

Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weeds Coordinating Group 2006 Annual Report



2006 Program Highlights

The Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weeds Coordinating Group (LTBIWCG) is a diverse group of agencies and community members dedicated to preventing and controlling invasive weed species in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Successful collaboration and coordination by LTBIWCG partners has allowed us to:

- gather and share resources and information,
- educate a variety of audiences on methods to stop the introduction and spread of invasive weeds,
- standardize methods for treatment and data collection, and
- coordinate and enhance early detection, control and eradication efforts.

Sub-groups include aquatic weeds, education and outreach, mapping and data collection, and an on-the-ground control team.

During the 2006 field season, LTBIWCG reported a **57% decrease** in total terrestrial weed infestations from 2004 to 2006 in El Dorado and Placer counties, a **28% decrease** on USFS properties, and a **41% decrease** on sites infested with perennial pepperweed, spotted knapweed, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and hoary cress in Nevada.

Surveys were also conducted for Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed. Results from these surveys show significant spread of both species, with curlyleaf pondweed spreading at an accelerated rate.

Aquatic weed surveys also revealed that a previously misidentified aquatic plant, *Myriophyllum quitense*, is an introduced species.



2006 Funding Highlights

- Received \$340,000 from the Bureau of Reclamation to initiate a comprehensive survey and removal of Eurasian watermilfoil in Emerald Bay and Ski Run marina
- Awarded \$222,000 through a CA Prop 13 & 40 partnership grant to further expand terrestrial weed prevention and

eradication efforts on the California side of the basin, and continue to fund a LTBIWCG outreach coordinator through 2008

- Received \$42,000 from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to enhance participation in the Backyard Conservation Program on the Nevada side of the basin

Mapping

- 1860 acres inventoried on CA side of Lake Tahoe
- 426 acres inventoried on NV side of Lake Tahoe
- 72 miles of shoreline were mapped for Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed

Control

- 89.8 total gross acres treated for terrestrial weeds
- Removal of Eurasian watermilfoil began in Emerald Bay
- Boat wash station installed at Fallen Leaf Lake to prevent the spread of aquatic weeds

Education & Outreach

- Boater awareness signage installed at all Lake Tahoe marinas
- 4518+ people reached via trainings, events, and publications



LAKE TAHOE BASIN
WEED COORDINATING GROUP

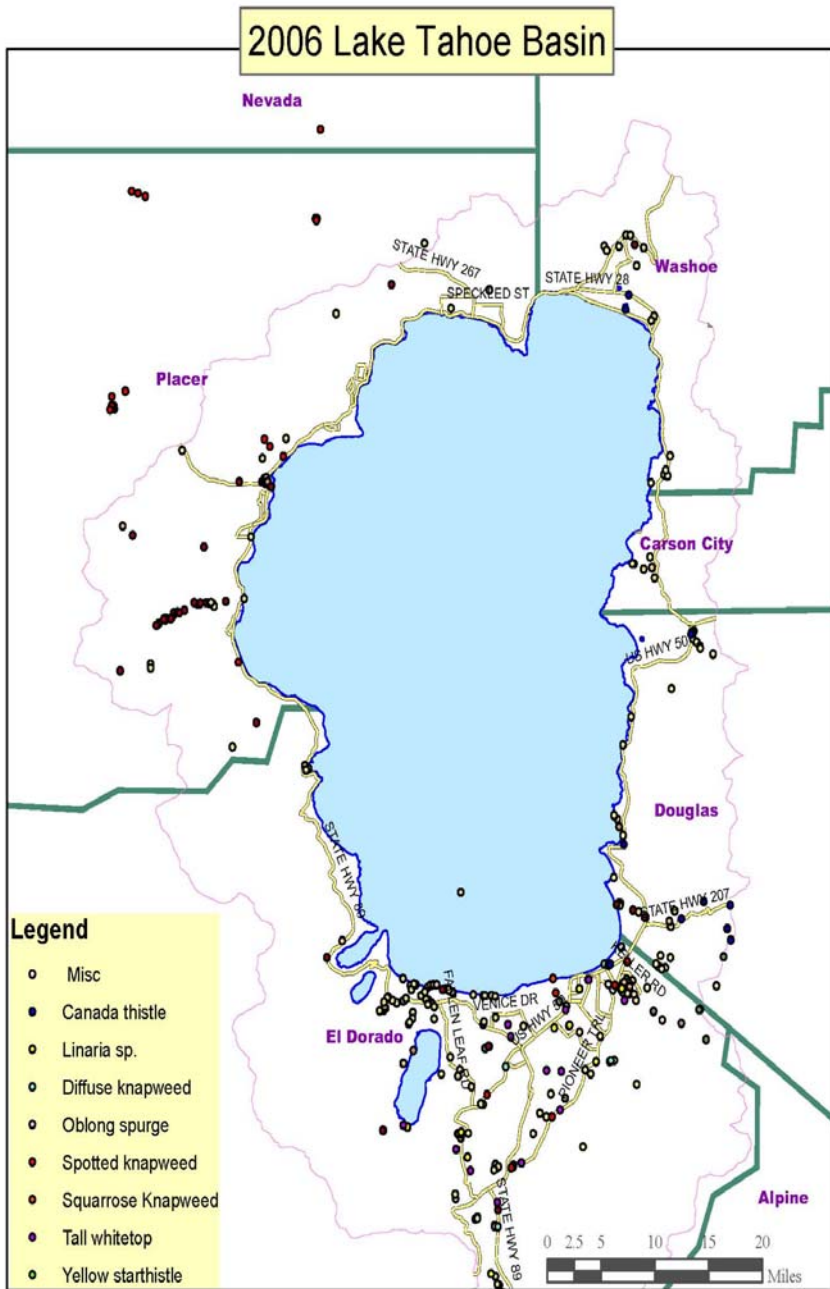
Invasive weeds reproduce prolifically by seed and root, and outcompete native and other desirable plants. Once established, weed infestations:

- Reduce land and recreational values
- Damage water quality and clarity
- Contribute to soil erosion
- Degrade wildlife habitat



For more information:

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PRIORITY WEEDS

Group 1: Watch for, report, and eradicate immediately

- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Curlyleaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*)
- Klamathweed (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Purple starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*)
- Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)
- Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata Lam. ssp. squarrosa*)
- Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
- Teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*)
- Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

Group 2: Manage infestations with a goal of eradication

- Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
- Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)
- Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)
- Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)



Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group Partners:

California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Prevention, California State Parks, California Tahoe Conservancy, California State Lands Commission, Caltrans, Douglas County Weed District, El Dorado County Agriculture Department, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Tahoe Conservation District, Nevada/Placer County Agriculture Dept., Nevada Dept. of Agriculture, Placer County Weed Management Area, Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, University of California Cooperative Extension, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, US Fish & Wildlife Service, US Forest Service-LTBMU