



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:** March 15, 2023

**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 \$7,100 for the year 2023.
- 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 railbank portion 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 \$22,150.80 for the year 2023.

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.