

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**February 15, 2013**

**News Release**

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## **State Forestry Division Awards \$128,642.92 in Grant Funding for Noxious Weed Treatment**

SANTA FE, NM – The New Mexico State Forestry Division has awarded \$128,642.92 in grant funding to treat noxious weeds that threaten forested areas across the state, according to State Invasive Plant Program Manager, Shannon Atencio.

New Mexico State Forestry's Invasive Plant Program works with Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) to address and treat noxious weeds. CWMAs are comprised of private landowners, soil and water conservation districts and local, state and federal agencies. The Forestry Division's projects with CWMAs concentrate efforts in areas where noxious weeds threaten forested land.

"Our program helps address the negative impacts of noxious weed species through mapping and treatment projects," said Atencio. "We've also successfully raised awareness through education and outreach workshops, demonstration projects and public events that help to inform the public about weed management projects in their communities."

The primary goal of the program is to increase the ability to manage and prevent invasions of noxious weeds on the local level throughout the state. The program provides cost-share funding from the USDA Forest Service, administered through the Forestry Division for local CWMAs.

Local CWMAs have been shown to be the best mode for implementing weed management programs.

Funding for this grant program targets weed species that are listed on the State's Noxious Weed List, which was developed and maintained by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA). State Forestry works closely with the NMDA to support the efforts of the CWMAs across the state. A link to the list is provided below.

[http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/Publications/documents/weedlist2009\\_final.pdf](http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/Publications/documents/weedlist2009_final.pdf)

### **2013/2014 Noxious Weed Project Awards**

**Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District - \$53,000.00**  
**East Rio Arriba Soil and Water Conservation District - \$15,000.00**  
**Colfax Soil and Water Conservation District - \$60,642.92**

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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*

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