

Work Group: *Invasive Woody Plant Control*

Objectives:

- (1) *Information and Outreach:* *The Work Group will collaborate with Conservation Districts, state agencies, federal agencies, and non-profit organizations throughout the Yellowstone River Basin to identify outreach and project opportunities associated with the Council's YRRP 3.2 Invasive Woody Plant Control Recommended Practice (March 1, 2016). A five-year information/outreach strategy will be developed.*
- (2) *Common Buckthorn:* *Develop specific educational and project approaches to address the relatively new invader, Common Buckthorn. Explore opportunities to work with the Montana Department of Agriculture with their Montana Noxious Weed Education Campaign and their Noxious Weed Trust Fund Grant Program.*
- (3) *Russian Olive and Salt Cedar:* *Using the prioritization criteria outlined in the YRRP 3.2 (pages 39-40) Implementation Approach section, mainstem reaches and tributaries will be identified for focused outreach efforts and project implementation. This process will require close collaboration with county weed districts and landowners. Priority project reaches, project sponsors, and potential funding sources will be included in a ten-year project priority plan.*
- (4) *YRRP 3.2 Revisions:* *The Work Group will review and recommend revisions to the YRRP 3.2 Recommended Practice and Implementation Approach as needed.*

Goals:

- 1) *Five-year information and outreach strategy. This information component of this strategy will identify approaches, venues, partners, and funding sources to most effectively engage stakeholders throughout the Yellowstone River Basin. The strategy will include an outreach component that will gauge landowner interest on project implementation in priority reaches identified by the Work Group.*
- 2) *Ten-year project prioritization plan. The project priorities will be based upon the results from the Yellowstone River Cumulative Effects Study (2016). The initial prioritization criteria for invasive woody plant control has been identified in the Invasive Woody Plant Control YRRP 3.2 (Page 39). Potential project sponsors and funding sources will be included in the plan.*