

Russian Knapweed Initiative Program

(RKIP)



*Russian Knapweed in bloom. Photo Credit:
CO Dept. of Agriculture*

What is the program?

RKIP is a cost incentive program focused on restoring lands infested by Russian knapweed. First year treatments are paid for entirely by the program. Landowners are then required to commit to five years of follow-up treatments, documented by PWWMC/SPPRCO on an annual basis.

Focus Area

This program is focused in the Model/Hoehne area. Thus, landowners in these areas take priority.

How do I sign up?

Landowners must contact PWWMC/SPPRCO and schedule a site visit. Landowners must allow mapping of Russian knapweed (and any other noxious weeds) on their property. Additionally, landowners must fill out an application and plan under the guidance of the PWWMC Coordinator and/or SPPRCO Noxious Weed Technician.

Basic Requirements:

1. Land must be within the boundaries of the Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River Conservation District
 - a. Additionally, land must be in the Model/Hoehne areas.
2. Mapping of noxious weeds on their property (this mapping data will be accessible by Las Animas County and the CO Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed Program, but will not be available for public viewing).
3. Allow first year treatments to be done by a commercial applicator through a SPPRCO bidding process.
4. Allow inspections by SPPRCO/PWWMC during the landowner's five year commitment time period.
5. NOTE: Additional funds may become available for seeding/restoration costs under the RKIP program, but as of June 2019, those funds have not been secured.

Not sure if you have a noxious weed?

If you think you might have a noxious weed, please contact the Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative Coordinator, Shelly L. Simmons or the SPPRCO Noxious Weed Technician, Donna Albertson to assist you with identification.

For more information:

Shelly L. Simmons, Coordinator
Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative
719.469.2847
ssimmons@purgatoireconservation.org
OR
Donna Albertson, SPPRCO Noxious Weed Technician
719.680.3031
donna.spprcd@gmail.com