

# **Montana Invasive Species Council: Multi-Agency Coordination for Effective Invasive Species Management**

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Chair, Montana Invasive Species Council





[www.invasivespecies.mt.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.mt.gov)



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[NEWS + EVENTS](#)

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[SCIENCE ADVISORY PANEL](#)

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# MONTANA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

Protecting Montana's Economy, Natural Resources  
and Public Health.





## Duties of the Montana Invasive Species Council:

- Provide policy level recommendations,
- Foster cooperation, communication, and coordinated approaches among federal, state, tribal, and local partners;
- In coordination with stakeholders, identify invasive species priorities for Montana,
- Facilitate invasive species education and outreach strategies;
- Work with regional groups to coordinate regional defense and response strategies;
- Work toward establishing and maintaining permanent funding for invasive species priorities

**Created by Executive Order on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Purpose:** to advise the governor of Montana on a comprehensive program to identify, prevent, eliminate, reduce and mitigate the impacts of invasive species in our state.

**Federal Agencies**

Bureau of Land Management  
 Bureau of Reclamation  
 National Park Service  
 US Army Corps of Engineers  
 USDA - Animal Plant Health Inspection Service  
 US Fish and Wildlife Service  
 US Forest Service  
 US Geological Survey

**Tribal Sovereign Nations**

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes  
 Fort Belknap Tribes  
 Fort Peck Tribes

**State Agencies**

Flathead Basin Commission  
 Montana Department of Agriculture  
 Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
 Montana Department of Transportation  
 Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

**Local/County Governments**

Beaverhead County Weed District  
 Big Horn County Weed District  
 Blaine County Weed Department  
 Broadwater County Weed District  
 Butte Silver Bow Weed District  
 Cascade County Weed and Mosquito Management  
 City of Kalispell  
 Daniels County Conservation District  
 Fergus County Weed District  
 Flathead Conservation District  
 Flathead County Weed District  
 Gallatin County Weed District  
 Garfield County Weed District  
 Hill County Weed District  
 Jefferson County Weed District  
 Lake County Conservation District  
 Lewis and Clark County Weed District  
 McCone Conservation District  
 McCone County Weed District  
 Meagher County Weed District  
 Mineral County Weed District  
 Missoula County Parks and Trails  
 Missoula County Weed District  
 Missouri River Conservation Districts Council  
 Pondera County Weed District  
 Powder River County Noxious Weed District  
 Powell County Weed Board  
 Ravalli County Weed District  
 Richland County Weed District  
 Roosevelt County  
 Rosebud County Weed District  
 Sanders County Weed Control  
 Sheridan County Weed District  
 Sweet Grass County Weed District  
 Teton County Weed District  
 Toole and Liberty County Weed Districts  
 Treasure County Weed District  
 Valley County Weed and Glasgow Mosquito District  
 Wheatland County  
 Whitefish County Water District  
 Yellowstone Conservation District

**Institutions of Higher Learning**

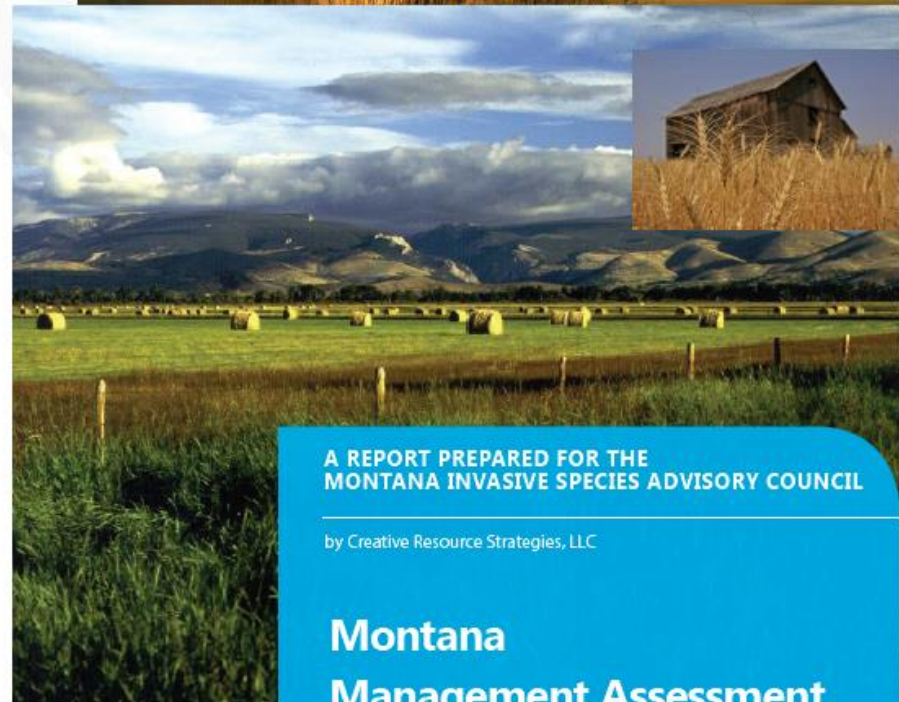
Fort Peck Community College  
 Montana State University  
 Salish Kootenai College  
 University of Montana

**Nonprofit organizations**

Blackfoot Challenge  
 Clearwater Resource Council  
 Five Valleys Land Trust  
 Flathead Lakers  
 Indian Nations Conservation Alliance  
 Invasive Species Action Network  
 Musselshell Watershed Coalition  
 Montana Weed Control Association  
 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
 Rocky Mountain Front Weed Roundtable  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 The Wilderness Society  
 Whitefish Lake Institute

**Businesses**

Hanson Environmental  
 Integrated Ag Services, Inc.  
 Mountain Valley Plant Management LLC  
 Weed Management Services



A REPORT PREPARED FOR THE  
 MONTANA INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

by Creative Resource Strategies, LLC

**Montana  
 Management Assessment  
 of Invasive Species**

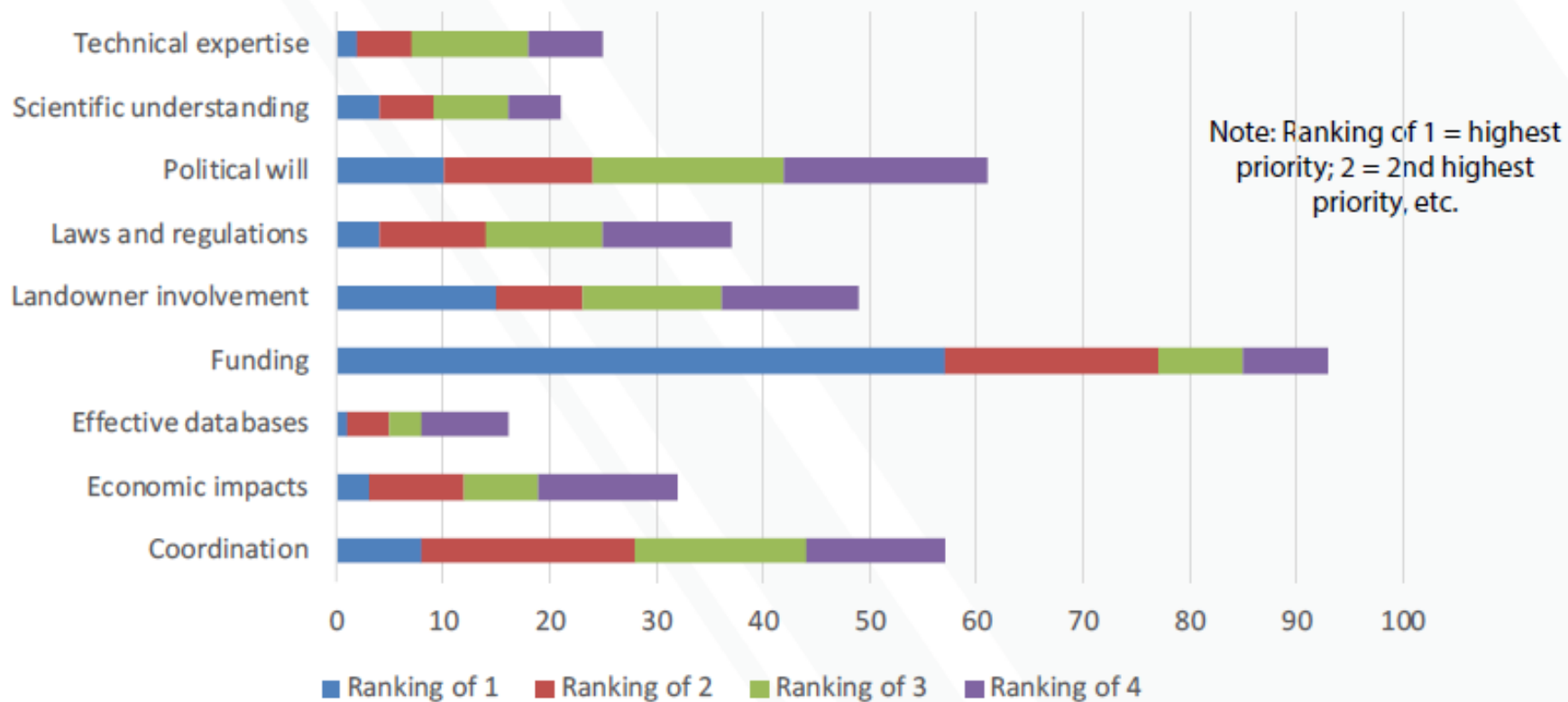
March 2016



# Program Challenges

Respondents were asked to rank, from 1-10, with one being the most important and 10 being the least important, the obstacles they face in being able to effectively implement their invasive species program.

The top four obstacles Montana entities face relative to invasive species program implementation





Montana

# Invasive Species Summit

Hosted by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council  
April 12-13, 2016

Gateway Center, 1710 National Avenue, Helena, Montana

**Goal:** Convene agency, tribal sovereign nation, private landowner, industry, academic and nonprofit leaders and policy makers, and others: to:

- Share the results of the Montana Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee statewide invasive species assessment;
- Develop a shared understanding of the core elements of a Montana statewide invasive species framework and identify key priority actions;
- Identify key gaps in existing Montana legislation; and
- Describe key next steps.

**Expected Outcome:** Identified key priorities and elements to develop a statewide invasive species framework.

## Agenda

**Tuesday April 12, 2016**

Registration

Welcome—Governor

International Invasive Species  
Challenges and Opportunities

National Perspective: Existing and  
Emerging Invasive Species Issues

A Historical Perspective on  
Montana's Invasive Species Efforts

2015 Statewide Invasive Species  
Assessment Results

Addressing Challenges: Prevention,  
EDRR, Control, Restoration,  
Funding, and other key gaps

MT Wild Reception

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016**

Addressing Montana's Invasive  
Species Legislative Gaps - A Panel  
Discussion with Legislators

Developing Actions to Address  
Montana's Invasive Species  
Challenges and Gaps

Key Next Steps to Advance  
Montana's Ability to Prevent New  
Introductions and the Spread of  
Existing Infestations of Invasive  
Species

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2016

Montana  
**INVASIVE  
SPECIES**  
Framework



- ✓ Coordination
- ✓ Prevention
- ✓ Early Detection
- ✓ Rapid Response
- ✓ Control





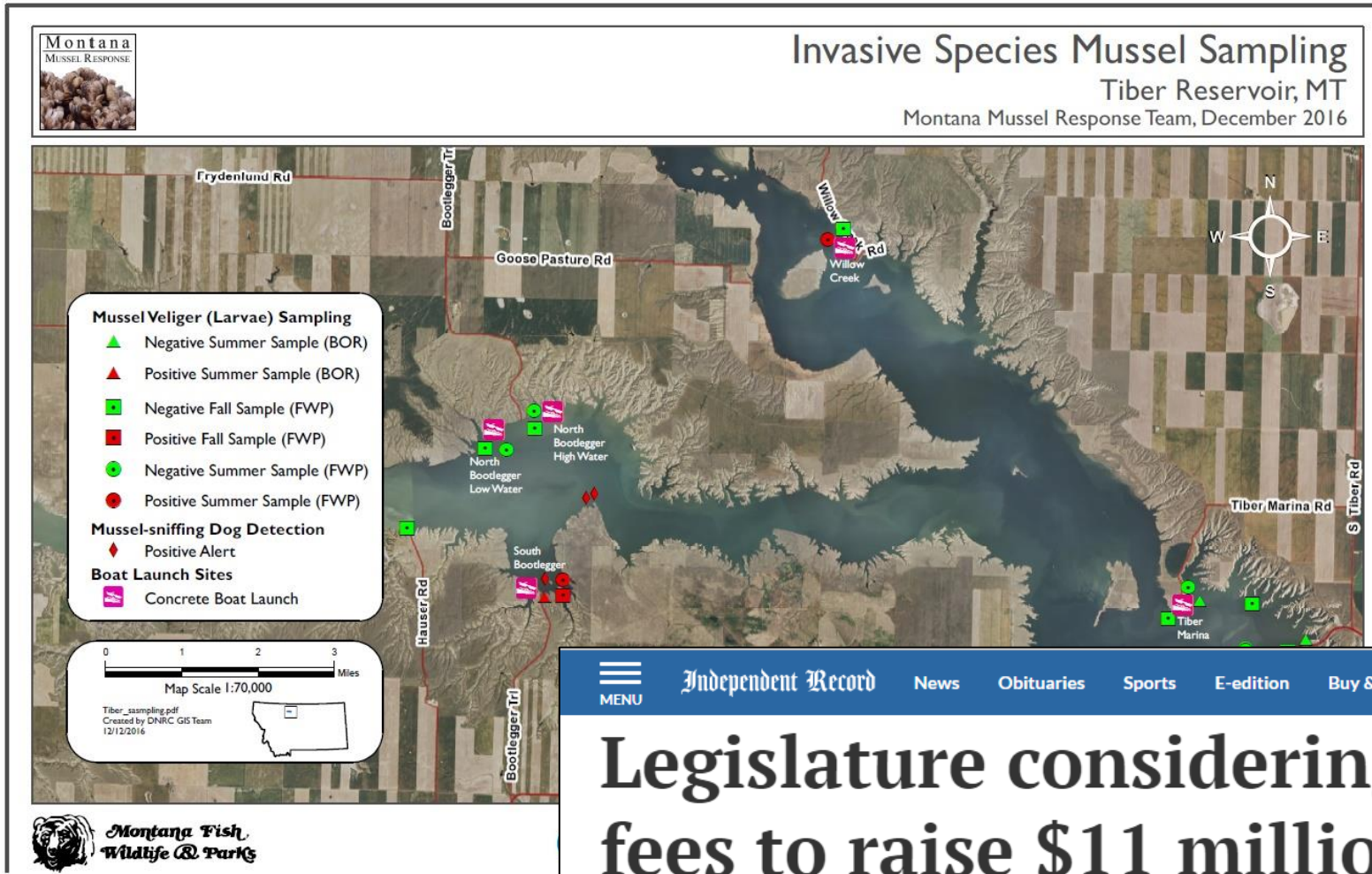
# COORDINATION

Coordinate invasive species efforts, focusing on common priorities, and sharing information regarding management outcomes to build a successful invasive species program.



## Additional duties of the Montana Invasive Species Council:

- Identify, coordinate, and maintain an independent science advisory panel that informs Montana's efforts based on the current status, trends, and emerging technology as they relate to invasive species management in Montana;



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# Legislature considering new taxes, fees to raise \$11 million to combat invasive mussels in Montana

TOM KUGLIN tom.kuglin@helenair.com Mar 26, 2017 1



## Outline for Science Advisory Panels:

1. Topic or need identified by stakeholders
2. Create science advisory panel subcommittee to:
  - a. Define the purpose of panel
  - b. Identify expected panel outcomes
  - c. Develop questions necessary to achieve panel outcomes
  - d. Identify list of appropriate panelists with expertise to answer list of questions
3. Host facilitated workshop based on responses to questions
4. Develop list of recommendations with stakeholders and panelists
5. Share recommendations with local, state and regional partners





# Scientific advisers will help Montana with new eDNA technology in hunt for invasive species



**Topic:** The use of eDNA for Dreissenid Mussel Early Detection

**Purpose:** To evaluate the use of environmental DNA (eDNA) for dreissenid mussel early detection and provide input and guidance to managers regarding its use.





**Caren Goldberg** - Assistant Professor WSU Pullman

**John Darling** - EPA National Exposure Research Laboratory

**Jim Snider** - California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

**Karen Vargas** - Nevada Department of Wildlife

**Jon Amberg** - USGS Research Fish Biologist

**Robert Bajno** - Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

## Panel Outcomes:

- Review the state of the science for the use of eDNA for dreissenid mussel early detection.
- Identify gaps and challenges associated with current eDNA methods (both field and laboratory) related to dreissenid mussel early detection.
- Identify information / efforts that could help address those gaps / challenges.
- Provide input to management agencies on how to approach the use of eDNA for dreissenid early detection.





MISC seeking input from panel on control agent for houndstongue

**Topic:** Scoping the potential for approval of *Mogulones crucifer* for classical biological control of houndstongue in the U.S.

**Purpose:** To evaluate the feasibility of gaining approval to release *Mogulones crucifer* for biological control of houndstongue in the U.S. by reviewing information available subsequent to its approval for release as a biological control agent in Canada; identify USDA APHIS and USFWS ecological criteria that will be used to determine the safety of releasing *M. crucifer* as a biological control agent in the U.S.; and provide input and guidance to managers if the organism is encountered in the field.



## Panel Outcomes:

- Review results of studies assessing the host specificity and possible nontarget impacts of *Mogulones crucifer* conducted after the original petition for release was evaluated.
- Determine if information that became available subsequent to the review of the original petition to release is substantive enough to trigger changes to *Mogulones crucifer*'s current pest status.
- Identify relevant knowledge gaps and probable challenges associated with the approval for *Mogulones crucifer*
- Provide next steps to be taken by researchers, regulators and managers regarding the status of *Mogulones crucifer*.
- Provide input and guidance to managers of private and governmental lands on interacting with *Mogulones crucifer*.

**Jennifer Andreas, M.S.** - Washington State Extension

**Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate, Ph.D.** – Agriculture/Agri-Food  
Canada

**Al Cofrancesco, Ph.D.** - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

**Cindy Hall, Ph.D.** –U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Robert Nowierski, Ph.D.**, USDA NIFA

**Robert S. Pfannenstiel, Ph.D.** - USDA APHIS PPQ,

**Mark Schwarzlander, Ph.D.** - University of Idaho,



# State looks to control invasive dry land snails



By TOM KUGLIN Independent Record Apr 4, 2014 0

**Topic:** Investigation of known information about the eastern heath snail (Mollusca: Geomitridae, *Xerolenta obvia* (Menke)) and identification of gaps in information.

**Purpose:** To examine the existing body of knowledge about the eastern heath snail (EHS), identify gaps related to its basic biology, monitoring techniques, control options, and best practices for managing pathways, and develop a containment and management strategy for populations in Belt, Montana and the outlying areas.



# Save the Date! December 7, 2020 – December 12, 2020

**Helena Brodie** - South Australian Research and Development Institute

**Jeni Cena** - Washington Department of Agriculture

**Jeffrey Littlefield, Ph.D.** - Montana State University

**Nathan Luke** - Australia Department of Agriculture

**Rory McDonnell, Ph.D.** - Oregon State University

**David G. Robinson, Ph.D.** - USDA APHIS National Malacology Laboratory

**Amy Roda, Ph. D.** - USDA APHIS-PPQ Center for Plant Health Science and Technology

**Brian Sullivan** - USDA APHIS PPQ

## Panel Outcomes:

- Identify potential risks associated with the EHS and potential risk modeling that should be developed.
- Review the state of science about the basic biology of the EHS and identify gaps in knowledge.
- Identify gaps and challenges associated with containing and managing the EHS.
- Provide input and guidance regarding funding sources for research and regulatory needs
- Develop management to address survey and monitoring, control options, private landowner education and outreach, and best practices for managing movement through forage, gravel, and other material pathways.
- Provide next steps to be taken by researchers, regulators and managers regarding the containment and management of the EHS.



## Lessons learned:

- Seat at the table for everyone on subcommittee
- Need the right people on the panel to answer questions
- Knowledgeable facilitator
- Focus workshop on panelist discussion not audience questions
- Take the time to develop recommendations with your panel
- Pick an isolated location!



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# Questions

