



# HWCWMA Newsletter

Winter 2019  
Issue 9

## A Message from President, Gerry Miller

Whew, another weed spraying season has come and gone and I know first-hand that an awful lot of acres were treated thanks to some very dedicated landowners and contractors. This year, the Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Weed Management Area managed about a half million dollars of cost-share assistance to folks within the watershed.

Now it's time for the HWCWMA to plan for future activities. We meet every other month or as needed, and it's important for people to attend meetings and provide their suggestions and ideas, for decisions are made by those who show up. Our next meeting will be held on January 28th in Battle Mountain at 3:00 PM.

My greatest concern is not having all of the seats filled on the Board of Directors. It is the intent to have at least one director from each of the five counties (Elko, Eureka, Lander, Humboldt and Pershing), someone from a weed district or another CWMA and a landowner from a homeowners association. If you're reading this and are interested in serving as a board member of an active and interesting organization, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

And last but not least, I want to shout out a big THANK YOU to Andi and Nancy, the HWCWMA staff that coordinate and administer grant dollars from various entities that assist you in your efforts in controlling noxious weeds within; as it's been called "the thoroughfare to the West".

## Project Summary

2018 was a very busy year for the Humboldt Watershed CWMA. There was definitely an increase in noxious weeds reported and we are always excited to be able to assist landowners within our watershed. Here is a list of our funders and the projects that were possible with their grant dollars:

*Nevada Department of Wildlife:* five landowner noxious weed projects within the watershed, City of Elko (SnoBowl).

*Bureau of Land Management:* four public land treatment projects where thistle, medusahead and ventenata were the main targets for treatment.

*National Fish and Wildlife Foundation:* three medusahead projects located at Harrison Pass, northern Elko County and Paradise Valley.

*Nevada Department of Agriculture:* right-of-way treatment for seven of Elko County's Conservation Districts and medusahead control in Paradise Valley.



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2019 HWCWMA  
ANNUAL MEETING

HWCWMA will be holding our Annual Meeting on Monday, January 28 at 3:00 at the Cooperative Extension office in Battle Mountain.

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Directors and Officers will be elected during this meeting.

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Please join us and consider becoming a Board member!



**CALL FOR PROJETS**

The HWCWMA is very excited to be taking on new partners for treatment and support projects in 2019. By combining forces, we will be more effective in controlling noxious weeds within the Humboldt Watershed. The threat is, if ignored, these invasive weed species have the potential to “move in and take over”. The opportunity is now—if we work together there is a strong chance that we can keep them at acceptable population levels, minimizing the economic and environmental losses. HWCWMA’s goal is to control and contain the existing populations, even if we can’t completely eradicate them.

**Here’s what you can do to help!**

If you have known noxious weeds on your property that you’d like assistance with, please visit our website, [www.humboldtweedfree.org](http://www.humboldtweedfree.org),

for information on weeds within the Humboldt River Watershed. The HWCWMA offers a couple of cost-share programs that are available to landowners that can assist with the treatment of noxious weeds on their property through the purchase of herbicide or by cost-sharing on larger-scale projects. The proposal packets for these programs can be downloaded from our website. BUT, keep in mind that weeds will be growing earlier than usual this year because of the increased precipitation we’ve had, so if you have a project in mind, please get those forms filled out and re-turned to us as soon as possible so we can stay ahead of the spread of noxious weeds. The HWCWMA always welcomes new partnerships and we look forward to working with you!

**HERBICIDE COST-SHARE PROGRAM**

The HWCWMA is offering a 50/50 cost share program that enables stakeholders with smaller projects to purchase herbicide at substantially lower costs through IFA in Elko and Ron’s Seed and Supply in Winnemucca. With minimal paperwork requirements, watershed land-owners/managers can purchase and apply their needed herbicide; then notify HWCWMA staff to arrange a site visit; we will gather some site and application method information from you, and map your project if needed. You will be able to purchase \$500 worth of herbicide for only \$250, or purchase less herbicide if you have a smaller project area. The weeds are going to start showing up soon, so please head down to IFA or Ron’s Seed And Supply and get your herbicide while you can!



# Play, Clean, Go!

By Betsy Macfarlan, ENLC Executive Director



## Taking the Weed Message to the General Public

In 2012, with partial funding from the U.S. Forest Service, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources started up the **PlayCleanGo: Stop Invasive Species In Your Tracks®** program. Over the past six years the program has been expanded to include over 500 partner organizations throughout North America. The Nevada Weed Management Association joined PlayCleanGo in 2016.

A significant portion of this rapid expansion is due to the efforts of the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) and the Canadian Council on Invasive Species (CCIS). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) has managed the program since its inception in 2012, however MNDNR is in the process of transitioning management and control of the program over to NAISMA. The program is guided by a national Advisory Committee made up of passionate individuals working to protect our natural resources. NWMA past President, Betsy Macfarlan, was nominated and selected earlier this year to represent the West on the Advisory Committee.

The goal of the program is to protect our natural resources while encouraging the public to enjoy the great outdoors. *“Using community based social marketing to build brand recognition, our objective is to slow (and where possible to stop) the spread of invasive species by changing public and worker behaviors at risk of spreading harmful pests living on land or in water. **Play-CleanGo** promotes awareness, understanding, and cooperation by providing a clear call to action to be informed, attentive and accountable for stopping the spread of all invasive species.”* (PlayCleanGo.org)

MNDNR and other partners have developed numerous education materials from rack cards to trail kiosks, all focused on spreading the word and not the invasives. NWMA member, the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC), through a cooperative agreement with the US Forest Service, has tailored many of the rack cards to Nevada, by using photos from around Nevada, and insertion of appropriate logos. NWMA Treasurer Kevin Burls, is looking into using some of his funding sources to have additional copies of these materials printed for distribution on the western side of Nevada.

In late July, NAISMA took the PlayCleanGo message directly to the Outdoor Retailer show in Denver, Colorado encouraging outdoor retailers to participate in the education program.

If you or your organization is interested in a sample of the PlayCleanGo materials go to [www.PlayCleanGo.org](http://www.PlayCleanGo.org) and check out the resources they have available.



Photos Courtesy of Betsy Macfarlan



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## Board of Directors

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## Humboldt Watershed CWMA's Mission

The HWCWMA was developed to address the invasive weed problem and subsequent decline in water quality within the entire 16,843 square mile watershed, which covers most of Northern Nevada. The primary function of HWCWMA has been to provide land managers, owners and weed control groups assistance in the areas of funding, agency and weed group coordination and cooperation.

We have an opportunity to stop potentially invasive species from spreading if we act quickly and our staff can provide the property owner or appropriate public agency with site-specific treatment options for these plants. The HWCWMA also maps and monitors heavily infested sites in the watershed which allows the HWCWMA the ability to provide educational and financial assistance to land owners and groups in their management efforts, ultimately improving all of the qualities of the land and water in our watershed.

The HWCWMA has also developed a website to serve as a clearinghouse for information on invasive weeds in the Humboldt Watershed. Our website ([www.humboldtweedfree.org](http://www.humboldtweedfree.org)) contains fact sheets for state listed noxious weeds in Nevada, Board of Director's information, funding partner's links, and many more features including a detailed project proposal packet that you can print, fill out and mail back to us at your convenience. We are looking to expand our project area outside of the Humboldt River and always welcome new funding opportunities.

## Project Partner Perspective

*Managing invasive species is one part of a large movement to conserve native ecosystems. The HWCWMA is unique in that it is made up of diverse partners that offer insight into a number of environmental factors.*

*CWMAs allow partners to cross boundaries; invasive plant management can be carried out along ecological, rather than political, boundaries. They allow partners to share and leverage limited resources (volunteers, tools, herbicides, mailing and printing costs, media contacts, etc.) to the benefit of all. They are highly visible, building community awareness and participation as well as focusing attention and presenting a united effort to state and federal legislators. They can also reduce the risk of control efforts to water, crops, threatened and endangered (T&E) species, and other resources by assuring that all partners are using best management practices. CWMAs can provide an early detection and rapid response network by ensuring that all the partners are aware of and are able to identify new invaders and have a response mechanism. Finally, CWMAs help partners secure funding.*

*Thanks to our project partners, the HWCWMA has been able to assist local land-owners control and monitor noxious weeds on their properties. With assistance from our partners, the HWCWMA has been allowed to make significant strides in preventing plant invasions and protecting native plant biodiversity on a scale that no individual organization could achieve alone. Our wonderful sponsors include:*

