



# SALT CEDAR SPRAYING PROGRAM

August 28 - September 1, 2017

During surveys of the Missouri River in 2016, small populations of saltcedar were mapped between Wolf Point and the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers. It is believed these trees are the result of the 2011 flood, and if left untreated, these trees could spread to other waterways, stock ponds, or irrigation ditches. The time is right to eradicate these young plants before the population becomes too large to effectively and economically control.

The McCone County Conservation District applied for a grant through MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to purchase herbicide and to fund a Montana Conservation Corps crew to treat the infestation.

The plans are to foliar spray saltcedar plants found below the high-water mark using AquaSweep™, a herbicide approved for use near waterways and effective against saltcedar. The crew will float the River from Wolf Point to the

*(continued on back panel)*

confluence in late August (week of August 28th - Sept 1) and apply the chemical using back-pack sprayers. Follow-up surveys will be conducted in 2018 and 2019 to determine the effectiveness of the treatments.

The goal is to eradicate the infestation on the mainstem of the River, and use the project as an educational opportunity to increase awareness of the plant with area landowners.

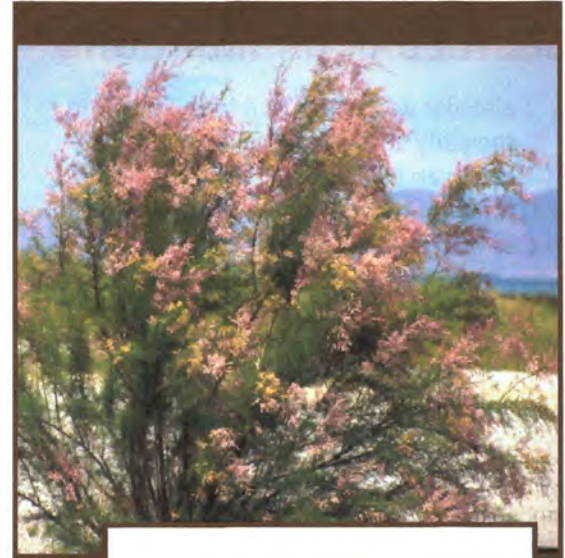
This project is a cooperative effort between the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), the Montana Saltcedar Team, the Fort Peck Tribes, the Montana Conservation Corps, and the county weed boards and conservation districts of McCone, Richland, and Roosevelt Counties.

## MONTANA SALT CEDAR TEAM LOOKING FOR NEW PROJECTS

The Montana Saltcedar Team is currently looking for potential projects for 2018. The Team covers the entire Missouri River basin so is open to projects in any of the following counties: Gallatin, Broadwater, Lewis and Clark, Cascade, Chouteau, Fergus, Petroleum, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Garfield, McCone, Richland, and Roosevelt. The Team is also working with counties on major tributaries to the Missouri such as Musselshell and Golden Valley.

If you know of a saltcedar infestation within the Missouri River Basin that you feel would be a good project, please contact: Rachel Frost, MRCDC Coordinator, 1101 11th Avenue, Helena, MT 59601, (406) 454-0056.

AUGUST 2017



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ON THE MISSOURI RIVER

▪ August 28 - September 1, 2017 ▪

A project of:

Missouri River Conservation Districts Council  
Montana Saltcedar Team

# SALT CEDAR BACKGROUND

Saltcedar was introduced from Eurasia in the early 1800's for erosion control and use as an ornamental/shade tree. Since that time, this rapid growing deciduous shrub or tree has proven to be an extremely aggressive invader of riparian areas throughout western North America.

Saltcedar displaces desirable plants such as willows and cottonwoods and often forms near monotypic infestations. High water use by saltcedar is responsible for lowering of water tables and depletion of standing or running water in reservoirs, lakes, streams and rivers. High rates of salt deposition on the soil surface lead to saline soils that are not conducive to growth of desirable, native plants. Domestic livestock and wildlife usually do not utilize saltcedar for forage or cover.

# SALT CEDAR DESCRIPTION

Plant can grow up to 20 feet.

Young stems are smooth and reddish brown, while mature stems become brownish-purple rigid and furrowed.

Leaves are scale-like, small and overlapping, green in the spring and summer, turning brown in the fall. Its leaves give saltcedar its feathery appearance.

Flowers are pink to white and small, blooming from May through September or longer.

Fruits mature into small capsules containing thousands of seeds that disperse by wind and rain.

## Saltcedar ID

Tamaricaceae | *Tamarix ramosissima* Ledeb.

Flowering Saltcedar Plant



UGA1624020

Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California - Davis, Bugwood.org

Seedlings



5387653

Steve Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org

Twig Shoots



5405636

Bonnie Million, National Park Service, Bugwood.org

Flowers



5405736

Bonnie Million, National Park Service, Bugwood.org

Leaf Structure



UGA1459545

USDA APHIS Archives, Bugwood.org