

# Early Detection and Rapid Response - a Western Regional Approach?

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# Overview

- ◆ The rationale for local, state and regional efforts to cooperate and coordinate weed management efforts.
- ◆ The foreseeable impediments to and infrastructure necessary for regional coordination and implementation of EDRR.

# Why cooperate and coordinate efforts?

- ◆ Enhanced cost-effectiveness through shared equipment, knowledge, and personnel.
- ◆ Better communication among landowners and partners to eliminate redundancies and set common expectations and objectives.
- ◆ “Many hands make light work” – the notion that more can be achieved together than by working separately.

# Why cooperate cont'd . . .

- ◆ Consequently, local cooperative efforts, often called weed management areas (WMAs), have flourished as a means to achieve these benefits at a county or small watershed level.
- ◆ Such efforts have broad appeal as indicated by the explosion of efforts to create WMAs as well as the recognition and codification of such ideas in federal legislation.

# Why cooperate cont'd . . .

- ◆ While WMAs are typically created to enhance management across jurisdictional boundaries locally, larger landscapes can also be served well by cooperative efforts.
  - ◆ Greater Yellowstone Area
  - ◆ Upper Arkansas Regional Weed Management Cooperative
  - ◆ Middle Colorado River Watershed CWMA

# Why cooperate cont'd . . .

- ◆ To achieve common, statewide priorities for weed management and facilitate more cost-effective management efforts, a number of states have set species specific goals for all jurisdictions within their boundaries.
  - ◆ CA – statewide eradication for all “rare” noxious weed species (50 species)
  - ◆ WA – statewide, coordinated efforts to stop the spread of specific species (66 species)

# Why cooperate cont'd . . .

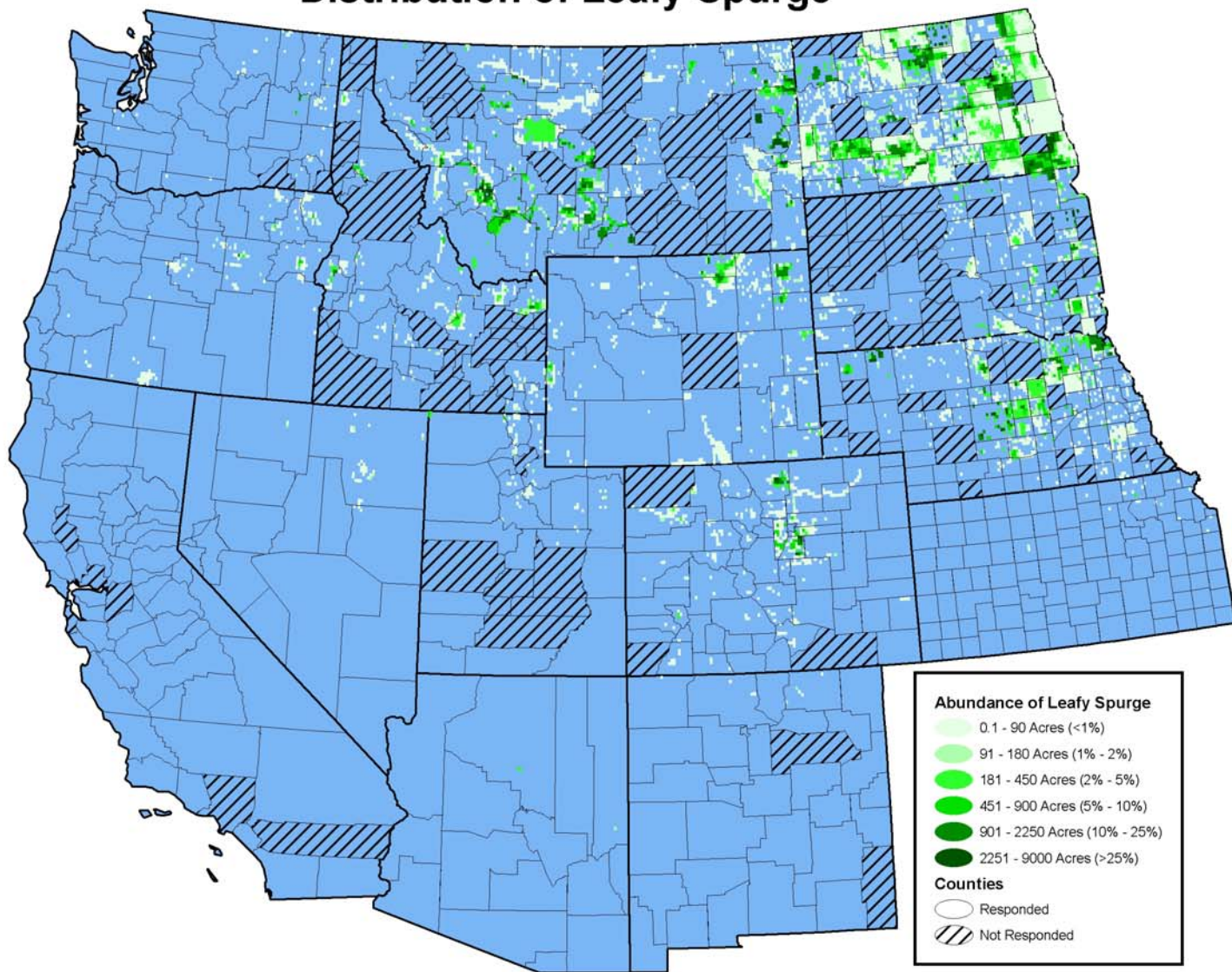
- ◆ If cooperative, coordinated efforts have been successful at each of these scales, then why not apply the concept to the western region in order to:
  - ◆ Enhance cost-effectiveness through shared equipment, knowledge, and personnel;
  - ◆ Improve communication among landowners and partners to eliminate redundancies; and
  - ◆ Achieve more collectively than can be accomplished individually?

# Why cooperate cont'd . . .

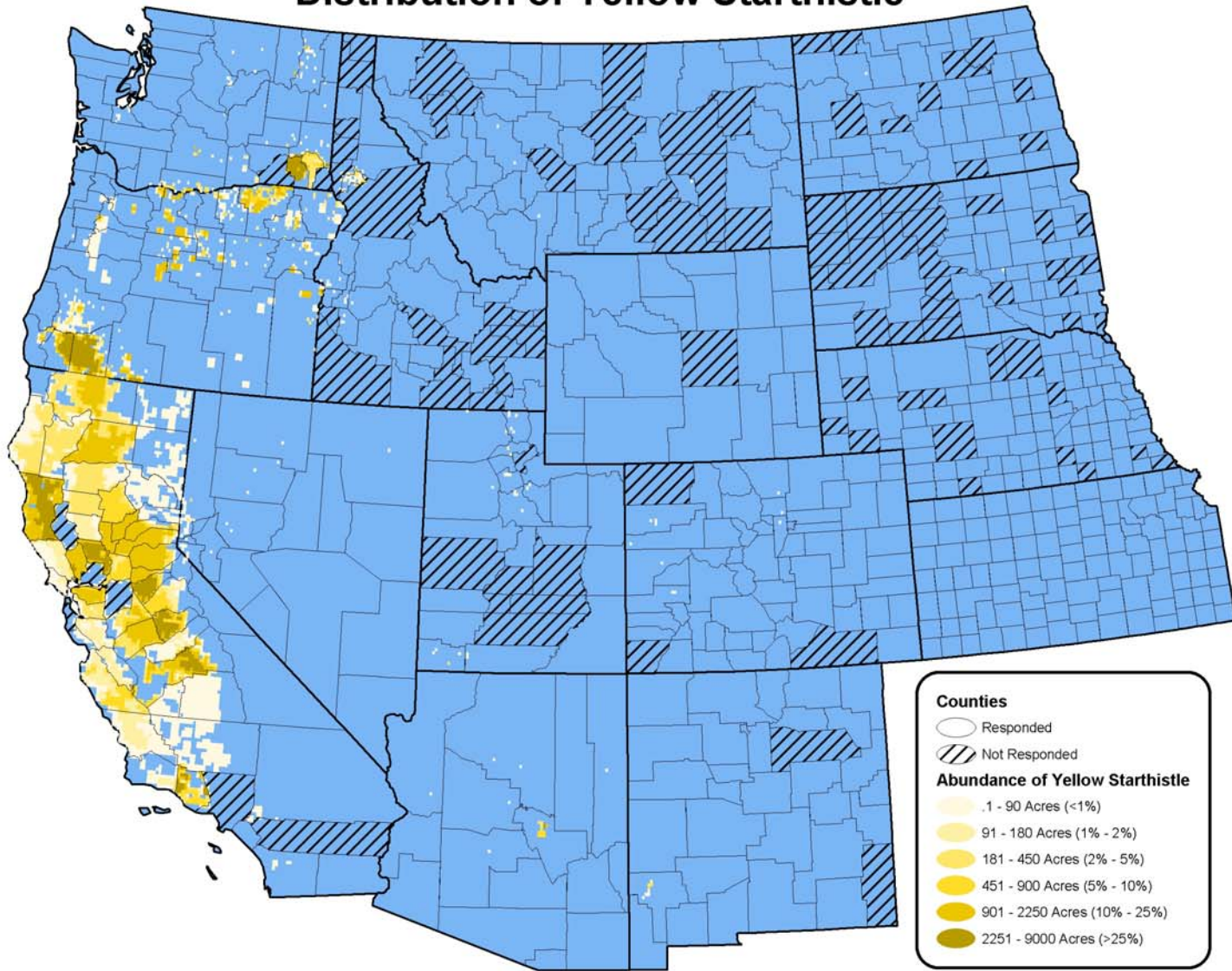
- ◆ Additional advantages of regional cooperation and coordination may include:
  - ◆ Engaging new partners like the Western Governor's Association, The Nature Conservancy, American Farm Bureau.
  - ◆ Enhanced access to financial resources and influence at the national level that will benefit on-the-ground efforts to manage weeds.
  - ◆ Greater leverage to influence less active partners and improve jurisdictional performance.



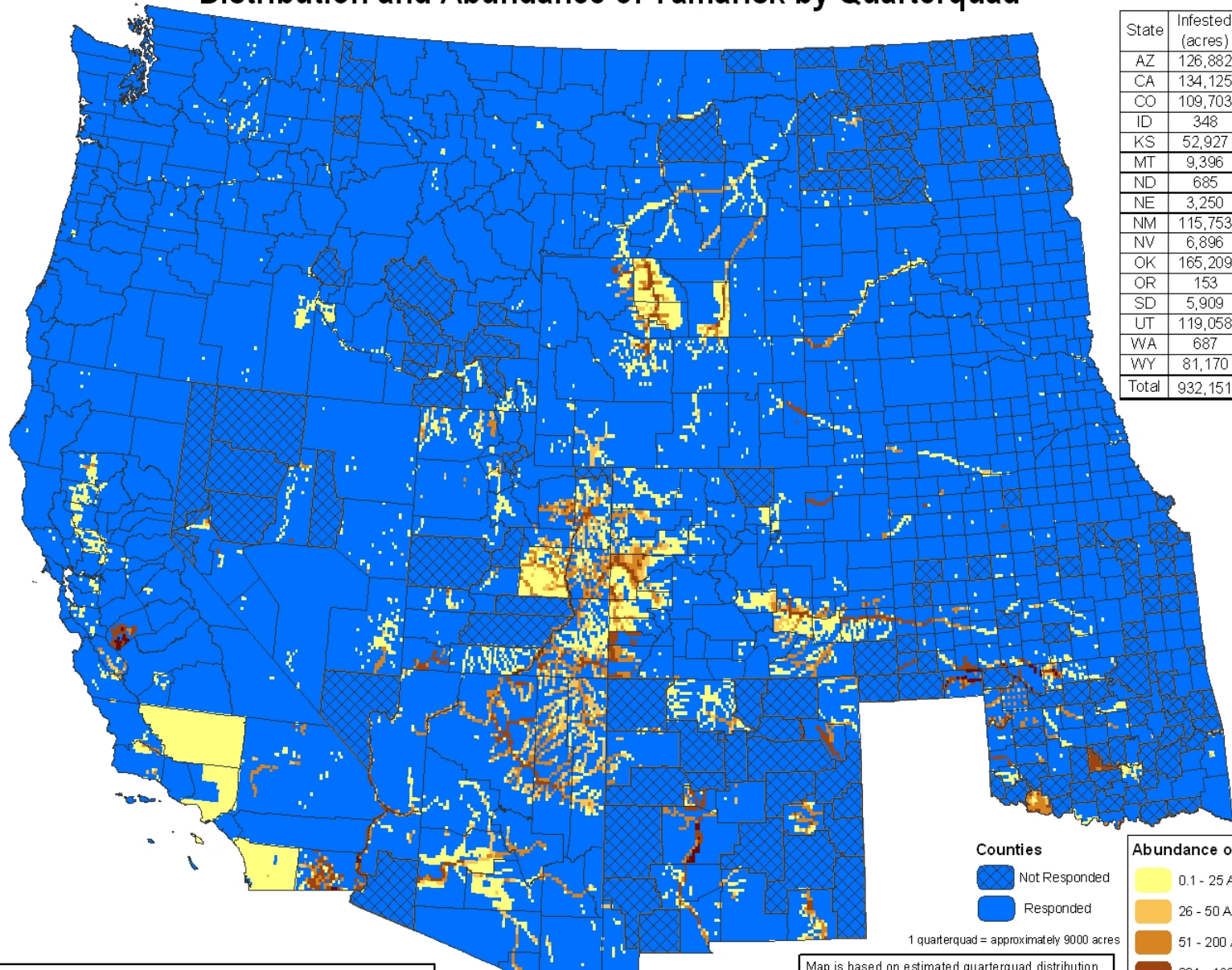
# Distribution of Leafy Spurge



# Distribution of Yellow Starthistle




# Distribution and Abundance of Tamarisk by Quarterquad








State	Infested (acres)	(%) Land Surveyed
AZ	126,882	95%
CA	134,125	100%
CO	109,703	95%
ID	348	75%
KS	52,927	80%
MT	9,396	96%
ND	685	44%
NE	3,250	99%
NM	115,753	44%
NV	6,896	63%
OK	165,209	52%
OR	153	100%
SD	5,909	100%
UT	119,058	80%
WA	687	100%
WY	81,170	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>932,151</b>	<b>84%</b>

### Counties

-  Not Responded
-  Responded

### Abundance of Tamarisk

-  0.1 - 25 Acres
-  26 - 50 Acres
-  51 - 200 Acres
-  201 - 1600 Acres
-  1601 - 4000 Acres

1 quarterquad = approximately 9000 acres

This map produced by the Western Weed Coordinating Committee with funding from the Center for Invasive Plant Management

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Map is based on estimated quarterquad distribution and abundance surveyed at the county level. Species included in survey: *Tamarix* spp. (*T. chinensis*, *T. parviflora*, *T. ramosissima*)

# Necessary infrastructure

- ◆ Many jurisdictions (local, state, and federal) must be willing and able to focus detection and eradication efforts on a common set of invasive species.
- ◆ Among the several hundred invasive species of interest in the West, which can we agree upon?
  - ◆ Economic impacts, environmental impacts, public health threats, and other public values

## Infrastructure cont'd . . .

- ◆ Local jurisdictions must be able to implement educational and survey efforts that increase detection probabilities.
- ◆ A common set of species should enable:
  - ◆ The development of standard educational materials that meet needs across the West.
  - ◆ The application and enhancement of predictive capacity regarding the spread and establishment of targeted species.

# Infrastructure cont'd . . .

- ◆ Local jurisdictions must be able to implement eradication efforts that eliminate existing plants and future recruits.
  - ◆ Requires dedication and persistence that is often beyond the means of local programs alone.
  - ◆ Regional cooperation can help focus sufficient resources to ensure local programs succeed.

# Concluding remarks

- ◆ To protect our own individual, jurisdictional interests, it will be necessary to collaborate with others in surrounding jurisdictions.
- ◆ Fortunately, the infrastructure to manage invasive plants successfully across a broad, multi-jurisdictional landscape exists in the West to a great extent.

# Concluding remarks

- ◆ However, to collaborate successfully at a region level, there are costs. Managers at all levels will have to:
  - ◆ Yield some authority to achieve common goals
  - ◆ Redirect some resources toward shared objectives and priorities
- ◆ Developing and implementing regional EDRR strategies will help unite and focus local, state, and federal efforts.