

SOUTH DAKOTA ANNUAL WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

April 20, 2026 – 10:30 am CDT

Matthews Training Center, Foss Building, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD

To listen to the online stream, go to <https://www.sd.net/>

April 20, 2026 10:30 AM

- Call to Order Chairman Kurtenbach
- Approval of Agenda Chairman Kurtenbach
- Approval of February 18, 2026 Meeting 1 and Meeting 2 Minutes Chairman Kurtenbach

ACTIVITY REPORTS

- 1. Weed and Pest Coordinator Brenda Sievers
- 2. District Reports Commissioners
- 3. Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources Bill Smith
- 4. Department of Game Fish & Parks Ryan Wendinger
- 5. Department of Transportation Christina Bennett
- 6. Office of School & Public Lands Brock Greenfield
- 7. SDSU Eric Jones
- 8. Assoc. of County Commissioners Charles Verhulst
- 9. Other Agency Reports

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Fall Tour in District 3 Brenda Sievers

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Turner County Conference Attendance Medical Exemption Request Linda Georgeson
- 2. Weed & Pest Conference 2026 & 2027 Gary Pribyl
- 3. Long Term Directives Brenda Sievers
- 4. Annual Work Plan - Commission Brenda Sievers
- 5. Election of Officers Chairman Kurtenbach

Public Comment Period Duration set by Chairman

Approval of Bills Brenda Sievers
(salary & per diem this meeting/annual weed meetings)

Adjourn -

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ANNUAL WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING 1
Wednesday, February 18, 2026 – 8:30 am MT
The Lodge, Deadwood, SD

Chairman Darwin Kurtenbach called the meeting to order at 8:32 am, February 18, 2026.

Members Present: Commissioners Chuck Anderson, Dennis Feickert, Deb Schultz, Darren Bauer, Darwin Kurtenbach, Department of Transportation Representative Christina Bennett; School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield; Association of SD County Commissioners Representative Charles Verhulst; Game Fish & Parks representative Ryan Wendinger (on phone), Non-Voting Members - SDSU Representative Eric Jones and Commission Secretary and Plant Industry Program Manager Brenda Sievers.

Chuck Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Christina Bennett. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Kurtenbach asked Sievers to read the Committee recommendations for funding the FY2027 grants from the Grant Committee Meeting held on January 6th in Pierre. The Committee consisted of Chairman Darwin Kurtenbach, Chuck Anderson, Dennis Feickert, School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield, SDSU Representative Eric Jones and Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Representative Bill Smith.

The Committee recommended funding the following Competitive Grants:

- WP-C27-1 – Association of SD County Weed & Pest Boards – 2026 Awareness Project - \$55,000
- WP-C27-2 – Hyde County Weed & Pest Board – Hyde County Houndstongue Control Project - \$8,500
- WP-C27-5 – Fall River County Weed & Pest Board – The Fall River County “Insider – Edition II” Educational Booklet - \$1,500
- WP-C27-6 – Brown County Weed & Pest Board – Yellow Toadflax Mapping & Spot Spray Project - \$1,000
- WP-C27-7 – SDSU Extension Service Weed Management – Improving Noxious Weed Management with Historical Data & Under-Utilized Herbicides – \$50,298
- WP-C27-8 – Pennington County Weed & Pest Board – Pennington County Spotted Knapweed & Oxeye Daisy - \$8,000

The Committee recommended not funding the following Competitive Grants:

- WP-C27-3 – Butte County for Gravel Pit & Material Stock Pile Weed Control Project
- WP-C27-4 – Fall River County for Salt Cedar & Leafy Spurge Round Up
- WP-C27-9 – Jackson County for Weed Control County Road Right Away, which was denied by the Commission at their December meeting.

Sievers gave an overview of the Committee reasons for those competitive grants not recommended to receive funding.

Chairman Kurtenbach opened the public comment period. No public comments were received.

Chairman Kurtenbach declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 am.

Brenda Sievers
Commission Secretary

Darwin W. Kurtenbach, Commission Chairman
(Approved Minutes)

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ANNUAL WEED & PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING 2
Wednesday, February 18, 2026 – 9:00 am MT
The Lodge, Deadwood, SD

Chairman Darwin Kurtenbach called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, February 18, 2026.

Members Present: Commissioners Chuck Anderson, Dennis Feickert, Deb Schultz, Darren Bauer, Darwin Kurtenbach, Department of Transportation Representative Christina Bennett; School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield; Association of SD County Commissioners Representative Charles Verhulst; Game Fish & Parks representative Ryan Wendinger (on phone), Non-Voting Members - SDSU Representative Eric Jones and Commission Secretary and Plant Industry Program Manager Brenda Sievers.

Dennis Feickert made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Deb Schultz. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Kurtenbach asked for any changes to the minutes from the December 15, 2025, meeting. A motion was made by Brock Greenfield to approve the minutes. Seconded by Deb Schultz. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

Old Business

No old business presented.

New Business

Requests for Locally Declared Noxious Weeds & Pests

(R) = Renewal / (N) = New request / **(NN) = New & not in Rules, would need rules hearing**

Butte County – Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R), Scotch Thistle (R), Common Burdock (R),
Common Mullein (R), Common Tansy (R)

Clark County – Bull Thistle (R), Spotted Knapweed (R)

Custer County – Common Mullein (R)

Davison County – Common Mullein (R)

Day County – Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R)

Fall River County – Scotch Thistle (R)

Faulk County – Flowering Rush (R), Houndstongue (R), Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R)

Hamlin County – Bull Thistle (R), Yellow Toadflax (R), Poison Hemlock (R)

Harding County – Scotch Thistle (R), Houndstongue (R), Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R),
Common Burdock (R), Common Mullein (R)

Jackson County – Bull Thistle (N), Common Mullein (R), Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R)

Jerauld County – Puncturevine (N), Common Mullein (R), Bull Thistles (R)

Lawrence County – Common Mullein (R), Spotted Knapweed (R)

Pennington County – Common Tansy (R), Spotted Knapweed (R), Puncturevine (R), Yellow Toadflax (R)

Tripp County – Diffuse Knapweed (R), Spotted Knapweed (R), Musk & Plumeless Thistles (R),
Common Mullein (R), Bull Thistle (R)

Discussion was held on the locally noxious weed requests. Darren Bauer made a motion to approve the locally noxious requests from Butte, Clark, Custer, Davison, Day, Fall River, Faulk, Hamlin, Harding, Jackson, Jerauld, Lawrence, Pennington, and Tripp Counties. Seconded by Dennis Feickert. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

The Weed and Pest Coordinator Report was given by Brenda Sievers. Department staff assisted at weed booths, Sievers helped at the Black Hills Stock Show booth and received good questions. For the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Surveys (CAPS), there are two summer interns hired.

Jeremiah Phelps, Weed and Pest Program Specialist, also worked at booths at Sioux Falls Farm Show, Black Hills Stock Show and Watertown Farm Show. He also attended and presented at a meeting in Bennett County with Eric Jones, SDSU Weed Specialist. Good questions were received at the booths. He has been working to compile and complete the 2025 annual weed and pest report.

District reports were given by:

- District 1 Representative Dennis Feickert – talked about 2025 and how dry it was initially, then June had rain. Areas to the south had too much rain and experienced flooding, they had fall regrowth, and he is hopeful that 2026 will not have the winds to help the weed programs spray.
- District 2 Representative Darwin Kurtenbach – 2025 was a dry year but they had timely rains and it was the best harvest he had seen with dryland corn averaging over 200 bu., he talked about phragmites in many low areas near him, it is dry now but has hopes to get moisture, he assisted at Sioux Falls Farm Show and the Black Hills Stock Show, answering many questions.
- District 3 Representative Darren Bauer – his area was green longer than most areas and has concerns with marestail in Ziebach and Corson Counties.
- District 4 Representative Chuck Anderson – moisture varied greatly in his area, from 28 inches of rain south of Lemmon to 40 inches just 15 miles from him, hay was tough to dry and new flushes of weeds came through the year. And areas further south were really dry. He feels it will be a challenge going forward for weeds.
- At Large Representative Deb Schultz – has been a crop adjuster for 20 years and never saw a year quite like last year. She is located in between the higher moisture areas. Calving could be a challenge this year.

Agency reports were given by:

- Association of SD County Commissioners Representative Charles Verhulst – is new to the Commission last fall. He is learning and had no report for the group at this time.
- Game, Fish and Parks Representative Ryan Wendinger – some areas are wet and some dry. They sprayed about 10,000 acres in 2025, which is down about 1,000 acres from 2024. Some sites maybe had better control, or they were short staffed in an area which could have also contributed to less acres sprayed. They do address complaints when they are called in. For 2026, staff and equipment are looking good, and they are gearing up for the summer work.
- School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield – talked about the large-scale grasshopper spraying program a couple years ago, and when alerted, they respond to any issues they know of.
- Department of Transportation Representative Christina Bennett – They spent \$982,546.50 on weed control, with most of it for state highway rights-of-ways, just over \$200,000 was for interstate, as well as intends to get proposals for control on certain areas for state owned railroad. The current timekeeping system allows them to track costs by function coded and people, but they hope to map where they have sprayed in the future with another program they will implement. Part of their funding comes from vehicle registrations which are currently down.
- SDSU Representative Eric Jones reported that they have a new department head Dr. Karen Sanguinet, who started around July. Graig Reicks is the Extension Weed Ecologist, who started about one year ago. His other updates will be in his report coming up.
- SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Representative Bill Smith was unable to be at the meeting so Brenda Sievers gave a short report on department activities and legislation.
- CAPS– Grace Bedford gave an update on Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey activities. For 2026, there will be a small grain survey and she is looking for fields for survey work. Grace encouraged those counties that may know of small grain fields to survey to reach out to her so those fields could be potentially surveyed.
- Bio-Control – Jeremiah Phelps reported that we no longer have federal funding for yellow toadflax, so there will be limited work done for that. The department does plan to continue with leafy spurge bug collections

Chairman Kurtenbach announced it was time for the public comment period. No comments were received.

Weed & Pest Competitive Grant Reports from FY2026 were given by the following:

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-C26-1	SDSU Extension Service	Weed Management	Eric	Jones	Investigating New Herbicide Mixtures & Application Methods
WP-C26-2	Assn of SD	Co. W/P Bds	Gary	Pribyl	2025 Awareness Project

Chairman Kurtenbach declared a break at 10:02 am. The meeting was reconvened at 10:30 am.

WP-C26-4	Brown	Co.W/P Bd	Chris	Hemen	Yellow Toadflax Biological Control
WP-C26-5	Brown	Co.W/P Bd	Chris	Hemen	Yellow Toadflax Mapping and Spot Spraying Project
WP-C26-6	Pennington	Co.W/P Bd	Scott	Guffey	Absinth Wormwood and Common Tansy Reduction Project
WP-C26-9	Deuel	Co.W/P Bd	Keith	Goens	Eradication of Common Mullein

FY2027 Regular Weed & Pest Grant Applications - \$350,000 divided amongst qualifying applicants

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-27-1	Minnehaha	Co.W/P Bd	Jason	McCubbin	Chemical
WP-27-2	Pennington	Co.W/P Bd	Scott	Guffey	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-3	Brown	Co.W/P Bd	Chris	Hemen	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Educational/Promotional
WP-27-4	Beadle **	Co.W/P Bd	David	Jensen	Chemical
WP-27-5	Codington	Co.W/P Bd	Steve	Molengraaf	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Spray Equipment Updates
WP-27-6	Brookings	Co.W/P Bd	Misty	Moser	Chemical
WP-27-7	Yankton	Co.W/P Bd	Jim	Liebsch	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-8	Davison	Co.W/P Bd	Tyler	Page	Chemical, Equipment
WP-27-9	Lawrence	Co.W/P Bd	David	Heck	Chemical
WP-27-10	Aurora	Co.W/P Bd	Skyler	Kehn	Chemical
WP-27-11	Bennett	Co.W/P Bd	Troy	Kuxhaus	Chemical, Spray Equipment, Educational
WP-27-12	Bon Homme	Co.W/P Bd	Jon	Vilhauer	Chemical
WP-27-13	Brule	Co.W/P Bd	Mike	Schlaffman	Chemical
WP-27-14	Buffalo	Co.W/P Bd	Lee	Sinkie	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Newspaper and Radio Ads, Update Spray Equipment, Informational Mtgs
WP-27-15	Butte	Co.W/P Bd	Dwayne	Heidrich	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-27-16	Campbell	Co.W/P Bd	Kyle	Rossow	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Equipment, Supplies
WP-27-17	Charles Mix	Co.W/P Bd	Josh	Rouse	Chemical
WP-27-18	Clark	Co.W/P Bd	Brian	Jenkins	Chemical, Spray Equipment Updates, Advertising
WP-27-19	Clay	Co.W/P Bd	Corey	Doherty	Chemical

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-27-20	Corson	Co.W/P Bd	Craig	Hunter	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Equipment Updates, Public Education
WP-27-21	Custer	Co.W/P Bd	Mike	Baldwin	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Bio Control, Cost Share with Landowners, Education, Update Equipment
WP-27-22	Day	Co.W/P Bd	Jordan	Schmieg	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Equipment
WP-27-23	Deuel	Co.W/P Bd	Keith	Goens	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Equipment Updates
WP-27-25	Douglas	Co.W/P Bd	Kim	Klein	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Equipment Repairs/Updates, Advertising
WP-27-26	Edmunds	Co.W/P Bd	Mike	Jager	Chemical
WP-27-27	Fall River	Co.W/P Bd	Nina	Steinmetz	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Upgrade Equipment, Educational/Promotional Materials
WP-27-28	Faulk	Co.W/P Bd	Aimee	Law, Auditor	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-27-29	Grant	Co.W/P Bd	Nathan	Mueller	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Application Equipment
WP-27-30	Gregory	Co.W/P Bd	John	Jensen	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Newspaper Ads
WP-27-31	Haakon	Co.W/P Bd	Virgil	Smith	Chemical, Update Equipment
WP-27-32	Hamlin	Co.W/P Bd	John Cody	Michalski	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-33	Hand	Co.W/P Bd	Randy	Peck	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-35	Harding	Co.W/P Bd	Misty	Koan	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-36	Hughes	Co.W/P Bd	Joe	Boxley	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-27-37	Hutchinson	Co.W/P Bd	Clifford	Tjaden	Contractual Labor
WP-27-38	Hyde	Co.W/P Bd	Dave	Tatum	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Sprayer Updates, Education
WP-27-39	Jackson **	Co.W/P Bd	Dennis	Lottman	Chemical, Personnel, Fuel
WP-27-40	Jerauld	Co.W/P Bd	Ann	Scheel	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Spray Equipment Updates
WP-27-42	Kingsbury	Co.W/P Bd	Tanya	Flegel	Chemical, Contractual Labor, Supplies, Educational
WP-27-44	Lincoln	Co.W/P Bd	Terry	Fluit	Chemical
WP-27-46	McCook	Co.W/P Bd	Geralyn	Sherman	Chemical, Publish Notices
WP-27-47	McPherson	Co.W/P Bd	Nathan	Hoffman	Chemical, Sprayer Updates
WP-27-49	Meade	Co.W/P Bd	Nathan	Jagim	Chemical
WP-27-51	Miner	Co.W/P Bd	Kent	Terwilliger	Chemical
WP-27-52	Moody	Co.W/P Bd	Tim	Ullom	Chemical
WP-27-53	Perkins	Co.W/P Bd	Loyson	Carda	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Promotional/Educational Material
WP-27-55	Roberts	Co.W/P Bd	Tammy	Johnson	Chemical, Contractual Labor
WP-27-56	Sanborn	Co.W/P Bd	Shari	Kogel	Chemical, Labor, Parts, Supplies
WP-27-57	Spink	Co.W/P Bd	Jeff	Haessig	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Promotional Items
WP-27-58	Stanley	Co.W/P Bd	Lee	Smith	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-27-59	Sully	Co.W/P Bd	Paula	Barber	Chemical, Educational
WP-27-60	Tripp	Co.W/P Bd	Duane	Wetzel	Chemical, Seasonal Labor
WP-27-61	Turner	Co.W/P Bd	Brad	Georgeson	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor
WP-27-62	Union	Co.W/P Bd	Shawn	Tabke	Chemical, Seasonal Labor, Promotional Materials
WP-27-63	Walworth	Co.W/P Bd	Tom	Hanman	Chemical, Seasonal/Contractual Labor, Equipment Repair, Educational Materials

** Does not qualify for grant – did not meet postmark deadline – Commission decided to not allow at December 2025 Meeting

Competitive Grants FY2027 - \$150,000 available for grants

GRANT #	COUNTY	ORGANZTN	FRSTNM	LASTNAME	PROJECT
WP-C27-1	Assn of SD	Co. W/P Bds	Gary	Pribyl	2026 Public Awareness Project
WP-C27-2	Hyde	Co. W/P Bd	Dave	Tatum	Hyde County Houndstongue Control Project
WP-C27-3	Butte	Co.W/P Bd	Dwayne	Heidrich	Gravel Pit & Material Stock Pile Weed Control Project
WP-C27-4	Fall River	Co.W/P Bd	Nina	Steinmetz	Salt Cedar & Leafy Spurge Round Up - Fall River County
WP-C27-5	Fall River	Co.W/P Bd	Nina	Steinmetz	The Fall River County "Insider - Edition II" - Educational Booklet
WP-C27-6	Brown	Co.W/P Bd	Chris	Heman	Yellow Toadflax Mapping & Spot Spray Project
WP-C27-7	SDSU Extension Service	Weed Mgmt	Eric	Jones	Improving Noxious Weed Mgmt w/Historical Data & Under Utilized Herbicides
WP-C27-8	Pennington	Co. W/P Bd	Scott	Guffey	Pennington County Spotted Knapweed & Oxeye Daisy Reduction Project
WP-C27-9	Jackson **	Co.W/P Bd	Denny	Lottman	Weed Control County Road Right Away

** Does not qualify for grant – did not meet postmark deadline – Commission decided to not allow at December 2025 Meeting

Discussion was held on the Committee recommendation for funding for the FY2027 grants.

A motion was made by Darren Bauer to approve funding the FY2027 regular/contractual grants as presented. Seconded by Deb Schultz. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dennis Feickert to approve funding the FY2027 competitive grants, as recommended by the grant committee. Seconded by Brock Greenfield. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

The Competitive Grants were funded as follows:

- WP-C27-1 – Association of SD County Weed & Pest Boards – \$55,000 - 2026 Awareness Project
- WP-C27-2 – Hyde County Weed & Pest Board - \$8,500 – Hyde County Houndstongue Control Project
- WP-C27-5 – Fall River County Weed & Pest Board - \$1,500 – The Fall River County “Insider – Edition II” Educational Booklet
- WP-C27-6 – Brown County Weed & Pest Board - \$1,000 – Yellow Toadflax Mapping & Spot Spray Project

WP-C27-7 – SDSU Extension Service Weed Management – \$50,298 – Improving Noxious Weed Management with Historical Data & Under-Utilized Herbicides
WP-C27-8 – Pennington County Weed & Pest Board - \$8,000 – Pennington County Spotted Knapweed & Oxeye Daisy

Discussion was held on dates for the next meeting. The next meeting will be April 20 at 10:30 am, at the Matthews Training Center at the Foss Building in Pierre.

Chuck Anderson made a motion to approve the bills for this meeting, Weed and Pest Conference and the review committee meeting. Seconded by Brock Greenfield. Roll Call: Anderson – yes; Bauer – yes; Bennett – yes; Feickert – yes; Greenfield – yes; Schultz – yes; Verhulst – yes; Wendinger – yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Kurtenbach declared the meeting adjourned at 11:21 am.

Brenda Sievers
Commission Secretary

Darwin W. Kurtenbach, Commission Chairman
(Approved Minutes)

Turner County Weed and Pest

PO Box 461

Parker SD 57053

To: Brenda Sievers

3-16-26

Plant Industry Program Manager &

State Plant Regulatory Official (SPRO)

SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

523 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre SD, 57501

Dear Brenda-

Due to an unforeseen and uncontrollable life threatening medical event, our weed and pest supervisor was unable to attend the Annual SD Weed and Pest conference held in February. Our supervisor, Linda Georgeson, was admitted to the hospital immediately following a clinic visit on February 16th and was not released from hospital care until February 23rd.

Weed board member Brad Georgeson contacted Brenda Sievers on Tuesday, February 17th for advisement on how to proceed. Brenda advised to follow through with one attendee for the conference. Our other person was then sent to attend all sessions of the conference, including supervisor's training sessions.

We, Turner County Weed and Pest, are asking to be placed on the SD Weed and Pest Commission agenda, asking for a medical exemption request to receive the full grant. We looked at and exhausted all options to find another individual to attend. Attendance at weed and pest conference was not possible for our supervisor in any manner due to this serious medical event. We are also offering that medical records are available to be examined as proof, if needed, in our request.

Thank you,

Linda Georgeson, Supervisor

Mark Kaufman, Turner County Commissioner



**SOUTH DAKOTA WEED AND PEST COMMISSION LONG RANGE DIRECTIVES
FOR THE
SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES
WEED AND PEST CONTROL PROGRAM**

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SOUTH DAKOTA WEED AND PEST COMMISSION LONG RANGE DIRECTIVES FOR THE SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES WEED AND PEST CONTROL PROGRAM

I. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

A. Respond to weed and pest management issues during the review and preparation of rules, Environmental Assessments (EA) and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) by federal agencies through evaluation and identification of:

1. Existing needs not currently being met using the systematic, interdisciplinary process as required by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
2. Potential impacts of proposed alternative strategies on weed and pest management strategies.
3. Alternative strategies considered but eliminated from further study.
4. Present and future socio-economic consequences of striving to achieve and maintain biodiversity through "preferred" alternative strategies.
5. Selected management scenarios and their effects on current weed and pest management practices and compliance with state statutes.
6. Indirect impacts and their subsequent environmental consequences.

B. Implement Species Management Plan Requirements.

Support Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies to control noxious weeds and pests through:

1. Preventing the introduction or movement of noxious weeds and declared pests into uninfested areas,
2. Eradication of new or isolated infestations, and
3. Suppression of established stands of noxious weeds and pests within generally infested areas in order to reduce populations to below economic levels and to greatly reduce the rate of spread.

C. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

II. RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

A. Initiate IPM Focus

Research not only the primary but also secondary and tertiary effects of pest control applications, leading to the development of integrated pest control systems in which all possible factors are determined for the control of a given pest. Investigate combinations of legal, chemical, cultural, and biological methods of control with each separate process being applied for a specific purpose with the result that the over-all combination ensures control of the target pest.

B. Fostering Applied Research

SDSU Cooperative Extension Service/SDSU Agricultural Experiment Station to maintain lead responsibility as outlined in the "Agreement for the Coordinated Control of Noxious Weeds" to provide for effective integrated noxious weed management recommendations.

C. Initiating Technological Transfer

Extension and Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources personnel to act as liaisons in disseminating University research and technology on IPM systems to County Weed and Pest Control Boards as well as the public. Such transfer of technology to be facilitated through bulletins, handbooks, training classes, demonstration control plots, slide presentations, and noxious weed and declared pest species management plans.

D. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

III. INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

A. Implementation of Commission IPM Policies

1. Utilize a systems approach to noxious weed and declared pest control.
2. Utilize and implement plant quarantines and other preventative measures to prevent or reduce the potential introduction and establishment of new noxious weeds and to prevent the artificial movement of noxious weeds into uninfested areas.
3. Research and apply economic thresholds for the management of noxious weeds and declared pests.
4. Research, identify, and implement economic control strategies/methodologies.
5. Practice the concept of site-specific noxious weed and declared pest management utilizing weed management areas and cooperative management projects.
6. Continue to focus on utilizing alternative strategies for noxious weed and declared pest control.

B. Utilization of the IPM Decision Making Process. An orderly process of decision making is a necessary part of Integrated Pest Management to effectively plan and carry out IPM strategies for the management of noxious weeds and declared pests. The following process should be considered as it identifies the best method or methods for an integrated approach to weed and pest management:

1. Detection of Pest
2. Identification of Pest
3. Biology and Habits of Pest
4. Economic Significance of Pest Control
5. Selection of Treatment Methods
6. Treatment of Pest
7. Evaluation of Treatments
8. Record keeping

C. Implementation of IPM Strategies

Integrated Pest Management utilizes the above-described decision-making process based on site-specific information upon which decisions about treatment methods are made. It is highly unlikely that any one control method used by itself will be successful. In almost all situations a combination of compatible control methods will be necessary including legal, chemical, cultural, and biological controls. "No Action" is never a viable option. The following control options should be considered as part of IPM plans:

1. Legal controls
 - a. Quarantines
 - b. Certified Seed
 - c. Noxious Weed Free Forage
 - d. Forced compliance

2. Chemical control
 - a. Herbicides
 - b. Application regimes
 - c. Methodology
3. Biological control
 - a. Natural competition
 - b. Introduced competition
4. Cultural control
 - a. Manual control
 - b. Mechanical control
 - c. Burning
 - d. Smothering
 - e. Natural competition
 - f. Livestock manipulation
 - g. Wildlife manipulation
 - h. Soil disturbance management

IV. NOXIOUS WEED AND DECLARED PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS

A. Plan Outline

A specific plan is needed to identify IPM strategies for the management of each state noxious weed and pest. Documentation is needed to address environmental concerns and to obtain program funding and personnel. The plans shall provide the point of reference for Commission work plans (annual and long-term), land managing agencies, county land-use plans, and each protective operation or remedial action. Plans will also reveal areas where additional research is necessary to adequately manage species on a site-specific basis. Plans should address the follow areas:

1. Biological Characteristics
 - a. Description-Identification
 - b. Similar species
 - c. Habitat
2. Negative Impacts of Noxious Weed or Declared Pest
3. Establishment of Management Areas
4. Integrated Pest Management Plan
 - a. Public awareness and education
 - b. The IPM decision making process
 - c. Strategies/methodologies
 - (1) Legal control
 - (2) Chemical control
 - (3) Biological control
 - (4) Cultural control
5. Prioritization
 - a. Individualize infestations within a management area and consider all IPM management strategies.
 - b. Determine achievable management objectives based on prevention, eradication, or suppression.
 - c. The level of control to be the same for all land managers within an established management area.
 - d. Balance resources available for control with potential noxious weed and declared pest costs.

B. Initiating Site-Specific Management Practices

1. Implement the Weed Management Area (WMA) concept, utilizing this practice for declared pests as well.
2. Utilize the IPM decision making process during site analysis.

3. Implement functional IPM systems.
4. Strive for high economic benefit + low environmental impact.

C. Fostering a Holistic Approach

Private and public land managers as well as county weed and pest boards should strive to act in a cooperative effort, achieving noxious weed and declared pest control results through the use of MOU's, Cooperative Agreements, as well as short and long range work plans.

V. COORDINATED CONTROL ACTIVITIES

A. Federal Plans

"Memorandum of Understanding" in place to meet the goals of the South Dakota Noxious Weed and Pest Control Program. "Guidelines for the Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds in South Dakota" developed by the Interagency Working Group will provide direction to coordinate the control of noxious weeds among federal agencies under the MOU.

B. State Plans

"Agreement for the Coordinated Control of Noxious Weeds" signed by land managing agencies of the State of South Dakota to meet the goals of the South Dakota Noxious Weed Control Program. Each of the state agencies identified in the agreement have agreed to report their plan for the control of noxious weeds within their respective area of responsibility. The "Guidelines for the Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds in South Dakota" and the "South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission Policy Statements" are to be used as references in the development of annual work plans for the management of noxious weeds in South Dakota.

C. County Plans

1. County Noxious Weed and Declared Pest Work Plans

DANR to assist counties in developing and finalizing annual noxious weed and declared pest control planning focusing on weed management areas and cooperative projects as part of the work plans. Annual and long-range county work plans for noxious weed and declared pest control to be submitted to the South Dakota Weed and Pest Commission at their annual meeting.

2. County Land Use Plans

DANR to provide technical assistance to County Commissions through County Weed and Pest Boards to include legal requirements for the control of noxious weeds and declared pests in County Land Use Plans. DANR to provide assistance to counties to also incorporate noxious weed and declared pest management in county land use plans.

D. Cooperative Agreements

1. Tribes and County Weed and Pest Boards MOU in place with U.S. Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs as part of "Guidelines for the Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds in South Dakota". DANR to continue working with County Weed and Pest Boards and Tribes to establish Cooperative Agreements for the coordinated control of noxious weeds and declared pests on private, public, and tribal lands at the local level in counties within the State of South Dakota. Communication links will be established and maintained among DANR, County Weed and Pest Boards and all tribes throughout South Dakota including:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Sisseton-Wahpeton | e. Standing Rock | i. Flandreau Santee Sioux |
| b. Yankton Sioux | f. Cheyenne River | |
| c. Crow Creek | g. Rosebud | |
| d. Lower Brule | h. Oglala Lakota (Pine Ridge) | |

E. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, agreements, etc. as necessary.

VI. COUNTY WEED AND PEST SUPERVISORS

(Department to strive to continue enhancement of County programs by outlining job qualification criteria, implementing a certification training and testing process, and conducting continuing education classes.)

A. Recommended Standard Job Qualification Criteria

1. A High school diploma plus 2 seasons of technical experience in weed and pest management.
2. Valid South Dakota Driver's License.
3. Valid Commercial Applicators License plus endorsements.
4. Enrollment in necessary correspondence courses for technical training.
5. Ability to travel - multiple overnights required.
6. Demonstrates measurable ability to make team contributions and to act on others ideas.
7. Demonstrates measurable ability to mandate and follow oral/written directives.
8. Demonstrates measurable ability to write and present clear, concise, and accurate reports as well as documents and presentations.
9. Demonstrates measurable initiative to operate technical activities without direct supervision.
10. Demonstrates measurable problem-solving ability, maintaining accountability for actions.
11. Demonstrates measurable interpersonal skills, communicating openly and directly.
12. Demonstrates measurable ability to function adequately under stress.
13. Demonstrates measurable ability and flexibility for managing responsibilities and decision making skills.
14. Demonstrates measurable ability to function in multiple roles at a given time.
15. Demonstrates measurable organization and time management skills.
16. Demonstrates measurable ability to serve as a positive role model for employees being supervised.

B. Implementing Certification Training and Testing

1. Conduct state and locally noxious weed and pest identification.
2. Review applicable IPM practices on state and locally noxious weeds and pests.
3. Review pertinent state weed and pest control statutes, rules, and commission policies concerning weed and pest control.
4. Outline weed and pest control equipment calibration.
5. Outline control plot establishment and demonstration.
6. Utilize weed and pest control performance evaluations.
7. Outline weed and pest program supervisory roles.
8. Conduct Public relations skills sessions.
9. Highlight successful County Weed and Pest Control Program as directed by effective County Weed and Pest Boards.
10. Review reporting and record keeping as required by County Weed and Pest Boards and the South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission.

C. Conducting Continuing Education Classes

1. Annual training attendance a necessity of maintaining certification.
2. Additional classes/training to be prepared and offered by the Department and SDSU Extension.
3. Applicable coursework and training to be substituted per approval by the Department.
4. Training provided by Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources on enforcement issues.

D. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

VII. NOXIOUS WEED MAPPING PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

A. Initiation of Weed Mapping System

1. Foster county mapping efforts.
2. Facilitate a statewide weed and pest mapping program.
3. Establish coordinated, mapping protocol.
4. Facilitate a statewide weed inventory data base.
5. Increase efficiency of weed and pest control program.

B. Continuation and Improvements

1. Strive to get statewide coverage on all noxious weeds
2. Increase efficiency of weed and pest control program activities/budgets
3. Develop system using data to prevent the spread of an infestation

C. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

VIII. EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE PROGRAM

A. Initiation of Early Detection Program

1. Foster a county early detection program.
2. Facilitate a multi-state early detection-reporting network.
3. Facilitate a volunteer statewide early detection reporting network.
 - a. Facilitate identification of new invasive weeds or pests.
 - b. Facilitate a rapid assessment of the invasiveness of a new invasive weed or pest.

B. Initiation of Rapid Response Plan

1. Facilitate the development of a rapid response options.
2. Facilitate eradication and control.
3. Facilitate the removal of barriers and constraints to rapid response.

C. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

IX. PREVENTION

A. Initiation of a Weed and Pest Prevention Program

1. Facilitate the identification of a weed or pest that may meet the definition of “quarantine pest”.
 - a. Discovery of an established infestation or an outbreak of a new weed or pest in an adjoining state

- b. Identification of a new weed or pest risk through literature search or other research.
 - c. Petition or proposal from outside the commission
2. Prepare a risk assessment for that weed or pest
 3. Solicit and analyze and respond to public comments

B. Feedback

1. Request comments.
2. Evaluate and analyze content.
3. Adjust policies, procedures, programs, etc. as necessary.

DARWIN W. KURTENBACH, CHAIRMAN
SOUTH DAKOTA WEED AND PEST CONTROL COMMISSION

DATE

DRAFT

**SOUTH DAKOTA WEED & PEST COMMISSION
ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK - WEED AND PEST CONTROL PROGRAM**

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SOUTH DAKOTA WEED AND PEST COMMISSION ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

The South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission, April ~~20~~⁹, 202~~6~~⁵, met to approve an Annual Plan of Work for the year 202~~6~~⁵-202~~7~~⁶.

The Commission identified seven areas of concern to be included in the Annual Plan of Work. Those areas include:

- 1) Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, and Saltcedar control guidance
- 2) Agency weed control
- 3) Communications with County Commissioners.
- 4) Weed and Pest Commission Program Guidance.
- 5) County/State Program Adjustment.
- 6) Continue support for new methods for weed and pest control.
- 7) Early Detection and Rapid Response

CANADA THISTLE, LEAFY SPURGE, & SALTCEDAR GUIDANCE AND CONTROL

- 1) The Commission recognizes that the increasing infestation of Canada Thistle dictates that the control of this weed is priority for the Commission. The Commission will work with the counties on increasing awareness and control of this weed.
 - A) Recommend each county undertake a program of Canada thistle education working with the Extension Field Specialist and others to inform the public the necessity for control of this weed.
 - B) Recommend each county weed board take aggressive action in the control of Canada Thistle in their counties
- 2) The Commission recognizes that the increasing infestation of Leafy Spurge dictates that the control of this weed is priority for the Commission. The Commission will work with the counties on increasing awareness and control of this weed.
 - A) Recommend each county undertake a program of Leafy spurge education working with the Extension Field Specialist and others to inform the public the necessity for control of this weed.
 - B) Recommend each county weed board take aggressive action in the control of Leafy Spurge in their counties.
- 3) The Commission recognizes that the increasing infestation of Saltcedar dictates that the control of this weed is priority for the Commission.
 - A) Recommend each county undertake a program of Saltcedar education working with the Extension Field Specialist and others to inform the public the necessity for control of this weed.
 - B) Recommend each county weed board take aggressive action in the control of Saltcedar in their counties.

AGENCY WEED CONTROL

The commission recognizes that the control of weeds on Federal, State, City, and County lands is a prerequisite to good weed control by the private land owners.

- 1) The Commission will support working with Federal, State, City, and County landowners to accomplish invasive species on all of their lands.
2. The Commission will support working with Federal, State, City, and County landowners to increase budgets for invasive species control on all of their lands
3. The Commission will support continuing education for Federal, State, City, and County landowners on invasive species control on their lands

COMMUNICATIONS WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Continuing communications with the South Dakota Association of County Commissioners; recognition of the authority and responsibility of the County Commission in ensuring an active County Weed and Pest Board and effective county weed and pest control program; and acknowledgment of the need for grass-roots input and support, prompted the Commission to adopt the following:

- 1) The Commission will communicate with the County Commissioners through the Executive Director of the SD Association of County Commissioners:
 - A) Recommending that each County Commission require the County Weed and Pest Board to:
 1. Submit to them a written County Weed and Pest Control Plan, and require written annual progress reports, updates, additions, and deletions to the plan. (Reference available DANR assistance)
 2. That the County Commission require complete accountability of the County Weed and Pest Control Program through:
 - a. Monthly, in-person reports to the County Commission of all activities and actions of the County Weed and Pest Board and Supervisor(s).
 - b. Complete justification of Weed and Pest Control budgets based on accurate line item accountability of past appropriated funds, and anticipated program growth, expansion, adjustment, and/or reorganization.
 - c. Daily logs kept by County Weed and Pest Control Program employees of what hours were worked and what activities were completed each day.
 - B) Recommend that each County Commission develop county policy establishing:
 1. County land use plan, which will facilitate local input required by the National Environmental Protection Act with Federal agencies when land use or policy changes are being considered in the County. DANR to provide technical assistance to County Commissions through County Weed and Pest Boards to include legal requirements for

the control of noxious weeds and declared pests in County land use plans. DANR to provide assistance to counties to also incorporate noxious weed and declared pest management in County land use plans.

2. Encourage counties to seek out qualified people to serve on the County Weed & Pest Board.
 - C) Encouraging the adoption of a policy to ensure control of noxious weeds and declared pests on private lands as well as public lands. (Reference Federal Guidelines for the Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds, State Agreement for the Coordinated Control of Noxious Weeds, Memorandum's of Understanding, and Cooperative Agreements)
 - D) Recommending more advanced qualifications and job competency for County Weed and Pest Supervisors as indicated in the Long Range Directives and require attendance of annual training as provided by the SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- 2) Each Weed and Pest Commission member representing an Association of County Weed and Pest Boards District will work through the SD Association of County Commissioners representative to secure a slot on the agenda for any Association of County Commissioners district meetings held in their respective districts to personally relay the above-mentioned identified issues.

WEED AND PEST COMMISSION PROGRAM GUIDANCE:

The Commission recognizes the following issues as meriting support of our national leaders. The Commission will communicate the following to South Dakota's Congressional Delegation and to Executive Branch leadership.

- 1) Support for IPM weed control. Items to be addressed include:
 - A) Continued funding and expansion of USDA's role in researching, screening, and releasing effective biological weed control agents.
 - B) Recognition of limitations of biocontrol as a sole or main means of noxious weed control (Reference biocontrol as one tool in the whole box of IPM strategies as well as federal agency over-dependence on biocontrol as their main or sole weed control methodology).
 - C) Support the establishment of cooperative, county biological control insectaries for the rearing and subsequent redistribution of biocontrol agents for noxious weed control.
- 2) Support for weed control. Items to be addressed include:
 - A) Support for the responsible use of effective herbicides on federal lands. (Reference federal agency reluctance or refusal to use herbicides of any type)
 - B) Recognition of the necessity of using effective herbicides in integrated pest management.
- 3) Support for the evaluation and amendment of existing environmental regulations and policies that are socially and economically impacting rural communities, including:
 - A) The Endangered Species Act as it pertains to ecosystem preservation.
 - B) The National Biological Survey and the use of such by USFWS and environmental groups.
 - C) The tremendous expenditures of public taxpayer resources due to the federal requirements of NEPA and Section 7 consultation of ESA.

- 4) Support for increased funding for weed and pest control on federally owned and/or managed lands.

Specific items to be addressed include:

- A) Noxious weed control on lands controlled by FWS, FS, BLM, BIA, COE, BOR, FSA/SCS, FmHA, NPS, and FLB.
- B) Support for allocating 25 to 30 percent of any existing or future Federal land acquisition funds to be used for land management or maintenance. i.e.(weed or pest control).

The Commission adopted the following as policy and will encourage State land managing agencies address the following:

- 5) Best Management Plans (BMP) incorporating existing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies.
 - A) BMP's incorporate site specific plans for the control of noxious weeds:
 - 1. Noxious weed inventory of infested acres.
 - 2. Noxious weed infestation site location maps.
 - 3. Evaluation and prioritization of available weed control resources.
 - 4. Development of integrated control strategies on specific infestation site locations.
 - 5. Annually evaluate the successes and failures of specific infestation site control strategies and modify as needed to achieve a greater level of control.

B) The Commission may send a representative from the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and/or a representative from the SD Weed & Pest Control Commission to any invasive species awareness or advocacy meetings.

The South Dakota Weed and Pest Commission recognizes and advocates the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

- 6) The Commission will request South Dakota State University support research and education concerning IPM strategies and implementing IPM at the local level.

COUNTY/STATE PROGRAM ADJUSTMENT:

The South Dakota Weed and Pest Commission acknowledges the need for continued funding for weed and pest control programs. The Commission further prioritizes available funding in the following manner:

The Commission recognizes the importance of program planning in the success of a noxious weed control program. The Commission advises that each county develop an annual plan of work to include, but not be limited to the following components:

- 1) Identify, inventory, and map areas of infestation that are of major concern to the people of the county.
 - A) Coordinate large scale cooperative control efforts.
 - 1. Identify additional resources, equipment, funding, personnel, etc. needed to successfully complete a large scale control project.
 - 2. Assist landowners develop site specific control plans.

3. Develop schedule to monitor progress within a control block area.
 4. Proceed with enforcement procedures on non-complying landowners within identified control area.
 5. Evaluate successes/failures within cooperative control block.
 6. Revise control plans utilizing information developed through evaluation process.
- B) Identify, inventory, and map smaller, individual, isolated tracts of infested land within the county.
1. Develop a schedule to monitor compliance or noncompliance.
 2. Proceed with enforcement procedures on non-complying landowners.
- 2) Information and education.
- A) Continuation of existing Commission funded research.
 - B) Continue and expand public information and education programs.
 - C) Continue to support large scale multi-agency cooperative noxious weed management projects.
 - D) Continue to support Coordinated Resource Management and expansion of Memorandum of Understandings.
 - E) Continue and expand County Weed and Pest Supervisor training and certification.
- 3) Identify and schedule county educational opportunities.
- A) Work with Extension Field Specialist to develop educational programs that address local weed and pest control concerns and needs.
 - B) Contact county VoAg instructors, 4-H leaders, elementary and high school science teachers, community clubs, farm/ranch organizations, county fairs, farm/home shows, sport shows, etc. informing them about the educational weed and pest control programs/displays available.
 - C) Develop a series of news releases concerning noxious weed and declared pest control. Submit to local newspapers, radio, TV over the course of the season.
 - D) Develop a direct mail piece to be sent to all landowners in the county. Stuff direct mail pieces along with the tax notices or other county mail already going out, or make a special mailing.
- 4) Ensure that all township right-of-ways in the county have control measures in place.
- A) Schedule meetings with each township board in the county to discuss noxious weed control plans and request that each designate a township representative to assist the county Board.
 - B) Assist townships in securing applicators if the County does not, or cannot in a timely manner, control township right-of-ways. Remember, most section lines, if not legally closed, are usually township right-of-ways.
- 5) County weed and pest boards have necessary weed and pest control measures in place.
- A) Have sufficient personnel hired early enough in the year to begin control measures in a timely manner.
 - B) Have all equipment repaired, assembled, and ready for use early enough to ensure timely control.
 - C) Update infestation maps and have ready for use when control season begins.

- 6) Perennial offender preseason notification.
 - A) Perennial offenders are identified from past records, and infestation map data.
 - B) Friendly notification sent to all perennial offenders reminding of obligation to control infestations and advising that compliance inspections will be conducted after a specified date.
 - C) Proceed with enforcement procedures on all non-complying landowners.

The Commission recognizes the importance of written, site specific control plans in the long term success of noxious weed and declared pest enforcements. The Commission recommends that all enforcements, local and state conducted, incorporate a requirement of written control plans for all individuals involved in enforcements.

- 7) Enforcement control plans should be developed cooperatively involving the Extension Field Specialist, County Weed and Pest Supervisor, and State Weed and Pest Supervisor and take into account the following as a minimum:
 - A) Grazing and cropping systems currently used.
 - B) Financial allocations to weed and pest control by the landowner.
 - C) Types of control equipment and methodologies accessible to landowner.
 - D) Locations and species of infestations.

The Commission supports the continued training and education of County Weed and Pest personnel.

- 8) Ongoing county training and informational programs should be conducted as part of a continuing education process including the following:
 - A) Investigate initiating specialized certification requirements and categories for County Weed and Pest Supervisors.
 - B) Annual training topics to be determined by the County Weed and Pest Supervisors through statewide surveys and polls conducted by the SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources and/or SD Association of County Weed & Pest Supervisors and/or SD Association of County Weed & Pest Boards.
 - C) The SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources will be responsible for coordinating annual County Weed and Pest Supervisor & Boards Training with the cooperation of SDSU Extension Service and conduct the training and educational needs of County Weed and Pest Boards.
 - D) The SD Association of County Weed and Pest Boards form a County Weed & Pest Board Training Committee within their Association to identify, plan, and coordinate training.
- 9) Continuation of field monitoring of economically threatening grasshopper populations.
 - A) Assist Counties in identifying and obtaining funding to control grasshoppers that reach economic damaging levels.
 - B) Continue to cooperate with USDA/APHIS on grasshopper research, monitoring, and control programs.
 - C) Request Federal funds from USDA/APHIS to control grasshoppers on CRP, rangelands, and other federally managed lands.
 - D) State Weed and Pest Commission make emergency pest declaration of grasshoppers as early as possible.

The Commission acknowledges the need for evaluations of individual programs as an aid in the identification of areas for improvement and monitoring compliance with established statutes, rules, and policy.

- 10) The SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources may annually evaluate individual county programs based on applicable statutes, rules, and policy as outlined in the SD Weed and Pest Control Handbook.
- 11) The SD Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources may conduct annual reviews and evaluations of all active projects and/or programs receiving funding from any grant program administered through the Commission.

CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR NEW WEED CONTROL METHODS

The commission recognizes that new and innovative means of weed control are always being developed and will continue to support the introduction of the new methods as soon as practical.

SUPPORT FOR EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE OF INFESTATIONS

The commission recognizes that preventing the introduction of invasive species is the first line of defence against new invasions. However, even the best prevention efforts will not stop all invasive species introductions.

The commission recognizes the most time and cost-effective way to manage the potential negative impacts of new invasive species is through Early Detection and Rapid Response. (EDRR)

- 1) The commission recommends each county utilizes EDRR principles.
 - A) By soliciting reports of new invasive species whenever they are found.
 - B) Rapidly assess the potential threat of the new species.
 - C) Request research and technical support from SDSU.
 - D) Establish control measures.
 - E) Develop a plan of education and outreach.

202~~65~~-202~~76~~ WEED & PEST COMMISSION WORK PLAN SCHEDULE

September 1~~5~~⁰, (1 pm – until completed) Business Meeting (Matthews Training Center in Pierre)
~~September 11, (8 am – 5 pm)~~ District ~~32~~ Annual Inspection (TBD at Apr. meeting if there is a fall tour)

October 202~~65~~ Mail out Call for Grants

December 202~~65~~ – Regular Meeting, if needed

February ~~1824~~, ~~1925~~ & ~~260~~, 202~~76~~ Weed & Pest Conference, ~~Deadwood~~Aberdeen/ Review Grants at Commission Meeting on the morning of February 24, 2027

March / April 202~~76~~ – Annual Meeting

The preceding document has been reviewed and accepted by the members of the South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission.

Darwin W. Kurtenbach, Chairman

Date