

SUMMARY STRATEGIC PLAN YOLO COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

Mission statement: The mission of the Yolo County Weed Management Area (YCWMA) is to promote and coordinate efforts toward the management and control of the County's noxious weeds through education and cooperation with landowners, agencies, organizations and the general public.

Key Areas of work:

Education

Goal 1. Provide noxious weed management or control information options to the public, rural landowners, agencies, policy makers, and others as identified:

Objective 1. Increase the awareness and education level

- Provide curricula to schools - link with Ag in the Classroom if possible
- Create a resource list: brochures, pamphlets, videos, cards, posters, web page, coloring books, TV/radio/newspaper
- Set up a Speakers Bureau using Cal-IPC, Farm Bureau and others
- Annual update to Board of Supervisors at Annual Resource Conservation District (RCD) Luncheon
- Search for available materials (to avoid duplication of efforts).

Objective 2. Support research on weeds of concern to the Yolo County Weed Management Area (YC-WMA).

- Arrange for appropriate agencies/organizations to support graduate students and research projects consistent with the goals of the YC-WMA.

Goal 2. Complete mapping of infested areas for specified weeds in Yolo County.

Objective 1. Hold annual training sessions for key organizations and agencies on observation and reporting

- Schedule speakers for annual YC-WMA Weed Forum agenda.

Objective 2. Map locations (through GIS) of problem weeds. Coordinate with County Agencies such as the Ag. Dept., RCD, NRCS, CDFG, DWR, etc.

Objective 3. Create a volunteer system to help with mapping.

Objective 4. Create an incentive program for reporting weeds.

Objective 5. Include a means to assess weed problems through NRCS programs

Goal 3. Reducing transport of seeds or other plant parts capable of reproduction

Objective 1: Increase awareness among agencies and public on the methods and impacts of transport and ways to reduce it.

- Develop a brochure about weed seed transport on and cleaning of bicycles, horses, hikers, vehicles, and equipment.

Agency/organization coordination and cooperation

Goal 1: Improve coordination and cooperation between all agencies involved with noxious weeds in Yolo County.

Objective 1: Identify all agencies, organizations, and other interested parties that should consistently attend the YCWMA meetings and events.

- Upgrade mailing list with specific agency contacts, identify alternate attendees.
- Place cross-agency articles in newsletters.

Objective 2: Have 1/3 of identified agencies and organizations to attend meetings on a consistent basis.

- Identify incentives to increase meeting attendance.

Objective 3: Coordinate weed control programs and cooperation between the Agricultural Commissioner's office, Cal Trans, County Planning and Public Works, and railroad rights-of-way.

- Have members of the WMA make presentation(s) before the Board of Supervisors on noxious weeds and how the Board can support better coordination between agencies, organizations and the public.
- Generate MOU's between appropriate "rights-of-way" agencies specifying what each agency can contribute, including good neighbor policies.

Build a program that supports eradication, management and research for specific weeds designated by the YCWMA.

Goal 1: Provide an infrastructure and facilitate research programs for weed management and eradication within the county

Objective 1: Clarify structure of the YCWMA for funding purposes.

- Research what format options are available to YC-WMA to allow effective receipt of funding.
- Create an "Administrative Committee" (Financing/Reporting)
- YC-WMA Administrative Committee will determine what funding status action to take.

Objective 2: Procure and disperse grant money to individual landowners or non-government organizations to fund management, eradication, and research programs consistent with YC-WMA goals.

- Establish a funding procurement program, including selecting a lead agency, writing grants, administering funds, and developing a grant program.
- Write grants
- Develop grant fund dispersal program and procedures.
- Develop accountability program for grant dollars

Objective 3: Designate land-treatment areas that will be focused on for funding processes.

- Evaluate current activities, funding needs, upcoming needs; assign dollar amounts needed, prioritize treatment areas.

Objective 4: Have the 2-county Conservation Work Groups include weed management as a funding priority within the two priority areas: Willow Slough and Colusa Basin Drain.

- Give presentations at Work Group Meetings.

Land Treatment

Goal 1: To promote changes in land treatment that result in a reduction of weeds of concern to the YCWMA.

Objective 1: Provide clear and brief information to the landowners on specific land treatment procedures

- Write and produce "Weed Action Sheets" for distribution

Objective 2: Simplify the permitting process for any permittable land treatments

- Review all land treatment types that require permits and produce a brief "how-to" guide on getting through the permit process.