WHITEWATER BUILDING MATERIALS CORPORATION

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Weed Control Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

Whitewater Building Materials (hereinafter referred to as the Operator) of the Whitewater Pit 500 encompassing a parcel of land shown on the vicinity map and located in PART OF SECTIONS 10, 11, 15, & 16, T-2-S, R-1-E, UTE P.M. AND PART OF SECTIONS 27, 28 & 29, T-12-S, R-99-W, 6TH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO Containing 430.68 acres more or less.

Construction materials mining operations will occur across all, or part, of the rangeland area on this 430.68 acre mine. The site currently has areas that have been used as farm yard complex's, mining area. Plant site area, river bottom and undisturbed areas used as rangeland or irrigated agricultures grass and hay production.

Recognizing the presence of state-listed and county-listed noxious weeds in the general vicinity of this project area; and understanding the destructive nature of these noxious weeds, the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety has required the operator to develop and implement a weed management plan that encompasses the total project area.

The CSU Cooperative Extension office operates under cooperative agreement with the Mesa County government and provides technical assistance regarding noxious weed management on public and private lands within the county. Whitewater will do biennial checks on the active mine for any noxious weeds on site.

2. OVERVIEW OF APPROACH TO WEED MANAGEMENT

Weed control is part of the current DRMS permit for Whitewater Pit 500 and this is an update to that ongoing plan. This plan is based on controlling the undesirable plant species and communities, rather than simply eliminating weeds. Preventive programs are implemented to keep the management area free of species that are not yet established there, but which are known to be pests elsewhere in the area. Priorities are set to reduce or eradicate weeds that have already established on the property, according to their actual and potential impacts on the land management goals for the property, and according to the ability to control them now versus later. Actions will be taken only when careful consideration indicates leaving the weed unchecked, would result in more damage than controlling it with best available methods.

The plan follows the adaptive management approach:

- First, weed species are identified through inventory of the property and by gathering information from other sources.
- Second, land management goals and weed management objectives are established for the property.
- Third, priorities are assigned to the weed species and weed patches based on the severity of their impacts, while considering the ability to control them.
- Fourth, methods are considered for controlling them or otherwise diminishing their impacts and, if necessary, re-order priorities based on likely impacts on target and non-target species.
- Fifth, An Integrated Weed Management (IWM) plan is developed based on this information.
- Sixth, the IWM plan is implemented in the spring or fall as recommended by the CSU Cooperative Extension local office.
- Seventh, the results of management actions are monitored and evaluated in light of weed management objectives for the management area.
- Finally, this information is used to modify and improve weed management objectives, control priorities, and IWM plans, thereby starting the cycle again.

The premise behind a weed management plan is that a structured, logical approach to weed management, based on the best available information, is cheaper and more effective than an ad-hoc approach where one deals with weed problems as they arise.

3. NOXIOUS WEEDS TO BE WATCHED FOR AT THE Whitewater Pit 500.

See attached Mesa County list updated April 2020

4. CONTROLLING ABOVE LISTED WEEDS

All of the above weeds can be controlled or eradicated by using mechanical, biological, or chemical control depending on species. The Operator will have a qualified employee or weed control agent observe the mine at least twice yearly during the growing season for possible noxious weeds and advise the Operator on how noxious species should be treated. Initially it may require semi-annual spraying or mowing to control the problem weeds and digging the woody

species, but eventually we expect to revert to an annual control program to maintain the site. Records of weed control activities, including dates work was done; methods used; area sprayed and types/quantities of chemical used if any, will be kept at the Corporate office in **Grand Junction**, Colorado for review.

Table 1: Mesa County Noxious Weed List and Management Criteria

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATE LIST	COUNTY LIST	SPECIAL NOTES
Cypress spurge	*(Euphorbia cyparissias)*	A	A	Ornamental
Dyer's woad	*(Isatis tinctoria)*	A	A	
Giant reed grass	*(Arundo donax)*	A	A	Ornamental
Bohemian, Giant and Japanese knotweed	*(Polygonum bohemicum) (P.sachalinense) (P. cuspidatum)*	A	A	Ornamental
Myrtle spurge	*(Euphorbia myrsinites)*	A	A	Ornamental
Purple loosestrife	*(Lythrum salicaria)*	A	A	Escaped into valley wetlands
Yellow starthistle	*(Centaurea solstitialis)*	A	A	Escaped into rangeland: Mesa, Glade Park
Flowering Rush	(Butomus umbellatus)	A	A	Ornamental/escaped into Leach Creek GJ
Absinth wormwood	*(Artemesia absinthium)*	B	A	Ornamental
Chinese clematis	*(Clematis orientalis)*	B	A	Ornamental/ escaped along CO River in Palisade
Dalmatian toadflax	*(Linaria dalmatica)*	B	A	Escaped to pastures/ rangeland/ roadsides: Collbran, Mesa, Glade Park
Dame's rocket	*(Hesperis matronalis)*	B	A	Ornamental/ escaped to open meadows: Mesa, Vega Lake
Diffuse knapweed	*(Centaurea diffusa)*	B	A	Escaped to roadsides/disturbed areas
Leafy spurge	*(Euphorbia esula)*	B	A	Escaped to pasture/rangeland/ disturbed areas
Plumeless thistle	*(Carduus acanthoides)*	B	A	
Spotted knapweed	*(Centaurea maculosa)*	B	A	Escaped to roadsides/disturbed areas
Sulfur cinquefoil	*(Potentilla recta)*	B	A	Escaped to roadsides/disturbed areas
Yellow toadflax	*(Linaria vulgaris)*	B	A	Ornamental/escaped along CO River
Bull thistle	*(Cirsium vulgare)*	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Canada thistle	*(Cirsium arvense)*	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Common tansy	*(Tanacetum vulgare)*	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Hoary cress/Whitetop	*(Cardaria draba)*	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Houndstongue	*(Cynoglossum*	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County

	officinale)			ROW
Musk thistle	(*Carduus nutans*)	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Oxeye daisy	(*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Perennial pepperweed	(*Lepidium latifolium*)	B	B	Contain to I-70/CO river corridor
Russian knapweed	(*Acroptilon repens*) (L)	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Scotch thistle	(*Onopordum acanthium*)	B	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Tamarisk	(*Tamarix parviflora, T. ramosissima*)	B	B	Suppress. Treated on designated County parcels
Goatshead/Puncturevine	(*Tribulus terrestris*)	C	B	Suppress. Treated on County ROW
Additional State List A Noxious Weeds -Eradication Statewide				
Common name	Scientific name	These species may exist in Mesa County in areas not yet identified by Mesa County Noxious Weed & Pest Management. In all instances treatment efforts toward eradication is required for each of these species. Please contact the Program if one of these species is believed to be present in Mesa County.		
African rue	(*Peganum harmala*)			
Camelthorn	(*Alhagi pseudalhagi*)			
Common crupina	(*Crupina vulgaris*)			
Elongated mustard	(Brassica elongata)			
Giant salvinia	(*Salvinia molesta*)			
Hairy willow-herb	(Epilobium hirsutum)			
Hydrilla	(*Hydrilla verticillata*)			
Meadow knapweed	(*Centaurea pratensis*)			
Mediterranean sage	(*Salvia aethiopis*)			
Medusahead rye	(*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)			
Orange hawkweed	(*Hieracium aurantiacum*)			
Parrotfeather	(Myriophyllum aquaticum)			
Rush skeletonweed	(*Chondrilla juncea*)			
Squarrose knapweed	(*Centaurea virgata*)			
Tansy ragwort	(*Senecio jacobaea*)			
Watch List Species of Concern in Mesa County				
Common reed	*(Phragmites australis)*	These species may be managed similarly to A, B, or C List species as funding and resources allow.		Various man-made or disturbed wetlands county-wide (year 2013-present)
Syrian bean caper	(*Zygophyllum fabago*)			I-70 near Fruita exit Disturbed sites, roadsides (year 2009-2013)
Yellow flag iris	*(Iris psuedacorus)*			Leach creek drainage (year 2016-present)