

# 2022 Management Plan

For Mitchell \_\_\_\_\_ County

Jason K. Vetter \_\_\_\_\_, County Weed Director

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the coming year.

The priorities for this coming year are to maintain clean roadways and to maintain control of the county noxious weed population. I want to achieve this through continued education by attending meetings and educational platforms and possibly hosting a educational meeting for local land owners. Relationship building with local land owners will also be a vital part of this plan. Teamwork and simply asking the right questions and providing answers for customers is an important part of controlling our noxious weed population.

Specify the goals and priorities of the program for the next five years.

My five year plan and goal includes being persistant in controlling noxious weed hot spots within the county. Knowing where these areas are through self observation, the help of other county departments, and land owners themselves is important. Timely spraying of all areas of infestation in order to keep the population from reseeding is imparative so i will continue to stay ahead of the populations through timely applications.

Describe the areas which noxious weed species are known to occur within the county and specific locations of new infestations and areas particularly susceptible to new infestations.

Field bindweed	My county roads arent bad, however township roads need control, entire county.
Musk thistle	One hot spot NW part of county. Spiratic population SC part of county.
Sericea lespedeza	
Johnsongrass	County wide! Worst areas are in South and West parts of MC. Work in progress.
Bur ragweed	
Canada thistle	N. Tipton small area treated. N. Lake Small area treated looking good.
Hoary cress	S Central- population is small. Past work has been done with success.
Leafy spurge	
Quackgrass	
Kudzu	
Russian knapweed	

List any non-noxious invasive weed species you plan to control and the types of integrated weed control methods you plan on using on them.

I have a huge desire to get control of our growing Fragmites problem county wide. We have already brought in a professional to give a presentation on how to control this weed during our February district meeting. I will use chemical control as I have gotten a good recipe to use from our Nutrien Sales Rep. Pigweed is always an issue too. I will focus on doing a better job getting it treated prior to seeding.

List your planned integrated weed management goals and procedures, including but not limited to biological control agent selection and distribution, pesticide selection and application and cultural and mechanical controls.

Biological Controls

I am not sure I believe in the use of the Musk Thistle Weevil, however I have a couple of land owners that think they work? I will work with them in order to maintain control of their thistle issues however keeping an eye on whether this practice is doing the job.

Chemical Controls

I plan and like to keep in touch with our chemical reps to find new chemistries to change up the modes of action on our noxious weed populations. I try to manage the chemicals financially but not to the point of using something just because it is cheap! Sometimes you get what you pay for! Plus I've seen what continuous use of the same chemistry does by creating resistant weeds in Agronomy.

Cultural Controls

NA

Mechanical Controls

I have and will have infestations of Johnson Grass within locations that it is difficult to use chemicals. In these situations I will use our mower to keep these infestations from seeding. Hopefully a short mowing will help but I may have to find the right time to spray.

Estimate the projected personnel, operations, and equipment costs of the proposed program.

Personnel costs	\$115,177 this is Cyndee and My wages. We hire no other help!
Operations costs	Utilities and fuel \$11,000.
Equipment costs	We budgeted \$9,300. This is equipment and repairs. Our equipment is late model.



List the methods you plan to use to encourage compliance and the enforcement actions you will take if necessary.

First i will provide information for the customer. I will propose how we can help them with their issue and try too develope a plan that they can and will stick too. Next will the follow up inspection and letter or a personal visit. Then a warning notice followed by a second warning notice. To my knowledge we have not had to go any farthur very many times as the customer usually wants to take care of the issue prior to public notice of their problem.

List your plans for working with state and/or federal agencies to control the noxious weeds on state and/or federal lands.

COMMUNICATION and follow up! Possibly educating them and their staff on identifying problem areas and helping with operation of equipment and its operation.

Describe your education and outreach plans for the coming year. Include training and professional development for yourself and your staff. (Attend District meetings? Annual Conference? Recertification?)

We hosted a district meeting with a speaker giving valuable information on Fragmites. We will regularly attend district meetings as they often contain valuable information about issues within our territory. We attend the Annual Conference and I've been recertified. I am continuously looking up information for customers and reaching out to our field service reps for answers to questions we and our customers have. Ive used the County Extension Office to send in tissue samples to identify species I could not do on my own. I hope to plan and start having an annual customer educational meeting with an informational speaker that pretains to my customers needs.

List the facilities and equipment available for use in managing the noxious weeds in your county, including a list of the equipment available for rent to the public and the rent you charge.

We currently do not rent any equipment. We do have back packs for use, however most of our customers prefer to use ATVs.

My spray truck is a 2015 F3500 equipped with a 500 gallon tank. I spray 20 gallons to the acre so I can get 25 acres covered in an tank. I felt like this was very inefficient so i have purchased a used 1,000 gallon water tank that extends my coverage to 75 acres before i have to return to the shop to refill. Saves on fuel, tires and wear and tear on my truck. My truck is equipped with a GPS and light bar.

I recently purchased a 2020 ATV with a spray unit. I used this for customer applications primarily. Equipped with GPS lightbar.

Noxious Weed Department Employees

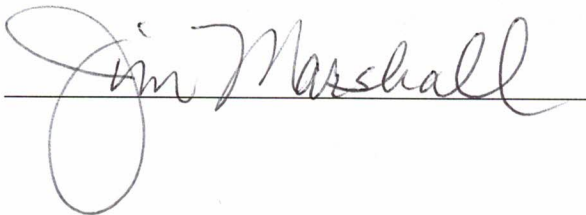
Name	Title	Years of service in the Nx Wd Dept.	# Jobs within the county
Jason K. Vetter	Director	2	1
Cyndee McCullough	Office Manager	21	1

I certify that this is the official 2022 Management Plan of Mitchell County

\_\_\_\_\_, County Weed Director 3-4-2022  
Date

, County Commissioner 3-7-22  
Date

Tom W Causser, County Commissioner 03-07-22  
Date

, County Commissioner 3/7/22  
Date