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To

11/23/2005 01:59  
PM

cc

Subject

herbicide plan

To Whom It May Concern:

1 Your plan to spray 17 states with herbicide in an effort to curb invasive plant species is a lazy way to go about an extermination process. There are numerous other ways to rid areas of these invasive plant species. These include but are not limited to: fire, mechanical, manual, cultural, and biological control methods. I myself have been involved in projects to manually sweep areas and weed-out these invasive species. I volunteered my time to do this and hundreds of others have done, can do, and would do the same if the opportunity was organized. This is just one FREE method of extermination.

2 Your plan to spray areas in 17 different states not only negatively affects the surrounding ecosystems targeted but also recreationalists in the area, water quality and soil productivity, and native peoples' health when conducting cultural plant gathering practices. There are other means to acheive the goals of the BLM to effectively erradicate these invasive species, but the BLM has once again chosen a lazy AND expensive way to use taxpayer's money in their efforts. Volunteers, organizations and private land owners who are directly affected could all be mobilized to acheive these goals the BLM has outlined.

3 On the basis of human health, environmental degredation, and from a smart economic standpoint, please do not intitiate your plan as stated. There are other means, which might take more work and organization, but in the long run would be more effective, cheaper (cite the use of volunteers, organizations, and private land owners), and above all not be detrimental to long-term human and environmental health.

Thank you for your consideration.

Most sincerely,

Tyler Stokes  
Bozeman, MT resident and outdoor recreationalist