

# Pulling Together to Control Invasive Plants in Alaska

A partnership between the USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, the UAF Cooperative Extension Service, and CSREES

For many years land managers thought Alaska's geographic isolation and harsh climates would buffer the state from invasive plants (noxious weeds in other states). In recent years many invasive plant species have been introduced and become established. Alaskans have a unique window of opportunity to prevent many infestations before they become widespread. A partnership between USFS, UAF-CES, and CREES has supported a statewide IPM Program for two decades. In 2001 the focus of the program expanded to include an Invasive Plants Program, focused on **invasive plant prevention** and **early detection**.



## Formation of Cooperative Weed Management Areas

The USFS/UAF-CES Invasive Plants Program played an integral role in the formation of four Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA), using the existing infrastructure of the NRCSSoil and Water Conservation Districts in Alaska. CWMA's are built on partnerships between local citizens, city, county, state, tribal, and federal stakeholders. Each CWMA is a local organization that integrates noxious weed management resources to address region-wide invasive plant problems across jurisdictional boundaries.

Fairbanks CWMA

Mat-Su CWMA

Kenai CWMA

Kodiak CWMA (in formation)

## Invasive Plants Prevention Outputs

- Public Education and Outreach: Over 2,000 client contacts and 46 presentations were made in 2005, in response to the growing demand for invasive plants prevention, detection, and control information.
- The Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management (CNIPM) annual statewide conference brings land owners and land managers from citizen's groups and local, state, and federal agencies together for 2 days of workshops and lectures by state and national speakers. Record attendance in 2005 reflects the growing demand for invasive plants information.

### Publications:



Hands-on learning: Community members learn to ID invasive plants at a USFS/UAF-CES sponsored workshop.

## Outcome success story: Increased public awareness

- Television, newspaper, and radio coverage of invasive plant projects around the state has increased public awareness of invasive plant issues. This article from the Anchorage Daily News highlights the efforts of the USFS/UAF-CES team and 120 science students from Central Junior High School, conducting invasive plant surveys in a local park.

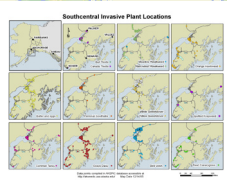


## Early Detection Outputs

- AKEPIC Statewide Inventory: the Alaska Exotic Plants Information Clearinghouse (AKEPIC) is a central database where invasive plant data can be stored and accessed for map making. USFS, UAF-CES, and many state and federal collaborators contribute new data each year. The database currently contains over 37,000 data points, all accessible online, at: <http://akweeds.uaa.alaska.edu/>



AKEPIC survey work.



Maps by Melinda Lamb, USFS.

- Plant Invasiveness Ranking Project: A cooperative project evaluating the invasive potential of exotic plant taxa in Alaskan ecosystems. Rankings and bios for over 80 species are available online at: <http://akweeds.uaa.alaska.edu/index.htm>

Invasive Plants Ranking Project									
Ranking of Invasive Plant Species in Alaska									
Species	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank
Alaskan Native	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Non-Native	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Non-Native	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Non-Native	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Non-Native	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Non-Native	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Non-Native	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
Non-Native	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
Non-Native	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81
Non-Native	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
Non-Native	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
Non-Native	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
Non-Native	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117
Non-Native	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126
Non-Native	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135
Non-Native	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144
Non-Native	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153
Non-Native	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162
Non-Native	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171
Non-Native	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
Non-Native	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189
Non-Native	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198
Non-Native	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207
Non-Native	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216
Non-Native	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225
Non-Native	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234
Non-Native	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243
Non-Native	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252
Non-Native	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261
Non-Native	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270
Non-Native	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279
Non-Native	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288
Non-Native	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297
Non-Native	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306
Non-Native	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315
Non-Native	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324
Non-Native	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333
Non-Native	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342
Non-Native	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351
Non-Native	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360
Non-Native	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369
Non-Native	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378
Non-Native	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387
Non-Native	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396
Non-Native	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405
Non-Native	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414
Non-Native	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423
Non-Native	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432
Non-Native	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441
Non-Native	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450
Non-Native	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459
Non-Native	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468
Non-Native	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477
Non-Native	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486
Non-Native	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495
Non-Native	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504
Non-Native	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513
Non-Native	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522
Non-Native	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531
Non-Native	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540
Non-Native	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549
Non-Native	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558
Non-Native	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567
Non-Native	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576
Non-Native	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585
Non-Native	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594
Non-Native	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603
Non-Native	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612
Non-Native	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621
Non-Native	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630
Non-Native	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639
Non-Native	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648
Non-Native	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657
Non-Native	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666
Non-Native	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675
Non-Native	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684
Non-Native	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693
Non-Native	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702
Non-Native	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711
Non-Native	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720
Non-Native	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729
Non-Native	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738
Non-Native	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747
Non-Native	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756
Non-Native	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765
Non-Native	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774
Non-Native	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783
Non-Native	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792
Non-Native	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801
Non-Native	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810
Non-Native	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819
Non-Native	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828
Non-Native	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837
Non-Native	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846
Non-Native	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855
Non-Native	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864
Non-Native	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873
Non-Native	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882
Non-Native	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891
Non-Native	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900
Non-Native	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909
Non-Native	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918
Non-Native	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927
Non-Native	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936
Non-Native	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945
Non-Native	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954
Non-Native	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963
Non-Native	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972
Non-Native	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981
Non-Native	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990
Non-Native	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999
Non-Native	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008
Non-Native	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017
Non-Native	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026
Non-Native	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035
Non-Native	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044
Non-Native	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053
Non-Native	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062
Non-Native	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071
Non-Native	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1