

E6-P

CENTER FOR INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT: PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

\*Janet K. Clark

CIPM, Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, Montana State University, P.O. Box 173120, Bozeman, MT 59717-3120, USA

The Center for Invasive Plant Management ([www.weedcenter.org](http://www.weedcenter.org)) was established to promote proactive, ecologically sound management of invasive plants in western North America by sponsoring research, conducting public education, and facilitating collaboration and communication among researchers, educators, and land managers. Based at Montana State University, the Center has a 10-member Board of Directors from throughout the West representing landowners, state and federal agencies, industry, conservation organizations, and academia. Since the Center was established in 2000, it has initiated and facilitated a number of multi-disciplinary programs to bring together diverse expertise to address invasive plant issues on rangelands, wildlands, and forests. Programs include an online educational course for land managers, a workshop and follow-up projects in land restoration, and a granting program for cooperative weed management areas. In every case, partnerships are the key to successful program development and implementation.