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Hi, this is the noxious weed report for October 10th. 2018

We appreciate all the efforts that you as landowners and managers are making in controlling noxious weeds on your property. Whether you are using bio-controls, herbicides or hand-pulling, you are trying and you are making a difference.

Every once in a while we get talking to someone who thinks weed control is hopeless. That no matter what you do, you will just have more and more weeds. It is a disturbing attitude for any landowner or manager to have. The only thing hopeless about weed control is not trying. When we refuse to try to control the weed infestations on our properties, those sites are going to get worse and spread to our neighbors.

We all know that it can be discouraging when we are controlling weeds and we don't think we are making any headway. Remember, every plant that you prevent from seeding now; can mean thousands less plants in the future. We all need to remember that there is no silver bullet when it comes to weed control. There is no one time, or one method and you are done forever, although I have to admit that would be nice!

A good weed control plan focuses on prevention first. By minimizing bare ground and soil disturbance you can limit available sites for noxious weeds to establish. It will also help if you can provide competition for water and nutrients in the soil by revegetation of any ground that you have disturbed with a more desirable cover.

If you already have weed infestations, take some pictures. Make a note of the size of the patch. Those pictures and notes will help when you become discouraged. You will be able to look back and see just how far you have really come.

We all know that the cost of weed control is an important factor. Budgeting for funds and time is crucial for noxious weed control. There is no law that says all weeds are mandatory control. We must learn to prioritize, control mandatory weed species first and work on other noxious weeds as funding and time permit. Even budgeting \$100 or 20 hours can be a good start on your weed control efforts. We don't have to do it all at once. At the very minimum, keep your infestations from spreading to your neighbor.

Only by not starting on your weed control plan, can your efforts fail. As always if you have questions about Noxious Weed Control you can call us at 509-422-7165, or E-mail us at noxiousweeds@co.okanogan.wa.us

That's all I have for today, thanks for listening.