

Truckee River Watershed Council Weed Warrior Program

Truckee River Watershed Council
Lunch and Learn
April 19, 2013

Background

- Commenced in 2010
- One way to meet goals and desired condition of the Coordinated Watershed Management Strategy of the Truckee River

“Preventing new introductions of invasive and non-native species.”



Why Should We Care about Weeds?

- Last 200 yrs - Noxious weed species in California native habitats throughout the Tahoe National Forest within the Truckee River watershed.
- Shift in the species diversity and composition:
 - Potential for a decrease in quality of wildlife habitat and ecological value to native wildlife species
 - Decrease in soil stability = increased sediment runoff and erosion
 - Decrease in value to recreational users

Non-Native Invasive Plant = Weed, Invasive Plant and Noxious Weed

- **Weed** – plant growing where not desired
- **Noxious weed** – Legal term assigned by California Department of Food and Agriculture – invasive species that threaten agriculture, general public and our environment. Landowners required to control noxious weeds on their property.
- **Invasive plant** – non-native plant invades native habitats
 - Key: fairly new problem in the Truckee River watershed; we need to act NOW (Ex: Yellow Starthistle)
- “Many of the noxious weeds in the Lake Tahoe region are in the early stages of infestation, which means we have a chance to get rid of them. We can work together to prevent weed infestations from spreading.” Source:

LTBWCG brochure, Invasive Weeds - Controlling Your Noxious Neighbors (First inside fold – light green Oxeye daisy page)

NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANTS IN OUR NATIVE HABITAT



Boca Weed Pull Day 2012
Musk Thistle



Canada thistle

Weed Warrior Mission

© Keir Morse

- Coordinate activities necessary for the prevention and control of non-native invasive plants
- Focus on exclusion, detection, containment and eradication of non-native invasive plants

Weed Warrior Goals

- **Participate** in on-the-ground efforts to eradicate non-native invasive plants
- **Report** to, and communicate, with partners
- **Educate** the public about non-native invasive plants (identification and prevention)
- **Appoint and manage** a Steering Committee
- **Collaborate** with staff and volunteers to implement these goals



Overview

Weed Warriors

Weeds, and especially those classified as Invasive Weeds, are an a directly affect the enjoyment and use of the watershed for our wil suppression. They cost us all money and time.

The Weed Warriors coordinate activities for the prevention and c activities focus on the exclusion, detection, containment and erad listed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture and

To understand our current weed status in the watershed, we have "Weed Warriors" who search the watershed for infestations, repo headquarters, and then dispatch a brigade of other warriors to re otherwise eradicate the invaders.

To this end, we host "Weed Walks" in the summer along with "Weed Pulls". We have also established an [interactive mapping web page](#) to report possible weed infestations and we continue to coordinate our efforts with other concerned regional and state agencies.

Thank you to Our *Partners and Funders:

- California Department of Conservation
- The Martis Fund
- National Forest Foundation
- *Nevada-Placer County Weed Management Area Group
- *U.S.F.S. Tahoe National Forest

[Overview](#)[Weed Map](#)[Identification](#)[Prevention](#)[Resources](#)[Weed Battles](#)[Report a Weed](#)[Steering Committee](#)

Truckee River watershed. Our efforts concentrate on species



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Identification

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Purple/Pink Flowers



Canada Thistle (Report It!)

Cirsium arvense

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Purple Loosestrife (Report It!)

Lythrum salicaria

[Read more >>](#)



Russian Knapweed (Report It!)

Acroptilon repens

[Read more >>](#)



Spotted Knapweed (Report It!)

Centaurea stoebe

[Read more >>](#)



Teasel

Dipsacus fullonum

[Read more >>](#)



Musk Thistle (Report It!)

Carduus nutans

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Purple Starthistle (Report It!)

Centaurea calcitrapa

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Scotch Thistle (Report It!)

Onopordum acanthium

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Bull Thistle

Cirsium vulgare

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Identification

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Spotted Knapweed (Report It!)

Centaurea stoebe

REPORT IT!

Also Known As:

Origin: Nonnative, invasive

Habitat: Disturbed soil, rangelands, pastures, meadows, roadsides, areas with summer rainfall

Life Cycle: Perennial; sometimes biennial

Flowering Time: July to early September

Relative Abundance: Moderate

Management: Minimize seed production by cutting or mowing; dig, removing top 2 - 6 in of root; herbicides are available

Noxious Weed List: Nevada A-rated; California A-rated

Look-alikes: This weed may be confused with the following look-alikes:

[Aster spp.](#), [Bachelor's Buttons](#)

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Invasive Weeds
of the Tahoe National Forest



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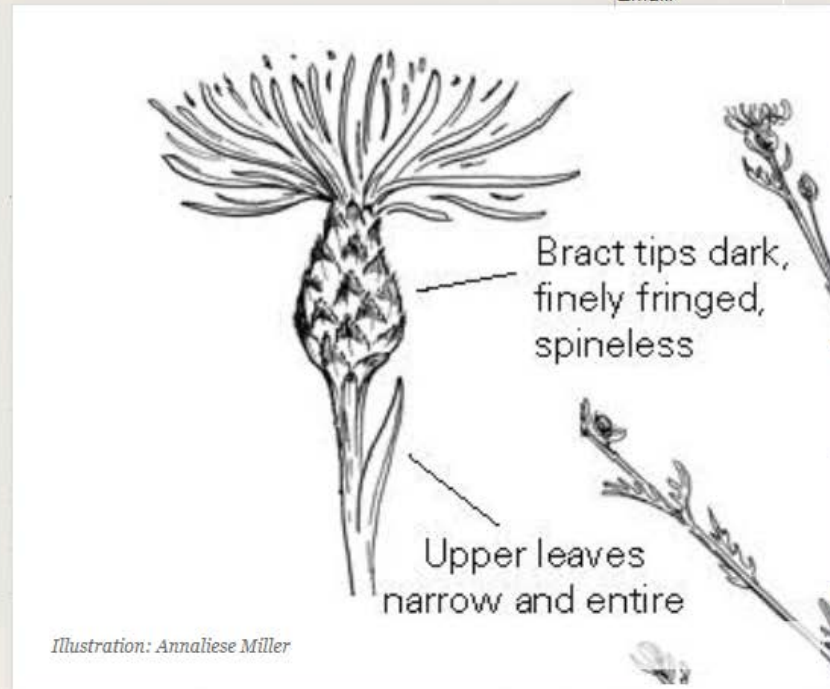
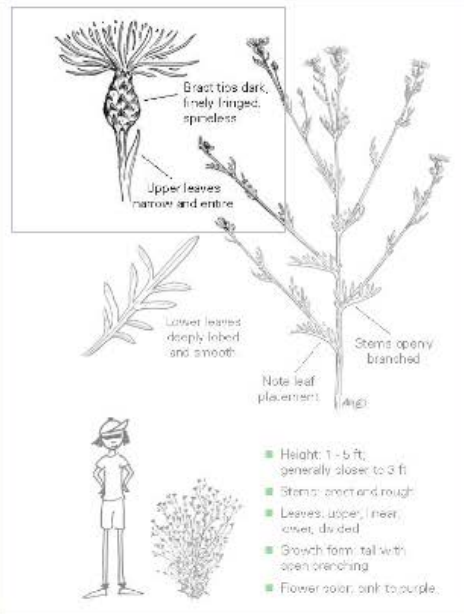


Identification

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Email:



19th

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of the Tahoe National Forest



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If you don't see your weed please [visit the Identification page](#) for management instructions.

Contact Info

** all fields required*

Email:

First Name:

Last Name

Zip Code:

Phone:

 (###) ###-####

Observation

Purple/Pink Flowers



**Canada Thistle
(Report It!)**
Cirsium arvense



**Musk Thistle
(Report It!)**
Carduus nutans



**Purple Loosestrife
(Report It!)**
Lythrum salicaria



**Purple Starthistle
(Report It!)**
Centaurea calcitrapa



**Russian Knapweed
(Report It!)**
Acroptilon repens



**Scotch Thistle
(Report It!)**
Onopordum acanthium



**Spotted Knapweed
(Report It!)**
Centaurea stoebe

White Flowers

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Trees



Tree-of-heaven
(Report It!)
Ailanthus altissima

Other:

- ☐ 1-10 plants
☐ 11-100 plants
☐ 101+ plants

How Many?

Size of Area
Infested

- ☐ < 1 acre
☐ 1-5 acres
☐ 5+ acres

Location

There are three ways to report the weeds location. You can enter in the coordinates, zoom to the location on the map and click where you were (satellite view usually helps) or type in the nearest street address where you found the weed.

Enter

Coordinates:

Latitude: Longitude:

OR

Street Address:

Type of
Location:

Roadside

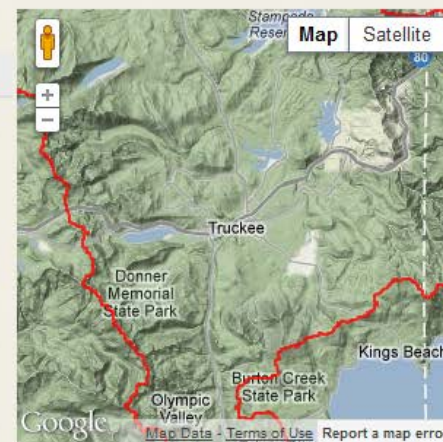
Type of
Ownership

Public or Municipal

Enter any other notes or comments about this observation:

Notes:

Submit >>

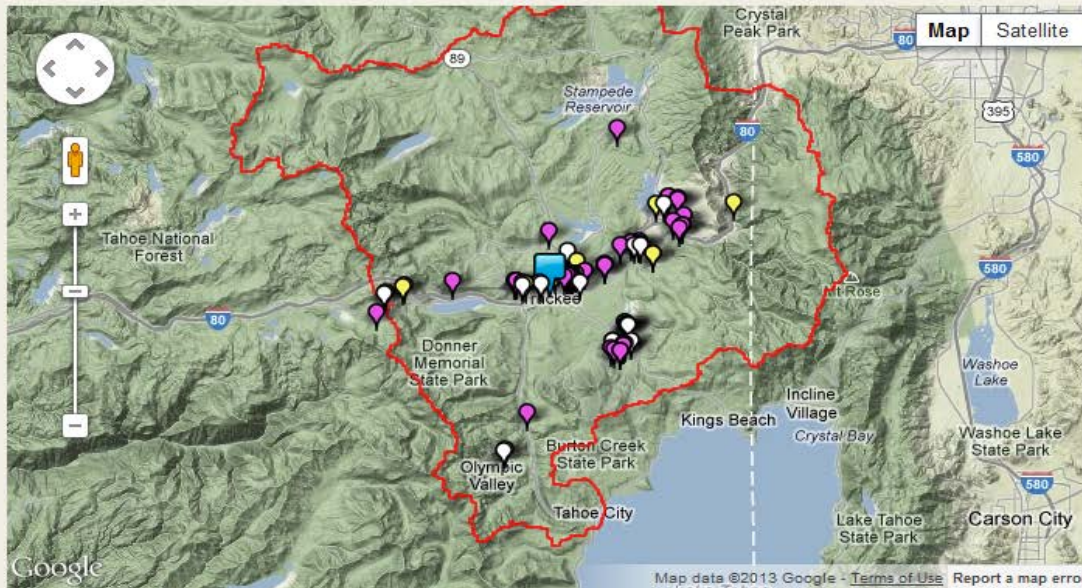




Our interactive map helps bring awareness of invasive weeds in the Truckee River watershed. The map is populated by community members and volunteers. There are two ways to report a weed to this map. If you have seen a weed please [report it here](#).

If you would like to keep an eye out for weeds download our iphone or droid application and report on the go!

We will receive your report, verify the weed and the location and then post it on our map. Throughout the year, we deliver infestation reports to state and federal agencies for eradication.



Use the checkboxes to add and remove species from the map.

Purple/Pink Flowers - OLD

- ☒ Canada Thistle
- ☒ Musk Thistle
- ☒ Purple Loosetrife
- ☒ Purple Starthistle
- ☒ Russian Knapweed
- ☒ Scotch Thistle
- ☒ Spotted Knapweed

White Flowers -OLD

- ☒ Diffuse Knapweed
- ☒ Hoary Cress
- ☒ Perennial Pepperweed



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Calendar of Events for 2013

- Work Days (weed pulls)
- Weed Walks
- Vouchering
- Weed ID Workshop
- Information Booths (Truckee Thursdays & others)
- Truckee River Day October 20

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

LEARN AND REPORT YOUR WEEDS TO TRWC

BECOME A WEED SPOTTER

BECOME A WEED VERIFIER

VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS (WEED PULLS AND RESEED)

SPREAD THE WORD

THANK YOU!

