

The weed mapping system project was made possible by support from the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund. It is the result of a cooperative effort between state and federal agencies. Representatives from federal, state and county agencies, as well as industry and private individuals, developed guidelines and standards for a statewide noxious weed survey and mapping system.

The specific objectives of the Montana Noxious Weed Survey and Mapping System are: 1.) to determine and record locations of noxious weeds in Montana. 2.) to accurately calculate the total number of acres infested with each weed on the state noxious weed list. 3.) to determine how fast noxious weeds are spreading by comparing weed inventories from year to year.

The initial project work was completed through the Montana State University Extension Service. Products completed to date include: 1.) MontGuide, 2.) extension bulletin, 3.) standard GPS data dictionary, 4.) standard mapping procedures, 5.) web site with instructional material available for download, 6.) training workshops, 6.) statewide weed data base, and 7.) the creation of the advisory team.

An advisory team was established in August of 1999, to execute the future implementation and support of the system. The BLM has now taken on the responsibility to house, provide technical resources, and maintain the Montana Noxious Weed Survey and Mapping System.

The Montana Noxious Weed Survey and Mapping System includes standard procedures for the collection and mapping of inventoried weeds, a standard data base which tracks both inventory and treatment (INFORMIX), user interface for data accessing, graphic display, and map production (ArcView), and internet access (ArcView IMS).