

MoDOT Minute – Oct. 4, 2011

Hi. This is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT Minute.

MoDOT's plan to reduce staffing, facilities and equipment has resulted in \$177 million being redirected to critical road and bridge projects in Missouri. As of Sept. 30, the department had eliminated 667 staff positions, closed 23 facilities and disposed of 245 pieces of equipment under its Bolder Five-Year Direction. Those moves have allowed the department to save \$177 million. More than \$64 million of that money has been used to improve the state's rural roads.

They are tiny, tireless, hungry, and environmentally friendly - except to one invasive weed. They're called seedhead weevils, and the Missouri Departments of Transportation and Conservation, along with University Extension, are using them to help control Missouri's newest noxious weed - spotted knapweed. More information, including a video, can be found at [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org).

That's been your MoDOT Minute. Remember to check back every week for new information.

###