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AM

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To

cc

Subject  
BLM Invasive Plant Comments

1 I understand that the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to spray almost a million acres per year with herbicides to kill invasive plants. These are my comments regarding this proposal.

2 The BLM should realize that this is not an effective way to deal with the agency's invasive plant problem. Why has the BLM refused to consider the causes of invasive plant problems? The agency should avoid putting itself on a treadmill of pesticide use. Such treadmills have cycled throughout the world, resulting in greater pest resistance and unintended damage to virtually all of the world's ecosystems.

Livestock grazing, road construction and use of off-road vehicles, timber harvests, and fuel reduction projects all encourage invasive weeds on BLM land. BLM needs to change the way the agency manages these activities in order to prevent invasive plant problems. BLM also needs to make a strong commitment to reducing its reliance on herbicides. The BLM must adopt strong prevention-based practices for the activities that encourage invasive plants. I request that the BLM make a specific measurable commitment to reducing reliance on herbicides.

Sincerely,

Mark McClone