

Noxious Weed Control Plan

(Due January 31 of each year)

Revised October 2022

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Protection
P.O. Box 94756
Lincoln, NE 68509-4756
(402) 471-2351

For: Scotts Bluff County For the year 2025

INSP. 513
DATE Jan 22 2025
SUONE 0.85

Statement of Finding

The failure to control noxious weeds on lands in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock and to the welfare of residents of this state and which may devalue land and reduce tax revenue (Neb. Rev. Stat. 2-945.02(1)).

Section 2-954 of the Nebraska Noxious Weed Control Act requires each weed control authority to establish a coordinated program for the control of noxious weeds within their county.

INSPECTIONS

Under the direction of the County Noxious Weed Control Authority, it shall be the duty of every County Weed Control Superintendent to examine all lands under the jurisdiction of the Control Authority.

Explain the process established by the Control Authority to examine all lands and compile such data on infested areas and controlled areas.

Randomly inspect lands throughout the County establishing a mapping system along with inspection reports.

Currently, how many infestations are reported by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) as open files in this county? 8 (By December 31, your NDA inspector will provide a list of your open files.)

List each open file by **Section, Township and Range** separately and **outline in detail** how each open file will be addressed in the upcoming growing season.

27-23-57W SE ¼ 33-22-57W ^{closed} ~~S ¼ 33-22-57W~~ N ¼ 28-22-57W NW ¼ 9-22-57W S ½ 22-22-57W

4-22-57W S ½ 12-21-56W **NE ¼ 16-21-53W**

According to past Control Plans the first 7 open files have been addressed prior to 2021. Nebraska Dept. of Ag has not reinspected. The last open file is the 2024 calendar year and will be addressed.

COMMUNICATION

How many times each year does the County Weed Control Superintendent meet with the Control Authority Board? 2 or as needed

Is there a set schedule to meet with the Control Authority Board? NO

If yes, explain,

If not, explain, Meet at budget time and year end report time. Otherwise, we meet as issues arise.

What type and how many public awareness events do you plan to participate in the upcoming year? Farm and Ranch Show along with any other noxious weed related events. Our County Government Day.

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

What would you like to see change to help make your job more efficient and improve your county noxious weed program?

(Equipment, technology, tools, etc.)

Being able to find and hire more seasonal spray operators.

What is the one thing that makes your program stand out?

Good communication with the landowners. The public seeing our spray technicians out addressing the noxious weeds on the County ROW

Is the County Weed Control Superintendent given adequate time to address all noxious weed infestations within the county? (EXPLAIN)

Scotts Bluff County Weed Control Superintendent is given adequate time to address infestations, often it I believe the problem is how the growing season progresses.

Is the County Weed Control Superintendent a full-time or part-time employee?

Full-time X Part-time

FUNDING

Is your County Noxious Weed Program adequately funded to ensure that noxious weeds are controlled in a timely manner? (EXPLAIN)

Scotts Bluff County is adequately funded to control noxious weeds on property controlled by the County. Hiring spray technicians is a bigger issue than funding.

NOXIOUS WEED ENFORCEMENT

Which individual notice(s) will be utilized by the county weed control authority?

_____ 10 day _____ 15 day _____ XX _____ Both

When a control authority finds it necessary to secure more prompt or definite control of noxious weeds on land than is accomplished by the general published notice, it shall cause to be served individual notice upon the owner of record of such land at his or her last-known address, giving specific instructions and methods when and how certain named noxious weeds are to be controlled. **Outline the procedure adopted by your county noxious weed control authority when issuing an individual notice.**

We issue notices as prescribed in the State of Nebraska Noxious Weed Control Act and Noxious weed Regulations.

A more detailed answer is required here.

When the owner of the land on which noxious weeds are present has neglected or failed to control them as required pursuant to the act and any notice given, the control authority having jurisdiction shall proceed as follows:

As outlined in The State of Nebraska Noxious Weed Control Act and Noxious Weed Regulations

A more detailed answer is required here.

NOXIOUS WEED INFESTATIONS INCREASED OR DECREASED

List the number of infested acres using previous year and current year infestations Report.

Musk thistle total acres infested (Previous Year) 4634 (Current Year) 3615

Plumeless thistle total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Canada thistle total acres infested (Previous Year) 26835 (Current Year) 26,800

Leafy spurge total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Knapweed (Spotted & Diffuse) total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Purple Loosestrife total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Saltcedar total acres infested (Previous Year) 361 (Current Year) 342

Phragmites total acres infested (Previous Year) 18 (Current Year) 189

Knotweed total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Sericea lespedeza total acres infested (Previous Year) 0 (Current Year) 0

Submitted, reviewed, and approved by the county noxious weed control authority at a regular board meeting

Dated JANUARY 16th 2025

Steve Baird

County Weed Superintendent

Mark Ham

Control Authority Chairperson

NW18.doc

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WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY BOARD ROSTER

Scotts Bluff County, 2025

NOTE: (1) Roster should reflect current or upcoming members only; and (2) Ex-officio or weed liaison commissioners or supervisors designated to receive correspondence in lieu of the chairperson should be indicated as such.

Section 2-953 of the Noxious Weed Control Act defines the control authority as the county weed district board, or the county board.

This control authority is: County board

Name	Mailing Address	City/State/Zip	Telephone (including area code)	Board Type*	Date Current Term Ends	Years of Service
Chairperson/President: Mark Harris	1825 10 th Street	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6606	B	2026	6
Vice Chairperson/Vice President: Charlie Knapper	1825 10 th Street	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6606	B	2026	6
Ken Meyer	1825 10 th Street	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6606	B	2028	20
Russ Reisig	1825 10 th Street	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6606	B	2028	4
Michael Blue	1825 10 th Street	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6606	B	2026	2
Superintendent: Steve Baird	785 Rundell Road	Gering, NE 69341	308-436-6709			1

*Board types: C = City representative, weed board
R = Rural representative, weed board
B = Board member, county commissioner/supervisor

Russ Reisig is Liaison between Scotts Bluff County Weed Control Authority and the County Commissioners.

Steve Baird
County Weed Superintendent Signature

1-6-2025
Date

Mark Harris
Control Authority Chairperson/President signature

1-6-2025
Date

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ACTIVITY REPORT

(DUE January 31 of each year.)

INSP. 513
DATE Jan 22 2025
SCORE 0.95

Scotts Bluff County, 2024

Month and year weed superintendent started in this position: April 2024

For the **preceding** year, indicate the following:

1. **Control authority employees:**

- a. Number of weeks weed superintendent was employed full-time as a weed superintendent 52
- b. Number of part-time or seasonal personnel employed annually. 2
- c. Number of full-time personnel. 1
- d. Percent of time weed superintendent spent on required noxious weed activities. 100 %

2. **County noxious weed budget:**

- a. Actual total weed budget spent for the previous fiscal year..... \$146,349.80
- b. Total weed budget most recently adopted and approved (*total requirements*) \$200,281.65
- c. Tax dollars required for weed control for last fiscal year \$100,028.95

3. **Public relations and education:**

- a. Number of public education and informational meetings presented by the control authority..... 1
- b. Number of noxious weed articles published based on information provided by the control authority..... 2
- c. Number of radio interviews conducted by the control authority regarding noxious weeds 0
- d. Number of informational letters or brochures distributed by the control authority regarding noxious weeds..... 10
- e. Number of events that informational noxious weed displays were presented by the control authority 0

4. **Number of inspections completed and documented with appropriate inspection reports**
- | | (Spring) | (Fall) |
|--|------------|----------|
| a. Annual noxious weed inspection | <u>203</u> | <u>0</u> |
| b. Special noxious weed inspection | <u>0</u> | <u>2</u> |
| c. Complaint noxious weed inspection | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| d. Follow-up noxious weed inspection..... | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> |
| e. Crop inspections | <u>38</u> | <u>0</u> |
| f. Article inspections | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |

5. **Noxious weed notification and enforcement:**

- a. Number of reports received concerning uncontrolled noxious weed infestations (includes landowner complaints and Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) reports)..... 6
- b. Number of requests made to individuals or other entities to control noxious weeds (excluding official notices). 83

6. Official 15-day notice results:

- a. Number of 15-day notices issued0
- b. Number of 15-day notices which achieved acceptable compliance prior to notice expiration0
- c. Number of notices prosecuted.0
- d. Dollar value of fine notices collected0
- e. Number of 15-day notice disposition reports completed.....0

7. Official 10-day notice results:

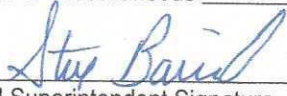
- a. Number of 10-day notices issued0
- b. Number of 10-day notices which achieved acceptable compliance prior to expiration0
- c. Number of parcels force controlled by the county.0
- d. Number of parcels force controlled by contractors.0
- e. Total number of acres force controlled0
- f. Total number of liens filed for nonpayment.0
- g. Total number of 10-day notice disposition reports completed0

8. Weed Superintendent Education and Training:

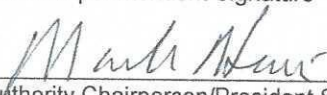
- a. Number of regional Nebraska Weed Control Association (NWCA) meetings attended.....1
- b. Number of state NWCA meetings, workshops, or seminars attended.....1
- c. Number of university, state, or federal information or training sessions attended.....1
- d. Number of private industry training sessions attended.....0
- e. Other (list number of sessions attended).0

9. Number of meetings weed superintendent held or attended with (other than those listed above):

- a. Control authority.....2
- b. County attorney.....0
- c. District NDA inspector.0
- d. Railroad officials.....2
- e. Road departments.....1
- f. Municipalities.....4
- g. Federal officials.....0
- h. Other or miscellaneous0


County Weed Superintendent Signature

1-6-2025
Date


Control Authority Chairperson/President Signature

1-6-2025
Date

NOXIOUS WEED INFESTATION REPORT

(Due January 31st of each year)

Scotts Bluff County 2024

Record acres infested and severity for each noxious weed and land use for the *preceding* year.

		Musk Thistle Acres	Plumeless Thistle Acres	Canada Thistle Acres	Leafy Spurge Acres	Spotted/ Diffuse Knapweed Acres	Purple Loosestrife Acres	Saltcedar Acres	Phragmites Acres	Knotweed Acres	Sericea Lespedeza Acres
RAILROAD	None	1878	2080	960	2080	2080	2080	2073	2073	2080	2080
	Trace	95	0	225	0	0	0	3	5	0	0
	Light	50	0	425	0	0	0	3	2	0	0
	Moderate	26	0	315	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	Severe	31	0	155	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Acres	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080	2080
ROADS	None	7344	7604	6124	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604
	Trace	80	0	365	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Light	70	0	525	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Moderate	100	0	425	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Severe	10	0	165	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Acres	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604	7604
NONAGRI- CULTURAL	None	59438	60538	56038	60538	60538	60538	60333	60388	60538	60538
	Trace	425	0	1350	0	0	0	50	50	0	0
	Light	300	0	1300	0	0	0	100	100	0	0
	Moderate	225	0	1100	0	0	0	40	0	0	0
	Severe	150	0	750	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
	Total Acres	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538	60538
PASTURE/ RANGE/IDLE	None	208306	210214	197564	210214	210214	210214	210084	210182	210214	210214
	Trace	700	0	3400	0	0	0	50	10	0	0
	Light	210	0	3400	0	0	0	50	12	0	0
	Moderate	620	0	4400	0	0	0	25	5	0	0
	Severe	378	0	1450	0	0	0	5	5	0	0
	Total Acres	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214	210214
CROPLAND	None	194431	196031	188981	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031
	Trace	78	0	2200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Light	4	0	1500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Moderate	60	0	2500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Severe	3	0	850	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Acres	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031	196031
COUNTY TOTALS	None	472852	476467	449667	476467	476467	476467	476125	476278	476467	476467
	Trace	1378	0	7540	0	0	0	103	65	0	0
	Light	634	0	7150	0	0	0	153	114	0	0
	Moderate	1031	0	8740	0	0	0	66	5	0	0
	Severe	572	0	3370	0	0	0	20	5	0	0
	Total County Acres	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467	476467
Total Acres Infested		3615	0	26800	0	0	0	342	189	0	0

Noxious weed(s) petitioned by county: field bindweed- scotch thistle

Total Acres: 9000

County Weed Superintendent Signature

Date

Control Authority Chairperson/President Signature

Date

NW28.xls (12/08)

INSP. 513

DATE Jan 22 2025

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BUDGET REPORT
(DUE January 31 of each year)

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Scotts Bluff County, 2024

Current Year Budget:

Available Funds: \$200,281.65

Expenses: \$200,281.65

Prior Year Actual:

Revenues: \$37,293.39

Expenses: \$146,349.80

Superintendent Salary: \$35,000

Steve Baird
County Weed Superintendent Signature

1-6-2025
Date

Mark Allen
Control Authority Chairperson/President Signature

1-6-2025
Date