

Noxious Weed Management Plan  
For the Romens Subdivison

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## **Introduction**

In 1996, the Colorado Noxious Weed Act was passed to control noxious weeds. The goal of this act is to contain, suppress or eradicate an infestation of species of plants that have been determined to be aggressive invaders; poisonous to livestock; a carrier of detrimental insects, diseases or parasites and/or detrimental to the existing ecosystem.

## **Description of property:**

The area addressed in this report is described by the El Paso County Assessor's Page within Parcel No. 41000-00- 075. Specifically this is a 40-acre lot bordered by Hopper Road to the North, Bradshaw Road to the East, Cleese Ct to the South, and the Hybar subdivision to the West. The property is being subdivided into 7 lots of approximately 5 acres each to form the Romens Subdivision.

## **Survey/Inventory**

On September 2, 2023, during a physical inspection of the property, the following known noxious weeds were identified: Musk Thistle (B), Diffuse Knapweed (B) and Common Mullein (C). All were scattered throughout the property and not in large quantity in any specific area.

## **Priorities and Management Goals**

Musk Thistle and Diffuse Knapweed are prioritized as List B species and Common Mullein is List C. For the purposes of this report, musk thistle and knapweed will be addressed together as their management falls under the same category.

Goals for List B species are to eradicate, contain or suppress.

The goal for List C species is control as these species are already known to be widespread and well-established throughout the state of Colorado.

## **Control Methods**

Known methods for managing B list noxious include:

1. Mechanical: mowing, tilling, clipping off seed heads of the plant(s)
  - a. Musk thistle: sever the root below the soil surface prior to plant flowering
  - b. Diffuse Knapweed: sever the taproot below ground prior to flowering
  - c. Mowing at full bloom is effective for both musk thistle and diffuse knapweed; must make sure to dispose of flowers as seed can develop on cut plants, bag and dispose of plant

2. Chemical: pesticides-- must read, understand and follow label instructions
  - a. Aminopyralid is effective on Musk Thistle and and Diffuse Knapweed. Apply in spring (rosette-early bolting stages) or in fall to rosettes.

Known methods for managing C-List Common Mullein include:

1. Mechanical: plant can easily be pulled from the ground; pull prior to flowering, bag and dispose of plant.
2. Chemical: pesticides--must read, understand and follow label instructions

### **Timeline**

Ongoing assessment of noxious weeds will be addressed during the development process. HOA guidelines are being developed to clarify the responsibility of each future land owner to assess noxious weeds according to the existing best practice management practices for each species prior to beginning excavation and/or construction.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

This noxious weed plan for the Romens Subdivision was developed based on the El Paso County Noxious Weeds and Control Methods from the El Paso County Community Services Department, Environmental Services Division.