

Arica Andreatta, Chair
Karl Sporleder, Commissioner
Mitchell Wardell, Commissioner



HUERFANO COUNTY GOVERNMENT GRANT APPROVAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 12/3/25
To: Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners
From: Charles Bryant-Huerfano County Noxious Weed Manager
Cc: Carl Young, County Administrator
Re: CDA Noxious Weed Fund Grant 2025 (NWF 2025)

1) NWF 2025 Statement of Work

Summary: This grant will be used to fund the seasonal technician position within the Huerfano County Noxious Weed Department and to assist local landowners with noxious weed control efforts concerning eligible species.

Requested Motion/Action:

- To approve the NWF 2025 funding request provided by the Colorado Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$25,240 and to authorize the Chair or designee to sign all necessary documents.

Grant Program Details

- **Name of Grant:** NWF 2025
- What is the general purpose of the grant?
A: *To fund the seasonal technician position within the department and to assist local landowners with their noxious weed control efforts*
- Identify if a Federal, State, or private foundation grant.
A: *State*
- Identify Agency administering the grant.
A: *Colorado Department of Agriculture*
- Is the grant a federal pass-through? If yes, what is the federal source?
A: *No.*
- Identify whether it is formula or competition grant
A: *Competitive*
- To the extent possible describe the anticipated timeline for notification and contract
A: *April 15h,, 2025 through December 31st, 2025*

Our Project:

- Which departments and personnel will be involved in the project?
A: *The Noxious Weed Department will be solely responsible for the performance activities of which will be executed by Charles Bryant and a yet to be hired 2025 seasonal technician.*

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- Are we collaborating with any outside agencies or community groups? If so, what is the nature of that collaboration?

A: Yes, as in years' past we are applying with our partnering agencies within the Upper Arkansas Weed Management Cooperative Area. The Fremont Conservation District is the defined contractor point of contact for the program. We have participated in this partnership funding opportunity since 2018. Through this partnership, members are able to leverage each others resources for the required 50\50 match. Also, a considerable amount of the reporting\administrative work is carried out by the primary contractor (Fremont Conservation District).

Alignment with County Objectives:

- What do we want to gain from this grant program?

A: Funding for the seasonal technician position within the department and to assist local landowners with noxious weed control efforts

- Why are we applying?

A: To offset the cost of labor that Huerfano County would otherwise have to fully assume for a seasonal technician, to enhance departmental efficiency and to assist landowners with what would otherwise be an unfunded local & state mandate.

- Describe how the grant aligns with the strategic priorities of the County.

A: This grant assists the County towards it's goal of being good stewards of the exceptional lands within our jurisdiction. It also aids towards county compliance with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, especially as it relates to "the dissemination of technical and financial resources" to the public as directed in the Act.

- Describe how the grant aligns with the Department's mission and goals.

A: This grant enhances the department's ability to assist the public with the detection and control of eligible noxious plant species. Specific goals addressed include: dissemination of technical and financial resources, the detection and documentation of affected acres within our jurisdiction, the reduction of infested acres within our jurisdiction and helps us realize our ultimate mission of creating highly resilient native\desirable plant communities capable of self-regeneration. Doing so assists agricultural producers, conserves vital wildlife habitat and enhances recreational opportunities. The grant also assists towards the completion of CDA defined species containment goals.

- Does it pay for something the County already does?

A: Yes, it provides additional department resources which aide the advancement of department goals and objectives.

Financial Considerations:

- How much funding will the Department/County receive from the grant?

A: \$25,240

- Is there a county match required? If yes, identify type and source.

A: Yes, it is a 50/50 match. As in previous funding cycles, the cost of labor for the department manager (Bryant) will be used as the matching component.

- Identify funding method, whether it is a reimbursement grant or advanced funding.

A: Reimbursement

- Does application involve purchasing land, facilities, or equipment valued over \$5,000.00? If so, provide a list.

A: *No*

- List any future costs related to grant project including maintenance, on-going contractual costs, replacement costs, or any other operating costs. If applicable, estimate any annual recurring costs.

A: *N/A*

- If new positions or retained positions are a component, identify how many (full/part time), job title and requirements after grant period is over.

A: *N/A*

Background:

Huerfano County has applied for and received funding through this program every year since 2018. This is perhaps the most important outside funding resource that we receive within the department given the fact that it funds one of the two positions within the department utilizing a matching component that is not an additional expense to the county. As mentioned previously the matching component is the department manager's cost of labor which an already anticipated expense. The statement of work\deliverables align with those reflected in previous funding cycles (2018-2024).

Keywords: Stewardship, Land Conservation, Healthy Landscapes, Cooperative Effort

Note: *On the following pages you will find the application for our most recently awarded grant through this program (2024). The performance standards reflected in the 2025 NWF application mirror those found in the 2024 application. Being that other entities in the cooperative are still in the process of drafting their own requests, a completed application for the 2025 funding cycle is not available. The deadline for grant submission to the CDA is 5pm, December 16th, with each entity within the cooperative having a deadline to submit their materials to the UAWMCA by December 10th. Doing so will allow UAWCMA members time to consolidate individual requests into one application, as presented below.*

Signature of the Chair

Approved

Denied



Colorado Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Management Program

305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021
 Patty: 303-241-7908 | Emily M: 720-314-8154 | Emily G: 720-392-4120



[Grant Frequently Asked Questions & Answers](#)

2024 State Noxious Weed Program Grant Application

Important: Before completing this application form, please read the instructions in the RFA.
 Noxious Weed Management and limited U.S. Forest Service State & Private Forestry Funds are available.

*****Form Must Be Opened In Adobe Acrobat Reader or Pro In Order To Save Responses*****

Applicant Contact Info

Project Name **Cooperative Weed Management in the UACWMA 2024**

Primary Grant Contact Name & Title **Debbie Mitchell, District Manager**

Contracting Entity / Grantee **Fremont Conservation District**

Address **248 Dozier Avenue**

City **Canon City** State **CO** Zip Code **81212**

Phone Number **7193153417**

Email **info@fremontcd.org**

List of Contributing Partners & Contact Info:

Partner 1 **Brittany Pierce** Phone Number 1 **7192767317**

Partner 2 **Kayla Malone** Phone Number 2 **7195393455**

Partner3 **Charles Bryant** Phone Number 3 **7199891353**

Other Key Personnel **Marisa Neuzil, 719-427-3671**
 (supplementary staff, secondary contacts, etc) Proposed

Compliance with Noxious Weed Act

Compliance with Noxious Weed Act:

For local governing entity applicants, are you currently in compliance with the Act, or do you plan to be in compliance with the Act by the end of the grant period?

	N/A	Now	By End of Grant Process
Adopt and administer noxious weed management plan covering entire jurisdiction.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Appointed local advisory board.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Actively working on eradicating List A and selected List B species.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Directly or indirectly managing public ROWs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Project Overview

Proposed Start Date
(Choose a date: 04/01/2024
04/01/2024 – 09/01/2024)

Proposed End Date
(Choose a date: 02/21/2025
10/31/2024 – 06/30/2025)

Grant Request
Amount (no \$ 127620
or, e.g. 12345)

Are you a first-time applicant and/or a new weed program? Yes No

In the space provided, please describe your proposed project. Be sure to include a brief history, the project scale/extent, how this project will have a positive effect on the surrounding community, how it will progress the associated management plans, and why this project should be considered a priority for funding. Please do not list exact species treatments in this section. You will have space to do that in the Species Table and Summary question (below). This box allows a maximum of 2000 characters.

General Project Description

This project involves ten counties in the Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area (UACWMA), including Chaffee, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Lake, Las Animas, Pueblo, Park, and Teller Counties. Since 1998, these ten counties alongside federal, state, and private partners, have managed weeds on a watershed basin. The UACWMA has identified four List A species (giant reed, knotweeds, myrtle spurge, and elongated mustard) and several list B species that will be the focus of this grant. Prioritizing management efforts on List A and List B species while distribution is still limited can ensure a greater chance for successful management and eradication in areas where possible. This management strategy uses resources efficiently and effectively leading to the accumulation of the highest gross acres treated. Likewise, controlling and containing other List B species will help prevent spread to sensitive areas, agricultural lands, and numerous waterways leading to the Arkansas River.

- Goal 1 & Detection of List A species is of most significant importance. Existing or known infestations are well monitored and managed through treatment planning.
- Goal 2 & Eradication of boundary-lined List B species to prevent further spread from rights-of-ways and private lands.
- Goal 3 & Search for and treat List B species outside of managed areas, as noted previously, to prevent further acreage loss to infestations.
- Goal 4 & Encourage and educate landowners on how to prevent and manage noxious weeds: This will be achieved through site visits and other forms of contact, as well as landowner training and cost-share agreements.
- Goal 5 & Annually map noxious weed control activities to monitor success and plan long-term application projects. The UACWMA collectively utilizes mapping software and the use of EDDMapS West tracking database. List A species that are previously and newly discovered will be recorded and uploaded if they are identified in the region.

USFS State & Private Forestry Funding Eligibility

Approximately \$32,000 of SPF funding is available for 2024 noxious weed grants. Please use this section of the application to if you'd like to receive a portion of your grant's funding from SPF. Funding can be for the entire grant amount, a portion of it, or funding at all. Requesting SPF funding will not change the amount of your grant. There are no separate application forms or for these SPF funds.

The following conditions must be met in order to qualify for SPF funds:

1. Projects cannot occur on federal lands.
2. Projects must occur close enough to National Forest Service lands (including grasslands) where the argument can be made that the project will help to "keep noxious weeds from moving onto National Forest Service lands."
3. You must be willing to inform your local USFS Representative and keep them up-to-date with progress throughout the project. They will be required to sign off on your final report.
4. Match for this portion of your grant must come from non-federal sources.

Would you like a portion of your grant funding to come from SPF? Yes No

If yes, what dollar amount out of your total application budget would you like to come from SPF? (no \$ or, e.g. 12345)

If you are hoping for SPF funding, please show the vicinity to National Forest Service lands on your map.

Species Table Form & Additional Questions

Due to changes in Adobe software, we had to delete the repeating Species Table within the Application itself. Please download and fill out the separate Excel workbook called "Species Table Form" for List A and List B species you plan to treat through your grant project. There is an EXAMPLE LIST B form filled out for your reference, but let us know if you have questions. We will post submitted questions with corresponding answers on our Grants FAQ page.

Within the Species Table Form workbook there are two separate sheets: one for List A species, and one for List B species. Enter your Project Name on each sheet that you fill out. Some similar species have been lumped together for convenience and simplicity (the knotweeds, teasels, salt cedars, etc.). There is a tab called "Species Lists" showing the state lists and lumped species. Please know that we will expect mapping data for individual species, if they can be determined.

As you answer the questions in the form, feel free to merge cells where the answers to the questions are the same for different species (see the biennial thistles example). We are hoping this will help decrease the amount of repetition we typically receive in these tables. We expect this to be more relevant for List B species than List A species. Regardless of whether you merge cells not, be sure to provide us with enough info so we can accurately understand your project in its entirety.

The required deliverables for species treatment projects will be maps that show treatment areas for each species, data delivery CDA, and likely before/after or treatment photos from representative treatment sites. Please be prepared to fulfill these deliverables, if applicable.

I have completed the species table form

Additional Species Questions

Summarize your Species Table in this section. Discuss the extent of species you plan to treat (totals for species/lists and acreages, how your overall plan incorporates integrated weed management, generalized descriptions of treatment area(s), and long-term management goals for program/organization as related to noxious weeds). Why are the species treatments that you have planned important to your area and the general health of Colorado?

List B species make up majority of noxious weed management efforts in the Upper Ark region. 18 species, totalling 597 acres, have been included for this project. Species will either be treated with appropriate chemical control or properly timed biocontrol. Roadside treatments do try to work with Dept. of Transportation in accordance with roadside mowing operations. This integrated relationship has helped with suppression & control in many areas. 4 List A species are treated in this area. 68 acres estimated. Mechanical removal of woody species followed by herbicide has best result. Chemical is best option for elongated mustard (EM). Escaped ornamentals have high potential to disperse to sensitive plant communities, such as areas with EM affecting the at risk Royal Gorge Blazingstar species.

What are your deliverables for this component (acres treated, infestation reduction, etc.)?

We treat noxious weeds with a site based approach rather than a basic standard. Healthy landscapes have a better chance at preventing infestations than bareground. Using the appropriate tools and having skilled help to maximize efficiency in the field.

If your project includes treating List C species or gathering information and/or mapping for Watch List species, describe those plans here. Include which species will be addressed and what will be done. Please indicate whether a List C species has been elevated for management in your area and the reasoning behind that. Projects focused on only List C/Watch List species will not be funded unless substantial landscape-scale and/or agricultural benefits and/or benefits to wildlife are demonstrated.

List C species not included for this project.

What is your deliverable for this component?

N/A

Prevention & Education

Does your project have a prevention or education component? If so, describe what it entails, and what outcomes you expect to achieve. Specifics should include your target audience and how you plan to expand the knowledge of noxious weeds to underserved or new audiences in your area. (If not-applicable type N/A.)

JACWMA, in association with local Conservation Districts, CSU-Extension agents, community organizations, municipalities, & Homeowners Associations, hold several landowner-outreach events each year. In years past, plant identification weed walks (held during peak season) & informational booths at local outreach events have occurred to target new & inquisitive land managers. This outreach provides education & information to landowners in the surrounding region. JACWMA also organizes an annual conference to educate on noxious weeds & management & offers certification credits towards applicators license offered in February of 2024. In addition, informational brochures & noxious weed books are given to landowners during site visits or are available to the public on the website year-round. Finally, each County has its own functioning Cost-Share program to help offset the cost of managing & treating noxious weed species to private landowners. Cost-Share programs help inform landowners about targeted weeds in areas where infestations could spread from, or to. The final report submission will provide a list of these events & activities, the number of participants, & partnering agencies.

What is your deliverable for this component?

Education in identifying weeds and managing these species is conducted through site visits, JACWMA and partnering agency websites, social media, and editorials. The final report will include receipts for items purchased and a list of educational events that the program participated in.

Technology & Mapping

Entering species location data into the online EDDMapS database is a requirement of all grants prior to seeking reimbursement. How does your project aim to acquire species-specific noxious weed location data? How will this data be collected, stored, displayed, and shared with CDA and the EDDMapS online database?

During the peak weed treatment season, we will be using AgTerra Technologies programs, Arc GIS, OnX, Spot X and similar platforms to track and record required information for input into EDDMapS. Updates into software and existing templates will produce increased efficiency and better quality data. Finding better ways to track data is a constant thought-provoking concept and always expanding in the agriculture field. Investigating new opportunities to expand this thought and come up with a more efficient and consistent mapping program and/or template will be investigated further through, trials alongside contractors and new available software and components.

Gross and infested area(s) are recorded along with other pertinent information related to growth stage, stand density, and other changing characteristics as needed. We can input directly into EDDMapS West while working in the field in some cases. Ultimately all the data is uploaded into the EDDMapS West server and available for many users to utilize.

Does your proposal include a request for staffing, tools, or other items needed to survey, record, monitor, or process noxious weed occurrence data? How will this improve your on-the-ground weed management efforts? Please explain. (If not-applicable type N/A.)

As noted in "2024 NWF & SPF Budget-App", we are requesting assistance with seasonal staffing during the duration of the weed spraying season. As our project areas vary significantly in size and terrain, we undoubtedly cannot be as thorough without the assistance of seasonal help to offset the countless miles it takes to perform tasks as necessary. Additionally, it is a safety precaution to have a second hand in many reclusive areas. The direct costs for mapping, acquiring, and using the AgTerra Technologies, OnX, Spot X and ArcGIS and contracting with mapping and technological contractors will be utilized to record and map data in the field. Utilizing new and modern concepts adopted through mapping contractors to find a utilitarian template for mapping as a region.

What is your deliverable for this component?

Compiling data as a region into EDDMapS West produces a uniform map for monitoring encroaching potential noxious species. The simplicity does tend to decrease as the users desired end results increase. Creating a template for in the field that is compatible to EDDMapS will be researched during 2024.

Partnerships & Organizational Capacity

Projects that are located in close vicinity should make every attempt to partner together. If CDA see the ability to combine multiple projects/grant applications, you may be contacted so that your grant needs have a higher likelihood of reaching their full potential.

Describe any partnership(s) that exists for this project. Include how long each partnership has existed and the responsibilities and contributions of each partner. Describe their value to you in terms of achieving your management goals and the long-term plan and commitment to future participation. (If this is a single-applicant project type N/A.)

PLEASE SEE "2024 NWF & SPF Application - Project Overview - General Project Description" in the Narrative portion of the application. UACWMA is a long-running partnership working together to facilitate the best use of time, money, and information over a ten-county region. Many local, State, Federal, and private landowners with same land management goals collaborate to secure access to private and public lands as well as useful resources. Within the confines of the Teller-Park Conservation district, we work directly with the Teller County Government, Park County Road and Bridge. We also partner with both Park and Teller CSU Extension in weed education. Fremont County will be working with Custer County to help secure a potential Weed Manager for their area through an IGA and training in the summer.

If your project is awarded partial funding, some proposed activities, treatments, etc., may have to be revised. What creative strategies will you employ to optimize the funds that you do receive? Will your organization help to fill the funding gap?

Concentrating on areas with higher infestations or areas that may pose an adverse impact to native vegetation, such as areas where agricultural productivity is decreased, or areas impacted by increased erosion from invasive species. List A species have priority where eradication will be successful. These species are listed in the "2024-Summary_NWF Species Table UACWMA". Ongoing projects from previous years will be given precedence. If a treatment can be effective in long-term occurrences, it will also be considered as a priority over other projects. Huerfano County may optimize funding in susceptible areas within the 2018 Spring Fire burn scar. In addition, other programs & agreements can offset seasonal labor costs. The use of volunteers & outreach can assist in some forms of control.

Additional Information in Support of the Project (Optional)

Please include any other information you wish us to consider in reviewing your grant application.

UACWMA is a dedicated collaborative group that focuses on securing funds to establish and implement consistent standards for managing noxious weeds across ten participating counties. Spanning an impressive 7,692 square miles, equivalent to approximately 4.9 million acres of land, this project aims to monitor and treat areas infested with these harmful species.

The success of this initiative is greatly attributed to the joint efforts of various entities, including non-profit organizations, local, state, and federal government agencies. These collective efforts have a profound impact on the entire region, benefiting not only the native plant communities but also agricultural producers and residents alike.

Lastly, this project serves as a catalyst for ongoing weed management efforts in our area. Some projects heavily rely on the funding provided by UACWMA, as other sources of weed management allocation in certain areas are limited or nonexistent. Therefore, securing this funding is not just a mere line item, but rather the very lifeline that allows these projects to come to fruition and achieve their objectives.

Maps

You must include a map of your proposed project area. The map should have a legend, north arrow, title, vicinity map (if necessary), etc. so that anyone looking at the map can tell exactly where the project is located. Maps should be finished products and not just GIS data files such as shapefiles or kml files.

If possible, the map should show exact species locations and treatment areas. You are welcome to submit more than one map, which might be easier for larger projects.

If you are applying for partial or full U.S. Forest Service funding, your map needs to show vicinity to National Forest Services lands.

Please contact CDA for assistance if needed.

Required Application Documents

Each grant application should include the following forms/documents and be uploaded to the CDA Upload site. Please make sure you have completed all of the following before attempting to upload:

1. Grant Application Form (this document)
2. Species Table Form (Excel document)
3. 2024 NWF & SPF Budget Form (Excel document)
4. Map(s) depicting treatment areas and species locations (must be finished maps documents, not shapefiles or kml)

ATTESTATION

ALL APPLICANTS PLEASE SIGN:

Your electronic signature below indicates your agreement with the following statements.

By typing my name in the following box I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements and data in this application are complete, true, and correct. In addition, I have thoroughly read the instructions and guidelines described in the RFA.

Printed Name and position title Brittany Pierce, Weed Management Director

Signature (type /s/ your name) /s/ Brittany Pierce

Date 12/14/2023

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2023 @ 5:00 pm

Save this form to your desktop then EMAIL this application, species table form, budget form, and map to:

weeds@state.co.us