

# Cariboo Regional District Board Presentation

October 18, 2024

GAIL WALLIN

INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL OF BC



The Invasive Species Council of BC gratefully acknowledges the territories of the Indigenous Peoples of BC where we live and work to maintain healthy ecosystems for all.



## We Are:

Canada's largest provincial invasive species non-profit focused on education, outreach and training

## Our Mission:

Take action to build healthy landscapes, habitats and communities through education and responsible practices to prevent the spread of invasive species.



# Invasive Species in the Cariboo



## BC Weed Control Act Regulations

- 39 species Provincially noxious
- 27 additional species noxious in 12 Regional Districts
- 4 species specific to CRD
  - Blueweed, Burdock, Orange hawkweed, Oxeye daisy.
- 3 provincial EDRR species known in CRD
  - Flowering Rush (Bouchie Lk)
  - Black Henbane (Alexis Creek +)
  - Perennial pepperweed (83 mile)



Flowering Rush



Perennial Pepperweed



# Terrestrial Invasive Species



**Black henbane**  
**Provincial EDRR**



**Blueweed**

# Terrestrial Invasive Species



Burdock



Spotted knapweed

# Terrestrial Invasive Species



Orange hawkweed



Hoary alyssum



# Yellow Flag Iris



- Aquatic perennial that grows along shorelines
- Forms dense mats
- Spreads by root fragments and floating seeds
- Three workshops



Rhizome pieces can regenerate



Seeds can float



Feral pig wallowing

- There are no native species of pigs in BC
- Received reports of feral pigs in Cariboo in 2024
- Represent crop loss to farmers due to wallowing and foraging behaviours



# Goldfish/Smallmouth bass



Goldfish



Smallmouth bass

# Our Work in the Cariboo



- **Farmers' Markets-** Williams Lake, Quesnel, and South Cariboo Community events i.e. South Cariboo Garlic Festival, Horsefly Salmon Festival, Boys Girls Club Street Party, TRU Welcome back BBQ
- **Community science** iNaturalist Bioblitz events



Williams Lake Farmer's Market



Nesika Elementary  
students exploring the  
educational trailer



Likely Elementary plant  
identification and painting



Gavin Lake Youth  
Camp



- **Information booths** i.e. Seedy Saturdays, Cariboo Meat-Up Producers Workshop, Cariboo Direct Farm Market Assoc.
- Agriculture and horticulture-focused **presentations** i.e. Williams Lake Garden Club and the Farm Life 2024 Workshop (Interlakes area)
- **4-H education** activities and info booths



Black henbane



YFI Benthic Barrier at Lac La Hache

- Lake association/community group **presentations** on invasive species identification Lac Des Roche Watershed Society, GLARA
- **Yellow flag iris control** workshops with Dr. Catherine Tarasoff in Williams Lake, Lac des Roches, and Lac La Hache



- **Education** i.e. Classroom, outdoor, and summer camp
- **Educational trailer** interactive displays and activities
- Annual grade 7 '**Earth Challenge**' lessons and activities
- **Community events** such as 'Marsh Magic' children's day at Scout Island



100 Mile Elementary  
"Most Wanted" project



Play & Protect educational trailer



Children help remove invasive plants during the WLFN Culture Camp

- Children's programs at culture camps and summer programs
- Invasive plant painting
- Invasive plant identification presentations and guided walks
- Community weed pulls
- Fall 2024 best management practices training



- **Resource development** with assistance of Williams Lake Community Forest grant
- Guide to local native and invasive species, including **Secwepemc** language names
- Associated signage to download guides at local trails





A volunteer planting native species at the EcoAction site

- Project to remediate a site at Scout Island
- Community and school group involvement to inventory, remove invasive plants and replant native species
- Gibraltar Mine sponsorship for planted species; volunteers for site prep and planting activities





Using a tow-net to collect  
samples

Through Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation funding, sampled 12 lakes this 2024 season

- Lac La Hache, Williams Lake, Dragon Lake, Quesnel Lake, Horsefly Lake, Deka Lake, Horse Lake, Canim Lake, Green Lake, Lac Des Roches, Bridge Lake, and Sheridan Lake.

To date, no mussels found have been found or suspected

## 2024 Engagement to Date

- 46 events held
- 1284 adults engaged
- 1122 youth engaged



# Thank you

QUESTIONS?

[GWALLIN@BCINVASIVES.CA](mailto:GWALLIN@BCINVASIVES.CA)