2020 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. 62 sites were surveyed, 57 sites were treated, same as in 2019.
Create a schedule of treatment months to ensure proper timing of treatment.	Treatments occurred from June-September 2020 by MGP Contracting.
Evaluate the PRRD IAPP data for invasive species infestations and outline sensitive areas that need to be visited in 2020.	All report-a-weed notifications that came in late in the 2019 season were visited. As well, the newly reported and treated sites on private lands were inspected.
Inventory current outreach materials and update/purchase as required.	New carabiner cards were printed to outline the integrated approach to invasive plant control. More destroy daisy packages made. Old inventory shared with Northwest Invasive Plant Committee.
Inventory and Surveys	
Site visits required for 1/3 of PRRD owned/occupied lands.	Contractor visited all PRRD sites as per the contractual obligations. 57 sites were treated and all parks and SW 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 2020 season: 1- Diffuse Knapweed 1- Himalayan Balsam 3- Cypress Spurge 1- Bighead Knapweed 1- Baby's Breath
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 1st year of the Area Controllers contract, 30% of the PRRD sites will be monitored for treatment in 2020.	37/57 sites were monitored for treatment which is 65% of our sites.
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 worked with and designed new carabineer cards to include a card with information on an integrated approach to invasive plant management.
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 2020 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 2020.
Attend local events that promote environmental health and sustainability.	Due to the COVID-19, local events were cancelled for the 2020 season.
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. One class of grade 2/3 students participated in a zoom call in which students attended

Continue to utilize "Weedy Wednesday" Facebook posts to promote events, highlight invasive plant species, and offer information about integrated pest management techniques.	from their homes with the presenter participating from the field. 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.	New materials for 2020 include the new carabineer card with information on integrated management for invasive plants.
PRRD staff will continue to attend professional development activities as per their work plans.	For 2020, 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 updated carabineer cards designed and developed for the Peace Region.
Coordination and Partnership Building	
Hold IPCPRRD meetings.	A budget meeting was held in January of 2020 and a planning meeting is scheduled for November 2020.
Engage a minimum of two First Nations Partnerships in activities such as Weed ID, community weed pulls, or treatment of existing infestations.	Signage was purchased for the Tse Keh Dene area in partnership with the NWIPC. Blueberry FN received 100 destroy daisy kits for delivery of a hand-pulling contest.
Continue to support the ISCBC programs.	"Plantwise," "Don't let it loose," "Clean Drain Dry," "PlayCleanGo" are all communicated through the PRRD.

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.	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 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 2020.
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 will 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 2020.
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 2020 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 2020.
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.
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. 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.
An annual report will be conducted for the 2020 year.	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.

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PRRD invasive plant staff will enter IAPP data for other jurisdictions as per their request.	None requested in 2020.
The Strategic Plan and Profile will be maintained to reflect current operations and will be approved by the IPCPRRD committee.	Suggestions for improvements and updates will be presented at the November 2020 meeting.
All operational plans will be posted on the PRRD website for shareholders to utilize.	Completed in January of 2020.
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 2020.
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 2020 season, Paulo Eichelberger, Kari Bondaroff, and Mike Pangman and Cathy Ashcroft were appointed by the Board as weed officers and inspectors.
Hire one seasonal staff for the field season from June 15 – Sept 15, 2020 to increase compliance and enforcement efforts throughout the summer months.	Cathy Ashcroft returned in July of 2020 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 oxeye 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 2020 year, 12530 kg of invasive plants were received at the local landfills, a decrease of 13179 kg from 2019.
Hire two seasonal staff for the field season from May 1 – November 30, 2020 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 pulled 710 kg of invasive plants.

Thank You Funders

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