**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please fill in the appropriate boxes and then return the completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **Unless otherwise instructed, choose only one response for each question or statement.**

**Definition:** “Noxious weeds” are exotic plant species that may render land unfit for agriculture, forestry, livestock, wildlife, or other beneficial uses or are exotic plant species that harm native plant communities.

1. How knowledgeable would you say you are about noxious weeds in Montana?

☐ Not knowledgeable at all

☐ Know a little

☐ Know something about them

☐ Know a lot

1. How have you learned about noxious weeds? *(Choose all that apply.)*

☐ School (elementary, middle, high school)

☐ College (undergraduate or graduate studies)

☐ Family/friends

☐ Neighbors

☐ On-the-job training

☐ Local advertisements

☐ Local weed district or extension office

☐ I haven’t learned about noxious weeds

1. Over the last 5 years, how has your level of knowledge about noxious weeds changed?

☐ Decreased a lot

☐ Decreased a little

☐ Stayed about the same

☐ Increased a little

☐ Increased a lot

1. Compared to 5 years ago, how have you changed your behaviors to prevent the spread of noxious weeds?

☐ I do much less now

☐ I do a little less now

☐ I do about the same amount now

☐ I do a little more now

☐ I do a lot more now

1. In your opinion, how serious a problem are noxious weeds in Montana?

☐ Not serious at all

☐ Somewhat serious

☐ Serious

☐ Very serious

☐ Unsure

1. To what extent do you think noxious weeds affect outdoor recreation activities?

☐ Not at all

☐ Just some

☐ A good amount

☐ A great deal

☐ Unsure

1. If you can, and without conducting any research, please write in the box below what you believe to be the **most damaging noxious weed** in Montana.
2. If you can, and without conducting any research, please write in the box below what you believe to be the **second-most damaging noxious weed** in Montana.
3. How important **to you personally** is **each of the following** economic impacts of noxious weeds?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not at all important** | **Slightly important** | **Moderately important** | **Very important** | **Extremely important** |
| Loss of farmers’ crop production | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Loss of forage for livestock ranchers | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Loss to recreation industry through degrading landscapes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Reduced recreation opportunities in streams and lakes | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. How important **to you personally** is **each of the following** environmental impacts of noxious weeds?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not at all important** | **Slightly important** | **Moderately important** | **Very important** | **Extremely important** |
| Loss of wildlife habitat | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Loss of native plants | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Loss of biodiversity (e.g., plants, wildlife, etc.) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Increased soil erosion | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Increased risk of wildfire | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. How much do you think **each of the following** is contributing to the spread of noxious weeds?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not at all** | **Not much** | **Some** | **A lot** |
| Wildlife (elk, deer, moose, bears, etc.) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, horses) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Birds | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Humans | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Motor vehicles | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Boats | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Construction (homes, roads, utilities) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. **In the past 3 years**, how often have you engaged in **each of the following** outdoor activities on average?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Never** | **Less often than monthly** | **Monthly** | **2-3 times per month** | **Weekly (or more often)** |
| Hunting | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Fishing | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Hiking or backpacking | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Mountain biking | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Tent camping | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| RV camping | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Motorized boating | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Non-motorized boating or water recreating (e.g., kayaks, canoes, tubes) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Riding horses or other animals | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Riding motorized off-road vehicles | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Snowmobiling | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Cross country or backcountry skiing | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Cutting firewood | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Working outside in fields, ditches, pastures, or forests | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Driving automobiles on dirt roads or across fields | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Operating farm machinery on dirt roads or across fields | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Operating other machinery on dirt roads or across fields or open country | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. Have you purchased a Montana hunting or fishing license at any time in the last 3 years?

☐ Yes, both

☐ Yes, hunting

☐ Yes, fishing

☐ No

1. While recreating or working outdoors, what do you do when you find burs or seeds stuck to your clothes, shoes, gear, or pet’s fur?

☐ Pick them off and throw them on the ground

☐ Pick them off and throw them in a garbage receptacle or burn them

☐ Ignore them and leave them attached, as they will fall off somewhere

☐ I don’t notice/have seeds or burs

1. How often after recreating or working in non-motorized settings (e.g., canoeing, kayaking, bank or wade fishing, hunting, mountain biking, tent camping, hiking or backpacking, horseback riding) do you wash your equipment or gear to remove mud, weed seeds, and plant parts?

☐ Always, both **before and after** the activity

☐ Always, **before** the activity

☐ Always, **after** the activity

☐ Sometimes, if my equipment/gear is dirty

☐ Depends on the activity

☐ Never

☐ I don’t participate in such activities

1. How often after recreating or working in motorized settings (e.g., RV camping, boating, fishing, hunting, ATV riding, off-roading) do you wash your vehicle and equipment to remove mud, weed seeds, and plant parts?

☐ Always, both **before and after** the activity

☐ Always, **before** the activity

☐ Always, **after** the activity

☐ Sometimes, if my equipment/gear is dirty

☐ Depends on the activity

☐ Never

☐ I don’t participate in such activities

1. If you wash your vehicle after recreating, what parts do you wash to remove mud, weed seeds, and plant parts? (Select all that apply.)

☐ I don’t wash my vehicle after recreating

☐ Body of the vehicle

☐ Wheels/wheel wells

☐ Running boards

☐ Undercarriage (underside of the vehicle)

☐ Truck bed

☐ Other (specify):

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. If you use livestock for packing (e.g., horses, mules, donkeys, llamas), do you feed Certified Noxious Weed Seed Free forage products while recreating on state and federal lands?

☐ I don’t use livestock for packing

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

1. Are you aware of the PlayCleanGo campaign?

☐ Yes

☐ No *(SKIP to question #21)*

☐ Unsure

1. Has the PlayCleanGo campaign affected a decision you have made while recreating?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

1. If you were looking for more information about noxious weeds, which of the following is the **primary** place you would look? *(Choose only one.)*

☐ Internet search

☐ Printed materials (books, magazines, brochures)

☐ Local county weed district

☐ Local extension office

☐ Social media (e.g., Facebook, Instagram)

☐ Family/friends

☐ Neighbors

☐ Other (specify):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. For you **personally**, how effective would **each of the following** methods of receiving information be for increasing your knowledge about noxious weeds?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not at all effective** | **Not very effective** | **Somewhat effective** | **Very effective** |
| Newspaper ads or inserts | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Newspaper articles | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Brochures distributed with hunting/fishing licenses | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Brochures distributed at sporting good/outdoor shops | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Brochures distributed at feed or ag supply stores | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Brochures distributed with utility bills | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Brochures distributed with vehicle registrations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Public service announcements on radio | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Public service announcements on television | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Social media pages | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Social media advertisements | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Noxious weed websites (university, nonprofit, agency) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| YouTube commercials or short videos | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Seminars or workshops | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Information booths at trade shows and similar events | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| Billboards | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

1. Over the last 5 years, the Montana Noxious Weed Education Campaign (MNWEC) has produced many public service announcements and advertisements. Please indicate whether you recall hearing or seeing **each of the following**.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes** | **No** |
| “Pretty Wildflower? Think Again” billboards | ☐ | ☐ |
| “Got Houndstongue?” billboard | ☐ | ☐ |
| Newspaper advertisements | ☐ | ☐ |
| Radio advertisements | ☐ | ☐ |
| Television advertisements | ☐ | ☐ |
| Facebook and YouTube advertisements | ☐ | ☐ |
| Advertisement in MT FWP Big Game Regulations Guidebooks | ☐ | ☐ |
| Advertisement in MT FWP Sport Fishing Regulations Guidebooks | ☐ | ☐ |
| Adopt a Trailhead Montana | ☐ | ☐ |
| Montana Noxious Weed Education Project (K-9 curricula folder) | ☐ | ☐ |
| Montana Invasive Species Education (K-9 curricula folder) | ☐ | ☐ |
| Hunt.Clean.Go Montana posters or rack cards | ☐ | ☐ |
| Ride.Clean.Go Montana posters or rack cards | ☐ | ☐ |

1. Do you own or rent land in Montana? *(Choose all that apply.)*

☐ Yes, a city or subdivision lot

☐ Yes, land beyond a city or subdivision lot

☐ No

☐ Unsure

1. Have you in the past, or are you currently, treating or controlling any noxious weeds on property that you rent or own?

☐ I don’t own or rent any land

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

1. Have you ever participated in a cooperative noxious weed management project funded by the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

The following questions will be used primarily to compare characteristics of the entire group of questionnaire respondents to the population as a whole.

1. What is your age?

☐ 18-29

☐ 30-39

☐ 40-49

☐ 50-59

☐ 60-69

☐ 70-79

☐ 80 or higher

1. What is your gender?

☐ Female

☐ Male

☐ Other

☐ Prefer not to answer

1. Which of the following best describes your highest level of education?

☐ Some high school

☐ High school diploma/GED

☐ Some college

☐ 2-year college degree

☐ 4-year college degree

☐ Graduate/professional degree

**Thank you for your participation and for your help in making efforts to manage noxious weeds in Montana more effective!**