 year, <u>9,290 kg</u> of invasive plants were received at the local landfills, 8,680KG from commercial/industrial sources and 610 kg from residents. A decrease of <u>3,240 kg</u> from 2020.
 Hire two seasonal staff for the field season from May 1 – November 30, 2021 cost shared with Parks.	William Hamilton and Kyle Dayus were hired to support the Invasive Plant Program. They handed out materials, responded to weed

	complaints and <u>pulled 250 kg</u> of invasive plants.
 Officially launch the Eye on Hawkweeds campaign. Will include new materials, resources, and ID comparisons between invasive and native plants that look similar.	Soft launched the Eye on Hawkweeds campaign. Distributed education materials and resources.

Thank You Funders

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



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

November 30, 2021

Item 9.4 Invasive Plant Categorization Discussion

Click Here: <https://prrd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/PRRD-Invasive-Plant-Profile-W.pdf>

November 30, 2021

Item 9.5 Review of Draft 2022 Strategic Plan and Profile

Committee feedback on suggested changes for 2022 Program

Click Here: <https://pub-prrd.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=6740>



Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants Monitoring Committee of the Peace River Regional District Terms of Reference

1. Goal

- 1.1 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/Scope

- 2.1 To act as a forum to network and provide feedback to the Invasive Plant Committee of the Peace River Regional District (IPCPRRD) regarding:
- a. the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants;
 - b. the effects of noxious/invasive plants in the region;
 - c. advice regarding best practices for industries operating within the Region;
 - d. noxious/invasive plant occurrences;
 - e. information on matters referred by the IPCPRRD; and,
 - f. any other matters related to noxious/invasive plants.

3. Accountability

- 3.1 Roberts Rules of Order apply.
3.2 Recommendations will be made to the IPCPRRD as required.

4. Committee Organization

- 4.1 A Chair and Vice Chair will be appointed by the IPCPRRD.
4.2 Secretarial services will be provided by the Peace River Regional District.
4.3 Members may be chosen to form an Advisory Committee and provide technical advice.

5. Membership

- 5.1 Membership is open to all who are interested in noxious/invasive plant management.
5.2 Membership will be continuous.

Date Committee Established		Board Resolution #	
Date TOR Approved by Board	February 27, 2014	Board Resolution #	
Amendment Date		Board Resolution #	
Amendment Date		Board Resolution #	
Amendment Date		Board Resolution #	