

Weed Management Plan for the Central Water Transfer: Stiles Pipeline

API #05-067-08393

The Central Water Transfer: Stiles Pipeline has dense populations of Russian knapweed and scattered populations of musk thistle, Canada thistle and Russian olive in the reclaimed Right-of-Way (ROW) areas of the pipeline. The Russian knapweed populations are currently widespread throughout the property and do have the potential to spread to other properties. Also, there is a population of prairie dogs on this site which will keep some grasses short and do pose a risk to the horses that are boarded on the property. There is erosion in the areas where the prairie dogs reside (see map). The treatment plan going forward that is proposed for this site is as follows:

- Treat the ROW in the Fall of 2021 to target rosettes and Russian knapweed.
- Remove/mitigate prairie dogs.
- Bring in fill dirt over the prairie dog area and pipeline ROW to grade.
- Broadcast seed and harrow in late fall 2021 with a mix comparable to the mix used when these areas were reclaimed. Hydromulching is recommended to prevent erosion and to help establish vegetation. A proposed seed mix is attached.
- Exclude horses/livestock from the seeded area.
- Treat the reclaimed areas in the spring of 2022 and continue to monitor.

Multiple weed treatments should reduce the noxious weeds and allow the native vegetation to fill in.

The current site conditions are dry; dormant grasses throughout the reclamation area. Photos below are from the site visit on Friday, November 5th.

November 5th, 2021 Site evaluation photos – see map for location of photo:



Photo 1: From edge of Lunt 19-01 1 - SE



Photo 2: Russian knapweed along road



Photo 3: View of ROW grasses



Photo 4: ROW with Russian knapweed



Photo 5: Pasture and ROW with Russian knapweed – facing East



Photo 6: View north of road – bare areas and musk thistle rosettes



Photo 7: Prairie dog hole



Photo 8: Area to be seeded

A dryland mix containing similar species to the blend below should be used to seed the treated areas with desirable species in order to compete with weed species. The germination of desirable species along with continued herbicide weed control and monitoring will help increase the likelihood of long-term control.

Dryland Blend

Slender wheatgrass (<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>)	7 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Sheep fescue (<i>Festuca ovina</i>)	2 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Smooth brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i>)	4 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Pubescent wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron trichophorum</i>)	3 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Intermediate wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron intermedium</i>)	2 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Crested wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron cristatum</i>)	2 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Western wheatgrass (<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>)	3 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Arizona fescue (<i>Festuca arizonica</i>)	2 PLS Lbs/ Ac
Blue grama (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>)	2 PLS Lbs/ Ac