

**Carson City
Agenda Report**

Date Submitted: April 22, 2014

Agenda Date Requested: May 1, 2014

Time Requested: 10 Minutes

To: Mayor and Supervisors

From: Marena Works, Interim City Manager

Subject Title: Presentation Only: Presentation and discussion regarding general Carson area noxious weed concerns, current local efforts on noxious weed control, and the state statutes that govern regulatory actions regarding noxious weed control.

Staff Summary: In recent years the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) Noxious Weed Program has undergone various personnel changes. In addition the state has received an increase in pressure from various stakeholders to increase noxious weed control regulatory activity throughout state. For these reasons, the NDA Noxious Weed Program would like to make this presentation to the Carson City Board of Supervisors. The overall objective of this presentation is to revive state and county/city partnerships and communication regarding noxious weed control in this area and to begin to explore various options for both the state and county/city to improve noxious weed control and regulatory actions in the future.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)

Resolution

Ordinance

Formal Action/Motion

Other (Specify) Discussion Only

Does this action require a Business Impact Statement: () Yes (X) No

Recommended Board Action: No action, discussion only.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: N/A

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Explanation of Impact: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Alternatives: N/A

Supporting Material: Copy of PowerPoint presentation.

Prepared By: Janet Busse, Office Supervisor

Reviewed By: Marenas Works Date: 4/22/14
(Interim City Manager)


(District Attorney) Date: 4/22/14

Nancy Paulson Date: 4/22/14
(Finance Director)

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____ 1) _____ Aye/Nay
2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



Nevada Department of Agriculture



NOXIOUS WEEDS IN CARSON

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What We Will Cover...

- Noxious Weed Concerns in your county
- Local Partners and Efforts on Noxious Weeds in Carson
- Noxious Weed Statutes and County Responsibilities
- Future Directions

NOXIOUS WEED CONCERNS IN YOUR COUNTY

- Near large infestations of Medusahead
 - Medusahead has been listed as a priority weed species for the state and is a significant fuel for wildfires.



NOXIOUS WEED CONCERNS IN YOUR COUNTY

- Large infestations of perennial pepperweed, hoary cress and russian knapweed.



NOXIOUS WEED CONCERNS IN YOUR COUNTY

- Yellow starthistle infestations present



- Large infestations found near transport vectors (roads, rivers, streams) in Carson area.
 - Lack of overall weeds specific funding and personnel to address county properties and vector areas.

NOXIOUS WEED IMPACTS

- Overall health of Carson River severely degraded from large infestations.
- Potential decrease in overall water quality and quantity.
- Loss of wildlife habitat and decrease in value of recreation areas.
- Decrease in overall property values
- Increase in fire hazards from infestations
- Decrease in desired vegetation and biodiversity of surrounding ecosystems

LOCAL NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL PARTNERS & EFFORTS IN CARSON

Carson City Weed Coalition
Carson Water Subconservancy District
Carson River Coalition
Carson UNCE
Carson City Open Space
Carson City Public Works
Carson City Code Enforcement

** various state and federal partners*

MORE WELCOME AND NEEDED!

Even with current efforts/partners, in recent years, there has been a large increase of pressure from stakeholders, to the state and counties, to increase enforcement of noxious weed statutes.

** Related to CCMC 808 & 809*

NOXIOUS WEED STATUTES (NRS 555)

NOXIOUS WEEDS ARE PROHIBITED TO POSSESS, GROW, OR TRANSPORT

- **NRS 555.150** - Every landowner or occupier, whether private, city, county, or federal shall control all noxious weeds.
- **NRS 555.160** - The State Quarantine Officer may serve notice upon the owner or occupant to control noxious weeds on their property.
 - In this notice the NDA Noxious Weed Program specifies which noxious weeds are present, effective control measures, and required time range for controls to be completed to gain compliance with statutes

COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES PER NOXIOUS WEED STATUTES (NRS 555)

County participation is necessary to perform weed abatements if landowner fails to comply.

- **NRS 555.170** - Should the owner/occupant fail to comply, the State Quarantine Officer may notify the *board of county commissioners* for the county in which the property is situated.
 - The county board of commissioners shall proceed to have weeds controlled in accordance with the initial notice.
- **NRS 555.180** - Control costs not paid by the owner shall be a lien against the property and shall be collected as provided by the law

What can we do to help solve noxious weed problems in Carson?

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

1. Fund the current local weeds efforts with a line item specific to weeds in Carson.
 - ❑ Necessary to truly address significant weed problems in this area. Funding will add value to resources that are already in place and increase weed management capacity for this area.
2. Consider exploring options for an increase in weeds personnel within county structure and in code enforcement office.

What can we do to help solve noxious weed problems in Carson?

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

3. Review and consider acceptance of NDA Cost Share Abatement Program and MOU for future weed abatements in Carson.
 - ❑ Created to allow state funds to be used to perform necessary abatements
 - ❑ Already accepted and used by Douglas County
4. Maintain regular communication regarding noxious weeds between the state, county, and local levels.

QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU!