Managing weeds with sage-grouse in mind

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Do invasive weeds really impact sage-grouse habitat?

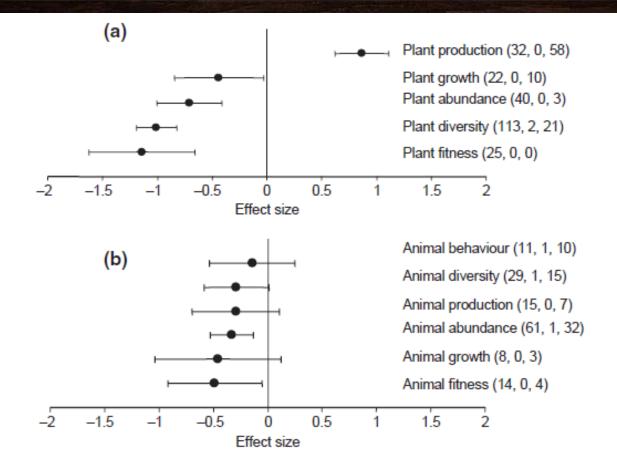
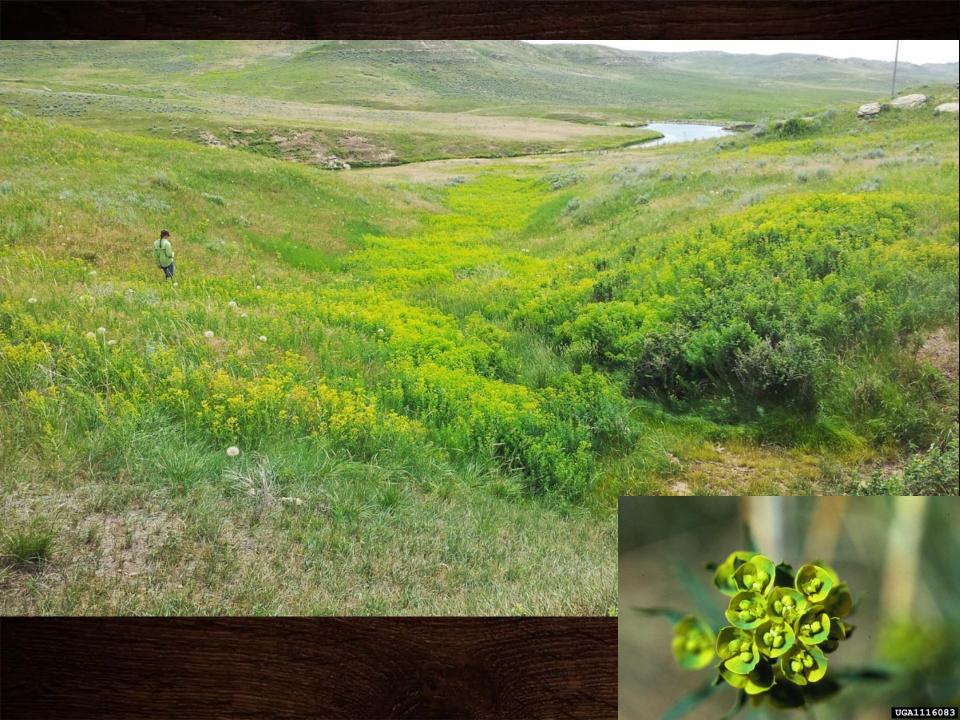


Figure 1 Mean effect size (Hedges' d) of differences between alien plant species impacts to (a) plant species and communities and (b) animal species and communities. The bars around the means denote bias-corrected 95%-bootstrap confidence intervals. A mean effect size is significantly different from zero when its 95% confidence interval do not bracket zero. Positive mean effect sizes indicate that the invaded plots had on average greater values for variables describing a particular impact type. The sample sizes with Hedges' d < 0, Hedges' d = 0 and Hedges' d > 0 are given next to the bars.

Vila et al. 2011







Does weed control improve sage-grouse habitat?

Kettenring and Adams 2011

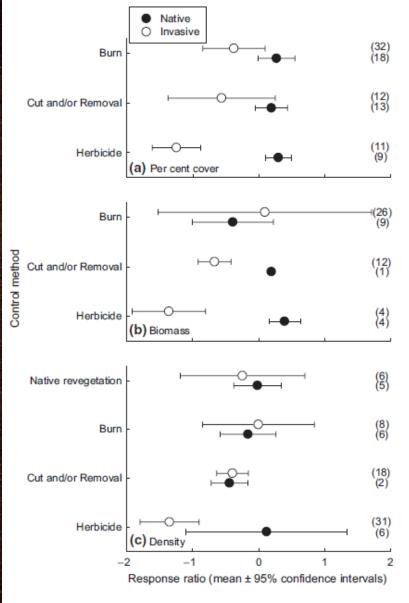
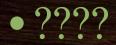


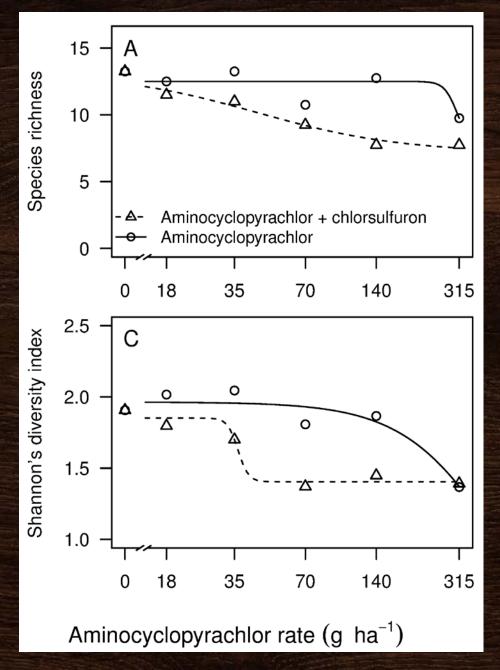
Fig. 5. Meta-analysis results on effects of control methods on per cent cover, density and biomass of native and invasive plants (number of studies summarized per response ratio is given to the right of each graph). Response ratio means and confidence intervals allow for relative comparison between treatment responses. Studies reporting 'fell and remove', 'cleared', 'mechanical removal', 'grazed', 'clipped' and

Diversity Paradox

• Dense weed invasions reduce plant diversity.

• Herbicides often reduce plant diversity.





Greet et al. in review











AGGRESSIVE MANAGEMENT?

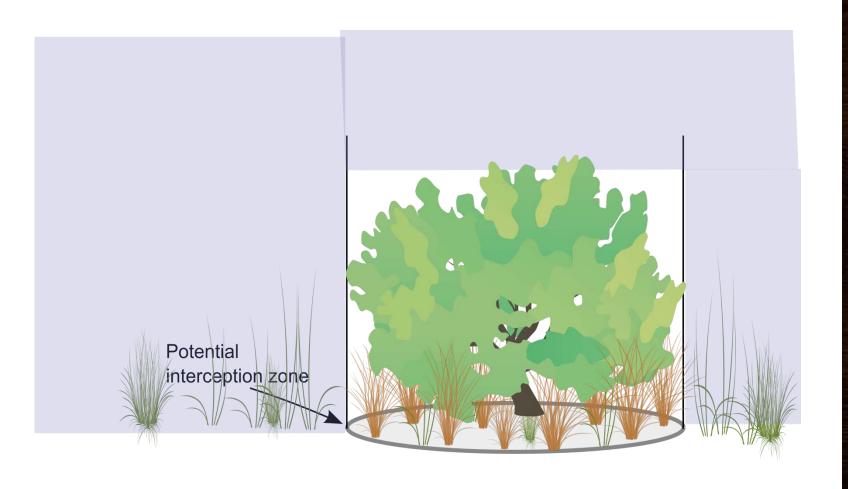
Maintenance / prevention

Eradication of source populations

Long-term management

Restoration / Abandonment











Other weeds to keep in mind

Recap/Discussion

• Weed management = habitat improvement?

• Is proactive weed management feasible?

 Should we focus efforts on high value sites with high recovery potential?

