

Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weed Coordinating Group

2011 Annual Report and Newsletter



Dedicated to preventing and controlling invasive weed species in the Tahoe Basin by sharing resources and information.

Our Mission

Collectively, the Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group (LTBWCG) group is dedicated to ensuring that invasive weed detection, control and education is effective and seamless across the five county, bi-state region.

Since the LTBWCG inception in 2002, the group has annually prepared an action plan with specific actions and responsibilities relating to four areas of our collaborative work:

- detection and inventory of new and historical infestations,
- treatment and eradication of known sites,
- restoration as needed,
- and education and outreach.

The Lake Tahoe Basin is in the relatively early stages of invasion by weeds. The LTBWCG focuses on a technique called "early detection, rapid response" to find and eradicate plants before they become huge and expensive problems.



Participants at the annual weed identification training scrutinize a Scotch thistle leaf.

2011 Highlights

Detection and Mapping

- Detection surveys were completed on **5968 acres** of public and private lands and **577 sites** were monitored.

Control and Eradication

- **348 net acres** were treated with mechanical and chemical control

Education & Outreach

- **14,500+ people** were reached via trainings, radio, presentations, events, newspaper, television and workshops.
- **529 homeowners** received onsite consultations to detect and control invasive plants.

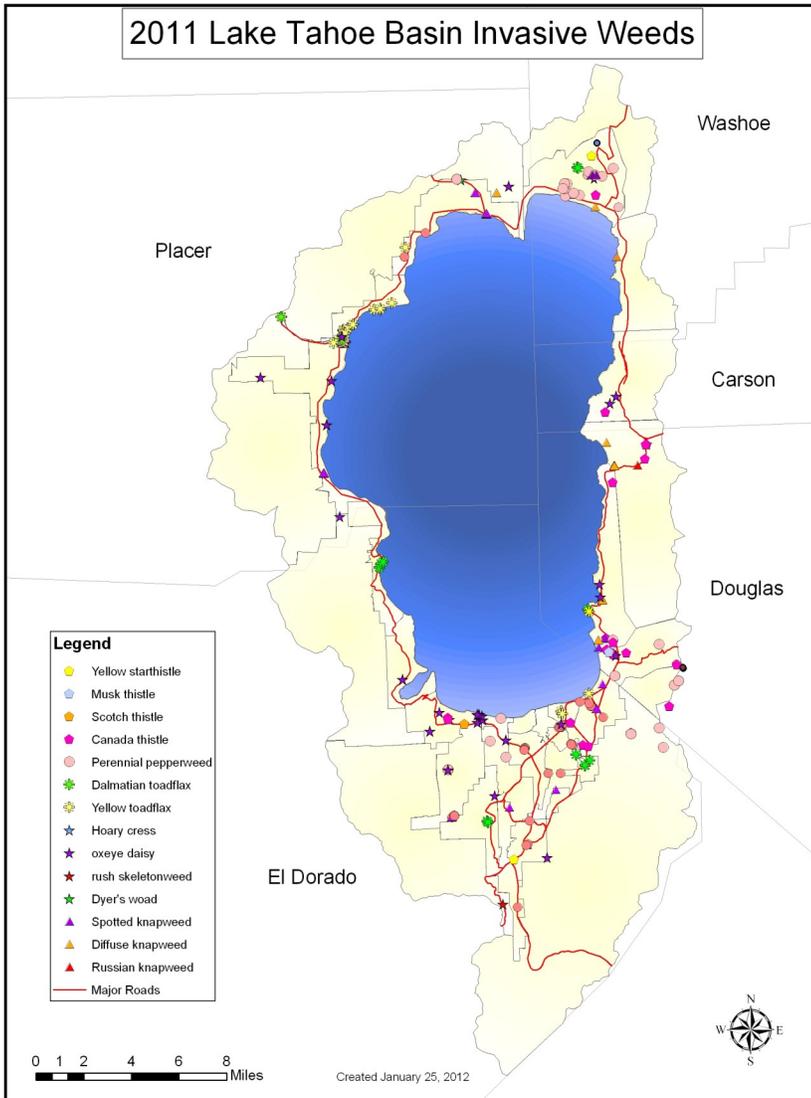


The Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group received Cal-IPC's Weed Group of the Year award in October. Sue Donaldson (right) received the Land Manager of the Year award.

Check Out Our Website!

Visit our website to report invasive weed sightings, get involved and learn about our priority weeds

TahoInvasiveWeeds.org



Project Highlight

Focus on Weed Spread Prevention

Many studies have confirmed that the best way to avoid invasive weed problems is to practice prevention techniques. Preventing introduction is far more cost-effective than managing established infestations. The LTBWCG ramped up its focus on prevention in 2011 by holding a workshop on April 14 for property managers, GID managers, HOA management and others interested in learning more about how to prevent the spread of weeds in the basin.

Attended by 50 people, the workshop focused on identifying the issue, using Best Management Practices (BMPs) to decontaminate equipment, gravel pit inspection programs, and included a roundtable discussion. Examples of contract language to include prevention BMPs were also presented. Participants identified a need for additional funding and cleaning facilities, as well as sharing of weed mapping data during emergencies to ensure weeds are properly identified and avoided.

The success of our pilot workshop resulted in a request by the USFS to coordinate four workshops at various locations in California in 2012. For more information and publications on prevention BMPs for land managers, see www.cal-ipc.org/ip/prevention/index.php. For sources of weed-free materials, see www.cal-ipc.org/ip/prevention/weedfreeforage.php.

Upcoming Events

- * April 21: Tahoe Truckee Earth Day, at Squaw Valley Ski Resort
Visit: TahoeTruckeeEarthday.com
- * April 28: South Tahoe Earth Day, at Bijou Community Park
Visit: SouthTahoeEarthday.org
- * May 2: Weed Spread Prevention Workshop, Truckee Ranger Station, USFS (waiting list only; see <http://ucanr.org/registration2012preventionworkshops>)
- * May 31: Invasive Weed Identification Workshop, at USFS Conference Room, South Lake Tahoe, preregistration required
Visit: <http://ucanr.org/ltweedstrainings2012>



Seeds from invasive weeds can be spread via gravel (Dyer's woad Klamath National Forest, M. Knight photo)



LAKE TAHOE BASIN
WEED COORDINATING GROUP

Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weed Coordinating Group Partners:

California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, California State Parks, California Tahoe Conservancy, California State Lands Commission, Caltrans, Douglas County Weed District, El Dorado County Agriculture Department, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, Nevada/Placer County Agriculture Dept., Nevada Department of Agriculture, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, University of California Cooperative Extension, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, US Forest Service-Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and Nevada State Parks.