



NORTHWEST NAZARENE  
UNIVERSITY

## Professional Development Course Syllabus

*Sponsor/Instructor is required to submit all class registrations within one week of the start date.*

Course Number: EDSC5891 (Sec.04)

Sponsor ID: 214284

Course Title: **Wildfires and Weeds**

(Office Use Only) Section Title: **Boise, Idaho**

Professional Development Credit(s): 1 Total Cost for Credit: **\$60.00**

Course Dates: **July 27 - 28, 2011** Location: **Boise, Idaho**

Instructor: **Michelle Youngquist** Contact: **plt@idahoforests.org**

Course Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree & PLT Registration Evaluation Procedure: **Pass/Fail**

*NOTE: Professional Development courses do not normally count toward an academic degree.*

### 1. Course Description:

This course focuses on two of the West's most critical environmental issues: wildfires and invasive species. Participants will learn about the role of fire in Idaho's ecosystems; the current state of our ecosystems; the role fire will likely play in the future; and the advantage and disadvantages of various management options. At the same time, invasive species will be examined—how these species came here; their current range; their effects on native plants and animals; and their influence (and are influenced by) the occurrence, intensity and spread of fires.

### 2. Educational Goals:

*(Broad statements of what participants will achieve as a result of taking this class. Goals will be achieved by completing the learning objectives indicated below.)*

- Educators will learn the role of fire in Idaho's forest and range ecosystems--past, present and future. Teachers will leave the course ready to use materials that spark student interest in science, mathematics, social studies, geography, language arts and other subject areas.

### 3. Learning Objectives:

*(Specifically, what will participants be able to do as a result of this class? Measurable results for instructor to determine participants' grade.)*

- Examine fire issues in Idaho's ecosystems, past and present.
- Discuss the current fire regimes for ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, and spruce/fir forests in Idaho.
- Identify at least three invasive species.
- Describe where the invasive species came from; how these species came to Idaho; and their effects on native organisms.
- Give an example of fire affecting invasive species; and an example of invasive species affecting fire.
- Teach students about invasive species and wildfires in the West using information and activities from the course.

### 4. Course Requirements:

*(A minimum of 15 student learning hours, to include at least one measurable learning product, required per credit earned.)*

- Attend all class sessions
- Participate in class activities.
- Conduct two PLT activities with students or other youth.
- Complete a written report and self-critique about this experience.
- Submit to: Michelle Youngquist at [plt@idahoforests.org](mailto:plt@idahoforests.org)

### 5. Course Meeting Dates, Times and Location:

Wednesday and Thursday, July 27 - 28, 2011; Boise, Idaho, plus additional hours to meet the necessary requirements for a one credit course.

**Due Date for Completion of Course Requirements: August 24, 2011**

### 6. Learning Resources or Text:

**Project Learning Tree Secondary Module: Forest Ecology (American Forest Foundation); Burning Issues CD-ROM (Florida State University and the Bureau of Land Management)**