

**NEZ PERCE COUNTY  
WEED CONTROL OPERATIONS & PROJECTS  
2006**

**I. PRIMARY ROAD MAINTENANCE APPLICATIONS**

**A. ROAD MAINTENANCE HERBICIDE APPLICATION PROJECTS:**

**Project 1 - Pavement Apron Maintenance:** This project treats paved road aprons. The total application covers approximately 400 miles of road apron.

The purpose of this project is total vegetation control in the apron to protect the pavement, increase road way visibility and cut down the roadside fire danger. The secondary impact is to assist in reducing the spread of weeds.

This application is usually applied between March 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> depending upon weather conditions and crew/equipment availability. In some years this application can continue into June.

**Project 2 - Gravel Apron Maintenance:** This project treats approximately 800 miles of road apron. The purpose of this project is total vegetation control in the gravel road apron. This application applies herbicide to gravel road aprons from the road edge to the ditch line.

The purpose of the project is total vegetation control in the apron to decrease damage to the road bed, to ease the maintenance tasks and reduce the danger of fire. It also reduces the movement of weeds and grasses.

This application is usually made with a contact herbicide with no soil activity due to the risk of leaching or spreading the herbicide off target by flooding, grading or road dust to nearby crops.

This application is usually applied between April 1 and June 1<sup>st</sup> depending on elevation and weather conditions. This project can continue into July subject to weather, elevation and crew/equipment availability

**Project 3 - Right Of Way Broadleaf Maintenance:** A broadleaf herbicide application is applied on the ROW from the edge of the ditch line to the right of way boundary, fence or crop line.

The project covers approximately 1200 miles of road side. This project is usually takes place between April 1<sup>st</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. Depending on elevation and weather conditions the application can extend into late July.

The purpose of this project is to eliminate problem broadleaf vegetation including noxious and invasive weeds that are spread by motor vehicles into surrounding property. It also reduces late fall fire danger and increases visibility for roadway safety.

The elimination of broadleaf competitors encourages the establishment of native grasses.

## **2. SECONDARY HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS**

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### **A. FOLLOW UP APPLICATIONS:**

**Project 4 - New Growth Control:** Herbicide may be applied to control new growth due to the weather conditions and/or the timing of the plants growth cycle. This is a new growth follow up application to reinforce the earlier applications in Projects, 1-3. The total application is estimated to cover approximately 300 miles of road side.

**Project 5 - Re-Treatment:** During and after these applications listed above, roadways are again inspected and spot spraying is conducted where needed to deal with problem areas. The total application covers approximately 150 miles of road side.

### **B. FALL APPLICATIONS:**

**Project 6 - Fall Treatment:** A fall application may be made to target grasses in September and early October. This total application may cover approximately 300 miles of road side depending on the need. The chemical used depends on the targeted pest. By controlling ROW grasses fire danger is decreased and the need for repeat mowing by Road Department equipment is decreased.

### **C. AQUATIC HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS:**

**Project 7 - Aquatic Herbicide Treatment:** This is a separate weed control project due to the fact that only an aquatic certified herbicide may be used safely around bridges, creeks or adjacent to wet areas. These products can not be used during non aquatic applications with county tank mix equipment. The herbicide used depends upon the targeted pest and the erosion problems that might be created with a bare ground control.

### **3. NOXIOUS WEED APPLICATIONS**

#### **B. HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS COUNTY OR OTHER PROPERTY:**

**Project 8 - Noxious/Invasive:** This project number is given to the applications made to target noxious or invasive weeds found on either private or county property as part of the Integrated Weed Management Plan of the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area. These projects are usually Grant Funded through the CWMA by the Idaho Department of Agriculture.

**Project 9 - Non ROW County:** A Weed control activity on county property other than ROW, such as walkways, storage sites, parks or parks is designated as Project 9. The target is invasive and noxious weeds. Some of the work can require a two man crew. It can take several weeks to cover the sites. The chemical used depends on the targeted pest. Normally either a bare ground treatment or a broadleaf will be used.

### **4. MAPPING AND INVENTORY**

#### **A. APPLICATION MAPPING PROJECT:**

All other projects are assigned the project number 10. These include non herbicide projects such as mapping, inventory or mechanical vegetation control as directed by the Weed Superintendent.

The Weed Department will test GPS application mapping this year. This process should be downloaded daily to allow for precise identification of those areas where herbicide was applied and the chemical used. The GPS equipment used will be Garmin Legend C GPS units.

#### **B. WEED INVENTORY MAPPING PROJECT:**

Starting this year inventory mapping will be conducted on a time available basis during the herbicide application projects. GPS noxious weed infestations will be mapped and included in the reports submitted to the IDA.

#### **C. PECK PROJECT MAPPING:**

Grant funded projects require project maps to show the projects target weeds and treatment areas. The Garmin equipment is able to provide this data for our county mapping services to produce the maps for the reports. This mapping will be done for the Peck Project if funded in 2006 as discussed below.

## **5. EQUIPMENT**

The county has two newer spray trucks. Both have 500 gallon tanks and boom spray heads. They are radar equipped to allow for more accurate flow rates unaffected by small variations in speed.

The 1990 vintage spray truck, #A 64, will be returned to weed service in February. It will serve as a back up truck, in the event of a breakdown of one of the newer trucks.

## **6. PECK NOXIOUS WEED PROJECT**

The weed control project in the area north of Peck is pending IDA funding for chemical and equipment. This is a noxious weed project that targets the Spotted Knapweed and the Rush Skeletonweed that has invaded the area. The cooperators in that project are Clearwater County, the University of Idaho, the Nez Perce Bio-Center, and local landowners. The project will run in two phases and could take four to six days for each phase.

## **7. PUBLIC EDUCATION**

The Weed Department has a manned educational display at the NPC Fair each year. There will be a booth again this year and another free drawing. Last year the lucky winner got a new weed eater.

The Weed Department is sponsoring the Idaho Department of Agriculture Weed Free Forage and Straw training at the Bramer Building again this year. This training certifies inspectors for this necessary weed program.

The County Weed Superintendent is always ready to discuss noxious weed problems, help with identification, and provide information to county residents.

## **8. MANPOWER**

At the present time the Weed Department has two employees of the Road Department assigned for full time Weed Operations this season; the Deputy Director, who is also the county Weed Superintendent and a weed tech. Both hold Idaho Dept. of Agriculture Professional applicator's licenses.