



Northwest
INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL

2010 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

- The Northwest Invasive Plant Council's (NWIPC) annual work plan with budget is drafted by the directors, reviewed and approved by the membership at their Annual General Meeting.
- IAPP = Invasive Alien Plant Program – this is the data management and inventory system used for invasive plant management in BC.

BACKGROUND:

The Northwest Invasive Plant Council, NWIPC, is a non-profit organisation with a broad based membership tasked with delivering efficient and effective invasive plant management in central and northwest BC. NWIPC's goal is:

To prevent further damage to the ecosystems of northwest and central BC from invasive alien plants and begin to rehabilitate ecosystems that have been degraded.

To accomplish this goal NWIPC acts as the organisation to integrate, support, coordinate and deliver invasive plant management and programs in its area. This pooled resource model was developed and implemented under a pilot project that ran from 2005 to 2007. Specifically NWIPC operates to meet this goal by:

- Encouraging the public to report invasive plant sightings.
- Informing the public about invasive plant issues and programs.
- Maintaining and contributing to a shared invasive plant inventory.
- Assessing problems and threats that various invasive plants present, then categorizing invasive plants and prioritizing sites for control.
- Preventing the establishment of invasive plants not currently in the region.
- Prevent or minimize the spread of the invasive plants present in the region.

- Conduct invasive plant programs in the northwest and central BC using Integrated Pest Management principles as described in the 'Invasive Plant Strategy for British Columbia, 2003: <http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca/about-us/the-strategy>' .
- Encourage all landowners, agencies and organisations to develop and implement invasive plant management programs.
- Manage and coordinate the activities and responsibilities of the various agencies and private landowners to ensure NWIPC goals are met.

NWIPC solicits and receives funds from partners. These funds are used, according to membership developed and shared plans, to increase awareness of invasive plants; provide a single point reporting system for invasive plant sites and issues; provide inventory and treatment services through seven Invasive Plant Management Areas (IPMA); coordinate activities by various partners and volunteers within the IPMAs and across NWIPC and assess and adjust invasive plant management to ensure efficient effective programs with public engagement and satisfaction.

NWIPC uses the following planning processes:

- NWIPC Strategic Plan and Plant Profiles – this plan is reviewed, updated and approved annually at the spring NWIPC Annual General Meeting. It is a strategic document that defines operating principles, the NWIPC goal, prioritisation procedures and provides a profile (date of introduction, distribution and threat) of the various invasive plants in, or threatening, central and north west BC.
- IPMA Work Plans – NWIPC is divided into seven IPMAs. Each IPMA has a contractor that provides inventory and treatment services to partners. With assistance from NWIPC partners and members, each contractor develops a plan that details how work will be done to accomplish the goals for the IPMA, e.g., containment of a species. The IPMA plans also indicate how the NWIPC strategies will be applied and awareness, reporting and other work will be integrated with inventory and treatments.
- NWIPC Business Plan – this plan contains the annual budget and details of how the plan will address the NWIPC goals; statement of medium and long term goals.

2010 Business Plan

The 2010 NWIPC Business Plan is based on the approved budget on pages 5-6. The file no. on the budget corresponds with the numbering in the description of activities below.

2.1 Revenue and Partnerships

To achieve goals, NWIPC will continue to operate in 2010 using the pooled resource model. Specifically, NWIPC will:

- Maintain the current 17 partners and increase number of contributing partners by 20% through contacts and presentations by program manager and directors; approved strategic plan in professional format for general consumption (**3.6**).
- Presentations to current partners on request (maximum 3) and to potential partners as scheduled (maximum 4) by directors and contract staff.

2.2 Operational Invasive Plant Management in IPMAs

The on-the-ground inventory and treatment by NWIPC will be conducted by an invasive plant management contractor in each of the seven IPMAs. Specifically NWIPC will:

- Improve IPMA contractor binders including: definition of jurisdictions, adding local contacts, treatment information as it comes available, detailed data entry instructions, etc.; this will be done through the program manager's contract with input from IPMA contractors.
- Have a contractor in each IPMA ready to go by May 15, 2010 with signed contract; work instructions from partners, initial contacts as per final approved IPMA plans.
- Mandatory IPMA contractor training and pre-works held on 2 days; in Terrace for Haida Gwaii, Stikine-Skeena and Houston IPMAs; in Prince George for Burns Lake, Vanderhoof, Prince George and Robson Valley.
- Work with five established First Nation Partnerships (Gitksan, Nisga'a, Tahltan, Gitga'at (2.2.6) and Saik'uz (2.2.7)) to have crews ready for inventory and treatment by early-June; initiate developing crews with new partnerships (Haida Nation (2.2.2), McLeod Lake Indian Band (2.2.4), Haisla (2.2.6), and Nakzdli (2.2.7).
- Work with the Invasive Plant Council of BC to deploy Hot Spot and SWAT crews in Terrace and Prince George, respectively (2.2.4 and 2.2.6).
- Prevent the establishment of invasive alien plant species that are not currently in BC or have recently arrived and are not established in BC. NWIPC and the IPMAs will support and participate in the Provincial Early Detection Rapid Response program, **EDRR**. (A schematic of the EDRR Plan is housed as Appendix 4 in the NWIPC Strategic Plan.)
- Prevent the spread outside of **CONTAINMENT** polygons set by NWIPC, or other regional committees, that have been approved or will be submitted for approval to the Inter Ministerial Invasive Alien Species Working Group. Approved containment polygons are housed in IAPP. This includes containment of marsh thistle, field scabious, common tansy, knapweed species, leafy spurge, sulphur cinquefoil, hound's tongue, purple loosestrife and tansy ragwort.
- Investigate through the NWIPC Containment Committee and IPMA Contractors the feasibility of establishing containment polygons for some of the following species: scotch broom, knotweed species, Himalayan balsam, Himalayan blackberry, hoary alyssum, yellow flag iris and blueweed.
- **REHABILITATE** areas degraded by invasive alien plants that are extensively established through the release and monitoring of biological control agents if available. For species that successful biocontrol is not available for such as hawkweeds, oxeye daisy and Canada thistle, but there are critical habitats, high value crops, or complaints to partners, sites must be addressed by other treatment methods.
- Continue to correct data and improve accuracy of data input into IAPP through: IAPP training sessions with contractors; IAPP module 1 and 2 training delivered in several locations; program manager will randomly check 10 sites per contractor tracking sheet and have contractors make corrections.

3.0 NWIPC Projects and Programs

NWIPC will increase on the ground treatment and awareness of invasive plants issues, by supporting:

- **3.2 - 5 Community Weed Pulls**

- **2.2.3** - Buck Flats Field Day; included this year under the Houston IPMA operations; an annual event organized by the local 4H where a lot of field scabious is eliminated from the riparian sections outside of the containment area.
- **2.2.8** - NWIPC 50:50 program; increase the use of the program in the Burns Lake, Prince George, and Robson Valley IPMAs by 50%.
- **2.2.7** - Fort Fraser 50:50 program; included in the Vanderhoof IPMA operations; this will be the fourth year that NWIPC has supported the livestock association in that area to develop and implement their own program to support farmers in conducting invasive plant management on their own lands.
- **2.2.4** – District C Farmers Institute 50:50 program included in the Prince George IPMA operations.
- **2.2.6** – IPCBC Terrace Hot Spot Crew as part of on the ground efforts in the Stikine-Skeena IPMA operations.
- **3.5** – Hudson Bay Slough and Carrie Jane Grey Park, Prince George, rehabilitation project to eliminate common tansy.
- \$10,000 allocated for other funded projects that have a treatment or inventory component as budget allows and submissions are received.

NWIPC will continue to increase the public's knowledge of invasive plant issues and ability to identify species by:

- **3.1** - Promote awareness, via the Education and Awareness Committee, through implementation of their plan to:
 - have NWIPC information display and materials at Prince George Home Show, Terrace Tradeshow, Houston Tradeshow, Seedy Saturday in Prince George and Terrace
- **3.3** – Developing and maintaining a collection of potted invasive plants for use at events with the NWIPC information display.
- Through IPCBC's Outreach Workers (2)
- **3.4** – Deliver 3 “Weed and the Works” events, one each in Burns Lake, Vanderhoof and Prince George, that cover plant identification, herbicides, sprayer calibration, etc.
- **4.11** - maintain and update the NWIPC web site at: www.nwipc.org
- Take advantage of IPC funded programs for materials; work with IPC to develop new awareness and educational materials
- Operate toll-free weed reporting hotline (1-866-44WEEDS) by taking calls daily through answering machine and reporting sightings to contractors twice-weekly (Tuesdays and Thursdays), etc.
- Promote use of the new “Report-A-Weed” function in IAPP through training sessions
- Increase the number of IP reports in our area through training organized by NWIPC in cooperation with partners and agencies requesting training and delivered by volunteers
- Develop two new trainers in our area to deliver Spotters & Specialists program through IPCBC
- NWIPC will be present at: IPCBC Forum in January, attend NEIPC and CCCIPC annual general meetings, two weed coordinators meetings/field tour, and give presentations as requested with financial support for travel, etc.

NWIPC will support efforts to develop new treatment and inventory methods by:

- Receiving applications and funding projects that are felt well founded to develop new techniques.

File No.	NWIPC - 2010 BUDGET		\$277	-\$19,723
	Activity	Preliminary Budget	Budget (uses \$20,000 from reserve funds)	
2.1	REVENUE			
	Ministry of Agriculture and Lands	\$70,000	\$70,000	
	Ministry of Forests and Range	\$100,000	\$100,000	
	Ministry of Transportation	\$395,000	\$395,000	
	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	\$30,000	\$30,000	
	British Columbia Transmission Corporation	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	Canadian National Railway	\$0	\$0	
	Ministry of Environment	\$3,000	\$3,000	
	Village of Telkwa	\$1,000	\$1,000	
	Town of Smithers	\$4,000	\$4,000	
	City of Prince George	\$7,000	\$7,000	
	District of Houston	\$2,000	\$2,000	
	Village of Valemount	\$2,000	\$2,000	
	Village of Burns Lake	\$1,000	\$1,000	
	Thomson Creek Mining Ltd. (Endako Mine)	\$1,200	\$1,200	
	Carrier Lumber Ltd.	\$500	\$500	
	Kinder Morgan Canada Inc.	\$500	\$500	
	Regional District of FFGRD	\$7,647	\$7,647	
	Invasive Plant Council stipends	\$20,000	\$20,000	
	Reserve Funds			
	Other Revenue (PRRD, CSRD, Spectra)	\$4,000	\$4,000	
		\$658,847	\$678,847	
	DISBURSEMENTS	74%	73%	
2.2	OPERATIONAL INVENTORY & TREATMENT			
2.2.1	Burns Lake IPMA	\$47,000	\$47,000	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$47,000	\$47,000	
2.2.2	Haida Gwaii IPMA	\$51,000	\$52,000	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$46,000	\$47,000	
	<i>Haida Partnership</i>	\$5,000	\$5,000	
2.2.3	Houston IPMA - TOTAL	\$48,650	\$48,650	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$47,000	\$47,000	
	<i>Wet'su'weten Partnership</i>	\$0	\$0	
	Buck Flats	\$1,650	\$1,650	
2.2.4	Prince George IPMA	\$78,500	\$79,500	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$65,000	\$65,000	
	<i>Tsay Keh Dene</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	<i>McLeod Lake Band Partnership</i>	\$3,000	\$3,000	
	Prince George Hot Spots	\$0	\$0	
	District C Farmers Institute 50:50	\$500	\$1,500	
2.2.5	Robson Valley IPMA	\$79,000	\$79,000	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$65,000	\$65,000	
	<i>Sally Wall IP Control Crew</i>	\$14,000	\$14,000	
2.2.6	Stikine-Skeena IPMA	\$102,000	\$102,000	
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$45,000	\$45,000	
	<i>Gitxsan Partnership</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	<i>Nisga Partnership</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	<i>Tahltan Partnership</i>	\$5,000	\$5,000	

	<i>Gitga'at Hartley Bay</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000
	<i>Haisla</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Terrace Hot Spots	\$12,000	\$12,000
2.2.7	Vanderhoof - IPMA	\$67,750	\$70,250
	<i>IPMA Management Contract</i>	\$55,000	\$55,000
	<i>Saik'uz First Nation</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000
	<i>Tl'atzt'en Partnership</i>	\$0	\$0
	<i>Nadleh Partnership</i>	\$0	\$0
	<i>Nakzdli Partnership</i>	\$0	\$0
	Fort Fraser 50:50	\$2,750	\$5,250
2.2.8	NWIPC 50:50 program	\$10,000	\$10,000
2.2.9	Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL OPERATIONAL INVENTORY AND TREATMENT	\$486,650	\$493,650
	IPMA CONTRACTS SUBTOTAL	\$384,000	\$385,000
	FIRST NATION PARTNERSHIP SUBTOTAL	\$73,000	\$53,000
	TREATMENT PROGRAMS SUBTOTAL	\$26,900	
3.0	PROJECTS & NWIPC PROGRAMS	2%	4%
3.1	Education, Promotion and Awareness	\$9,000	\$9,000
3.2	Community Weed Pulls (target of 5 events)	\$1,600	\$1,600
	Public Photo Contest	\$0	\$0
3.3	Potted Weed Display	\$500	\$500
	Targeted grazing research	\$0	\$0
3.4	Weeds and the Works	\$2,020	\$2,020
3.5	Hudson Bay Slough Rehab Project	\$0	\$3,000
3.6	Strategic Plan Executive Summary	\$2,500	\$2,500
	other - funded projects or?	\$0	\$10,000
	PROJECTS SUB TOTAL	\$15,620	\$28,620
4.0	ADMIN & OVERHEAD EXPENSES	4%	4%
4.1	Board Meeting Expenses	\$9,000	\$9,000
4.2	Spring Annual General and Fall Meeting	\$2,000	\$2,000
4.3	Training expenses	\$500	\$500
4.4	Travel, meals & accommodation	\$2,000	\$2,000
4.5	Accounting & Legal	\$6,000	\$6,000
4.6	Insurance	\$3,500	\$3,500
4.7	office supplies, shipping, colour printing, etc.	\$2,300	\$2,300
4.8	Interest & Bank Charges	\$350	\$350
4.9	Misc. (service charges, etc.)	\$500	\$500
4.10	Telephone Hotline 1-866-44WEEDS	\$550	\$550
4.11	Web site (annual fees)	\$400	\$400
	ADMIN & OVERHEAD TOTAL	\$27,100	\$27,100
5.0	MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS & COSTS	20%	19%
5.1	Program Management Contract	\$85,000	\$85,000
5.2	Program Assistants Contracts	\$12,000	\$12,000
5.3	Data Management	\$11,000	\$11,000
5.4	Bookkeeping	\$3,200	\$3,200
5.5	First Nations Assistant	\$18,000	\$18,000
	CONTRACT STAFF SUBTOTAL	\$129,200	\$129,200
	NWIPC PROGRAM TOTAL	\$171,920	\$184,920
	DISBURSEMENTS TOTAL	\$658,570	\$678,570
	AVAILABLE	\$658,847	\$678,847
	DIFF	\$277	\$277

OUT PUT MEASURES & REPORTING:

- *There are errors in IAPP resulting from transfer of historic data and issues around training and data input accuracy. Work on cleaning and improving data input accuracy continues. The numbers of sites provided in these output measures are with current data and accuracy.*

OUTPUT MEASURES FOR EDRR:

- All EDRR incidents will follow the Provincial EDRR plan. NWIPC will provide assistance and support as required. Until the Provincial system is fully functional NWIPC may need to take the lead.
- EDRR activities will be reported in the NWIPC annual report including the number of incidence, a tracking of how the incident was managed and time lines.

OUTPUT MEASURES FOR CONTAINMENT:

The following table lists some of the species for containment that will be measured for 2010. For all these species the goal is to manage* all sites outside of the contained area and if possible prevent reproduction and spread out of contained areas. Requirements to do this are species – location specific. *(Management does not necessarily mean treatment but may include things like increased awareness and progress towards permission to treat).

- A preferred practice for most species if herbicides and manual treatment are used is a three or more pass system:
 - A first monitoring - treatment pass to occur on known sites when the plants are at the rosette stage, May – June.
 - A second monitoring – treatment pass when plants have bolted and a few individuals are about to come into bloom, June – July.
 - A third monitoring – treatment pass to prevent any missed plants from producing viable seed, (may involve bagging seed heads), August – September.
- If resources are limited the minimal practice is a two pass system:
 - A first monitoring – treatment pass delayed until plants have started to bolt and a few individuals are about to come into bloom, June – July.
 - A second monitoring – treatment pass to prevent any missed plants from producing viable seed, (may involve bagging seed heads), August – September.

CONTAINMENT & PREVENTION – 2010

SPECIES	CONTAINMENT POLYGON DESCRIPTION	SITES OUTSIDE CONT. LINES	OUTPUT MEASURES	RESPONSE TIME TO NEW REPORTS, (shortest & longest)
brown, meadow & black knapweed	There are no official containment lines but the NWIPC area is outside infested areas.		Sampling indicates 100% sites outside containment lines visited and no or very limited production of seed.	

SPECIES	CONTAINMENT POLYGON DESCRIPTION	SITES OUTSIDE CONT. LINES	OUTPUT MEASURES	RESPONSE TIME TO NEW REPORTS, (shortest & longest)
common tansy	A containment polygon runs from the Pacific ocean, Observatory inlet to approximately Laxgalts'ap and Greenville on the Nass River then south east to approximately Fiddler and Oliver Creek on the Skeena River – Highway 16 then south and west to Kildala Arm on Douglas Channel.		Containment line still under test for 2010. Not all sites will be visited but all sites along major corridors visited with most treated. Large sites and sites where permission is still forthcoming will be inventoried or monitored.	
field scabious	There were 3 containment lines for field scabious, at Stony Creek, Fort Fraser and Buck Flats near Houston. The Fort Fraser containment line was removed after the 2009 season as it is thought that if resources continue to be available, over the long term, field scabious can be eliminated from the Fort Fraser area.		Sampling indicates 100% sites outside containment lines visited and no or very limited production of seed.	
hoary alyssum & hounds tongue	Containment lines are being developed in the Southern portions of the province. There are a few sites near Valemount.		inventory and treat all sites	
knotweed	There are no containment lines but the risk this plant presents to riparian habitats and water ways along with its low presence in the area predicate that action should be taken. Very little inventory work has been done in the Prince Rupert area but it is suspected that there are numerous infestations in the area.		Develop a strategy for knotweed management. Continue to support the partnership with the Gitga'at to manage the knotweed and yellow flag iris at Hartley Bay	
leafy & cypress spurge	There are no official containment lines but the NWIPC area is outside infested areas.		monitor and treat all sites	
marsh thistle	There is a containment polygon for marsh thistle in the western Robson Valley. Another containment polygon in the Prince Rupert area was removed in 2008. Given adequate resources and over the long term it is felt that marsh thistle can be eradicated from the Prince Rupert area.	181	Sampling indicates 100% sites outside containment lines visited and no or very limited production of seed.	
mountain bluet	There are no official containment lines but the NWIPC area is outside infested areas. There is a significant and long known site at Moe road near Decker Lake and work to manage this site will continue in 2010. Mountain Bluet has not been inventoried in the past so there are likely more sites - see NWIPC Strategic Plan and Profile.		Sampling indicates that all sites were visited and some management occurred. For all but the Moe Road site, reproduction on the sites should not occur.	

SPECIES	CONTAINMENT POLYGON DESCRIPTION	SITES OUTSIDE CONT. LINES	OUTPUT MEASURES	RESPONSE TIME TO NEW REPORTS, (shortest & longest)
scotch thistle, rush skeleton weed, etc.	Containment lines are being developed in the Southern portions of the province for these species. A sample of scotch thistle sites reported in NWIPC were checked and found to be bull thistle.		Check and confirm any reported sites. Treat all sites.	
spotted knapweed	There is an unofficial containment line south of Clinton but the eastern location of the line has not been determined. It will be in the Valemount area and depending on resources will likely be the boundary between the Regional District of Fraser Fort George RD and the Thompson Nicola Regional District.	541	Working with SIWMC decide on a containment line in the Valemount area. Sampling indicates that, with the exception of sites from Valemount south, 100% sites outside containment lines visited and no or very limited production of seed. For the Valemount area, any new sites should be inventoried and existing sites should either be treated, monitored or noted as no action for 2010 with an explanation.	
sulphur cinquefoil	Containment lines are being developed in the Southern portions of the province. The currently recorded sites in NWIPC area need to be confirmed. There are sites south of Valemount at Blue River		Confirm reported sites. Inventory and treat all sites	
tansy ragwort	Only one site is reported. That site is on the Haida Gwaii. It is remote with difficult access.		Work will continue on the site with 1 visit to monitor and treat the site.	

Total

REPORTING FOR REHABILITATION:

Rehabilitation work is, work done on established species like oxeye daisy, hawkweeds and Canada thistle. For these species the annual report will include tables indicating the number of sites, method and areas treated by species and jurisdiction. Additional information such as progress in regards to specific restoration such as restoration of hawkweed infested community pastures may also be included.

OUTPUT MEASURES AND REPORTING FOR PROGRAM PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION.

- Increase NWIPC membership and partners contributing to pooled funds.

Membership 2007	Membership 2008	Membership April 2009
315	517	535
# of partners contributing to pooled funds and amount of pooled fund for 2007.	# of partners contributing to pooled funds and amount of pooled fund for 2008.	# of partners indicating contributions and amount of fund as of April 2009
15 - \$731,782	14 - \$822,288	15 - \$742,800

- Update and report on the Communications and Promotions Plan developed in 2005-06 identifying needs and actions planned.
 - Acquire, develop and adapt extension and awareness materials. List materials available and new materials developed including web pages, etc.
 - Report on the number and locations of awareness extension events supported.
- All of the recommendations from the 2007 independent review of the NWIPC Program have been addressed and attention will continue on:
 - Improve financial tracking with clearly defined costs and benefits of all aspects of the NWIPC program and assessments of what costs are for base and augmented programs. This information will be included in the 2010 annual report.
 - Continuation and augmentation of IPMA contractor training. NWIPC will plan on conducting training for contractors and others every spring. NWIPC will also offer support and solicit ideas on provincial level training.
 - Do additional inventory and ensure that the needs of partners, e.g., forest industry, are met. (*Identification of required inventories by species can occur in the NWIPC Plan & Profile. What is needed is an identification of areas and consideration of partners needs*).
 - Develop and implement a planned, systematic monitoring program with indications of roles and responsibilities, standards, etc.
- Produce an annual report that reviews the program with recommendations for further improvement. Drafts of this report will be available at the fall meeting and the final report will be prepared and circulated by January 31, 2010.