

Fremont County Weed Advisory Board

November 17, 2021
Fremont County Garden Park Building
Garden Park Conference Room
201 N 6th Street, Canon City, CO 81212

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

Board Members Present (in Person)

Ed Norden, Chairman
Donna Landrum
Rick Romano
Paul Telck
Ralph Kunselman
Donna Landrum
Justin Kurth

Board Members Absent:

Fred Smith
Paul Garrett
Tony Telk
Jay Adamic
Bud Chess
Roy Roper

Others Present (in Person):

Brittany Pierce, Weed Management Director
Kevin Grantham, County Commissioner
Debbie Mitchell, Fremont Conservation District
Justin Osborne, State Land Board
Sunny Bryant, County Manager

Minutes:

The minutes from the May 2021 meeting presented. It was pointed out that Justin Kurth was in person and Dwayne McFall was in person. The minutes were approved with those corrections.

Chairman's Report:

Nothing to report.
It was a long hot summer and not getting any better.

Agency Reports:

- **Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Grantham discussed that it is dry and the fire danger is high. He stated that the members whose terms are up we will need a letter seeking reappointment and asked if there was a term limit on the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Brittany will review this and work with Shannon to get the members reappointed.

- **BLM**

Not in attendance. Ed discussed the prescribed burns coming up.

- **CSU Extension/NRCS Small Acreage**

Not in attendance

- **NRCS**

Debbie Mitchell stated the Equip application deadline is December 3.

- **Fremont Conservation District**

Debbie Mitchell drove by the Russian Olive project and noticed there is some regrowth on at least one property. The Florence River Park did not have a lot of vegetation growing. There was one cottonwood and a couple other trees and shrubs that survived. That project was completed in May 2018. A lady asked to tour the Royal Gorge project so Debbie, Mia, and Rick to her to the location. There were almost 10,000 trees planted after the fire in 2013 and there are a few that survived that project. The Upper Ark Cooperative Weed Management meeting will be February 10, 2022.

- **City of Cañon City**

Not in attendance

- **City of Florence**

Not in attendance

- **Canon City Metropolitan Area Rec District**

Devin sent a message saying that if we decided to do any Cheat Grass then he would be willing to assist.

- **Other**

Justin with State Land Board stated that they have been a partner and would like to continue the partnership. They do not have the manpower to do the work themselves but want to continue working with the Weed Department moving forward.

Weed Director's Report:

Brittany Pierce presented her annual report via PowerPoint for 2021.

Ed asked if there were any supply issues with herbicide and Brittany said she knew there was a shortage but we have plenty in stock so it didn't impact our year. Ed suggested that CCI has a session in one of the conferences to discuss County responsibility when it comes to noxious weeds. Ralph asked what percentage of time is spent in Fremont County and Brittany indicated it varies because some of the time is spread out in different areas and on different projects. The group discussed the grants, projects, and relationship with various counties.

Weed Board Member and Guest Roundtable:

None.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. in the Garden Park Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Fremont County Weed Management ~ 2021 Summary ~

Partners ...

- Private landowners and managers
- Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area
- Fremont Conservation District
- Government Agencies (BLM, NRCS, USFS, Fremont Conservation District, City of Canon City, City of Florence, Fremont DOT, CDA, CSU Extension, CSFS, CDOT, USFWS, HPP, CPW, DNR, SLB, Others ...)

Cooperative Projects ...

Bureau of Land Management 2021 Projects:

- Elongated Mustard—Fremont/Chaffee County - 3 acres
- Grape Creek with Wilderness Weeds Inc. - 26 acres
- Eurasian Watermilfoil - 43 acres

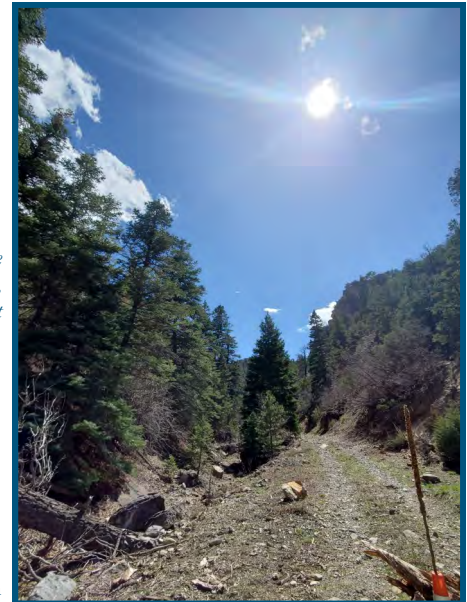
About the Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area:

Formed in 1998, the UACWMA aims to manage noxious weeds on a watershed basis. The UACWMA is comprised of ten counties, seven neighboring Conservation Districts & includes county, state, and federal agencies as well as private landowner participation. The UACWMA applies for grant funding & shares resources across county boundaries to accomplish goals.

Biocontrol Releases

- ⇒ Canada thistle rust fungus - 20+ acres
- ⇒ Leafy spurge flea beetle (*lacetosa/aphthona nigriticutis*) - 4 acres
- ⇒ Northern tamarisk beetle (*diorhabda carinulata*) - 6 acres
- ⇒ Field bindweed mite (*aceria malherbae*) - 3 acres

The Palisade Insectary supplied biocontrol insects for treating leafy spurge, tamarisk, and field bindweed species in the 2021 season. These releases were introduced on private and county owned properties with the understanding that monitoring and cultivating practices may need to take place in future seasons.



Rights-of-Way and County Properties ...

- County-maintained rights-of-way
- Pathfinder Park
- Veteran's Memorial Park
- Sherriff's Shooting Range
- Ecology Park
- Western Fremont Park
- Airport



Education and Outreach

- Cap Rock Ranch—HOA
- Cattleman's Association Annual Meeting
- Site visits/Weed Management Plans
- Weed Identification Booklets & Handouts



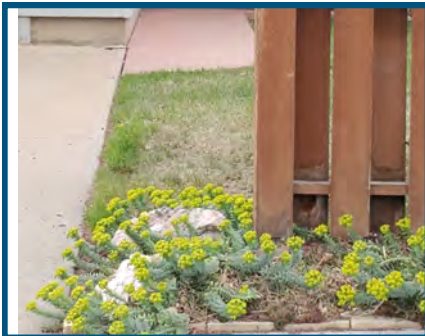
Fremont's List-A's ...



Giant Reed, Florence



Japanese Knotweed, Canon City



Myrtle Spurge, Canon City



Elongated Mustard, Wellsville

Private Landowners ...

Cost-share through Fremont Conservation District

Fremont Conservation District funds assisted 18 landowners in treating more than 77 acres of noxious weeds and covering over 2,300 gross acres in Fremont County!!!!

Herbicide at wholesale cost!

During 2021, FCWM distributed over \$5,750 worth of herbicide ... Enough to treat 500+ acres!



Acres ...

Fremont County treated 200 acres of weeds by ground and contracted 70 acres for a total of 270 acres during the 2021 season!



Weed Type	Acres Treated
List A Species	4
Thistles	134.25
Knapweeds	29
Whitetop	12.75
Leafy Spurge	5
Salt Cedar/ Russian Olive	6
Other List B Species	77
List C, Bareground & Misc.	30
TOTAL	298

Financials ...

2021 Estimated Budget

Beginning balance \$59,512.11
 Revenues \$160,312.95
 Expenses \$142,888.25
Ending Balance \$76,936.80

2022 Estimated Budget

Beginning balance \$76,936.80
 Revenues \$176,995.00
 Expenses \$217,951.11
Ending Balance \$35,980.69



Thank you!!!

- Fremont County Commissioners
- Weed Advisory Board
- Fremont Conservation District
- Other Partnering Agencies