

emc-0101

----- Forwarded by Brian Amme/NVSO/NV/BLM/DOI on 01/03/2006 02:34 PM -----

"Noalani Terry"
<noalani@rocketwe
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12/30/2005 01:03
PM

<vegeis@nv.blm.gov>

To

cc

Subject

Vegetation Treatments

Noalani Terry
61490 Epitaph Road
Montrose, CO 81401-8978

Brian Amme, Project Manager
BLM Nevada State Office
vegeis@nv.blm.gov

Re: Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides Programmatic EIS

Dear Mr. Amme:

1 I am writing to protest the widespread use of herbicides to kill invasive plants. I know some of this is necessary, but large-scale use perpetuates a

2 cycle of pesticide resistance leading to stronger and heavier use of pesticides that create more resistance, etc. These herbicides endanger not
3 only the wildlife in the areas sprayed but also human health, not just by breathing the air near the spraying but also through contaminated water supplies.

4 In the west we need all the water we can get, not poisoning what we have. I am aware that invasive plants, particularly the tamarisk (no friend of mine as I seem to be allergic to its pollen) and Russian olive can also be a

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cont

threat to our water supply. I also understand on the basis of information from my local BLM office that you cannot kill tamarisk by simply spraying it; it must be pulled out and the herbicide inserted deep into its root base.

I fight a personal struggle with Russian knapweed and Russian olive and am trying to keep it under control on my property, but adding more toxins to my irrigation ditch is not an option for me.

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The BLM needs to educate the public on how exotic plants are spread (of course, it would help if some of these species had not been introduced intentionally, perhaps even by the BLM) and the dangers they present, and do whatever it can to prevent infestations. Livestock grazing, road construction, logging and fuel reduction projects as well as off-road vehicles, hunters and anglers, and even bikers, hikers and boaters spread the seeds of these plants. These activities need to be monitored with an eye to preventing the spread of weeds. Also, I understand seeding some areas with native plants is very helpful; this is being done on the Uncompahgre Plateau west of here.

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Montrose County has a higher than average breast cancer rate, apparently because of the pesticide spraying of our local crops. After the crop duster flies over my house, I stay inside for the day. Since we are downwind of pesticides sprayed in Nevada, I really object to spraying herbicides in

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huge amounts and think other measures are more appropriate. And in case you think, the herbicides can't travel this far, be aware that we get smoke from fires in California, Arizona, Utah, and yes, Nevada, in our valley.

Sincerely,
Noalani Terry

(See attached file: winmail.dat)