



ADA COUNTY
Weed, Pest, and Mosquito Abatement

**Comprehensive & Coordinated Program
for the Prevention, Eradication and Management of
Noxious and other Undesirable Weeds**

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Preparation Date – October 2008
Date Revised – 10/16/2008

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Introduction

Rationale:

All noxious weeds in Idaho and Ada County are of “foreign” origin. These noxious weeds and most other troublesome and undesirable plants are what we now call weeds. These weeds were introduced into Idaho and the County through various means. These include, but are not limited to, contaminated seed, feed, and packing material, shipping ballast, and agricultural and horticultural seeds and plantings.

All introduced “foreign” weeds started out as small insignificant or inconspicuous infestations. Lack of awareness, concern, or knowledge of the consequences contributed to the establishment and spread of these weeds on both private and public lands. Once the foreign weeds were introduced, the majority were able to adapt extremely well to Idaho’s environment and, without natural enemies (diseases and/or insects), thrived better than the native or desirable vegetation. A systematic plan must be put into effect that will deal with those noxious weeds already present in the county as well as those noxious weeds or undesirable species that may invade or inadvertently or intentionally be introduced in the future.

All noxious weeds present in the State and the County are established in various degrees of infestation. While some noxious weeds are widespread and have been in the county for many years, other noxious weeds may be more recent introductions (one to fifteen years old), and infest relatively small areas. The history of noxious weed control in Ada County has shown, that if left untreated, small infestations may quickly turn into large, hard to manage infestations requiring large sums of money, time and effort. This is very apparent in the widespread infestations of hoary cress, Canada thistle, field bindweed, poison hemlock and puncturevine, all of which started in the county as small and insignificant infestations.

This comprehensive and coordinated program is developed and implemented on the concept that priorities will be assigned to specific noxious weeds. Priorities will be assigned, first, on their potential to invade the county, and second, on the degree of infestation once a weed species is confirmed present in the County. Categories will be established for all noxious weeds present in the County as well as those noxious weeds capable of being introduced.

Evaluative criteria will be assigned to each category and then applied to each noxious weed species being considered for placement within the appropriate category. Criteria such as economic and technical feasibility, environmental considerations and time availability will be applied to determine total commitment to controlling each weed species.

Each prioritized weed category will have a policy associated with it. The policy will contain information on the education, inspection guidelines, enforcement procedures, and control measures for the weeds in the category. The complete noxious weed law is contained in Title 22, Chapter 24 Idaho Code. To prevent unnecessary repetition only the applicable sections of this law are referenced in the policies. An official copy of the noxious weed law can be obtained by contacting the Department of Agriculture or (make link)

Noxious Weed Management Program

State Wide EDRR

Early Detection /Rapid Response

State Noxious Weeds not in Idaho

Emphasis: Will be placed on education, awareness, identification, recognition and monitoring to prevent introduction(s) into the county

Ada County EDRR

State Noxious Weeds not in Ada County

Emphasis: Will be placed on county-wide eradication and extensive education, awareness, identification, recognition monitoring to limit spread.

State Wide Containment

Widespread but Limited Infestations

Emphasis: Will be placed on county-wide control to halt the spread of the infestation with the ultimate goal being eradication of individual infestations. Integrated methods of control will be incorporated, including, but not limited to, agreements with extensive landowner participation and monitoring. Potential for eradication is high, but due to the large number of infestations, control must be extended over a period of years.

State Wide Control

Prevention, Rehabilitation, or Modified Treatments

Emphasis: Will be placed on treatment alternatives ranging from no action to several levels of integrated noxious weed management, including eradication.

Justification

In 2006, with legislative approval, the Idaho Department of Agriculture expanded the Noxious Weed listings from 36 to 57 weeds. They also incorporated the EDRR (Early Detection/Rapid Response)

Even though priorities are placed on specific species in this program, the majority of time, effort and money will be spent on those weeds listed as State Wide Containment Weeds, as they constitute the most immediate impact and concerns of the general public.

This program closely parallels the program proposed by Bob Callihan, Dan Kidder, and Don Thill of the University of Idaho and the three level approach of noxious weed management recommended by the Idaho Noxious Weed Workgroup and adopted as policy by the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in Idaho.

It gives Ada County Weed Control the ability to assign the degree of control of each noxious weed species in the county based on the extent and area(s) of the infestation(s) and the ability to perform those control measures within financial and manpower constraints.

This coordinated and integrated noxious weed management program will give direction and continuity to develop and maintain a systematic approach for controlling noxious weeds on all lands under its jurisdiction in accordance with Title 22, Chapter 24, IDAHO CODE Section 22-2405 (1). It is the intent of Ada County to comply with the Idaho Noxious Weed Law and associated rules and regulations concerning noxious weeds within environmental and technical constraints and management objectives.

The implementation of this program will positively impact Ada County through landowner education and strict enforcement. This will lead to the eradication of small infestations of noxious weeds, eventually allowing more resources to be spent on the larger more established infestations.

Early Detection/Rapid Response (EDRR) Policy

Evaluative Criteria and Methodology:

Record source of weed species from other areas where potential introduction may occur.

Identify possible avenues or methods of introduction into the county.

Conduct weed tours, and education and awareness programs to alert county staff, land management agencies and the general public to be on the alert for these weeds.

Identify appropriate quarantine and exclusion procedures.

Utilize the University of Idaho's plant identification program for verification of suspected newly introduced weed species.

Once a new noxious weed is confirmed in the county, reclassify it to an appropriate category utilizing the noxious weed management program.

Control:

Control will be education, awareness, identification, recognition and monitoring to prevent introduction(s) into the county. 22-2405 (1) (d) Once a new infestation of an EDRR weed has been verified, the County will use any or all integrated pest management tools available to eradicate the weed during the growing season.

Inspection:

Weed Complaints will be inspected within five working days of the complaint and processed as any other infestation within the respective category. 22-2405 (6) (a) (e); 22-2406 (2) (a)

This department's employees will conduct on going inspections of the county for the purposes of identifying new weed infestations. 22-2405 (6) (a)

When a new infestation occurs it will be mapped and logged into a data base for future reference and inspections. 22-2405 (1) (b); 22-2406 (6) (b)

Education:

Departmental training will be provided for each species in this category to strengthen our ability to identify potential new invaders at an early degree of infestation. 22-2405 (1) (d)

A list of the category I weeds will be published in the paper in the general noxious weed notice between March 1st and April 30th. 22-2405 (2)

EDRR Weeds

Target Species	Scientific Name
Black henbane,	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>
Bohemian knotweed	<i>polygonum bohemicum</i>
Buffalobur,	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i> P.
Common crupina,	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
Dyers woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
Giant knotweed	<i>Polygonum sachalinesnse</i>
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Johnsongrass,	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
Matgrass,	<i>Nardus stricta</i>
Mediterranean sage	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>
Milium	<i>Milium vernale</i>
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Meadow knapweed	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>
Orange hawkweed,	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>
Perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Plumeless thistle	<i>carduus acanthoides</i>
policemans helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
Silver-leaf nightshade	<i>Solanum Cav elaeagnifolium</i>
Skeletonleaf bursage,	<i>Ambrosia tomentosa</i> Nutt.
Small bugloss	<i>Anchusa arvenis</i>
Squarrose knapweed	<i>Centaurea squarrosa</i>
Syrian bean caper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Tall hawkweed	<i>Hieracium piloselloides</i>
Tansy ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Toothed spurge	<i>Euphorbia dentate</i>
Vipers bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>
Yellow devil hawkweed	<i>Hieracium pratense</i>
Yellow hawkweed	<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>

State Wide Containment Policy

Evaluative Criteria and Methodology:

Target species confirmed as infesting Ada County.

Identify extent of infestation(s) and boundaries.

Determine accessibility of infestation(s).

Determine feasibility of eradication, monitoring and treatment capabilities.

Identify and determine public and private landowner participation.

Determine the ramifications, whether the addition of the target species will move an existing noxious weed in category II to category III.

Control:

Weed control will be with the goal of county-wide eradication. Eradication as used in this policy means the complete elimination of all above-ground plant growth of a target noxious weed species for a period of two (2) years.

Inspection:

Weed Complaints will be inspected within five working days of the complaint and processed as any other infestation within the respective category. 22-2405 (6) (a) (e); 22-2406 (2) (a)

The employees from this departments will conduct on going inspections of the county for the purposes of identifying new weed infestations in this category. 22-2405 (6) (a)

When a new infestation occurs it will be mapped and logged into a data base for future reference and inspections. 22-2405 (6) (b)

Each landowner in our data base, for a weed species in this category, will receive an annual inspection for compliance. 22-2406 (2) (a).

If the annual inspection reveals an untreated infestation notification will be sent to the landowner requesting a time for personal consultation to outline the procedures for control and set a time for a follow up inspection to confirm control measures were completed. 22-2406 (2) (b).

Education:

News articles giving facts for Ada County will be published and placed on the website as often as possible. 22-2405 (d)

Departmental training will be provided for each species in this category, to strengthen this departments ability to identify new invaders at an early degree of infestation. 22-2405 (d)

Personal contact and consultation will be made for each landowner with an infestation in this category. 22-2405 (6) (d); 22-2406 (2) (b)

Enforcement Policy:

If the follow-up inspection shows no control action then civil and/or criminal penalties will be assessed according to Title 22, Chapter 24, Idaho Code Sections 22-2405 (3), (4), (6) (c) (e); 22-2406 (1) (b) (c) (d); and 22-2409 (1), (2) .

State Wide Containment Weeds

Dalmatian toadflax,	Linaria genistifolia ssp. Dalmatica
Diffuse knapweed	Centaurea Diffusa
Eurasian watermilfoil	Myriophyllum spicatum
Hoary alyssum	Berteroa incana
Houndstongue	Cynoglossum officinale
Japanese knotweed	Polygonum cuspidatum
Jointed goatgrass	Argilop scylindrica
Leafy spurge	Euphorbia esula
Parrotfeather milfoil	Myriophyllum aquaticum
Russian knapweed	Acrotilon repens
Scotch broom	Cytisus scoparius
Yellow starthistle	Centaurea solstitialis L.
Yellow toadflax	Linaria vulgaris

State Wide Control Policy

Evaluative Criteria and Methodology:

Determine that under existing programs the target species cannot be eradicated in two years due to the large number of infestations.

Determine extent of infestations.

Determine landowner participation needed to maintain management goals.

Determine method best suited to monitor known sites and compliance.

Control Policy:

Control will be county-wide to reduce the vigor and stand of the infestation with the ultimate goal being eradication.

Integrated methods of control will be incorporated, including, but not limited to, agreements with and extensive landowner participation and monitoring. 22-2406 (i)

Inspection Policy:

Weed Complaints will be inspected within five working days of the complaint and processed as any other infestation within the respective category. 22-2405 (6) (a) (e); 22-2406 (2) (a)

Employees from this department will conduct on going inspections of the county for the purposes of identifying new weed infestations in this category. 22-2405 (6) (a)

Infestations will be mapped and logged into a data base for future reference and inspections. 22-2406 (6) (b)

Each landowner in our data base, for a weed species in this category, will receive an annual inspection for compliance with Ada County program policies. 22-2406 (2) (a)

If the annual inspection reveals an untreated infestation, notification will be sent to the landowner outlining the procedures for control. 22-2406 (2) (b)

Education Policy:

News articles giving facts for Ada County will be published and placed on our web site as often as possible.

Each landowner in our data base, for a weed species in this category, will be mailed information about the weed species in this category, and phone numbers to this office to call for assistance. 22-2405 (d)

Enforcement Policy:

If the follow-up inspection shows no control action then civil and/or criminal penalties will be assessed according to Title 22, Chapter 24, Idaho Code. 22-2405 (3),(4),(6) (c); 22-2406 (1) (b) (c) (d); 22-2409 (1), (2)

State Wide Control Weeds

Canada thistle
Field bindweed
Perennial pepperweed
Poison hemlock
Puncturevine
Purple Loosestrife
Rush skeleton weed
Saltcedar
Scotch thistle
Spotted knapweed
White bryony
Hoary cress

Cirsium arvense
Convolvulus diffusa
lepidium latifolium
Conium maculatum
Terulus terrestris
Lythrum salicaria
Condrilla juncea
Tamarix
onopordum acanthium
Centaurea maculosa
Bryonia alba
Cardaria draba