



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Federal Laws:

### ➤ Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

-Regulates the registration, manufacturing, transportation, distribution, and use of pesticides.

-Administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

-EPA classifies pesticides as "Restricted-Use" or "General Use".

-Requires all applicators to read, understand, and follow all pesticide labeling and supplemental material.



THE LABEL IS  
THE LAW!



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## State Laws (Nevada Revised Statute):

### ➤ NRS Chapter 555

-Requires a certified/licensed applicator for all Restricted-Use Pesticides.

-Parks staff required to have a "Government" applicator's license issued by Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA).

### ➤ NRS Chapter 586

-Requires pesticide registration with NDA.





# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Noxious vs. Nuisance Weeds:

- **Noxious weeds** are plants that have been identified by the State of Nevada to be harmful to agriculture, the general public, or the environment. The law stipulates that property owners whose land is infested with noxious weeds are required to implement control measures.
- **Nuisance weeds** are troublesome, but have not been listed by the state as noxious weeds. Nuisance weeds can spread rapidly, compete with desirable plants, and have similar impacts as noxious weeds.



Nevada Noxious Weed Field Guide



SP-10-01



Nevada Nuisance Weed Field Guide



SP-18-02



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## Pesticide Use in Parks

- Must be in compliance with NDEP Stormwater Permit
  - Permit is shared between the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County
  - Annual Report includes all usage of fertilizers, insecticide, fungicide and rodenticides used in our parks.



# Regional Parks and Open Space

- **Stormwater Compliance requirements:**
  - Name of products used
  - Method of application
  - Annual volume of use
  - Certifications/training of field staff
  - Acreage of land treated
  - Storage
  - Staff hours/staff costs
  - Goals/objectives each year



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Pesticide Use in Parks

- Staff that work with pesticides must be under the supervision of a pesticide applicators license administered through the Nevada Department of Agriculture under the Nevada Pesticide Act (NRS 586)
- Licensed staff include all Maintenance Supervisors, Assistant Horticulturist, Park Maintenance Workers hired since 2018 and the Natural Resource Planner
- Training through UNR's Cooperative Extension known as Weed Warriors



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Pesticide Use in Parks

- The label is the law which is dictated by the EPA
  - Caution
  - Warning
  - Danger
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is being used as required by the label. Typically includes: respirator, gloves, eye protection, long sleeves, long pants
- Conditions of use: Use pre-emergent before rain is expected; do not spray on windy days
- Re-entry – safe when product dries, can be within minutes of application



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park

➤ 0.19 acres





# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Cold Springs Park

➤ 1.91 acres treated







# Regional Parks and Open Space

## State Laws (Nevada Revised Statute):

### ➤ NRS 555:130

-Authorizes NDA to designate and classify "Noxious" weeds.

### ➤ NRS 555.005

-Defines a "Noxious" weed as: "Any species of plant which is, or is likely to be, a public nuisance, detrimental or destructive and difficult to control."





# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Category A Weeds:

*Category A noxious weeds are weeds that are g*

African rue  
Austrian fieldcress  
Swainsonpea  
Black henbane  
Camelthorn  
Common crupina  
Dalmatian toadflax  
Dyer's woad  
Eurasian water-milfoil  
Giant reed  
Giant salvinia  
Goatsrue  
Crimson fountain grass  
Houndstongue  
Hydrilla  
Iberian starthistle  
Common St. Johnswort  
Malta starthistle  
Mayweed chamomile  
Mediterranean sage  
Purple loosestrife  
Purple starthistle  
Rush skeletonweed  
Sow thistle  
Spotted knapweed  
Squarrose knapweed  
Sulfur cinquefoil  
Syrian bean caper  
Yellow starthistle  
Yellow toadflax

## NEVADA NOXIOUS WEED LIST BY CATEGORY

(NAC 555.010)

## Category B Weeds:

*Category B listed noxious weeds are weed*

Horsenettle  
Diffuse knapweed  
Leafy spurge  
Medusahead  
Musk thistle  
Russian knapweed  
African mustard  
Scotch thistle  
Silverleaf nightshade



## Category C Weeds:

*Category C listed noxious weeds are weeds th*

Canada thistle  
Hoary cress  
Johnsongrass  
Perennial pepperweed  
Poison-hemlock  
Puncture vine  
Salt cedar (tamarisk)  
Spotted water hemlock

**Category A:** Generally not found/Limited distribution.

**Category B:** Generally established/Scattered populations.

**Category C:** Generally established/Generally widespread.



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## State Laws (Nevada Revised Statute):

- NRS 555.150

- "Every railroad, canal, ditch or water company, and every person owning, controlling or occupying lands in this State, and every **county**, incorporated city or district having the supervisor and control over the streets, alleys, lanes, rights-of-ways, or other lands, shall control weeds declared as noxious as provided in NRS 555:130 in a manner specified by and whenever required by the State Quarantine Officer."

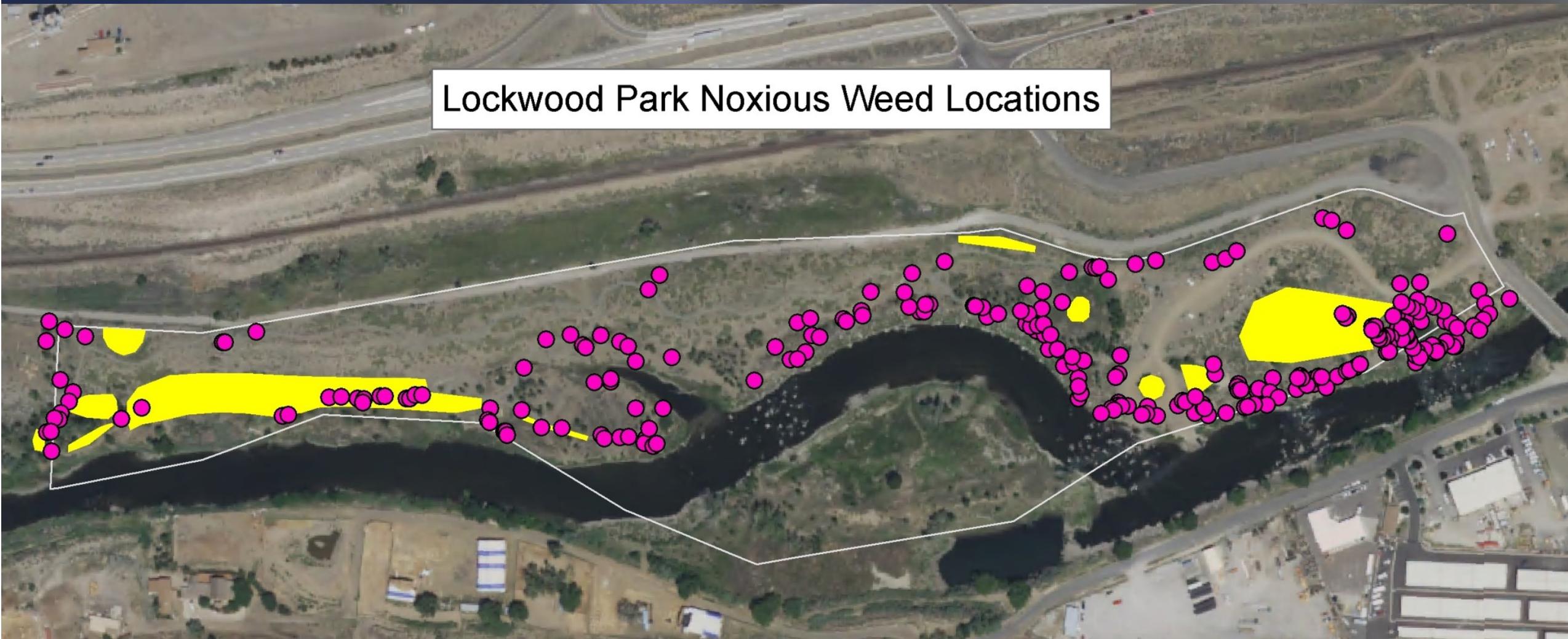


**All landowners are responsible for controlling noxious weeds on their property...IT IS THE LAW!**



# Regional Parks and Open Space

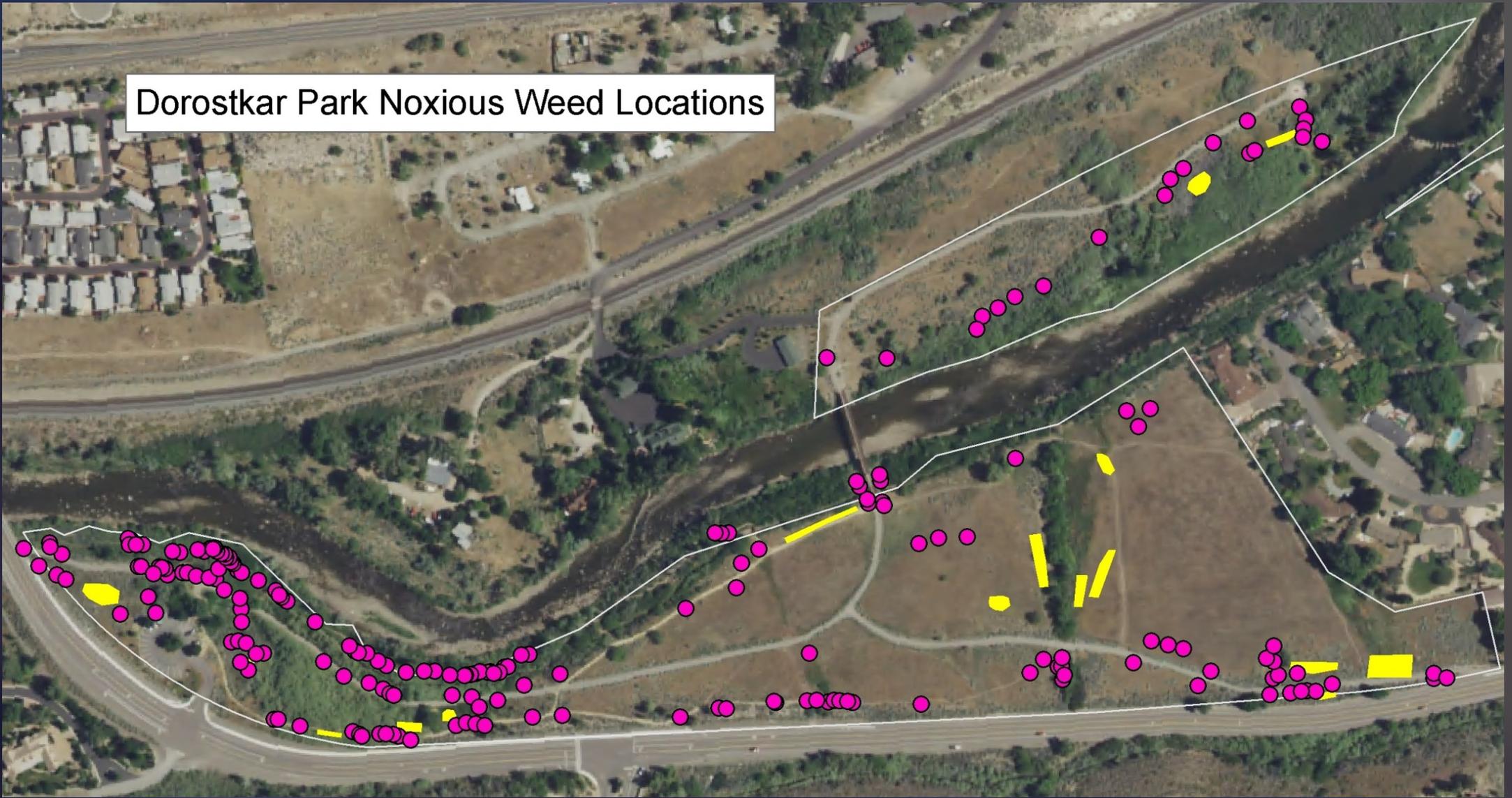
Lockwood Park Noxious Weed Locations





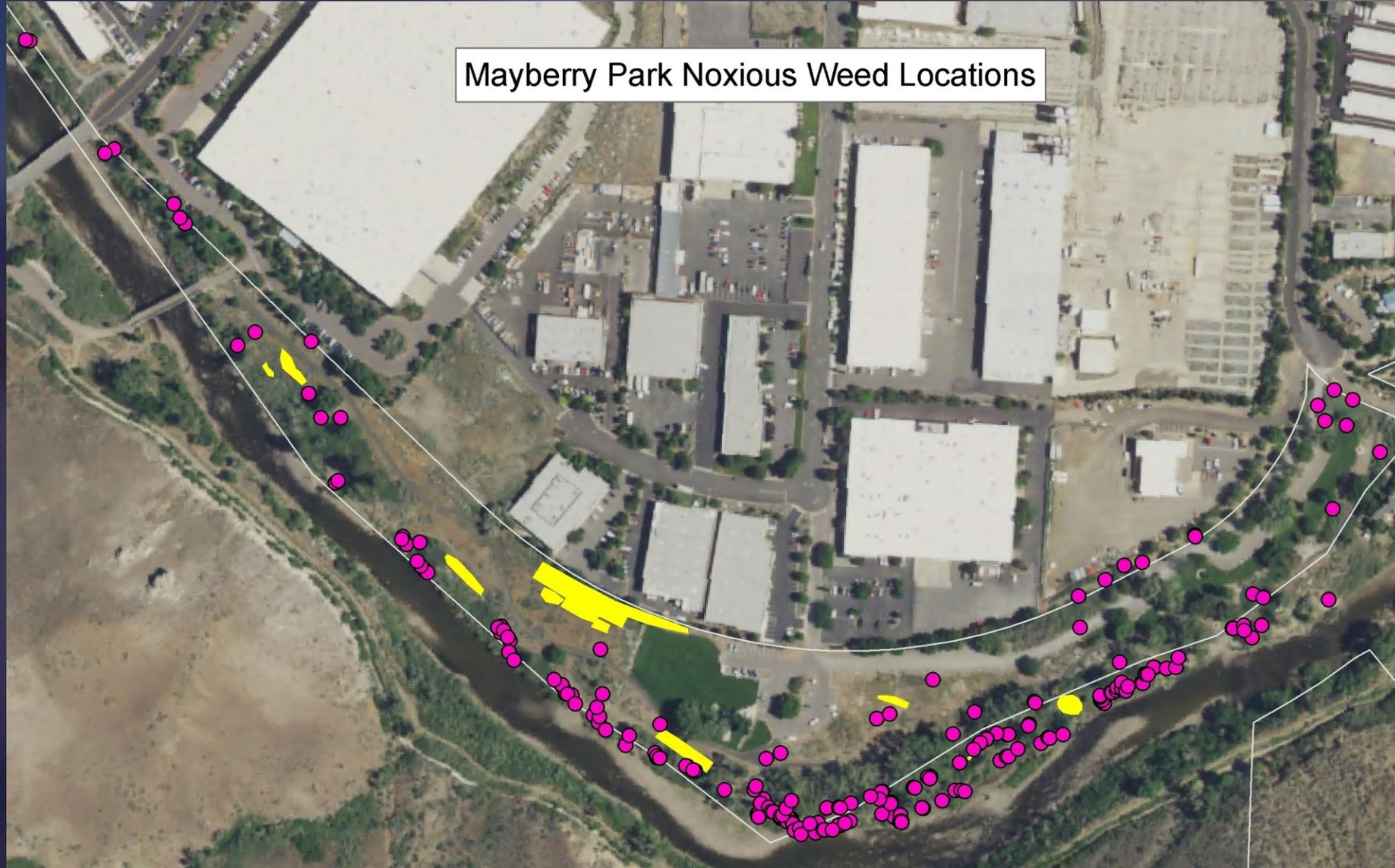
# Regional Parks and Open Space

Dorostkar Park Noxious Weed Locations





# Regional Parks and Open Space

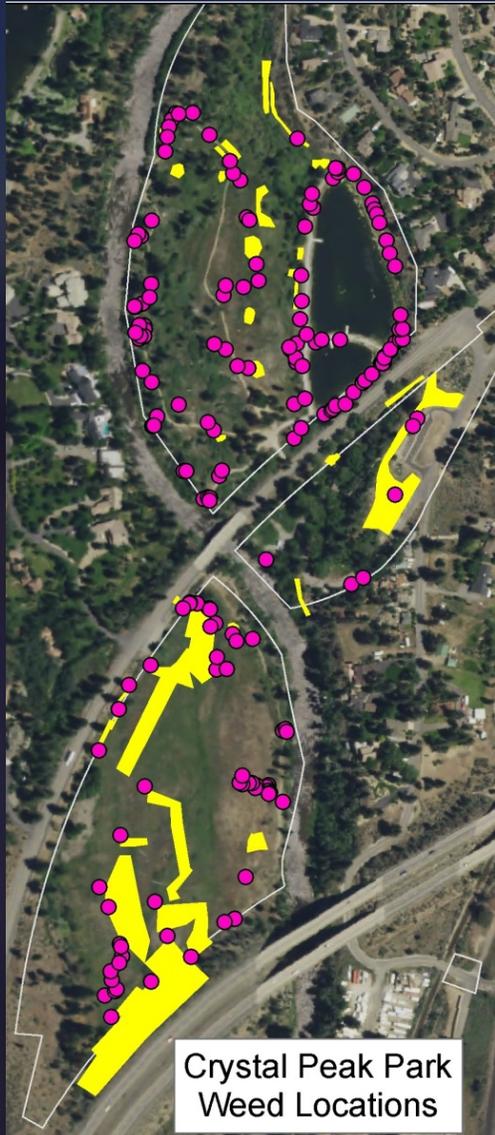




# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Noxious Weeds found in Parks & Open Space:

- Musk Thistle
- Canada Thistle
- Scotch Thistle
- Poison Hemlock
- Spotted Knapweed
- Russian Knapweed
- Purple Loosestrife
- Yellow Starthistle
- Perennial Pepperweed/Tall Whitetop
- Saltcedar/Tamarisk
- Medusahead
- Hoary Cress





# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Weed Control Methods:

### ➤ Mechanical

- Hand pulling/cutting
- Mowing/tilling/disking



### ➤ Chemical

- Herbicide



### ➤ Cultural

- Mulches
- Prescribed burning
- Change in hydrology/drainage pattern



### ➤ Biological

- Natural enemies  
(insects/fungi/bacteria)



### ➤ Preventative

- Weed free seed/mulch
- Equipment cleaning





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## 2019 Truckee River Fund Grant:

- Weed Inventories
- Herbicide Treatments
- Re-vegetation
  - Seeding
  - Planting





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## Volunteers:

- Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) Clean-Ups



- Other Volunteer Groups and Individuals



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## KTMB Lockwood Clean-up September 2019

**Before**



**After**





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## Weed Management Challenges:

- Lack of dedicated funding.
- Lack of dedicated staff.
- Lack of vegetation management plans.
- Wildfire – invasive annual grasses.





# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Invasive Annual Grasses:

- Loss of native vegetation to fires, typically replaced by cheatgrass.
- Increases fire frequency and intensity.
- Difficult to re-establish desirable native vegetation.





# Regional Parks and Open Space

Schelbourne Fire (2018) -  
Arrowcreek Open Space



Cold Springs Park Fire (2019)



# Regional Parks and Open Space

## Moving Forward:

### ➤ Washoe-Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area

- Partnerships.
- Funding opportunities.

### ➤ Integrated Vegetation Management Plan

- Resource Concepts Inc. hired to develop IVM Plan with input from parks staff.
- Identifies Best Management Practices.

