MT CRESTED BUTTE NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Adopted by the Mt Crested Butte Town Council

Adopted

May 5, 2015

Undesirable Plant Management and Enforcement

Ordinance No. 3 Series 2008

Prepared by Community Development Department Town of Mt Crested Butte

MT CRESTED BUTTE NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

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SECTION I INTRODUCTION

"A flower falls, even though we love it; and a weed grows, even though we don't love it."

Dogen Zenji

1.01 **Mission Statement**

The Town of Mt. Crested Butte is in the northern end of the Gunnison Valley which is designated "The Wildflower Capital of Colorado". The health of our environment is a high priority for residents of Mt Crested Butte. The health and productivity of natural plant communities and agricultural lands is threatened by the introduction of numerous invasive incongruous noxious plants. Without an effective integrated weed management plan these threatening plants will continue to infest and degrade our lands that we all value so highly.

Rapid expansion of noxious weeds is an obstacle to maintaining healthy ecosystems and restoring disturbed native plant communities and habitats. Because noxious weeds tend to be highly invasive and harmful to native vegetation, they can quickly dominate many sites and often cause permanent damage to plant communities. Estimates indicate that 70 million acres of private, state, and federal land are infested with noxious weeds in just eleven western states. This is occurring in both disturbed and relatively undisturbed areas.

The intent of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act and the goal of Town of Mt Crested Butte are to curb the degradation of our valued environment by implementing an Integrated Weed Management Plan to stop the spread of noxious weeds. Through developing partnerships at all levels – local, regional, and national – we hope that the likelihood of reaching our weed management goals will be high. The challenge for all involved is to develop management systems which will support and provide direction for preventing the spread of weeds before the situation becomes even more serious and economically unachievable.

1.02 Purpose of the Plan:

The purpose of the Plan is to provide guidelines for managing state and locally designated noxious weeds which represent a threat to the continued economic, environmental and agricultural value of lands in Mt Crested Butte. This plan provides for the implementation of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act by detailing integrated management options for designated noxious weeds. Options include education, preventive measures, good stewardship, and control and eradication techniques. The intent is to incorporate those options that are the least environmentally damaging and are practical, timely, and economically feasible. Further, it is the responsibility of all landowners to use integrated methods to manage noxious weeds, and the responsibility of local governing bodies to assure that these plants are in fact managed on public and private lands.

1.03 Enactment Authority:

The Colorado Weed Management Act (C.R.S. 35-5.5-101, et. seq.) was signed into state law in 1990 and amended in 1996. Now known as the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, it states that noxious weeds pose a threat to the natural resources of Colorado. The Act mandates that the governing body of each municipality in the state shall adopt a weed management plan for all lands within their boundaries. The

county and municipalities may cooperate, through an intergovernmental agreement, for the powers and authorities of the Act. In accordance with the Act, Mt Crested Butte has appointed a local Weed Advisory Board, whose power and duties are as follows:

1. To develop a Weed Management Plan for the integrated management of designated noxious weeds;

2. To declare noxious weeds and any state noxious weeds designated by rule to be subject to integrated management;

3. To recommend to the Mt Crested Butte Town Council that identified landowners be required to submit an integrated weed management plan for managing designated noxious weeds on their properties;

4. To provide information to the property owners of Mt Crested Butte to assist them in identifying and managing noxious weed on their property ;

5. To provide assistance, in the way of information, to property owners on how to develop a management plan for their property

6. Monitor noxious weed levels on private and public property and notify owners who are not in compliance with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act

1.04 Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed List:

The State of Colorado has three noxious weed lists designated by rule of the Colorado Department of Agriculture. The State has designated 68 plants as State Noxious Weeds. This list is available through the State of Colorado Department of Agriculture. These weeds comprise the "A" List. Ten of the sixty-eight plants have been prioritized by the State as being the most widespread and causing the greatest economic impact. These plants are the "B" list. The third or "C" list contains fifteen plants that are not widespread in Colorado; however local advisory boards are encouraged to contain and eradicate these species before they significantly impact the economic and environmental values of the State.

An extensive survey of weed managers throughout Colorado determined the comprehensive "A" list. This list, created by administrative rule, allows each local governing board to specify which plants cause serious local impacts. The local governing board may create a designated noxious weed list, containing all or portions of the State's list depending upon the local situation and priorities. Most jurisdictions would not be able to dedicate the resources to manage all of the plants on the comprehensive list; so many local governing boards adopt a list of plants most threatening to their area.

In addition to the list of weeds designated by the State of Colorado, the Gunnison Basin District Advisory Board and the Mt Crested Butte Advisory Board have specified certain plants as noxious weeds in our area. These are incongruous plants that present a threat to the well-being of land within the Gunnison

Basin District and the Town of Mt Crested Butte. These noxious weeds are aggressive, fast spreading, and capable of displacing native plant species.

The Mt Crested Butte Designated Noxious Weed List includes the following:

Absinthe Wormwood (Artemisia absinthium)	Black Henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
Canada Thistle (Cirsium arvense)	Common Tansy (Tanacetum vulgare)
Dalmatian Toadflax (Linaria dalmatica)	Dame's Rocket (Hesperis matronalis)
Diffuse Knapweed (Centaurea diffusa)	Hoary Cress (Cardaria draba)
Houndstongue (Cynoglossum officinale)	Leafy Spurge (Euphorbia Esula)
Musk Thistle (Carduus nutans)	Orange Hawkweed (Hieracium aurantiacum)
Oxeye Daisy (Leucanthemum vulgare)	Plumeless Thistle (Carduus acanthoides)
Russian knapweed (Acroptilon repens)	Scentless Chamomile (Matricaria perforata)
Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea maculosa)	Scotch Thistle (Onopordum acanthium)
Yellow Sweet Clover (Melilotus officinalis)	Yellow Toadflax (Linaria Vulgaris)

The Mt Crested Butte Weed Advisory Board has also compiled a Noxious Weed Watch list. These weeds are currently not seen as a problem in Mt Crested Butte but they could be in the future. They may be added to the Town's Noxious Weed list if they become a problem. Citizens shall be encouraged to eradicate these weeds but there will be no penalty if they do not.

The Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed Watch List Includes the following:

Prickly Lettuce (Lactuca serriola)
Wintercress (Barbarea vulgaris)
Western Salsify (Tragopogan dubius)

SECTION II

WEED IDENTIFICATION

Mt Crested Butte's 21 NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds threaten many of the reasons we live, work, and recreate in Mt Crested Butte. The Town of Mt Crested Butte encourages you to become more knowledgeable about noxious weeds. Our local natural mountain heritage depends on your involvement.

2.01 Description of Designated Noxious Weeds:

Absinthe Wormwood (Artemisia absinthium)

Absinthe Wormwood is native to Eurasia, the Middle East, and North Africa. It is a long lived perennial that possesses a strong sage odor and bitter taste. Plants grow 2 to 4 feet in height and are prolific seed producers. Plants are woody at the base and regrow from the soil level each spring. The stems are numerous and are covered with fine, gray hairs, while the leaves are a blue-olive green, alternate and highly divided. Flowers are small, yellowish and arranged in large, spike like panicles. Habitats include disturbed areas, moist soils, and are also shade tolerant.

Black Henbane (Hyoscyamus niger)

Black Henbane was introduced from Europe as an ornamental and medicinal herb. It is mostly found on the western slope. The plant blooms June through September and a mature plant reaches 1 to 3 feet in height. Its foliage is accompanied with a foul odor. Leaves are shallowly lobed to coarsely toothed with sticky hairs. The outer part of the flower is brownish yellow with a purple center and veins. Black Henbane is poisonous to humans and livestock it ingested.

Canada Thistle (Cirsium arvense)

Canada thistle is a member of the Aster family and was introduced from Europe. It is a creeping perennial, which reproduces by seeds and fleshy, horizontal roots. The erect stem is hollow, smooth and slightly hairy, 1 to 5 feet tall, simple, and branched at the top. The flower color is primarily lavender, pink, or purple. Canada thistle emerges in May in most parts of our area. It is one of the most widespread and economically damaging noxious weeds in Colorado. Infestations are found in cultivated fields, riparian areas, pastures, rangeland, forests, lawns and gardens, roadsides, and in waste areas. Because of its seeding habits, vigorous growth, and extensive underground root system, control and eradication are difficult.

Common Tansy (Tanacetum vulgare)

Common Tansy is native to Eurasia. It is an herbaceous plan, 3'tall, up to 5' in shaded areas, and erect. A single stem branches extensively to the top into shore stems forming a flat-topped cluster of numerous button-like flower heads. The flowers are bright yellow daisy-like discs up to .5" wide. It blooms from July through October. Tansy is distasteful and even toxic to some grazing animals.

Dalmatian Toadflax (Linaria genistifolia)

Dalmatian toadflax is a member of the Figwort family. It was introduced as an ornamental from Europe, and is common in Glenwood Springs. It is a creeping perennial with stems from 2 to 4 feet tall. The flowers are snapdragon-shaped, bright yellow, with orange centers; the leaves are waxy and heart-shaped. Dalmatian toadflax is especially well adapted to arid sites and can spread rapidly once established. Because of its deep, extensive root system and heavy seed production, this plant is difficult to manage.

Dame's Rocket

Dame's rocket is a member of the Mustard Family. It is a native of Eurasia and is a biennial or short lived perennial forb. The flowers are white to purple with four petals and are clustered in loose terminal stalks. Flowers appear from May to August and the plant can produce seeds and flowers on any flower cluster at the same time. It is most often found in gardens, partly shaded woodlands, ditches, roadsides, pastures, rangelands, thickets, open woods, disturbed sites, and other areas that have moist well drained soils and full sun to light shade.

Diffuse Knapweed (Centaurea diffusa)

Diffuse knapweed is a member of the Aster family. Diffuse knapweed was introduced from Europe and is a biennial or short-lived perennial forb, which reproduces only by seed. The plant usually produces a single main multi-branched stem that is 1 ½ to 2 feet tall. The flower is white or pink with bracts.

Hoary Cress (Cardaria draba)

Hoary cress, also known as whitetop, is a member of the Mustard family, and was probably introduced from Europe in alfalfa seed. It is a creeping perennial, which reproduces by seed and creeping roots. The extensive root system spreads horizontally and vertically with frequent shoots arising from the rootstock. It grows erect from 10 to 18 inches high and has a gray-white colored leaf. The flowers are white and numerous in compact flat-topped clusters which give the plant its name. Hoary cress is one of the earliest perennial weeds to emerge in the spring, producing flowers in May or June. It grows in waste places, cultivated fields, and pastures, and is capable of vigorous growth. Hoary Cress is prevalent in Mt Crested Butte.

Houndstongue (Cynoglossum officinale)

Houndstongue is a toxic biennial plant introduced from Europe, likely as a contaminant in cereal seed. Houndstongue is rough in texture and produces flowers in long, coiled stalks. In addition to poisoning animals that ingest it, houndstongue also produces prolific amounts of irritating bur-like seeds that cling to animals and clothing like Velcro. It is a biennial plant that can grow up to 4 feet tall. The plant has several dull reddish-purple flower clusters that are narrow and slightly coiled. The entire plant is covered with long soft hairs. It is commonly found in pastures, along roadsides, forest rangelands, abandoned fields, and disturbed habitats.

Leafy Spurge (Euphorbia esula)

Leafy spurge, a member of the Spurge family, was introduced from Europe. It is a creeping perennial that reproduces by seed and extensive creeping roots. The roots can extend as deep as 30 feet from a plant that grows 1 to 3 feet tall, with pale green shoots and small yellow-green flowers. The plant, including the root, has milky latex that is damaging to eyes and sensitive skin. Leafy spurge is an extremely difficult plant to control because of its extensive sprouting root. It is adapted to a wide variety of Colorado habitats and is very competitive with other plant species. If it becomes established in rangeland, pasture, and riparian sites, it may exclude all other vegetation due to its competitive nature.

Musk Thistle (Carduus nutans)

Musk thistle is a member of the Aster family. Introduced from Eurasia, it is a winter annual or biennial which reproduces by seed. The first year's growth is a large, compact rosette from a large, fleshy, corky taproot. The second year stem is erect, spiny, 2 to 6 feet tall and branched at the top. The waxy leaves are dark green with a light green midrib and mostly white margins; flowers are purple or occasionally white. Musk thistle is also known as "nodding thistle" and is commonly found in pastures, roadsides, and waste places. It prefers moist bottomland soil, but also can be found on drier uplands.

Oxeye Daisy (Chrysanthemum leucanthemum)

Oxeye daisy, a member of the Aster family, is a native of Eurasia. It is an erect perennial plant with white ray and yellow disk flowers, which bloom from June through August. Oxeye daisy is commonly sold in wildflower seed mixes or transplanted as an ornamental despite its tendency to crowd out more desirable vegetation. Oxeye daisy is prevalent in Mt Crested Butte.

Orange Hawkweed (Hieracium aurantiacum)

Orange hawkweed is a perennial plant originating from Europe. It reproduces from runners, rhizomes, sporadic root buds, and seed. Leaves are basal with one or two small leaves occasionally occurring on the bristly stem. Rosette leaves are four to six inches in length; spatula shaped and have finely toothed margins. The plant grows10 to20 inches in height. Flowers have 5 to 35 red-orange-yellow heads with petals that are strap shaped with notched tips. They typically grow in clusters.

Plumeless Thistle (Carduus acanthoides)

Plumeless thistle is a member of the Aster family. Introduced from Eurasia, it is a winter annual or biennial which reproduces by seed. This plant can be distinguished from musk thistle by its smaller flowers from ½ to 1 inch in diameter. The leaves of plumeless thistle lack the prominent white margin present on musk thistle leaves. The plant may grow to a height of 5 feet or more. Flowers are reddish-purple and are either solitary or clustered. Taproots are large and fleshy. Plumeless thistle is an extremely prolific seed producer. It is found in pastures, river valleys, and along roadsides.

Russian Knapweed (Acroptilon repens)

Russian knapweed is a member of the Aster family introduced from Europe. It is a creeping perennial that reproduces by seed and creeping, horizontal roots. The ridged stems are stiff and 1 to 3 feet high, with thistle-like flowers that are lavender to white. It is very difficult to control or eradicate once it becomes established. It grows in cultivated fields, along ditch banks, fence rows, roadsides, and in waste places. Russian knapweed is toxic to horses.

Scentless Chamomile (Matricaria perforata)

Scentless chamomile is a bushy annual plant. It grows from ½ to 2 feet tall and has showy, white flowers that appear from May to October. It is very similar in appearance to the strong scented species, but can be distinguished by its lack of odor. Scentless chamomile was imported from Europe as an ornamental, but has escaped and now invades natural areas worldwide. It is prevalent in Mt Crested Butte.

Scotch Thistle (Onopordum acanthium)

Scotch thistle is a member of the Aster family. It is a biennial that was introduced from Europe or eastern Asia and can reach a height of 8 feet. The rosette forms the first year and can have leaves up to 2 feet long and 1 foot wide. The second year the plant produces flowers that are reddish-purple to violet. It is found primarily along roadsides.

Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea maculosa)

Spotted knapweed is a member of the Aster family. Native to Central Europe, it is a simple perennial that reproduces from seed and forms a new shoot each year from a taproot. The plant can have one or more shoots up to 4 feet tall. Flower color is usually lavender to purple. Spotted knapweed occupies dry meadows, pastures, stony hills, roadsides, and the sandy or gravel flood plains of streams and rivers, where soils are light textured, well-drained, and receive summer precipitation. Spotted knapweed tolerates dry conditions, similar to diffuse knapweed, but will survive in higher moisture areas as well.

Yellow Sweet Clover (Melilotus officinalis)

Yellow sweet clover is a sweet smelling herb in the pea family. It is native to Asia and Europe. It is an erect annual or biennial that grows from strong taproots, often growing in colonies. The stems are freely branched above, hairless or with sparse, fine, flat, stiff, very short hairs. The leaves are alternate on the stems, and each leaf is comprised of 3 leaflets, arising from a distinct petiole. The leaflets are .5 to 1.5 inches long, with small, sharp teeth, almost hairless to finely flat- short-hairy. The numerous yellow flowers grow in clusters, flowering from May to October. The fruit is produced in pods, usually with 1

seed. Seeds are dispersed by water and wind. They are drought tolerant and winter hardy, but cannot withstand prolonged flooding.

Yellow Toadflax (Linaria vulgaris)

Yellow toadflax is a member of the Figwort family and is sometimes called common toadflax or "butter and eggs." It was introduced from Europe as an ornamental and has now become a serious problem to rangelands and mountain meadows. It is a perennial reproducing from seed, as well as from underground rootstalk. The flowers are bright yellow with deep orange centers that resemble the snapdragon. Yellow toadflax does well in all types of soils. Its displacement of desirable grasses not only reduces ecological diversity, but also reduces rangeland value and can lead to erosion problems. Because of its early vigorous growth, extensive underground root system, and effective seed dispersal methods, yellow toadflax is difficult to control. Yellow toadflax is prevalent in Mt Crested Butte.

2.02 How to Distinguish Varieties of Thistle, Knapweed or Toadflax:

THISTLES

Four types of thistles are on the Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed List. Canada thistle is a perennial; it has an extensive root system. Plumeless, Scotch, and musk thistles are biennials; they are relatively shallow rooted and reproduce by seed only. Canada and plumeless thistle are often mistaken for each other; however it is very simple to tell them apart. Canada has a smooth stem; plumeless has spiny stem leaves. The bracts under the flower of Canada are spineless; the bracts under the flower of plumeless appear as sharp spines. The flowers of musk thistle are about three times larger than those of Canada or plumeless. Musk thistle seedlings have a very prominent white midrib. Scotch thistle leaves are larger than those of the other thistles. They grow up to 2 feet in length and 1 foot wide. The leaves are covered with dense hairs, which give them a gray appearance. All of the biennial thistles may grow to heights of greater than six feet. Canada thistle may grow from 1 to 4 feet tall Colorado has several species of thistle which are native and do not cause the problems of the noxious species. Native thistles have mostly white, sometimes very pale lavender flowers and are more succulent than the noxious species. The flowers may have a hairy or fuzzy appearance and stems of some species are reddish.

KNAPWEEDS

Russian knapweed is a perennial with an extensive underground root system. Spotted knapweed is a biennial, or occasionally a short-lived perennial with a short taproot. Generally, the flowers of spotted and Russian knapweed are pinkish-purple, diffuse flowers are white, however there are exceptions. The best way to distinguish between the knapweeds is by the bracts. The bracts of Russian knapweed are white and papery-thin. Diffuse knapweed has sharp-toothed bracts. Spotted knapweed bracts are more like a fringe (not as spiny) with a black spot on each bract.

TOADFLAX

The best way to distinguish the different toadflaxes is to look at the shape of the leaves. Yellow toadflax has narrow leaves that are pointed at both ends; the leaves of Dalmatian toadflax are heart-shaped, clasp the stem, and are waxy with a blue green color. Yellow toadflax tends to be a smaller plant than Dalmatian toadflax.

2.03 The Threat of Escaped Ornamentals:

Most plants used for landscaping purposes cannot proliferate outside the cultivated environment of the home garden. But certain exotic plants and seeds were imported to the United States for their aggressive growth habits, xeriscape potential, or re-seeding capabilities. Such plants, known as escaped ornamentals or invasive ornamentals, include oxeye daisy, dalmatian toadflax, and yellow toadflax. The very traits that make these plants desirable for a garden or landscape may also enable them to thrive outside cultivated areas and become fierce competitors with our native vegetation. Because they exist here without the presence of any natural predators, these plants have the ability to spread extensively and pose a severe threat to the delicate balance of our native ecosystems.

Since various invasive ornamental plants are attractive and establish themselves quickly, they are popular with landscapers and gardeners and may be purchased through certain nurseries in Colorado. It is imperative that we educate landscape architects, gardeners, and nursery growers about the need to eliminate such plants from their landscape plans. Otherwise these plants will inevitably escape from the cultivated garden and jeopardize the natural wildflower and plant communities that we cherish. Native wildflowers such as Colorado Blue Columbine, our state flower, cannot compete with invasive ornamental plants for nutrients, sunlight, and water. As a result, our biologically diverse mountain meadows, grasslands, wetlands, and agricultural lands are in danger of being overrun by non-native invasive ornamental plants.

2.04 Integrated Weed Management – Treatment Methods:

Management techniques include cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical strategies. The optimum method or methods for weed management will vary depending on a number of site specific variables. Factors to be considered should include soil type and stability, grade, associated vegetation, existing and proposed land use, proximity to water, availability of irrigation water, weed type and stage of growth, and severity of infestation. The management method selected should be the least environmentally damaging, yet practical and reasonable in achieving the desired results. When considering weed management on a property, work on the areas that may transport weed seeds. These areas include ditches, streams, roadsides, driveways, trails, livestock concentrated areas, and equipment storage sites.

The following recommendations are intended to be a reference for weed management in Mt Crested Butte. The information is not intended to be a complete guide to weed management. Before using any chemical, you should thoroughly read the label. Any use of an herbicide inconsistent with the label is neither legal nor recommended.

Changes in herbicide registrations occur constantly. The herbicide label is the legal document on herbicide use. Read and follow all directions carefully. The use of a pesticide in a manner not consistent with the label can lead to injury of crops, humans, animals, and the environment.

Specific chemical recommendations are available from the Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department and/or licensed applicators and are not listed in the Plan.

ABSINTHE WORMWOOD

Description: Perennial. Absinthe Wormwood reproduces primarily through seed production, but can also spread by short roots. The plant is a prolific seed producer with seedlings emerging anytime from late spring to early fall. Seeds may remain viable for 3 to 4 years.

Comments: The key to effective control of Absinthe Wormwood is a combination of control methods. It is fairly easy to control with chemicals in combination with mechanical control.

Biological control: There are no biological controls for Absinthe Wormwood.

Chemical control: Call Town of Mt Crested Butte Public Works or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Complete removal of any seedlings or newly established plants by continual hand pulling is possible.

Mechanical control: Hand pull or dig when soil is moist. Make certain to pull all the roots, including short horizontal roots. Bag specimens carefully so as to not scatter seeds after flowering. Multiple mowings prior to seed generation can cause stress and may provide a control option.

BLACK HENBANE

Description: Annual or Biennial. Black henbane reproduces by seed. Seeds germinate easily and will remain viable in the soil for several years.

Comments: The key to effective control of Black Henbane is guarding against disturbance and overuse. Mechanical control and chemicals are the most commonly recommended method of control.

Biological control: There are no biological controls for Black Henbane.

Chemical control: Call Town of Mt Crested Butte Public Works or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Complete removal of any seedlings or newly established plants by continual hand pulling is possible.

Mechanical control: Hand pull or dig from moist soil, so the entire tap root system can be removed. Be sure to bag specimens carefully if removed during or after flowering.

CANADA THISTLE

Description: Perennial. Reproduces from vegetative buds in root system and from seed.

Comments: Canada thistle is best managed through an integrated management system that emphasizes competitive, desirable plants.

Biological control: Three insects currently available. It is best to release a complex of insects (different insects that will stress different parts of the plant.) Ceutorhyncus litura – a weevil that stresses the crown of the plant. Urophora carduii – a stem and shoot gall fly. Cassidia rubiginosa – leaf beetle. Biological control is not encouraged due to the propensity for insects to escape onto native thistles, thus killing the desired native plants.

Chemical control: Call Town of Mt Crested Butte Public Works or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Maintain soil fertility and moisture at optimum levels to favor grass growth.

Mechanical control: Research indicates that mowing of Canada thistle may be effective when done repeatedly at two week intervals over a period of several years. Pulling and digging up Canada thistle is ineffective as the plant has such an extensive root system.

COMMON TANSY

Description: Perennial. Reproduces by numerous tufted seeds dispersed by wind and water. It also reproduces vegetatively by forming new plants from root fragments.

Comments: Common tansy is best managed through an integrated management system that emphasizes competitive, desirable plants.

Biological control: There are no biological controls for Common Tansy

Chemical control: Call Town of Mt Crested Butte Public Works or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Minimize soil disturbance and re-vegetate any disturbed areas promptly. Maintain a healthy native community.

Mechanical control: Mow or cut infestations before flowering and seed-set occur to eliminate seed production. Multiple treatments will be required to exhaust the plant's resources.

DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

Description: Aggressive perennial. Reproduces by creeping rootstocks as well as by seed. A mature plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds.

Comments: Due to the high genetic variability of the toadflax species, it is critical to integrate as many management strategies as possible into the control program.

Biological control: The defoliating moth, Calophasia lunula, has been released on Dalmatian and yellow toadflax. It may defoliate up to 20% of the leaves of the plant. Eteobalea intermediella, a root boring moth, and Mecinus janthinus, a stem boring weevil, are also available.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Re-seed disturbed areas adjacent to toadflax infestations with appropriate perennial grasses (thickspike wheatgrass and streambank wheatgrass). The combination of herbicide spraying and seeding competitive grasses controls Dalmatian toadflax better than spraying alone.

Mechanical control: Hand pulling small infestations can be effective. Pull every year repeated mowing 2-3 times per year will slow spread and reduce seed production.

Education: The key to Dalmatian toadflax management is to create an awareness among homeowners, nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects that Dalmatian toadflax is a noxious weed and therefore should not be specified in plantings, sold in nurseries or planted in home gardens or large-scale landscape projects.

DAME'S ROCKET

Description: Biennial or short lived perennial. Reproduces only by seed.

Comments: The key to effective control of Dame's Rocket is prevention. Locate and remove plants immediately before plants set seed.

Biological control: There are no biological controls for Dames Rocket

Chemical control: Call Town of Mt Crested Butte Public Works or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Prevent the establishment of new infestations by minimizing disturbance and seed dispersal, eliminating seed production and maintaining healthy native communities.

Mechanical control: Hand pull or dig while the soil is moist, making sure to get the roots to prevent resprouting. Removing flowers before the plant sets seed will also be effective. Be sure to bag the specimens carefully so the spread of seed does not occur.

DIFFUSE KNAPWEED

Description: Biennial. Reproduces primarily by seed but may also regenerate from the crown.

Comments: The key to effective control of diffuse knapweed is to prevent the plant from flowering and going to seed. An integrated weed management approach is recommended.

Biological control: The seedhead weevil (larinus minutus) and root weevil fly (cyphocleonus achates) are available.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Reseeding of disturbed sites with fast growing grasses help prevent diffuse knapweed establishment. Contact your local Natural Resources Conservation service for seed mix recommendations.

Mechanical control: Any mechanical of physical method that severs the root below the soil surface will kill diffuse knapweed. Mowing or chopping is most effective when diffuse knapweed plants are at full bloom. Properly dispose of the flowering cut plants, since seeds can mature and become viable after the plant has been cut down.

HOARY CRESS

Description: Hoary cress is a highly competitive plant forming a monoculture, and once established it easily displaces native vegetation.

Comments: The key to effective control of Hoary Cress is prevention. Common in Mt Crested Butte.

Biological control: There is no biological control available for Hoary Cress

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Prevent the establishment of new infestations by minimizing disturbance and seed dispersal, eliminating seed production and maintaining healthy native communities.

Mechanical control: Mowing several times before the plants bolt stresses Hoary Cress and forces the plant to use nutrient reserves stored in the root system. Combining mowing with herbicide will further enhance control of this weed. Mow repeatedly through the summer and then apply herbicide in the fall.

HOUNDSTONGUE

Description: Biennial. Houndstongue is a prolific seed producer. It toxic to livestock and can also cause dermatitis in humans.

Comments: Houndstongue reproduces by seed and is self-pollinating. Seed production varies from about 314 to 674 seeds per plant. Seeds remaining on the soil surface can remain viable up to two years.

Biological control: There is no biological control available for Houndstongue.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Re-seed disturbed sites with fast growing native grasses. Promote healthy grass growth through proper irrigation and fertilization.

Mechanical control: Houndstongue is a prolific seed producer, and the seeds are readily spread by their ability to stick to wildlife and domestic animals. Physical removal of the plant at flowering or in early seed formation, by pulling or digging, will break the cycle of the plant.

LEAFY SPURGE

Description: A perennial up to three feet tall that reproduces by vigorous root stalks and seed.

Comments: The most effective method of control is to prevent establishment through responsible land management. New infestations are much more easily controlled than established infestations.

Biological control: Sheep or goats will graze leafy spurge. The flea beetles (Apthona nigriscutis, A. lacertosa, and A. cyparissiae, are effective especially when combined with grazing and/or herbicide. For more information contact the Palisade Insectary. These insects are available upon request at no charge to the public.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Establishment of selected grasses can be an effective cultural control of leafy spurge. Any activity that encourages vigorous grass growth is very important.

Mechanical control: Due to the extensive root system, hand pulling this plant is not a viable option. Mowing leafy spurge at 14 to 21 day intervals may cause higher susceptibility to fall applied herbicides.

MUSK THISTLE

Description: Musk thistle is a biennial and the key to its successful management is to prevent seed formation.

Comments: The key to effective control of Musk thistle is to prevent the plant's seed production. Planting desirable grasses and forbs will out-compete the Musk thistle.

Biological control: The musk thistle seed head weevil, Rhinocyllus conicus, is wide- spread in Colorado. Larvae of this insect destroy developing seeds but are not 100 percent effective by themselves. The weevil normally impacts seed production by about 50 percent. Herbicides can be combined with weevils if the insects are allowed to complete their life cycles. Another weevil, Trichosirocalus horridus, attacks the crown area of musk thistle rosettes and weakens the plant before it bolts. This weevil has reduced stand density in areas where it has become well established. A leaf feeding beetle, Cassidia rubiiginosa,

causes considerable damage by skeletonizing leaves. It is recommended to release more than one type of insect on a weed since each type may work on different parts of the plant. Contact the Palisade Insectary for more information. Biological control is not encouraged due to the propensity for insects to escape onto native thistles, thus killing the desired native plants.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Musk thistle, like other biennial thistles, thrives on disturbance. The best management is to minimize disturbance. If it does occur be certain to revegetate with competitive perennial grasses. Establishment of selected grasses can be an effective cultural control of Musk thistle.

Mechanical control: The most effective type of mechanical control is to hand pull this plant prior to flowering. This can be unrealistic on large acreage or when the ground is very dry. Another option is to use a shovel to cut the root below the surface of the soil, taking care not to disturb the soil more than necessary. If this is done prior to flowering the plant can be left in place after it is cut. If it has already flowered the plant should be removed and placed in a bag and disposed of. Mowing is not effective on this species unless repeated numerous times throughout the growing season since musk thistle will flower and produce seed even after one or two mowings.

OXEYE DAISY

Description: A rhizomatous perennial, escaped ornamental.

Comments: It aggressively invades fields where is forms dense populations and decreases plant species diversity. It is a rapidly spreading weed in Mt Crested Butte.

Biological control: Goats or sheep can be effective in the control of Oxeye daisy.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Prevent the establishment of new infestations by minimizing disturbance and seed dispersal and maintaining healthy native communities. It is easily killed by intensive cultivation.

Mechanical control: Hand pull or dig when soil is moist and infestations are small. Oxeye daisy is fairly shallow rooted. Make sure to pull up all of the roots. Bag specimens carefully so as to not scatter seeds if removed during or after flowering.

Education: The key to oxeye daisy management is to create an awareness among homeowners, nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects that oxeye is a noxious weed and therefore should not be specified in plantings, sold in nurseries or planted in home gardens or large-scale landscape projects.

ORANGE HAWKWEED

Description: A rhizomatous perennial, escaped ornamental.

Comments: The key to effective control of orange hawkweed is preventing the establishment of plant communities through sound land management practices. A combination of cultural and herbicide control can be effective.

Biological control: No biological control for Orange hawkweed is available.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: When native forbs and grasses are already present, assisting plant competitiveness by supplementing fertilizers can be an effective cultural control method.

Mechanical control: Not recommended because of the weed's ability to reproduce by stolens, rhizomes and root fragments. This often renders mechanical control obsolete.

PLUMELESS THISTLE

Description: Biennial. It is a prolific seed producer.

Comments: Preventing Plumeless thistle seed production and planting desirable grasses and forbs to out-compete Plumeless thistle is effective.

Biological control: The same seed head weevil, Rhinocyllus conicus, that attacks musk thistle also feeds on plumeless thistle seeds. Biological control is not encouraged due to the propensity for insects to escape onto native thistles, thus killing the desired native plants.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Plumeless thistle, like other biennial thistles, thrives on disturbance. The best management is to minimize disturbance and revegetate with competitive perennial species.

Mechanical control: Mowing is generally not effective on plumeless due to the plant's capacity for rapid re-growth. Hand cutting is not effective unless there are repeated follow-up treatments. Hand cutting should only be conducted if there is a commitment to follow-up efforts. Plumeless tends to branch out where it is cut and then it re-flowers. Pulling plumeless can be very effective, especially if done after a light rain. Hand pulling, with a good set of gloves, is preferable to shoveling. Shoveling disturbs the ground thus creating a potential seedbed for future infestations.

RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

Description: Russian knapweed is a non-native deep rooted perennial that spreads by aggressive, creeping, horizontal roots (rhizomes) and seeds.

Comments: Like other creeping perennials, the key to Russian knapweed control is to stress the weed and cause it to expend nutrient stores in its root system. An integrated management plan should be developed that places continual stress on the weed. Currently, the best management plan includes

cultural control combined with mechanical and/or chemical control techniques. A single control strategy, such as mowing or an herbicide, usually is not sufficient. The plant is toxic to horses, however they must consume it over a period of time before poisoning will occur. Once poisoning occurs horses are unable to chew and advance food to the back of their mouths, swallowing is impaired and horses can drink only if they immerse their head in water far enough to get water to the back of their mouths. Poisoning is irreversible and death by starvation will occur.

Biological control: A gall forming nematode, Subanguina picridis, is currently being monitored for effectiveness but is not yet available to the public.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Russian knapweed tends to form monocultures by eliminating other plants. Therefore, sowing desirable plant species is necessary after the weed is controlled. Research indicates that the native grasses, streambank wheatgrass and thickspike wheatgrass will establish in an area after Russian knapweed is suppressed with herbicides. If the Russian knapweed stand is not too old and grasses are still present, stimulating grass growth by irrigation (where possible) should increase grass competition with knapweed and keep it under continual stress.

Mechanical controls: Repeated mowing combined with herbicide applications will gradually stress the plant.

SCOTCH THISTLE

Description: A biennial that reproduces solely by seed.

Comments: The key to effective control of Scotch thistle is to guard against disturbance and to limit seed production.

Biological control: Goats will graze Scotch thistle, preventing seed production. Urophora stylata, a fly predator, is used to help control this thistle. The female fly lays eggs in the seed head of the thistle. The maggot then consumes the seed in the flower. Biological control is not encouraged due to the propensity for insects to escape onto native thistles, thus killing the desired native plants.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Establishment of selected grasses can be an effective cultural control of Scotch Thistle.

Mechanical control: Any mechanical or physical method that severs the root below the soil surface will kill Scotch thistle. Mowing or chopping is most effective when Scotch thistle plants are at full-bloom. Be sure to properly dispose of the flowering cut plants since seed can mature and become viable after the plant has been cut down.

SCENTLESS CHAMOMILE

Description: I biennial that reproduces via seed. Seed is spread by wind, birds, and human activity.

Comments: It aggressively invades fields where is forms dense populations and decreases plant species diversity. It is a rapidly spreading weed in Mt Crested Butte.

Biological control: Goats or sheep can be effective in the control of Scentless chamomile.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Prevent the establishment of new infestations by minimizing disturbance and seed dispersal and maintaining healthy native communities. It is easily killed by intensive cultivation.

Mechanical control: Hand pull or dig when soil is moist and infestations are small. Scentless chamomile is fairly shallow rooted. Make sure to pull up all of the roots. Bag specimens carefully so as to not scatter seeds if removed during or after flowering.

Education: The key to Scentless Chamomile management is to create an awareness among homeowners, nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects that scentless chamomile is a noxious weed and therefore should not be specified in plantings, sold in nurseries or planted in home gardens or large-scale landscape projects.

SPOTTED KNAPWEED

Description: A short-lived, non-creeping perennial that reproduces from seed and forms a new shoot each year from a taproot.

Comments: The most effective method of control is to prevent seed production and its establishment through responsible land management.

Biological control: Many biological control agents are used on spotted knapweed. The sulfur knapweed moth (*Agapeta zoegana*) larvae feed within the plant's roots. The knapweed peacock fly (*Chaetorellia acrolophi*) larvae feed on the plant's seeds. The green clearwing fly (*Terellia virens*) larvae feed on seeds within flower heads of spotted knapweed. The knapweed root weevil (*Cyphocleonus achates*) larvae feed within spotted knapweed roots. *Larinus minutus*, a seedhead weevil, larvae destroy spotted knapweed seed in the seedheads. *Larinus obtusus*, blunt knapweed flower weevil, larvae feed on seeds within the seedheads and adults feed on leaves. *Urophora affinis* and *Urophora quadrifasciata* are seedhead gall flies that are also used as biocontrol agents for spotted knapweeds

Chemical control: Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Establish select grasses as an effective cultural control of Spotted knapweed.

Mechanical control: Dig when the soil is moist, and remove the entire taproot as well as all lateral roots. Moving spotted knapweed at full-bloom will stress the plant, but not kill it. Be sure to bag the flowering cut plants, since the seeds remain viable even after cutting.

YELLOW SWEET CLOVER

Description: Biennial. Reproduces by seed with each plant capable of producing over 100,000 seeds.

Comment: Yellow sweet clover is currently being considered for listing as a noxious weed in Colorado. It is a rapidly spreading weed in Mt Crested Butte.

Biological control: There are no biological controls for yellow sweet clover.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Attempt to maintain competitive communities of desirable species. Re-seed any open ground with perennial grasses to prevent invasion by other weed species.

Mechanical control: Hand-pulling is effective if done when the ground is moist and most of the root can be removed. The best times to hand-pull sweet clover are in the late fall, after the first-year plant root-crown buds have developed, or anytime early in spring, before second-year plants develop flower buds. Cutting first and second year stems close to the ground with a hand-held scythe is effective if done after leaves on the lower stems have died (before flowering occurs) and up to early stages of flowering (before seeds form). Sweet clover usually does not re-sprout when the stems are cut close to the ground during this time.

YELLOW TOADFLAX

Description: An escaped ornamental perennial reproducing by seed and rootstalk.

Comment: The key to effective control of yellow toadflax is prevention and integrating as many management strategies as possible. It is a rapidly spreading weed in Mt Crested Butte.

Biological control: One insect species Calophasia lunula a defoliating moth has been released on yellow toadflax. It may defoliate up to 20 percent of the leaves. The toadflax flower-feeding beetle, *Brachypterolus pulcarius*, larvae feed on the reproductive structures within the flowers, including the seeds, and adults feed on young plant stems. The toadflax seed capsule weevil, *Rhinusa antirrhini* (formerly *Gymnetron*), larvae feed on immature seeds and adults feed on flowers and young shoots. Research at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory has shown that biological control agents may reduce seed production, but have no effect on the survival of plants. Biological control is not currently encouraged because it is ineffective at reducing population sizes and it is not known if the insect herbivores will jump to native plants.

Chemical control: Contact Mt Crested Butte Public Works Department or a licensed applicator for specific recommendations.

Cultural control: Attempt to maintain competitive communities of desirable species. Re-seed any open ground with perennial grasses to prevent invasion by other weed species.

Education: The key to management of yellow toadflax and other escaped ornamentals is to create an awareness among homeowners, nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects that yellow toadflax is a noxious weed and therefore should not be specified in plantings, sold in nurseries or planted in home gardens or large- scale landscape projects.

Mechanical control: Digging and pulling where feasible, can provide effective control of toadflax if conducted annually for 10 to 15 years.

SECTION III

JURISDICTIONAL OVERVIEW OF AREAS OF INFESTATION IN Mt CRESTED BUTTE

3.01 Overview:

The County has adopted an "early detection, early treatment" philosophy. Early detection in identifying and documenting recently introduced weed species into an area is vital to our weed management plan. Early treatment is the follow-up that could possibly eradicate new infestations.

3.02 Town Land:

Mt Crested Butte property is categorized as Town Right-of ways, Private Property, and Town Owned Property.

Town Right-of-ways:

Mt Crested Butte has over 16 miles of roads. For the purpose of this plan right-of-ways shall also include the Crested Butte/Mt Crested Butte recreation path. Right-of-ways shall be managed regarding the 21 weeds on Mt Crested Butte's noxious weed list. A Priority List shall be established each growing season based upon input from the Weed Advisory Board, the public, and past observations by Town staff. The right-of-ways will be generally sprayed for noxious weeds. The Town may also selectively spot spray right-of ways that are deemed to be problematic. There will be no general herbicide applications to non- listed weeds unless specifically requested by The Town's Public Works Director, or the Town Council.

Right-of-way treatment will start in the summer. Each road on the Priority List will be treated at least once. If time and workload allows some of the heavily infested roadsides will be treated a second time.

Town owned property:

The Town of Mt Crested Butte owns or manages over 130 acres of land. These lands shall be treated on an as-needed basis for noxious weeds. Management practices shall include mechanical and chemical treatments.

Private Property:

The management of all noxious weeds on private property will be in accordance with Chapter 14 Article II Undesirable Plant Management and Enforcement of the Town Code of Mt Crested Butte.

SECTION IV

PLAN OF WORK

4.01 Objectives and Goals:

Goals and Objectives of the Mt Crested Butte Weed Management Plan

A. Develop and implement a comprehensive noxious weed management program on all Town owned property.

B. Educate the public concerning week management issues.

C. Foster a spirit of cooperation among federal, state and local government agencies and private landowners.

D. Work with other government agencies and departments to institute "Best Management Practices" and/or policies that stress prevention as a weed management tool.

E. Promote and use integrated management techniques.

F. Establish and maintain healthy plant communities with native or beneficial vegetation.

G. Restore and maintain desirable plant communities and healthy ecosystems in Mt Crested Butte.

H. Stop the spread of noxious weeds to un-infested lands.

I. Contain heavily weed-infested areas.

J. Implement "Title 35 Article 5.5, The Colorado Weed Management Act."

Management Goals for Weed Species

Management goals will vary from species to species, by location, and over time. Containment of existing intentional plantings, exclusion of seed from new wildland or open space mixes, and elimination of targeted escaped infestations are three different management goals for certain ornamentals such as oxeye daisy. In all cases, revegetation, either from the existing seed bank or through supplemental planting, must be included as a management goal. Without revegetation, disturbed or denuded soils invite adventitious weed infestation.

4.02 Prevention and Detection:

Prevention is the highest priority weed management technique on non-infested lands. Among government officials, land managers, farmers, ranchers, and the general public there is growing recognition that protecting weed-free plant communities is the most economical and efficient land management practice. The benefits are obvious. Weed-free plant communities:

- Provide essential wildlife habitat and forage.
- Save ranchers and farmers many billions of dollars in labor costs and lost production.

- Ensure aesthetic and recreational qualities of an area.
- Prevent soil erosion and improve water quality.

The spread of noxious weeds is most likely to occur where soil has been disturbed either by human activities (road and trail cuts, construction sites, the spread of gravel, road fill and topsoil contaminated with noxious weed seed, or overgrazing) or by natural events (fire, avalanches, mudslides, flooding). Disturbed land provides opportunity for noxious weeds.

Exotic plants and seeds such as oxeye daisy, purple loosestrife, and toadflax escape from our yards and gardens. Since they are attractive and establish themselves quickly, they are popular with landscapers and gardeners for ornamental planting and may be purchased through nurseries. They have the same ability to dominate and spread, however, as other better known noxious weeds.

Still other known methods of weed introduction include:

- Contaminated seed, feed grain, hay, straw, and mulch.
- Movement of contaminated equipment, cars, bikes, etc. across uncontaminated lands.
- Animal fur, fleece, human clothing.
- Dried flower arrangements.

Prevention is best accomplished by ensuring that new weed species seed or vegetative reproductive plant parts of weeds are not introduced into new areas, and by early detection of any new weed species before they become widespread.

Strategies to prevent the introduction or establishment of noxious weeds in areas not already infested include:

- Identification and eradication of small, new infestations.
- Continuous monitoring and evaluation to prevent recurrence.
- Identification of existing conditions, disturbances, and activities that represent a potential threat to native habitat.
- Identification of recently introduced weed species that represent a future threat.
- Timely revegetation and reclamation of disturbed sites using appropriate native plant species.
- The use of weed free seeds and mulch.
- Countywide promotion of the Colorado Weed Free Hay and Forage program.
- Prioritization of weed management along areas of entry and dispersal.

- Discouraging the sale of weedy ornamental plants and seed packets that contain weeds.

PREVENTION WILL ALWAYS BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AVAILABLE.

4.03 Education and Awareness:

Education must play a major role in implementing this weed management plan. Groups targeted for public education include the following: homeowners associations, private citizens, developers, construction contractors, excavation contractors, gardeners, landscapers, nurseries, public and private land management agencies, recreational users, youth groups, schools, gas companies, pipelines, and other utilities.

A partnership of the public and private sectors, along with awareness of what noxious weeds are and the problems they cause, is essential to maintain or create plant communities that are free of noxious weeds. Knowledge about how to identify weeds, how and where weeds are spread, and what it takes to manage weeds is needed. Continuation and expansion of current educational programs as well as the development of new programs is a priority of the Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed Management Plan. The Mt Crested Butte Community Development Department and/or other governmental agencies will provide this instruction. Workshops will be held throughout the year to enhance public awareness.

Opportunities for education include:

- Widespread distribution of informative printed material.
- Offering weed tours and talks to the public.
- Private applicator certification, applicator safety, and laws/regulations.
- Proper calibration of spraying equipment.
- Contacting area nurseries, landscapers, and landscape architects, to emphasize the problems created by escaped ornamentals.
- Cooperation with local media to disseminate weed information.
- Custom weed management recommendations for individual landowners

WEED MANAGEMENT BEGINS WITH EDUCATION.

4.04 Land Stewardship:

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act requires that all property owners use integrated methods to manage noxious weeds. Weed management must be ongoing, requiring an integrated approach in which proper and stewardship practices are utilized. Most weed species, if detected early, can be managed.

STRATEGIES:

- Identify your plants.

- Understand the target weed. Does it reproduce by seed or roots or both?
- Maintain inventory maps.
- Develop a noxious weed database.
- Develop site specific weed management plans in cooperation with other individual landowners and public agencies.
- Develop a decision-making process that uses site-specific information to make decisions about treatment choices.
- Develop a long-term strategy including regular monitoring of treatment areas.
- Alleviate the situation, or practices, that allowed the weeds to spread.
- Take the necessary action.

MAINTAINING LAND THAT IS FREE OF WEEDS IS GOOD STEWARDSHIP. LANDOWNERS WHO DO NOT MANAGE THEIR WEEDS PLACE THEIR NEIGHBORS' LANDS AT RISK.

4.05 Revegetation and Rehabilitation:

A crucial part of any weed management plan is the reintroduction of site appropriate vegetation. Establishing desirable plant communities after noxious weeds have been removed from a highly infested area require timely cultivation and reseeding. Since the seeds from noxious weeds may lay dormant for many years, removing all visible signs of the noxious weeds does not ensure against their return. Revegetation can help prevent the germination of weed seeds. It is important to inspect the land regularly to identify and treat small, new infestations. For proper reclamation, managed irrigation of dry areas, fertilization, and reseeding are essential to establish desirable plant communities. Native plants are most appropriate when the goal is restoration (trying to restore native habitat).

Certified weed-free seeds of native Colorado grasses, wildflowers or plant species appropriate to the site may be purchased, but the best source for seeds is from native species that grow in the immediate vicinity of the infestation. They will be best adapted to local conditions and will help maintain local integrity and genetic viability. Using native plants or seeds to reclaim disturbed land reduces degradation of native ecosystems, reduces the need for herbicides and conserves water resources. Native plants will provide a broad biological diversity and help keep Colorado looking like Colorado with a unique regional landscape that sets us apart from other areas of the country.

When the goal is reclamation (reseeding for quick ground cover establishment or erosion control), it may be appropriate to use introduced, non-aggressive grasses and forbs.

Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service or Colorado State University Cooperative Extension for seeding recommendations. The Native Plant Revegetation Guide for Colorado, published by the

Colorado State Parks Natural Areas Program, is an excellent guide for native plant reseeding. Contact the Town of Mt Crested Butte for further information on this material.

STRATEGIES:

- Study all vegetation in the area and surrounding areas.
- Preserve plant species native to Colorado.
- Test the soil for pH balance. Try to retain and utilize as much on-site topsoil as possible.
- Select a predominant species that is appropriate to the site. Then choose a few complimentary species to provide a balanced plant community.
- Choose plants that are healthy, vigorous and pest free.
- Use weed-free seeds. Use non-hybrid seeds. Avoid commercial seed packets containing exotic plant species.
- Choose plants that are horticulturally appropriate, i.e. plant species that are adaptable to climate, soil and topographical conditions of the designated area.
- Consider the use of water, its availability and the vegetative requirements.
- To landscape for wildlife, choose native plants that provide cover, forage, and browse, seeds for birds and rodents, and shade.
- Be site-specific; revegetation strategies may vary for small lots, farms, ranches or construction sites.
- Establish a vegetative cover that is diverse, effective and long lasting, capable of self- regeneration.
- Stabilize the surface.

A Revegetation Plan shall include:

- Plant material list (be specific, scientific and common names required).
- Planting schedule (to include timing, methods, and provisions for watering, if applicable).
- A map of the area impacted at preliminary plan (where the soil will be disturbed).
- A revegetation bond. (Agricultural practices are exempt from revegetation requirements unless

they are in association with a subdivision or land use proposal).

A revegetation security deposit shall be required if a project has a potential to facilitate the spread of noxious weeds.

The revegetation security deposit will be part of any building permit cleanup deposit or excavation bond in the as laid out in the Town Code. All deposits will be site-specific. The security shall be held by Town until vegetation has been successfully reestablished according to the following Reclamation Standards. The Zoning Administrator or his designee shall evaluate the reclamation prior to the release of the security.

4.06 Reclamation Standards (Town Code Secs. 6-37, 6-52, 17-39, 21-305)

1. Revegetation

When the final landform is achieved, the surface shall be stabilized by vegetation or other means to reduce further soil erosion from wind or water, provide forage and cover, and reduce visual impacts. Specific criteria for evaluating revegetation success must be site- specific and included as a part of the reclamation plan.

A. Vegetation production, species diversity, and cover, shall support the post- disturbance land use. Areas where the post-disturbance land use does not include lawns, gardens, and flower beds; shall approximate the surrounding undisturbed area or be revegetated to a desired plant community with a composition of species and plant cover typical to that site.

B. The vegetation shall stabilize the site and support the planned post-disturbance land use, provide natural plant community succession and development, and be capable of renewing itself. This shall be demonstrated by:

1. Using certified noxious weed free seed.

2. Successful onsite establishment of the species included in the planting mixture and/or other desirable species.

3. Evidence of vegetation reproduction, either spreading by rhizomatous species or seed reproduction.

4. Evidence of overall site stability and sustainability.

C. The revegetation plan shall provide for the greatest probability of success in plant establishment and vegetation development by considering environmental factors such as seasonal patterns of precipitation, temperature and wind; soil texture and fertility; slope stability; and direction of slope faces.

D. To insure the establishment of a diverse and long-lasting vegetative cover, the permittee shall employ appropriate techniques of site preparation and protection. species diversity should be selected for long-term land uses and to provide for a reduction in visual contrast.

E. Where revegetation is to be used, a diversity of vegetation species shall be used to establish a resilient, self-perpetuating ecosystem capable of supporting the post- disturbance land use. Species planted shall include those that will provide for quick soil stabilization, provide litter and nutrients for soil building and are self- renewing.

F. Integrated Weed Management (IWM) methods shall be employed for all noxious weed species on the Mt Crested Butte List. Weed management methods shall be used whenever the inhabitation of the reclaimed area by noxious weeds threatens nearby areas.

G. Where revegetation is impractical or inconsistent with the surrounding undisturbed areas, other forms of surface stabilization shall be used.

SECTION V ENFORCEMENT

5.01 Compliance: Private and Public Lands:

A. Inspection.

(1) The weed office, acting as agent, delegate, or staff of the town council, shall have the right to enter upon any premises, lands, or places whether public or private, during reasonable business hours for the purpose of inspecting for the existence of noxious weed infestations, when at least one of the following has occurred:

a. The landowner or occupant has requested an inspection;

b. A neighboring landowner or occupant has reported a suspected noxious weed infestation and requested an inspection;

c. An authorized agent of the town council has made a visual inspection from a public right-of-way or area and has reason to believe that a noxious weed infestation exists; or

d. A weed office agent has inspected a current aerial satellite map of the property and determined there is reason to believe that a noxious weed infestation exists.

(b) Where entry onto private premises is required to investigate the existence of noxious weeds, on-site inspections may be scheduled at any reasonable time upon the landowner or occupant's consent (Appendix B). No entry onto such lands shall be permitted unless one of the following occurs: (1) verbal permission to inspect the property is granted by the landowner or occupant of said property, or (2) such landowner or occupant is notified of such pending inspection by certified mail at least ten (10) days prior to such inspection. If after notification landowner or occupant fails to respond within ten (10) days to the request to inspect the premises or otherwise denies access to the inspector, the inspector may seek an inspection warrant issued by the Town of Mt. Crested Butte municipal court having jurisdiction over the land pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. section 35-5.5-109(2)(b) or 35-5.5-108.5(5)(b)(I).

B. Management.

Private Lands

(1) Upon a discovery of the presence of noxious weeds on private premises, the weed office, acting as agent, delegate, or staff of the town council has the authority to notify the landowner or occupant of the presence of noxious weeds. The notice, see Appendix A, from the Town includes the following:

a. The property inspection date;

b. The landowner and/or occupant of record;

c. The property tax ID number or legal description of the property, and/or aerial map;

d. The noxious weeds to be managed;

e. If the noxious weeds are weeds designated for eradication pursuant to designation as List A weeds, identification of eradication as the required management objective;

f. Advisement to the landowner or occupant to commence either eradication of the noxious weeds within five (5) days or management of the noxious weeds within ten (10) days after receipt of notice or submit an acceptable plan and schedule for the completion of the plan for compliance;

g. Identification of the integrated weed management techniques presented by the commissioner for eradication or the best available control methods of integrated management;

h. The options of notice compliance;

i. The consequences for non-compliance with the notice, an offer of weed office consultation in management plan development, and notice of landowner and/or occupant's right to request a hearing before the arbitration panel;

j. Statement that weed office will seek an

inspection warrant (right of entry) from the Town of Mt. Crested Butte municipal court having jurisdiction over the land, to enter property and manage identified noxious weeds unless landowner and/or occupant complies with notice, submits an acceptable plan and schedule for completion of the plan or submits a written request for a hearing before the arbitration panel within ten (10) days.

Public Lands

(1) The weed office, acting as agent, delegate, or staff of the town council, may give notice to any state board, department, or agency that administers or supervises state lands within Town of Mt. Crested Butte, to manage noxious weeds on its land and naming them.

(2) Such notice shall specify the best available method(s) of integrated management and will include the same information as itemized in section 58-59(1) of this Code.

C. Duty To Consult

Where possible, the weed office shall consult with the affected landowner, occupant, state board, department or agency in the development of a plan for the management of noxious weeds on the premises or lands.

D. Eradication and management of weeds- Landowner, occupant or public agency response

(a) A landowner, occupant or state board, department or agency receiving notification of the presence of noxious weeds pursuant to section above shall respond within a reasonable time after receipt thereof, but in no event to exceed five (5) days if eradication is ordered and ten (10) days if management is ordered, by any of the following:

(1) Complying with the terms of the notification.

(2) Acknowledging the terms of the notification and submitting an acceptable plan and schedule for the completion of the plan for compliance.

(3) If only management is ordered, requesting an arbitration panel to determine the final management plan. The panel shall be selected by the town council, through its delegates, agents, and employees, and shall include:

a. A weed management specialist or weed scientist;

b. A landowner of similar land in Town of Mt. Crested Butte; and

c. A third member chosen by agreement of the first two panel members;

d. The landowner or occupant is entitled to challenge any one member of the panel, and the town council, through its delegates, agents and employees shall name a new panel member from the same category.

Costs for the arbitration panel shall be paid by the requesting landowner or occupant. The decision of the arbitration panel shall be final.

E. Enforcement- Direct action by Town to manage weeds

In the event that the landowner, occupant or state board, department or agency fails to comply with any notice to eradicate or manage the identified weeds or implement the plan developed by the arbitration panel, the weed office shall provide for and compel the eradication or management of such weeds in any manner deemed necessary by the weed office and in compliance with the provisions of C.R.S. section 35-5-108.5, 35-5.5-109(5) or 35-5-110(3) (see Appendix C).

F. Assessment of Cost

If the Town, or its agents and employees, provide for and/or compel the management or eradication of noxious weeds on private lands, the town council is entitled to recover certain costs.

G. Recoverable cost/method of collection- Management

(a) If the Town compels and provides for the management of noxious weeds pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. section 35-5-109, the town council is entitled to assess the whole cost thereof, including up to twenty (20) percent for inspection and other incidental costs in connection therewith, upon the lot or tract of land where the noxious weeds are located.

(b) Such assessment shall be a lien against each lot or tract of land until paid and shall have priority over all other liens except general taxes and prior special assessments.

(c) Such assessment may be certified to the Gunnison County treasurer for the collection of taxes.

(d) Any funds collected shall be deposited in the town council's weed fund or any similar fund.

1. Public Nuisance.

If the landowner fails to comply with the notice to control the designated undesirable plants, fails to submit an acceptable management plan, fails to comply with an accepted management plan, the Town, at a public hearing at least 10 days after notice thereof to the property owner, may declare the infested property a public nuisance for which the remedies for abatement of a public nuisance shall be available as provided in C.R.S. 35-5.5-113. Once declared, such nuisances are subject to all laws and remedies relating to the prevention and abatement of nuisances as outlined in Chapter 14 of the Code of the Town of Mt Crested Butte Colorado.

2. Notice.

Whenever notice is given by mail, it shall be deemed given when deposited in a regular depositary

of the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid. Notice to landowners shall be mailed to the last known address as shown in the County's Assessment Roll unless the landowner has provided the Town with a different address for notice.

3. Restrictions.

No private land management shall be compelled without first applying the same or greater management measures to county land or rights-of-way that are adjacent to the private property.

5.02 Town Right-of-Ways:

It shall be the duty of the Town of Mt Crested Butte to confirm that all Town roads, highways, rights-of-way, and any easements appurtenant thereto, are in compliance with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act and this management plan, and any violations of this article by the county shall be the financial responsibility of the Town.

SECTION VI

6.01 PLAN EVALUATION

The goals and plan of work in the Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed Management Plan will be reviewed and evaluated annually by the Mt Crested Butte Weed Advisory Board. Any proposed additions or changes shall be recommended by the Mt Crested Butte Weed Advisory Board and approved by ordinance by the Mt Crested Butte Town Council before becoming final.

The Mt Crested Butte Weed Management Plan shall be reviewed by the Weed Advisory Board at least every three years, per CRS 35-5.5-107(4)(a); and the management plan and any recommended amendments to the plan shall be transmitted to the Mt Crested Butte Town Council for approval, modification, or rejection.

SECTION VII

RESOURCE DIRECTORY AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION

7.01 Government & Other Organizations

Bureau of Land Management Glenwood Springs Field Office PO Box 1009

Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

(970) 947-2800

Colorado Department of Agriculture Eric Lane, State Weed Coordinator 700 Kipling St., Suite 4000

Lakewood, CO 80215-5894

(303) 239-4182

Colorado Department of Ag. Insectary

P.O. Box 400 Palisade, CO 81526 (970) 464-7916

Colorado Division of Wildlife 50633 US Hwy 6 & 24

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 (970) 945-7228

Colorado Department of Transportation 226 S. 6th St., Room 317

Grand Junction, CO 81501 (970) 248-7361

Colorado State University Extension Weed Science Specialist

116 Weed Research

Ft. Collins CO 80523 (970) 491-7568

Colorado State University Cooperative Extension

PO Box 1112

Rifle, CO 81650

(970) 625-3969

Colorado Weed Management Association

P.O. Box 1910

Granby, CO 80446-1910

(970) 887-1228

Eagle County Weed Department

PO Box 239

Eagle, CO 81631

(970) 328-8778

Gunnison County Weed Department

PO Box 915

Gunnison, CO 81230

Natural Resources Conservation Service Bookcliff Soil Conservation District Mount Sopris Soil Conservation District Southside Soil Conservation District

PO Box 1302

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 (970) 945-5494

Pitkin County Land Management 76 Service Center Road

Aspen, CO 81611

(970) 920-5214

Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory

8000 CR 317, Crested Butte, CO 81224

(970) 349-7231

Roaring Fork Railroad Holding Authority PO Box 1270

Carbondale, CO 81623

(970) 704-9282

White River National Forest 900 Grand Ave.

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 (970) 945-2521

7.02 Internet Websites

Colorado State University Extension Gunnison County
http://www.gunnison.colostate.edu/agri/weeds/weedsfront.shtml

Colorado Weed Management Association http://www.fortnet.org/CWMA

Native Plant Conservation Initiative http://www.nature.nps.gov/npci/

Bureau of Land Management http://www.blm.gov./education.html

National Wildlife Federation http://www.nwf.org

Pesticide Information http://164.159.187.239?NWRSFiles/Internet resources/Pesticide.html

Noxious Weeds, Exotic and Invasive Plant Management Resources

http://164.159.187.239/NWRSFiles/InternetResources/Weeds.html

Weed Science Society of America http://piked2.agn.uic.edu/wssa/

Colorado Natural Heritage Program http://colostate.edu/Orgs/CNHP

Colorado Natural Areas Program http://elbert.state.co.us/cnap

Chemical Label Information http://greenbook.net

7.03 BOOKS

Weeds of the West

University of Wyoming Bulletin Room (307) 766-2115

Colorado Flora, Western Slope William Weber and Ronald Wittman Available in most bookstores

Native Plant Revegetation Guide for Colorado

Colorado Natural Areas Program (303) 866-3437

Trees and Shrubs of Colorado By: Jack Carter

Available in most bookstores

Troublesome Weeds of the Rocky Mountain West

Colorado Weed Management Assoc. Available through Garfield County (970) 625-3969

Biology and Management of Noxious Rangeland Weeds University of Arizona Press

1230 N. Park Ave. Suite 102

Tucson, AZ 86719

1-800-426-3797

SECTION VIII

8.01 DEFINITIONS

1. Act – The Colorado Noxious Weed Act, Title 35 C.R.S., Article 5.5 as amended.
2. Adjacent – Having a common boundary that meets or touches at some point.

3. Aggressive – Fast growing, tending to spread quickly.

4. Agriculture – Uses involving the cultivation of land, production of crops, and/or the keeping of livestock and the preparation of these products for man's use and disposal.

5. Alien Plant – A plant species that is not indigenous to the State of Colorado.

6. Annual – A plant that lasts one growing season, completing its life cycle from seed to seed in one year.

7. Biennial – A plant that lives in two calendar years. The first year is usually a vegetative form, such as a rosette of leaves. The second year the plant grows a flowering shoot, sets seeds and dies.

8. Biological Management – The use of organisms to disrupt the growth of noxious weeds.

9. Bolt – To flower or produce seeds prematurely or develop a flowering stem from a rosette.

10. Bract – A reduced or modified leaf often surrounding the base of a flower.

11. Browse - Tender shoots, twigs, and leaves of trees and shrubs fit for food for wildlife.

12. Chemical Management – The use of agents or plant growth regulators to disrupt or inhibit the growth of noxious weeds.

15. Cultural Management – Methods or management practices which favor the growth of desirable plants over noxious weeds, including maintaining optimum fertility and plant moisture status in an area, planting at optimum density and spatial arrangement in an area, and planting species most suited to a particular area.

16. Designated Noxious Weed – A non-native, invasive plant or plant parts that is identified as a threat to native plant communities and included on the Mt Crested Butte Noxious Weed list.

17. Desirable Plants – Plants considered to be advantageous and beneficial to the environmental viability of the county.

18. Escaped Ornamental -A plant originally intended for horticultural or landscape situations that has escaped its intended boundaries.

19. Exotic Plant – A plant that is not a regular member of the native or natural community in which it is found.

20. Forb - A broad-leafed, non-woody plant other than grass that dies back to the ground after each growing season.

21. Forage - Food for animals, especially when taken by browsing or grazing.

22. Mt Crested Butte Weed Advisory Board – A group of individuals appointed by the Mt Crested Butte Town Council to advise on matters of management of noxious weeds.

23. Herbaceous - Applies to plants of soft texture whose stems die back to the ground after each growing season; green and leaf like, not woody.

24. Infestation – Growth of an undesirable plant which has become harmful or bothersome.

Heavy Infestation – Dense, 25-100 percent canopy cover.

Moderate Infestation – Widely scattered plants, 5-25 percent canopy cover.

Light Infestation – Occasional plant per acre, less than 5 percent canopy cover.

25. Integrated Management – The planning and implementation of a coordinated program utilizing a variety of methods for managing noxious weeds, the purpose of which is to achieve desirable plant communities. Such methods may include but are not limited to education, preventive measures, good stewardship and biological, cultural, herbicide and mechanical management.

26. Invasive – Aggressive, capable of invading a plant community and creating a monoculture.

27. Invasive Ornamental -A plant originally intended for horticultural or landscape situations that has escaped its intended boundaries and is capable of invading a plant community and creating a monoculture.

28. Landowner – Any owner of record of state, municipal or private property including an owner of any easement, right-of-way, or estate within the county.

29. Lobe - A division or segment of a leaf or other plant part, especially a rounded one.

30. Local Noxious Weed – Any plant of local importance which has been declared an invasive or undesirable plant by the Mt Crested Butte Weed Advisory Board.

31. Management – Any activity that prevents a plant from establishing, reproducing, or dispersing itself.

32. Management Plan – A plan developed by the local Weed Advisory Board and implemented by the Board of County Commissioners in order to control the spread of noxious weeds.

33. Mechanical Management – Methods or management practices that physically disrupt plant growth including tilling, mowing, burning, flooding, mulching, hand-pulling, shoveling, hoeing and chopping.

34. Monoculture – A single homogeneous crop without diversity.

35. Native Plant – A plant species that is indigenous to a particular locale.

36. Neighboring – Any property located within a one-half mile radius of the boundary of a subject property.

37. Noxious Weed – An alien plant or parts of an alien plant that has been designated as being invasive and undesirable and has been declared a noxious weed by the County Weed Advisory Board and meets one or more of the following criteria:

a) aggressively invades or is physically destructive to economic crops or native plant communities;

b) is detrimental directly or indirectly to the environmentally sound management of natural or agricultural ecosystems;

c) is poisonous to livestock;

d) is a carrier of detrimental insects, diseases or parasites.

38. Noxious Weed Management – The planning and implementation of an integrated program to manage undesirable or problematic plant species.

39. Ornamental - A decorative, aggressive, non-native plant often sold through nurseries or spread through seed collection; a threat to native plant species because it has no natural predators and thus competes against the plants of the natural ecosystem.

40. Perennial - A plant that grows for three years or more. Usually flowering and producing fruit each year. The above ground part of the plant may die, but new growth comes from the roots or the crown each spring.

41. Petiole - A slender stem that supports the blade of a foliage leaf.

42. Rhizome - An elongated subterranean plant stem that produces shoots above and roots below, and is distinguished from a true root by possessing buds, nodes and scale like leaves.

43. Rosette - A cluster of closely crowded leaves in a compact circle, usually at ground level.

44. State Noxious Weed – Any weed identified by the commissioner of the State of Colorado Department of Agriculture after surveying the Local Weed Advisory Boards and prioritizing the top ten problematic plants. Said survey is to be conducted every three years.

45. Subject Lands - All public and private lands within Mt Crested Butte.

46. Surfactant - A compound that improves the emulsifying, dispersing, spreading, wetting, or other surface modifying properties of liquids.

47. Weed Inspector – The agent or employee appointed to conduct the duties and functions as defined under this plan.

48. Weed Office – The office of the Weed Inspector, or Vegetation Management Director, out of which all noxious weed administration and enforcement activities are conducted.

49. Wildflower – The flower of a wild or uncultivated plant or the plant bearing it.

50. Xeriscape – Landscaping with water conservation as a major objective.

Appendix A

Town of Mt. Crested Butte
Community Development Department

Residence
Street Address
MT. CRESTED BUTTE, CO 81225

date

Re: Notice of the Presence of Noxious Weeds
Lot/Subdivision

Dear Landowner:

Upon inspection, noxious weeds, **Scentless Chamomile** and **Oxeye Daisy** have been positively identified on your property at Pinnacles Townhomes, 720 Gothic Road.

These weeds are on the Town of Mt. Crested Butte Noxious Weed List and must, by law, be controlled. Under provision of Chapter 14, Article II, of the Code of the Town of Mt. Crested Butte, this letter is to serve as notice that a noxious weed has been found on property that is owned and/or occupied by you and located **at address**.

State and local law require that you control these weeds by using the methods recommended by the Weed Office. Please refer to our Town website for detailed noxious weed information and eradication methods. www.mtcrestedbuttecolorado.us

Please be advised that if you do not control the noxious weeds on your property by ***date*** or have an approved management plan in place date, I will ask the Municipal Court for an inspection warrant (right of entry) authorizing entry to the property to use one of the methods mentioned in the attached literature to control the weeds.

Failure to comply with the noxious weed management plan may result in elevated enforcement action including the town performing the weed control. Treatment will be at your expense, as provided in Chapter 14, Article II, of the Code of the Town of Mt. Crested Butte, plus up to 20% for inspection and other costs.
If you do not pay the bill sent to you by the town within 30 days, it is possible that the assessment will be certified to the County Treasurer for collection as taxes.

Sincerely,

Staff name
Community Development
Thank you for your cooperation in controlling noxious weeds in Town of Mt. Crested Butte.

Appendix B

Town of Mt. Crested Community Development Department
911 Gothic Road
P. O. Box 5800
Mt. Crested Butte, Colorado 81225

[Click here and type recipient's address]

[Date]

RE: Notice of the need to inspect Property for the presence of Noxious Weeds

Dear Landowner:

On _____ ***(Date)*** _____ a noxious weed, _____ ***(List Weeds)***_____, has been sighted or is suspected to be present on your property at _____ ***(Physical & Legal Address)***_____. This weed is on the Town of Mt. Crested Butte Noxious Weed Lists and must, by law, be controlled. An identification card is enclosed for your information.

Under provision of Chapter 14, Article II, Undesirable Plant Management Enforcement of the Town Code, this letter is to serve as notice that an inspection to determine the location of this noxious weed on property that is owned and/or occupied by you and located at _____, will be conducted on _____ at _____ AM/PM. If you wish to be present at the time of inspection and this time is not convenient for you, please call the weed manager at 970349-6632 to change the time and/or date.

Please respond within 10 days of receipt of this letter to acknowledge permission to enter the property for the stated purpose of a Noxious Weed Inspection. Failure to comply with this request may result in elevated enforcement action including the County performing the weed control and billing you for the full cost plus up to 20% for inspection and other costs.

We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation. If weed management has commenced or is currently in progress for this property, please contact our office immediately.

For further information on noxious weeds and eradication or if you have additional questions, please visit our website www.mtcrestedbuttecolorado.us . Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your cooperation in controlling noxious weeds in Town of Mt. Crested Butte.
.

Sincerely,
Staff member

Appendix C

DATE

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP

RE: Notice of Noxious Weeds
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION ***[TAPN # and legal description]***

Dear Landowner and/or Occupant:

By letter dated _____, the Weed Office advised you of an infestation of the Noxious Weed _____ on your property. You had ten days from the date of receipt of the notice letter to comply with the terms of the notice, submit an acceptable weed management plan to the Weed Advisory Board, or request an arbitration panel to determine a final management plan. As of this date, you have failed to comply with the terms of the notice letter or respond to the Weed Office with a management plan or request for arbitration.

Please be advised that the Weed Office has applied for Right of Entry from the Municipal Court to enter your property and eradicate the Noxious Weed(s) _____.

If Right of Entry is granted, the Town is entitled to assess the costs of eradicating the Noxious Weed, including up to twenty (20) percent for inspection and other incidental costs. Such assessment shall be a lien against the property in accordance with Sec. 14-30(2) of the Code of the Town of Mt. Crested Butte, Colorado, until paid by the Landowner and/or Occupant.

To contact the Weed Office, call (970) 349 6632 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please leave a message, if we are unavailable to take your call.

Community Development Department