

Eurasian Watermilfoil Control

Jefferson Slough

Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) is a submersed, aquatic perennial that forms dense tangled beds that can reduce recreational qualities of water bodies, reduce water flow, clog industrial, agricultural and drinking water supplies, and negatively impact fish and wildlife.

- In 2012, Jefferson County Conservation District and Jefferson County Weed District received grant funding from DNRC to control EWM in the Jefferson Slough. This is the uppermost infestation of EWM in the Missouri River Watershed.
- Crews hand-pulled 4458 pounds of EWM and other aquatic vegetation in upper 1.68 miles of infestation. Herbicide options are limited in flowing water system.
- In addition to the hand-pulling, characterization data (sediment depth, vegetation, channel width, water flow) was collected to assist with determining a long-term solution to management.
- This work was accomplished by a partnership between County Weed Districts, Conservation District volunteers, DNRC, FWP, MDA, Montana Conservation Corp and Golden Sunlight Mine crews.
- Continual on-going watershed work is being conducted as part of the Big Pipestone project to look at feasible options for EWM and other aquatic vegetation control and sediment removal in the slough.
- This work was made possible by the State Legislature through the HB 7 funds.

On behalf of the Jefferson County Weed District we ask for your continued support of Aquatic Invasive Species funding to DNRC so that the cooperative effort between the agencies can continue to combat invasive in our Montana waters.



Weed Eradicators on the Jefferson Slough 2012