

Selkirk Cooperative Weed Management Area

2023

End-of-Year Report



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Introduction

The Selkirk Cooperative Weed Management Area was developed to facilitate effective treatment and coordinate control efforts over the long term across jurisdictional boundaries. The Selkirk CWMA has continued to develop prioritized control, management goals, and identified management strategies to meet the goals as outlined in the strategic plan.

The control goals of the Selkirk CWMA are as follows: Prevent and immediately eradicate new occurrences of noxious weed species which are designated EDRR at the CWMA level; reduce small colonies of established noxious weed species having the potential for control and eventual site specific eradication; contain widespread noxious weeds to prevent pioneering colonies in new areas.

The area covered by this strategic plan includes the counties of Bonner and Boundary in Idaho (see map, page 10). The 2023 annual operating plan was the blueprint for project development and execution for the 2023 season.

The noxious weeds controlled within the area of the strategic plan included the following: Rush Skeletonweed, Scotch Broom, Leafy Spurge, Scotch Thistle, Tansy Ragwort, large Knotweeds, Small Bugloss, Phragmites, Poison Hemlock, Hoary Alyssum, Puncturevine, Knapweeds, Hawkweeds, Oxeye Daisy, Houndstongue, Perennial Sowthistle, Canada Thistle, Field Bindweed and Yellow + Dalmatian Toadflaxes.

The Selkirk CWMA officers for 2023 were Chase Youngdahl – Chairman, Dave Wenk– Vice Chairman, and Jennifer Jensen – Recording Secretary. The members include private land managers; city, county, and tribal governments; as well as state and federal land managers, and is detailed out in Appendix I.



Priority #1

New Invaders (EDRR Noxious Weeds at the CWMA level)



Bohemian Knotweed project on Deep Creek—Boundary County

The Selkirk CWMA new invaders (EDRR) projects in Bonner and Boundary counties included the herbicide treatment of 2.3 acres of Scotch Thistle, .1 acres of Small Bugloss, .2 acres of Leafy Spurge, 6 acres of Scotch Broom, 1 acre of Poison Hemlock, 6.9 acres of large Knotweeds, .5 acres of Phragmites, .5 acres of Yellow Flag Iris and 20.5 acres of Tansy Ragwort. Additionally; about a ½ acre of Scotch Broom was treated using the cut-stump method, and seed heads were clipped/ bagged on 1 acre of 2nd year Scotch Thistles. This work was performed by county noxious weeds personnel and CWMA partners.

Efforts to address EDRR species at the local level is the first priority for the Selkirk CWMA. Diligent efforts are being put forth to eradicate these species overall, but at minimum, to eradicate pioneering colonies. Scotch Thistle, Scotch Broom, Tansy Ragwort and large Knotweeds were the species that received the highest number of acres treated. Small colonies & new infestations of Small Bugloss, Yellow Flag Iris, Leafy Spurge, Poison Hemlock and Phragmites were also treated.



Tansy Ragwort project in Bonner County

| Summary | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Acres Treated (chemical): | 38 |
| Acres Treated (mechanical): | 1.5 |
| Acres Inventoried: | 800 |
| Public Contacts: | 2,000 |
| ISDA Funds Used: | \$886.20 |

| Chemicals purchased | Quantity |
|---------------------|----------------|
| <i>Vastlan</i> | <i>7.5 gal</i> |
| <i>Weedmaster</i> | <i>5 gal</i> |

Priority #2

Neighborhood Cooperative Cost Share

This project within the Selkirk CWMA helps private landowners contain noxious weeds on their property by providing financial assistance of up to \$500 per landowner for herbicide reimbursements. The benefits of the project are of significance to not only private landowners, but public property managers as well; by containing and controlling the spread of noxious weeds, especially airborne seed species, such as Hawkweeds and Canada Thistle. Other Idaho noxious weeds targeted by landowners included Spotted Knapweed, Oxeye Daisy, Dalmatian & Yellow Toadflaxes, Perennial Sowthistle and Houndstongue. In addition, landowners also had the opportunity to receive some assistance for the purchase of perennial grass seed in order to re-vegetate their property more quickly and efficiently.

County noxious weeds personnel, along with the county noxious weed advisory boards, screen and approve applications and perform routine audits on their work. Landowner herbicide application records are required for documentation, and cost share Exhibit 15a is part of the application packet.

There was participation from 25 groups in the Selkirk CWMA during the 2023 season—new customers and repeats for ones that treat their larger properties on a rotational basis. Nineteen landowner groups in Boundary County received cost share funding assistance totaling \$5,598.24, resulting in 210.5 acres treated with herbicide plus 58 acres re-planted. Six landowner groups in Bonner County received cost share funding assistance totaling \$3,042.18, resulting in 144 acres treated with herbicide. An additional six landowner groups in Bonner County received county assistance for locally listed noxious weeds.

| Chemicals purchased | Quantity |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Milestone</i> | <i>16 qts</i> |
| <i>Opensight</i> | <i>7.5 lbs</i> |
| <i>2,4-D</i> | <i>24.5 gal</i> |
| <i>Curtail</i> | <i>20 gal</i> |
| <i>Escort</i> | <i>16 oz</i> |
| <i>Telar</i> | <i>24 oz</i> |
| <i>Weedmaster</i> | <i>12.5 gal</i> |
| <i>Crossbow</i> | <i>7 gal</i> |
| <i>Widematch</i> | <i>5 gal</i> |
| <i>Hydrothol</i> | <i>20 lbs</i> |
| <i>surfactants & dyes</i> | <i>46.5 gal</i> |
| <i>seed</i> | <i>715 lbs</i> |



| Summary | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Acres Treated: | 354.5 |
| Acres Planted: | 58 |
| Acres Inventoried: | 1,151 |
| Public Contacts: | 2,700 |
| ISDA Funds Used: | \$8,640.42 |

Priority #3

Public Education – CWMA Branded Promotional Items

2023 educational engagements included a Weeds Seminar in Bonner County for applicator credits, master gardener classes in both Bonner & Boundary Counties, a master naturalist class in Bonner County, a biocontrol workshop in Boundary County and Fair displays in both counties. The Bonner County Noxious Weeds Superintendent authored 6 weed I.D./control articles in a regional publication as well as noxious weed responsibilities article in a multi-state magazine. CWMA members distributed Selkirk CWMA's Noxious Weed Handbook over the course of the year at their offices and at several educational functions. Additionally, the Selkirk CWMA procured branded promotional items, which included small tote bags and pens. These items were a hit at the county fairs, and not only drew additional fair attendees to further scope out our displays, but provided tangible messaging to serve as a reminder regarding noxious weeds.



| Items Purchased | Quantity |
|------------------------|------------|
| <i>Small Tote Bags</i> | <i>150</i> |
| <i>Pens</i> | <i>500</i> |

| Summary | |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Public Contacts (total): | 12,000 |
| Public Contacts promo item specific: | 200 |
| ISDA Funds Used: | \$500.00 |



Priority #4

Community Lands

This project focuses on various agencies treating noxious weeds in areas that benefit the entire community.

Idaho Department of Fish & Game points of emphasis regarding noxious weed treatments on IDFG managed properties in Bonner & Boundary Counties involved most of the CWMAs Contain category noxious weeds, in addition to EDRR noxious weed Tansy Ragwort. The Gold Creek Ragwort infestation that Bonner County has been working on borders IDFG property. Additionally, an IDFG owned property near Lake Cocolalla worked on a patch of Ragwort that increased its footprint this year. Small patches of Rush Skeletonweed was hand pulled.

Idaho Department of Lands treated noxious weeds on 100 miles of roads scattered throughout Bonner County that directly affect other properties—as these travel corridors are primary spread culprits. Performed 407 acres of total herbicide applications & 1,197 re-planted. IDL was also involved with Boundary County on an EDRR project with Bohemian Knotweed on Deep Creek. The North Zone of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest weeds crew treated noxious weeds and invasive plants along National Forest roadsides and high use recreation areas on the IPNF North Zone. Additionally, focused attention was given to treatments of the EDRR noxious weed Tansy Ragwort, as well as small infestations of recently identified populations of Phragmites. A cooperative spray day was held in May for Houndstongue on Kalispell Island, Priest Lake.

The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho monitored noxious weeds on & near wetlands on two mitigation properties, with one of them containing Purple Loosestrife. The monitoring included an intensive 20 acre line transect, in addition to 300 acres of observational surveys on Tribal lands. Stimson Lumber Co. treated 34 miles of roadsides in Bonner & Boundary Counties for noxious weeds. Performed a release of Biocontrol on Dalmatian Toadflax in south Bonner County. Performed 1,700 acres of total herbicide applications, with 1,800 acres re-planted (conifers). City of Sandpoint conducted 2 noxious weed inventories this summer, including throughout some of the city owned property in the Sand Creek Watershed. Has been working with the Pend Oreille Peddlers on noxious weed awareness on bicycle trails.

| Summary | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acres Treated (chemical): | 2,954 |
| Acres Treated (mechanical): | 5 |
| Acres Inventoried | 4,808 |
| Acres Planted* | 2,997* (timber refo.) |
| Public Contacts: | 4,500 |
| ISDA Funds Used: | \$0 |

Priority #5

Biological Control

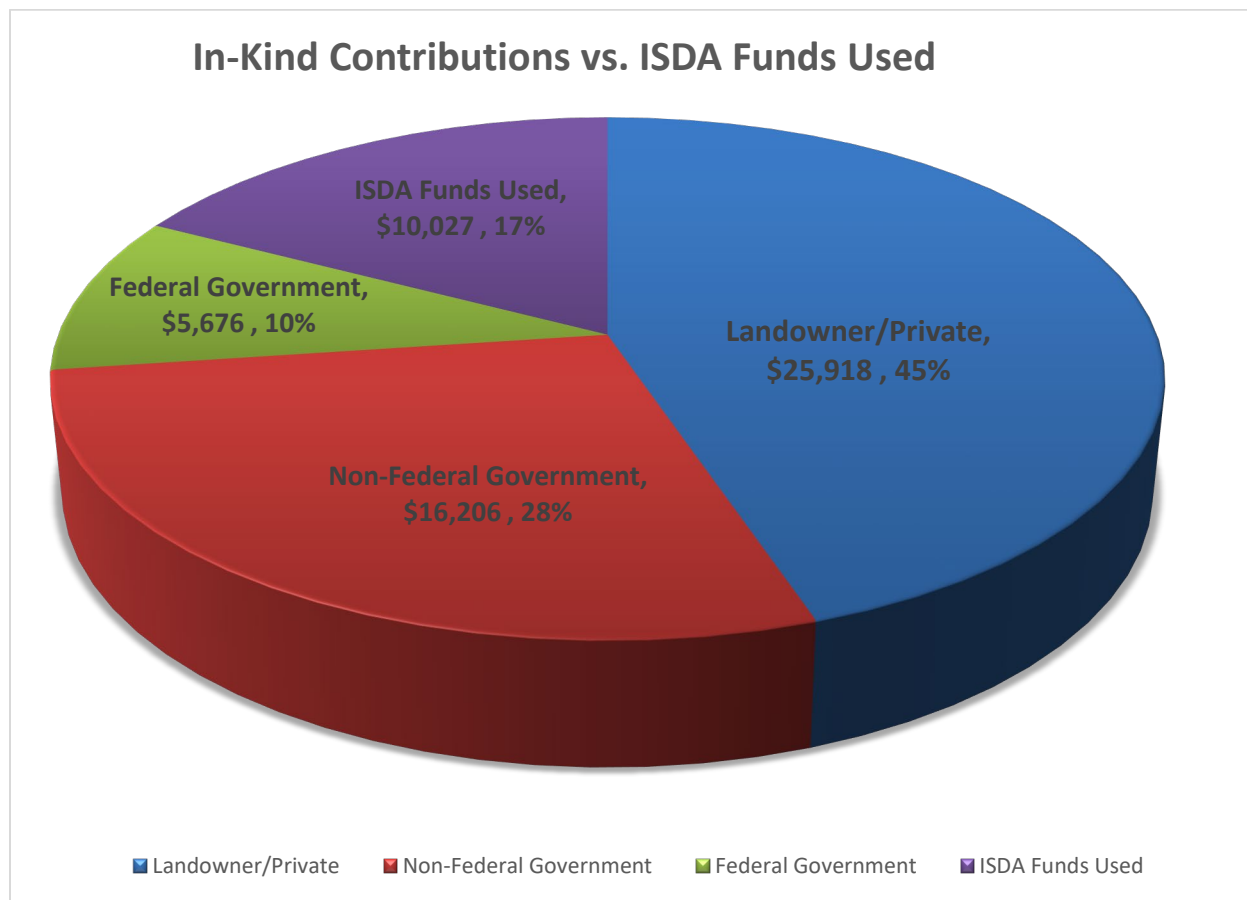
In 2023, Bonner County Noxious Weeds & Stimson Lumber Company released 600 *Mecinus janthiniformis* for Dalmatian Toadflax on three sites, BC Noxious Weeds released 50 *Hylobius transversovittatus* for Purple Loosestrife on one site and BC Noxious Weeds & private landowners released 450 *Cyphocleonus achates* for Spotted Knapweed on nine sites.



| Summary | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Acres Treated: | 50 |
| Acres Inventoried: | 300 |
| Total Releases: | |
| <i>Cyphocleonus achates</i> | 450 |
| <i>Mecinus janthiniformis</i> | 600 |
| <i>Hylobius transversovittatus</i> | 50 |
| Public Contacts: | 600 |
| ISDA Funds Used: | \$0 |

Contributions Illustration

The graph below shows In-Kind contribution vs. ISDA funds used for the 2023 season. Also see Appendix III on page 11 for itemized In-Kind contributions. As illustrated below, the Selkirk CWMA surpassed the required match of 1:1. **Project total: 83% In-Kind, 17% ISDA Funds**



2024 Season Preview

The Selkirk CWMA will continue to work at eradicating and exhausting the seed bank and rhizome structures of local EDRR noxious weeds & be ready to act should new EDRR species be detected during the season, work to contain and control widespread noxious weeds in areas of high risk for spread, and to facilitate the Neighborhood Cooperative Cost Share project. Other activities will include Flowering Rush monitoring, releasing and monitoring bio-control/holding bio-control workshops, and participating in a number of educational opportunities.

Work days will be planned to control noxious weeds and assist cooperators. Tours of bio-control sites, cooperative spray days, and weed control workshops may be scheduled during the 2024 field season to highlight goals, share ideas, apply herbicides, and release bio-control agents.

The overall goal of our CWMA is to educate the public about noxious weeds and how to control them, restore wildlife habitat, protect timber production grounds & agricultural areas, keep recreational areas clean, as well as detect any new invaders in different areas and eradicate them while continuing strong efforts to exhaust the seed banks and/or large rhizome structures of existing small infestations.



Appendix I

Total Measurable Outcomes – Summary

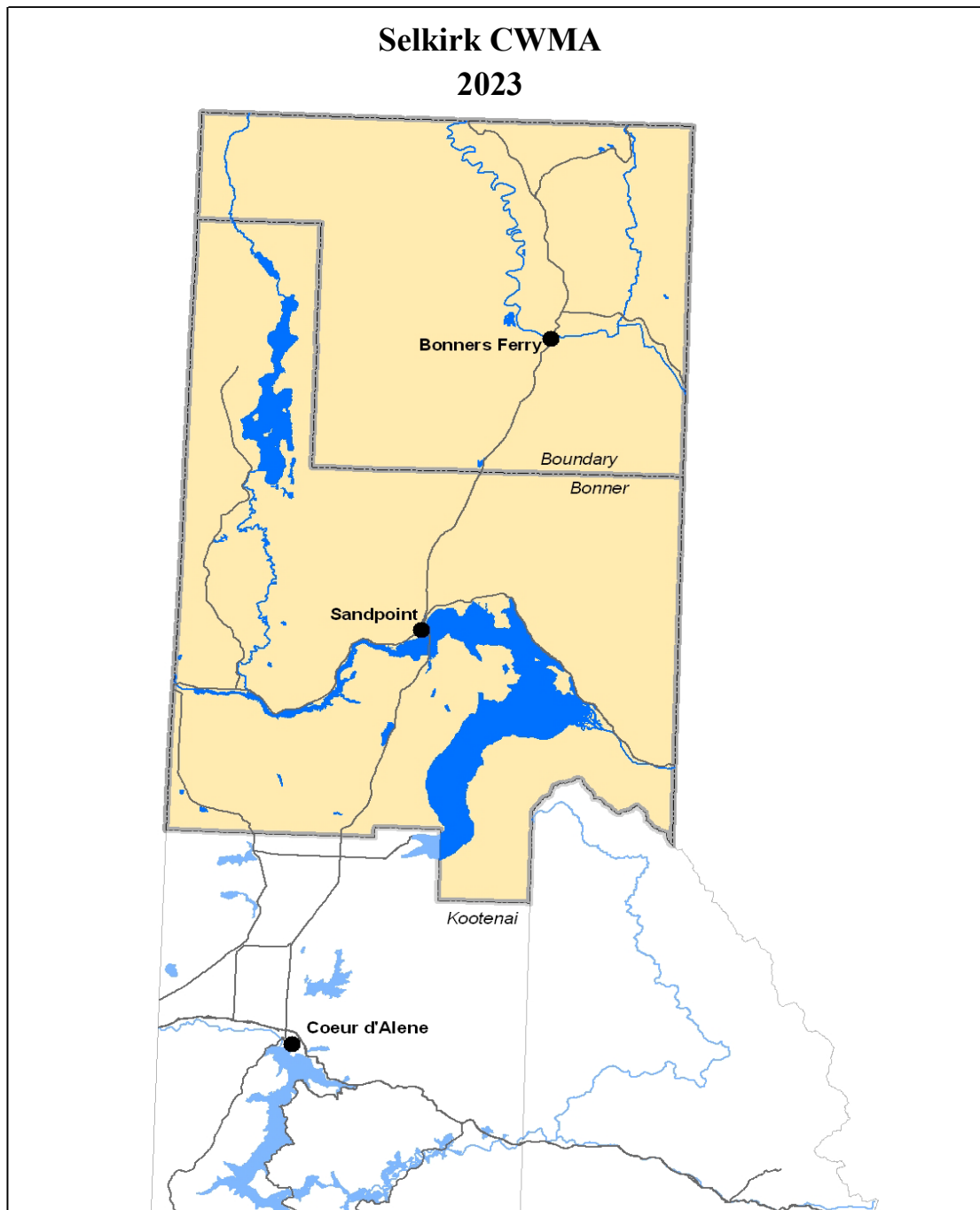
| Treatment Acres | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Treatment Method | Acres Treated |
| Chemical | 3,346.5 |
| Biological | 50 |
| Mechanical | 6.5 |
| Grazing | 0 |
| Total Acres Treated | 3,403 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Acres Re-planted | 58 (cost share) |
| Total Acres Inventoried | 7,059 |
| Total Acres of New Invaders | 38 |

| Public Contacts | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Fairs | 2 |
| Classes/Seminars | 6 |
| Public Articles | 8 |
| Other | 1 (podcast interview) |
| Total Public Contacts | *22,000 |

*Estimated – based on newspaper and regional journal circulation, as well as podcast hits

Appendix II



Appendix III
Financial Documentation
Selkirk CWMA Contributor List
In-Kind Match Summary

Dates covered by this summary: 04/12/23 to 12/01/23

| Contribution Category | Cooperator | Contact | Amount Contributed | Contact Phone |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Landowner/Private | Boundary County | Dave Wenk | \$12,088 | 208-267-5341 |
| Landowner/Private | Bonner County | Chase Youngdahl | \$13,830 | 208-255-5681x6 |
| Non-Federal Govt. | Boundary County | Dave Wenk | \$1,943 | 208-267-5341 |
| Non-Federal Govt. | Bonner County | Chase Youngdahl | \$14,263 | 208-255-5681x6 |
| Federal Govt. | USFS - IPNF | Jeremy Kleinsmith | \$5,676 | 208-265-6622 |

| Contribution Category | Grand Totals |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Federal Gov't | \$5,676 |
| Landowner/Private | \$25,918 |
| Non-Federal Gov't | \$16,206 |
| Other | \$ |
| Grand Total | \$47,800 |

Appendix IV

| Selkirk Cooperative Weed Management Area – Steering Committee | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Committee Member | Phone # | Email Address | Affiliation |
| Chase Youngdahl, Chair | 208-255-5681x.6 | Chase.Youngdahl@bonnercountyid.gov | Bonner County Noxious Weeds |
| Dave Wenk, Vice Chair | 208-267-5341 | dwenk@boundarycountyid.org | Boundary County Noxious Weeds |
| Jennifer Jensen, Secretary | 208-263-8511 | jenjensen@uidaho.edu | Bonner County Extension Office |
| Jeremy Kleinsmith | 208-265-6622 | Jeremy.Kleinsmith@usda.gov | USFS-Panhandle NF-North Zone |
| Scott Soultz | 208-267-3620 | soultz@kootenai.org | Kootenai Tribe of Idaho |
| Robert Akins | 208-412-3738 | Robert.Akins@idfg.idaho.gov | Idaho Department of Fish and Game |
| Jonathan Luhnnow | 208-267-5577 | jluhnow@idl.idaho.gov | Idaho Department of Lands |
| Bill Pittman | 208-762-6550 | bpittman@stimsonlumber.com | Stimson Lumber Co. |
| Maeve Nevins- Lavtar | 208-946-2711 | mnevinslavtar@sandpointidaho.gov | City of Sandpoint |
| Partners | | | |
| Sarah Garcia | 208-263-5310x.100 | Sarah.Garcia@id.nacdnet.net | Bonner SWCD |
| Cassie Olson | 208-267-3340x.107 | Cassie.Olson@id.nacdnet.net | Boundary SWCS |
| Keith Roberts | 208-265-4312 | Keith.Roberts@itd.idaho.gov | Idaho Transportation Department |
| Shannon Ehlers | 509-425-3682 | Shannon_Ehlers@fws.gov | USFW-Kootenai Wildlife Refuge |
| Cole Ross | 208-263-3489 | Cole.Ross@idpr.idaho.gov | Idaho Department of Parks & Rec (Round Lake State Park) |

Appendix V

| Advisory Board (MOU Signatory) | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Name | Title | Affiliation |
| Tim Bertling | BOCC Chair | Boundary County |
| Luke Omodt | BOCC Chair | Bonner County |
| Heather Degeest | Forest Supervisor (acting) | USFS-IPNF |
| Jennifer Porter | Tribal Chair | Kootenai Tribe of Idaho |
| Dale Van Stone | District Chair | Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District |
| Tom Daniel | District Chair | Boundary Soil and Water Conservation District |
| Damon Allen | District Engineer | ITD – Division of Highways |
| Carson Watkins | Regional Supervisor | IDFG |
| Erik Sjoquist | Area Manager | IDL |
| Jennifer Stapleton | City Administrator | City of Sandpoint |
| Kelly Moroney | Project Leader | USFW-Refuge Complex |
| Bill Pittman | Regional Manager | Stimson Lumber Company |
| Keith Jones | Natural Resources Manager | IDPR |

Report prepared by Chase Youngdahl