

***Regional Invasive Species Coordination***

**Location:** Fremont, Hot Springs, Washakie, Big Horn and Park Counties

**Project Sponsor:** Big Horn Basin Exotic Plant Steering Committee

**Project Goals:**

1. Increase success of invasive species control.
2. Improve coordination and communications between Districts.
3. Project partners learn about and apply for new funding sources.



**Project Information:** Until this year, the Big Horn Basin Exotic Plant Steering Committee was composed primarily of Weed & Pest District Supervisors. Today, the Committee is also composed of representatives of nine of the ten Conservation Districts that are within the Big Horn Basin RC&D Council area. This relationship has been formalized in development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The purpose of the MOU is to provide a forum for increased communication and cooperation in determining appropriate invasive species control and funding mechanisms in the five county area of the Big Horn Basin Council area.

The MOU also provides a framework of partnership effort between the Big Horn Basin RC&D Council, Conservation Districts, Weed & Pest Control Districts and potentially other partners on how to achieve greater success on priority invasive species control efforts on the ground. What the MOU does not do is direct the expenditure of any resource by any organization that is a MOU participant, and also does not compromise any management authority by MOU participants.

MOU implementation includes Big Horn Exotic Plant Steering Committee members (MOU participants), meeting annually to discuss projects that require funding, share new funding sources and learn about successful approaches to invasive species management. Ultimately, improved coordination between all the partners, along with additional resources, will result in an improved natural resources condition on the northwest Wyoming landscape.

***Project partners to date:***

- Cody Conservation District
- Powell-Clarks Fork Conservation District
- South Big Horn Conservation District
- Shoshone Conservation District
- Hot Springs Conservation District
- Lower Wind River Conservation District
- Popo Agie Conservation District
- Dubois—Crowheart Conservation District
- Meeteetse Conservation District
- Fremont County Weed & Pest District
- Hot Springs County Weed & Pest District
- Big Horn County Weed & Pest District
- Park County Weed & Pest District
- Big Horn Basin RC&D Council

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