Guidelines For Noxious Weed Management Plans

The following are general guidelines for landowners to follow for preparing a landowner weed management plan. These guidelines also provide general integrated weed management options for each weed species mandated for control in Weld County.

Note: It is the landowner's responsibility to control the noxious weeds on the property as long as these weeds occur. This may mean multiple years of treatment.

Location:

1. Include name and address of owner/development.
2. Legal description of land and Parcel Number.

Description of Land and Current Uses:

Give a brief description of the land type such as; grass pasture, farm ground, wetland and wooded riparian area. Also provide current uses such as; farming, grazing, wildlife cover, idle ground, etc.

Future Plans for the Land

If you plan to continue with the same use or change in the coming year provide the use.

Description of Weed Infestation

The weed species will be provided for you in the management plan sent to you. If you don't know the acres or percent infested you do not need to fill it in.

Management Plan

Provide the techniques you plan to use for each weed species listed on the management plan. Some integrated management options are provided in these guidelines for each weed species. Try to be as specific as possible.

Weed Management Techniques

The methods of control are cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical. These methods are defined as follows:

1. Cultural – The method or management practices that encourage the growth of desirable plants over undesirable plants.
2. Mechanical – The method or management practices that physically disrupt plant growth including, but not limited to, tilling, mowing, burning, flooding, mulching, hand-pulling and hoeing.
3. Biological – The use of organisms such as sheep, goats, cattle, insects and plant diseases to disrupt the growth of undesirable plants.
4. Chemical – The use of herbicides or plant regulators to disrupt the growth of undesirable plants.

Pick one type of control method for each weed specie that is on the property. This is what you will be implementing on a regular basis. Be sure it can be carried out. However, if the weed infested sites include different habitat type such as; pasture, riparian area, wetlands, etc. pick one type of control method for each area. Be sure to indicate where the methods will be used.

Try to include the grass species that will be used, if reseeded and the chemicals that will be applied.

Weed management of noxious weeds in range, pasture and non-crop sites is as follows:

Canada Thistle

A. Mechanical and Chemical Control – Mowing will occur throughout the growing season in order to keep the plants from going to seed. Mowing will be terminated in late August followed by a herbicide treatment during late September through October – before a hard frost.
B. Cultural and Chemical Control – Use of a short residual herbicide followed by a seeding with a competitive grass such as western wheatgrass or other sod forming species (indicate species).
C. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide application will be applied from rosette to bud stage. This will be followed up with a fall application, if needed. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on Canada thistle include: Curtail, Redeem R&P, Clarity, Tordon 22K, 2,4-D, Telar and Roundup Pro. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.

Musk and Scotch Thistle

A. Mechanical and Chemical Control – Mowing will occur several times throughout the summer, but no later than the bud stage of the thistle plants. This will keep the plants from going to seed. A herbicide will be applied in the fall, before a hard frost, on the new rosettes and any plants that have bolted.
B. Mechanical Control Only – Multiple mowings will be conducted throughout the summer to keep the plants from going to seed. Potentially two to four times during the growing season.
C. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide will be used in the spring and fall when the plant is in the rosette stage. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on musk and Scotch thistle include: Curtail, Redeem R&P, Clarity, Tordon 22k, Telar, Escort, Roundup Pro and 2,4-D. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.

Russian Knapweed

A. Cultural and Chemical Control – An herbicide application, using short residual herbicides will be used followed up by seeding the area with a competitive grass such as western wheatgrass or other sod forming species (indicate species).

B. Mechanical and Chemical Control – Mowing will be carried out throughout the season with the first and successive mowing cycles carried out at the bud stage. A herbicide treatment will be made in the fall before a hard freeze.
C. Mechanical Control Only – Multiple mowings will be carried out throughout the season to prevent seed set. (This is the least effective option.)
D. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide will be used in the spring from bolting to bud stage and in the fall, if necessary. The same herbicides listed above for Canada thistle can be used on Russian knapweed.

Diffuse and Spotted Knapweed

A. Cultural and Chemical Control – Apply herbicide in early summer when the knapweed is in the rosette up through bolt stage. Re-seed area with competitive perennial sod forming grass (indicate species) Another herbicide application will be applied the following year as needed to prevent plants from going to seed.
B. Mechanical and Chemical Control – During the growing season, multiple mowings of the knapweed, no later than the bud stage to prevent seeding. An application of a herbicide to any plants that have re-bolted will be made in the fall before a hard frost.
C. Mechanical Control Only - Multiple mowings will be carried out throughout the season to prevent seed set.
D. Chemical Control Only – An herbicide application will be made during the rosette stage (spring and fall) and while bolting. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on diffuse and spotted knapweed include: Curtail, Redeem R & P, Clarity, Telar, Roundup Pro, and 2,4-D. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.

Leafy Spurge

A. Biological and Chemical Control – A combination of grazing with sheep or goats; or the release of one of the *Apthona* flea beetle species will occur during the spring and summer. This will be followed up by the application of a herbicide in the fall before a hard freeze.
B. Mechanical and Chemical Control – Multiple mowings will be carried out throughout the growing season with the first mowing cycle at the bud stage. Mowing will stop during late August followed by a herbicide treatment during late September or early October (before a hard freeze).
C. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide will be used in the spring, early summer during the true flower stage **and** in the fall just before a hard freeze, if necessary. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on leafy spurge include: Clarity, Tordon 22K, Plateau, Roundup Pro, and 2,4-D. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.

Field Bindweed

A. Cultural and Chemical Control – A herbicide application using short residual herbicides will be made. This will be followed by a fall reseeding program with a competitive sod forming grass mix. Additionally, fertilization (based on soil tests) or irrigation will be instituted to stimulate grass growth.
B. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide will be used during the flowering stage, typically in June and July, and in the fall just before a hard freeze, if necessary. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on field bindweed include: Clarity, Tordon 22K, Roundup Pro, Paramount, and 2,4-D. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.

Dalmatian Toadflax

A. Cultural and Chemical Control – A herbicide application using a short residual herbicide will be made up to early flowering. This will be followed be reseeding in the fall with a competitive sod forming mix of grasses. Additionally, fertilization (based on soil tests) or irrigation will be instituted to stimulate grass growth.
B. Mechanical and Chemical Control – Multiple mowings will be carried out throughout the summer when Dalmatian toadflax is in the bud stage. A fall herbicide application will be made in October to any bolted plants, before a hard frost.
C. Chemical Control Only – A herbicide application will be applied up to the early flowering stage. This will be followed up with a fall application, if necessary. The herbicides that can be used independently or in combination with other herbicides on dalmatian toadflax include: Clarity, Tordon 22K, Roundup Pro, or 2,4-D. You must read the label and use a herbicide labeled for the intended site.