

# **Eastern Owyhee CWMA**

## **2009 End of Year Report**

**Eastern Owyhee CWMA Steering  
Committee**

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# **Eastern Owyhee CWMA**

## **Idaho State Department of Agriculture – Noxious Weed Program**

### **2009 End of Year Report**

## **Introduction**

The Eastern Owyhee CWMA was formed in 2008 by local producers with the help of the Nature Conservancy, RJ Consulting, BLM, ISDA, Bruneau River Soil Conservation District, Idaho Power Company, Owyhee and Elmore County Commissioners, Owyhee County Weed Superintendent, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe from the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, USAF/ Mountain Home Air Force Base, IDL, and Crop Production Services from Bruneau to address the growing noxious weed infestation problem within the Eastern Owyhee County region. The Eastern Owyhee CWMA boundaries are from the west fork of Sinker Creek on the west to Saylor Creek on the east, and from the Snake River on the north to the Nevada border on the south, following the Jordan Valley CWMA boundary along the Owyhee mountain range to the West fork of Sinker Creek. The EOCWMA also includes a small portion of Elmore County along the north side of the Snake River, known as Chattin Flats. Due to the large size of the EOCWMA, it was decided to break the CWMA into four areas: Bruneau, Grand View, Oreana and South of Grand View. Four members of the Steering Committee agreed to be in charge of chemical distribution for these areas: Duane LaFayette & Don Hedges – Bruneau; Ray Meyers – Grand View and South of Grand View; and Blaine Collett – Oreana.

Ray Meyers was elected President of the Eastern Owyhee CWMA and Duane LaFayette was elected Vice-President and acted as secretary/treasurer. Additionally, Jerry Hoagland, Owyhee County Commissioner; Pat Kane, Joey Milan, Lonnie Huter, BLM; Bruce Sibert, Owyhee County Weed Superintendent; Aaron Utz, Idaho Power Company; Robin Holmquest, IDFG; the JVCWMA; Rayola Jacobsen, RJ Consulting; Don Hedges, Agronomist and professional local chemical applicator; and local landowners led, advised and cooperated with the Eastern Owyhee CWMA.

The mission of the EOCWMA was to control noxious weeds within our boundaries. Our goal was to inform and educate the public about noxious weeds in order to increase awareness and have them help us in our fight to control noxious weeds within the CWMA. **Only through the help and support of an informed public can the fight against noxious weeds be won!**

# Accomplishments

As the Eastern Owyhee CWMA was being formed, its organizers could see that the only way to accomplish the task of noxious weed control was to educate and unite the people within the Eastern Owyhee area to become actively involved in noxious weed control, thus The Eastern Owyhee CWMA created their motto “**Neighbors Working Together to Control Noxious Weeds.**” The members of the EOCWMA Steering Committee decided the best way to start educating the public about noxious weeds and their costs to the community as a whole was through the school system within the area. A noxious weed poster contest was established for all elementary and high school children within the CWMA. This included all public schools, as well as private schools, Christian schools, Home Schools, and Shoshone-Paiute Duck Valley Indian Reservation schools. Prize money of \$40 for first place posters and \$20 for honorable mention posters was donated by Crop Production Services of Bruneau and Owyhee County Farm Bureau. **Twelve of the winning posters were then used to produce our Noxious Weed Calendars, 1,000 of which were printed and distributed throughout the EOCWMA.** Contributions from Owyhee County Farm Bureau, Elmore County Farm Bureau and Elmore Soil and Water Conservation District provided the cost of printing. The noxious weed poster contest, the calendars that were produced and distributed, along with other public outreach efforts accounted for more than **12,000 public contacts** for the EOCWMA efforts.

## Measurable Outcome

**One of the first steps the EOCWMA took was to develop a noxious weed inventory form that each of the producers interested in participating in the program was required to fill out and return to the CWMA. Using this method, we were able to inventory approximately 42,000 acres of land which contained 6,900.85 acres that had noxious weed infestations. We were able to chemically treat 3,473.7 acres of noxious weeds in the 2009 spraying season, while 100 acres were reseeded after spraying. The remainder of the sprayed/treated acreage would be allowed to recover by natural revegetation. Although there was acreage mechanically treated and grazed for noxious weed control within the CWMA in 2009, it was done on a very limited experimental basis. We plan to expand these experiments next year. **Bio-control of noxious weeds** – A number of bio-control releases were conducted this year in the Eastern Owyhee CWMA:**

**Canada Thistle** – Several releases of the Canada Thistle gall fly *Uriohora cardui* were made on property owned by Idaho Power and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

**Purple Loosestrife** – Several releases of *Hylobis transversovittatus* were successfully made on the Bruneau River delta area, within the EOCWMA this year. The Purple Loosestrife problem has been significantly reduced due to these efforts, the releases will continue next year.

The EOCWMA Steering Committee decided in order to accomplish their goal, in the fight against noxious weed invasion that they would approach the problem first by an inventory of infested acres. Second of all they would break the CWMA into four areas and form three distribution points throughout its boundaries. Blaine Collett would be in charge of the Oreana area concentrating on the Castle Creek Drainage as his first priority. Ray Meyers would be in charge of the Grand View Area as well as the South Grand View Area in the Owyhee Mountains to his south. Duane LaFayette and Don Hedges would be in charge of the Bruneau Area extending through the Sho-Pai Duck Valley Indian Reservation. Each area leader was responsible for security, storage, distribution and record keeping that would be turned in to Duane LaFayette for the end of year report. Third, it was decided by the Steering Committee that the CWMA would furnish the chemicals for noxious weed control and the producers who turned in inventories would apply the product themselves. This method proved very effective and is the reason that our in kind match ratio is so high. Producers even went as far as buying new spray equipment, as well as modifying their own spray equipment in order to improve their noxious weed spraying applications. The CWMA sponsored two sprayer calibration sessions to make sure that producers were applying the correct/recommended rates of chemical application for the noxious weeds that they were targeting. This is how the EOCWMA was able to treat 3,473 acres of noxious weeds in 2009.

### **Other Successes Include:**

**1. Education & Information:** Reaching out to involve and educate the community at large via Poster contest, Calender & equipment calibration days. We had several guest speakers at our EOCWMA meetings addressing Noxious Weed Control which included: Joey Milan (BLM) Dave Torell (Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation), Don Hedges (Crop Production Services), Robin Holmquest (IDFG), Josh Pearson (Idaho Power), Art Talsma (Nature Conservancy), Kent Morrison (NRCS-Marsing), Mark Hasquet (Wilbur-Ellis Company). These speakers were an important part of our public education outreach within the EOCWMA.

**2. Noxious Weed Inventories:** Inventories were completed by landowners using Inventory forms to identify the kinds of noxious weeds found in the area, their locations and the number of acres needing treatment, this information assisted in the treatment and mapping of infested acres.

**3. Major noxious weeds addressed in 2009:** Whitetop, Russian Knapweed, Puncturevine, Perennial Pepperweed, Scotch Thistle, Canadian Thistle, Musk Thistle and Salt Cedar. The noxious weed priorities for each of the four treatment areas were determined by a producer inventory conducted throughout the EOCWMA. The major noxious weeds were as follows: Oreana – Whitetop, Russian Knapweed and Scotch Thistle; Bruneau – Perennial Pepperweed, Puncturevine and Salt Cedar; Grand View – Russian Knapweed, Puncturevine, and Whitetop; South of Grand View – Whitetop, Puncturevine and Scotch Thistle. These noxious weeds had choked out native vegetation in the riparian and rangeland areas, as well as reducing crop production in the cropland acreages.

**4. Aerial Mapping: EOCWMA** partnering with BLM and the Jordan Valley CWMA, the Eastern Owyhee CWMA was able to have the rangeland part of our CWMA flown and mapped for noxious weeds. The flight map with noxious weed locations will be shown in the appendix. This gave us rangeland noxious weed locations that could then be treated and contained in order to control further infestation.

**5. Outreach:** The Eastern Owyhee CWMA also furnished noxious weed information, noxious weed identification instruction and GPS training that was part of a 9 week course of study at Rimrock High School during the last semester. The class also put up several noxious weed displays in the hallway bulletin boards at the high school as part of their curriculum.

**6. In Kind Match:** The Eastern Owyhee CWMA was able to match the **\$116,781.00 State and Federal Grant** with **In Kind contributions by its members of \$273,227.00.** The **In Kind Match equals a 2.3 : 1 ratio.**

## New Equipment

### Garmin GPS Units

Three Garmin GPS 72 units were donated by a local producer to the Eastern Owyhee CWMA in 2009 for use by their members for mapping program.

### Backpack Sprayers

Four Valley backpack prayers were donated by Production Service to the Eastern Owyhee CWMA in 2009 for use by members that needed to use them for noxious weed spraying.

## 2009 Chemical and Seed Purchases: \$96,132.38

Chemical Description	Quantity	Purpose
Banvel + 2,4D	50 Gal.	Broadleaf noxious weed control
Basecamp (2,4D)	60 Gal.	Mix with Telar – Whitetop, Pepperweed control
Buccaneer	25 Gal.	Broadleaf noxious weed control
Bullseye	220 Gal.	Marker Dye
Forefront	265 Gal.	Russian Knapweed & thistles control
Insist	135 Gal.	Wetting agent for Forefront
Milestone	15 Gal.	Knapweed & thistle control
Weedar 64 (2,4D)	140 Gal.	Same as Basecamp
Syl-Tac	200 Gal.	Wetting agent for Telar
Telar xp	3,147 Oz.	Whitetop, Pepperweed and Puncturvine control
Dryland Seed Mix	1,000 lbs.	Reseeding dry rangeland
Pasture Seed Mix	1,750 lbs.	Reseeding wet areas along streams

Common Name	Scientific Name	Gross Acres	Percent of Gross Acres Infested	Average Density (%)
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**Example:**

1-Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	600	40%	60%
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1. Black Henbane	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>			
2. Bohemian Knotweed	<i>Polygonum bohemicum</i>			
3. Brazilian Elodea	<i>Egeria densa P.</i>			
4. Buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>			
5. Canada Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>			
6. Common Crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>			
7. Dalmatian Toadflax	<i>Linaria genistifolia ssp. dalmatica</i>			
8. Diffuse Knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	10	100	50
9. Dyer's Woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>			
10. Eurasian Watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>			
11. Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	68.5	100	80
12. Giant Hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>			
13. Giant Knotweed	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>			
14. Hoary Alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>			
15. Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>			
16. Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	10	100	25
17. Japanese Knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>			
18. Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>			
19. Jointed Goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>			
20. Leafy Spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>			
21. Matgrass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>			
22. Meadow Knapweed	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>			
23. Mediterranean Sage	<i>Salvia aethiopsis</i>			
24. Miliun	<i>Milium vernale</i>			
25. Musk Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	9.5	100	35
26. Orange Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>			
27. Oxeye Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>			
28. Parrotfeather Milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>			
29. Perennial Pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	1366	100	95
30. Perennial Sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>			
31. Plumeless Thistle	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>			
32. Poison Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	206	80	40
33. Policeman's Helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>			
34. Puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	793	95	95
35. Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	3200	35	50
36. Rush Skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>			
37. Russian Knapweed	<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	1995	100	90
38. Saltcedar	<i>Tamarix</i>	98	100	50
39. Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>			
40. Scotch Thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	275.5	95	50

Common Name	Scientific Name	Gross Acres	Percent of Gross Acres Infested	Average Density (%)
41. Silverleaf Nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>			
42. Skeletonleaf Bursage	<i>Ambrosia tomentosa</i>			
43. Small Bugloss	<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>			
44. Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	3	100	50
45. Squarrose Knapweed	<i>Centaurea squarrosa</i>			
46. Syrian Beancaper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>			
47. Tall Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium piloselloides</i>			
48. Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>			
49. Toothed Spurge	<i>Euphorbia dentata</i>			
50. Vipers Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>			
51. Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes M.</i>			
52. White Bryony	<i>Bryonia alba</i>			
53. Whitetop	<i>Cardaria draba</i>	1750	100	95
54. Yellow Devil Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium glomeratum</i>			
55. Yellow Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>			
56. Yellow Starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>			
57. Yellow Toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>			

## 2009 Contributors and Contributions to the Eastern Owyhee CWMA Projects

Contributors	Total	Cash	In-Kind
<b>ISDA</b>	<b>\$116,781</b>		
<b>BLM</b>	<b>\$ 11,644</b>	<b>\$ 11,000</b>	<b>\$ 644</b>
<b>Owyhee Co. Farm Bureau</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	
<b>Elmore Co. Farm Bureau</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	
<b>Elmore Soil and Water CD</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	
<b>Crop Production Services</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	
<b>Owyhee County</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>		<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<b>Shoshone-Paiute Tribe Duck Valley</b>	<b>\$ 575</b>		<b>\$ 575</b>
<b>Private/Landowner</b>	<b>\$201,488</b>		<b>\$201,488</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$335,988</b>	<b>\$15,500</b>	<b>\$203,707</b>



## **2010 Work Plan**

- ❖ Annual Meeting of the Eastern Owyhee CWMA is planned in February, inviting all members of the EOCWMA and producers that would like to become a working member of the EOCWMA in 2010.**
- ❖ Expand our producer noxious weed inventory acreage throughout the EOCWMA through enrolling new producers and training them to identify noxious weeds and how best to control them.**
- ❖ Chemical Application Certification class will be conducted by the EOCWMA to give producers points in order to maintain their applicator certification. EOCWMA will continue its efforts to control noxious weeds on a sub-watershed basis whenever possible. If everyone in the sub-watershed gets involved, noxious weed control can be accomplished.**
- ❖ Produce another noxious weed calendar as a way to inform the public in our CWMA about noxious weeds and the importance to control them.**
- ❖ Insects for Bio Control of noxious weeds will be acquired and released within the EOCWMA as they become available. Several local landowners have volunteered to set up test plots on their private property in order to study Bio Control on puncturevine within the EOCWMA in 2010.**

## Appendix

### Eastern Owyhee CWMA 2009 Contributors List

<u>Contributor Category</u>	<u>Cooperator</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Federal Gov.	Bureau of Land Management	Pat Kane	384-3407
Federal Gov.	Bureau of Land Management	Lonnie Huter	384-3397
Federal Gov.	Bureau of Land Management	Joey Milan	384-3487
Non-Federal Gov.	Idaho Department of Lands	Darcy Helmick	334-3488
Non-Federal Gov.	Owyhee County Commissioners	Jerry Hoagland	495-2810
Non-Federal Gov.	Owyhee County Weed Dept.	Bruce Sibert	337-8061
Non-Federal Gov.	Bruneau River SCD	Mark Frost	845-2299
Non-Federal Gov.	IDFG	Robin Holmquest	845-2324
Other	The Nature Conservancy	Art Talsma	350-2204
Other	Idaho Power Company	Aaron Utz	388-6763
Other	Idaho Power Company	Josh Pearson	388-6763
Other	RJ Consulting	Rayola Jacobsen	338-0019
Other	Crop Production Services	Don Hedges	845-2483
Other	Owyhee County Farm Bureau	Quey Johns	366-7734
Other	Elmore County Farm Bureau	Tony Black	845-2602
Other	Elmore Soil and Water SCD	Dave Ascuena	587-3526
Other	Shoshone-Paiute Tribe	Sherry Crutcher	759-3100
Other	Shoshone-Paiute Tribe	Norm Thomas	759-3100
Other	NRCS – Dist. Conservationist	Kent Morrison	896-4544
Other	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	Dave Torell	286-7689