



Why a Collaborative Weed Management Area Plan?

Purpose:

To facilitate cooperation among all land managers and owners to manage a common weed problem in a common area.

Goal:

To prevent the reproduction and spread of weeds into and within the Weed Management Area (WMA). The formation of a Collaborative WMA Plan replaces jurisdictional boundaries that can be barriers to proper weed management with natural and more logical boundaries. New boundaries may be a watershed or other geographic feature that better facilitates weed management and control. The success of a Collaborative WMA Plan will be largely determined by the cooperative efforts of the agencies and landowners involved.



A landscape approach to weed management and prevention on the Uncompahgre Plateau.

How It Works:

A Collaborative Weed Management Plan unites the owners and land managers of a land unit for the mapping, planning, monitoring, control, prevention and costs associated with conducting weed programs.



Invasion of yellow star-thistle along a highway.
(Photo courtesy of the USDA Plants Database)

Advantages of a Collaborative Weed Management Area Plan:

- Encourages cooperation between agencies, private landowners, organizations, and interest groups.
- Increases the effectiveness of weed management by basing control efforts on biological and geographical factors rather than legal divisions.
- Creates the most effective and environmentally sound weed management plan for a geographic area.
- Establishes priority weed species within the individual WMA.
- Increases public awareness of the seriousness of invasive species.
- Facilitates the prevention of future weed infestations within the WMA.
- Combines the knowledge and resources of agencies, organizations and individuals involved.
- Identifies and prevents the spread of weeds into the WMA from neighboring areas.
- Offers a channel of communication for everyone involved.
- Provides the ability to secure and pool funds for weed programs.