



TETON COUNTY WEED AND PEST DISTRICT

Perennial Pepperweed *Lepidium latifolium* L.

Perennial pepperweed or tall white-top is a member of the Mustard family. It was introduced from either southern Europe or western Asia. It is a deep-rooted perennial plant with an extensive, vigorous creeping root system. The roots of perennial pepperweed can grow to 10 feet storing large amounts of energy for regeneration. New shoots emerge from creeping root stalks and through seed spread. Perennial pepperweed is similar to hoary cress (or short white-top) however, it is significantly taller. Perennial pepperweed stands 1 to over 4 feet high with a heavy, sometimes woody, crown, whereas white top is 6 inches to 2 feet tall. The lower leaves are oblong with toothed margins and a waxy texture. The upper leaves do not clasp the stem as white top does. Flowers are four petaled, white, and grow in dense clusters.

Perennial pepperweed can be found in pastures, riparian areas, roadsides, and disturbed areas. Once established, perennial pepperweed will rapidly expand if left un-treated. Deep-seated storage rootstocks, waxy leaves, and stems make this weed difficult to control. Perennial pepperweed flowers from early summer to fall.

Due to the severe threat that perennial pepperweed poses to the Snake River and wildlife habitat, please keep your eye out for this tall weed species as you explore Teton County and report any infestations as soon as possible.

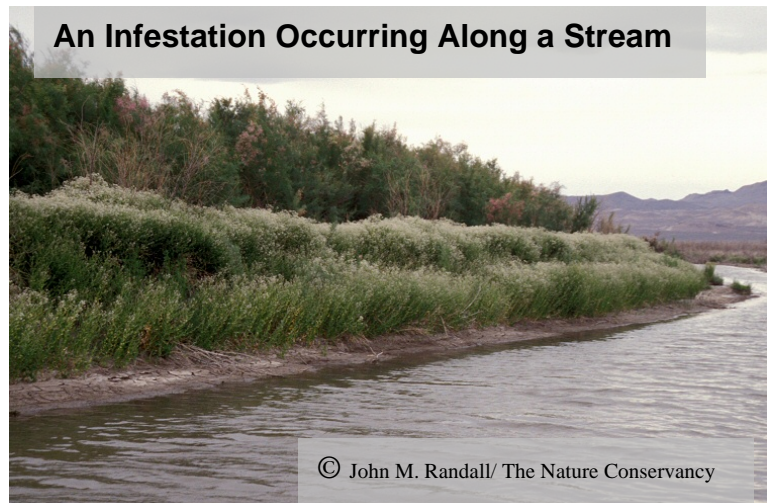
If you find this weed on your property or around Teton County, please report it immediately at 733-8419.



Dense Flower Clusters



Non-Clasping Waxy Leaves



An Infestation Occurring Along a Stream

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