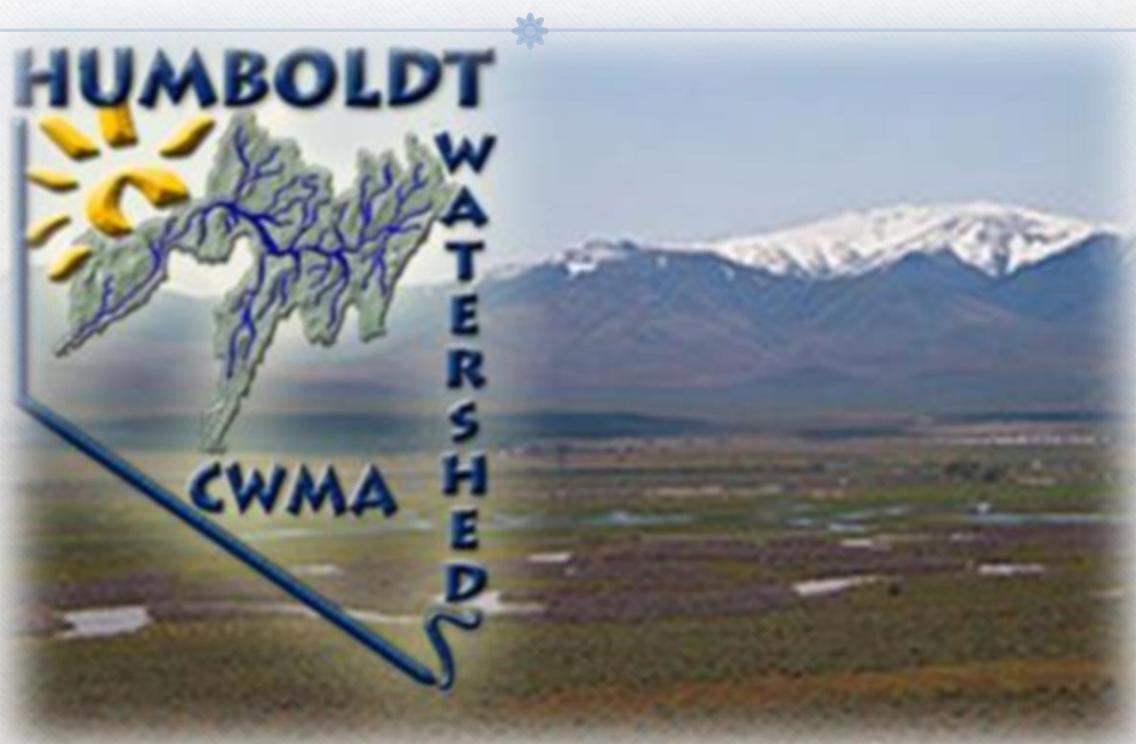


Humboldt Watershed

Cooperative Weed Management Area



October 2015

Introduction

The primary function of the Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Weed Management Area (HWCWMA) is to provide land managers, private land owners, CDs and local noxious weed control groups with assistance in the areas of funding, agency and weed group coordination as well as general communication and cooperation with the public.

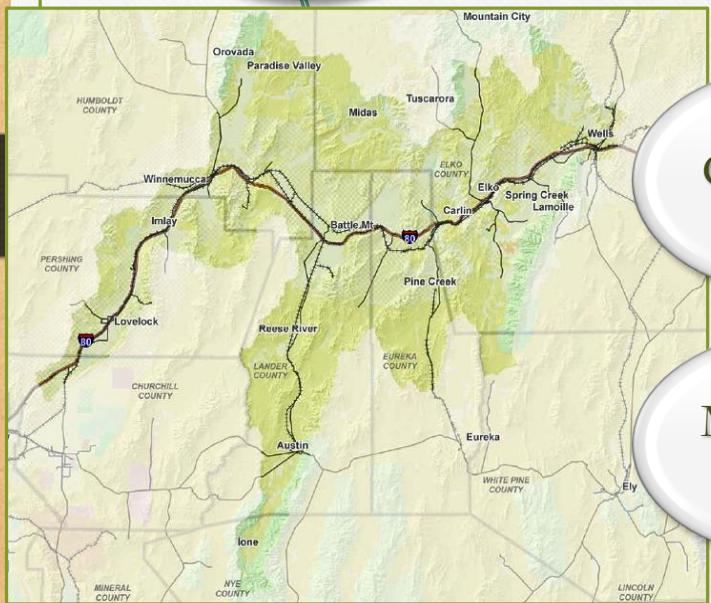
Mission Statement

The HWCWMA is dedicated to the management and control of noxious and invasive weeds within the Humboldt River Watershed area.

Humboldt Watershed CWMA

Many Stakeholders

A very diverse array of landowners, management agencies, municipalities and other entities are involved.



Multiple Governing Bodies

The watershed is substantial, reaching through the Counties of Elko, Eureka, Lander, Pershing and Humboldt.

Millions of Acres

East & west from Wells to the Humboldt Sink – and north & south from Orovada to Ione, the watershed is 16,843 square miles.

Vast Travel Corridors

Interstate 80 and Union Pacific Railroad meander through the center of the watershed.

What is the HWCWMA?

The Humboldt Watershed CWMA was originally founded in 2002.

Membership is open to anyone living or doing business within the watershed, that includes:

- Individuals
- Interested groups
- Corporations
- Businesses
- Government Agencies

Funding for the agency can come in the form of:

- Donations
- Grants (private, federal, state, etc.)
- Fees charged for services provided
- Funding and service agreements

Through 2015, more than 95% of all funding (not including NDEP) has been used to actually treat noxious weeds and our outreach has increased substantially!



Our group is made up of dedicated people from diverse backgrounds representing varied points of view.

HWCWMA is governed by an elected, five member Board of Directors.

Membership is open to all interested stakeholders.



Because our message is universal, we have been able to find some common ground among those concerned with maintaining the healthy areas, and restoring the damaged, weed infested areas. The group meets monthly to discuss projects, budgets, proposals and plan activities. We feel that tackling the weed issue will open doors leading to other restoration activities.

Developing Common Ground

We've talked about it, let's do something

Being a good neighbor is good



Focus on the 80% that folks can agree on, not the 20% that might divide us.

Weeds are bad

Water is good

Mixture of grass, forbs, and native shrubs are good

What has HWCWMA Been Doing?



- Over the last three years we have worked to develop a Humboldt Watershed Weed Management Plan (WMP).
- We would like to have our effort on this plan serve as the foundation for a multi- County, City, Conservation District, and Weed District adopted WMP.
- Our WMP focuses on approaching weed management with Education – Coordination – Containment - Restoration – Prevention.
- We are currently working to get Elko, Lander, Eureka, Humboldt and Pershing Counties to support and sign our WMP.
- Through a consistent watershed-wide approach to weed management we can try to rescue and rehabilitate our Humboldt Watershed.

Public Outreach and Education

HUMBOLDT 1 WATER SHED CWMA

10 MOST WANTED WEEDS IN EJKO COUNTY

JOIN THE NOXIOUS WEED PATROL...
CONTACT
ANDI PORRECA | 775.762.2636
aporteca@humboldtweedfree.org

1 SCOTCH THISTLE
ALIAS: *Gymnium aristatum*
DESCRIPTION: Grows up to 5' tall, spiny wings along stem, covered in woolly grey fuzzy stems, topped with a purple flower covered in woolly grey fuzzy stems, topped with a purple flower.
LAST SEEN: In roadsides, pastures, rangelands and along
CRIME: Rapidly invades rangeland and burns easily.

2 SPOTTED KNAPEWEED
ALIAS: *Centaurea stoebe*
DESCRIPTION: Grows up to 4' tall with gray-green leaves, dotted with white and sometimes covered with small grayish hairs; has white to purple flowers, the base of these flowers are covered in paper-like bracts.
LAST SEEN: Around dry, well-drained soils; it has infested rangelands and waste areas around Elko County.
CRIME: Has a very deep, stout taproot and is very invasive.

3 PERENNIAL PEPPERWEEED
ALIAS: *Potamogeton perfoliatus*
DESCRIPTION: Evergreen plant that grows 5-20' tall with rounded leaves, flowers pink to white.
LAST SEEN: Numerous sightings in Elko County, particularly flood or waste places, wet areas, lakes and reservoirs.
CRIME: Consumes up to 200 gallons of water per plant day and will often choke up ponds and streams.

4 TAMARISK
ALIAS: Tamarix spp.
DESCRIPTION: Evergreen shrub that grows 5-20' tall with rounded leaves, flowers pink to white.
LAST SEEN: Along the Humboldt River banks and in riparian areas.
CRIME: Consumes up to 200 gallons of water per plant day and will often choke up ponds and streams.

5 LEAPY SPURGE
ALIAS: *Euphorbia corollata*
DESCRIPTION: Grows up to 3' tall, stems are thick, succulent, flowers are yellow-green, arranged in numerous small clusters and surrounded by pointed heart-shaped yellow-green bracts. The entire plant contains a milky juice.
LAST SEEN: In numerous pastures, rangelands, field borders and along waterways in Elko County.
CRIME: Can cause severe irritation of the mouth and digestive tract in cattle, which can result in scrotal swell, ruptured testicles and womb deaths as far as 37 km away from the source.

6 MEDUSAHEAD
ALIAS: *Tephroseris integrifolia*
DESCRIPTION: Grows 1-2' tall, hairy, finely divided leaves, flowers yellow to pale yellow.
LAST SEEN: In roadsides, pastures, rangelands and along
CRIME: Aids in soil erosion.

7 HOARY CRESS
ALIAS: *Cardamine hirsuta*
DESCRIPTION: Creeping plant, grows up to 2' tall, leaves are disagreeable to taste and clusters of white flowers with thin stalks are at the end of the petioles.
LAST SEEN: On native shrubland soils throughout Elko County.
CRIME: Highly competitive with other species, once it becomes established, it will outgrow them.

8 RUSSIAN KNAPEWEED
ALIAS: *Achillea millefolium*
DESCRIPTION: Stems are erect and sparsely branched, grows

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DESCRIPTION: Stems are erect and sparsely branched, grows

The “10 Most Wanted Weeds” – how to identify them and their “crimes”.



Public Outreach and Education



WANTED DEAD NOT ALIVE

JOIN THE NOXIOUS WEED PATROL.

Help stop the spread of these desperados.
Report sightings, remove all weed seeds from
clothing, shoes, camping gear and tire treads.

REWARD

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS OF YOUR
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS



PERENNIAL
PEPPERWEED



TAMARISK



HOARY
CRESS



SCOTCH
THISTLE



LEAFY
SPURGE



RUSSIAN
KNAPWEED



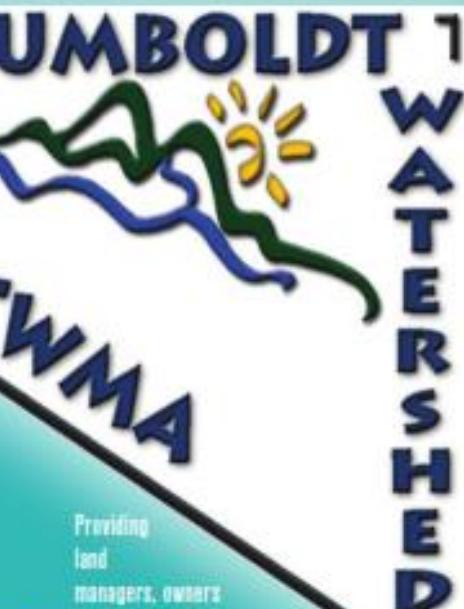
SPOTTED
KNAPWEED



MEDUSAHEAD



POISON-
HEMLOCK



Providing
land
managers,
owners
and local weed-control
groups assistance through
funding, agency and weed-group
coordination, communication and cooperation



CANADA
THISTLE

For more information on Cooperative Weed Management:

CONTACT

ANDI PORRECA | 775.702.2630

Humboldt Watershed CWMA

aporreca@humboldtweedfree.org

Public Outreach and Education



PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

The Humboldt Watershed Cooperative established to address the weed problem and subsequent decline in water quality with the entire 16,100 sq. mi. of the Humboldt River watershed covers most of eastern Nevada. Since 2004 HWCMWA provides land owners and managers with information and assistance of their weed management efforts.

Each month, the HWCMWA will describe a noxious weed it is working on or control from the Humboldt River watershed. These invasive and noxious weeds can threaten your property, without management it's only a matter of time before they are established on your land. The most economical weed to manage is the first one.

This month we would like to introduce you to perennial pepperweed (all white top), one of the most prolific of Nevada's Category C listed noxious weeds. Pepperweed thrives in disturbed ground, along roadsides, power line places, wet areas, ditches, meadows, and croplands, including alfalfa fields. It causes bank destabilization, and degrades nesting habitat for wildlife, especially songbirds. Pepperweed is a flowering desert species that grows 1-3 meters tall. It leaves the deserts and prairies in May and October, grazing seasons. It leaves the deserts and prairies in May and October, grazing seasons. It leaves the deserts and prairies in May and October, grazing seasons.

Perennial pepperweed generally grows 1 to 3 feet tall; many stems issue somewhat woody root crowns with alternate, wavy leaves. Basal leaves are lance

shaped, with serrated edges, and are densely covered with short hairs. The upper leaves are narrow, linear, and pointed at the tip. The flowers are small, white, two-lipped, and arranged in whorls along the stem. The fruit is a small, round, brown seed.



LEAFY SPURGE

Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Management Area! This month we would like to introduce you to another state listed noxious weed, Leafy spurge.

Leafy spurge is native to Europe and is widely distributed throughout S. pan. Since the first recording of Leafy spurge in North America at Newbury, Ma. in 1827, it has spread to all continental regions of the United States as Leafy spurge has been recorded earliest in the Northeast and Great Lakes and in the West, it is found in all insects and diseases in North America. It is in check in its native range.

Leafy spurge is a member of the plant family to emerge each spring moisture and nutrients that otherwise are not available to other plants. Leafy spurge occurs primarily in April & may occur through fall. Leafy spurge plant that grows 1 to 3 feet tall. It has a thick, horizontal rhizome 0.5 inch wide, and 1 inch to 4 inches plant underlies flowers in surround shape. The leaves are opposite, very long, look like the rays of an umbrella upside down). Flowers occur in whorls around the stem. Leafy spurge produces an average of 140 are non-native to oblong, about 1/12 in. long, 1/16 in. wide, and 1/16 in. thick. The seeds can also be capsule up when capsules dry and fall in all directions.

Leafy spurge can grow in soil with many miles in all directions. Leafy spurge can grow in soil with many miles in all directions. Leafy spurge has an extensive root system that is abundant in soil, and it may grow 3 feet deep or more. The root system is substantial that it can withstand flooding. Leafy spurge along roots grow into new shoots which contributes to its persistence and spread.

Leafy spurge is difficult to manage and can recover from almost any control method. Leafy spurge is a persistent and aggressive weed and control measures over time are recommended. Even after that time, it is very important to monitor infestation and adopt a maintenance program.

Cultural control: Vigorous grass growth is an important aspect of leafy

spurge control. Selective herbicide (will not harm grasses)

Somewhat effective if infestation is dense. If mow area and apply to regrowing plants.



CANADA THISTLE

Humboldt Watershed Cooperative Management Area! This month we would like to introduce you to another state listed noxious weed, Canada thistle.

Canada thistle is a perennial plant that is native to Europe, Asia, and southern Europe. It is a common weed in cultivated fields and pastures, and is often a noxious weed in at least 30 states.

Canada thistle usually has a dark purple stem, which is hollow, the length 3 to 5 in and have spiny toothed edges. The leaves are deeply lobed, 0.6 in. long, 0.1 in. wide, and 0.05 in. thick. The spreading body of seed and flower columns is found in pasture lands. However, Canada thistle is a noxious weed.

Canada thistle grows best at moderate temperatures and prefers moist soil. It flowers in late summer. Its flowers are pinkish-purple, 1.5 to 2 in. long, and 0.5 in. wide. The flowers are produced in clusters of 10 to 20 flowers. The flowers are produced in clusters of 10 to 20 flowers. The flowers are produced in clusters of 10 to 20 flowers.

Once the plant becomes mature, it begins to propagate underground roots called tubers. The tubers can last for several years and can spread over 10 feet or more and grow late occur randomly along the roots. The tubers can produce 100,000 seeds each year.

The key principle to Canada thistle control is to identify the plant and to remove it to the root system. Once the plant becomes mature, it begins to propagate underground roots called tubers. The tubers can last for several years and can spread over 10 feet or more and grow late occur randomly along the roots. The tubers can produce 100,000 seeds each year.

Cultural control: Canada thistle is a perennial, so it is not recommended to burn it. Instead, it is better to use a herbicide to control it. It is best to determine fertility needs. Because excess nutrients will cause root nutrient stores. A productive control occurs only management.

Chemical control: Canada thistle is a perennial, so it is not recommended to burn it. Instead, it is better to use a herbicide to control it. It is best to determine fertility needs. Because excess nutrients will cause root nutrient stores. A productive control occurs only management.

The plant can provide habitat to terrestrial and aquatic wildlife in the form of cover, nesting habitat, and food source. The plant can also be used as a soil stabilizer and can help to reduce soil erosion.

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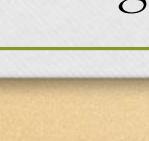
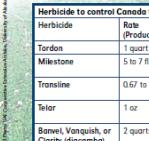
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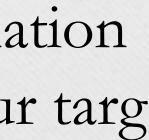
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Seasonal, timely information going out directly to our target audience.

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- Rhoads Ranch Video
- NRRL Stewards of the Rangeland Series
- Online Viewing of each The Progressive Rancher Issue

The Progressive Rancher

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2013 33

Public Outreach and Education

HUMBOLDT CWMA

WITH YOU

GOT WEEDS?

Inside this issue:

- Maxious Weeds
- HWCWMA Contacts
- Weeds To Watch
- Board of Directors
- Mission Statement
- Project Partners

www.humboldtweedfree.org

HWCWMA Issue 5

HUMBOLDT WATERSHED CWMA

Many cheat grass can form out-compete plants. Identify these in your area!

Small photo of the St. Humboldt Wood. We 'now' have proposals for the organization and 2007 through 2011.

P.O. Box 570
Elko, NV 89002
Phone: (775) 782-2556

We're on the web!
www.humboldtweedfree.org

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Spring/Summer 2015

Page 4

Humboldt Watershed CWMA's Mission

The HWCWMA was developed to address the invasive weed problem and subsequent decline in water quality within the entire 15,442 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 areas 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 (<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.

The Annual Elko County Weed Extravaganza

California Trail Concor on April 28–30, 2015. Please contact Koni McAdoo, UNR Cooperative Extension at 775-735-7291, email: mcadook@unr.edu or visit our website, www.humboldtweedfree.org, for more details.

Project Partner Perspective

Managing invasive species is one part in a larger mission to increase native ecosystems. One reason why the HWCWMA is made up of diverse partners that offer insight in a number of environmental factors.

CWMA's other partners do weed boundaries, invasive plant management and removal (including ecological, rather than physical) boundaries. They also partner to share and leverage limited resources (volunteers, tools, herbicides, mulching and seedling seeds, educational materials, 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 weed effects to water, ways, fish,

and endangered (TE) species, and other resources by ensuring that all partners are using best management practices. CWMA's partners provide early detection and rapid response actions by ensuring that all the partners are aware of, and are able to identify new invaders and have a response mechanism ready. CWMA helps partners secure funding.

Thanks to our project partners, the HWCWMA has been able to assist local landowners 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



UMBOLDT WATERSHED

Page 2

TO HELP WEED

WEEDS?

Control of
tough **it poses**
biological risk to
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to have more
in the mag-
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1 Your land

Control of
critical

Manages
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Website

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are open to expanding our project area throughout the Humboldt River Basin and always welcome new funding opportunities. We also help stakeholders with stream bank restoration and seeding projects. Have noxious weeds caused erosion issues on your land? We may be able to help.

Cost Share Program

- 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.
- If you have known noxious weeds on your property that you'd like assistance with, please visit www.humboldtweedfree.org
 - Our proposal packet and information for these programs can be downloaded from our website.



On The Ground Efforts

Primarily, our 2011-15 projects have focused on noxious weed management and restoring vegetation in riparian areas.

Willow stakes were planted along the Humboldt River banks in order to help control erosion and keep sediment from moving down the river.

Additionally, we have partnered with several entities to detect and manage newly discovered medusahead and other Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) infestations.

Some current project partners include USFWS, NDA, NDOW, NDF, BLM, USFS, City of Elko, UPRR and numerous private stakeholders.



HWCWMA Project Map: 2011-2015



- From 2011 to 2015 HWCWMA has assisted in the management of almost 11,954 acres of noxious weed infestations.
- Mapped areas also include data from the BLM.
- The projects shown here are those that HWCWMA has provided cost share, labor or some other form of assistance to stakeholders on. Our efforts have been very successful in recent years, with sixteen projects funded within the watershed between 2011 and 2015. We will see a glimpse of these cost-shared projects in the next few slides.

Petan Ranch Treatment Project

The total acreage of the medusahead infestation on the Lime Fire at the Petan Ranch is approximately 12 acres, but total infestation is well over 100 acres.

According to the ranchers in the area, there was a semi-truck turn over in the area that apparently was loaded with infested hay which allowed the medusahead to initially take over that area around 5 years ago. The Petan Ranch medusahead project was critical because the 2012 Lime Fire created an ecosystem that makes open and denuded areas prime for medusahead.

In 2013, infestation mapping with GPS units and hand-spraying treatment for the Petan Ranch medusahead infestation began in the early summer and continued until August. Plateau was used for initial control and areas treated included both BLM land as well as some of Petan Ranch's private property.

This very invasive noxious weed often dominates disturbed areas on soils with high moisture-holding capacities and slow percolation rates and because of this, most areas with Medusahead infestations usually take several years of treatment to gain control.

The HWCWMA will continue to work with the BLM and the Petan Ranch to control and monitor the medusahead on their property. This could take several years to accomplish, but should be achievable with future funding assistance from NDA and support from the BLM and Petan Ranch landowners.

Petan Ranch

Initially the stakeholder was reluctant to commit, however continued dialog has lead to a partnership that is dedicated to gaining control of the medusahead infestation.



Harrison Pass Project

Approximately 25 acres of thatch were bagged by an NDF crew and hauled to the dump. Removing that layer of dead plants allows herbicide better access to the growing plants hiding within the medusahead thatch.



An ongoing collaborative effort between the US Forest Service, HWCWMA, & private property owners.

Heguy Ranch



Several years of aerial herbicide applications have allowed the stakeholder to regain control on these native meadow areas.

Squaw Valley Creek

A recent streambank stabilization project on private property.



Volunteer Work-Day at Anchor-S Ranch

Approximately 450 willows were harvested on site by NDF staff and agency folks and then planted in the streambanks by volunteers to help slow down erosion.



Immediate Goals

HWCWMA will continue to reach out to landowners and managers where noxious weeds are known to be an issue.

- Fill in the “gaps” within the Watershed and along tributaries.
- Showcase successful weed abatement projects and watershed response.
- Regularly attend local Conservation District and stewardship group meetings.
- Recruit new stakeholders interested in improving their land and the watershed.
- Regularly update the HWCWMA website and distribute our newsletter.
- Continue to work with Union Pacific Railroad mapping the corridor from Wells to Lovelock creating an inventory of the noxious weeds present.
- Place boot-scrappers and informational kiosks at project sites to inform the public about noxious weeds and their spread.
- Conduct work-days with volunteers participating in water quality improvement projects along the Humboldt River.
- Follow progress of river stabilization projects in other areas to determine the practices that may benefit the Humboldt Watershed.





How do we find
a way to all
work together?

We Have a
Huge
Watershed

And Low
Participation

Diverse
Partners

Track Plans &
Accomplishments

Develop a
Mechanism

Develop an
Implementation
Strategy

Develop
Common Ground

Bring Diverse
Groups Together



It's important to have a plan showing what the group will be doing

- Helps match funding sources with projects
- Helps get individuals with expertise involved with projects
- Helps motivate others to get involved
- Helps agencies and NGOs to budget time and resources

It's important to have a record of what has been accomplished

- Helps show progress
- Helps motivate others to get involved
- Helps leverage funding sources
- Helps justify the existence of the group
- Helps the group and individuals publicize their efforts

**In the end if we all have a clear understanding of what we're doing,
we can make it simpler to coordinate efforts and meet our goals.**

We Are on the Web!

The Humboldt Watershed CWMA has developed a website to serve as a clearinghouse for information on weeds in the Humboldt Watershed.

Our website (<http://www.humboldtweedfree.org>) contains fact sheets for state listed noxious weeds in Nevada, Board of Director's information and funding partner's links.

If you have any questions about the Humboldt Watershed CWMA, please feel free to contact Andi Porreca, HWCWMA Coordinator at (775) 762-2636 or email me at aporreca@humboldtweedfree.org. Or you may speak with Rhonda Heguy, HWCWMA President at (775) 738-3085, email: hwcwma@gmail.com.

A wide-angle photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there's a field of dry, golden-brown grass. A simple wire fence with wooden posts runs across the middle ground. Beyond the fence, the land slopes gently upwards towards a range of mountains under a clear blue sky. The sun is positioned in the upper right corner, casting a bright glow and creating a lens flare effect.

Thank You!