

**Project Summary**  
**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Biological Control Research

**Type of Project:** Research

**Project Discipline:** Natural

**Funding Agency:** Bureau of Land Management

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Montana State University

**Effective Dates:** 8/01/2009 - 7/31/2014

**Funding Amount:** \$16,000 [FY10: \$8,000; FY09: \$8,000 (also funded in FY04: \$82,000 and FY08: \$6000)]

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

**Agency Contact:** John Simons, Montana State Office, Invasive Species and Restoration Manager, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT, 59101; 406-896-5043; jsimons@blm.gov

**Investigator:** Malvern P. Westcott, Superintendent, MSU, Western Agricultural Research Center, Corvallis, Montana, 59828 westcott@montana.edu

**Project Abstract:** The Bureau of Land Management is requesting the services of Montana State University to continue research on biological weed control agents (insects) that will help reduce the infestation of spotted (*Centuaurea maculosa*) and diffuse (*C. diffusa*) knapweeds, houndstoungue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), and sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*) and slow or prevent the spread of these weeds. Also to provide available biological weed control agents that are available for general release onto these weed species. This will allow the BLM and the public to establish insectories for further collection and release of the biological weed control agents.

**Outcomes with completion dates:** Annual performance report due at eh end of each year of the agreement.

**Keywords:** BLM, Montana State University, biological weed control