

# Hells Canyon

WILLIAM H. MULLINS



DENNIS FITZPATRICK

Dense stands of yellow starthistle impact Idaho's ecology, economy and recreational opportunities. Our Hells Canyon Project uses the latest technology to help combat starthistle and other invasive weeds.

Two centuries ago, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark headed north on their expedition rather than face crossing Hells Canyon. Today, the nation's deepest canyon is more accessible, but still retains much of its wild character. One of the most biologically diverse places in the West, Hells Canyon is home to a rich variety of native plants, many found nowhere else on Earth. Many animal species—including bighorn sheep, elk, mountain lions, black bears and bald eagles—thrive in this wild canyon, using the native plants for food or cover.

**Threat:** Non-native weeds out-compete native plants and turn large parts of the landscape into a dense monoculture that destroys wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

**Opportunity:** The Hells Canyon Project is utilizing state-of-the-art technology to map and control weeds. Working with partners, the Conservancy is preventing new non-native species from being introduced and controlling early outbreaks in pristine areas. With your help, we can continue utilizing state-of-the-art satellite technology to prevent, detect and control non-native weeds and restore native grasslands.



## contact information

The Nature Conservancy in Idaho  
116 1st Avenue North  
Hailey, Idaho 83333  
(208) 788-8988  
[idahonature.org](http://idahonature.org)



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