

Denver Water Source Water Protection Plan Upper South Platte Noxious Weeds February 14, 2014

> PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME EAT THE MUSK THISTLE...

# What? Me worry?







# Today's Outline

- Why manage weeds?
- Common weeds vs. "noxious" weeds
- Issues affecting management
- Impacts on water quality and quantity
- Noxious weeds in your neighborhood
- Best management practices



# Why manage weeds?

Agricultural productivity
Native plant communities
value to wildlife
livestock
Soil erosion
Water consumption
Wildfire





## Common weeds vs. "noxious" weeds

Alien plants or parts of alien plants that:

 Aggressively invade or are detrimental to economic crops or native plant communities;

Are poisonous to livestock;

 Are carriers of detrimental insects, diseases, or parasites; or



Common weeds vs. "noxious" weeds

Alien plants or parts of alien plants that:
The direct or indirect effect of the presence of this plant is detrimental to the environmentally sound management of natural or agricultural ecosystems.



## **Issues affecting management**

- >A chronic problem no crisis here!
- Hidden costs tend to lower the priority
- Costs of loss and recovery
- Land management goals
- >NPDES & herbicide use in general



#### Impacts on water quality

- Soil erosion sedimentation
   Re-seeding issues
- Herbicide use



Russian knapweed

#### purple loosestrife, wetlands







#### Impacts on water supply

#### Water consumption by phreatophytes





#### Wildfire

Shortens the fire cycle, sometimes considerably
 Has long-term consequences, even "permanent"
 Water quality – runoff, debris slides, etc.







- List A species
  - Orange hawkweed
  - Elongated mustard
- List B species
  - Thistles
  - Diffuse knapweed
  - Leafy spurge
  - Yellow toadflax

- Other List B species
  - Thistles
  - Russian and spotted knapweeds
  - Dalmatian toadflax
  - Hoary cress &
  - Perennial pepperweed
  - Daisies

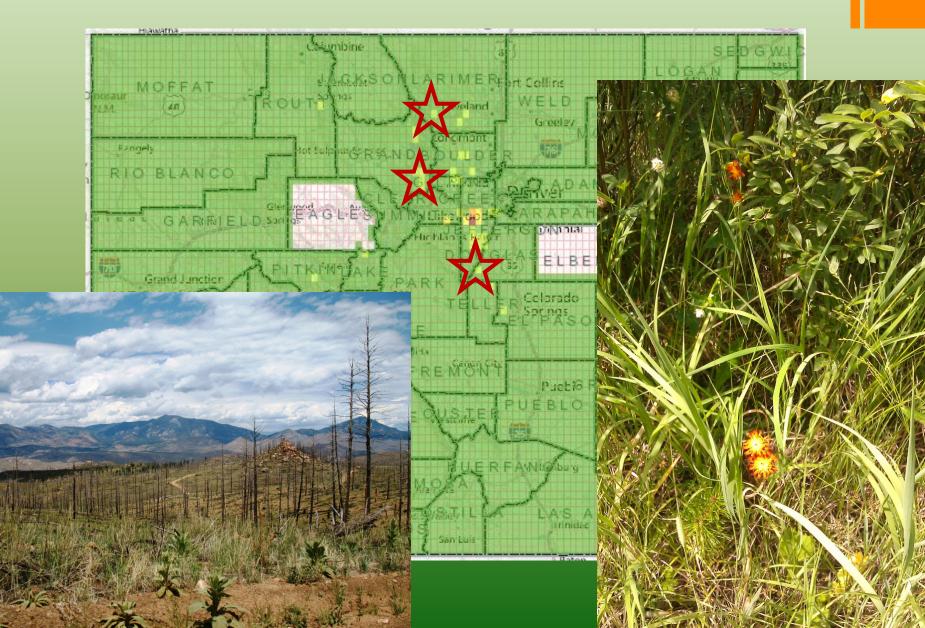


orange hawkweed





# **Orange Hawkweed**



#### **Colorado Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Program**



Elongated mustard





biennial thistles

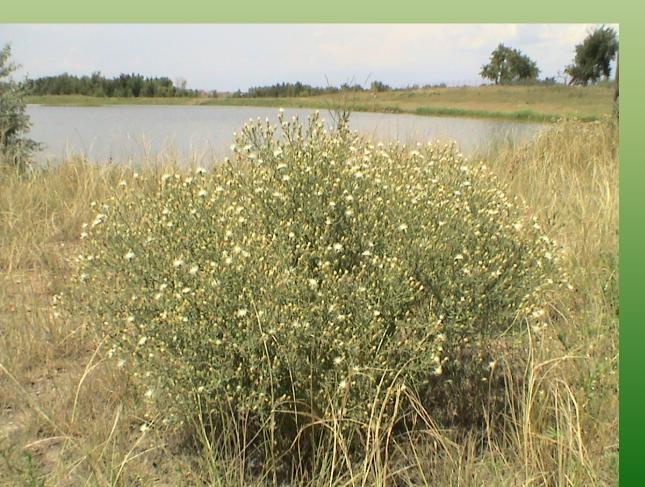






Canada thistle







diffuse knapweed

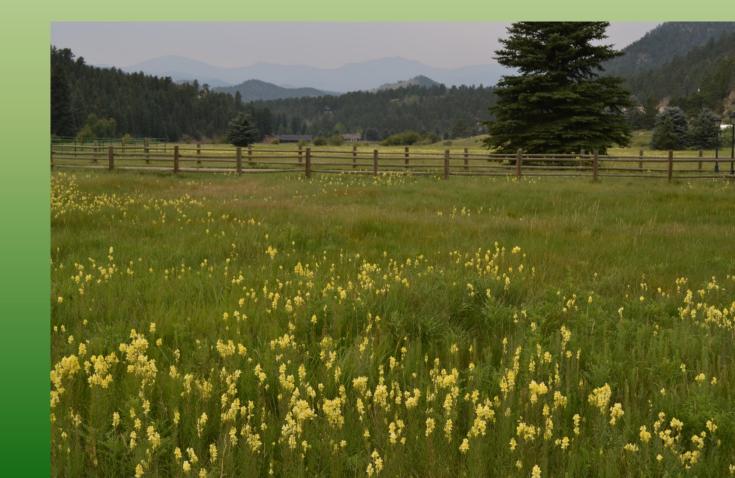


#### Leafy spurge





yellow toadflax





others: hoary cress and perennial pepperweed



#### Colorado Department of Agrico Noxious Weed Program

others: oxeye daisy, chamomiles





#### **Colorado Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Program**



others: oxeye daisy, chamomiles





# **Best management practices**

- Prevention!
- Keep from establishing
- > Once established,
  - Survey & map
  - Contain & suppress
  - ➢ Eliminate

- > Tools
  - Mechanical
  - > Herbicides
  - Land management
  - Biological controls
  - Educate & report



#### > Tools

- ➢ Mechanical
- > Herbicides
- Land management
- Biological controls
- > Educate & report

- Pulling, digging
- Mowing
- Grazing



#### > Tools

#### > Mechanical

#### Herbicides

Land management
 Biological controls
 Educate & report

- Label is the law
- Modes of action
- Selective vs.
- Non-selective
- Foliar vs. preemergent
- Soil activity
- "water's edge"

> NPDES



#### > Tools

Mechanical
 Herbicides
 Land management
 Biological controls
 Educate & report

- Knowledge of weeds
- Cropping rotation
- Grazing rotation
- ➤ Fire
- Crop selection
- Financial vs. land health



#### > Tools

Mechanical
Herbicides
Land management
Biological controls
Educate & report

- Cost-effective
- Will not eradicate
- Good for suppression
- Selected weed species
- CDA Insectary



#### > Tools

Mechanical
 Herbicides
 Land management
 Biological controls
 Educate & report

Weed ID
 Where/whom to report?
 EDRR

#### Resources Colorado The Official State Web Portal Text Size 🛨 🖃 $\bigcirc$ Search Home Animals Brands Colorado State Fair Conservation Inspection & Consumer Services Markets Plants Colorado Department of Agriculture Noxious Weeds Weed Free Forage Biocontrol Chemigation Conserv. Board Groundwater Protection Energy

Home > Noxious Weeds >

Advisory Committee County Weed Programs

Early Detection Rapid Response

FAQs

Grants And Financial Assistance

Noxious Weed Species

Noxious Weed Mapping

Plant Assessment Matrix

Publications

Contact Us

#### **Noxious Weeds**

The goals of the program are to:

- · prevent the introduction of new invasive plant species
- · eradicate species with isolated or limited populations
- contain and manage those invasive species that are well established and widespread

To accomplish these goals the program:

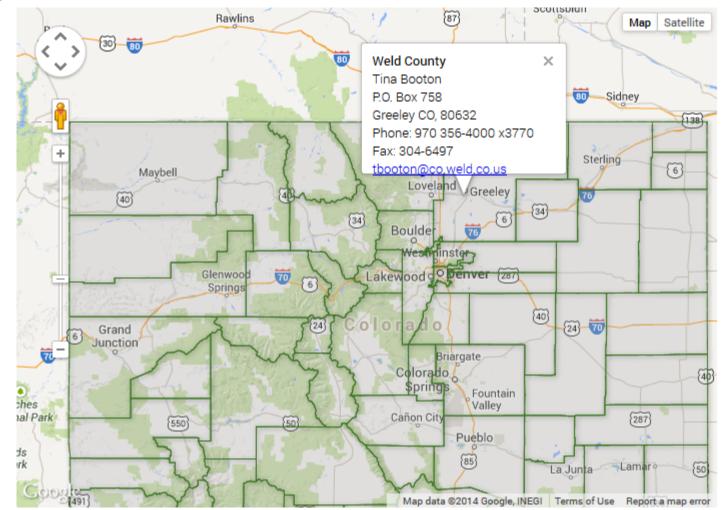
- implements preventative strategies to reduce the opportunity for new invasive species
- provides information and resources to local weed managers
- helps establish local weed management areas emphasizing coordinated efforts among public and private landowners
- educates public agency staff and private citizens about the negative impacts associated with noxious weeds



#### Resources

#### **County Contacts**

Below is a Google map of Colorado with contact information on each County Weed Program. Should you have any questions please feel free to <u>contact us</u>.



#### **Resources**

List B SpeciesRangeland, pasture, and riparian site recommendationsColorado Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation Services Division 700 Kipling Street Suite 4000 Lakewood, CO 80215 303-239-4100Musk thistle Identification and ManagementImage: Division Advice Advice Advic
Colorado Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation Services Division 700 Kipling Street Suite 4000 Lakewood, CO 80215
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#### Thank you!

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