

NDA Noxious Weeds Program

Ashley Jeppson

Plant Industry Division Administrator



NRS 555-Noxious Weeds Designation

- NRS 555.130 Designation of Noxious Weeds-to be declared by regulation the weeds of the state that are noxious weeds, but a **weed must not be designated as noxious which is already introduced and established** in the State to such an extent as to make its control impracticable.
- List Category A, B, C NAC 555.010



Categories

- Category A: Generally not found or that are limited in distribution throughout the State.
- Category B: Weeds that are generally established in scattered populations in some counties of the state
- Category C: Weeds that are generally established and generally widespread in many counties of the State



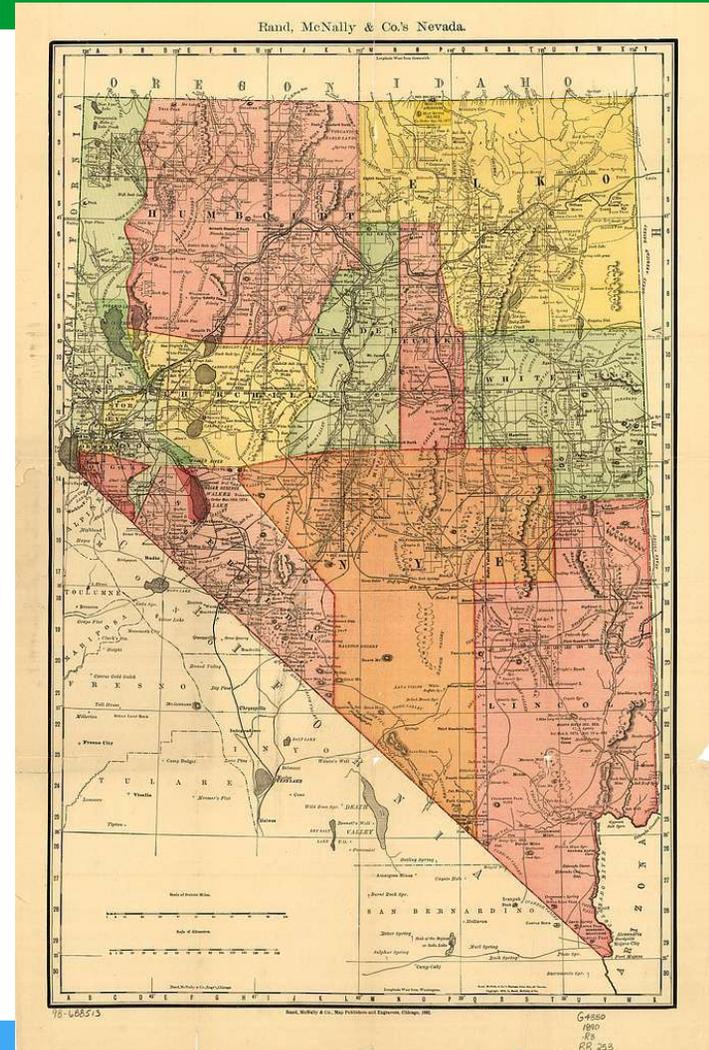
Class C-Puncture Vine

NDA Program Approach

- Historically-strong education and outreach approach to local government and tribal groups
- Partnership with Weed Control Districts NRS 555.202
- Partner with Conservation Districts
- Non-compliance notifications
- Engagement with County Commissioners
- Enforcement and application of regulations under NAC 555
- Incorporating noxious weeds criteria in local plan reviews

Weed Control Districts

- Board of county commissioners of any county may, in accordance with chapter 308 of NRS, create one or more weed control districts in that portion of the county.
- Designates they are to be included in the weed control district, either as the entire unincorporated area of the county or sections



NRS 555 Enforcement

- NRS 555 Weed Control District-Failure to perform noxious weeds control plan in compliance with the regulations within the district.
 - Weed Control Officer within the district can perform work and charge against the landowner
 - Lien against the property
- Notify County Commissioners involving non-compliance to perform county treatment:
 - Itemized bill issued to landowner-lien on the property
- Civil Penalty fines
 - Initial \$250
 - Second \$500
 - Subsequent \$1,000

Collaboration

- NDA receives funding from USFS State and Private Forestry for noxious weeds treatment and monitoring projects.
- Funds are sub-granted to Cooperative Weed Management Associations, Conservation Districts, County Weed Districts, and others.
- Funding from BLM to support Source Identification inspections-cataloging species ideal for sourcing for reseeding efforts
- Mapping and survey locations (citizen science) - EDDmaps

Compliance Challenges and Priorities

- Infestations on land development sites-moving propagative material
- Early Detection and Rapid Response, especially for class A and B species
- Treatment and lien through County Commissioners
- Infestations on private and public lands
- Ongoing and ever increasing infestations-annual planning
- Vector/transmission corridors



Program Strategic Planning

- **Continue education and partner activities with Conservation and Weed Control Districts, and CWMA**
- **Establish an SOP and timeline for non-compliance observations to include:**
 - Initial education and resource sharing
 - Non-compliance and monitoring
 - Assess resources available and whether funds from control fund would be appropriate (no alternative resources)
 - Engagement with County Commissioners
 - Determining when a fine is appropriate

Priorities

- **Non-compliance notification and enforcement SOP**
 - Include identification for negligence vs. lack of resources
 - Demonstrate to county commissioners the application of authority within NRS 555-collective efforts
 - Assess infestations on bordering public land for project planning
- **Annual strategic plan based on mapping data**
 - Coordinate with weed and conservation districts on annual plan and target species- **achievable projects**
- **EDRR**
 - Step-by-step process for response and potential funding utilization for treatment

Priorities Continued

- **Continue education and collaboration efforts**
 - County Commissioners
 - Planning departments-add noxious weeds criteria
 - Promote weed-free forage, and gravel pit inspections
 - CWMAs, CWD, CDs
 - Grow the network that ID, treats, and educates about noxious weeds and their threat to ecosystem health and wildland fire threats.

Questions?

Ashley Jeppson

775-353-3729

ajeppson@agri.nv.gov

Meghan Brown

775-353-3604

m.brown@agri.nv.gov