

Mesa County Weed Control Program 2013

Melissa Werkmeister
970 255-7121



Rare Weeds – Yellow starthistle

- Scout 2 days each site (Coon Creek and Glade Park): June, July and September
- FOUND: Approx. 12 plants in late Sept. (Coon Cr.)



Yellow Star Thistle Blitz Coon Creek



Purple loosestrife (PLS)

- Approx. 40 days, mid-June – mid-September
- Approx. 111 properties
- Properties visited 1-3 times each



PLS I & 25 Road Blitz

Purple Valley Blitz with Montrose, Garfield and Grand
County (UT) in June (1 day)



PLS I & 25 RD Blitz

(Garfield County and Mesa County)



PLS I & 25 RD Blitz

(Grand County, Utah truck and crew)



Purple loosestrife

Purple Pit (assisted COP&W) clip, bag and spray on 1 Blitz day (August at full bloom to find)

- Photo of Cecily Mui, CDA



Colorado River: 8 days

- Scout and control Colorado River properties with Purple loosestrife and Chinese clematis (Palisade to Loma)
- Control PLS with BLM and Grand County Utah from Loma to Westwater on PLS.
- Assisted Utah from Westwater to Cisco; Cisco to Fish Ford and Dewey Bridge;
- Assistance from Master Gardeners and Tamarisk Coalition Volunteers

Chinese clematis Palisade to Corn Lake



Chinese clematis

Palisade to Corn Lake



Colorado River PLS: Redlands Pkwy to Fruita (11 miles)



Colorado River PLS : Fruita to Loma (4 miles)



Colorado River PLS: Loma to Westwater (2 days)



Colorado River PLS: Loma to Westwater (25 miles)



Colorado River PLS: Loma to Westwater



PLS Progress

• Category	No.Plants	2008	2010	2012	2013
• 1	0	49	62	49	55
• 2	1-10	22	26	17	29
• 3	11-50	21	16	17	20
• 4	51-100	3	6	8	3
• 5	101-500	5	4	3	3
• 6	501-1000	3	1	2	1
• 7	1001-2000	0	3	0	0
• 8	2000+	0	0	0	0
• Total Sites		78	115	96	111

Scout, Map and Control (Weed Re-checks)

- List A & B Weed Rechecks 150 + sites, at least one visit each for:
- Yellow toadflax
- Dalmatian toadflax
- Spotted knapweed
- Diffuse knapweed
- Common tansy



Scout, Map and Control (Weed Re-checks)

- Leafy spurge
- Chinese clematis
- Absinth wormwood
- Perennial pepperweed
- Syrian Bean caper



Scout, Map and Control (Weed Re-checks)

- Various thistles
- Russian knapweed
- Whitetop/ Hoary cress
- Also: Oxeye daisy, scentless chamomile, Myrtle and Cypress spurge, Giant reed grass, Japanese knotweed, various "Watch" species, etc.



**Goal for 2014:
Reduce to sites to approx. 100
for rare weed rechecks**



Weed Control

- County owned properties Scouting for weeds/ follow up treatment at Road & Bridge shops at:
 - Gateway
 - Glade Park
 - Fruita
 - Mesa

Mapping

- Mapped (GPS) approx. 1/5 of the county roads
- Mapped most rare weed and PLS re-checks.
- Incorporate into the new 2015 Road Contract.

Road Contract

- Administered contract, checked work, documentation and correspondence: at least 6 days ride-along between April and September.

Grants

- CDA (20K), P4C (\$1500):
- Apply (1 week)
- Administer (record keeping)
- Prepare final report

Educational Programs

- Master Gardeners (March 7)
- General public (March 19 and May 14)
- County Fair Pulling for Colorado with Tamarisk Coalition (July 17-19)
- Master Gardeners (March 7)
- Powderhorn/Mesa – Oct 29)
- Orchard Mesa 2- June/July; and November 19

Enforcement

- Scouting properties by complaint;
- Private landowners by request;
- Notification;
- Enforcement; and
- Follow-up



MC Planning Dept.

- Write reports for planners/ developers;
- Document scouting on GIS;
- Review weed plans submitted through Planning/ SIRE system
- NPDES reporting

Developments – Oil & Gas and Others

- Review permit requests;
- Conduct field visits for compliance



Blitzes – Assist in Weed Control/ Scouting

- Grand County, UT
PLS on CO River
- Ouray County –
Meadow knapweed
- BLM- Whitetop
Spotted Knapweed
- USFS Powderhorn
Hightower Road
- COP&W Purple Pit



Municipalities/ Coordination

- Grand Junction
- Fruita
- Palisade
- Colbran
- DeBeque
- ½ day site visits
- SBC/ PP
- DR, CS, MS, JK,
- Training
- Training