

## **2007 Facts**

- Invasive species threaten Alaska's ecosystems by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife forage and shelter, altering ecosystem dynamics, and in some cases permanently changing environmental conditions.
- Annual damage from invasive species worldwide estimated at \$1.4 trillion.
- Idaho is estimated to spend \$300 million per year on invasive species control.
- One weed – spotted knapweed – now costs Montana over \$14 million/year and covers over 5 million acres. In Alaska, this species has been found at over 10 sites from Ketchikan to Anchorage.
- The number of new invasive plants found in Alaska continues to rise each year.
- Many of the invasive plants in Alaska are not yet widespread and can be controlled quickly and cheaply by taking action NOW.