Registration

Name: _____
Position: (grade level, courses taught)
_____
Mailing Address: _____
_____

Phone # (____) _____
Email: _____
Want credit ____ or no Credit _____,
or Continuing Education Credit _____.
Cost will be reasonable.

____Yes, I am interested in possible scholarship for travel and lodging costs. To apply for scholarship, please mail or email us a short explanation of how you plan to integrate the course material into your classroom or extracurricular activities.
Send to Linda Ries*, by July 28th.

My goals for taking this course include:
(Check any that apply)
___ integrating material into my curriculum
____planning field trips with my students
____introduce insects on noxious weeds
____plan to develop a local insectary
____train others

Mail, fax or email this registration to:
*Linda Ries, Conservation Ed. Coordinator
USDA Forest Service, 324 25th Street
Ogden, UT 84401
FAX #801-625-5240
Questions? Contact Linda at:
laries@fs.fed.us (801-625-5254) or
Jay Paxson (775-738-7291)
paxsonj@unce.unr.edu

Class is FREE but please send in your registration ASAP - space is limited! Please notify us of cancellations by August 1st.

A block of rooms has been reserved at:
Gold Country Inn
2050 Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada
775 738-8421
For sponsored participants (ask for rooms reserved in Biocontrol block).

Directions to the Gold Country Inn:

1. I-80 to Exit 303. Turn south at the stop sign, go to the stop light.
2. Turn right onto Idaho Street at the stop light, (go ~200 yard on left)
3. Gold Country Inn is across the street from the Red Lion Inn.

What to wear and bring:

Wear comfortable clothes and bring appropriate field work attire for class.
Bring long pants, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, hiking boots.

Bring a water bottle and coffee mug (optional).

Bring a laptop and a GPS unit if you have them, but they are not necessary.

Bugs with an Attitude:

Biological Control of Weeds and Insectary Development Institute

Aphthona flava, a flea beetle and biocontrol insect used to help control leafy spurge

August 5- 7, 2008
Health Sciences Building
Room 107
Great Basin College
Elko, Nevada

A class for high school, middle school and upper elementary teachers

Introduce your students to real life problems AND solutions. Be part of the solution!!

Background

Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota, as well as Montana are seeing escalating threats from invasive and noxious weeds. Some of the weeds are species that are new to the state – others are problem weeds that continue to spread across the state on both private and public lands. Biological control, or the use of a non-native species to attack another non-native species as it would in its natural habitat, is a primary component of an integrated weed management approach to control the spread of these weeds.

In Montana, teachers and students from the Whitehall High School have been working to slow the spread of noxious weeds by using biocontrol. Their model project (see http://mtwow.org) includes insect collection, rearing biocontrol insects, and then releasing and monitoring these insects. The biological control agents identified for this class have been tested extensively prior to introduction into the United States to make sure their introduction will not harm native plants.

Because noxious weeds threaten native plant communities as well as wildlife, recreation, and healthy watersheds, the impacts from noxious weeds affect all of us, not just those with agricultural interests. Biocontrol is one tool that can be used where herbicide alone may not be effective.

About the institute:

This biocontrol class will provide information about invasive weed ID, available biocontrol agents (mostly insects), and present methods for rearing, collecting, and releasing biocontrol agents. You will also learn how to use GPS/GIS units to map release sites for monitoring purposes, providing career skills for students.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to spend some time in the field observing and collecting insects. A noxious weed biocontrol curriculum, correlated to national standards, will be provided as well as other educational resources to help you start your own program at your school.

You will learn about local networks, funding opportunities, and contacts that can help you with logistics, such as insectary development, and offer expertise in local specific weeds and biocontrol agents.

Main Facilitators:

- Todd Breitenfeldt, Whitehall HS science teacher, Whitehall Project
- Mike Battaiola, Whitehall HS/MS art & history teacher, Whitehall Project

Both of the facilitators have taught many of these classes as well as work each summer with insectary development in Montana.

Class Schedule:

Arrive in Elko the afternoon or evening on Monday August 4th.

Class starts at 8:00 am Tuesday August 5th.

Class will be over by 12:30 pm, Thursday, August 7th.

Comments from last year's Institute:

"Excellent! Excellent! Thank you for your "no nonsense" presentations! I learned a lot."

"Loved the website and thought class was excellent. Awesome!"

"Entertaining as well as a very well done presentation. Makes me want to get with a group and work on a project."

Sponsors:

Nevada Department of Agriculture
Spring Creek CWMA
USDA Forest Service
Great Basin College
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Nevada Bureau of Land Management