



Mountrail County Weed Control
8103 61st St NW
Stanley ND 58784
701-628-2835 #2

Weed Management Plan

This is a simplified weed management template that is specifically designed for small properties/areas. It is designed to assist in controlling noxious & troublesome weeds by documenting areas at risk whether it be currently infested or could possibly become infested in the future. This document also assists in coordinating efforts between Mountrail County Weed Control and landowners/operators/developers to accomplish noxious weed control goals. A copy of this weed management plan will be kept on file with Mountrail County Weed Control, Planning & Zoning, as well as with all parties involved in the ownership and/or management of the property. Per North Dakota Century Code 4.1-47: ***Each Person shall do all things necessary and proper to control the spread of noxious weeds.***

Date _____ Circle One: **PRIVATE** **COMMERCIAL**

Name of Landowner: _____

Name of Party Responsible for Weed Control (if different than Landowner):

Address of Responsible Party:

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Legal Description of Property: _____

Approximate Size of Property: _____



Purpose of Property:

Surface Movement for Commercial Construction Purposes (circle or highlight one):

Scoria Manure Dirt Sand Gravel Construction Other_____

Weed Management Goals: Management goals describe the purpose/use of the property and what you are trying to achieve. The minimum action required by North Dakota Law and Mountrail County Weed Control is to mow noxious weeds to prevent them from going to seed. Examples of other management goals: restore an area with native vegetation, prevent contamination and/or spread of noxious weeds due to mining or storage of construction materials by a yearly application of herbicide. **Please list your management goals as they apply to this property:**

Weed Control Actions: Knowing which weed species occur on your property and where they are located is very important in developing control priorities. Weed species vary considerably in the threat that they pose to the property. In addition, weed species vary greatly in their susceptibility to control measures. Weed species that pose the greatest threat to achieving the management goals for the property and which can be most easily controlled are the highest priority for management. To create weed control actions for your weed management plan, first search your property for weeds (if you have not already done so). If you are unable to identify the type of weeds present, feel free to send pictures to the Mountrail County Weed Control department for assistance (701-628-2835).

*Detailed Weed Management Plan will follow.
(See Example Pages & follow check list to help develop your plan)*

*******Detailed Weed Management Plan Check List*******

- Legal Description of Location.
- Map of Location. (Google Maps or Sidwell
- Site Pictures. (Jim will take when completing first inspection prior)
- Spray Plan – Pre-Construction plan of Herbicide using what weed(s) you are spraying, & how are you handling top soil and spoil pile.
 *List all herbicides used. *
- Haul routes control plan.
- Maintenance spray plan for during project.
- Post-Construction reclamation plan.



Gravel Pit Contractor Name (printed) _____

Gravel Pit Contractor (Signature) _____

Date: _____

Landowner Name (printed): _____

Landowner Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mountrail County Weed Board Representative Name: _____

Mountrail County Weed Board Representative Signature: _____

Date: _____

In signing this document, I understand that I will be responsible for noxious weed control on the property listed.

Jim Hennessy
Mountrail County Ag Agent/Weed Officer
Office: 701-628-2835
Cell: 701-629-1858



See Detailed Example plan below:
Detailed Plan needs to be in your own words not copied,
& for each proposed pit location.

DETAILED EXAMPLE PLAN OF TWO PITS IN SAME AREA

Date

Company Name
Contact Person
Address

SUBJECT: Gravel Pit Weed Management Plan for *COMPANY NAME*.

Legal Description of proposed gravel pit area (*XXX-XX Sec X*)

Proposed gravel pit site has *XX* acres which fall in the *XX* of the section roughly between the *XX 1/4* and the *XX 1/4*. Access to these sites would be off from *STREET* between *LANDOWNERS*. Entry into the proposed pit area is clear of noxious weeds on state and county lists. The proposed pit site would be on land that is currently cultivated for *PASTURE OR CROPS, ETC*, while this will speed up the process of opening the pit, extra care will need to be used in herbicide selections on the pit reclamation program due to this. Products should be chosen that would allow the possibility of planting crops back into the site after the pit is closed and turned back to the land owner.

Please see attached maps showing possible entry sites into proposed gravel pit areas off from *STREET*.

Opening Pit Plan:

This part of the plan would be for opening the active mining area in the proposal as mentioned in the Management Plan.

I suggest spraying the area to be opened prior to the removal of any topsoil with some type of glyphosate herbicide. I suggest a minimum of *spray rate and surfactants / per acre*.

This would be applied to the areas that will be mined (active pit area) and to the sites that the overburden or reclamation soil piles or the material piles will be put. These areas would be staked and all areas within the stake boundaries applied.

This would be completed at least 4 weeks prior to any mining beginning. If mining is postponed then this would be completed at least twice within an 8 to 10-week period but not to exceed two applications per acre per year, of *chemical name* at these rates before active mining begins.



If gravel pit mining site is to be opened during the winter months then the site would be treated mid-summer and again mid fall with the glyphosate spraying program, this will allow any noxious weeds within the mining site to be treated and killed and any possible re-growth from noxious weed seed stock in the soil to be treated as well before any topsoil is removed and stockpiled with a winter opening of the site.

This program would include all access or haul roads that may be built into the sites as well; these would be treated with this program prior to road construction, overburden removal, etc.

I would suggest that the proposed pit sites be treated as follows;

The proposed **XX** Pit is treated at least twice with this program before any active mining would begin. Treatments should be 4 weeks apart if *list noxious weed(s)*, is/are actively growing, all areas that would be in the active mining area would be treated (approximately **XX** acres +/-), this is to help eliminate any *list noxious weed(s)*, currently growing there and to help in the possible movement of seed by doing a secondary application (new plants growing from exposed seed that may germinate and grow in this time period).

After this program has been completed then I would suggest taking at least 4 inches of topsoil/overburden off from the site before mining and stock piling this to try to capture any remaining seed that might be in the soil. You might not capture all the seed or plant parts but you will greatly reduce the amount that might end up in the processed materials and be spread.

The proposed **XX** Pit be treated the same as above if opening of this pit is planned at the same time as the other or vice versa for the **XX** Pit site, if not please see example below.

Suggested Chemicals and rates per acre are as follows:

Chemicals used and surfactants to control said weeds.

All are to be tank mixed together and applied with at least **XX** gallons water (carrier) per acre for thorough coverages of all plants and grasses within the staked areas.

Example: If **XX** Pit is to be opened first then the approximate acreage of # acres would be sprayed twice in its entirety with glyphosate before stripping any top soils, this would include any haul roads proposed for the site.

If the **XX** Pit would be opened at a later date then the **XX** Pit areas would be sprayed for any state declared noxious weeds with a different chemical program until the time of opening that pit, then the area to be mined would be sprayed in its entirety with glyphosate prior to beginning any removal of overburden/topsoil, again this would be accomplished at least 4 weeks prior to any active removal of any dirt or gravel, and should be accomplished at least 1 to 2 times before active mining depending upon current weed pressure.

The only change to this program would be if a site was opened at a later date, the site has been sprayed with products to control and ND State or County declared noxious weeds, the site is showing very little noxious weed pressure then, the glyphosate applications could possibly be dropped down to 1 application about 4 weeks prior to any excavation of any topsoil/overburden.

Either way, both proposed pit sites would be treated with some program from day 1 of getting the CUP to proceed.



Overburden/Soil Stockpiles/Material Stock Pile Plan:

Once the overburden soil has been removed and placed in the stock pile areas (for later use in reclamation) these piles will have to be monitored for noxious weed growth and treated as needed for noxious weeds. Spraying treatments of these topsoil stock piles may have to be done as many as 3 to 4 times per year in the first year or two.

The topsoil being removed for reclamation later will have the most noxious weed seed in it. You are removing the zone (the first 0 to 6 inches) that noxious weed seed will be found and piling them up into one condensed site. By doing this you will be exposing the noxious weed seed in this zone and these seeds will start to germinate and grow.

You should see the most growth from noxious weeds within the first 2 years of stockpiling; you might have another flush of growth when you spread this topsoil back over the reclaimed areas as well.

These topsoil stock piles would be sprayed as needed as stated above to control any ND State or County declared noxious weeds and prevent any re-infestation into the pit areas.

Suggested Chemicals and Rates per Acre for Overburden/Stockpiles:

First Year or Two on Stockpiles:

Chemicals used and rates / each year

This may have to be sprayed 2 to 3 times in the first year or two after stockpiling, this will give you total vegetation control of any vegetation that might start growing but will not stop any new seed germination. These spraying applications will not sterilize the soil so it could be used right away for reclamation if needed.

Special Note: The reason we are requesting these piles be treated this way is, we want as many seeds as possible that have been moved to these piles to germinate and grow, by doing this we will lessen the amount that may be spread back onto the reclaimed sites later, therefore possibly reducing spraying applications on those sites later.

After the first year or two then we will switch to a maintenance plan on the piles and I suggest the following chemical program.

Chemicals used and rates / 2nd year

This spraying application will provide control of *list noxious weed* and any other declared noxious weed on the reclamation/topsoil piles; this should give you a longer extended control of these plants and would leave the grasses that might start to grow on the piles.

Material Piles should also be treated as necessary, if mined material is stockpiled for use later than any ND State or County declared noxious weed found growing in or around these piles should be promptly eliminated before going to seed. Either one of the above programs could be used on these piles as well.



Active Mining Pit Plan:

Once the pit areas have been treated with glyphosate and top soils have been removed then we move to an active mining plan.

This would include the control of any ND State or County declared noxious weed within the pit areas or surrounding areas (buffer zones) to keep these sites noxious weed free and from producing any new seed.

In most cases these areas would be sprayed with an herbicide that is labeled for such sites as well as labeled for the weeds being controlled.

I suggest the following program for spraying the active pit areas and buffer zones around the active areas.

Suggested Chemicals and Rates per Acre:

Chemicals used and rates on the buffer zone

Products will be tank mixed and applied with sufficient water for thorough coverage of targeted plants. All areas containing the noxious weeds of concern should be sprayed and a buffer zone around these areas to make sure there are no missed plants. This program should be completed at least twice a year to make sure any plants that might be re-growing after spraying or any new plants starting from seeds are controlled as well.

Timing of these spray applications would be before the targeted plants set seed, with *list noxious weed(s)*, that would be in the spring of the year (May or early June) applications, when the *list noxious weed(s) and biological maturity*.

Fall application (2nd possible application) would be early to mid-September time frame, same chemical program with the same rates per acre here as well.

Special Note: This spraying program would stay in effect through the life of the active mining on the site or **until all noxious weeds have been controlled on the site and through the buffer zone areas**. In most cases if the pit is being mined from day to day then new noxious weed growth should not be an issue in the pit area itself, if the buffer zones are maintained around the active pit areas then the risk of actually hauling new noxious weed seed out from the pit area is greatly lessened.

The active mining program would also include all haul/entry roads that are on the site and the required buffer zones along these.

Please remember, the immediate areas surrounding the active pits are extremely critical in these buffer zones, in most cases this is where dirt is disturbed, seeds will germinate and new plants could start to grow.



Buffer Zone Areas Plan:

Plan would be that the following areas be used as buffer zones around the proposed pit areas. Buffer zone areas would be monitored for noxious weeds and treated, monitoring would be done at least 2 times each year to make sure there is no active re-growth of any noxious weeds within these required buffer sites. This program could be used in any areas that no haying or grazing of domestic livestock will be allowed, it should be able to be used in the entire proposed pits sites.

Reclamation of Mined Pit Areas (noxious weeds only).

Managing the noxious weed after the pit has been reclaimed; topsoil replaced and seeded should be as follows.

I suggest that a 3-year weed management plan for ND State declared noxious weeds be incorporated. This would entail watching the site and spraying any noxious weeds that may start growing within the site and buffer zone areas during the reclamation period and up to 3 years after reclamation is complete and the land is turned back to the owner.

After site is seeded (with a clean certified weed free grass seed), after the seed has germinated and has grown to a point it could handle herbicide applications then any needed noxious weed control would proceed. Like the active mining spraying program this should be accomplished at least 2 times each year to help control and prevent any noxious weeds from growing or setting seed.

While establishing grasses, if some areas would need sprayed, then I suggest maintenance of these with herbicides that would be softer on new seeded grasses. You might have to in the first year or two just spray with 2, 4-D amine type herbicides or products that are mixtures of 2, 4-D amine and other herbicides. This would most likely have to be done 2 to 3 times in the first year or so until grasses are well established and can handle the harsher weed control products.

Once grass is established then I would suggest the use of *chemical name* herbicide as the main herbicide to be used for any weed control as long as the site would be suitable for this application.

Yearly Inspection Proposal:

Inspections would be completed by the Mountrail County Weed Control Officer at least one time each year and preferably 2 times each year while the pit is being mined and during agreed to period of reclamation of the site.

Each inspection should include a sight survey of the site (visual to make sure no noxious weeds of concern exist), **receiving copies of application logs showing site has been sprayed for noxious weed as directed by the plan.**

Application spraying records should have areas treated for noxious weeds, timing of spraying, products used and their rates. These items should be on the spray records as minimum, copies of all spraying logs would be supplied to the Mountrail County Weed Officer upon request for their files.



After the site visit the Mountrail County Weed Officer will either pass the site as meeting noxious weed management for that year or, should they find any areas of concern will contact the pit contractor of these concerns and then the pit contractor will immediately address these concerns for noxious weed control. After the areas of concern have been addressed by the pit contractor they will then contact the Mountrail County Weed Officer and let them know the problem area(s) have be treated and will supply them with the spraying records of the treatment area(s).

Additional Information:

By following this plan the possibility of moving noxious weeds from this site to another can be greatly reduced but not totally eliminated. There are always some variables that may exist and the plan may have to be changed from time to time to meet new needs or new weeds.

Any other products chosen for weed control applications other than these listed should at least meet the labeled standards of the currently chosen products or exceed them if possible.

Also, please remember, all products (pesticides) will have their limitations on what they can do, results can change due to environmental conditions, applicator errors, application timing, plant physiology changes over time and soil conditions.

All products chosen for use on this site and others are chosen for their environmental safety, wildlife and livestock safety and human safety and yet still be able to give the control needed on the noxious weeds present.

Copies of all the herbicide labels suggested for use are enclosed with this plan; products should be used only at labeled rates and on labeled sites.

The pesticide label is the “**LAW**” please remember that and use only according to labeled recommendations.