

# **DELTA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Adopted April 5 , 2010**

## **I INTRODUCTION**

### 1.01 Purpose

The purpose of the Delta County Noxious Weed Management Plan is to protect effectively against designated noxious weeds which constitute a present threat to the continued economic and environmental value of lands in the unincorporated County. This Plan implements the mandates of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, and includes setting forth management objectives, plans, methods or practices which utilize a variety of techniques for the integrated management of noxious weeds. In establishing a coordinated program for the integrated management of noxious weeds, it is the County's intent to encourage all appropriate and available management methods, promoting those methods which are the most environmentally benign and which are practical and economically feasible, consistent with the noxious weed management objectives and plans mandated by the State Department of Agriculture and the Colorado Noxious Weed Act.

### 1.02 Enactment Authority

This plan complies with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act (Title 35, Article 5.5, C.R.S) as revised by the 2004 Colorado Legislature. The purpose of the Delta County Noxious Weed Management Plan is to coordinate the control of targeted noxious weeds within Delta County as determined by the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. The targeted noxious weeds to be controlled are designated within this plan. Control is aimed at eradicating, reducing, suppressing or containing populations of non-native, invasive noxious weeds which pose a threat to the environment and economy of Delta County by reducing wildlife habitat, agricultural production, property values, and threatening the native plant populations unique to Delta County.

### 1.03 Jurisdiction and Scope

Upon acceptance of this plan, the Delta County Board of County Commissioners will approve the new Delta County Noxious Weed Management Plan (CRS§35-5.5-105). The Delta County Noxious Weed Program (the Program) will then implement the Delta County Noxious Weed Plan. The Program will monitor and control weeds on county properties, on governmental properties and right of ways under intergovernmental cooperative agreements between the federal and state governments found within the county, and on private property under contract with the private property owner. Municipalities in Delta County are not covered by this Plan and must implement their own weed control strategies.

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act provides a mechanism to enforce weed control on private lands. A summary of this act is found in Attachment A. However, the Delta County Commissioners have historically preferred to pursue a policy of voluntary weed control by property owners. Enforcement procedures for control of selected species on the Colorado Department of Agriculture A and B list will be implemented when necessary. These species, as of January 1, 2010, are yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife and leafy spurge.

1.04 Severity of Noxious Weeds in Delta County

Delta County currently has some well established weed problems that cannot be solved in the near term. The primary weeds in this category are Russian knapweed, Canada, musk and scotch thistles and hoary cress (whitetop). A second group of weeds can be controlled in a very short period of time with prompt identification and diligent control. These include oxeye daisy, yellow toadflax and escaped ornamentals such as myrtle spurge and purple loosestrife. The largest infestation of yellow starthistle in Colorado was found northwest of Paonia in 2008. This infestation will get the highest priority for control. The increased soil disturbance through the subdivision of land into residential and recreational areas, as well as increased use of public and private lands may create new noxious weed problems. It is imperative that the Delta County Weed Control Program continues to monitor weed populations throughout the county and initiate control programs before weed densities of new infestations become unmanageable.

1.05 Operating Budget

The Delta County Noxious Weed Program is administered by Delta County Board of County Commissioners. Funding sources include the Delta County General Fund, cooperative funding with public agencies, grants, and revenue producing contracts. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are currently in place between Delta County and the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

1.06 Public Comment

Public comment and participation is encouraged. Public comments may be directed to the Program Coordinator in the Hotchkiss Courthouse Annex, members of the Weed Advisory Board or to the Board of County Commissioners.

1.07 Delta County Weed Advisory Board

The Delta County Commissioners will appoint the Delta County Weed Advisory Board (CRS§35-5.5-107). The Delta County Weed Advisory Board will provide policy and advice for weed control in Delta County with the approval of the Delta County Board of County Commissioners. Powers for the Weed Advisory Board are outlined in the Colorado Noxious Weed Act under the provision of CRS§35-5.5-107.

1.08 Weed Lists: State of Colorado

Under the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, the Colorado Department of Agriculture has appointed a Colorado State Noxious Weed Advisory Board. The Colorado State Noxious Weed Advisory Board and the Department of Agriculture Commissioner have designated the following classifications and management goals for the noxious weed species below:

### **List A Species**

List A species in Colorado are designated by the Commissioner for eradication. These weeds are either relatively rare or have not been found in Colorado. Species that are in **bold print** are known to exist in Delta County as of January 1, 2009.

African rue (*Peganum harmala*)  
Camelthorn (*Alhagi pseudalhagi*)  
Common crupina (*Cupina vulgaris*)  
Cypress spurge (*Euphorbia cyparissias*)  
Dyers woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)  
Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)  
Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)  
Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea pratensis*)  
Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethopsis*)  
Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)  
**Myrtle spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*)**  
Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)  
**Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)**  
Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)  
Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)  
Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata*)  
Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)  
**Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)**

### **List B Species**

List B weed species are species for which the Commissioner (in consultation with the state noxious weed advisory committee, local governments, and other interested parties) develops and implements state noxious weed management plans designed to stop the continued spread of these species. Species that are in **bold print** are known to exist in Delta County as of January 1, 2009

Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)  
Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)  
**Bouncingbet (*Saponaria officinalis*)**

**Bull thistle** (*Cirsium vulgare*)  
**Canada thistle** (*Cirsium arvense*)  
Chinese clematis (*Clematis orientalis*)  
**Common tansy** (*Tanacetum vulgare*)  
Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*)  
Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)  
**Dame's rocket** (*Hesperis matronalis*)  
Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)  
Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)  
**Hoary cress or Whitetop** (*Cardaria draba*)  
**Houndstongue** (*Cynoglossum officinale*)  
**Leafy spurge** (*Euphorbia esula*)  
**Moth mullein** (*Verbascum blattaria*)  
**Musk thistle** (*Carduus nutans*)  
**Oxeye daisy** (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)  
**Perennial pepperweed** (*Lepidium latifolium*)  
**Plumeless thistle** (*Carduus acanthoides*)  
**Quackgrass** (*Elytrigia repens*)  
**Redstem filaree** (*Erodium cicutarium*)  
**Russian knapweed** (*Centaurea repens*)  
**Russian olive** (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)  
**Saltcedar** (*Tamarix ramossissima*)  
**Scentless chamomile** (*Matricaria perorata*)  
**Scotch thistle** (*Onopordum acanthium*)  
**Spotted knapweed** (*Centaurea maculosa*)  
**Spurred anoda** (*Anoda cristata*)  
Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)  
**Venice mallow** (*Hibiscus trionum*)  
**Wild caraway** (*Carum carvi*)  
**Yellow nutsedge** (*Cyperus esculentus*)  
**Yellow toadflax** (*Linaria vulgaris*)

### List C Species

List C weed species are species for which the Commissioner (in consultation with the state noxious weed advisory committee, local governments, and other interested parties) will develop and implement state noxious weed management plans designed to support the efforts of local governing bodies to facilitate more effective integrated weed management on private and public lands. The goal of such plans will be to stop the continued spread of these species and provide additional education, research, and biological control resources to jurisdictions that choose to require management of List C species. Species that are in **bold print** are known to exist in Delta County as of January 1, 2009

**Cheatgrass** (*Bromus tectorum*)  
**Chicory** (*Cichorium intybus*)

**Common burdock (*Arctium minus*)**  
**Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)**  
**Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)**  
**Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*)**  
**Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*)**  
**Jointed goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrica*)**  
**Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*)**  
**Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)**  
**Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)**  
**St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)**  
**Velvetleaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*)**  
**Volunteer rye (*Secale cereale*)**  
**Wild-prose millet (*Panicum miliaceum*)**

1.09 Delta County Noxious Weed List

Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)  
Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)  
Myrtle spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*)  
Common burdock (*Arctium minus*)  
Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)  
Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)  
Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)  
Hoary cress or Whitetop (*Cardaria draba*)  
Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)  
Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)  
Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)  
Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)  
Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)  
Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)  
Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)  
Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)  
Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*)  
Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)  
Saltcedar (*Tamarix ramossissima*)

**II: GEOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW OF COUNTY DESIGNATED NOXIOUS WEED INFESTATIONS IN DELTA COUNTY**

2.01 Description of Delta County

1. Major Natural Features:
  - a. Lakes and Reservoirs: Crawford Reservoir, Sweitzer Lake, Fruitgrowers Reservoir, numerous Grand Mesa lakes and reservoirs.

- b. Major River Drainages: Gunnison River, North Fork Gunnison River, Uncompaghre River, Surface Creek, Escalante Creek.
- c. Major Mountain Ranges: West Elks, Grand Mesa (south side) lower Uncompaghre Plateau (east side). Highest elevation approximately 11,300 feet
- d. National Forests: Grand Mesa National Forest, Gunnison National Forest
- e. Wilderness: Gunnison Gorge

2. Land Use Statistics:

- a. Total acreage 735,532 acres (1149 square miles)
- b. Federal or state ownership- 415,749 acres (56 %)
- c. Agricultural lands-254,144 acres (36%)
- d. Residential land-25,743 acres (3.5%)
- e. Other: 33,099 acres (4.5%)

2.02 County-wide Infestations

The most common County designated noxious weeds on private, Bureau of Land Management and County lands (primarily county roads) are Russian knapweed, whitetop, and Canadian thistle. The most widely spread listed weed on U.S. Forest Service managed lands is Canadian thistle.

2.03 State Highways

Russian knapweed and whitetop are the most common. Yearly spray treatments were made from 1996 until 2006. Infestation densities were reduced about 80 percent. Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) budget reallocations curtailed this program in 2007-2008. The primary weed problem currently is kochia (not a listed noxious weed).

2.04 North Fork River

The North Fork has scattered infestations of whitetop, Russian knapweed, oxeye daisy, yellow toadflax and scotch thistle. There are dense concentrations of tamarisk and Russian Olive. The property on most of the river is private. Control efforts for all species has been minimal.

2.05 Gunnison River: Smith Fork-Pleasure Park-Lawhead Gulch

The primary weed species are Russian knapweed, tamarisk and whitetop. Control efforts for all species has been ongoing since 2002. Approximately 90 percent of tamarisk has been removed between the Smith Fork and Lawhead Gulch (16 miles). There are minor infestations of yellow toadflax and oxeye daisy between Pleasure Park and Delta. Russian olive is the main invader downstream from Austin to the Highway 65 bridge.

2.06 Gunnison River: Delta to Mesa County

Russian knapweed and tamarisk are the primary invaders.

2.07 West and Southwest Delta County

The dominating invasive species are Russian knapweed, whitetop and halogeton. Halogeton will be first to take hold in disturbed areas such as pipelines and utility corridors

2.08 Upper Surface Creek Area

Scotch thistle, Canadian thistle, Russian knapweed and whitetop are common. There is also a large population of myrtle spurge on the west side of Cedaredge within the city limits.

2.09 Northeastern Delta County

Large portions of this area are within the Grand Mesa and Gunnison National Forests. There are also some large parcels of private land. This area is much higher in altitude than the rest of Delta County. Weeds that thrive in this alpine setting are Canadian thistle, musk thistle, oxeye daisy and scentless chamomile. There are a few spots of plumeless thistle. In the West Muddy drainage, there are some oxeye daisy populations that cover hundreds of acres. Most of these are on open ground such as pastures and meadows. Joint control efforts between the U.S. Forest Service, Delta County and private landowners have been ongoing since 2001 for oxeye daisy. Much of the work on private land was funded by Colorado Division of Wildlife and conducted by the Program.

2.10 Fruitland and Redlands Mesa

Both of these mesas have very large, long established populations of Russian knapweed on private land and county roads. Whitetop is a secondary infestation. Control of knapweed in parts of these areas is prohibitively expensive. A second problem is that when knapweed is controlled, whitetop tends to replace it.

2.11 Special Weed Concern # 1: Yellow starthistle

Yellow starthistle is located northwest of Paonia on Stucker Mesa ½ mile west of Roatcap Creek. The estimated acreage is 75 infested acres spread out over about 400 total acres. The majority if the starthistle is on private land. Several small, scattered patches are on the surrounding BLM land.

2.13 Special Weed Concern # 2: Purple loosestrife

Purple loosestrife is located on private land southwest of Cedaredge, three quarters of a mile west of Highway 65 and directly south of Melinda Way. There are two main infestation covering 20 acres and several groups of plants scattered along neighborhood ponds and ditches.

2.13 Special Weed Concern # 3: Leafy spurge

Leafy spurge is found primarily east and south of Paonia. Private lands on both sides of Minnesota Creek Road as well as the BLM land south of this road were the original seed source of the infestation. Transportation vectors for spreading leafy spurge seed have been the Turner, Minnesota and Stewart Ditches. Plants have been found on the Stewart Mesa extension as far southwest at Back River Road and Slate Road. Plants have been found on Stewart Mesa as far south as L

75 Road. Except for two portions of private land along Minnesota Creek, infestations are spotty and small. Usually they appear along irrigation laterals or adjacent to irrigation gated pipe. Smaller outbreaks of this weed are treated by the Program at no charge to the landowner. This problem weed is persistent but has been contained.

- 2.14 Special Weed Concern # 4: Yellow toadflax on Coal Creek (Gunnison County)  
There were 640 acres of inventoried toadflax in the Coal Creek/Anthracite drainage in 2005. Coal Creek is one of the headwaters of the North Fork of the Gunnison River. The North Fork joins the Gunnison River 3 miles west of Hotchkiss. Toadflax has been found along irrigation systems in eastern Delta County that get water from the North Fork and as far downstream on the Gunnison as Delta (42 miles downstream from Coal Creek). The Coal Creek drainage is the seed source. There are no other large toadflax infestations in the area that could be a source. The Delta County Weed Program and the U.S. Forest Service worked on a joint program from 2004-2007 to control this weed. As of September 2007, expenditures amounted to \$103,000. Toadflax populations have been reduced by 75-80 percent. This project continued in 2008 and included the Paonia Dam and the Fire Mountain ditch. In 2008 the Program received \$26,000 in grant funding for this project.

- 2.15 Endangered or Rare Plant Species  
Delta County hosts two plants that are on the Federal Endangered Species list. These are Clay Loving Buckwheat (*Eriogonum pelinophilum*) and the Uinta Basin Hookless Cactus (*Sclerocactus glaucus*). Thirteen more species are considered to be rare according to a Colorado Natural Heritage Program survey conducted in 1997. This survey is on file at the Program's Hotchkiss office. These survey maps are checked before herbicide treatments begin each year in order to avoid further disturbance of these rare plant populations.

### **III: PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

#### 3.01 Goals of the Plan

The goals of this Delta County Weed Management Plan are to comply with and execute the requirements of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. The Program will accomplish these goals by instituting county-wide programs that address the following fundamentals:

- Awareness, education and training
- Prevention and detection
- Inventory, survey and mapping
- Integrated control (biological, chemical, cultural and mechanical)
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Reporting



It is essential to develop a spirit of cooperation among landowners (federal, state, county, municipal or private) and Delta County by working with these landowners to understand and institute integrated weed management.

### 3.02 Public Awareness and Education

The Delta County Noxious Weed Program and Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Office will place timely articles in local papers, newsletters and other local publications. Additionally, a spokesperson will be provided for local community and civic organizations as part of the educational program. On-site visits to landowners to identify weed problems and improvise control strategies will be provided at no charge to landowners. A Delta County Weed Program website will be placed within the existing Delta County official site with links to information on identifying and controlling noxious weeds.

### 3.03 Prevention Measures.

The first priority is to prevent the introduction of any noxious weed to any area not previously infested. The most obvious method is to stop transporting viable seed or propagating plant parts by mechanical means. All equipment should be cleaned when leaving all infested areas to prevent contaminating rights-of-way and the next area entered.

Along these lines, it is strongly recommended that everyone use noxious weedfree certified seed. Feed containing viable noxious weed seeds should not be purchased, transported, or used: Since designated weeds will set seed prior to normal harvest dates, crops need to be treated if they are to be moved from the infested area.

Also to be considered is once seed has reached maturity, it can remain viable for years. During this time, it can re-infest the same area long after the weed problem appears to have been solved, or it can be transported to other areas. This can occur naturally by wind and water or mechanically by movement of vehicles or equipment. Seeds are also transported great distances by domestic animals and wildlife.

Many of the most common weed problems occur in response to disturbed soils. Disturbances can result from a number of conditions including overgrazed pastures, overused turf, clear cut woodlands, pipeline construction and energy/gravel development, improperly maintained road edges, and land development. Land management practices that minimize soil disturbance are invaluable in prevention and control of undesirable plant species.

### 3.04 Surveying and Mapping

It is the long term goal of the Program to map the major infestations of noxious weeds on the county and state roads using GIS and GPS technology that will allow integration into a layer on the Delta County GIS map.

### 3.05 Mechanical Control

Mechanical control includes cultivation, mowing, hand pulling and burning. All of these measures, when used correctly, can be of great help when used in conjunction with another type of control. When used alone, they rarely have a positive long-range effect due to the excellent survival ability of noxious weeds. It may, in fact, make the problem worse through spreading seed or plant parts and by eliminating the desirable competitive species on site.

### 3.06 Biological Control

Biological control is the control of undesirable plants through the use of living organisms. The organism may be an insect, plant, pathogen or livestock, such as sheep, goats or cattle. Recent programs have shown livestock to be very valuable in controlling many weed species. This is especially true in instances of large infestations and in environmentally sensitive areas. When moving livestock from such an infested area for biological control, care should be taken to prevent transportation of seeds to a clean area. If possible, when applicable, livestock should be quarantined for five days to allow all seed to pass through the digestive track. Seed may also need to be sterilized or removed from the animals' hair or wool.

Several varieties of insects which can be used on various plants are commercially available. They may be purchased by individuals to be used as part of an integrated plan. This type of control is still in its infancy. It is being researched and directed by the Colorado Department of Agriculture Insectary in Palisade, Colorado. Ideally, insects will provide an economical and environmentally safe control method. However, there are certain problems associated with this type of control. First, there is a limited supply of all species and purchasing insects may require a large initial investment. The compatibility of herbicides and insects is not well known. Also, participation in this project may preclude the use of certain types of control, which would allow infestations to multiply and set seed. To prevent this, land operators must prepare an integrated plan to effectively control these infestations. Research indicates insects may be a valuable control method to be used in integrated pest management plans in the future.

### 3.07 Chemical Control

All chemical application must be done according to the label for each individual product. The choice of chemicals and application rates that are used should be the least environmentally damaging as determined by information currently available. This determination may come first from the recommendations in the Colorado Pesticide Guide from Colorado State University Cooperative Extension. It may

also be tempered by the wishes of land owners and the experience of trained personnel associated with the program.

While chemicals are a powerful tool, it must be realized that they are just a tool and must be used only as a part of an integrated management plan.

### 3.08 Cultural Control

Cultural control means those methodologies or management practices conducted to favor the growth of desirable plants over undesirable plants, including, but not limited to, maintaining an optimum fertility and plant moisture status in an area, planting at optimum density and spatial arrangement in an area, and planting species most suited to an area.

### 3.09 Environmental Considerations

Environmental concerns including human interactions, water, air, wildlife, fisheries, amphibians, soil, plants and beneficial insects will be considered when selecting and implementing a specific weed control program. Delta County has a large number of vineyards and organic agricultural operations. These will be identified and mapped in order to avoid herbicide applications near these sites.

The Colorado Pesticide Sensitivity list will be periodically checked for the names and addresses of chemically sensitive people. No herbicides will be applied near their locations. Whenever possible, these people will be contacted prior to any herbicide application in their general area so that they can avoid traveling in that vicinity.

## **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM**

- 4.01 Strive to identify and contain, reduce or eradicate current weed infestations and reduce or eliminate weed seed production in certain species.
- 4.02 Monitor for new infestations and new invasive species so as to prevent new encroachments on unincorporated lands in the County.
- 4.03 Develop and implement Integrated Weed Management Plans for noxious weeds on County owned property, easements, and rights-of-way.
- 4.04 Protect agricultural production, native plant ecosystems, watersheds, and recreational lands from degradation by noxious weeds by enforcing the Noxious Weed Act and working through cooperative agreements with city, state and federal agencies and adjacent counties and states.
- 4.05 Preserve the quality of life in rural areas of unincorporated Delta County through desirable plant stewardship and noxious weed management to enhance human health aspects, land values and esthetics.

- 4.06 Provide technical support and recommendations for noxious weed management and work with landowners, including state and federal agencies, to develop their Integrated Weed Management Plans.
- 4.07 Educate Delta County citizens on the impact of noxious weeds on the economy and the environment and provide information on Best Management Practices for noxious weeds.

## **ATTACHMENT A**

**Authority: Colorado Weed Management Act: C.R.S. Title 35, Article 5.5, as amended**

### **Purpose of C.R.S. Title 35, Article 5.5**

Because certain undesirable plants, primarily aggressive non-native invaders, constitute a threat to the “continuous economic and environmental value of the lands of the state”, these species must be managed on private and public lands, using integrated management techniques which are the least damaging to the environment and which are practical and economically reasonable.

### **A Brief Abstract**

As mandated by the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, all persons must control noxious weeds on their property if such plants are a threat to neighboring landowners or natural ecosystems. Weed control programs should be integrated in their approach, using all available technologies for effective weed control. To comply with the Law, the Board of County Commissioners must adopt a noxious weed management plan for all unincorporated lands within its jurisdiction. The Commissioners may use employees or contractors to enforce noxious weed control on county lands. Costs for aid control on county property are to be paid from the county noxious weed management fund, if one exists. The Commissioners may enter into cooperative weed management agreements with other governmental agencies.

The Noxious Weed Advisory Board, a commission of resident private landowners, must develop a management plan to be reviewed at least once every three years. At least a majority of the members of the Board must own forty or more acres of property. The Board designates which species are to be managed within the County, thereby establishing the County Noxious Weed List. Additional plants can be added to the list, after a public hearing with 30 days prior notice. The Board can require identified landowners to submit weed management plans when species on the list are found on their property.

The County has the right to inspect premises under at least one of the following conditions:

- (a) the landowner requests inspection;
- (b) a neighbor files a complaint or report; or
- (c) the Weed Program Manager makes a visual observation of a weed infestation from a public right of way (ROW) or a public area.

Before entering private property, the landowner or occupant must be notified of the problem by certified mail. If entry is refused, an inspection warrant may be obtained by the Weed Program. A landowner cannot deny entry to inspect if a warrant is secured. After inspection, a notice of the problem and control recommendations must be sent by mail. Within 10 days of notification, the landowner or occupant must comply with the

recommendations, submit an acceptable weed management plan, or request an arbitration panel hearing. The county has the authority to act in the case of failure to comply with the Act, with an assessment of the cost of control plus overhead expenses, up to 20 percent, charged against the land. Noxious weeds may be declared a public nuisance, subject to all applicable laws and remedies for abatement, including removal or destruction of the weeds.

The County cannot force a private owner to control weeds without first having equal or greater successful control measures on county-owned lands adjacent to the private property in question.

State agencies have the same responsibility as private landowners. Notification by the county is the same as for private landowners. The county has the power to enforce and charge state agencies for weed control on state lands. The county may enter into cooperative agreements for weed management with State and Federal agencies. Public rights-of-way (ROWs), easements, utilities, mining operations, etc., must be in compliance with the management plan and must bear the financial responsibility of weed control.

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act established a state weed coordinator position to oversee implementation of the Law. A State Noxious Weed Management Fund was established to fund grants or contracts for weed management practices, with procedures for allocation of funds to appropriate entities. The fund was broadened in 2000 to include grants for educational programs. Counties may levy a tax, upon voter approval, to fund noxious weed management programs.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Herbicide Guide: The 5 Most Common Noxious Weeds of Delta County January 1, 2009

Note: All herbicides listed are labeled for roadsides and range and pasture. They are not labeled for turf (yards), golf courses, and public areas. Different formulations of the active ingredients are available for turf use. See your dealer for more information on these products.

Common Target Weeds	Preferred Herbicides (based on experience by Delta County Weed Program)	Application Timing
Whitetop/hoary cress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telar + 24D (amine)</li> <li>• Escort/Ally</li> </ul>	Spring: late bud-early flower
Russian knapweed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milestone</li> <li>• Curtail, Transline, Stinger</li> <li>• Redeem R &amp; P</li> </ul>	Spring: Rosette to early flower. Fall: Apply up until first hard freeze. Applications under drought conditions will not be effective.
Canada thistle	Same as Russian knapweed	
Scotch thistle, musk thistle	Same as Russian knapweed, or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telar</li> <li>• Banvel + 24D (amine)*</li> </ul>	Spring: Rosette to early flower. Fall: Rosette Spring: These species are biennials and be controlled by chopping/digging

\*Banvel and 24d are very volatile in weather above 85 degrees. Vapor drift can occur and damage non-target species up to ¼ mile away!!

### WARNING!!!!

Herbicides must be used with extreme caution. They are poisons and should be treated carefully. Most herbicides can be purchased without an applicator license. Tordon requires a license for purchase. The label is a legal document that outlines the uses and restrictions of the chemical.

READ THE LABEL before buying, before applying and again after using an herbicide. READ THE LABEL before buying to determine if the herbicide is the right one for your situation, if it is labeled for the weeds you are trying to control, for information on the

addition of adjuvant or surfactants, and for other restrictions, such as for grazing and planting.

READ THE LABEL before applying to get the correct rate to use, how to mix and apply the product, what personal protection you may need while mixing and applying the herbicide, and for information on how to dispose of left over mix. READ THE LABEL after applying to check reentry intervals, to check planting and grazing restrictions, and for disposal and clean-up information. Never use more than the recommended rate on the label. Higher rates will cause the tops of the plants to burn down quickly. The herbicide may not have the chance to move into the root zone and the weed may sprout again. And you are wasting money!

Pre-emergent herbicides prevent the germination of seeds and do not work on established perennial weeds. Application timing of pre-emergents is critical; they are usually applied in the spring. Precipitation or irrigation may be needed to move the chemical into the germination zone (the top 3-5 inches of soil).

Post-emergent herbicides work on the growing parts of the weed, including roots. Therefore post-emergent herbicides work on annuals, biennials, and perennials. Drought and heat may reduce the effectiveness of these herbicides. The use of herbicides may be the only effective control method for some species. However, herbicides should be used in conjunction with other methods for the highest level of control. Herbicide use is determined by restrictions and instructions on the product label. Materials or products mentioned in this Plan are based on experience in Delta County or recommendations of Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service and should not be construed as endorsement by Delta County.



## ATTACHMENT C

### NOXIOUS WEED INFORMATION RESOURCES

#### Contacts

- **Delta County Weed Program Coordinator**  
Delta County Fairgrounds  
P.O Box 729  
Hotchkiss, CO. 81419  
970-872-3090  
Fax: 970-872-1250  
e-mail: [wcallicutt@deltacounty.com](mailto:wcallicutt@deltacounty.com)
  
- **Colorado State University Extension**  
[Dr. Curtis E. Swift](#), Area Extension Agent, Horticulture  
Colorado State University Extension  
2775 US Hwy 50, Grand Junction, CO. 81503  
voice: 970-244-1840  
fax: 970-244-1700  
  
**Delta Office CSU Extension:**  
525 Dodge Street:  
970-874-2195  
  
**State Weed Coordinator**  
Colorado Department of Agriculture  
Division of Plant Industry  
700 Kipling St., Suite 400  
Lakewood, CO 80215-5894  
303-239-4182  
[steve.ryder@ag.state.co.us](mailto:steve.ryder@ag.state.co.us)
  
- **Colorado Department of Agriculture: Noxious Weed Management Program**  
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/Agriculture-Main/CDAG/1167928159176>  
  
**Colorado Department of Agriculture**  
Division of Plant Industry  
Biological Control Section  
Palisade Insectary  
P.O. Box 400  
Palisade, CO 81526  
970-464-7916

### **On Line Information:**

Note: There are more on-line sites than can be listed here. These sites have links to dozens of the most useful sites for weed identification and control.

- Colorado Weed Management Association: <http://www.cwma.org/>
- Colorado State University Extension-Tri River Area:  
<http://westernslopegardening.org/>
- Weed Fact Sheets:  
<http://www.colostate.edu/Dept/CoopExt/Adams/weed/factsheet.htm>
- Colorado Department of Agriculture: Noxious Weed Management Program  
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/Agriculture-Main/CDAG/1167928159176>
- National Invasive Species Information Center:  
<http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/index.shtml>
- Center for Invasive Plant Management: <http://www.weedcenter.org/>
- Managing Invasive Plants:  
<http://www.fws.gov/invasives/staffTrainingModule/index.html>
- Weed Science Society of America: <http://www.wssa.net/>