

Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program
2008 HIGHLIGHTS

FRTEP UNIT: WSU Colville Reservation

PROGRAM AREA : Agriculture

PROGRAM TITLE: Integrated Weed Control

ISSUE(S) ADDRESSED: Reservation lands are being over-run by non-native noxious weeds. The tribal people prefer to control weeds as naturally as possible and to be as safe and cautious as possible when utilizing pesticides in order to protect off target plants such as huckleberries, roots, etc.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: WSU Colville Reservation Extension staff develop educational posters, flyers, newsletters, booklets, etc to educate residents on identification and control of invasive species threatening the Colville Reservation. Integrated weed management education, along with bioagent distribution enhancement, is carried out by WSU Extension in partnership with Tribal Range, Fish and Wildlife and Forestry Programs, on major weeds destroying grasslands the Colville Reservation. WSU Colville Reservation Extension provides the training necessary for Tribal members and Reservation residents to identify and control the weeds, obtain Pesticide Application Licenses, and to safely utilize herbicides to insure the least amount is used in the most effective manner to do the job. This not only assists and protects applicators, but it also helps to ensure that the Colville Tribal employees are properly certified in weed management practices to meet Federal law. Weed tours bring the expanse of the weed infestation of the Colville reservation to the forefront of peoples minds.



Extension Staff Corey Peone, Chris Adams, and Karenia Simpson work in the weed bioagent program

PROGRAM IMPACT: WSU Colville Reservation Extension staff worked to redistribute insects to over 165 weed sites in 2008 across the reservation. They surveyed, found and mapped 114 new weed infestations and worked with control agencies to get them treated. An 8 page Weed Flyer, dozens of “Ten Most Wanted Weeds on The Colville Reservation Posters”, and 2400 Weed Placemats were developed and distributed to aid in Early Detection and Rapid Response. We are seeing landscape wide improvements on the range with Diffuse knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax weed densities decreasing over thousands of acres and being replaced by bunchgrass and forbes. If we take care of the land today we will ensure that the land will be healthy and still be here for our children’s children.

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