

Purple Loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria

Category 3: Containment

Limited distribution. High priority for reporting and treatment outside known infestations

Family: Lythraceae (Loosestrife).

Other Common Names: Purple lythrum.

Origin: Eurasia.

Growth Form/Reproduction: Perennial. Seeds and vegetatively from rhizomes.

Identification: Purple showy flowers with 5 to 7 petals. Square stems. Alternate leaves. Leaves with smooth-edges.

Legal Status Central Kootenay: FRPA, CCA.

Habitat: Tolerates a variety of light and soil conditions from calcareous and acidic soils from low- to mid-elevation. Moderately shade tolerant, grows in standing water. Ditches, irrigation canals, marshes, stream and lake shores, and wetlands.

Status and Distribution: Scattered populations along Kootenay Lake and Kootenay Canal. Patches at Six Mile area north of Nelson, and south along Kootenay River to near Shoreacres. Isolated plants were found near Selkirk College at Castlegar in the mid-1990s. Isolated patch at Fauquier. Isolated plants hand-pulled at Harcourt Creek in the Pend d'Oreille valley in 2004 and 2005. Satellite populations at Meldeanna Pond, Casino (Trail), Creston. *See reverse for map of recorded locations.*

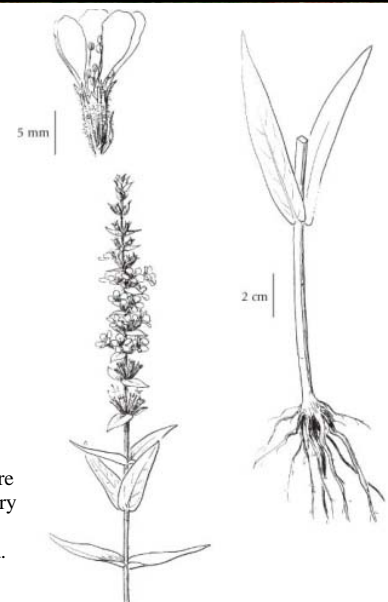
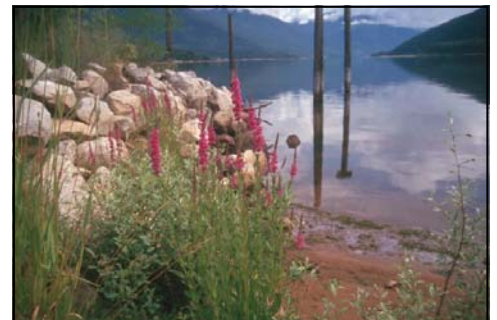
Known Biogeoclimatic Zones: ICHdw1, ICHxw

Management Objectives for Central Kootenay:

- Inventory incomplete. Document and record sites to complete inventory.
- Eradicate populations at Meldeanna Pond, Casino (Trail) and Creston.
- Contain existing populations at Kootenay Lake, Kootenay Canal, and Fauquier.
- Biocontrol should be used on larger, inaccessible populations if available. Monitor for agents where control is expected through biocontrol.

For More Information:

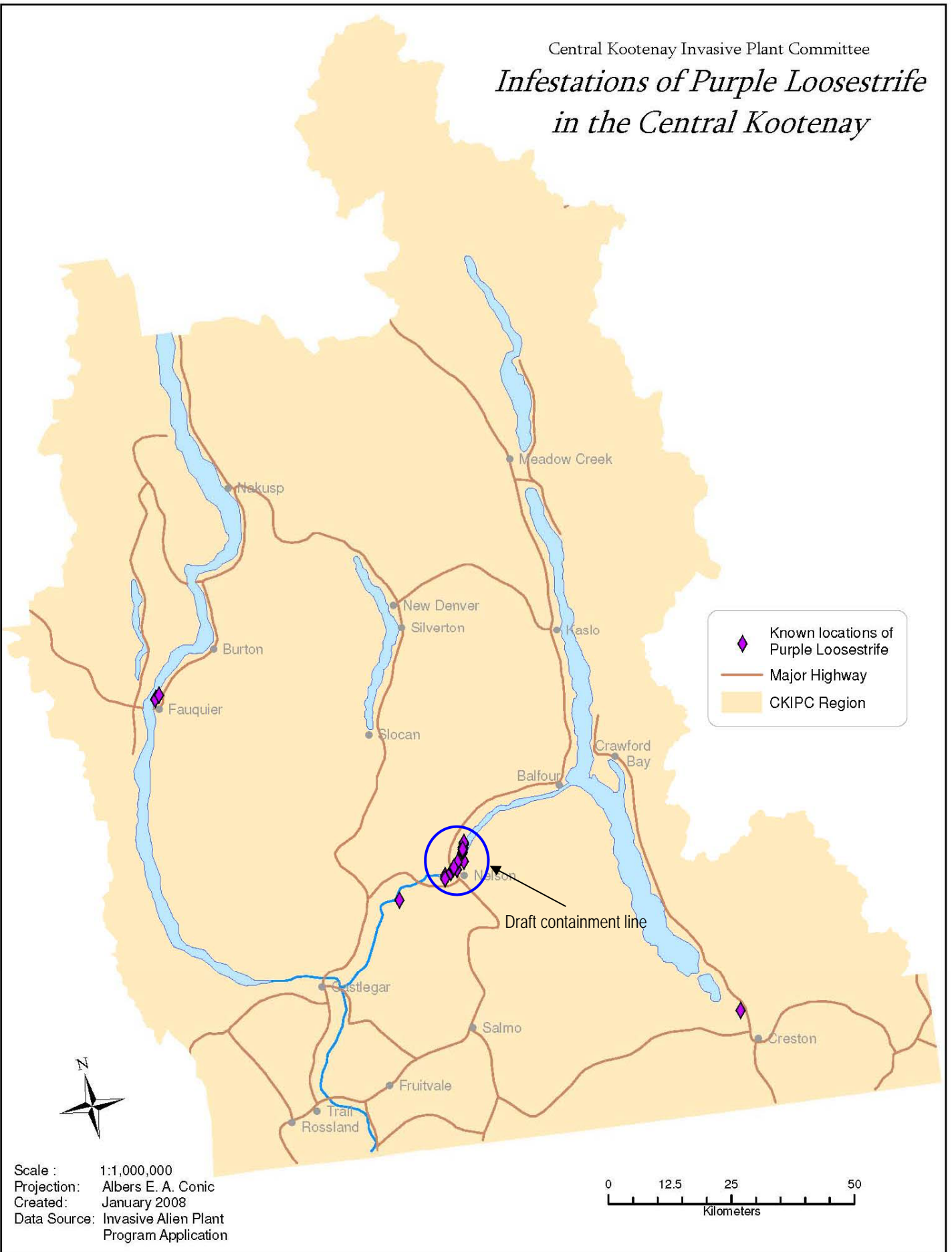
- www.weedsbc.ca/pdf/purple_loosestrife.pdf



Credits: Photos from Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and Ministry of Forests and Range. Drawing from E-flora. **Last Updated:** Jan. 2008

Lythrum salicaria

Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee
*Infestations of Purple Loosestrife
in the Central Kootenay*



Scale : 1:1,000,000
Projection: Albers E. A. Conic
Created: January 2008
Data Source: Invasive Alien Plant
Program Application

0 12.5 25 50
Kilometers