

Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition Meeting 2013

The meeting was attended by 65 ranchers, private companies, and land management agencies. The FRRL contributed two talks at the meeting which are summarized below.

Site assessment and management tools to improve the success of rangeland seedings
Justin R. Williams, Rangeland Management Specialist

Improving the success of a rangeland seeding can be accomplished by adopting an adaptive management plan to maximize productivity, improve economic viability and restore ecological integrity. By following the Ecologically Based Invasive Plant Management (EBIPM) framework, I describe the results of a case study conducted in the Northern Great Basin. The five steps include completing a Rangeland Health Assessment; identify causes of weed invasion and the associated processes in need of modification, using ecological principles to guide decision-making, choosing appropriate tools and strategies based on ecological principles, and designing and executing a plan using adaptive management. The goal was simple – increase forage production, reduce wildfire frequency, and convert cheatgrass pastures to perennial grass pastures in the future, a stepping stone to improved ecological function. During this conversion period, I advocate the use of adaptive management approaches to further help managers and producers protect their investments in weed control and revegetation, while realizing economic gains and restored ecological function.

Problems associated with reseeding and stand establishment in the Upper Mojave
Matthew D. Robbins, Jack E. Staub, and Blair L. Waldron, presented by Dr. Robbins, Plant Geneticist

Increased wildfires in the western U.S. are due to the cyclic accumulation and burning of invasive annual plants such as cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and red brome (*B. rubens*), which reduces native rangeland species and results in severe economic losses and land degradation. Fire was not prevalent in the Upper Mojave Desert prior to the invasion of red brome, but recent fires have had substantial environmental, economic, and social impacts. Rangeland plants need to be developed that compete with the invasive weeds to break the fire cycles and establish sustainable and diverse ecosystems. Two factors affecting persistence after wildfires are seed predation and regrowth after burns. A program was established to develop big galleta (*Pleuraphis rigida*) and sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) that will establish, persist, compete with weeds, and revegetate after fires. These grass species possess tolerance to grazing and drought, creeping ability, large plant stature, and regrowth after fire challenge (data to be presented). No cultivars of big galleta have been released and the current cultivars of sideoats grama were developed for the Great Plains. Thus, these species are being collected from Colorado, Utah, Arizona and Nevada. The Beaver Dam Wash and The Red Cliffs Reserve in Washington County, UT have been selected as sites for evaluation of collected plant material.

These evaluations will result in the identification of plant materials for subsequent use in plant improvement to increase sustainability, reduce the impact of wildfires, and contribute to the reclamation of burned lands in the Upper Mojave Desert.



EASTERN NEVADA Landscape Coalition

1500 Avenue F / Suite A Ely, Nevada 89301

EIGHTH ANNUAL WINTER WEED MEETING
Battling Weeds with Limited Resources in an Arid Environment
January 16th-17th 2013
Location: Bristlecone Convention Center- Ely, NV

Agenda: Thursday, January 17th

Time & # of CEU's	Speaker	Presentation Title
7:45-8:00	Registration	
8:00-8:15	Betsy Macfarlan, ENLC Executive Director	Opening Remarks
8:15-8:45	Dr. Ann Hild, University of Wyoming	Inevitable Disturbance & Uncertainty in Natural Resource Management
8:45-9:15	Paul Cohen, Wilbur Ellis	Weed Resistance: Why they are resistant & how to prevent resistance.
9:15-10:00	Robert Little, Nevada Department of Agriculture	NDOA Weed Program Updates and Changes
10:00-10:30	Break	
10:30-11:00	Matthew Robbins, ARS Forage and Range Lab	Problems associated with reseeding and stand establishment in the Upper Mojave.
11:00-11:30	Jon Carpenter, Nevada Department of Ag	Pesticide Label and Website Review
11:30-12:00	Dr. Eric Eldredge, Great Basin Plant Materials Center	Nevada's Great Basin Plant Materials Center
12:00-12:15	Betsy Macfarlan	Day 2 Wrap-Up
1:30-4:30	Jon Carpenter, Nevada Dept. of Agriculture	Applicator's License Test (Only for registrants who need to take the test, and have signed up with Jon. Cost is \$25.00 and payable to Nevada Department of Agriculture.)
Total CEU's	2.5	(.5 Law Credits, 2.0 General Credits)
Grand Total CEU's	9	(Total for Both Days)

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