You may be receiving this newsletter as part of our once-a-year direct mailing to all rural landowners in the Clearwater Valley, (check for green box near mailing label). Unless you have signed up to be on our regular mailing list, or attended one of our programs, this will be the only publication you receive this year. If you would like to receive all our quarterly newsletters, and our program brochures and announcements throughout the year (all free of charge!), please contact us at clearwater@uidaho.edu, or 208-476-4434 and we will put you on our regular mailing list. It's Free!!

Greetings and Happy 2019!

by Bill Warren

Hope everyone had a great time over the holidays.

So far, we are having a relatively mild winter as reflected in Idaho snowpack (see map on page 2) and warmer than normal temperatures as measured for December in Lewiston. Expectations are for a warmer winter than normal for the December to February period.

The climate prediction center is indicating greater probability for a warmer and drier June through August period than normal for 2019 (see maps on page 2). While it is still to far out to make a projection, low snow packs in spring followed by a significantly warmer and drier than normal summer tends to increase wildfire risk.

2019 Extension Programing

We are offering several new programs this year (please see inside for details) that will address topics such as Idaho’s new trespassing law, the new income tax law and timber, cattle ownership

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and management, weed identification field tour, ventenata and annual grass control, and anticipated effects of climate change on forests and other natural resources.

While most of our 2019 spring/summer programs are listed in this newsletter, we may add additional programs based on client needs. Sign up to be on our regular mailing list (if you aren’t already) to keep informed of all our offerings throughout the year.

Wishing everyone a happy and productive 2019!
Education Programs for 2019

We have several educational programs for rural landowners planned this year. Detailed descriptions of these programs, along with registration information, will be mailed out to those who have asked to be on our regular mailing list; however, what follows is a brief summary of some of these programs.

January

- What Landowners Need to Know: The New Income Tax Law and Timber & Idaho’s New Trespassing Law (January 28, 2019; Orofino). Presentations will provide information about the new income tax law as it affects timberland owners, as well as the important aspects of Idaho’s new trespassing law for landowners and the recreating public.

- The Basics & Beyond: Cattle Ownership & Management 201 (January 29, 2019; Orofino). Based on the popularity of last year’s workshop, and comments from last year’s attendees, we are offering a more intermediate level workshop this year that in addition to the basics will go into more intermediate subjects, and in more depth, by expanding the time of the workshop from two to four hours.

- Small Farms and Community Food Systems (January 29, February 5 & 12, 2019, Orofino). This year’s program will have presentations on raising sheep and goats for sale, growing fodder as a livestock feed to boost profitability of your livestock operation, and designing irrigation systems that boost crop productivity.

- Upper Clearwater Farmers Market Managers & Beginning Local Food Producers Workshop (February 6, 2019; Orofino). This day-long workshop is designed to improve the skills of farmer’s market managers to maintain and grow successful community farmer’s markets. In addition, presentations will be included that provide information to help beginning local food producers increase their profits and grow their business.

March

- Controlling Ventenata & Other Annual Grasses: (March 5, Orofino). Learn strategies for controlling invasive annual grasses such as ventenata and medusa head.

- Natural Resource Planning for Rural Landowners (March 14, 2019; Orofino). Good planning helps achieve the goals you’ve set for your property. This program will use the American Tree Farm planning template to go over the basics for developing your own natural resource or forest plan for your property.

- Planning & Conducting Your Own Timber Sale (March 21, 2019; Orofino). Gives forest landowners the basics on finding a logging contractor; contracts; marketing logs; marking timber, roads, and skid trails; and many other details for conducting a successful timber sale on their property.

April

- So You Want to Buy a Ranch?: Rural Land Purchasing 101 (April 9, 16, 23, 2019; Lewiston). Will be held again this year with presentations that cover selecting a location, judging land value, property taxes, easements, land title, real estate contracts, and much more.

May

- Weed ID Field Tour (May 31, 2019; Kendrick). Learn from expert weed scientist Rich Old how to identify many of our most important invasive weeds in the field along with information on their biology and how to control them.

June

- Forest Insect & Disease Field Day (June 20, 2019; Kamiah). Attendees will learn directly from forest entomologists and pathologists on how to identify and address forest insect and disease threats to timber-stand productivity.

- Forest Landowner Peer Learning Field Tour (June 28, 2019; Cottonwood). Learn from your neighbors who are managing their forestlands for timber production and other resources. We will be visiting local forest landowners and learning from their management experience as well as discussing options for forest management.

Other Spring Workshops Anticipated (date not yet set)

- Anticipated Affects of Climate Change on Forests and Other Ecosystems in the Inland Northwest (Orofino). The program will review the recent science on anticipated changes to forests and other ecosystems in the inland Northwest and the implications for natural resource management. The program will include strategies that landowners can adopt to adapt their land management to these anticipated changes.

- Ecological Forest Management Field Tour. The tour will view alternative forest management practices that reference natural disturbance patterns and emphasize historic forest structures and species composition for enhancing biodiversity as well as increasing resilience to wildfire, climate change, and other disturbance.

- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Cost Share Programs. (Orofino) Come find out about the various NRCS cost-share programs that are available for landowners. From tree planting, to building paddock fencing and ponds, and many other programs, NRCS cost-share programs provide financial assistance for a variety of conservation related projects for rural landowners.
A Sampling of Current Log Prices from Local Mills— January 2019
Per thousand board feet (mbf) (Preferred lengths)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Douglas Fir</th>
<th>Grand Fir</th>
<th>Ponderosa Pine</th>
<th>Cedar</th>
<th>Spruce, Lodgepole</th>
<th>White Pine</th>
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Contact Us!

University of Idaho Extension
Clearwater County
Planning & Conducting Your Own Timber Sale
March 21, 2019
UI Extension Office, Orofino, ID
6:00 pm—8:30 pm
Contact UI Extension—Clearwater County to Register or for more information (208) 476–4434

University of Idaho Extension
Clearwater County
Upper Clearwater Farmers Market Managers & Beginning Local Food Producers Workshop
UI Extension Office, Orofino, ID
February 6, 2019
8:00 am—4:40 pm
Contact UI Extension—Clearwater County to Register or for more information (208) 476–4434

University of Idaho Extension
Clearwater County
Forest Landowner Peer Learning Field Tour
June 28, 2019
Cottonwood, ID
Contact UI Extension—Clearwater County to Register or for more information (208) 476–4434

University of Idaho Extension
Clearwater County Web Site
www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/clearwater

Workshop materials available for download include:
- Manage Your Land for Wildlife
- Introduction to Rural Land Ownership
- Dry Land Pasture Management

Other Services and Publications:
- Gardening
- Canning
- Submission forms for:
  - Insect, Plant and Soil Sampling

News & Events:
- Workshop Information & Brochures
- Past Newsletters

Workshop News
Don’t be disappointed, REGISTER EARLY!
We highly recommend that if you are interested in one of our workshops that you register early. Attendance at workshops has increased in recent years and late registrations and walk-ins have been turned away.

Contact Us!

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Diffuse Knapweed

Diffuse knapweed is a biennial or short-lived perennial. Its seedlings have finely divided leaves covered with short hair. Diffuse knapweed grows as a basal rosette during the first year and produces a heavily branched stem in the second year. Diffuse knapweed grows one to three feet tall from a deep tap-root. The numerous spreading branches produced from the rough, erect stems give the plant a spherical shape and the ability to travel like tumbleweed when broken off.

The leaves at the base of the stem are formed on short stalks and are deeply divided into lobes on both sides of the central vein. The stalkless stem leaves become smaller and less divided toward the top of the stem.

Diffuse knapweed reproduces solely by seed. The seeds are spread by vehicles or when the plant detaches at the base and travels like a tumbleweed in the wind.

Careful and continual hand pulling or digging can control small infestations or scattered plants if enough of the tap-root is removed to prevent sprouting. It is easiest to pull the plants when the soil is wet.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: refer to Idaho’s Noxious Weeds 2011 Control Guidelines.

Taken from University of Nevada Extension publication Fact Sheet FS-04-29. www.unce.unr.edu

Toadflax

Yellow and Dalmatian toadflax are herbaceous, short-lived perennials that grow well in most soils, climates, elevations and water regimes. Dalmatian toadflax grows to three feet tall while yellow toadflax is usually shorter. Both reproduce by seed and underground rootstocks.

Dalmatian toadflax is the coarser of the two, but they both have rough, woody stems at their base that become smooth near the top. Leaves of Dalmatian toadflax are waxy, blue-green, heart to lance-shaped, wide at their bases and have smooth margins. Yellow toadflax leaves are pale green, numerous, narrow, pointed at both ends, and grow to two and a half inches or longer. With their bright yellow snapdragon-like flowers are often sold as “wild snapdragon” or “butter & eggs” through catalogs and nurseries.

Pulling or cultivating young Dalmatian and yellow toadflax plants in small infestations before they go to seed will provide control, even eradication, if done consistently for several years. When pulling either weed, make sure to remove the lateral roots completely. Mowing is not recommended as it stimulates more plants to grow from the roots. Burning is also not recommended as it does not kill the roots and may stimulate shoot growth.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: Refer to Idaho’s Noxious Weed Control Guidelines.

Taken from University of Nevada Extension publication Fact Sheet FS-02-96. www.unce.unr.edu

Scotch Thistle

Scotch thistle has robust spiny leaves with white woolly hairs that give them a gray cast. There are more hairs on the lower leaf surface than on the upper leaf surface. The stem has spiny “wings” running down the stem. The leaf outline is egg shaped to narrow spatula shaped, but the general outlines is interrupted by irregular spiny teeth along the leaf margin.

Leaf length varies between 4 and 20 inches, and the leaves are arranged in an alternate pattern along the stem.

Scotch thistle reproduces only by seeds. Therefore, preventing seed production and spread should be the main focus of any management strategy.

Because Scotch Thistle reproduces by seeds only, severing the root below the soil surface will kill the plant. Mowing can be effective if timed to occur before flowering because some seed may develop in severed flower heads.

As with any mechanical control strategy, enhancing or establishing perennial competitive plants is necessary to reduce future germination and establishment of Scotch Thistle.

Chemical control for noncrop and rangeland sites: Refer to Idaho’s Noxious Weed Control Guidelines.

Sweet Potato Hash Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms

**Ingredients:**
4 large Portobello mushrooms  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
3/4 teaspoon salt, divided  
1/2 teaspoon ground pepper, divided  
1 large sweet potato, peeled & diced  
1/4 cup water  
1 large apple, peeled & diced  
1 medium red bell pepper, diced  
1/2 cup chopped shallots  
1 teaspoon poultry seasoning  
1/2 cup chopped walnuts, toasted  
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

**Preparation:**
Preheat oven to 425°F.

Remove the stems from the Portobello mushrooms. Set the caps aside and chop the stems.

Lightly brush the Portobello caps with 1 tablespoon oil. Sprinkle with 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Place on a rimmed baking sheet and roast until soft, 10 to 15 minutes. Keep warm.

Meanwhile, heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add sweet potato and water. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until just cooked through, 6 to 8 minutes. Uncover and stir in remaining 1 tablespoon oil, the chopped Portobello stems, apple, bell pepper, shallots, poultry seasoning and remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt and remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Cook, stirring until soft, about 5 minutes. Stir in walnuts and parsley. Fill each mushroom cap with about 1 cup filling.