

# **Memorandum of Understanding Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area**

## **I. Participants**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), Inyo County Water Department, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bishop Field Office, Barstow Field Office, Needles Field Office, USDA, Forest Service, Inyo National Forest (USFS), Toiyabe National Forest (USFS), CalFire, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Inyo/Mono Resource Conservation District, Inyo/Mono Counties Cattlemen's Association, California Department of Transportation District 9 (CalTrans), Bishop Paiute Tribe Environmental Management Office, and California State Parks.

## **II. Mission Statement**

To facilitate, coordinate and promote the establishment of an integrated weed management program directed toward the eradication and control of noxious weeds in the Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area (ESWMA). The geographical scope of the ESWMA includes all areas within Inyo and Mono Counties.

## **III. Participant Commitments**

### **California Department of Food and Agriculture intends to:**

1. Provide program support and work with the ESWMA working group to facilitate the control of noxious weeds.
2. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts.

### **Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office intends to:**

1. Coordinate the identification of noxious weed infestations in the ESWMA.
2. Assist in identifying appropriate noxious weed control methods in conjunction with the California Department of Food and Agriculture.
3. Act as ESWMA database manager.
4. Facilitate Pesticide Continuing Education courses annually.
5. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts.

### **Inyo County Water Department Intends to:**

1. Document, identify, treat and monitor salt cedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*) infestations on LADWP administered lands within the Owens Valley and provide this data to the ESWMA database.

2. Assist in the control of these infestations through the pesticide permitting process of the Inyo/Mono Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.
3. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts.
4. Provide general database/GIS support.

**Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Field Office Intends to:**

- 1 Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious weed infestations on BLM administered lands and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Arrange for the control of these infestations through the pesticide permitting process of the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.
3. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts through the distribution of education materials such as the BLM Bishop Field Office Noxious Weed Web Page and brochures.
4. Provide general database/GIS support.

**Bureau of Land Management, Barstow and Ridgecrest Field Offices Intend to:**

- 1 Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious and invasive weed infestations on BLM administered lands and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Arrange for the control of these infestations through the pesticide permitting process of the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.
3. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts through the distribution of education materials such as the BLM State Office Noxious and Invasive Weed Web Page and brochures.

**CalFire Intends to:**

1. Assist in providing labor through the Owens Valley Camp to perform but not be limited to: mechanical control, site rehabilitation, labor and equipment.

**California Department of Transportation District 9 Intends to:**

1. Provide detection, control and management of noxious weeds along highway right-of-ways.
2. Arrange for the control of these infestations through the pesticide permitting

process of the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.

3. Provide this information to the ESWMA database.

**Inyo/Mono Cattlemen's Association Intends to:**

1. Support and participate in the identification, eradication, treatment and monitoring of noxious weed populations.
2. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts.

**Inyo National Forest and Toiyabe National Forest Intend to:**

1. Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious weed infestations of USFS administered lands and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Arrange for the control of these infestations through the pesticide permitting process of the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.
3. Assist in noxious weed education programs.
4. Provide general database/GIS support.
5. The principal contacts for this instrument are:

Inyo National Forest  
Bishop, CA

Toiyabe National Forest  
Bridgeport, CA

**Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Intends to:**

1. Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious weed infestations on LADWP administered lands and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Arrange for the control of these infestations on LADWP administered lands through the pesticide permitting process of the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office and through discussions with the ESWMA Working Group.
3. Assist in noxious weed public education efforts.

**Natural Resource Conservation Service Intends to:**

1. Assist in securing funds through established U.S. Department of Agriculture and

Resource Conservation District programs to control noxious weed infestations.

2. Work with the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office to provide weed control assistance to private landowners and adjacent properties.

**Inyo/Mono Resource Conservation District Intends to:**

1. Assist in securing funds through established U.S. Department of Agriculture and Resource Conservation District programs to control noxious weed infestations.
2. Work with the Inyo/Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office to provide weed control assistance to private landowners and adjacent properties.
3. Provide equipment to agricultural interests at a specified rental fee for noxious weed control.

**Bishop Paiute Tribe Environmental Management Office Intends to:**

1. Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious weed infestations on the Bishop Paiute Tribe Reservation and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Educate Tribal Members about noxious weeds via open houses and Tribal mailings.

**California Department of Parks and Recreation Intends to:**

1. Document, identify, treat and monitor noxious weed infestations on California State Parks and Recreation administered lands and provide this data to the ESWMA database.
2. Assist in noxious weed public education programs.

**IV. It is mutually agreed upon and understood by and between said parties:**

1. To develop and document a long range, coordinated plan to control and identify noxious weeds within the ESWMA boundaries.
2. To develop yearly grant submissions to fund the implementation of coordinated noxious weed control projects and associated supplies, e.g. herbicide, equipment, labor and educational supplies.
3. To participate in education seminars and workshops and bring back up-to-date noxious weed research and control techniques for use by the ESWMA working group.
4. Either party(s), in writing, may terminate this instrument in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration with a 60-day written notice to the others.
5. This instrument in no way restricts the Forest Service or the Cooperator(s) from

participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.

6. This instrument is executed as of the last date shown below and expires on no greater than five (5) years from that date, at which time it will be subject to review, renewal, or expiration.
7. This instrument is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this instrument will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and procedures including those for government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This instrument does not provide such authority. Specifically, this instrument does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator or any contract or other agreement. Any contract or agreement for training or other services must fully comply with all applicable requirements for competition.
8. Modifications within the scope of this instrument shall be made by the issuance of a bilaterally executed modification prior to any changes being performed.
9. The Department of Agriculture, the cooperators and their respective agencies and offices will handle their own activities and utilize their own resources, including the expenditure of their own funds, in pursuing these objectives. Each party will carry out its separate activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.
10. This MOU is not intended to, and does not create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.
11. By signature below, the cooperator certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the cooperator are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement.

**V. Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area Key Officials:**

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George L. Milovich, Agricultural Commissioner  
Inyo and Mono Counties

Date

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Bernadette Lovato, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Field Office

Date

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Larry Bezark, Branch Chief  
Integrated Pest Control Branch, CDFA

Date

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| Patricia Sanders, Region Manager<br>California Department of Transportation District 9      | Date |
| Clarence Martin, Assistant Aqueduct Manager<br>Los Angeles Department of Water and Power    | Date |
| Robert Harrington, Director<br>Inyo County Water Department                                 | Date |
| Jeanne Higgins, Forest Supervisor<br>Toiyabe National Forest                                | Date |
| Jim M. Upchurch, Forest Supervisor<br>Inyo National Forest                                  | Date |
| Doug McKain, Unit Chief<br>CalFire  | Date |
| Robert Pearce, District Conservationist<br>Natural Resource Conservation Service            | Date |
| David Doonan, Representative<br>Inyo/Mono Resource Conservation District                    | Date |
| Tom Nolan, President<br>Inyo/Mono Cattlemen's Association                                   | Date |
| Brian Adkins, Environmental Director<br>Bishop Paiute Tribe Environmental Management Office | Date |
| Pam Armas, District Superintendent<br>California State Parks                                | Date |
| Teri Raml, District Manager<br>BLM, California Desert District                              | Date |