

TRI-COUNTY WEED CONTROL

995 Campton Street

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2004 SEASON REPORT

The fourth year of the Tri-County Weed Project again consisted of two 4-person inventory crews, with Crew #1 based out Lincoln County and Crew #2 based out of White Pine County. Between March and September, the number of acres inventoried by the two crews totaled 2,631,350 acres. Within the acreage inventoried, there were 3,701 different occurrences located representing 3,837 acres. There were 7,966.36 miles recorded during inventory sessions, which does not include travel miles to and from a site.

Since its formation, Tri-County Weed has inventoried over 11,030,556 acres of land in White Pine, Lincoln, and Nye Counties. The largest inventory year was 2003; however there were no major survey walks that year. On one instance this year, in order to locate and inventory new populations within a known area of tall whitetop when it was in bloom, Crew #1 walked approximately 80 miles from the Lincoln County/Clark County line to the Barclay Siding in July (with the average temperature being approximately 102°).

Inventory Crew #1: The project began on April 12, 2004, and the crew worked full-time for 20 weeks. The inventory which was taken included Sand Springs Valley, Alamo, Meadow Valley Wash, and Tule Valley.

Inventory Crew #2: The project began on April 26, 2004, and the crew worked full-time for 20 weeks. The inventory which was taken included Spring Valley, Snake Valley, and South Steptoe Valley, Hamlin Valley, Pleasant Valley, a portion of Ruby Valley, and a portion of the Badlands.

Spray Crew: The first spray project began on March 23, 2004, on Hwy 93 south of Pioche for NDOT. Over the next 9 months, 365 separate projects were logged in by the Spray Crew. The following is a tabulation of actual recorded spray sessions from GIS data for just the federal entities serviced, and does not include travel miles to and from a site:

| | <u>Spray Session Mileage</u> | <u>Gross Infested Acres</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BLM Fire Sites | 143.97 | 1,745.09 |
| BLM Explorer: | | |
| Task Order 9, 1st billing (04) | 304.14 | 3,686.55 |
| Task Order 9, 2nd billing (05) | 297.45 | 3,605.82 |
| BLM Spray Truck: | | |
| Task Order 7 and Task Order 9, 1st billing (04) | 1,516.81 | 36,771.15 |

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| Task Order 9, 2nd billing (05) | 615.82 | 14,928.97 |
| NDOT | 1,830.82 | 22,191.76 |
| Forest Service | <u>318.52</u> | <u>3,860.85</u> |
| Totals: | 5,027.53 | 86,787.19 |

In previous years, the spray crew consisted of two licensed sprayers (with one additional licensed person available if needed). However, from July to November of 2004, a temporary licensed spray crew member was added who exclusively used either the 4-wheeler or 6-wheeler and backpack sprayer to meet the needs for the projects.

The following pages set forth detailed information for the work completed during the 2004 season of the Tri-County Weed Control Project.

| Location | Reference | Gross Infested Acres | Project Acres/Treatment | Income |
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| USDI Bureau of Land Management, Ely District Task Order 8 | | | | |
| <i>Noxious Weed Inventory:</i> | 2004-NV040-1020BS-WEED-411C Item 1 | | 2,631,350.0 a | \$153,525.00 |
| Sand Springs Valley Alamo Meadow Val. Wash Tule Valley Spring Valley Snake Valley South Steptoe Val. | | | | |
| <i>Outreach and Public Education 2004 (Jan-Sept)</i> | 2004-NV040-1020BS-WEED-411C Item 2 | -- | -- | 6,475.00 |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Office dedicated to weed management and education, open to the public <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Met with 13 residents and landowners about noxious weeds b. Identified 11 plants for local residents c. Daily phone calls from residents requesting information on noxious weeds and treatments 2. Facilitated and attended CWMA meetings for 5 local CWMA's <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Donated \$900 towards treatments of spotted knapweed in Ruth b. Provided 8 hours of noxious weed training to 8 high school seniors within the White River CWMA c. Donated 200 identification books and traveled to 3 Lincoln County CWMA work-group meetings, provided the CWMA with maps and weed data for Lincoln County d. Mailed 145 letters to Ruth residents with information on spotted knapweed | | | | |

- e. Mailed 116 letters to Baker residents with information on noxious weeds
 - f. Published an article in Ely Daily Times about Ruth CWMA projects
 - g. Met with Quadra Mining representatives to discuss spotted knapweed in the area
 - h. Conversation with Great Basin National Park about noxious weeds in Baker area
 - i. Trained 2 high school seniors in weed identification and GPS operation, included them in a 200 hour work-study project within the Railroad Valley CWMA, White River CWMA, Baker CWMA and Ruth CWMA
3. Initiate new CWMA groups annually
 - a. Acquiring volunteers for a new Steptoe Valley CWMA
 - b. Committed 350 hours to CWMA establishment and support in 2004
 - c. Created an informational flyer on spotted knapweed for the County Road Department to distribute in Mineral Heights subdivision, offered to help set up a new CWMA in the area4. Provided matching labor and in-kind for grants
5. Apply for grants for CWMA's and weed control
 - a. Selected for a 2004 PTI grant to train and support local CWMA groups
 6. Members of the Nevada Weed Management Association, attend meetings and offer data to agencies and CWMA's
 7. Provided the public with weed identification and control information at no cost to them, sometimes requiring distance travel
 - a. Visited 9 landowners to identify weeds and discuss noxious weed control (310 miles)
 - b. Presented slide show and discussion on noxious weeds to Lund High School biology class
 - c. Participated in Steptoe Valley FFA Education Fair, displayed spray equipment and taught 230 area grade school children about noxious weeds and how to prevent spreading them
 8. Monthly newsletter
 - a. Featured our progress with information on weed control issues
 - b. 45 newsletters mailed monthly to public and private landowners
 9. Contacted landowners on a regular basis that have noxious weeds and helped them get a plan together for treatment, we consistently meet with private landowners and have become a liaison between private and public landowners, helping to build relationships
 10. Mailed informational brochures and identification books to 25 hay growers for the Weed Free Forage program
 11. Participated in resource conservation activities and meetings around the state (NWMA, Public Lands Day, NWAC)
 - a. Volunteered to register guests and lead volunteers at the Steptoe Valley Wildlife Refuge, Public Lands Day activity
 12. Distributed 267 noxious weed identification books to local CWMA groups and landowners

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| 13. Donated \$1,403.32 to Newark/Long Valley CWMA for treatment of leafy spurge. | | | |
| 14. Donated \$910.36 to Ruth CWMA for treatment of spotted knapweed. | | | |
| 15. Inventoried Pahrnagat Valley Wildlife Refuge (Dept. of Fish and Wildlife), consisting of over 200 acres | | | |
| Project Totals -Task Order 8: | | 2,631,350.0 a | \$160,000.00 |

| Task Order 9 | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| <i>General Weed Treatment and Evaluation</i> | 2004-NV040-1020JD– Item 1 First Billing (9-28-04), Federal Fiscal Year 2004 | 40,457.70 a | 274.24 a | 36,763.45 |
| | Portion of Task Order 7: 2003-NV040-1020JD-076F-252Z | | 68.92 a | 14,542.39 |
| | 2004-NV040-1020JD– Item 1 Second Billing (12-17-04), Federal Fiscal Year 2005 | 18,534.79 a | 249.21 a | 21,381.55 |
| <i>Meadow Valley Wash Saltcedar</i> | 2004-NV040-1020JD Item 2 | | 222 points treated | 45,000.00 |
| <i>Emergency Stabilization (Fire Inventory/ Treatment)</i> | 2004-NV040-1020-2822JD– Item 4 | | | |
| Islen (no weeds found)* | -K092 | | 0 | 501.00 |
| Heusser (hoary cress) | -K114 | | 2.0 a | 6,000.00 |
| Dutch John (spotted knapweed) | -K138 | | .32 a | 500.00 |
| Smith Creek (hoary cress) | -K194 | | 1.5 a | 1,000.00 |
| Mosier (no weeds found)* | -K199 | | 0 | 500.00 |
| Water Canyon (musk thistle) | -K202 | | .16 a | 3,500.00 |
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| Repeater (hoary cress) | -K285 | | .91 a | 1,000.00 |
| Muleshoe (hoary cress) | -Q648 | | .08 a | 500.00 |
| Tunnel (no weeds found)* | -Q695 | | 0 | 668.00 |
| North Pahroc (no weeds found)* | -Y109 | | 0 | 3,333.00 |
| Pioche (dalmation toadflax) | -Y119 | | 112.7 a | 7,500.00 |
| Eagle (no weeds found)* | -Y133 | | 0 | 1,000.00 |
| *Although there was no treatment within this fire area, it is included in the total mileage of 143.97 miles as set forth on page 1. | | | | |
| | Total Fire Inventory/Treatment: | 1,745.09 a | 117.67 a | \$26,002.00 |
| Project Totals -Task Order 9: | | 60,737.58 | 641.12 a | \$129,147.00 |
| Task Order 7: | | | 68.92 a | \$ 14,542.39 |
| USDA Forest Service | | | | |
| | 14-737-1921 | 3,860.85 a | 50.55 a | \$12,613.00 |
| Nevada Department of Agriculture: Nevada Department of Transportation | | | | |
| <i>Weed Control</i> | | 22,191.76 a | 288.63 a | \$25,000.00 |
| <p><u>Hwy 93 north of Ely:</u> Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, hoary cress, musk thistle and Russian knapweed. Overall the highway is clean with small infestations of the weeds mentioned out to Lages Station.</p> <p><u>Hwy 50 west of Ely:</u> Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed diffuse knapweed and hoary cress. From Ely to the Ruth turn there is a fairly large infestation of spotted knapweed and a small infestation of diffuse knapweed. Over Robinson summit there is small patches of hoary cress. Large infestations of spotted knapweed and hoary cress occur from the Mormon Ranch and continue with less frequency to the Eureka County line.</p> <p><u>Hwy 6 west of Ely:</u> Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, hoary cress, Tamarisk, tall whitetop and Russian knapweed. From McDonalds to the Y at the southwest side of Ely there is tall whitetop and spotted knapweed. The spotted knapweed continues over Murry summit and out to the 318 intersection. All populations in this area are heavy. From the 318 intersection infestations are small patches of hoary cress, Tamarisk, Russian knapweed and tall whitetop to Black Rock station.</p> <p><u>Hwy 318:</u> Weeds known to be present are spotted knapweed, Russian knapweed and Tamarisk.</p> | | | | |

Overall the hwy is clean. From Hwy 6 intersection to Lund there is one patch of spotted knapweed. There are isolated patches of Russian, spotted knapweed and Tamarisk to Hwy 93 intersection.

Hwy 50 – 6 east of Ely: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, diffuse, tall whitetop and hoary cress. Small patches of hoary cress and spotted knapweed exist from just outside of Ely over Connors summit. Approaching Majors the intensity of spotted knapweed increases. From the intersection of Hwy 93 to the turn off to Osceola small patches of spotted knapweed exist. From the turn off to Osceola over Sacramento summit and out to the Y there is heavy infestation of spotted knapweed and one patch of tall whitetop. From the Y to the state line is fairly clean with isolated patches of spotted knapweed.

Hwy 487 & 488: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed and Russian knapweed. The spotted knapweed is just outside of the National Park boundary. The Russian knapweed is located on the road that connects hwy 487 and hwy 50.Hwy 93 south of Ely: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, Tamarisk, scotch thistle and Dalmation toadflax. From the intersection of Hwy 50 - 6 to just south of Pioche, there are intermittent heavy infestations of spotted knapweed with small patches in between. There is one patch of diffuse knapweed just south of the Lincoln County line by the Muleshoe turn off. At Pony Springs Dalmation toadflax starts, with increasing intensity approaching Pioche. Isolated patches of toadflax are located just south of Pioche but decrease in frequency and cease just before Panaca. The Tamarisk infestation is just north of Caliente. There is a small infestation of spotted knapweed on Oak Springs summit just south of Caliente. Isolated small patches of spotted knapweed are throughout the Delamar Valley and into Alamo. At the wildlife refuge south of Alamo there is Russian knapweed.

Hwy 317: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, hoary cress, scotch thistle and tall whitetop. The first 12 miles of this highway contain all the weeds mentioned. Hoary cress is the most prevalent throughout the area. Two patches of tall whitetop, one is by the Longhorn cattle ranch and the other is further south. One patch of both spotted knapweed and scotch thistle both by the same ranch.

Hwy 319: Weeds that are known to be present are Dalmation toadflax, spotted knapweed and scotch thistle. Isolated small patches of scotch thistle along the entire route to the state line. One patch of spotted knapweed exists on the east side of Panaca summit. Dalmation Toadflax was picked up on this route this year.

Hwy 320: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed. Two patches of spotted knapweed exist on this route. One is just north of Castleton; the other is on the south end of the highway.

Hwy 321: Weeds that are known to be present are spotted knapweed, scotch thistle and Dalmation toadflax. Spotted knapweed is throughout the route. Small isolated patches of the other two weeds are north of Pioche.

Hwy 322: Weeds that are known to be present are Dalmation toadflax, spotted knapweed and scotch thistle. The spotted knapweed is located just south of Ursine. Isolated small patches of thistle are along the entire route. Two populations of toadflax exist. The larger of the two is by the 93 intersection. The other is just before the reservoir.

Glendale Interchange: Russian knapweed is present at this location.

Observations of the 2004 Season: Due to the a high amount of spring rain, it was a banner year for germination of existing soil seed reservoirs. Most populations exploded to density levels last seen in the initial year of the project. Large seed banks exist and will continue to be problematic in moist years. As a result, cost increased even though we were more efficient in the field. Chemical costs on a year-to-year basis increased 3 fold. Almost 40 hours less were spent in the field, but with the additional chemical cost the entire amount of the contract was expended.

Nevada Division of Forestry

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| Cold Creek/ Newark Valley (cheat grass) | 19.27 a | \$488.79 |
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White Pine County

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|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|
| Airport | (bare ground mgmt.) | 37.9 a | 1,898.41 |
| Golf Course | (Russian knapweed) | 16.14 a | 1,135.71 |
| Fairgrounds | (bareground mgmt.) | 9.94 a | 465.29 |
| Project Total White Pine County: | | 63.98 a | \$3,499.41 |

White Pine County (treatment in lieu of equipment/shop rental)

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|
| Steptoe Park | (dandelion) | 14.36 a | 933.40 |
| Steptoe Park #2 | (dandelion) | 4.87 a | 316.55 |
| Steptoe Park #3 | (soil enhancement) | 3.46 a | 224.90 |
| Post Office | (bare ground mgmt.) | .63 a | 40.95 |
| Road Yard | (bare ground mgmt.) | 33.62 a | 2,185.30 |
| Marich Field | (dandelion) | 14.54 a | 945.10 |
| Marich Field | (bare ground mgmt.) | 1.11 a | 72.15 |
| Little League Pk. | (dandelion) | 8.99 a | 584.35 |
| Project Total White Pine County (treatment in lieu): | | 81.58 a | \$5,302.70 |

City of Ely

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| Landfill | (hoary cress) | 4.84 a | \$ 333.92 |
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Private Landowners

| <i>White Pine County:</i> | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Bath, Jim | (bare ground mgmt.) | 2.34 a 4.0 a | 451.68 852.34 |
| Bybee, Burrell | (halogeton; kochia) | 10.49 a | 160.01 |
| Christensen, G. | (broadleaf w/an oat field) | 15.81 a | 269.41 |
| Ciscar, Joe | (bare ground mgmt.) | 2.0 a | 331.64 |
| Jones, Jerry | (bare ground mgmt.) | 4.5 a | 746.56 |
| Oxborrow, Tom | (Russian thistle) | 17.96 a | 279.50 |
| Prentice, Karen | (bare ground mgmt.) | .5 a | 142.08 |
| Ramsey, Jim | (bare ground mgmt.) | 2.5 a | 359.96 |
| | <i>Total White Pine County Landowners:</i> | 60.10 a | \$ 3,593.18 |
| <i>Nye County:</i> | | | |
| Duckwater | (Russian knapweed) | 206.94 a | \$11,350.00 |
| <i>Lincoln County:</i> | | | |
| Findlay Property | (puncture vine) | 1.21 a | \$ 104.05 |
| | Total Private Landowners: | 268.25 a | \$15,047.23 |
| Cooperative Weed Management Areas (“CWMA”) (Private landowners, cost-share treatments) | | | |
| Newark/Long Valley CWMA | | | |
| Goicoechea Prop. | (leafy spurge) | .46 a | 423.58 |
| Burrows Property | (leafy spurge)(\$1,403.32, Tri-County Weed) | 61.5 a | 2,466.25 |
| Silver State Ranch | (Russian knapweed; bull and musk thistle) | 3.84 a | 693.70 |
| Scoppettone Field | (Russian knapweed) | 1.92 a | 376.47 |
| | Total Newark/Long Valley CWMA: | 67.72 a | \$3,960.00 |
| Railroad Valley CWMA | | | |
| Hanks Field | (Russian knapweed) | .01 a | 195.70 |
| Sanchez Property | (Russian knapweed; saltcedar) | 1.0 a | 97.97 |
| Duckwater Tribal | (Russian knapweed) | 16.58a | 644.65 |
| Bradshaw Ranch | (site evaluation) | -- | 120.00 |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Blue Diamond Fields | (Russian knapweed) | .28 a | 85.61 |
| Forsgren Fields | (Russian knapweed) | 6.95 a | 486.63 |
| Sprouse Fields | (Russian knapweed) | 9.87 a | 605.91 |
| | Total Railroad Valley CWMA: | 34.69 a | \$2,236.47 |
| Ruth CWMA | | | |
| Ruth Townsite | (spotted knapweed) | 64.32a | \$200.00 |
| | (\$1,000 BHP; \$910.36 Tri-County Weed) | | |
| White River Valley CWMA | | | |
| Old Lund School | (Russian knapweed) | .27 a | 102.65 |
| Halstead Property | (tall whitetop; spotted knapweed) (site evaluation) | 1.93 a -- | 244.72 77.00 |
| Ivins Property | (hoary cress; cocklebur) | 5.46 a | 335.44 |
| Reid Property | (hoary cress; cocklebur) | 14.24 a 3.46 a | 662.84 116.69 |
| Carter Property | (site evaluation) | -- | 120.00 |
| Carson Field | (perennial pepperweed) | 6.2 a 7.1 a | 214.48 109.84 |
| | Total White River Valley CWMA: | 38.66 a | \$1,983.66 |
| Snake Valley CWMA | | | |
| Inventory/4-man crew | | 200.0 a | \$2,500.00 |
| | Total for all CWMA's: | 405.39 a | \$10,880.13 |

In summary, from March through December 2004, Tri-County Weed billed \$376,854.57 for its projects. For the 2004 season, between the two inventory crews and the spray crew, over 12,993.89 miles in actual inventory and recorded spray sessions were logged, affecting 2,718.980.5 acres.