



Educational Livestock Workshops Bring the Ag Community Together



In November, ACCD hosted two livestock management workshops, one for commercial-scale producers, and one for small farm, and horse ranch managers. Each workshop focused on different topics relevant to the scale of operations, but themes included: virtual and rotational grazing systems, noxious weed control, soil health, and water quality protection. Over 25 attendees had the opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and network with other local land managers.

Our special guest speaker Tip Hudson of WSU Extension provided an in-depth talk about rangeland management and grazing technology, Kodie Wight presented crucial information about the noxious weeds to watch out for around livestock, and Lacy Ausman-Ditto shared experiences and stewardship techniques for small farms and horse operations in Asotin County.

Did you miss out on the workshops?

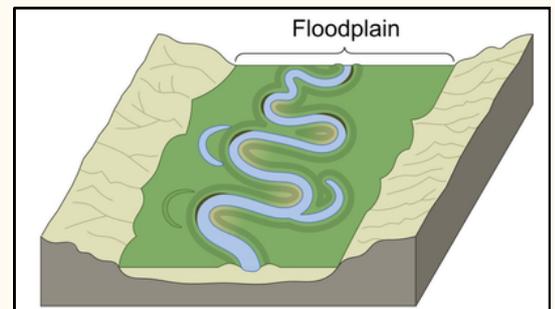
Don't worry, we know our livestock managers are busy. Contact ACCD to access all the workshop information, or to schedule your FREE farm stewardship site visit today!

Email: Info@asotincd.org Website: www.asotincd.org

♥ Thank You ♥
Speakers and Attendees
for making these workshops
so successful and fun!

Flood-Plain “Fatties,” and the Fish-Food Buffet

Active flood plains are critical to rearing healthy juvenile Steelhead and other fish. Floodplains are areas of seasonal water inundation, usually in the winter and spring, slowing the water velocity to create temporary reservoirs and pools, filter pollutants, and reduces the effects of flooding downstream.



Graphic showing area of floodplain in meandering stream.
Source: BDS Drainage.

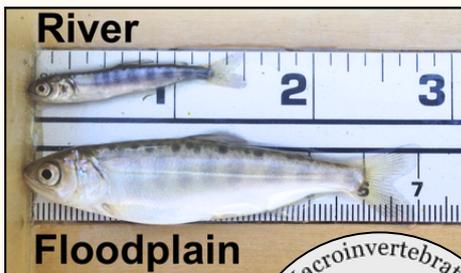


Photo: Floodplain “fattie” vs river smolt, photo by “California Trout.”
Graphic: Common Steelhead diet of macroinvertebrates.



The habitat created by flood plains provides abundant food, diverse cover from predators, clean water, calm currents, and high-quality habitat for young fish as they grow in our watersheds for the first 2-4 years of their lives.

Fish find diverse collections of insects and zooplankton (aka: “fish food”), leading to increased growth and size in young fish... lovingly known as the “**flood-plain fatties.**” Young Steelhead who begin their ocean journey in a healthy condition are more likely to survive and may return to spawn in their home-stream. Floodplains are an important, but often overlooked, component of the Steelhead lifecycle.

The Dirt Newsletter

Noxious Weed Spotlight: Palmer Amaranth, aka: “Palmer’s Pigweed”

**LISTING STATUS: CLASS A, CONTROL IS REQUIRED.
EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESPONSE SPECIES, AKA: E.D.R.R.**



Noxious Weed Profile: *Amaranthus palmeri*

How to Control it:

Impacts

Toxic to livestock and can grow up to 10ft. tall! Palmer amaranth easily invades crop fields, especially annual crops, and greatly reduces crop yields. It's a prolific seed producer, very fast grower, and has shown herbicide resistance to several different herbicide groups. **Can be economically devastating for agriculture.**

Legal Listing

Listed as a **Class A species in 2025, control is required.** It is prohibited to transport, buy, sell, offer for sale, or distribute plants or plant parts within Washington State.

Habitat

This plant grows in open, sunny areas, such as fields, cropland, rangeland, grassland, roadsides, and disturbed sites. There are no known infestations in Asotin County. However, infestations have been reported in Spokane County, Walla Walla County, eastern Oregon, and southern Idaho.

Identification

- May be confused with other pigweed species.
- Herbaceous summer annual, dioecious plants.
- Grows up to 10 feet tall. Typically 6-8 feet tall.
- Male and female plants produce green flowering spikes that age to brown. Female plants have spiny/sharp bracts around each small flower part. Spikes feel rough, spiny, or sharp.
- Leaves are egg-shaped to oval with small spines at the very top of the leaf.
- Leaves grow alternately up the stem. They are hairless and have white veins on the underside.
- Stems are waxy, smooth and appear ridged.
- Seeds are very small, round to oval and brown.

Biology

- Reproduce by seed, up to 500,000 seeds per plant!
- Seeds can stay viable in the soil for up to 5 years.
- Blooms mid-July to the first fall frost.

Prevention

Clean vehicles, equipment, clothing, and footwear after working in areas with palmer amaranth seeds.

Mechanical

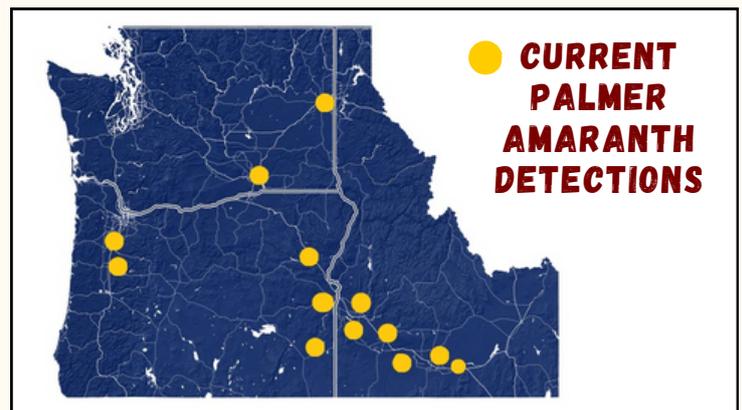
Small infestations can be hand pulled or dug out.

Cultural

Large infestations need repeated cultivation. Prescribed fire will kill plants and reduce seed production.

Chemical

- Follow all applicable laws and regulations regarding herbicide use. Follow chemical label instructions for application.
- It is resistant to several herbicide groups. Be sure to rotate herbicides annually to reduce resistance risk.
- Broadleaf Selective Herbicides- Imazapic products (Plateau) or Dicamba products (Dicamba 4) for pre and post emergent control. For selective control in crops, Dimethenamid products (Outlook) have shown control but be sure to read the crop specific restrictions.
- Non-Selective Herbicides- Imazapyr products (Imazapyr 4 SL) for post-emergent control.



The Dirt Newsletter

FIRE-RESISTANT LANDSCAPING & DEFENSIBLE SPACE



Photos: Examples of Firewise landscaping, non-flammable buffers, fire-resistant plants, and defensible space.



WINTER IS THE PERFECT TIME TO BE A WILDFIRE WARRIOR

DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating defensible space is the #1 most important wildfire mitigation treatment you can do.

Defensible space is an area of at least 30 feet of “lean, clean, and green” space surrounding your home. This space gives firefighters room to fight fires, and prevents your home from direct exposure if an ember catches something on fire in your yard.

Make your yard FireWise by pruning trees and shrubs within 15 feet of your home, and remove all branches that extend over the roof.

Remove flammable materials like leaves, dead tree limbs, overgrown grasses, and weeds **PRIOR** to fire season.

Stack firewood at least 100 feet away from your home.

Remove flammable vegetation like junipers and arborvitae and replace them with fire-resistant plants and nonflammable buffers.

Looking for wildfire advice?

Our certified technicians provide **FREE wildfire assessments for your home and property in Asotin County.**

Contact us at: info@asotincd.org

Visit our website for more information: www.asotincd.org



ARBORVITAE FIRE HAZARD AWARENESS

Arborvitae can be a HUGE fire hazard due to dense growth, and highly flammable oils.

These plants can ignite from just one ember.

Once they catch fire, they burn intensely and can quickly transfer flames to nearby plants and structures, acting like a "fuse" or a "Roman candle."

REMOVE ALL ARBORVITAE WITHIN 30 FEET OF STRUCTURES



JUST SAY NO



TO ARBORVITAE



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IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

ACCD Board Meeting: December 11th at 12pm

Asotin County Noxious Weed Board Meeting: December 16th at 6pm

ACCD Board Meeting: January 8th at 12pm

ACCD Office Closures:

DECEMBER 24-25TH, CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

JANUARY 1ST, NEW YEARS DAY

**Fun
Fact:**

A “conflagration” is an extremely large and destructive wildfire that is often capable of modifying the local weather conditions or producing its own weather. Conflagrations can create a firestorm, where the fire produces its own powerful winds that draw in oxygen and intensify the blaze.

Source: Insurance Institute for Home and Business.