

Humboldt Watershed CWMA Noxious Weed Management Plan

Adopted by Board of Directors, May 2014



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1. Introduction

A. Statement of Compliance

This plan complies with the Nevada Noxious Weed Act (NRS 555.100) as revised by the 2011 Nevada Legislature ([Appendix A](#)). The purpose of the Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Management Plan is to provide an overview of the strategy employed by the Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Weed Management Area (HWCWMA) to assist in the control of targeted noxious weeds within the Humboldt River Watershed. The plan has been constructed to compliment the Nevada Noxious Weed Laws put in place by the Nevada Department of Agriculture. The targeted noxious weeds to be controlled are designated by the Nevada Department of Agriculture. Control is aimed at eradicating, reducing, suppressing or containing populations of non-native, invasive noxious weeds which pose a threat to the environment and economies within the Humboldt River Watershed by reducing wildlife habitat, water quality, agricultural production, property value, threatening the native plant populations unique to Northern Nevada, and increasing the threats and destructivity of wildfire. The Nevada Noxious Weed Lists are included as [Appendix B](#). Species that are an issue in the Humboldt Watershed, but not on the Nevada Department of Agriculture list are found in [Appendix C](#).

B. County and City Policies

County Commissions of counties and City Councils of Cities within the Humboldt River Watershed will be asked to approve the Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Management Plan. Existing county policies or ordinances of the respective counties can be found in [Appendix D](#). The HWCWMA will then begin the implementation of the Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Plan. The HWCWMA will assist in the control weeds, within the Humboldt River Watershed, through providing technical assistance including identification, surveys, mapping, treatment options, cost-share opportunities and follow-up monitoring on state and local government properties, right of ways under intergovernmental cooperative agreements between the federal, state, county and local governments, and on private property under contract with the private property owner. In addition to the HWCWMA, several local, state and federal agencies will provide technical support at the request of the HWCWMA and/or landowner. These agencies include, but are not limited to those listed as [Appendix E](#).

C. Severity of Noxious Weeds in the Humboldt Watershed

At the present time, the Humboldt Watershed has areas that range from weed free to totally infested. If existing weed infestations are not controlled, a major weed problem could develop in a very short period of time without prompt identification and diligent control. Increased vegetation and soil disturbance resulting from subdivision of land into residential and recreational areas, as well as increased use of public and private lands will likely result in increased levels of weed seed transportation, and subsequent establishment of weed populations in un-infested areas. It is imperative that the Humboldt Watershed Weed Control Program continues to monitor weed populations throughout the watershed and initiate control programs before weed densities become unmanageable or create irreversible damage to ecosystems and economies.

The spread of noxious and invasive weeds across the landscape has been compared to an explosion in slow motion. Unlike other forms of pollution that dissipate or accumulate, weeds reproduce themselves exponentially. Without sufficient action, the weed infestation problem is rapidly growing worse.

Highly damaging to agriculture, rural landscapes, and the natural environment, these plants are “out of place” and interfere with beneficial uses of the land. This rapidly spreading form of biological pollution is seriously degrading our state’s unique biodiversity and economic output. With even more weeds on the way, Nevada will be subject to even higher rates of weed introduction as human population and trade globalization increase.

Despite the immense damage from weeds, Nevada’s resources to stop this siege are limited. Any organized attempt to lessen their impact on society and the environment must be well coordinated and strategically

targeted to ensure that resources are devoted to the most damaging weeds in the most strategic localities. Public monies and effort currently put towards the prevention of weed infestation and spread are being used strategically in order to make the wisest use of these limited resources. However, current resources are not sufficient to adequately address the growing problem of noxious and invasive weeds.

D. Operating Budget

The Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Program is administered by the Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Weed Management Area. Funding sources include, but are not limited to cooperative funding, grants and revenue producing contracts.

E. Public Comment

Public comment and participation is encouraged. Public comments will be taken at the monthly HWCWMA Board Meetings

2. Situation Statement: Noxious Weeds and the Humboldt Watershed

A. Description of the Humboldt Watershed

Major Natural Features:

Lakes and Reservoirs: Southfork Reservoir, the Humboldt Sink and Rye Patch Reservoir.

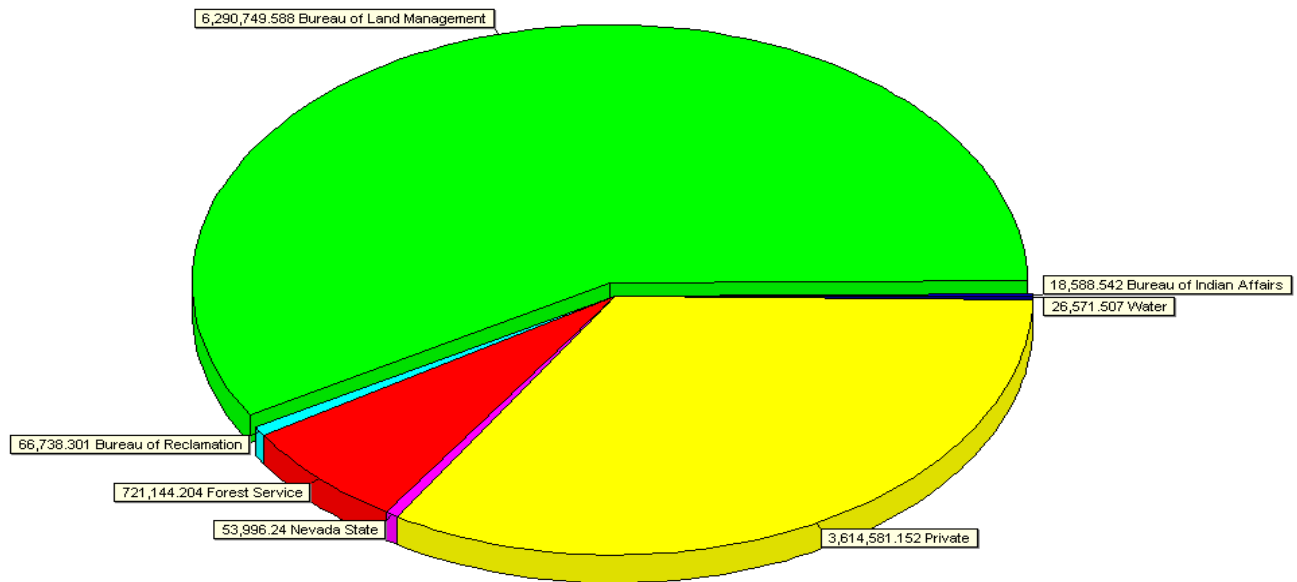
Major River Drainages: The Humboldt River and its tributaries, Mary’s River, North Fork of the Humboldt River, Susie Creek, Reese River, South Fork of the Little Humboldt and Maggie Creek.

Major Mountain Ranges: The Humboldt Watershed is bordered on the north and east by the Independence Mountains, Tuscarora Mountains, Sonoma Range, the Trinity Range and to the south it is bordered by the Ruby Mountains, Cortez Mountains, Shoshone Range, Fish Creek Mountains, Tobin Range and the Humboldt Range. Elevations range from 4,300 to over 11,400 feet.

Land Ownership:

Public Lands Managed by:	Private land
Bureau of Land Management	Public Transportation Right of Ways
US Forest Service	Railroad Right of Ways
Bureau of Reclamation	State of Nevada
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Counties and Cities

Figure 1 – Land Ownership/Management



Humboldt River Watershed Landownership		
18,588.542 Bureau of Indian Affairs	6,290,749.588 Bureau of Land Management	66,738.301 Bureau of Reclamation
721,144.204 Forest Service	53,996.24 Nevada State	3,614,581.152 Private
26,571.507 Water		

Major Soil Types:

Soils on low terraces, flood plains and adjacent fans and side slopes and ridges: Orovida sandy loam, Yipor silt loam moderately saline-sodic, Whirlo-Pumper silt loams, Wholan silt loam sandy substratum and Teman silt loam.

Soils on mountainsides, ridges and fans: Beoska silt loam - 2 to 8 percent slopes, Creemon silt loam - 0 to 2 percent slopes, Pumper silt loam, Zineb gravelly loam - 2 to 8 percent slopes.

Soils on the high mountain and alpine slopes: Rozara-Cucamungo-Rock outcrop, Hapgood-Tusel-Winada, Welch loam drained - 2 to 8 percent slopes.

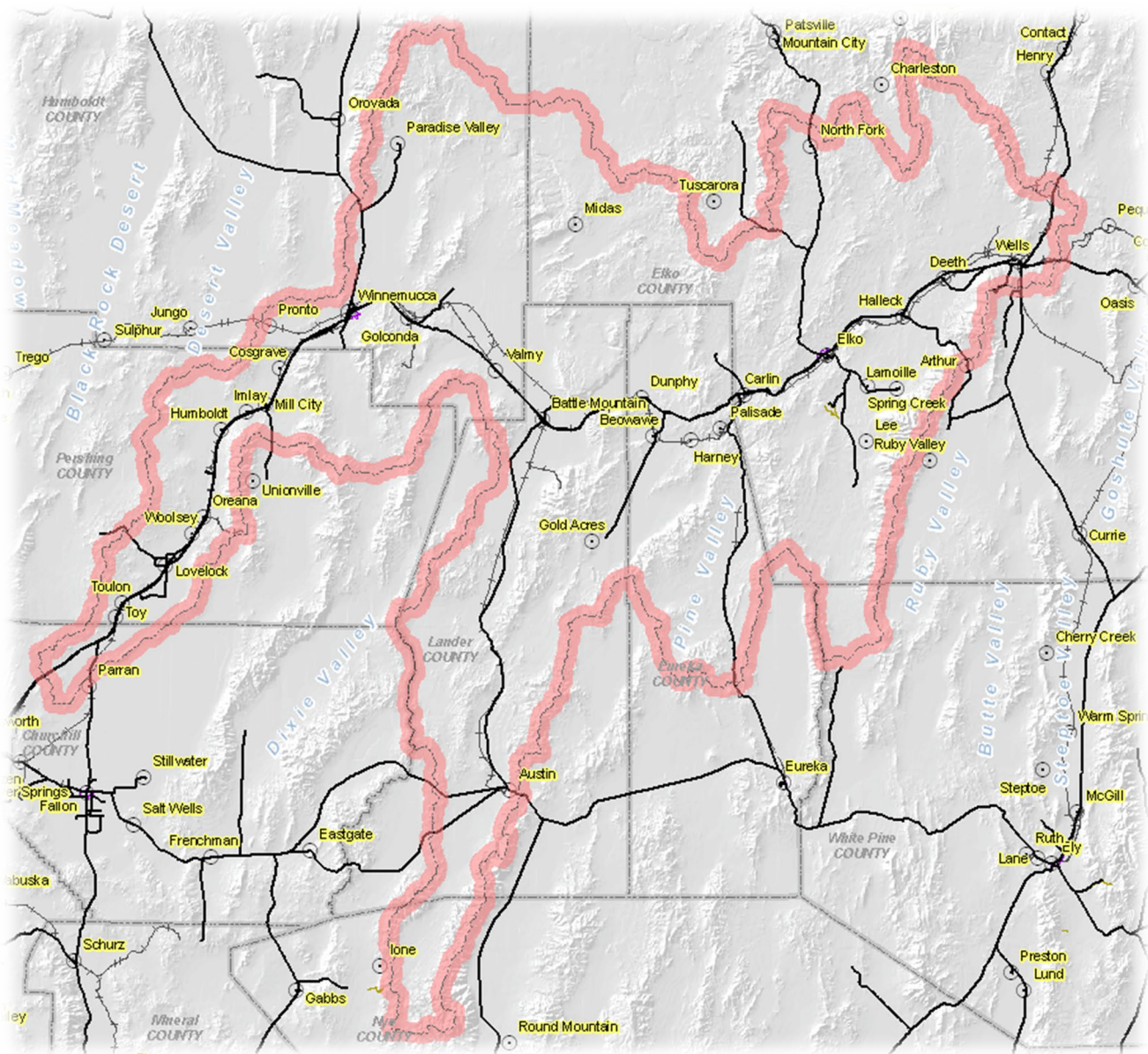
Cities and Towns within the Humboldt Watershed include:

Elko
Wells
Carlin
Battle Mountain
Winnemucca
Lovelock

Unincorporated towns within the Humboldt Watershed include:

Lamoille	Palisade	Imlay	Austin
Spring Creek	Dunphy	Valmy	Cosgrave
Jiggs	Crescent Valley	Mill City	Woosley
Lee	Gold Acres	Oreana	Toy
Deeth	Beowawe	Paradise Valley	Toulon
Halleck	Midas	Harney	Pronto
North Fork	Golconda	Humboldt	

Figure 2 – Cities, Towns & Unincorporated Towns



B. Watershed-wide Awareness of Noxious Weeds

Historically, Elko County and surrounding counties have aggressively controlled noxious weeds because of private agricultural concerns. This portion of the watershed consists primarily of ranches and public lands, although “small parcel” development is now taking place more prevalently than in the past. Invasive noxious weed problems are increasing on lands being developed for rural housing and/or subdivisions. The large influx of new owners and developments of “small parcels” along with the associated land disturbance has created countless new noxious weed infestations.

Education and outreach programs have increased the awareness for the need of noxious weed control. In response, Elko County Planning and Zoning Department is now requiring the revegetation of disturbed sites (Appendix C).

C. Transportation Corridors

Major Transportation Corridors

Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Highways – Interstate – 80, State Routes 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 278, 305, 306, 776, 93 and 95 (~700 miles)

Union Pacific Railroad (~475 miles)

County roads (~850 miles)

Minor Transportation Corridors

US Forest Service (USFS) & Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Service Roads (~21,624 miles @ 2.2/per sq. mile)(6,290,750 acres = 9,829 square miles = 21,624 @ 2.2/square mile)

Others: Continuing construction, improvement and maintenance operations on state and county rights-of-way, power lines and railroad right-of-ways. Right-of-ways create effective passageways for the proliferation of noxious weeds. All such areas require a continual monitoring program for noxious weed identification and control.

D. State and Federal Lands

The majority of lands within the Humboldt River Watershed are public lands (65%). The HWCWMA will work to develop assistance agreements with USFS, BLM, Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW), NDOT, and Nevada Department of Agriculture that enables HWCWMA cooperatively to manage noxious weed infestations on public lands. The HWCWMA will adhere to state guidelines in NRS 555 for cooperating with state and federal agencies.

3. Plan of Work

A. Objectives and Goals

- Develop and implement a comprehensive noxious weed management program
- Educate the public concerning weak management issues, and importance of EDRR
- Foster a spirit of cooperation among federal, state and local government agencies and private landowners

- Work with other government agencies and departments to institute “Best Management Practices” and/or policies that stress prevention as a weed management tool
- Promote and use integrated management techniques
- Establish and maintain healthy plant communities with native or beneficial vegetation
- Restore and maintain desirable plant communities, healthy ecosystems, and productive agricultural lands within the Humboldt Watershed
- Stop the spread of noxious weeds to un-infested lands
- Contain heavily weed-infested areas

- Management Goals for Weed Species

Management goals will vary from species to species, by location, and over time. For some species, such as yellow starthistle and Medusahead, complete eradication of existing infestations and total suppression of newly identified infestations is feasible and appropriate. Containment of existing intentional plantings, exclusion of seed from new wild land or open space mixes, and elimination of targeted escaped infestations are three different management goals for certain ornamentals such as oxeye daisy. Russian knapweed, saltcedar, and Russian olive infestations are so widespread that they must be managed, in many cases, merely for containment and reduction in the rate of spread. Eradication of these stands may only be viewed as impossible in some instances or as a long range objective.

In all cases, revegetation, either from the existing seed bank or through supplemental planting, must be included as a management goal. Without revegetation, disturbed or denuded soils invite adventitious weed infestation.

B. Prevention and Detection

Prevention is the highest priority weed management technique on non-infested lands. Among government officials, land managers, farmers, ranchers, and the general public there is growing recognition that protecting weed-free plant communities is the most economical and efficient land management practice. The benefits are obvious. Weed-free plant communities:

- Provide essential wildlife habitat and forage.
- Save ranchers and farmers many billions of dollars in labor costs and lost production.
- Ensure aesthetic and recreational qualities of an area.
- Prevent soil erosion and improve water quality.

The spread of noxious weeds is most likely to occur where soil has been disturbed either by human activities (road and trail cuts, construction sites, the spread of gravel, road fill and topsoil contaminated with noxious weed seed, or overgrazing) or by natural events (fire, avalanches, mudslides, flooding). Disturbed land provides opportunity for noxious weeds. All soil disturbances should be monitored by the appropriate entity for noxious weed outbreaks, regular monitoring enables the practice of EDRR.

Exotic plants and seeds such as oxeye daisy, purple loosestrife, chicory, toadflax, and Russian olive escape from our yards and gardens. Since they are attractive and establish themselves quickly, they are popular with landscapers and gardeners for ornamental planting and may be purchased through nurseries. They have the same ability to dominate and spread, however, as other better known noxious weeds.

Still other known methods of weed introduction include:

- Contaminated seed, feed grain, hay, straw, and mulch.
- Movement of contaminated equipment, cars, bikes, etc. across uncontaminated lands.
- Animal fur, fleece, human clothing.
- Dried flower arrangements.

Prevention is best accomplished by ensuring that new weed species seed or vegetative reproductive plant parts of weeds are not introduced into new areas and by early detection and management of any new weed species before they become widespread.

STRATEGIES to prevent the introduction or establishment of noxious weeds into new un-infested areas include:

- Identification and eradication of small, new infestations.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation to prevent recurrence.
- Identification of existing conditions, disturbances, and activities that represent a potential threat to native habitat.
- Identification of recently introduced weed species that represent a future threat.
- Timely revegetation and reclamation of disturbed sites using appropriate native plant species.
- The use of weed free seeds and mulch.
- Countywide promotion of the Nevada Weed Free Hay and Forage program.
- Prioritization of weed management along areas of entry and dispersal.
- Discouraging the sale of weedy ornamental plants and seed packets that contain weeds.

PREVENTION WILL ALWAYS BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AVAILABLE.

C. Education and Awareness:

Education must play a major role in implementing this weed management plan. Groups targeted for public education include the following: farmers and ranchers, homeowners associations, private citizens, developers, gardeners, landscapers, nurseries, public and private land management agencies, recreational users, youth groups and schools.

A partnership of the public and private sectors, along with awareness of what noxious weeds are and the problems they cause, is essential to maintain or create plant communities that are free of noxious weeds. Knowledge about how to identify weeds, how and where weeds are spread, and what it takes to manage weeds is needed. Continuation and expansion of current educational programs as well as the development of new programs is a priority of the Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Management Plan. Workshops will be held throughout the year to enhance public awareness.

OPPORTUNITIES for education include:

- Widespread distribution of informative printed material.
- Offering weed tours and talks to the public.
- Private applicator certification, applicator safety, and laws/regulations.

- Proper calibration of spraying equipment.
- Contacting area nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects, to emphasize the problems created by escaped ornamentals.
- Cooperation with local media to disseminate weed information.
- Custom weed management recommendations for individual landowners.

WEED MANAGEMENT BEGINS WITH EDUCATION.

D. Land Stewardship

The Nevada Noxious Weed Law requires that all property owners use integrated methods to manage noxious weeds. Weed management must be widespread and ongoing, requiring an integrated approach in which proper land stewardship practices are utilized. Most weed species, if detected early, can be managed.

STRATEGIES of good stewardship include:

- Identification of your plants.
- Understand the target weed. Does it reproduce by seed or roots or both?
- Maintain weed inventory maps.
- Develop a noxious weed database.
- Develop site specific weed management plans in cooperation with other individual landowners and public agencies.
- Develop a decision-making process that uses site-specific information to make decisions about treatment choices.
- Develop a long-term strategy including regular monitoring of treatment areas.
- Alleviate the situation, or practices, that allowed the weeds to spread.
- Take the necessary action to prevent further spread.

MAINTAINING LAND THAT IS FREE OF WEEDS IS GOOD STEWARDSHIP.

LANDOWNERS WHO DO NOT MANAGE THEIR WEEDS, PLACE THEIR NEIGHBORS' LANDS AT RISK.

E. Revegetation and Rehabilitation

A crucial part of any weed management plan is the reintroduction of site appropriate vegetation. Establishing a desirable plant community after noxious weeds have been removed from a highly infested area requires timely cultivation and reseeding. Since the seeds from noxious weeds may lay dormant for many years, removing all visible signs of the noxious weeds does not ensure against their return. Revegetation can help prevent the germination of weed seeds. It is important to inspect the land regularly to identify and treat small, new infestations. For proper reclamation, managed irrigation of dry areas, fertilization, and reseeding are essential to establish desirable plant communities.

Native plants may or may not be the most appropriate when trying to establish desirable plants that will compete with the noxious weeds. When the goal is restoration to a native plant community, it may still require the use of some non-natives that can eventually be replaced with natives once the noxious weeds have been outcompeted and eradicated on the site. Weed-free seeds of native Nevada grasses, wildflowers or plant species appropriate to the site may be purchased, but the best source for seeds is from native species that grow in the immediate vicinity of the infestation. They will be best adapted to local conditions and will help maintain local integrity and genetic viability. Using native plants or seeds to reclaim disturbed land reduces degradation of native ecosystems, reduces the need for herbicides and conserves water resources. Native plants will provide a broad biological diversity and help keep Nevada looking like Nevada with a unique regional landscape that sets us apart from other areas of the country.

When the goal is reclamation (reseeding for quick ground cover establishment or erosion control), it may be appropriate to use introduced, non-aggressive grasses and forbs. Contact the HWCWMA or one of their partners for seeding recommendations ([Appendix A](#)). The Native Plant revegetation Guide for Nevada, published by the Nevada State Parks Natural Areas Program, is an excellent guide for native plant reseeding.

STRATEGIES for successful rehabilitation and revegetation include:

- Study all vegetation in the area and surrounding areas.
- Preserve the existing plant species native to Nevada.
- Test the soil for pH balance. Try to retain and utilize as much on-site topsoil as possible.
- Select a predominant species that is appropriate to the site. Then choose a few complimentary species to provide a balanced plant community.
- Choose plants that are healthy, vigorous and pest free.
- Use weed-free seeds. Use non-hybrid seeds. Avoid commercial seed packets containing exotic plant species.
- Choose plants that are horticulturally appropriate, i.e. plant species that are adaptable to climate, soil and topographical conditions of the designated area.
- Consider the use of water, its availability and the vegetative requirements.
- To landscape for wildlife, choose native plants that provide cover, forage, browse, seeds for birds and rodents, and shade.
- Be site-specific; revegetation strategies may vary for small lots, farms, ranches or construction sites.
- Establish a vegetative cover that is diverse, effective and long lasting, capable of self-regeneration.
- Stabilize the soil surface.

F. Land Disturbance Requirements (Soil Plan, Revegetation Plan & Security)

At the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners or City Council, as part of the Planning and Zoning approval process, for land disturbances outside the building envelope, the County or City may require, at preliminary plan phase and prior to Final Plat, the following items:

1. Soil Plan:

- Provisions for salvaging on-site topsoil.
- A timetable for eliminating topsoil and/or aggregate piles.

- A plan that provides for soil cover if any disturbances or stockpiles will sit exposed for a period of 90 days or more.

2. Revegetation Plan:

- Plant material list (be specific, scientific and common names required).
- Planting schedule (to include timing, methods, and provisions for watering, if applicable).
- A map of the area impacted at preliminary plan (where the soil will be disturbed).

3. Revegetation Security Bond.

A revegetation security bond may be required if, in the determination of the Board of County Commissioners, the proposed project has:

- A potential to facilitate the spread of noxious weeds.
- A potential to impact watershed areas.
- A potential for visual impacts from public viewing corridors
- Steep slopes (15% or greater) or unstable areas.
- Disturbs large areas (half an acre or greater).

(Agricultural practices are exempt from revegetation requirements unless they are in association with a subdivision or other land use proposal)

The revegetation security bond will be in an amount to be determined by the Board of County Commissioners that will be site-specific and based on the amount of disturbance. The security shall be held by the County until vegetation has been successfully reestablished according to the following Reclamation Standards. The Board of County Commissioners will designate a member of their staff, or request HWCWMA staff to evaluate the reclamation site prior to the release of the security bond.

G. Reclamation Standards

1. Site stability

The reclaimed area shall be stable and exhibit none of the following characteristics:

- Large rills or gullies.
- Perceptible soil movement or head cutting in drainages.
- Slope instability on or adjacent to the reclaimed area.
 - Slopes shall be stabilized using appropriate reshaping and earthwork measures, including proper placement of soils and other materials.

2. Soil Management

- Topsoil shall be salvaged from the areas to be disturbed, and properly managed for later use during reclamation.

3. Erosion Prevention

The surface area disturbed at any one time during the development of a project shall be kept to the minimum necessary and the disturbed areas reclaimed within ninety days to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation resulting from erosion.

- a. The soil surface must be stable and have adequate surface roughness to reduce run off, capture rainfall and snow melt, and allow for revegetation.
- b. Application of certified noxious weed free mulch or erosion netting may be necessary to reduce soil movement, retain soil moisture, and promote revegetation.
- c. Soil conservation measures, including surface manipulation, reduction in slope angle, revegetation, and water management techniques, shall be used.
- d. Sediment retention structures or devices shall be located as close to the source of the sediment generating activities as possible to increase their effectiveness and reduce environmental impacts.

4. Revegetation

When the final landform is achieved, the surface shall be stabilized by vegetation or other means to reduce further soil erosion from wind or water, provide forage and cover, and reduce visual impacts. Specific criteria for evaluating revegetation success must be site specific and be included as a part of the reclamation plan.

- a. Vegetation production, species diversity, and cover, shall support the post-disturbance land use. Areas where the post-disturbance land use does not include lawns, gardens, and flower beds; shall approximate the surrounding undisturbed area or be re-vegetated to a desired plant community with a composition of species and plant cover typical to that site.
- b. The vegetation shall stabilize the site and support the planned post-disturbance land use, provide natural plant community succession and development, and be capable of renewing itself. This shall be demonstrated by:
 - i. Using certified noxious weed free seed.
 - ii. Successful onsite establishment of the species included in the planting mixture and/or other desirable species.
 - iii. Evidence of desirable vegetation reproduction, either spreading by rhizomatous species or seed reproduction.
 - iv. Evidence of overall site stability and sustainability.
- c. The revegetation plan shall provide for the greatest probability of success in plant establishment and vegetation development by considering environmental factors such as seasonal patterns of precipitation, temperature and wind; soil texture and fertility; slope stability; and direction of slope faces.
- d. To insure the establishment of a diverse and long-lasting vegetative cover, the permittee shall employ appropriate techniques of site preparation and protection. species diversity should be selected for long-term land uses and to provide for a reduction in visual contrast.
- e. Where revegetation is to be used, a diversity of vegetation species shall be used to establish a resilient, self-perpetuating ecosystem capable of supporting the post- disturbance land use. Species planted shall include those that will provide for quick soil stabilization, provide litter and nutrients for soil building and are self-renewing.
- f. Integrated Weed Management (IWM) methods shall be employed for all noxious weed species on the NDOA noxious weeds list. Weed management methods shall be used whenever the inhabitation of the reclaimed area by noxious weeds threatens nearby areas.
- g. Where revegetation is impractical or inconsistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas, other forms of surface stabilization shall be used.

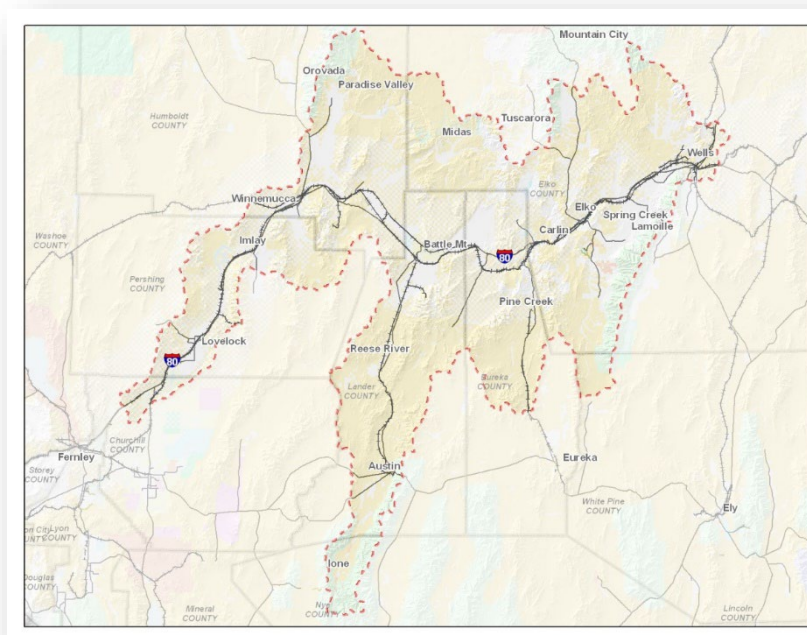
H. Mapping and Inventory

Inventory and weed mapping come first and are a valuable tool in integrated weed management. As such, the HWCWMA Coordinator will establish and maintain accurate visual maps of past and present infestations of known noxious weeds on public and private land, to the extent possible given limited funding and access to private properties. The HWCWMA will partner with all appropriate entities within the State of Nevada to achieve this goal. This process will provide a graphic representation of weed management progress and needs. The primary goal of mapping will be to record the noxious weed species present, areas infested, density of infestations, and other site factors pertinent to successful management of the infestation. The data will be periodically updated and compared to establish trends, and to evaluate the success of management methods being employed.

I. Monitoring

Even after apparently successful weed control, reinvasion by weeds from buried seeds or other underground organs may occur before any native plant species occupy the area. Monitoring is required to assess the effectiveness of weed management and the expected recovery of native vegetation following weed removal or suppression. Without monitoring, we cannot learn about the impact of a management program or how it might be modified in the future, if necessary, for improved results. In planning a monitoring procedure, the HWCWMA should consider the aims of the management program which is simply the removal of weeds and an increase in native (or other desired) species. When appropriate, the HWCWMA will decide what to measure, how to measure and record it and the time-frame: the frequency of repeated measurements and the duration of the program. The monitoring procedure should be easily repeated and not subjective, so it could be done by different people over time and the same accuracy can be achieved.

Data collected during monitoring events would include: the noxious weed species, location information (GPS documentation and accompanying map products), the extent of the infestation, results of previous control measures implemented (if any), and recommendations for further control (if needed). Estimates would be made for the entire problem area, comparing disturbed and adjacent areas, and include the range of species cover and density values. HWCWMA will consult with local weed districts and land management agencies to determine the most appropriate control measures. All noxious weeds identified within the Humboldt River Watershed corridor will be delineated via Trimble Juno global positioning system units (sub meter accuracy).



4. Humboldt Watershed Noxious Weed Management Plan Adopters

HUMBOLDT WATERSHED COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

ELKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

EUREKA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

LANDER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

PERSHING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

NYE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

ELKO CITY COUNCIL

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

WINNEMUCCA CITY COUNCIL

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

CARLIN CITY COUNCIL

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

LOVELOCK CITY COUNCIL

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

SPRING CREEK ASSOCIATION BOARD

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

BIG MEADOW CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

CLOVER VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

JIGGS CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

LAHONTAN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

LAMOILLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

LANDER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

NORTHEAST ELKO CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

OWYHEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

PARADISE/SONOMA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

QUINN RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

RUBY VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

STARR VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

STILLWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

TONOPAH CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

WHITE PINE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

President/Chairman (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

5. APPENDAGES

Appendix A: Nevada State Laws and Statutes Pertaining to Noxious Weeds

GENERAL PROVISIONS

NRS 555.005 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. “Department” means the State Department of Agriculture.
2. “Director” means the Director of the Department.
3. “Noxious weed” means any species of plant which is, or is likely to be, detrimental or destructive and difficult to control or eradicate.

(Added to NRS by 1961, 512; A 1975, 555; 1993, 1709; [1997, 479](#); [1999, 3640](#))

INSPECTION AND DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

NRS 555.130 Designation of noxious weeds.

The State Quarantine Officer may declare by regulation the weeds of the _____ state that are noxious weeds, but a weed must not be designated as noxious which is already introduced and _____ established in the State to such an extent as to make its control or eradication impracticable in the judgment of the _____ State Quarantine Officer.

[Part 1:174:1929; NCL § 414]—(NRS A [1997, 479](#))

NRS 555.140 General powers and duties of State Quarantine Officer; use of funds received for purpose of control or eradication of noxious weeds.

1. The State Quarantine Officer shall carry out and enforce the provisions of [NRS 555.130](#) to [555.220](#), inclusive.
2. To secure information better to carry out the provisions of [NRS 555.130](#) to [555.220](#), inclusive, the State Quarantine Officer may conduct reasonably limited trials of various methods of controlling or eradicating noxious or potentially noxious weeds under practical Nevada conditions.
3. The State Quarantine Officer may provide supervision and technical advice in connection with any project approved by him or her for the control or eradication of any noxious weed or weeds in this State.
4. All funds appropriated for, or received incident to, the control or eradication of any noxious weeds must be available for carrying out the provisions of [NRS 555.130](#) to [555.220](#), inclusive.

[2:174:1929; A 1941, 377; 1931 NCL § 415]—(NRS A 1961, 523; [1997, 479](#))

NRS 555.150 Eradication of noxious weeds by owner or occupant of land.

Every railroad, canal, ditch or water company, and every person owning, controlling or occupying lands in this State, and every county, incorporated city or district having the supervision and control over streets, alleys, lanes, rights-of-way, or other lands, shall cut, destroy or eradicate all weeds declared and designated as noxious as provided in [NRS 555.130](#), before such weeds propagate and spread, and whenever required by the State Quarantine Officer.

[Part 1:174:1929; NCL § 414]—(NRS A 1961, 524; 1987, 1728; [1997, 480](#))

NRS 555.160 State Quarantine Officer to investigate noxious weeds; notice to owner or occupant of land where noxious weeds are found.

1. The State Quarantine Officer shall make or cause to be made a careful examination and investigation of the spread, development and growth of noxious weeds in this State. Upon the discovery of those weeds, the State Quarantine Officer shall ascertain the name of the owner or occupant of the land and the description of the land where the weeds are found. The State Quarantine Officer may serve notice in writing upon the owner or occupant of the land to cut, eradicate or destroy the weeds within such time and in such manner as designated and described in the notice. One such notice shall be deemed sufficient for the entire season of weed growth during that year.

2. Notices may be served upon the owner or occupant by an officer or employee of the Department, and must be served in writing, personally or by certified mail, with receipt given therefor.

[3:174:1929; NCL § 416]—(NRS A 1961, 524; 1993, 1711; [1997, 480](#); [1999, 3642](#))

NRS 555.170 Neglect of owner or occupant to eradicate weeds after notice; action by county commissioners; payment of costs by county.

1. If any owner or occupant of the lands described in the notice served, as provided in [NRS 555.160](#), shall fail, neglect or refuse to cut, destroy or eradicate the weeds designated, upon the land described, in accordance with the requirements of the notice, the State Quarantine Officer may notify the board of county commissioners of the county or counties in which the land is located of such failure, neglect or refusal.

2. Upon notice as provided in subsection 1, the board of county commissioners concerned shall proceed to have cut, destroyed or eradicated the weeds in question in accordance with the requirements of the notice served upon the owner or occupant of the land in question, paying for such cutting, destruction or eradication out of county funds.

3. Upon the completion of such work of cutting, destruction or eradication of such weeds, the board of county commissioners shall prepare in triplicate itemized statements of all expenses incurred in the cutting, destruction or eradication of the weeds involved, and shall deliver the three copies of the statements to the county treasurer within 10 days of the date of the completion of the work involved.

[4:174:1929; NCL § 417]—(NRS A 1961, 524)

NRS 555.180 County treasurer to mail itemized statement of costs to owner or occupant; objections and hearing; costs constitute lien on land.

1. Upon receipt of the itemized statements of the cost of cutting, destroying or eradication of such weeds, the county treasurer shall forthwith mail one copy to the owner or occupant of the land on which the weeds were cut, destroyed or eradicated, together with a statement that objections may be made to the whole or any part of the statement so filed to the board of county commissioners within 30 days. A hearing may be had upon any objections made.

2. If any objections to any statement are filed with the board of county commissioners, the board shall set a date for a hearing, giving due notice thereof, and upon the hearing fix and determine the actual cost of cutting, destroying or eradicating the weeds and report its findings to the county treasurer.

3. If no objections to the items of the accounts so filed are made within 30 days of the date of mailing the itemized statement, the county treasurer shall enter the amount of such statement upon his or her tax roll in a column prepared for that purpose; and within 10 days from the date of the action of the board of county commissioners upon objections filed, the county treasurer shall enter the amount found by the board of county commissioners as the actual cost of cutting, destroying or eradicating the weeds in the prepared column upon the tax roll.

4. If current tax notices have been mailed, the costs may be carried over on the rolls to the year following. The costs incurred shall be a lien upon the land from which the weeds were cut, destroyed or eradicated, and shall be collected as provided by law for the collection of other liens.

[5:174:1929; NCL § 418]—(NRS A 1961, 525)

NRS 555.190 Incorporated city to pay county for any expense incurred by county to eradicate noxious weeds within city.

Any expense incurred by any county in the cutting, destroying or eradicating of noxious weeds from any street, lane, alley or other property owned or controlled by an incorporated city in that city, in accordance with the provisions of [NRS 555.170](#), must be repaid to the county from the general fund of the incorporated city, upon presentation to the governing body of the incorporated city of an itemized statement of the expense so incurred.

[6:174:1929; NCL § 419]—(NRS A 1987, 1728; [1997, 480](#))

NRS 555.200 Removal of noxious weeds from public domain; reimbursement by Federal Government.

1. Whenever a noxious weed is found growing upon the public domain or any other lands in this State owned by the Federal Government, the State Quarantine Officer may serve notice, as provided in [NRS 555.160](#), upon the person within the county or this State who is in charge of the activities of the federal agency having control or jurisdiction of the land.

2. If the agency described in the notice fails or refuses to comply with the notice, the State Quarantine Officer may provide for the cutting, destruction or eradication of the weeds in any manner permitted by federal law. The State Quarantine Officer or the political subdivision shall seek reimbursement from the Federal Government for any expense incurred by the State or the political subdivision pursuant to this section.

[7:174:1929; NCL § 420]—(NRS A 1961, 525; 1979, 292; [1997, 480](#))

NRS 555.201 Penalty.

Any person violating any of the provisions of [NRS 555.130](#) to [555.200](#), inclusive, or failing, refusing or neglecting to perform or observe any conditions or regulations prescribed by the State Quarantine Officer, in accordance with the provisions of [NRS 555.130](#) to [555.200](#), inclusive, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

[Part 9:174:1929; NCL § 422]—(NRS A 1969, 518)

WEED CONTROL DISTRICTS

NRS 555.202 Legislative declaration.

The Legislature declares that it is primarily the responsibility of each owner or occupier of land in this State to control weeds on his or her own land, but finds that in certain areas this responsibility can best be discharged through control by organized districts.

(Added to NRS by 1969, 516)

NRS 555.203 Creation of district: Initiation by board of county commissioners or petition; hearing; exclusion of land; addition of power to control and eradicate noxious weeds.

1. The board of county commissioners of any county may, in accordance with [chapter 308](#) of NRS, create one or more weed control districts in that portion of the county which lies outside any incorporated city. Creation of such a district may be initiated by the board of county commissioners or by a petition which:

(a) Designates the area to be included in the weed control district, either as the entire unincorporated area of the county or by sections or parts of sections with appropriate township and range references; and

(b) Is signed by an owner of land within the proposed weed control district.

2. Lands proposed for inclusion in a weed control district need not be contiguous.

3. Before creating a weed control district, the board of county commissioners shall:

(a) Hold at least one public hearing pursuant to [NRS 308.070](#). At this hearing, the board of county commissioners shall entertain applications for the exclusion of lands, designated by sections or parts of sections as prescribed in subsection 1, from the proposed district, if any such application is made. The board of county commissioners shall exclude any such lands as to which it is shown to their satisfaction that any weeds which exist on that land do not render substantially more difficult the control of weeds on other lands in the proposed district.

(b) Provide for the hearing of protests against the establishment of the district in the manner set forth in [NRS 318.065](#) and [318.070](#).

4. The board of trustees of a general improvement district may, in accordance with [NRS 318.077](#), add to the basic powers of the district the control and eradication of noxious weeds.

(Added to NRS by 1969, 516; A 1981, 1641; 1987, 1728; [1997, 481](#))

NRS 555.209 Regulations.

1. The board of directors shall prepare regulations for the weed control district, which shall include but are not limited to:

(a) The species of weeds to be controlled in the district.

(b) The means of direct control by spray, cultivation or otherwise.

(c) The means of indirect control, including the movement from, to and within the district of agricultural machinery, agricultural products, livestock and other vectors capable of spreading the weeds designated for control.

2. One copy of the proposed regulations must be delivered to the State Quarantine Officer, and at least two copies made available for public inspection in the office of the district secretary or the county clerk, as the board may by resolution prescribe.

3. The State Quarantine Officer shall then hold a public hearing in the county in which is located the larger or largest proportion of the area of the district, to consider the proposed regulations, of which the State Quarantine Officer shall give notice by publication, in a newspaper of general circulation in each county having lands situated in the district, of at least one notice published not less than 10 days before the hearing. At this hearing, the State Quarantine Officer shall entertain written suggestions for the modification of the regulations.

4. After the hearing, and any additional time which the State Quarantine Officer may allow for the submission of additional facts or proposals, the State Quarantine Officer shall approve, modify or disapprove the proposed regulations. If the board of directors of the district does not concur in the action of the State Quarantine Officer, the State Board of Agriculture shall establish the regulations.

(Added to NRS by 1969, 517; A 1981, 1643)

NRS 555.210 Performance of necessary work by weed control officer on failure by landowner; charges as lien.

If any landowner fails to carry out a plan of weed control for his or her land in compliance with the regulations of the district, the weed control officer may enter upon the land affected, perform any work necessary to carry out the plan, and charge such work against the landowner. Any such charge, until paid, is a lien against the land affected coequal with a lien for unpaid general taxes, and may be enforced in the same manner.

[2.5:174:1929; added 1949, 560; 1943 NCL § 415.01]—(NRS A 1969, 518)

Appendix B: Nevada Department of Agriculture Designated Noxious Weeds Lists

Under the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 555), the Nevada Department of Agriculture maintains three different categories of noxious weed listings and the specific management goals for each category. The categories are as follows:

▪ Category "A" Weeds

Weeds that are generally not found or that are limited in distribution throughout the State. Such weeds are rare and subject to active exclusion from the State and active eradication wherever found.

- African Rue (*Peganum harmala*)

- Austrian fieldcress (*Rorippa austriaca*)
- Austrian peaweed (*Sphaerophysa salsula* / *Swainsona salsula*)
- Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
- Camelthorn (*Alhagi camelorum*)
- Common crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*)
- Dalmation Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- Dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)
- Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
- Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*)
- Giant Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)
- Goats rue (*Galega officinalis*)
- Green Fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)
- Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
- Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)
- Iberian Starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*)
- Klamath weed (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Malta Star thistle (*Centaurea melitensis*)
- Mayweed chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*)
- Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethiopis*)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*, *L. virgatum* and their cultivars)
- Purple Star thistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*)
- Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- Sow Thistle (*Sonchus arvensis*)
- Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea masculosa*)
- Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgate*)
- Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
- Syrian Bean Caper (*Zygophyllum fabago*)
- Yellow Starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)
- Yellow Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

▪ Category "B" Weeds

Weeds that are generally established in scattered populations in some counties of the State. Such weeds are subject to eradication, containment or suppression in order to stop their continued spread.

- Carolina Horse-nettle (*Solanum carolinense*)
- Diffuse Knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)
- Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Russian Knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*)
- Sahara Mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*)
- Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- White Horse-nettle (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*)

▪ Category "C" Weeds

Weeds that are generally established and generally widespread in many counties of the State. Such weeds are subject to improved management.

- Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*)
- Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*)
- Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)
- Puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
- Salt cedar or tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.)
- Water Hemlock (*Cicuta maculate*)

Appendix C: Additional Weed Species of Concern

- Halogeton

Appendix D: County and City Policies or Ordinances

Existing county policies or ordinances

Appendix E: Partners Providing Technical Support

- | | |
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| • Spring Creek Regional CWMA | • Clover Valley Conservation District |
| • Elko County CWMA | • Eureka Conservation District |
| • Gerlach CWMA | • Jiggs Conservation District |
| • Pershing County CWMA | • Lahontan Conservation District |
| • Lander County CWMA | • Lamoille Conservation District |
| • Eureka County CWMA | • Lander Conservation District |
| • University of Nevada Cooperative Extension | • Northeast Elko Conservation District |
| • Nevada Department of Agriculture | • Owyhee Conservation District |
| • Nevada Weed Management Association | • Paradise/Sonoma Conservation District |
| • Nevada Weed Action Committee | • Quinn River Conservation District |
| • Nevada Division of Forestry | • Ruby Valley Conservation District |
| • Nevada Department of Wildlife | • Starr Valley Conservation District |
| • Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Team | • Stillwater Conservation District |
| • Nevada Division of Conservation Districts | • Tonopah Conservation District |
| • USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service | • White Pine Conservation District |
| • Big Meadow Conservation District | |