

**CLARK COUNTY IDAHO  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

P. O. BOX 205 \* 320 W. MAIN  
**DUBOIS ID 83423**  
**(208) 374-5304**

December 23, 2005

Brian Amme, Project Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 12000  
Reno, NV 89520-0006

Dear Mr. Amme:

- 1 We would like to comment on the proposed treatments of vegetation on BLM public lands in the Western United States. Our county is 66.2% (747,690 acres) federally owned, with a large portion of that federal land being managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Unfortunately we have been fighting a losing battle against the spread of noxious weeds. Leafy Spurge is an enormous problem in our County. Every year we budget more money for the fight against weeds. However, we find it very frustrating to be fighting this battle nearly alone. With so much federal land in our county, unless we all join in the battle together, we will not gain any ground against noxious weeds
- 2 Highly flammable vegetation is also an adversary in our County. In 2003 a 28,000 acre wildfire raged uncontrolled for days threatening homes and private property. This fire was started by lightning on BLM property that contained highly flammable fuels. This fire also made the leafy spurge problem more severe. Seeds were spread in already infested areas in mammoth proportion.
- 3 Therefore, we highly support extensive vegetation treatments to stop the further spreading of noxious weeds. Fuel reduction would also be a valuable tool in the fight against future wildfires.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important issue.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Shenton  
Chairman of the Board