

Kids in Action for Biocontrol

Draft Agenda — October Fieldwork

Where:

Eccles Wildlife Education Center
1157 S. Waterfowl Way (1700 W. Glover's Lane)
Farmington, UT 84025

When:

7th/8th graders

October 9, 2019

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

9th grade Honors Biology students

October 10, 2019

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Program content will be similar on both days, but emphasis will shift to match what the students are already studying in class.

Schedule Outline:

9:30 a.m. Arrive at the Eccles Wildlife Education Center.

- Buses can park along the west edge of the parking lot (over by the Great Blue Heron rookery).
- A staff member or volunteer will meet the group at the flagpole and help students find the restrooms and gather in the auditorium.
- Students should sit in their groups with their team leader. They will stay in these groups for the whole field trip.

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. **The Problem and the Solution** — Students will be oriented to the site and understand the magnitude of the threat that purple loosestrife poses to Great Salt Lake wetlands.

- Activities from Silent Invaders will be adapted for an audience of approx. 100 students. Let me know if students will have already done any of these activities in the classroom before the field trip so we can abbreviate strategically.

10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Biocontrol monitoring training in three 20-minute rotations with 5 minutes to rotate. (This might be converted to a two-station rotation depending on the availability of trainers).

- Station A: **Plant and Insect ID** — Students will be familiar with purple loosestrife and its biocontrol agents, *Galerucella californiensis* and *G. pusilla*.
- Station B: **D-Frames and SIMP Forms** — Students will be able to fill out the SIMP monitoring form using random Daubenmire frame samples.
- Station C: **Sweep Nets and Aspirators** — Students will know how to sweep net and aspirate insects.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch

12:30 - 1:15 **Mapping and GPS Activity** — Students will sketch their own field maps to familiarize themselves with the area, first without the help of satellite maps. Once satellite maps come out, we will also learn how to use our digital devices as a GPS using existing coordinates.

1:15 - 2:15 **Field Monitoring** — Follow our protocols to monitor our field site on the nature trail.

- Hike out to the nature trail and do a visual assessment before monitoring begins.
- Monitor with groups. Check for presence or absence of *Galerucella* beetles.
- Students will make management recommendations.
- If we have a lot of extra time, we'll hike to some other field monitoring sites along the nature trail to check how bad the purple loosestrife infestation really is and make qualitative management recommendations.

2:15 - 2:30 Hike back to the EWEC, collect all tools, and conclude.