

U&ICWMA

U&ICWMA News Letter

Year 2006

In the past I used to write a monthly news letter then because of not having enough time I switched to every two months and now because of old age and being slow I have decided to make it once a year and if I don't hurry I won't make it this year.



I feel like the year 2006 has been another great year for the U&I as many parts of our program have progressed. Our Web site is improving every year and one of our goals is to continuously make it better each year. We still continue to have work days involving all of the five zones in the CWMA. We strive to improve the documentation of our projects with better pictures and writeups. We have continually made an effort to improve our steering committee and have the great working relationship we enjoy. We still feel like education is one of the key ingredients to weed control. We sponsor an essay contest about noxious weeds in all high schools in the five zones, with prize money being awarded to the top three places in each high school, and one grand prize winner. We go into high schools and grade schools with a power point presentation promoting noxious weed control. We have seen great progress in our bio-control projects. The Dyer's Woad research is coming along slowly but surely and we hope to see insects on the ground in three or four

years. I know the Dyer's Woad Task Force is a state wide task force but I would like you to remember that the idea came from the U&ICWMA and we should be proud of that accomplishment. I feel like we have a good working relationship with Bear River RC&D and I appreciate all the help and support they give us. We have also added new members from Utah to our steering committee and that is another plus in our program. We continue to map new sites of invasive and noxious weeds and put into our central mapping site at Cache Co. Weed Dept.

I have been doing a lot of bragging about our accomplishments so don't start changing your hat sizes too soon as we need to improve upon a few items for the coming year. We need to improve on our education to our youth as well as the adults. I think we tend to put our selves in a comfort zone and get a little lazy in some of the education aspects. I would like you to remember that youth are our future in all weed control programs. We also need to update our bio-control programs and do a better job of gathering and distributing the insects each year. The pay off can and will be great if we will just step up to the plate and do a little more. We need to be more aggressive in our mapping programs, and as I look over our web site there have been little changes in some zones. The only way we can keep up with the locations of old as well as new noxious



and invasive weed infestations is to do our job and start an aggressive mapping program in our CWMA. Remember this needs to take place as a CWMA not just one or two zones or government entities.

The picture below shows our hard working steering committee at work I feel like one of the keys to our success as a CWMA is our monthly meeting. I know that there are times



especially in the summer when you ask yourself why you are here when you could be spraying weeds somewhere. I have been involved with the U&ICWMA since day one and I can honestly say that the once a month meeting is what makes it go. After the meeting we usually find a place for lunch. This gives us a chance to visit and just relax before going back to work.

The U&ICWMA involves two states, five zones, and covers 6.5 million acres. This covers quite a few borders that need to be watched over for new infestations on noxious and invasive weeds.

I feel like the year 2006 has been a productive year for us and I hope we can make 2007 a better one. It has been my privilege to work with everyone on the steering committee and look forward to working with you for another year.

Jerry Hobson
Chairman U&ICWMA

Here is a map of the Utah-Idaho CWMA

