

Dear Angler,

You already know the Big Hole River is a very special place. You also know we need to protect the Big Hole River from invasive threats such as riparian noxious weeds. Since 1999, over \$750,000 has been spent on noxious weed management on the Big Hole River.

Each year grant funding for the project dwindles, but the impact of noxious weeds never ends. Although weed seed spreads naturally throughout the watershed via the wind and the river, it is also spread by wild and domestic animals, and by people and their vehicles, trailers, boats, and fishing gear.

The most effective way for all of us to keep the spread of noxious weeds in check is to learn how to identify them. Are you sure the flower you might notice on the riverbank is indeed a flower? It could easily be a noxious weed. Please learn to identify the riparian area noxious weeds that can be a real threat to the Big Hole River such as purple loosestrife, saltcedar, and leafy spurge.

Did you know?

- You should wash your vehicle, trailer, boat and fishing gear before you head out fishing to avoid spreading weeds from one body of water to another and from one fishing access site to another
- Noxious weeds make for poor ground cover and in turn promotes erosion and eventually poor water quality which effects fishing, and even spawning.
- You can help reduce the likelihood of herbicide use by learning to identify noxious weeds before they become a BIGGER problem.

To learn more about noxious weed identification:  
Big Hole Watershed Committee – [www.bhwc.org](http://www.bhwc.org)



SALTCEDAR



PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE



LEAFY SPURGE



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