

Montana Weed Control Association Annual Meeting. January 11th 2011, Great Falls, MT.

Lisa J. Rew, Kim Taylor, Alexandre Wing, Tyler Brummer, Fred Pollnac and Hal Balbach*.

* ERDC-CERL, Illinois

Seed movement by vehicles: how many, how far, and under what conditions?

Movement of seeds by vehicles is generally thought to increase the spread of invasive plant species, but few studies have documented this process. We have evaluated the rate at which soil and seeds adhere to and are lost from vehicles when driven a range of distances on different surfaces (asphalt, unpaved and off-road) under wet or dry surface conditions over the last four years. The results of our studies provide an improved understanding of the rate of seed loss and gain, and demonstrate how far seeds can potentially be moved by vehicles. The data will be used to guide the development of vehicle dispersal prevention protocols to be used by the military and other interested agencies.