



# STAFF REPORT

**Report To:** Board of Supervisors

**Meeting Date:** September 6, 2018

**Staff Contact:** Marena Disbro, Carson City Weed Coalition Coordinator

**Agenda Title:** Presentation Only: From the Carson City Weed Coalition to provide an update to the Board of Supervisors and the public regarding the Coalition's efforts. (Marena Disbro, [mdisbro@carson.org](mailto:mdisbro@carson.org))

**Staff Summary:** Led by Carson City, the Carson City Weed Coalition (CCWC) includes representatives for private landowners and various public land management agencies. The overall goal of the CCWC is to provide outreach and education to the public, as well as assistance with weed management efforts throughout the City. The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update to the Board of Supervisors and the public regarding the CCWC and these efforts.

**Agenda Action:** Other/Presentation

**Time Requested:** 15 minutes

## **Proposed Motion**

Presentation only. No formal action is needed.

## **Board's Strategic Goal**

Quality of Life

## **Previous Action**

N/A

## **Background/Issues & Analysis**

In January of 2018, Mr. Daniel Anderson left the position of Carson City Weed Coalition Coordinator. The position was refilled by Ms. Marena Disbro on March 1, 2018. Marena is an enthusiastic University of Nevada, Reno graduate who brings to the program her extensive botanical experience and a background in scientific research and vegetation monitoring.

The 2018 treatment season was spent increasing noxious weed monitoring efforts, enhancing public awareness of noxious and invasive weeds through outreach and educational events, as well as the continued treatment of noxious weeds throughout the City. In addition, this fall the Coalition will conduct an experiment targeting the noxious weed Canada thistle using a rust fungus known as *Puccinia punctiformis*. This method of control will contribute to the Coalition's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy in which multiple methods of control are used to treat noxious weeds for best results.

Currently, the Carson City Weed Coalition Coordinator position is primarily funded through an annual grant of \$15,000 awarded by the Carson Water Subconservancy District. Additionally, the Carson City Open Space Division also budgets \$5,000 towards the position so that the CWSD funds can be spent on noxious weed abatement projects. Lastly, the Coalition has been awarded additional grant funding totaling \$16,885 through several state and federal agencies, including the Nevada Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Bureau of Land Management.

**Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation**

NRS 555

CCMC Chapters 3, 8 & 18

**Financial Information**

Is there a fiscal impact?  Yes  No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted?  Yes  No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact: N/A

**Alternatives**

N/A

**Board Action Taken:**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Aye/Nay

\_\_\_\_\_

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(Vote Recorded By)

# Carson City Weed Coalition



**MARENNA DISBRO**  
**CARSON CITY WEED COALITION COORDINATOR**

# Topics:



- Why is noxious weed control important?
- 2018 treatments
- 2018 outreach
- Ongoing projects



# Why is noxious weed control important?

Noxious weeds result in:

- Less profit for agriculture industries
- Reductions in native habitat
- Biodiversity of native vegetation loss
- Alterations of hydrological conditions
- Increased fire frequency/intensity



# 2018 Treatments

- Ambrose Carson River Natural Area
- Carson City Fairgrounds
- East Silver Saddle Ranch
- Fulstone Wetlands
- Horsecreek Ranch
- JohnD Winters Centennial Park
- Linear Ditch Trail
- Mexican Dam Open Space
- Morgan Mill Preserve Open Space
- Old Buzzy's Ranch
- Riverview Park
- Vidler – donated property

**CCWC has surveyed and implemented treatment on nearly 750 acres**



# 2018 Outreach



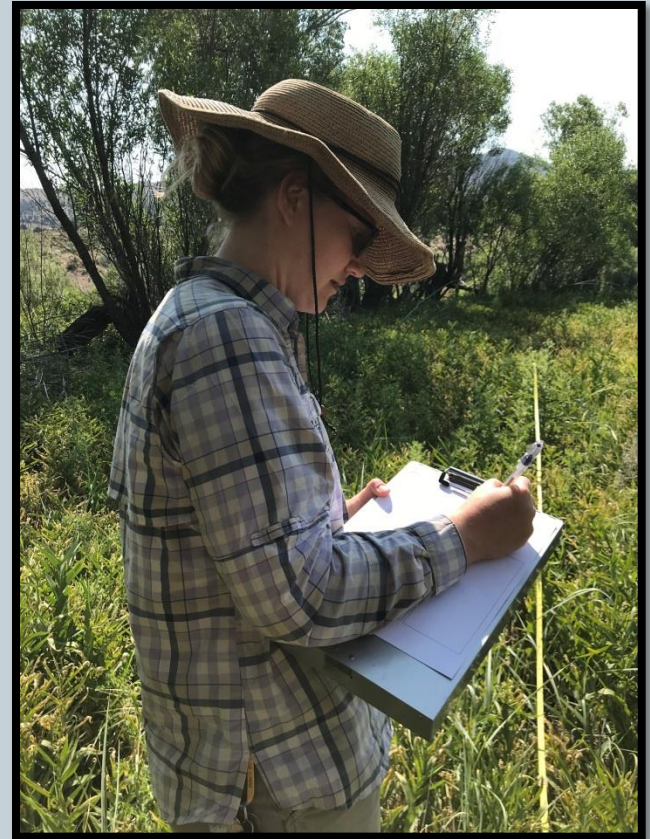
- Carson High School lesson
- Farm Days
- Carson River Workday
- Two guided hikes
- Washoe Tribe Earth Day
- Arbor Day
- Library display
- Newspaper article
- Two community thistle digs
- Community Weeds Workshop
- Bring Your Own Noxious Weeds event
- Safety Day
- House calls



# Ongoing Projects



- Fall treatments
- Restoration of treated sites
- Continued surveying efforts
- Outreach to landowners
- Noxious weed booklet for children
- Noxious weed management plan
- Community workshops
- Grant applications
- Continued evaluation of establishing a weed district
- Experimental treatments





# Biological Control Experiment



- Targeting Canada thistle with a rust fungus called *Puccinia punctiformis*



# Collaboration is key



- Treating invasive and noxious weeds is a group effort!



# Questions?



Thank you!



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