

2020 Weed Act Rule – Concept

8/23/19

The Colorado Department of Agriculture proposes to amend the existing rule (8 CCR 1206-2 Rules Pertaining to the Administration and Enforcement of the Colorado Noxious Weed Act).

CDA proposes to amend the Rules to remove “Part 6 Watch List Species.” This list will continue to be maintained by program staff as was done prior to its being moved into the Rules. Rather than waiting every two years for updating, CDA believes that having additional flexibility and timeliness will keep the list more relevant and make it a more effective awareness tool.

Updates to management plans for a subset of List B species are proposed to be added to the Rule. These include absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*), black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Chinese clematis (*Clematis orientalis*), diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*), hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*), houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*), Russian-olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), salt cedar (*Tamarix chinensis*, *T. parviflora*, and *T. ramosissima*), spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos*), diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*), spotted x diffuse knapweed hybrid (*Centaurea x psammogena* = *C. stoebe* x *C. diffusa* ssp. *micranthos*), and yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*). State noxious weed management plans need to be updated on a regular basis in order to revise expired dates; to take into account control efforts made in recent years, and reflect changes in abundance and/or distribution. These plans are necessary in order to coordinate appropriate actions at the private, local, state, and federal levels that will halt the continued spread of these species.

The amendment would revise species scientific names for the following List A noxious weeds: Bohemian knotweed (*Polygonum x bohemicum*) change to *Fallopia x bohemicum*; giant knotweed (*Polygonum sachalinense*) change to *Fallopia sachalinensis*; Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) change to *Fallopia japonica*; and meadow knapweed (*Centaurea nigrescens*) change to *Centaurea x moncktonii*; and for List B noxious weed hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*) which would change to *Rhaponticum repens*, spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*) which would change to *Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos*, and spotted x diffuse knapweed hybrid (*Centaurea x psammogena*= *C. stoebe* x *C. diffusa* ssp. *micranthos*) which would change to *Centaurea X psammogena*. These changes are necessary to be consistent with North American-wide interagency efforts to use taxonomy that is scientifically accepted by Integrated Taxonomic Information System.

Finally, the amendment revises List B management plan expiration dates to reflect a biennial update cycle; may revise the organization and language of parts of the rule to improve its clarity without affecting the substance of the rule; and corrects any typographical errors.