

**BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Noxious Weed Management Project
Ranking Criteria Scoring Table**

Project Name: _____

Reservation: _____

Proponent: _____

The following table is to be used to score and rank weed control project proposals for FY 2026 funding. Consideration is limited to treatment of trust and restricted Indian lands managed for maintenance of native species; projects to treat croplands and lands set aside for economic and community development will not be funded. Proposed projects must be supported by an appropriate NEPA decision document and be fully compliant with applicable pesticide use regulations.

	Criterion	Standard	Points	Score
1	Cost Share: The more that cooperators contribute to weed control projects the greater the reach of Bureau funds in terms of both projects initiated and acreage treated. This effect is further enhanced by requiring that both Bureau and matching funds be used for direct control costs. These include the cost of on-the-ground labor and procurement of equipment and control agents (i.e., biological agent, chemicals, and seed). <i>Choose level that applies to project. A proposal that does not document at least 50% cost share will not be considered.</i>	More than 70% of <u>on-the-ground</u> control costs contributed by project cooperators.	10	
		From 61% to 70% of <u>on-the-ground</u> control costs contributed by project cooperators.	7	
2	Cooperative Management: Long-term weed control will be effective only if adjacent land owners/users and appropriate governmental agencies are actively committed to addressing the problem. <i>Include score for all items that apply. Note: For items that DO NOT apply, a zero (0) must be placed in the Score cell for the Total Score formula to work properly.</i>	Proponent is member of an active Weed Management Area.	3	
		There is an up-to-date Coordinated Weed Management Plan covering the project area.	3	
		Control of <u>target</u> weed species is actively supported by tribal, state and/or county governments.	2	
		Target weed species is (are) object of current control efforts by majority of affected adjacent land owners/users.	2	

	Criterion	Standard	Points	Score
3	<p>Integrated Weed Management (IWM):</p> <p>An integrated approach to weed management results in more effective and long-term weed control. IWM combines weed awareness programs, weed prevention measures, consideration of all potential methods of control (i.e., mechanical, cultural and biological), management and policy changes (e.g., grazing adjustments, weed-free hay regulations, mandatory control requirements) in response to weed presence, and an ongoing assessment of management efforts.</p> <p><i>Include score for all items that apply.</i></p>	An analysis of full range of control methods documented in project proposal.	2	
		An on-going weed awareness program implemented by at least one project participant.	2	
		Project includes a change in management factors that contributed to the weed infestation, including measures to establish desirable competitive species post treatment.	5	
		Project includes a multi-year monitoring plan to assess the success of control efforts.	3	
4	<p>Priority Weed Species:</p> <p>Weed species priority is based on Regionally approved lists; however, only projects targeting non-native terrestrial species will be considered for funding under this program.</p> <p><i>Choose level that applies to project.</i></p>	Weed is high-priority species on Regionally approved list.	10	
		Weed is medium-priority species on Regionally approved list.	5	
5	<p>Early Detection, Rapid Response (EDRR).</p> <p>EDRR increases the likelihood that localized invasive populations will be found, contained, and eradicated before they become widely established.</p> <p><i>Include score for all items that apply.</i></p>	Reservation is subject to regularly scheduled, comprehensive weed survey.	5	
		Treatment target is a species recently discovered on the Management Area that presents a genuine (concurrence in determination by County or State weed authorities) opportunity for eradication.	5	
6	<p>Extent of Target Weed Infestation.</p> <p>The extent to which a weed has infested a management area reflects how well established the plant is and how difficult it would be to achieve and maintain control of that species.</p> <p><i>Choose level that applies to project.</i> <i>In absence of declared Weed Management Area, use county.</i></p>	Total infestation of target weed in Management Area less than 25 acres.	15	
		Infestation within Management Area totals between 25 and 150 acres.	10	
		Infestation within Management Area totals between 150 and 1000 acres.	5	

	Criterion	Standard	Points	Score
7	<p>Biological Control Off-set.</p> <p>Biological control has the potential to return very large areas of Indian and neighboring lands to productive use. Assigning points will offset the reduction of points for areas greater than 1000 acres on the Extent of the Target Weed Infestation criteria above.</p> <p><i>Include score if applicable.</i></p>	Project targets, with a proven biological control agent, an infestation within or adjacent to the Management Area of greater than 1000 acres.	15	
8	<p>Geographic Information Systems.</p> <p>GIS software and technical support is available at no cost to all Agency and Tribal programs. This technology is of extreme value in the development of a cooperative and integrated weed management program.</p> <p><i>Choose level that applies to project.</i></p>	Full range of project and Management Area elements (e.g., land ownership, land use, lease/permit status for trust lands, noxious weed infestations, travel and utilities corridors) captured in GIS.	10	
		Only immediate, project-specific elements captured in GIS.	5	
9	<p>Weed Management Environment.</p> <p>Tribal or landowner awareness, support, and regulation of activities and products concerning noxious weeds is critical for program success.</p> <p><i>Include score for all items that apply.</i></p>	Weed-free forage and/or weed-free seed law enforceable at the reservation level.	4	
		Regional Director, Agency Superintendent, or Tribal governing body has issued specific written direction requiring management of noxious weeds in connection with actions taken by non-ag programs (e.g. Roads, Forestry, and Wildlife).	4	
10	<p>Continued Success.</p> <p>Because noxious weed control is seldom achieved with a single treatment, it is important to support "in-progress" projects. Annual reports must show previous year success and be submitted with the proposal. A reduction in targeted weed acreage or density should be documented.</p> <p><i>Include score if applicable.</i></p>	Project represents continuation/extension of a successful previous-year project.	5	
Total Score				0