

## **2016 SANDERS COUNTY WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Montana County Noxious Weed Control Act: Title 7, Chapter 22 Section 7-22-2116 states, "It is unlawful for any person to permit any noxious weed to propagate or go to seed on his land...". The language of this act indicates the serious threat noxious weeds present to Montana.

The goals of the Sanders County Weed Management Plan are:

1. To support the effort of landowners in the containment and/or eradication of noxious weeds in Sanders County.
2. To review the distribution and abundance of each noxious weed species in and around Sanders County.
3. To identify any new infestations and the areas particularly susceptible to new infestations.
4. To control the spread of noxious weeds on county road and state highway right-of-ways, gravel pits, and any other county properties.
5. Biological Control Agents: Host specific pathogens and insects will be distributed as they are made available. The collection and redistribution of appropriate biological weed and insect control agents will be encouraged. Distribution will be coordinated with the Sanders County Biological Weed Control Committee.

Sanders County Weed Control is located at the Sanders County Highway Dept. compound west of Plains, Montana.

Location . . . 36 Old Airport Road, Plains, MT 59859

Hours . . . . April – October: 7 am – 4 pm Monday-Friday.  
November – March: Hours vary  
Please call and leave message at: 406-826-3487

Email . . . . [weeddept@co.sanders.mt.us](mailto:weeddept@co.sanders.mt.us)

Rentals . . . A variety of sprayers, sizes and configurations are available. These include: pickup slide-ins and pull type sprayers. Rental sprayer units are expected to be triple rinsed on site prior to return. Also available is a burrow building machine for pocket gopher bait application. Chemical return policy only includes product purchased during the current spray season accompanied by a sales receipt (unopened containers only). Chemicals are only sold to residents and/or landowners of Sanders County.

SUPPORT FOR LANDOWNERS comes in the form of:

- 1) Reduced rates for chemical sales and sprayer rental. *Payable at time of sale. Must be used on Sanders County property.*
- 2) The county weed crew will annually concentrate on specific areas of right-of-way, where primary weed threats have been identified and environmental factors permit.
- 3) The Weed Board will honor "I CONTROL MY OWN" signs posted at either end of a landowners property when treating right-of-ways. "I CONTROL MY OWN" signs and landowner agreement forms are available at the Sanders County Weed Shop. Individual "I CONTROL MY OWN" agreements are to be renewed on an annual basis.

*Cooperative Agreements: The Weed Board will enter into cooperative agreements according to Montana Noxious Weed Act Title 7, Chapter 22, sect 7-22-2151 "Cooperative Agreements"; "a board may develop and carry out its Noxious Weed management Plan in cooperation with Boards of other Districts, with state and federal agencies, or with any other person within the District. The Board may enter into cooperative agreements with any of these parties."*

Under the Sanders County Weed Management Plan the Board may enter into cooperative agreements with the following,

- A: *State Highway Department (MT DOT)*
- B: *B.I.A. and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe*
- C: *U.S. Forest Service*
- D: *Department of Natural Resources and Conservation*
- E: *Incorporated towns of Hot Springs, Plains, and Thompson Falls*
- F: *Private Corporations (Utilities, Timber Companies, etc.)*
- G: *Private Landowners*
- H: *Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Department of Natural Resources & Conservation shall maintain a current weed management plan according to Montana Code.*

*Noxious weeds to be treated by the Board will be scheduled according to the following land ownership patterns. Consideration will be made with department labor and equipment availability in mind:*

- I) *County Lands*
- II) *State Highway Right-of-Ways*
- III) *Governmental and non-Governmental Cooperative Agreement Lands.*
- IV) *Private Landowner Cooperative Agreement Lands*

*The Weed Board may enter into cooperative agreement with landowners to control any outbreak infestation including, but not restricted to Priority 1A & 1B noxious weed species, on a landowner's property.*

- A. The landowner shall notify the Supervisor of their desire for assistance in controlling these noxious weeds. It is the Supervisor's discretion to determine eligibility for assistance or the amount of assistance, based on the size and type of infestation and the landowner's ability to do the work.

- B. If the landowner requests that the weed department does the work, an agreement will be signed by the landowner to relieve the county from any liability for damages that could occur while controlling the noxious weeds.
- C. The Board will pursue strict compliance on Priority 1A & 1B noxious weed species.

## **Montana Noxious Weed List Effective: July 2015**

**PRIORITY 1A** These weeds are not present or have a very limited presence in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication if detected, education, and prevention:

- (a) Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)
- (b) Dyer's woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)
- (c) Common Reed (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*)

**PRIORITY 1B** These weeds have limited presence in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment and education:

- (a) Knotweed complex (*Polygonum cuspidatum*, *P. sachalinense*, *P. × bohemicum*, *Fallopia japonica*, *F. sachalinensis*, *F. × bohémica*, *Reynoutria japonica*, *R. sachalinensis*, and *R. × bohémica*)
- (b) Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- (c) Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- (d) Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

**PRIORITY 2A** These weeds are common in isolated areas of Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by local weed districts:

- (a) Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*, *Jacobaea vulgaris*)
- (b) Meadow hawkweed complex (*Hieracium caespitosum*, *H. praealtum*, *H. floridundum*, and *Pilosella caespitosa*)
- (c) Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*, *Pilosella aurantiaca*)
- (d) Tall buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)
- (e) Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- (f) Yellowflag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- (g) Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*)
- (h) Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
- (i) Flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)

**PRIORITY 2B** These weeds are abundant in Montana and widespread in many counties. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by local weed districts:

- (a) Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- (b) Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
- (c) Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- (d) Whitetop (*Cardaria draba*, *Lepidium draba*)
- (e) Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*, *Rhaponticum repens*)
- (f) Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*, *C. maculosa*)
- (g) Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- (h) Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- (i) St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- (j) Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
- (k) Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
- (l) Oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- (m) Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
- (n) Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)
- (o) Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)
- (p) Curlyleaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
- (q) Hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)

**Priority 3 Regulated Plants:** (NOT MONTANA LISTED NOXIOUS WEEDS) These regulated plants have the potential to have significant negative impacts. The plant may not be intentionally spread or sold other than as a contaminant in agricultural products. The state recommends research, education and prevention to minimize the spread of the regulated plant.

- (a) Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*)
- (b) Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)
- (c) Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
- (d) Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*)
- (e) Parrot feather watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum aquaticum* or *M. brasiliense*)

**Sanders County Noxious Weed List (In addition to Montana State listed Noxious Weed species)**

- Medusahead (*Taeniathum caput-medusa*)
- Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
- Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)

Training: Weed Supervisor will be licensed as a governmental applicator and chemical dealer. Seasonal weed crew members will receive a minimum training to include private applicator licensing, documented orientation with all equipment to be operated.

The Weed Board, appointed by the Sanders County Commissioners, is charged with establishing policy, instituting programs, and administering budgets. The Weed Board for 2016 consists of:

- John Errecart - Plains (2/2016)
- Pat Kelly - Noxon (5//2014)
- Dale Neiman - Camas Prairie, Chairman (11/2014)
- Alan Dettwiler - Heron (4/17/2014)
- Ross Middlemist - Dixon (12/2015)
- Judson Shively - Weed Department Coordinator 826-3487
- Jason Badger - MSU Extension Agent, Sanders Co. 827-6934  
ex officio, board secretary

The Sanders County Weed Board normally meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Contact the Weed Department Coordinator or MSU Extension agent for specific date and location. Meetings are open, public input is welcomed. Agendas are posted a minimum of 48 hours prior to meeting in the Sanders County Courthouse.

This policy will be reviewed annually, or as needed. (rev. FEBRUARY, 2016)

Weed Board: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sanders County Commissioners:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_