

# A SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE YOLO COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

Updated for 2021

## 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:

### 1. Education

**Goal 1.** (Ongoing) 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 education programs such as Student and Landowner Education Watershed Stewardship Program
- Create a resource list: brochures, pamphlets, web page, newspapers
- Annual update to Board of Supervisors at Annual Resource Conservation District update
- Search for available materials (to avoid duplication of efforts).

*Objective 2.* Support research on weeds of concern to the Yolo County Weed Management Area (YCWMA).

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

**Goal 2.** (Ongoing) Continue 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 YCWMA meeting
- Train partners to use CalFlora YCWMA group for weed mapping and reporting

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

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

*Objective 4.* Include a means to assess weed problems through NRCS and other programs.

**Goal 3.** (Ongoing) 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 information on the website about weed seed transport on and cleaning of bicycles, horses, hikers, vehicles, and equipment.

## 2. Agency/organization coordination and cooperation

**Goal 1:** (Ongoing) 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, and emails

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

- Identify incentives to increase meeting attendance (ex: Department of Pesticide Regulation Continuing Education credits).

*Objective 3:* Coordinate weed control programs and cooperation between natural lands managers/partners, County of Yolo Agricultural Commissioner's office and the Yolo County Resource Conservation District.

- Have members of the WMA or Agricultural Commissioner 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.
- Continue to generate MOUs between appropriate agencies specifying what each agency can contribute, including good neighbor policies.

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

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

*Objective 1:* (Completed) Clarify structure of the YCWMA for funding purposes.

- Research what format options are available to YCWMA to allow effective receipt of funding.

*Objective 2:* Procure and disperse grant money to individual landowners or non-government organizations to fund management, eradication, and research programs consistent with YCWMA 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:* Partners will continue to add information to the YCWMA map using CalFlora

- trainings as needed on using this technology

## 4. Land Treatment

**Goal 1:** (Ongoing) 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

- Curate and update YCWMA website (YCRCD hosts)

*Objective 2:* Simplify the permitting process for any permissible land treatments

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