

# NAISMA NEWS

North American Invasive Species Management Association Newsletter

[www.naisma.org](http://www.naisma.org)

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## *President's Letter*

Jennifer Grenz | Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, BC

### Update on Committees

While the winter has been blasting past, the NAISMA Board of Directors has been working hard to revitalize a number of the historic committees, and in responding to the evolving needs of our membership, struck new ones. It has been my commitment to the membership during my year as President, that NAISMA update and reinvigorate our committees so that we are truly able to serve and provide value to our membership. Accountability is key to continuing to keep this momentum going forward and this is why the Committees will now be presenting the membership with annual goals, developed from the feedback provided from the membership, and reporting on these goals each AGM. With any volunteer-based organization, it is a challenge to dedicate the time required to ensure we make a meaningful contribution to our profession. It is my hope that this public commitment to accountability will help those of us serving you to take the time from our very busy jobs and lives to do what we promised, which is to devote time and energy to making this organization a great one.

Please see the list of committees on the next page and the associated goals for each. Updated Committee Descriptions with Committee Co-Chairs names are now on the website. - <http://www.naisma.org/committees/>

Time to run, the weeds are growing fast and furious in the Pacific Northwest and the fireants are waking from their slumber! I wish you all the best as you prepare for what is always a crazy field season!

## In This Issue

- Committee Updates
- North Dakota Weed Control Assoc. Update
- Upcoming Events
- 2014 Annual Conference

## Visit Our Site

We need members in our committees!



## Recognition

**Aaron Foster** current President-Elect of NAISMA and former Assistant Supervisor at Teton County Weed and Pest District, WY will now serve as the *District Supervisor* at Fremont County Weed and Pest District, WY. Please congratulate Aaron on this achievement! Aaron's new contact information: 307-438-5677 | [afoster@wyoming.com](mailto:afoster@wyoming.com)

# ***Committee Updates– 2014 Annual Goals***

Jennifer Grenz | Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, BC

## **Annual Conference**

- To develop a conference template used each year
- To develop a conference organizing guide for each annual conference host city to utilize
- To organize and run the 2014 conference
- To solicit feedback from the membership on the annual conference and make suggestions for the next conference

## **Audit**

- Ensure the financial and organizational records are kept in accordance with NAISMA's by-laws and all tax and incorporation records are kept current and correct.

## **Awards**

- Consideration of an awards recognition program for the membership
- addition of new membership award categories
- develop a criteria to explain each award to simplify the nominations process

## **Bio Control**

- A 2014 Biocontrol Summit at the 2014 Annual Conference
- Work with members to develop NAISMA as lead for national biocontrol consortium

## **By-Laws and Constitution**

- To review, maintain and propose any necessary changes to NAISMA's Constitution and By-Laws.

## **Communications and Marketing**

- Clearly communicate to the membership the purpose of this new committee
- Gain committee membership
- Conduct a needs assessment online survey regarding outreach and marketing needs and existing programs
- Hold a national campaign slogan contest
- Run a 2014 Outreach Summit at the annual conference

## **EDRR**

- Have an article on an EDRR species in each newsletter
- Provide EDRR alerts to the membership via the listserv

## **Legislative** (formerly International Issues and Healthy Habitats Committees)

- Communicate to the membership about international issues through the NAISMA listserv
- Write at least three letters pertaining to relevant issues surrounding invasive species management.
- Use listserv to gauge interest and concern from members about particular topics.

## **Mapping and App Standards**

- To evaluate and update the NAISMA mapping standards if a need is identified.
- To create a NAISMA standard for invasive species Apps.

## **Membership**

- The construction of a new membership survey to gain information on how NAISMA can better meet the needs of its membership
- A strategic membership drive to encourage membership from old and new states and provinces (details to be designed by committee)

## **Nominations**

- Seek nominees from new states and provinces

## **Professional Development**

- Reviewing the CMIP program and updating the program
- Evaluation of a new professional designation program
- Holding educational webinars for the membership

## **Weed Free Forage**

- Support the new program Coordinator
- Update standards
- Streamline twine ordering

# North Dakota Weed Control Association Annual Meeting

Derrill Fick | 1st Vice President, NDWCA

The North Dakota Weed Control Association held its 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> 2014 at the Best Western Seven Seas Hotel in Mandan, ND. We had a very good turnout of participants which ranged from the local weed board members, the weed officer of each county and the weed control manager for many state and federal agencies. This year we celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. The education committee put together a booklet describing the many changes that have occurred over the years since the first legislative ordered the creation of the N.D. Noxious Weed Control Act. This annual meeting was held in combination with the N.D. Agriculture Commissioners Forum. This forum is required by law for the N.D. Ag. Commissioner to hold, on a yearly basis, a meeting to inform the county weed control personnel about any projects or updates required of them. At this annual meeting we had a discussion about pesticide container recycling. This has been a hot topic across the state since N.D. does not have a recycling program as in other states. It was decided that the NDWCA board of directors look into the alternatives and come up with a plan to get a recycling program going for the county weed

boards. We held an Aggregate Panel which consisted of different weed boards that came together to create a more powerful restriction on the movement of any material from a gravel pit and the creation of a permit for a gravel company to have before it can open a new pit or expand a current pit. Another topic of interest was the one on invasive grasses and how they can have an impact on the native rangeland which affects the livestock capacities and wildlife habitat. There were many other topics covered and a lot of interaction between county, state and federal agencies that are trying to solve the same problem, how to control and stop the spread of noxious and invasive weeds. The next NDWCA annual meeting will again be held at the Best Western Seven Seas in Mandan, ND on January 5-8, 2015.

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If you are interested in joining this association, please contact Derrill at [wcweeds@srt.com](mailto:wcweeds@srt.com)

[NDWCA Website](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Clear Hills County's 20th Annual Agricultural Trade Show in Hines Creek, AB

April 12, 2014

Clear Hills County's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural Trade Show will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Hines Creek, AB. Information is available on our website: [www.clearhillscounty.ab.ca](http://www.clearhillscounty.ab.ca) or by email: [aaron@clearhillscounty.ab.ca](mailto:aaron@clearhillscounty.ab.ca) or by phone: 780-685-3925.

### Western Invasive Weed Short Course in Loveland, CO

April 14 – 17, 2014

The Western Invasive Weed Short Course is an intensive study of current technologies and best management practices associated with the noxious and invasive weeds in the Western United States. It is designed for professionals interested in current advances in noxious weed management. The registration fee provides each attendee the educational program, a CD of PowerPoint presentations, laboratory sessions and , other supplies and daily refreshment breaks. Three lunches and three dinners are also included in the registration.

For further information please visit <http://www.mountainwestpest.com/ShortCourse.html> or contact Sandra McDonald at 970-266-9573 or [Sandra@MountainWestPEST.com](mailto:Sandra@MountainWestPEST.com)

# ***2014 NAISMA Annual Conference in Fargo, ND***

Derrill Fick | Ward County, ND

September 29– October 1, 2014

The organization of the Annual Meeting of NAISMA is coming together. This will be held at the Holiday Inn in Fargo, ND on September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. We will be using the **NDSU Research facility** and the **Agriculture Experiment Station Research Greenhouse Complex** in Fargo along with the excellent research faculty as our main point of interest. We have a tour lined up to see how the actual research is done once a weed is discovered all the way to it being put on an invasive list. This leads to the correct timing for the application of a chemical or for the use of a biological agent.

We will have speakers on the study of population **genetics** of Canada thistle and Leafy Spurge and we will also be shown the gnomic genetics (DNA makeup) of Canada thistle. Another topic that will be covered is the different types of grasses that can invade natural range land and the ways to apply proper rangeland management practices to prevent this type of intrusion. We will have speakers on the different invasive insects, updates on some of the Aquatic Nuisance Species, the use of safety equipment and how to safely operate spray equipment.

Along with all of this learning we will also be having a little fun at the Trade Show Mixer. Here we will be able to mingle with the vendors and sponsors of the Annual Meeting to get caught up on their latest equipment or product. We will be having a silent auction along with a fun live auction of items that have been donated. Of course we will still be having the standing committee meetings of NAISMA. Weed Free Forage: train the trainer will be offered, along with the Mapping and Professional Improvement programs. To top it off we will be having the Annual Awards Banquet.

So keep watching for more updates and plan on attending the 2014 NAISMA Annual Meeting/ Conference in Fargo.



NDSU Greenhouse

## **NAISMA Board & Staff**

### *Board of Directors*

Jennifer Grenz, President  
Aaron Foster, President–Elect  
Julie Kraft, Past President  
Kenny Baccus, Treasurer  
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P. David Cornett  
Rob Schultz  
Ron Moehring  
Greg Hensel  
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