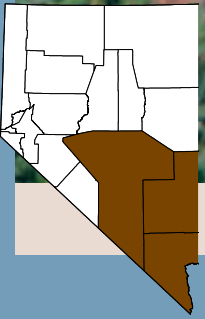
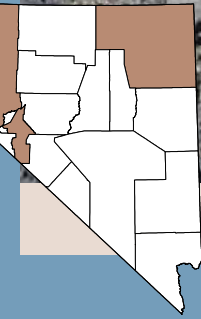


WEEDS TO WATCH

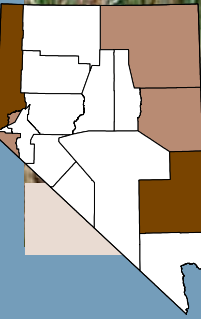
New Weed Threats for White Pine County



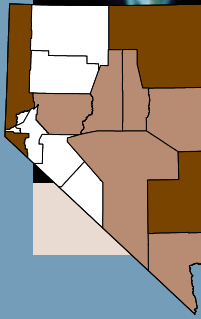
African mustard



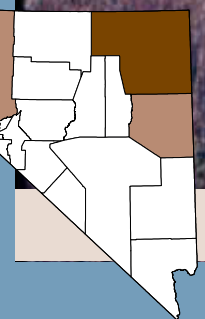
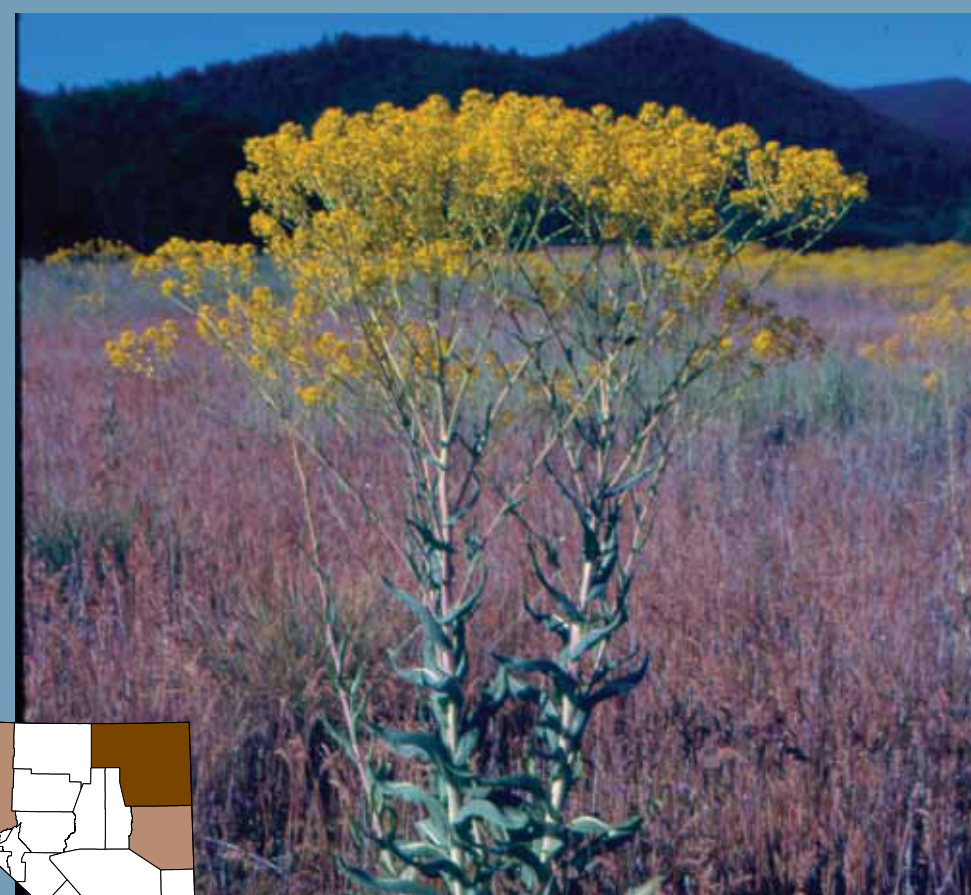
Common St. Johnswort



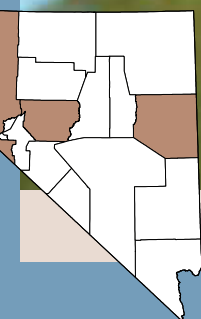
Dalmatian toadflax



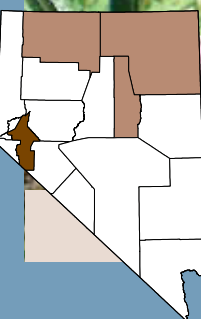
Diffuse knapweed



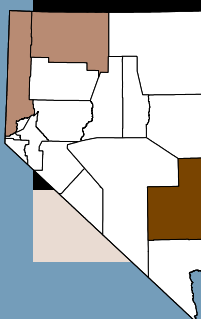
Dyer's woad



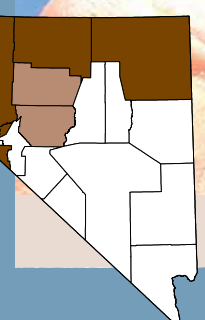
Eurasian watermilfoil



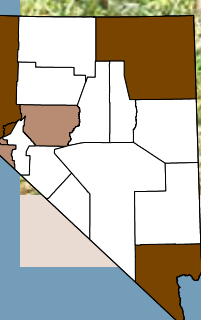
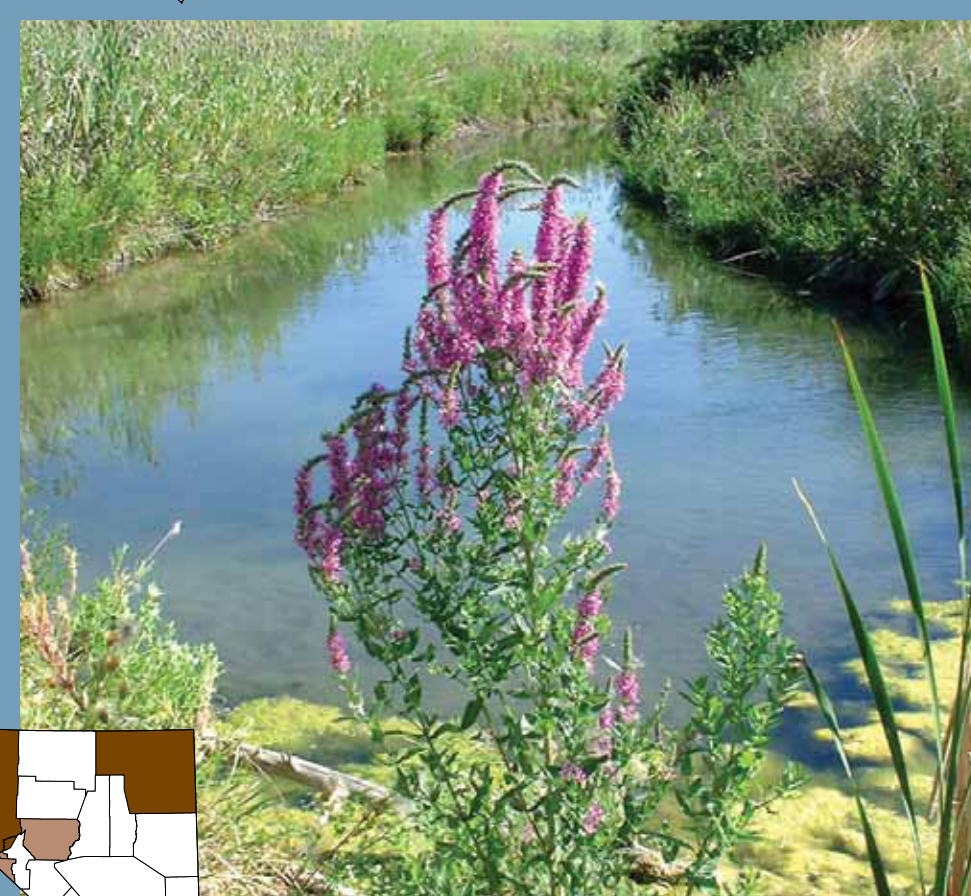
Houndstongue



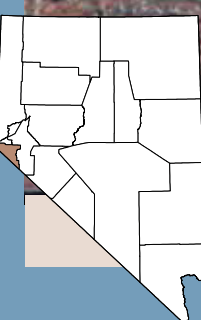
Jointed goatgrass



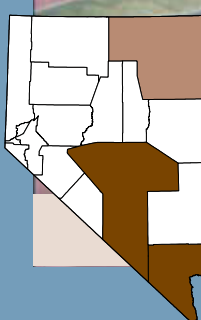
Medusahead



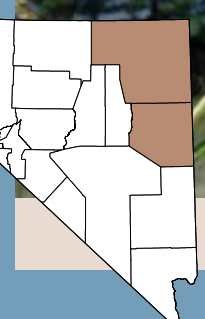
Purple loosestrife



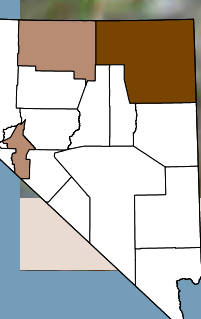
Rush skeletonweed



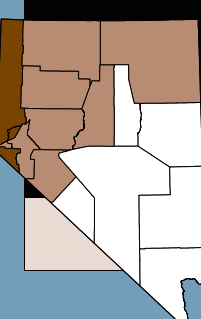
Silverleaf nightshade



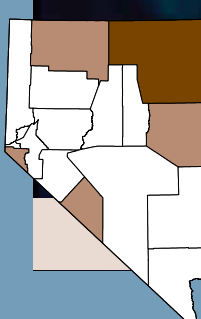
Squarrose knapweed



Sulfur cinquefoil



Yellow starthistle



Yellow toadflax



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

Despite all the weeds currently infesting White Pine County, there are literally hundreds of new weeds lurking on its borders. The weeds on this poster are of particular concern because they are known to spread rapidly, cause damage to desirable habitats and be difficult to control. The best approach for these weeds is early detection and rapid response. This involves diligent monitoring for new invasions and prompt action to eliminate them. The maps are shaded to provide current abundance information for each species: **NOT KNOWN** **RARE** **COMMON**

African mustard (*Sahara mustard*; *Brassica tournefortii*): Annual. **I.D.:** Up to 3 feet tall; upper stem lacks hair; lower stem covered with stiff, downward-pointing hairs; rosette leaves long and pinnately divided with toothed margins; stems have very few leaves that are small and linear; seed pods appear beaded. **Other:** Grows best in sites with dry, sandy soils and sparse vegetation; often infests roadsides, waste areas, washes and desert areas.

Common St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 4 feet tall with a woody stem; leaves opposite, oval to linear, prominent veins, smooth (hairless) and no petioles; margins are smooth and lower surface is lined with small black dots; upper surface covered with tiny transparent dots that can be seen by holding the leaf up to the light; flowers have five yellow petals that have tiny black dots around the edges. **Other:** Grows best on coarse-textured, gravelly, well-drained soils; ingestion causes skin irritation and weight loss in white-haired animals.

Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 4 feet tall; stem and leaves smooth and waxy; leaves alternate, dense, lance- to heart-shaped, have smooth margins and are blue-green; leaves clasp the stem; flowers yellow, sometimes with an orange-bearded throat and a long spur; look like snapdragons. **Other:** Often infests rangelands, waste areas and roadsides; may be toxic to livestock if ingested in large quantities.

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*): Biennial (sometimes annual or perennial). **I.D.:** Up to 2 feet tall; stem rough and covered with short, stiff hairs; leaves alternate, lower leaves pinnately divided, sometimes covered with short grayish hairs; upper leaves linear with smooth margins; flowers white or pale purple; flower base covered with yellow, comb-like bracts tipped with a narrow spine. **Other:** Often infests rangelands, waste areas and roadsides; dry, mature plants often break off and tumble in the wind to spread seed.

Dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*): Biennial, sometimes annual or perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 4 feet tall; leaves lance-shaped, bluish-green and smooth (hairless) with a distinct white mid-vein; margins are wavy to smooth; leaf base clasps the stem; flowers yellow with four petals and have a flat-topped appearance; mature seed pods dark brown to black; dry plants with attached seed pods remain standing into winter. **Other:** Often infests waste areas, roadsides, rangeland, pastures and crop fields.

Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Aquatic weed up to 12 feet long; submersed; branched near water surface; growing points often reddish; breaks into fragments easily; leaves green to brown, pinnately divided with more than 14 pairs of narrow, opposite leaflets; flowers pink and small, each with a small, bract-like leaf; stem often bends to become parallel with the water surface after flowering. **Other:** Most common in still or slow-moving water but can sometimes be found in fast-moving rivers, streams and irrigation ditches.

Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*): Biennial (sometimes annual or perennial). **I.D.:** Up to 4 feet tall; stem covered with long hairs; leaves alternate, lance-shaped, with a rough texture and covered with long hairs; only lower leaves have petioles; leaves decrease in size from bottom to top of plant; flowers purplish-red with five petals and occur in clusters; seeds turn brown when mature and are covered with short prickles that can attach to clothing or animal fur. **Other:** Grows best in moist areas; often found in pastures, roadsides, fence lines, waste areas and along waterways; toxic to livestock, especially horses; has a distinctive odor that may cause animals to avoid it.

Jointed goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrica*): Annual. **I.D.:** Grass, 15 to 30 inches tall; leaves are alternate and simple; auricles at leaf base are hairy; flower stalk a long, cylindrical spike; long awns protrude from either side of the spike. **Other:** Found mostly in wheat fields, but also grows on roadsides, waste areas, alfalfa fields and pastures; a common contaminant of wheat seed. in pastures, roadsides, fence lines, waste areas and along waterways; toxic to livestock, especially horses; has a distinctive odor that may cause animals to avoid it.

Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*): Annual. **I.D.:** Grass, 0.5 to 2 feet tall; stem sometimes covered with short hairs; collar region usually has long hairs, auricles and a membranous ligule; seedhead a spike, awns are stiff, straight or twisted and barbed; spikes often remain intact on dry plants through winter. **Other:** Grows best on clay soils; primarily infests rangeland; unpalatable to grazing animals due to high levels of silica in the foliage and long, stiff awns; matures two to four weeks later than other annual grasses.

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 6 feet tall; stem has four to five sides and is covered with short hairs; leaves mostly opposite or whorled, narrow to lance-shaped with smooth margins, smooth (hairless) to hairy with no petioles; flowers have five to seven pink to purple petals surrounding a yellow center; each petal has a dark mid-vein and appears wrinkled or crushed. **Other:** Grows best in wet areas; often found in wetlands and along the edges of ponds and waterways; historically used as an ornamental plant but has escaped cultivation.

Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 4 feet tall; stems contain white, milky sap; lower portion of stem is covered with coarse, downward-pointing, reddish-brown hairs; rosette leaves resemble dandelion; stems have very few leaves; leaves narrow with smooth margins; flowers yellow. **Other:** Grows best in well-drained soils; often infests roadsides, rangelands and waste areas; very difficult to control due to lack of leaf surface.

Silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*): Perennial. **I.D.:** 1 to 3 feet tall; stem covered with dense, short hairs and sometimes with red to yellow spines; leaves alternate, oval to lance-shaped with wavy or lobed margins; covered with tiny hairs that are star-shaped upon magnification; flowers star-shaped, purple to blue with five petals and yellow stamens; berries are round, shiny, yellow, and resemble tiny tomatoes. **Other:** Often infests rangeland, roadsides, waste areas and crop fields; toxic to livestock and humans.

Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata* var. *squarrosa*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 2 feet tall; grows as a basal rosette prior to bolting; leaves alternate; lower leaves pinnately divided and often covered with short grayish hairs; upper leaves linear with smooth margins; flowers pink to purple; base of flower is covered with comb-like bracts that are tipped with a spine that curves out and downward. **Other:** Often infests rangelands, waste areas and roadsides.

Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*): Perennial. **I.D.:** 1 to 2 feet tall; stem covered with hairs; leaves alternate, palmately-compound with five to seven leaflets; rough and hairy with toothed margins; flowers have five yellow petals with notches at tip and a yellow center. **Other:** Often infests rangeland, pastures, roadsides and waste areas.

Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*): Annual. **I.D.:** 1 to 6 feet tall; stems winged; leaves blue- or gray-green and covered with fine hairs; rosette leaves are oval to linear with deeply lobed margins; stem leaves are alternate, linear to oblong with smooth to wavy margins; flowers yellow; base of flower is covered with cotton-like hairs and straw-colored spines. **Other:** Often infests rangeland, pastures, cultivated fields, waste areas and roadsides; causes “chewing disease” in horses by damaging the area of the brain that controls fine motor movements – particularly of the mouth – resulting in starvation or dehydration.

Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*): Perennial. **I.D.:** Up to 3 feet tall; woody base; leaves alternate, linear, with smooth margins; flowers bright yellow to white, sometimes with an orange-bearded throat and a yellow spur; look like snapdragons. **Other:** Grows best in coarse soils; often infests rangelands, waste areas and roadsides; toxic to livestock if ingested in large quantities.

Weed Impacts

All weeds impact their environment by replacing desired vegetation and reducing forage availability and habitat quality. Impacts for specific weeds are stated when they are more severe. (e.g., they are toxic to animals).

Weed Management

Weed management decisions are dependent on habitat and surrounding vegetation, and are not listed in this publication. For those recommendations, please reference the Nevada Noxious Weed Field Guide (<http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2010/sp1001.pdf>) or the Pacific Northwest Weed Management Handbook (<http://uspest.org/pnw/weeds>).

Contact

If you have seen these weeds, contact your local University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, BLM, USFS or conservation district office: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/contact/personnel>.

References:

Creech, E., Schultz, B. & Blecker, L. 2010. Nevada Noxious Weed Field Guide. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Special Publication: SP-10-01.
Whitson, T. (ed). 2006. Weeds of the West. Las Cruces, NM: Western Society of Weed Science.

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