

***With all the tools available,
why are invasive species
and wildfires increasing?***

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Bromus tectorum
(cheatgrass)





QUESTION & ANSWER (Non-Cropland Habitat Restoration)

DuPont™ Landmark® MP herbicide

Control of cheatgrass (downy brome), medusahead rye and certain broadleaf weeds



The use of DuPont™ Landmark® MP herbicide is important to prevent the buildup of combustible fuel in plant communities, stop the displacement of desirable shrubs and grass and control vernal pool vegetation.

Field studies on medusahead indicate that the rate of one package per 15 acres provides effective control. Timing of the application should be in the fall, within 30 days of the first frost.

High Country News

For people who care about the West

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Exotic-killing herbicide is ousted from the range

From the June 10, 2002 issue of High Country News

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA #Nevada

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Bringing the University to You

DRAFT*

A Homeowners Guide to Cheatgrass

Jay Davison, Central/Northeast Area Plant and Soils Specialist
Ed Smith, Western Area Natural Resources Specialist

Cheatgrass, also known as downy brome and brodiaea grass, is an annual grass native to Europe and Asia. We don't know how cheatgrass made it to North America, but it is now one of the most common plants in Nevada. Since its first recorded Nevada sighting in 1906, cheatgrass has come to dominate over 17 million acres in the Great Basin. It rapidly occupies areas that were once dominated by native perennial grasses.



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LATITUDE

ASK AN EXPERT



Cheatgrass Blazes Unwanted Trail Controlling Weeds, Controlling Budgets

As one of the most abundant non-native species in the United States, cheatgrass creates a wide range of serious problems for landowners and managers across the country. The highly invasive weed chokes out native vegetation, reduces food available for grazing animals and significantly increases the danger of massive wildfires.

We asked Dr. Jennifer Vollmer, a senior vegetation management specialist at BASF Corporation, to give us her expert insight on the invasive weed.

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LATITUDE Winter 2004

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Mountain Home Air Force Base

INTEGRITY - SERVICE - EXCELLENCE

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366th Fighter Wing to conduct aerial spraying for cheatgrass control

by Maj. Damien Pickart
366th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

9/11/2007 - MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho -- The 366th Civil Engineer Squadron will conduct an aerial herbicide application in effort to reduce cheatgrass, which provides fuels for wild land fires.

Beginning Friday, September 14 and lasting through September 28, approximately 3,200 acres of Air Force land in Owyhee County will be sprayed with the herbicide Plateau®.

The herbicide is proven to reduce the growth of cheatgrass - an invasive, non-native grass that chokes out native vegetation and has contributed to the loss of native species.



MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho -- A specially modified C-130 Hercules aircraft conducts an herbicide aerial spray mission on the Mountain Home AFB's Saylor Creek Range in 2000. Beginning Friday,





Potential bio-control with microorganisms (e.g. *Pyrenophora semeniperda*)



Julie Beckstead

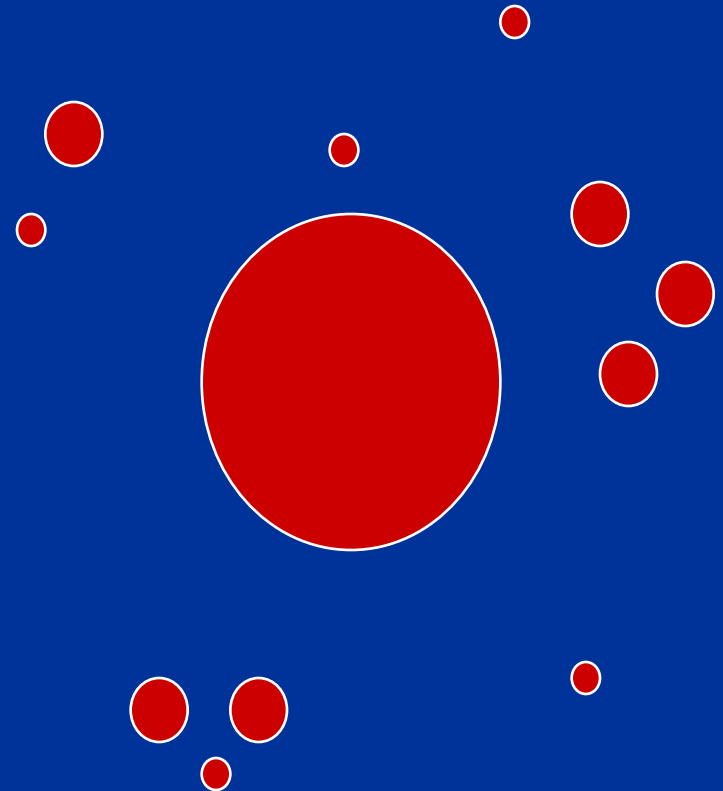
Prospects for eradication (and control): Basic tenets must be scrupulously followed

Early detection

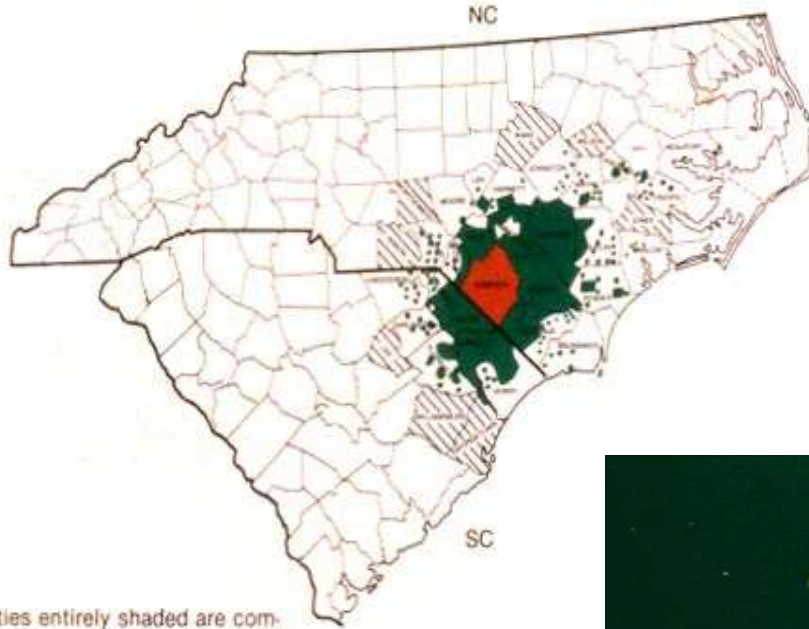
Rapid risk assessment: weeks
or months, not years

Rapidly destroy all plants upon
their detection, beginning
with nascent foci

Conduct long-term, repeated
searches for remaining or
newly emergent plants



Witchweed Quarantines

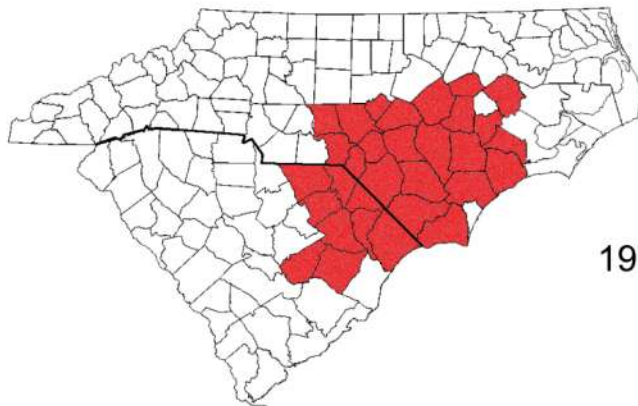


Counties entirely shaded are completely regulated; counties partially shaded are partially regulated.

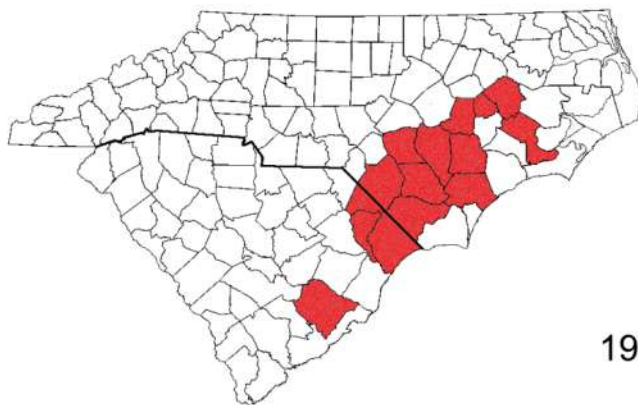
-  Generally infested area — State and Federal regulations (Eradication treatments not in progress or planned)
-  Suppressive area — State and Federal regulations (Suppressive treatments in progress or planned)
-  Eradicated — regulations removed

Striga asiatica

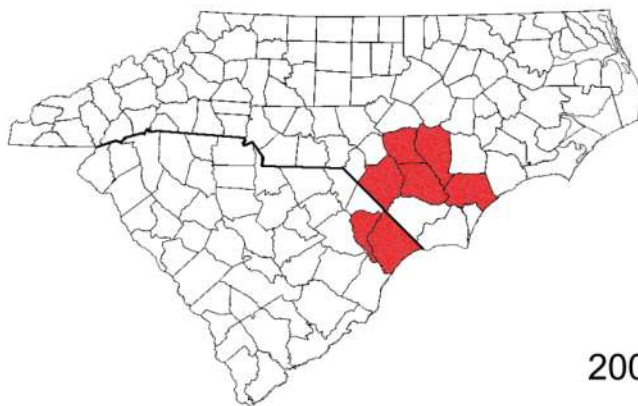




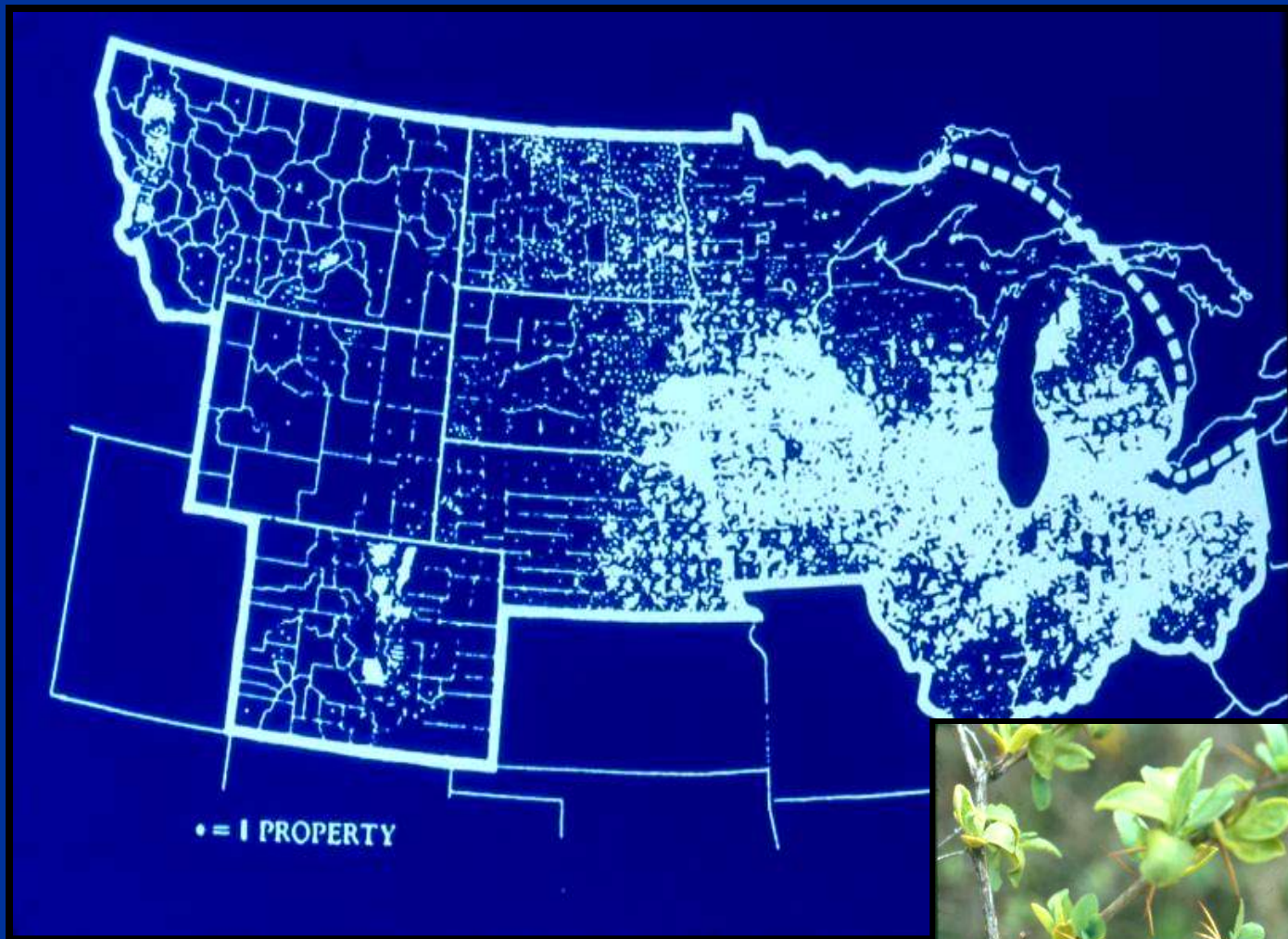
1970



1990



2007



Berberis
(European barberry)
vulgaris

NATIONAL RUST BUSTERS CLUB

JOIN



NOW

N. R. B. C. Medal

Any boy or girl in Iowa can obtain a beautiful bronze medal like the one shown above and become a member of the National Rust Busters Club, if he or she will report a property on which common barberry bushes are growing.

Common barberry spreads a disease called "black stem rust," which destroys millions of bushels of wheat, oats, barley, and rye every year. Help us find these bushes and "bust the rust."

Of course, in order to find and report common barberry bushes, you must know what they look like and where they may be found growing. Every school is entitled to a complete set of educational material about the barberry, consisting of colored charts, posters, bulletins, a pressed specimen, and a lesson plan. Find out what the common barberry looks like and how it spreads black stem rust.

To report a common barberry, mail a small twig to the Barberry Eradication Office, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

Prepared by the Rust Prevention Association, 200 Lewis Building, Minneapolis, Minn., in cooperation with the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The devil's in the bush

BLACK RUST

BARBERRY BUSHES

Note the Leaves
and
Barbs

HELP!

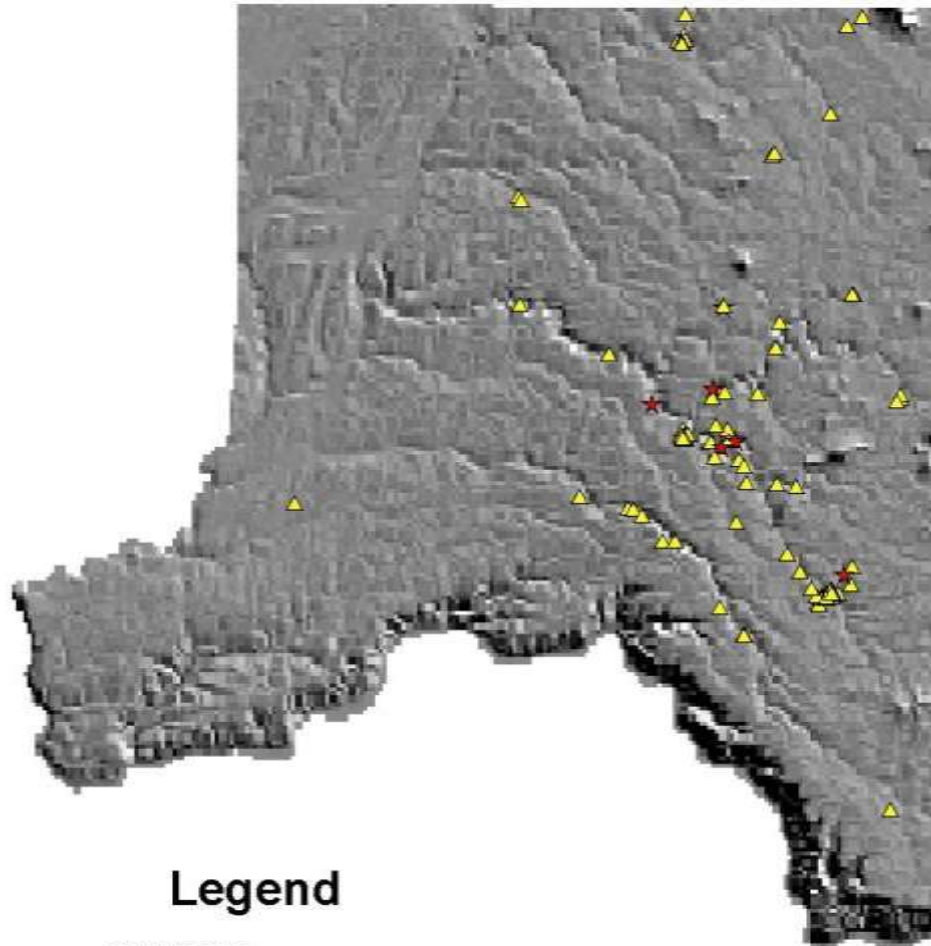
DESTROY AN ENEMY OF THE WHEAT CROP DIG OUT
EVERY BARBERRY-BUSH

They start black stem rust on grain. Help us locate every
bush. Owners must dig them up within
TEN DAYS
after notification. (See Senate Bill No. 139)

J. N. HAGAN, Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor

Whitman County Survey Locations

Barberry Eradication Program



Legend

2002-2003 Surveys

△ No Barberry Found

★ Shrub(s) Found



0 3.5 7 14 21 28 Kilometers

In contrast, failed campaigns do not adequately (permanently) engage the public

Western governors rail against cheatgrass



Otter, other governors declare war on cheatgrass

They want 500 volunteers to help collect native seeds, so threatened areas can be replanted.

Seeds contain hope of healing Great Basin;
Volunteers collect stems to help restore sagebrush to
fire-damaged territory

SPOKESMANREVIEW.COM

Wet spring worries Eastern Washington wildland managers



Los Angeles Times

Beige plague

Grassy invaders stoke immense fires that are obliterating huge swaths of the West's sagebrush.

August 2, 2008

Invasive weed a fuel for wildfires;
Western states work to defend landscapes as **cheatgrass**
overruns areas

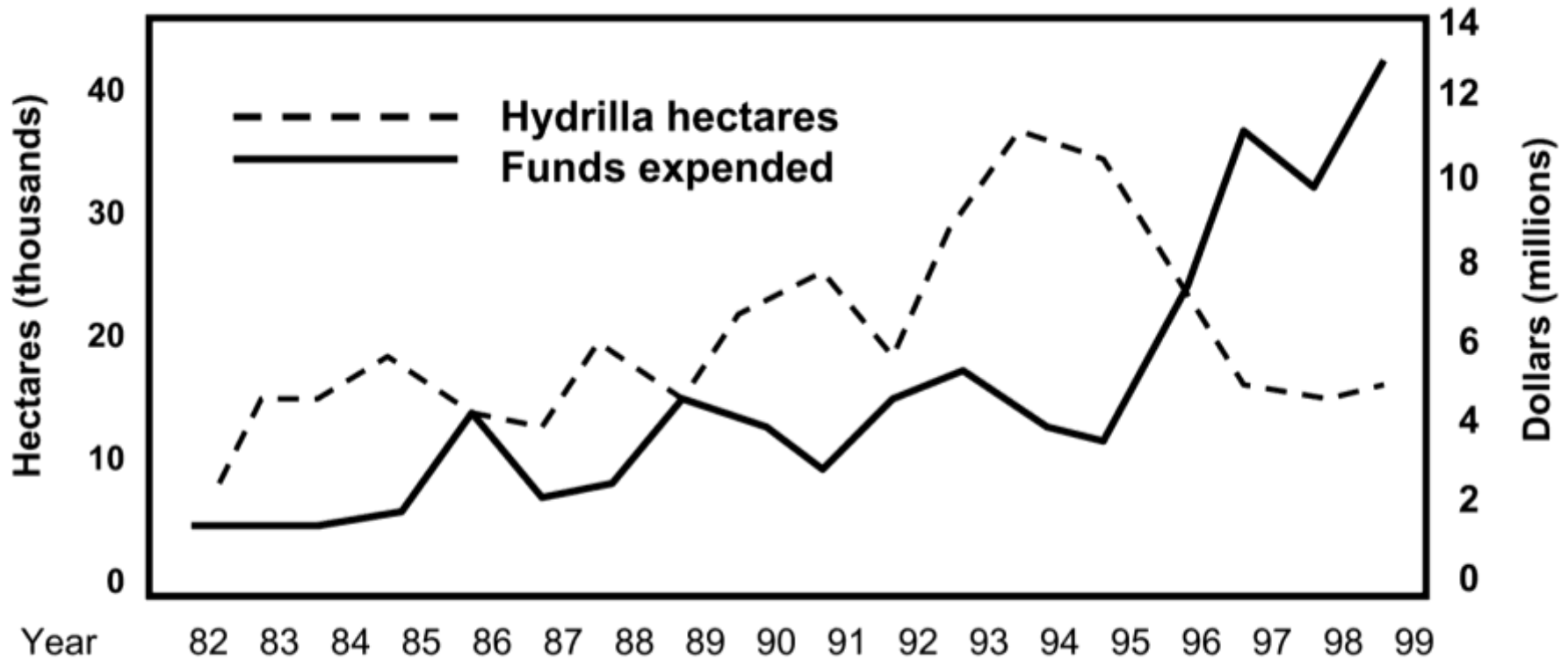
The problem: this deserved attention to cheatgrass is short-lived, headline news that is quickly replaced by other headlines.

No lasting impression that translates into a call for action by the public to policy makers.

The problem could be viewed as worse than doing nothing; some funds are allocated for short-term “control”, then withdrawn.



Inconsistent funding for *Hydrilla* control lead to an accelerating invasion



If we are to succeed, then an essential component of the successful strategy must involve capturing national public attention.

In the age of global economies, we must still stress the interconnectivity within our national economy.

What happens in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington holds direct consequences for the whole country.

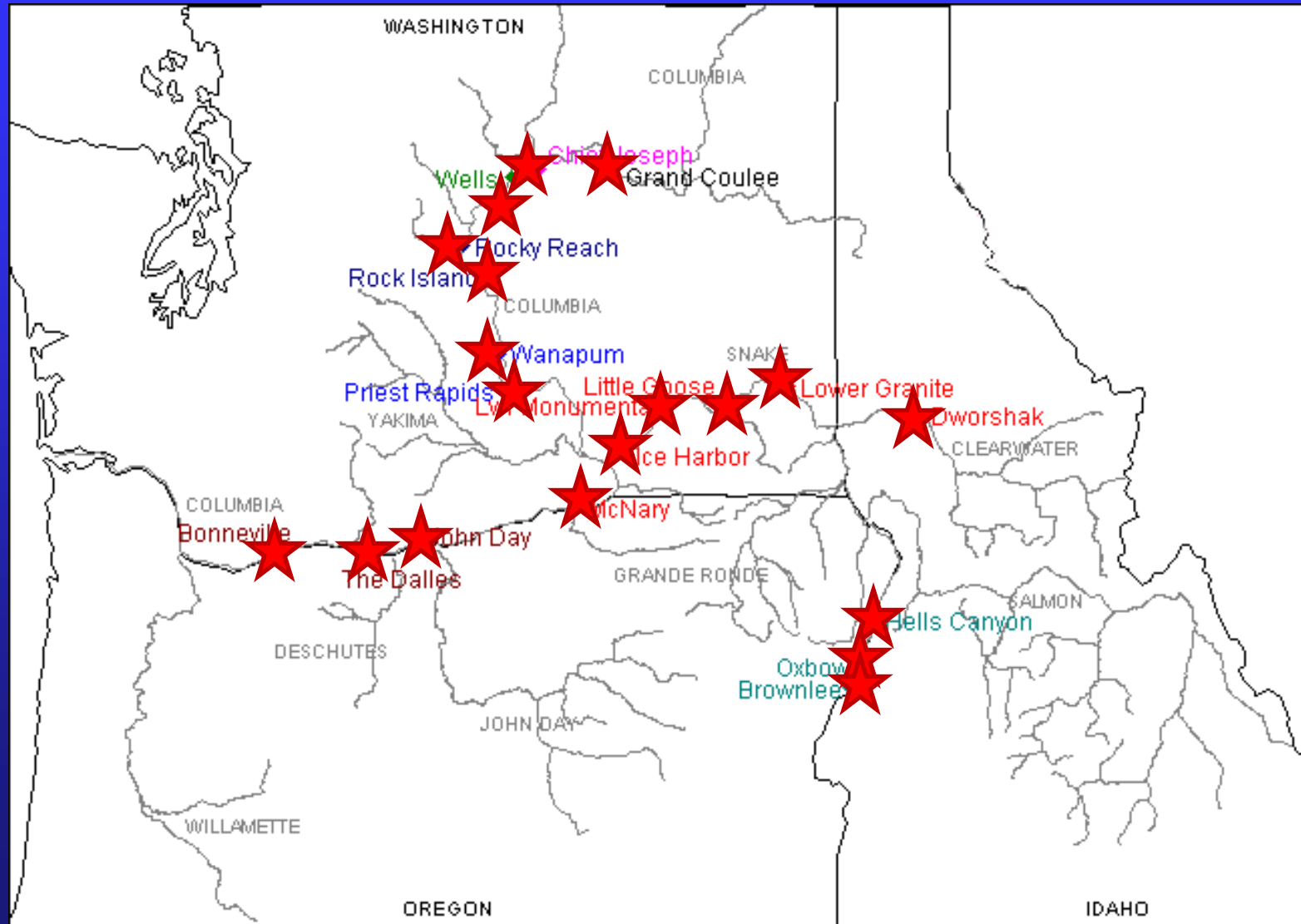
What happens in our region holds direct consequences for the whole country.

- Price of livestock (lower stocking rates on cheatgrass range and loss of animals from fire)
- Costs to fight recurring fires (state but also federal obligation)
- And.....

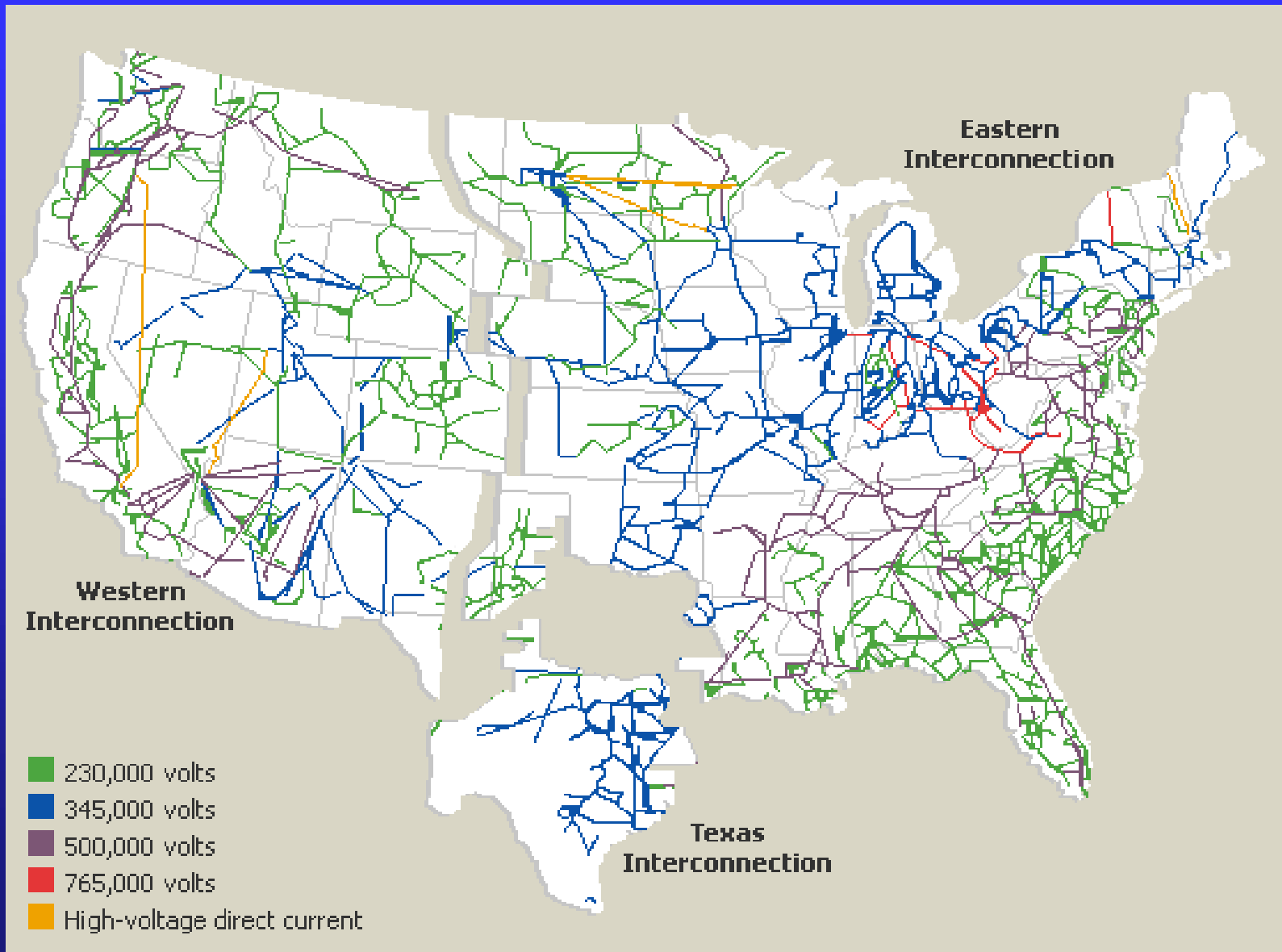
...perhaps most important, the consequences for the national power grid



53% of electricity in the Pacific Northwest is derived from hydropower.



The National Power Grid



The solution to wildfires and invasive species in the Intermountain West:

- Successful control (and eventual eradication) of an invasive species (e.g. cheatgrass) is most dependent on mustering and sustaining public support.
- This support will come when ranchers, farmers, ecologists, conservationists, economists, river barge operators in the Intermountain West forge the argument the everyone is a stakeholder in combating an invasive species, such as cheatgrass.