



## SIWMC

The Southern Interior Weed Management Committee (SIWMC) is a registered charity comprised of volunteer members representing private & public agencies, clubs & organizations.

Members of the society are dedicated to increasing awareness of noxious & invasive weeds and associated losses caused to the natural & domestic resources of our region. The goals of the SIWMC are to:

- EDUCATE** – landowners and managers about noxious weed impacts on the natural diversity of the environment
- PROMOTE** – Integrated Weed Management for the prevention, eradication, control or containment of noxious and invasive weed species
- ENCOURAGE** – expanded support for local weed control programs and initiatives
- ASSIST** – with management efforts of noxious and invasive weeds on public and private lands
- INVENTORY** – noxious weeds on private & public lands for the Thompson-Nicola

## NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds are non-native plant species that are difficult to control. In the absence of their natural predators and diseases, these weeds aggressively compete with native plants for water & nutrients. To prevent weeds from establishing:

- PULL** – isolated plants
- CLIP** – seed heads placing them in a sealed bag
- BURY** – or burn the plants & seed heads
- REPORT** – weed locations to land managers

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Invasive, non-native plants threaten the health of our resources as well as the viability of the industries they support. Weed infestations:

- Reduce forage quality & yield
- Are expensive to control
- Reduce tree seedling vigour
- Reduce property & aesthetic value
- Restrict recreation opportunities when poisonous and thorny weed infestations are present

## INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT

Integrated Weed Management focuses on the sound management of our resources. Control of undesirable plants without improving management practices is futile. These are the basic principles of Integrated Weed Management:

- 1] Preventing weed invasion
- 2] Identification & knowledge of weed species
- 3] Inventory, mapping & monitoring of weed populations and damage caused
- 4] Choosing from mechanical, cultural, chemical, and biological control methods
- 5] Using a combination of control methods to reduce infestation
- 6] Evaluating the effectiveness & results of your management decisions

Education, prevention & early identification of noxious weed invasion is the first step to controlling noxious & invasive weeds.

More details about IWM strategies are available through the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee.

## ECOLOGICAL THREATS

Noxious weeds aggressively compete with native plants for nutrients, light, water and growing space. Competition from noxious weeds can result in:

- Suppressed native plant and seedling growth
- Reduced forage for livestock and wildlife
- Less palatable and sometimes poisonous weed species within the plant community
- Increased fire hazard as unpalatable plant material builds up
- Future plant communities being threatened by weed seeds that remain viable in the soil for decades

## WEBSITES

- <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/croplive/cropprot/weeds.htm#field>
- <http://www.weedsbc.ca>
- <http://plants.usda.gov>
- <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/kamloops/district/pentic/programs/range/index.htm#noxious>
- <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/kamloops/district/kamloops/noxiousweedsupdate.htm>

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Learn** to recognize weeds
- Remove** weeds from equipment, pets & clothing
- Dispose** of plants & seeds in a sealed plastic bag
- Share** this information with friends & neighbours
- Adopt** an area for volunteers to control weeds
- Educate** children about invasive weeds
- Be conscious** of your actions when travelling

## CONTROL CONTACTS

**Southern Interior Weed Management Committee**  
Ph: (250) 851-1699

**Ministry of Forests**  
Ph: (250) 371-6500 Kamloops  
(250) 378-8400 Merritt

**Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Fisheries**  
Ph: (250) 371-6050

**Thompson Nicola Regional District**  
Ph: (250) 377-8673  
Toll Free: 1-877-377-TNRD(8673)

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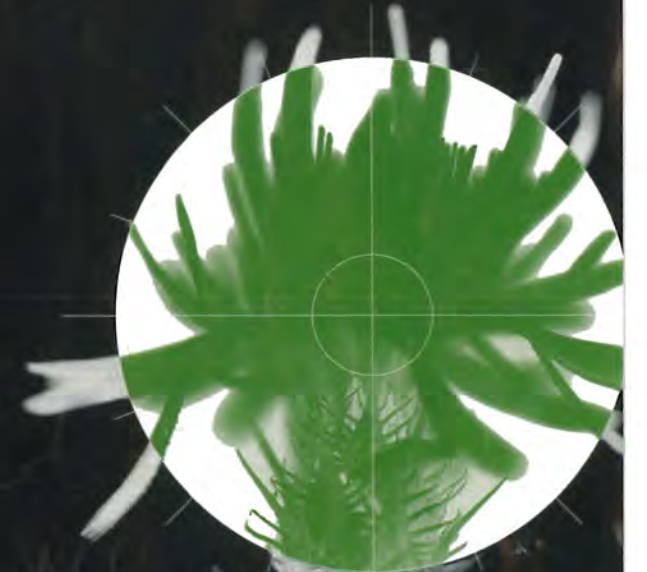


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# A GUIDE TO NOXIOUS WEEDS



## SOUTHERN INTERIOR WEED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Protecting the diverse habitats of the Southern Interior from noxious weed spread is the responsibility of all resource users

**"BE WISE ABOUT WEEDS"**

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Learn to recognize & identify noxious weeds
- Prevent infesting new areas
- Pull isolated or new patches of weeds
- Removing weeds from vehicle undercarriage reduces spread to uninfested areas
- Check yourself, pets, horses and livestock hair & feet for weed seeds prior to leaving an infested area
- Report weed locations to weed control organizations listed on this pamphlet

## AGRICULTURE

- Check hay bales for noxious weeds before purchasing & transporting
- Practice sound range management to maintain a healthy plant community that is more resistant to weed invasion
- Plant "certified" seed because it does not contain noxious weed seeds
- Keep areas around cattleguards, gates, irrigation ditches and livestock facilities free of weeds to reduce the spread to new areas

## HORTICULTURE

- Do not plant "wild flower" seed mixes that contain noxious or invasive weed seeds
- Dried flower arrangements containing any noxious weeds can spread seeds to new areas

## RECREATION

- Obey posted signs
- Vehicle & bicycle tires can disturb soil providing an ideal seedbed for weeds to grow. **Keep to established roads & trails**
- Keep recreation equipment clean & weed free

## INDUSTRY

- Wash soil & plant material from heavy machinery before transporting to new locations to reduce the spread of weeds
- Reseed all sites disturbed by machinery & industrial equipment to prevent the establishment of new weeds
- Vacant or undeveloped land should actively be managed to prevent weeds from establishing

# NOXIOUS WEEDS IN THE THOMPSON NICOLA

WEEDS THREATEN OUR RESOURCES. LEARN TO IDENTIFY THEM.

### DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

- Perennial introduced from southeastern Europe
- Spreads by seeds and creeping roots
- Waxy leaves are pale green & clasp stem
- Yellow snapdragon-like flowers



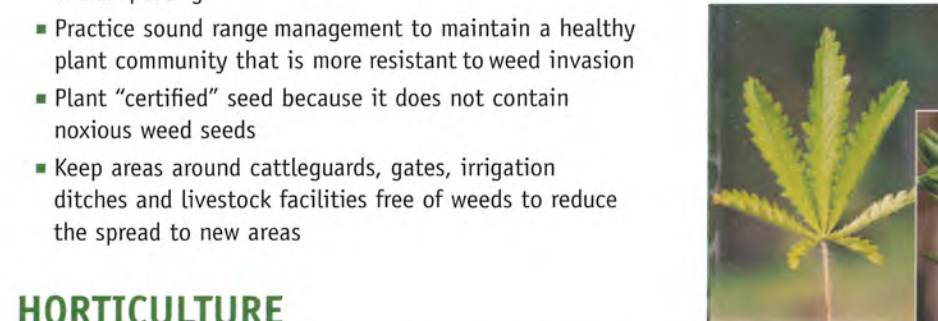
### ORANGE HAWKWEED

- Perennial introduced from Europe
- Orange/red flowers
- Basal rosette of leaves
- Bristly-hairy stems that exude a milky juice when broken



### FIELD SCABIOUS

- Taprooted perennial from Eurasia & North Africa
- Violet-blue flowers
- Leaves reduced near tip of stem
- Hairy stems & leaves
- Very similar to many ornamental species



### SULPHUR CINQUEFOIL

- Perennial introduced from Eurasia
- Pale yellow flowers with dark center
- 5 heart shaped petals
- Leaves palmate
- 5 to 7 toothed leaflets
- Stems have erect hairs



### LEAFY SPURGE

- Perennial introduced from Europe
- Reproduces by seeds & deep vigorous roots
- Yellow-green flower clusters with heart shaped bracts
- Exudes a white latex juice that irritates skin



### PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

- Creeping-rooted perennial introduced from southern Europe & western Asia
- White flower clusters
- Waxy leaves showing prominent white mid-vein
- Stalkless leaves do not clasp the stem

### SPOTTED KNAPWEED

- Perennial introduced from Eurasia
- Purple flowers
- Black tipped bracts on flowerhead are easy to "spot"
- Prolific seed producer



### SCENTLESS CHAMOMILE

- Annual/Short lived perennial
- White daisy-like flower
- Multiple flowerheads per stem
- Leaves are fern-like
- Can produce up to 300,000 seeds per plant
- Plant is odourless when crushed



### RUSH SKELETONWEED

- Perennial from Eurasia
- Leaves are very small
- Small yellow flowers are scattered along the branch
- Petals have toothed tips
- Spreads by airborne seeds and extensive deep roots
- Downward hairs at base of stem



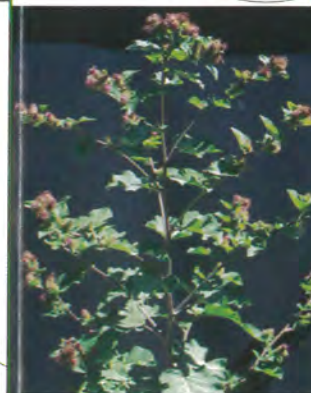
### DIFFUSE KNAPWEED

- Biennial to perennial introduced from the Mediterranean
- White flowers (often pink)
- Short, sharp spines on flower head bracts
- Seeds spread from tumbling plants



### HOUND'S-TONGUE

- Biennial introduced from Europe
- Soft & hairy basal leaves
- Red-purple flowers
- Teardrop seed burrs
- Toxic to livestock
- Seed attach to people & animals



### BURDOCK

- Biennial plant is native to Europe
- Purple flowers
- Velcro-like seed burrs
- Large rough basal leaves
- Hairy leaves with wavy margins

Photographs provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Fisheries and Robert Needham