# FHP SPECIAL TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Complete the following for each project active in fiscal year (FY) 1999. If the project did not receive STDP funding, but the activities were sustained by other funds such that the project is not fully completed, submit a progress report. If the project was completed in FY 1999, use this form as a final report.

**PROJECT STATUS:**

_X_ Continuing (Funds are being requested for FY 2000 to continue the project)

___ Continuing (work continues but no FHP-STDP funds are requested in FY2000)

___ Completed (ended in FY 1999)

**PROJECT NUMBER:** R4-1999-01

**PROJECT TITLE:** Integrating Aggressive Biological Control Efforts into a Leafy Spurge Management Program, Fairfield Ranger District, Sawtooth National Forest.

**SUBJECT:** Biological Controls, Noxious Weeds

**PROJECT OBJECTIVE:** Overall Objective to demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of integrating aggressive biological control efforts into an existing spurge management program. Specific Objectives - 1) to continue to determine the site characteristics which best describe areas where *Aphthona* spp. flea beetles will be most effective, 2) to evaluate helicopter releases of *Aphthona* spp. flea beetles as an effective method to distribute these agents to inaccessible areas, 3) to evaluate the feasibility of using digital imagery to monitor the impacts *Aphthona* spp. beetles have upon the density of spurge in inaccessible areas, and 4) to assess the effectiveness of *Oberea erythrocephala* releases in or near riparian areas

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** Leafy Spurge was first detected in the South Fork of the Boise River Drainage on private land in the 1950's. From this epicenter it began spreading to adjacent public lands. The current infestation is scattered in approximately 200 sites ranging in size from less than 1 acre to more than 50 acres. These pockets of spurge are located within an 23,000-acre area on a variety of sites including riparian areas, valley benches and steep hillsides. The District's spurge management program which began in 1968 has not kept up with the expanding spurge infestation. We are proposing to integrate aggressive and innovative biological control efforts into the existing spurge management program to improve the effectiveness of the management program and to demonstrate that biological control can be an important tool to be included in integrated management programs.

**FHP PERSON LEADING THE PROJECT:** Dayle Bennett, R4, Boise

**COOPERATORS:**
Phil Mocettini, FHP Boise Field Office, Boise, ID
Andrew Deutscher, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Bozeman, MT
Tom Barbouletos, FHP Boise Field Office, Kalispell, MT
Gary Fullmer, District Ranger, Fairfield Ranger District, Sawtooth NF
John Shelly, Fairfield Ranger District, Sawtooth NF
George Markin, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Bozeman, MT

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS:**

Phase 1. Vegetation, soil sample, and *Aphthona* spp. population data collection was completed for the twenty-five 1995 release sites. The data will be analyzed to determine site characteristics of successful *Aphthona* spp. releases.

Phase 2. Vegetation, soil sample, and *Aphthona* spp. population data was collected for the 1998 helicopter release sites.

Phase 4. *Oberea erythrocephala* release sites were monitored for presence of beetle life stages.

**DOCUMENTATION:** Not available.

**FIRST YEAR FUNDED:** FY 1999 .

**YEAR SCHEDULED TO END:** From original proposal, FY 2000.

**ACTUAL YEAR TO END:** Year products will be delivered, FY 2000 .

**PRODUCTS AND DUE DATES IDENTIFIED IN THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL:** The final report will be published as a Forest Health Protection Field Office Report. If the results merit inclusion in a refereed professional journal we will submit a report for publication. Oral presentations of the results will be made upon request. Hopefully the project area within the South Fork of the Boise River drainage will become a demonstration area where the successes of an integrated management program can be demonstrated to interested parties.

**STATUS OF PRODUCTS:** Data analysis and report writing will take place during FY 2000.

Progress on this project is satisfactory. The field data was collected in a timely manner. Phase 3 included testing the feasibility of using true color digital imagery to monitor isolated leafy spurge infestations. Due to changes in contracting regulations and equipment availability we were unable to acquire the true color digital imagery. A contract has been let to accomplish this imagery acquisition in FY 2000 with contributed funds from the Boise and Sawtooth National Forests, respectively. Due to the death of Julie Weatherby, time lines for the completion of specific tasks (by specific individuals) haven't been finalized. This will be corrected over the next few months.

**FUNDS OBLIGATED FROM BEGINNING OF PROJECT THROUGH END OF FY 1999:**
Please make a reasonable effort to provide information about funds and contributions from other sources by indicating the source(s) and amount or value of contributions. This information is helpful in order to communicate the effectiveness of this program in leveraging opportunities and fostering collaboration and ultimately to encourage continued availability of future funding for the program.

FY 1999 BUDGET OBLIGATIONS:

ITEMIZE as follows:

| | Item | FHP STDP Funding | Other Sources amount | Organization Name |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin items: | Salary (1 GS5 Tech.) (+2 GS 4 Tech.) | $14,000 | | |
| | Salary (Researcher) | | $2,000 | Intermountain Research |
| | Overhead | | $3,000 | Sawtooth NF, FHP |
| | Travel | $1,000 | | |
| Procurements: | Contracting | | | |
| | Helicopter time | $1,500 | | |
| | Equipment | | | |
| | Vehicle & Gas | | $2,000 | Sawtooth NF |
| | Supplies | $1,000 | | |
| | Other (digital photo) | | $15,000 | Boise NF, Sawtooth NF |
| TOTAL FY 1999 Budget | | $17,500 | $22,000 | |

**FUNDS CARRIED OVER FROM FY 1999 to FY 2000:** $13,900.
Of the amount carried over, what portion will be needed in FY 2000 for this project? $13,900.

**POST-PROJECT TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:** This project is designed to provide guidelines and to evaluate operational tools that could be useful in the biological control phases of an operational leafy spurge management program. If at the conclusion of this project certain tools and guidelines appear promising we will recommend these tools to other land managers as part of our technical assistance program.

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED FHP-STDP FUNDING FOR PROJECT**
Use to request FY 2000 funding for projects active in FY 1999.

Complete the following for each multi-year project active in FY 1999, that you wish to continue and have funded with STDP funds in FY 2000.

**PROJECT STATUS:** Funds are being requested for FY 2000 to continue the project.

**ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE:** FY 2000.

**PROJECT NUMBER:** R4-1999-01

**PROJECT TITLE:** Integrating Aggressive Biological Control Efforts into a Leafy Spurge Management Program, Fairfield Ranger District, Sawtooth National Forest.

**ADDITIONS:**
What additional accomplishments do you expect from the project if it is continued?
Completion of project as originally proposed.

**CHANGES:**
Describe any changes that need to be made from the original proposal and give the reasons for the changes.
None.

**FY 2000 BUDGET:** Do not include costs covered by other FHP funding which will occur regardless of this project. Show estimated FHP STDP funding need for FY 2000.
Show separately the funding to be requested/provided from other sources in FY 2000.

ITEMIZE as follows:

| | Item | Requested FHP STDP Funding | Other Sources amount | Organization Name |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admin items: | Salary (2 GS5 Tech.) | $13,000 | | |
| | Salary (Researcher) | | $2,000 | Intermountain Research |
| | Overhead | | $3,000 | Sawtooth NF, FHP |
| | Travel | $1,400 | | |
| Procurements: | Contracting | | | |
| | Helicopter time | $2,000 | | |
| | Lab Analysis | $2.000 | | |
| | Equipment | | | |
| | Vehicle & Gas | $2,000 | | |
| | Supplies | $2,000 | | |
| | Other | | | |
| TOTAL FY 2000 Budget | | $22,400 | $5,000 | |

**New FHP STDP funding needed in FY 2000 after any FY 1999 carryover is applied:** $ 22,400 .
Estimated additional future funding needed beyond FY 2000, by fiscal year: None