



*Harney County Cooperative Weed
Management Area*

450 N. Buena Vista Ave. #10 ~ Burns, OR 97720

Phone: 541.573.8385 ~ Fax: 541.573.8378

2013 Harney County CWMA Season Report



Check us out on the web at:

<http://www.co.harney.or.us/weedscwma.html>

Partners

This is the 8th year of the CWMA. The CWMA operates under an approved MOU and newly developed MOA. Revisions have been made this year to the MOU and as of December those changes have been ratified by the CWMA partners. The Newly developed MOA was developed to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the CWMA and its fiscal agent, the Harney SWCD.

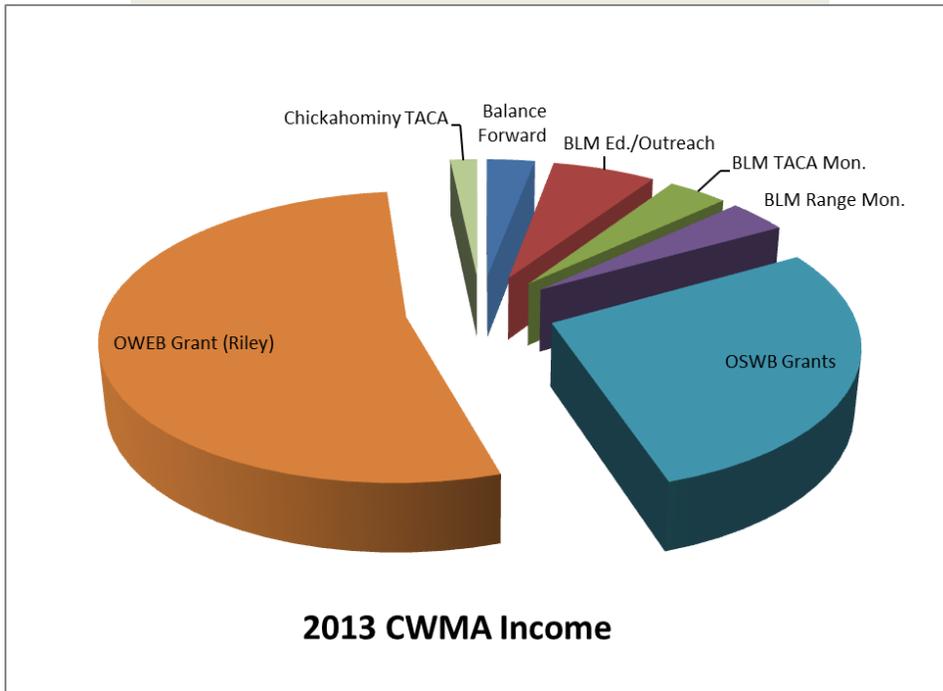


Harney County Weed Board
Burns District Bureau of Land Management
Harney County OSU Extension
Harney County Watershed Council
Harney Soil & Water Conservation District
USFW Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
Oregon Department of Transportation—District 13
Harney County
Oregon Department of State Lands
*USFS Emigrant Creek Ranger District**
*Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Station**
Burns District Natural Resource Conservation District Office
*Burns Paiute Tribe**
*Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife**

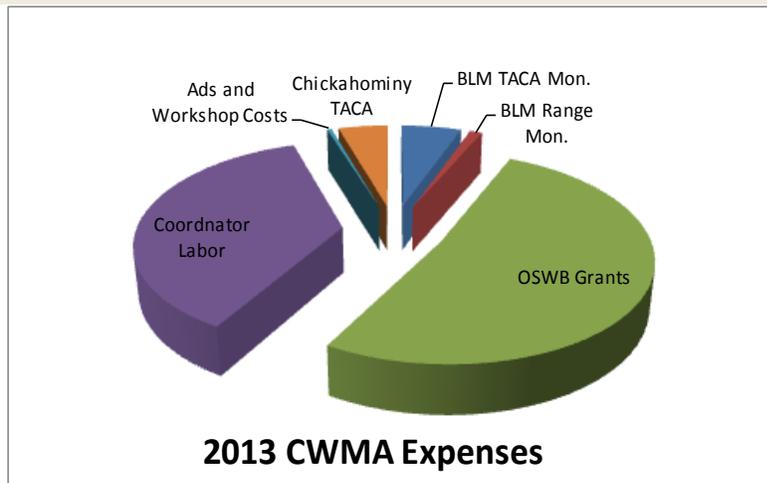
Advisory: Oregon Department of Agriculture

Financials

2013 CWMA Income= \$280,920.38



Total 2012 CWMA Expenses=\$105,242.76



Most of this difference is allocated, just wasn't expended in 2013.

Annual Operating Plan

HC CWMA Annual Operating Plan Committed Funds 2013/2014

What	When
<u>Education/Outreach Events</u>	
Hay Growers Workshop	March
Pesticide Recertification Training	March
Weeds in the Classroom	June
Monitoring Workshop	June
Agency Training	June
Free Spray day	July
HC Fair 2013	September
<u>On The Ground Weed Projects</u>	
Southern Alvord Basin Noxious Weed Control	June
Happy Valley Noxious Weed Control	June & October
Stinkingwater Purple Loosetrife	July & September
BLM-CWMA TACA Monitoring	July & September
Poison Creek Spotted Knapweed	July
Medusahead Rye Treatments County Wide	September/October
<u>Cooperative Projects</u>	
Harney Valley African Rue	June-August
Material Sites	All Summer
<u>Biological Control Projects</u>	
Dalmation Toadflax	June

Education & Awareness

Harney County's Hay Growers Workshop

For this year's CWMA sponsored outreach program, the Harney County CWMA once again decided to target the local hay growers. Hay production that is infested with noxious weeds is a major issue in regards to the spread of these weeds throughout the county. This year we also branched out into the ground squirrel world by informing the local hay growers that Harney County had a special use permit to bait ground squirrels with zinc phosphate in alfalfa fields. This focus topic drew in a lot of local producers and they left the meeting understanding how the choices they make can impact our county as well as some options for individual weed control. The overwhelming success with this topic has the CWMA considering using the topic once again in 2014!!

Harney County Hay Growers Workshop

Presented by the Harney County CWMA

Course Date: April 25, 2013

Harney County Court House Basement Meeting Room

450 N. Buena Vista Ave.

Burns, OR 97720

Credits from ODA have been requested

1:00-1:10 pm **Sign In**

1:10-2:10 pm **Weed control in Alfalfa fields and "Controlling your Drift", Brent Radford-Wilbur-Ellis**

Controlling Noxious Weeds in Alfalfa Pivots/Fields. Also discuss nozzle types, drift control agents and upcoming label required nozzle types.

Products to be discussed: 2,4-D, Select 2 EC, Raptor, Pursuit, Sencor, Tricor, Valpar

2:10-3:10 pm **Weed control herbicides for grass/meadow hay, Mark Hanson CPS**

Controlling Noxious Weeds in Grass Pastures and Rangeland

Products to be discussed: Escort XP, Telar XP, Platoon(2,4-D), Milestone, Aqua Sweep, Glyphosate, Opensight, Chaparral, Esplanade 200 SC, Weedmaster, Krovar 1 DF, Polaris, Plateau, Overdrive, MSO, Phase, Liberate, Spreader 90 and Herbimax.

3:10-3:40 pm **Zinc Phosphide Rules and Regulations, label interpretation, updates, Lori Gordon-ODA**

Harney County has received a special local need label for belding's ground squirrel control on alfalfa fields.



Don't waste your ammo!!! We have a better way to get rid of these pests from your alfalfa fields

Join us on April 25th from 1:00-4:00 pm in the county courthouse basement conference room

Learn how to get more production from your hay fields!!



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Education & Awareness

Pesticide Recertification Training, 2013

Harney County Pesticide Recertification Training

Harney County Court House
450 N. Buena Vista Ave., Burns
April 4th, 2013

ODA Credits Pending

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Noxious Weed ID- Bonnie Rasmussen, ODA: Identification of noxious weeds in Harney County based on both the State Noxious Weed list and the Harney County Noxious Weed List. Identification of possible new invaders and where they may appear first.
10:00am – 11:00 am	Label Comprehension- Jesse Barnes, Harney County Weed Control: Herbicide label review and comprehension. Using the label in practicable situations.
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Laws & Safety Up date- Laurie Gordon, ODA: Update on Oregon laws and Safety, rules and regulations for pesticide licensing and applications through an interactive game.
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	LUNCH
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Resistance Management - Mark Hansen, Crop Production Services: Looking at resistance management through different modes of action.
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm	Weed and Insect control in Crop Situations- Brent Radford, Wilbur Ellis: Correct nozzle use, solution pH, drift reduction, and types of surfactants and proper situation use.
2:15 pm – 4:00 pm	Proper PPE- Stan Thomas, OR-OSHA: Using the proper PPE when applying pesticides, respirator types and their use, proper gloves. OR-OSHA Requirements

This years pesticide recertification class was held on April 4th, 2013 and was sponsored by Harney County Weed Control. We had good attendance at this years recertification class with 19 people in attendance. The topics covered are above and we think we covered a wide range of topics within the pesticide realm. We had speakers from herbicide field rep folks to Oregon State ODA representatives to our local county weed supervisor.

Education & Awareness

Free Spray Day 2013



This years Free Spray Day was held in the Big R parking lot. We have been working with Big R to stock the "Speed Zone" herbicide we had out incase people want more of this. Big R finally did put this product on their shelves so we helped them promote this and more weed free yards by holding it here this year. The weather was good again this year and we handed out hundreds of gallons of premixed turf labeled herbicide to residents of Burns and Hines. The CWMA loves this program and is planning on continuing it for years to come.



Education & Awareness

2013 Monitoring Workshop "Camera-On-A-Stick"



The CWMA has been working for a couple years to develop its camera-on-a-stick technique and get it rolled out into the hands of the local landowners where it can be used to help them monitor their land. The CWMA, local BLM, and OSU have partnered up and have been working on using and perfecting this technique on BLM projects and historical BLM trend monitoring sites. We were excited to finally put a workshop on in 2013 for the landowners and even some agency folks to show them just how easy it can be to accurately monitor their lands. The CWMA will be hosting an annual workshop on this topic for several years to come in an effort to get more people involved. Hopefully mother nature will be kinder to use in the coming years, this years workshop was a cold wet one, as you can see in the photos.



Education & Awareness

***Burns Paiute Tribe After School Program 2014 ***



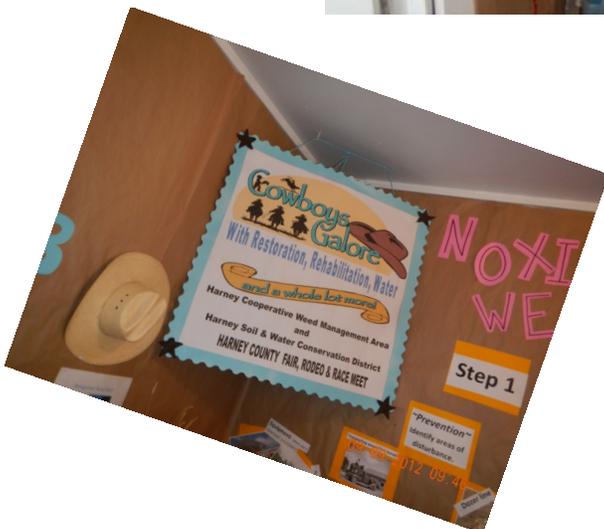
This year the CWMA held noxious weed education outreach at the Burns Paiute Tribe. We went into their afterschool class and taught them how to identify a few weeds that they have around their area. Jesse Barns led the classroom activities with Kyle Heinrick and Jim Campbell supporting her where she needed us to. After the classroom activities we took the children outside so they could put their newly acquired knowledge to the test. Earlier that day Jesse and Jim had identified examples of the weeds for the outside portion of their lesson. Jesse had them split up into 3 teams and using a relay style, she asked them to find the weeds they had been taught in the classroom. She made them put a sock on their foot, this was their baton. After everyone found their weeds she had them count the number of seeds that stuck to their sock/baton. This taught the kids just how easy weeds can be moved from place to place. The CWMA will look into doing this again in 2014.



Education & Awareness

2013 Harney County Fair

This year's fair booth was making the connection between family ranches/farms that are handed down from generation to generation and maintaining the ground they all count on for their living. We displayed a "Family Tree" and used the branches coming off of it to show the need and steps to ensure a healthy ecosystem within everyone's land. We also displayed all our ongoing projects on private and public lands.



The Harney County 2013 fair booth took 1st place and won the Judges Choice award as well!! It was a good year for us at the fair and now our challenge is to top it next year!

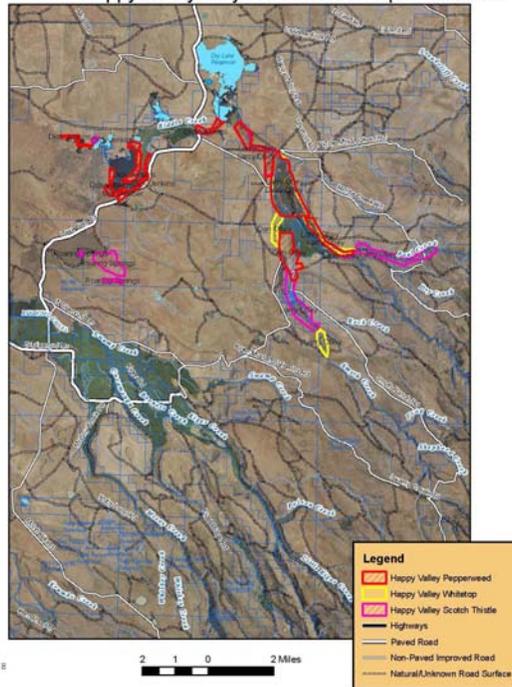
On-The-Ground Projects

Happy Valley OSWB Grant Project

This project is focused on the 'self-contained' Happy Valley and the three creeks that drain into Dry Lake Reservoir. This valley has been infested with noxious weeds, but gaining cooperation with all the landowners in the past has been challenging. Some of the landowners in this area have changed and they are all onboard to fight these noxious weeds as a group. The public lands managed by the BLM upstream of the project area are also going to be targeted in coordination with the private landowner's efforts. This valley is essential year around habitat for mule deer and is right on the edge of core sage grouse habitat as identified by ODF&W.

Happy Valley Project Overview Map

Created By:
Jim Campbell
Harney County CWMA
Date: 12/10/2012



On-The-Ground Projects

Harney County SWAT

Strategic Weed Attack Team

STATs:

In 2012 the SWAT was a 4 person crew.

They started up in May and finished up in November. Unfortunately, rangeland operations were shut down for about a month and a half due to EXTREME fire danger.

Despite shut-downs, the crew surveyed **60,000** acres of public land district-wide (BLM).

They treated **104** acres district-wide on BLM managed public lands, plus **10** acres on county roads across approximately **300** miles of road.

Survey &



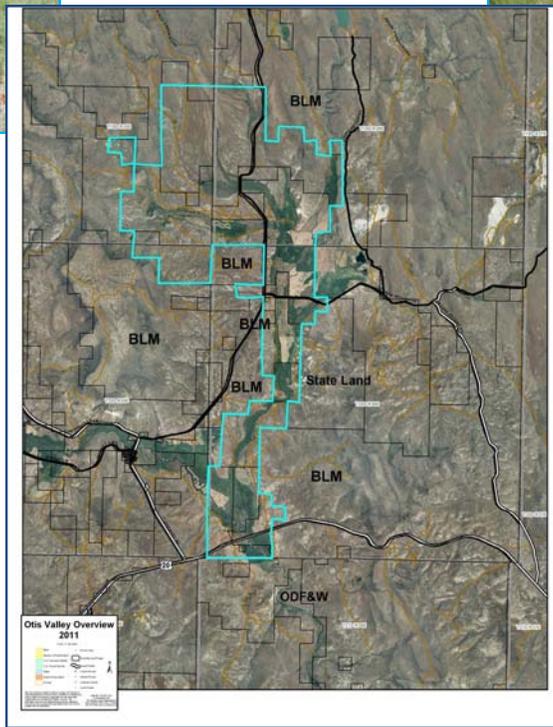
Treatment

Burn-Pile Seeding



On-The-Ground Projects

Otis Valley Noxious Weed Project



One of the OSWB grant funded noxious weed treatment projects that the Harney County CWMA applied for was for the Otis Valley, located in the Drewsey area. This area has several infestations of Pepperweed and a couple infestations of Russian Knapweed, although most of these infestations are light, the Otis Valley creeks drain into the Malheur River and protecting this waterway is a highly important goal of the Harney County CWMA. This CWMA has written a grant in the past for control of this noxious weed further down the Malheur River and this project was picked and designed to enhance the overall success in the protection on this river.

The Harney County CWMA held an equipment calibration and herbicide education class in Drewsey in an effort to bolster the effectiveness of the privately performed treatments.

There were 8 private landowners represented in this grant package and these landowners treated an estimated 508 acres of Pepperweed and Russian knapweed within a 9,247 acre project area!

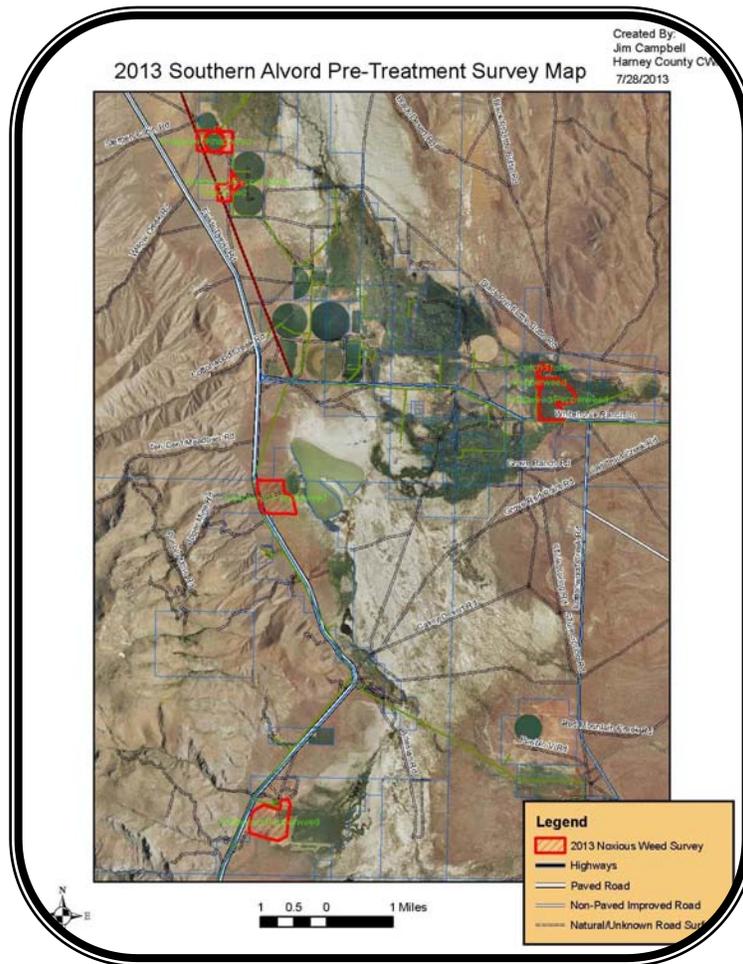


On-The-Ground Projects

Southern Alvord (Southend) Noxious Weed Project #2

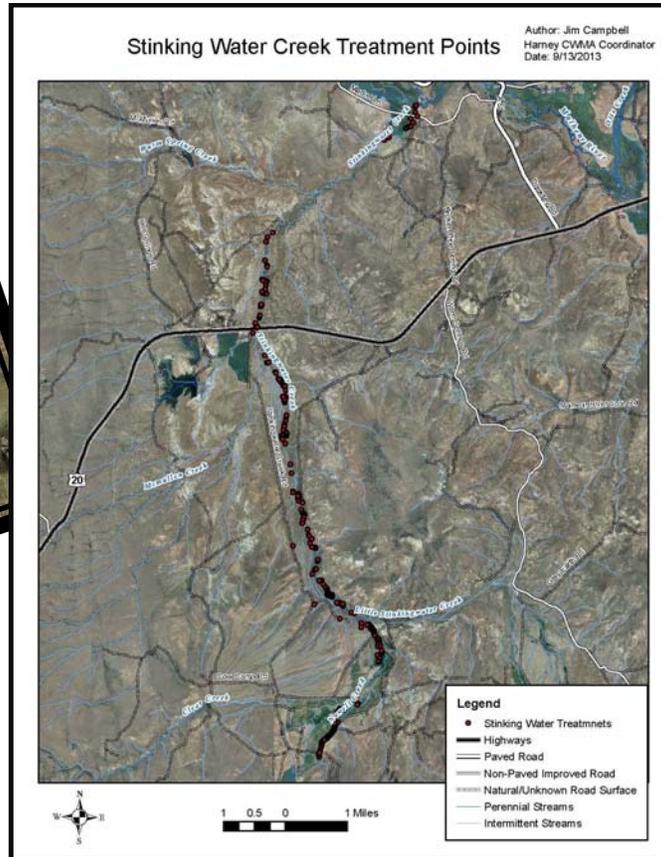
The Harney County CWMA also applied for and received an OSWB cost share grant for noxious weed control in the Southern Alvord Watershed again this year. This project was designed to go hand in hand with an OWEB grant we applied for as well. The Watershed Council did receive this grant this year and the treatments for both projects were done Simultaneously . The BLM also concentrated in this area for the lands they manage in and around these project areas.

This project involved 5 private landowners in Southern Harney County. These landowners treated a total of 650 acres of noxious weeds that included Pepperweed, Russian Knapweed, and Scotch Thistle. The total project area was 800 acres of privately held land. The two landowners with large infestations of Russian Knapweed elected to use a fixed wing aerial applicator to perform their treatments. This method “blankets” the infested area, and is why there was so many treated acres.



On-The-Ground Projects

Stinkingwater OSWB Grant Purple Loosestrife Project



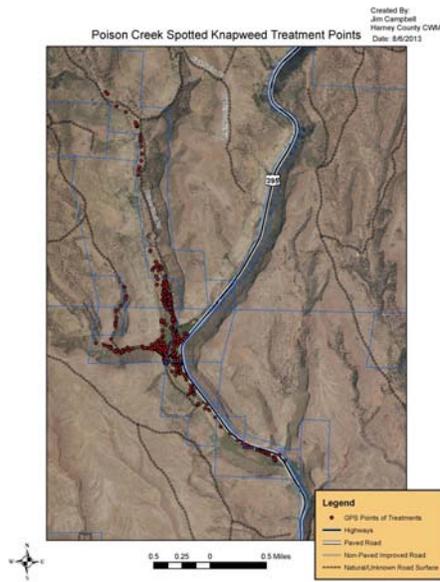
This is one of two new projects being pursued in Harney County that was brought to us by a standing board member of the counties weed board. This board member is also a landowner in the area and she is driving this project. These are the type of projects that the Harney County CWMA are now looking to support and we also hope to foster this method with other board members through project success. This project site is also the only infestation of Purple Loosestrife in Harney County and is an “A” listed noxious weed in the county.

The Stinkingwater Creek is a project that addresses the need for survey, inventory, and treatment of purple loosestrife, Dalmatian toadflax, Perennial pepperweed, Scotch thistle, and Russian knapweed in the Stinkingwater Creek drainage. Stinkingwater Creek is a tributary to the Malheur River and is in the middle of critical sage grouse habitat. This creek is and how it functions can also affect water quality downstream for agricultural use and salmon/steelhead habitat. While the creek is not large and does not run above ground all year, it plays a vital role in the high desert. It is important to all participants and landowners that the estimated 230 acres of invasive species be identified and treated.

On-The-Ground Projects

Poison Creek OSWB Grant Spotted Knapweed Project

This project will address the infestation of Spotted knapweed along Poison Creek. The infestation is thought to have begun on the railroad bed and has since moved out in the rangelands and along Poison Creek through wind, water, traffic, and animals. Even though the area has received some treatments in the past, there has not been an extensive inventory completed to show the extent of the infestation, nor has there been a coordinated effort to complete treatments. This is an important project for Harney County as this is the largest infestation of Spotted knapweed to date. The location of the infestation is also a major concern as Poison creek is one of the major tributaries that feeds in to the Silvie's River, which provides irrigation water for most all of the Harney Basin. Controlling the seed dispersal of this species is extremely important as the potential for new infestations to occur down stream is extremely high.



Because Spotted Knapweed populations are so limited within Harney County, we decided to use the County as the application contractor. This was to ensure both the county and the state knew this treatment was done correct, on-time, and with good GIS treatment data. The pictures show our county equipment and folks hard at work.



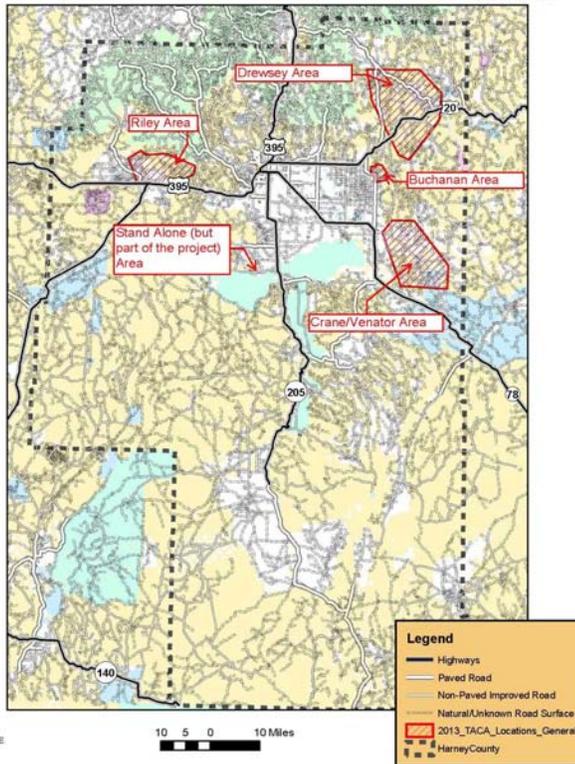
On-The-Ground Projects

The 2013 Medusahead Rye Treatment Project

This years Medusahead control project was cut very short due to unseasonably wet and cold weather during September. We were planning on treating 6,184 private acres, 560 State Land acres and about 7,000 BLM managed acres. We got shut down very early on due to rain/snow and freezing temps and only treated 610 State Land acres, 2,058 BLM managed and zero private acres. We will treat the missed acres in 2014 if mother nature plays nicer with us.

Created By:
Jim Campbell
Harney County CWMA
Date: 6/19/2013

Harney County 2013 Medusahead (TACA) Overview



We treated only public this year, the breakdown in acres was:

- 2,058 acres of public (BLM)
- 610 acres of State Lands

- Total Project (spray) time was 6 days
- Total CWMA Coordinator time was 21 days (includes pre and post project management)
- Total Private landowners were 0

