

Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weed Coordinating Group 2008 Annual Report and Newsletter



*Dedicated to preventing and controlling invasive weed species in the Tahoe Basin
by sharing resources and information*

The Lake Tahoe Basin Weeds Coordinating Group (LTBWCG) is a diverse partnership of agencies and community members dedicated to controlling and preventing the spread and introduction of invasive weed species in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Successful collaboration and coordination by LTBWCG partners has enhanced our ability to:

- coordinate early detection, prevention, control and eradication efforts,
- educate a variety of audiences on methods to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive weeds, and
- standardize methods for treatment and data collection.

The LTBWCG also works closely with the Lake Tahoe Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group which addresses aquatic invasive species, both plant and animal, threatening Lake Tahoe.

2008 Highlights

Detection and Mapping

- Detection surveys and data collection were completed on over **8,000 acres** of public and private lands, including **3,100 acres** in the Angora Fire burned area.

Control and Eradication

- **8.66 net acres** in the Basin were treated to control terrestrial weeds. Compared with 2007, this represents a **59% decrease** in the area requiring treatment!

Education & Outreach

- **5,600+ people** were reached via trainings, presentations, events, radio, mailings and workshops.
- **380 homeowners** received one-on-one site consultations on invasive plants with Tahoe Resource Conservation District and Nevada Tahoe Conservation District staff.

Web Site Launch in Early 2009!

In an effort to increase detection efforts around the Tahoe Basin, a website with a reporting component has been developed and will be launched in early 2009. The web site includes:

- historical infestation data so that the public and agency staff are aware of what weeds have been found in a particular geographic area,
- awareness, prevention and weed identification information, and
- a mapping function which will allow interested parties to report a location of an infestation, for follow-up verification by weed group partners.

Invasive weeds reproduce prolifically by seed and root, and out-compete 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



Angora Fire Response - Preventing the Spread of Invasive Weeds

The Angora Fire burned 3100 acres in the Lake Tahoe Basin in July 2007. Response teams immediately contacted the Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group partners for information about existing weed populations in the burned area on both USFS urban lots and private lands. Following the fire in summer 2007 and 2008, the LTBWCG partners provided homeowner consultations and community workshops as educational outreach to the local residents. Tahoe Resource Conservation District, USFS –Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the El Dorado County Department of Agriculture provided funding and staff resources to complete surveys and treatments in the burn area. These programs allowed us to effectively apply early detection and rapid response strategies during the first critical growing seasons after the fire.



LAKE TAHOE BASIN
WEED COORDINATING GROUP

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www.tahoelinvasiveweeds.org

PRIORITY WEEDS

Group 1:

Watch for, report, and eradicate immediately

These species are: 1) not currently found in the Lake Tahoe basin OR 2) documented in areas adjacent to the basin and may move into the area OR 3) are small, eradicable populations. Aggressive treatment will be pursued when these species are found; educational programs will target early detection and reporting of these species.

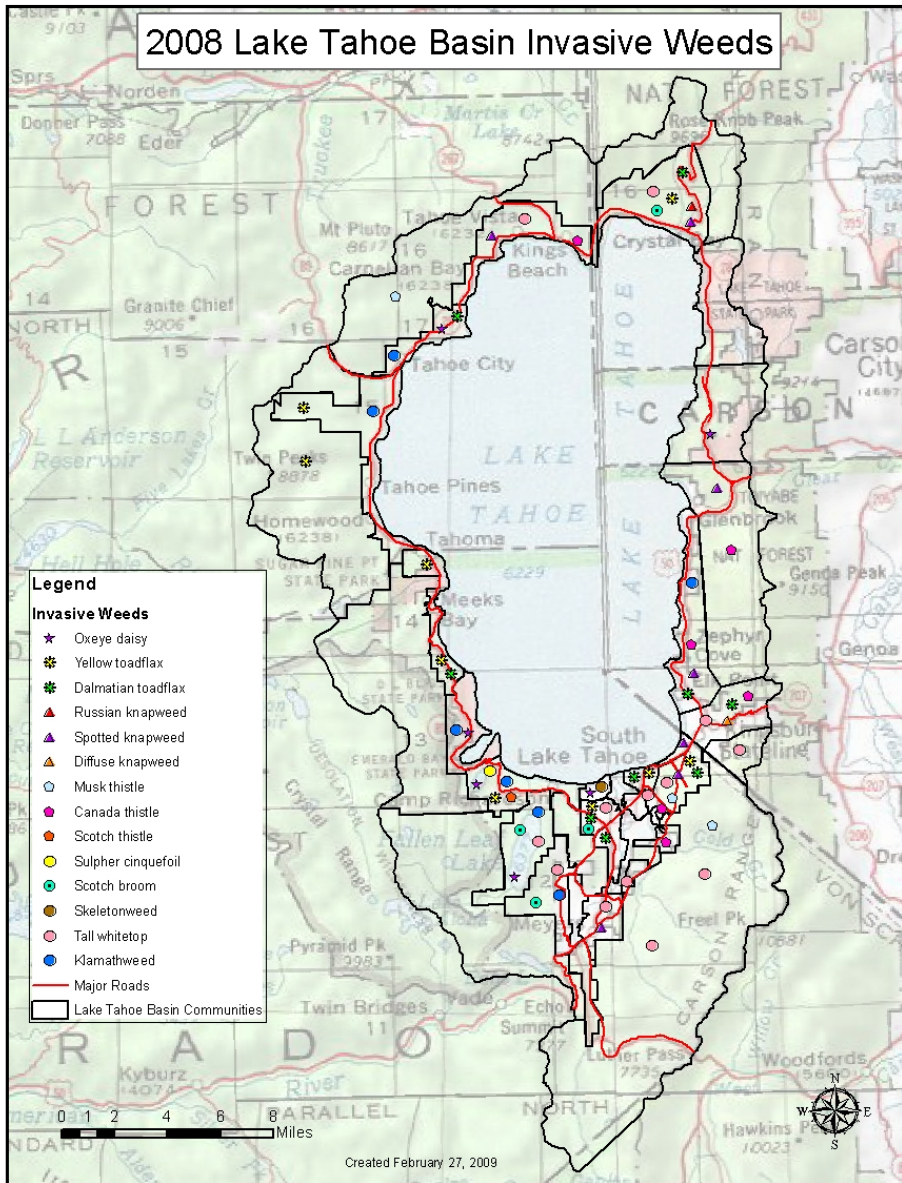
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)
- Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea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

Group 2:

Manage infestations with a goal of eradication

Encourage the management/control of populations of these species to prevent further spread in the Lake Tahoe basin. Isolated populations will be targeted for eradication.

- Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
- Curlyleaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
- Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)
- Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Klamathweed (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea biebersteinii*)
- Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)



Lake Tahoe Basin Invasive Weed Coordinating Group Partners:

California Dept. of Food and Agriculture, 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 Department of Agriculture, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Resource Conservation District, University of California Cooperative Extension, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, US Forest Service-Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and Nevada State Parks.