



*Bringing greater statewide awareness, coordination, cooperation, and action to halt the introduction and spread of invasive plants in Alaska.*

Alaska Committee for Noxious &amp; Invasive Plants Management

## Upcoming Events

### [Anchorage Weed Smackdown](#)

**August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 10am - 1pm**

Valley of the Moon Park, Anchorage, AK

### [Preventing, Detecting, and Controlling Invasive Plants Conference](#)

**September 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

University of Washington Botanic Gardens.  
Seattle, Washington

### [Weeds Across Borders Conference](#)

**October 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

Ottawa, Canada

### [Alaska Invasive Species Conference](#)

**October 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

Anchorage, AK

## Media Spotlight

[Elodea video on KTVA](#)

[Invasive Species and Salmon: Interactions in the Pacific Northwest](#)

[How to Control Invasives? Put a Fork in Them!](#)

[Opinion: It's Time to Stop Thinking That All Non-Native Species Are Evil](#)

[Call for Presentations & Posters: Alaska Invasive Species Conference](#)

[Making a Difference One Weed at a Time](#)

[USDA Makes \\$5m in Farm Bill Support for National Clean Plant Network Available](#)

[Effects of invasive European bird cherry \(\*Prunus padus\*\) on leaf litter processing by aquatic invertebrate shredder communities in urban Alaskan Streams.](#)

Kenai Peninsula Elodea Eradication Project:  
• [Environmental Assessment \(2013\)](#)  
• [Supplemental EA \(2014\)](#)

[New DNA tool helps scientists identify invasive species of aquatic plants](#)

[USDA Hungry Pests](#)

## Meeting Minutes

[July 2014](#)

[June 2014](#)

[May 2014](#)

[April 2014](#)

[March 2014](#)

## Plant Materials Center Hosts Elodea Working Group

The Division of Agriculture and the Palmer SWCD hosted a Mat-Su Elodea Working Group meeting (the first of its kind) Thursday at the Plant Materials Center in Palmer.

The freshwater aquatic invasive plant Elodea has been found in the Anchorage, Kenai, Cordova, and Fairbanks area and management efforts are underway throughout Alaska. Fortunately in the Mat-Su, over 50 water bodies have been surveyed and NO Elodea has been found. There are several agencies and organizations that are working to survey or provide outreach for Elodea in the Mat-Su and we thought it would be good to get together and discuss how best to coordinate our efforts moving forward.

The agenda included a review of survey efforts to date, upcoming projects, funding, and a discussion about who else we should involve and what our next steps should be.

For more information contact Brianne Blackburn at 907-745-8785 or via email at [Brianne.Blackburn@alaska.gov](mailto:Brianne.Blackburn@alaska.gov).

## Call for Speakers for Alaska Invasive Species Conference

**"Nightmare Under the Surface" October 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Anchorage, Alaska – Marriott Hotel**

The Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management (CNIPM) and the Alaska Invasive Species Working Group (AISWG) are proud to announce the upcoming Alaska Invasive Species Conference in Anchorage. This is a call for speakers at the 2014 conference. The theme, "Nightmare under the Surface," represents the lurking threats from invasive species beneath soil and water across Alaska. If you are interested in presenting at the conference, please submit an abstract by August 29th. For more information and submission instructions visit our web page [here](#).



# SAVE THE DATE!



## WEEDS ACROSS BORDERS OTTAWA, CANADA OCT. 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Weeds Across Border (WAB) is a biennial conference covering the interests of professionals and organizations involved in North American weed management and regulation.

Bringing together international speakers, this conference will include leading edge information on policy and cross border management for invasive species, along with effective approaches for involvement of indigenous organizations and citizen science. In addition to the two-day event, opportunities for a field trip and special workshops will be held pre- and post-forum.

Hosted by the Canadian Council on Invasive Species, with the support and guidance of many international advisors, we hope that you will plan to enjoy the beautiful fall colour in Canada's capital city.

<https://www.abinvasives.ca/events/19/weeds-across-borders-2014/>





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## Elodea Survey Data Points Maps Published on Plant Materials Center Website

Heather Stewart at the Plant Materials Center in Palmer recently compiled over 1,400 Elodea survey data points, which was no small accomplishment. Maps were then developed to represent all presence and absence Elodea data. Due to the size of the data set, the final maps were broken out by region. All regions with any survey work reported are represented. This is a work in progress and we welcome your initial thoughts and suggestions. We plan to continue to develop these maps and content on the website to assist partners statewide in planning efforts. You can find these maps on our website at: (<http://plants.alaska.gov/invasives/elodea.htm>) (click on the distribution tab).

This is just the first step for getting this information out. Heather is working to make the same data available through a DML&W interactive portal which will allow the dataset to be downloaded. The attributes in the downloadable dataset will include the water body name, elodea presence or absence, data source, date of last survey, and general notes and location information. The Plant Materials center will update CNIPM when the DML&W interactive portal is completed.

## Volunteers Needed for Autumn Leaf Research Team

Volunteers are needed to help a University of Alaska Fairbanks research team track changes in autumn leaf color of native and invasive plants across Alaska. Participate in one of the below training opportunities to join the Project BrownDown team. During the training you will learn about the research, how to identify local native and invasive plants, and how to collect data on their changing fall leaves. All adults and youth welcome to participate. This is a great fall science project for classrooms, youth groups, or home school families.

**Fairbanks in-person training: Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM , UAF Campus Ski Hut**  
**Training webinar: Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM**

Register at <https://sites.google.com/a/alaska.edu/projectbrowndown/join-the-team>.  
 Contact Katie Villano Spellman at [projectbrowndown@gmail.com](mailto:projectbrowndown@gmail.com) for more information.

## Weed SmackDowns Around the State are a "SMACKING" Success!



**Glenallen.** On Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, more than 40 community members pulled and bagged 2,032 pounds of **White Sweetclover** from 35,458 square feet (0.82 acres) of heavily infested areas near the intersection of the Richardson and Glenn Highways. This year saw an increase in participation in the Copper Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) SmackDown over last year. The SmackDown achieved its goal of removing the plants before they go to seed and spread further. Thanks to who helped! To learn more about the Copper Basin CWMA and how you can become involved visit: <http://copperriver.org/get-involved>.

**Palmer.** Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Weed Smackdown this year in downtown Palmer. Over 60 people turned out to help pull over 1,500 pounds of invasive plants! This was a great opportunity to help educate the community on invasive plant problems. For more information visit:

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/programs/weed-smackdown/>



**Fairbanks.** At the 5th Annual Weed Smackdown in Fairbanks, 44 community members pulled and bagged 1,470 pounds of invasive weeds on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at the dog park on South Davis Road. Volunteers targeted infestations of White sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*), perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), bird vetch (*Vicia cracca*), and yellow hawkbeard (*Crepis tectorum*).

For more information visit: <http://www.fairbanksweeds.org/>



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