



Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864 www.nativeplantsociety.org

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October 15, 2010

Leslie Marshall & Brad Bleumer
Bonner County Noxious Weed Dept.
335 McGhee Rd., Ste. 107
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Dear Leslie and Brad,

From our times working together in the past, I am certain you are aware that the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society is an active and large group (150+ members) based in Bonner County, where it educates about the benefits of native plants and their habitats, works to identify and protect sensitive plant populations and engages the public and institutions in the support of native flora, from small plots to forests.

We recognize noxious weeds as a very substantial threat to our local native plants. Their control has proven elusive so far and we are always interested in what is working and what is not, and the control methods in place.

We would like to be better acquainted with the Bonner County Weed Control Department and so have several questions on which we would appreciate your input:

1. What are the goals for Bonner County's roadside spraying program?
2. What are the sources of funding to Bonner County for weed control on the rights of way and private property? Do these funds come with constraints?
3. Please describe the booms and nozzles used in the roadside work. Are a variety of them utilized in different circumstances or only one?
4. What strategies have been adopted to identify and include or exclude native plants populations from the roadside spraying program (i.e. selective herbicides, mechanical controls, right of way plant surveys, etc.) and how is determination made that weed infestation is absent or negligible?
5. How is the success and efficacy of your rights of way weed control program measured/ monitored against program goals?
6. What steps are taken to protect waterways near to or intersecting rights of way?

I appreciate your attention to our request and hope to hear from you in the next several weeks.

Sincerely,

Molly O'Reilly
Conservation Committee Chair