

# Badlands RC&D

706 US Hwy 18  
Martin, SD 57551

Phone: 605-685-1239 Ext 4



---

---

## Grassland and Invasive Species Control

Total Project Value: \$440,000.00  
Federal RC&D Funds: \$220,000.00



The spread of noxious weed infestation in grazing lands of western South Dakota creates a very serious detriment to sustainable livestock grazing enterprises in the area. A Badlands RC&D sponsored/coordinated project initiated in 2006 addressing these natural resource concerns in the White River watershed area of southwest SD was planned, facilitated, and implemented for the control of these invasive weed species. This 3 year project is scheduled to be completed July 2009. The primary targeted invasive weeds were Salt cedar and leafy spurge. Secondary invasive weeds also targeted for control were Canadian thistle, musk thistle, and spotted Knapweed. The success of this invasive weed control project and the resulting opportunity for education/teaching/outreach networking particularly with the Native American ranchers of our area, has proven to be a great success. The result of this Badlands RC&D sponsored project have proven to be of great importance and benefit to the area inhabitants and the protection of their natural resources, in which they derive their livelihoods. Consequently, this successful project has served as a positively enhanced economic stimulus in the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation area. With the goal of expansion of this project to provide continuing education to the area; ranchers will be assessed continued control and maintenance of these invasive species in the grazing rangelands, but the sociological/economical impact that the project will have initiated has served as a stimulus/spark to revitalize this area of South Dakota.

