



Division of Finance & Management

Office of Air, Rail & Transit

700 East Broadway Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

O: 605.773-3574 | F: 605.773.2804

dot.sd.gov

TO: South Dakota Railroad Board

FROM: Jack Dokken, Office of Air, Rail & Transit

DATE: April 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Noxious Weed Control Agreement Requests

The South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has two requests to enter into agreements for the control of noxious weeds on the state-owned Napa-Platte rail line and the state-sponsored railbanked section of the Mitchell-Rapid City (MRC) rail line between Kadoka and Rapid City.

- The first request is a joint powers agreement with Pennington County Weed Board for control of the noxious weeds on the MRC rail line located in the railroad right of way between Maple Street Yard in Rapid City and Interior in the amount of \$7,063 for the year 2022.
- The second request is for an agreement with Dakota Helicopters Inc. for spraying service to control noxious weeds on the railbank portion of the Napa-Platte rail line from Ravina to Platte and the remainder of the MRC rail line from Interior to Kadoka. Dakota Helicopter Inc. quoted SDDOT the price of \$70.32 per acre. The total agreement for the spraying services would be approximately \$23,000 for the year 2022.

In May 2021, the State of South Dakota sold the MRC rail line to Ringneck & Western Railroad. However, SDDOT remains the sponsor for the railbanked section of the MRC and is responsible for maintenance including weed control of this area.