

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The Montana County Weed Control Act defines a “noxious weed” as any exotic plant species established or that may be introduced into the state which may render land unsuitable for agriculture, forestry, livestock, wildlife, or other beneficial uses and is further designated as either a state-wide or county-wide noxious weed. The purpose of this document is to outline a plan for management of noxious weeds during the development of the proposed Riverfront Trails subdivision in Missoula, Montana. The intent of the weed management plan is to contribute to maintaining the long-term viability of Montana’s natural and recreational resources through management of noxious and invasive weeds.

WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

Subdivision Name: Riverfront Trails

Primary Owner: Tollefson Properties, LLC
15311 Tyson Way
Frenchtown, MT 59834

Legal Description: Tract 1 of Certificate of Survey No. 6449, located in the NE1/4 of Section 11 and in the S1/2 of Section 2, Township 12 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Missoula County, Montana. Less and excepting therefrom the following tract of land:

Parcel A of Certificate of Survey No. 6568, a tract of land being a portion of Tract 1 of Certificate of Survey No. 6449, on file and of record in Missoula County, Montana, located in the NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 12 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., Missoula County, Montana.

Current Land Use: C-RR1 Residential (Missoula County portion) and Residential 215 (City of Missoula portion)

Proposed Development: 176-lot Major Subdivision

Riverfront Trails is a proposed major subdivision located on the 92.73-acre parcel at the intersection of Lower Miller Creek Road and Old Bitterroot Road in Missoula, Montana. The parcel is proposed to be divided into 176 separate lots within a Planned Unit Development (PUD) subdivision. There are no existing structures, water, or wastewater facilities currently onsite. The proposed subdivision is located on land which is currently and has historically been in use for agricultural production of hay and alfalfa. Approximately 81.48 acres of the 92.73-acre parcel

has been used for production of hay and alfalfa. The parcel is presently and historically served by an existing agricultural irrigation system.

According to the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey, the soils across the property are classified primarily as Newbar very gravelly loamy sand and Grassvalley silty clay loam. The Newbar formation is not considered prime farmland, and the Grassvalley formation is considered farmland of local importance. The property is adjacent to the Bitterroot River and includes a strip of riparian area associated with the riverbank. There are no other water features or wetlands located on the property. Native flora and wildlife include species typical to fringe urban areas of western Montana. The property does not directly support any endangered or threatened animals. There are no paleontological or cultural sites located on the proposed subdivision.

WEED MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

First Priority: Prevention of Noxious Weeds

To prevent introduction and spread of noxious weeds, all areas disturbed during construction will be reseeded using native plants. Commercially available wildflower mixes containing noxious weeds will be avoided. Areas disturbed will be reseeded as soon as possible, and within the same season, to prevent the spread of noxious weeds.

Second Priority: Eradication of Existing Noxious Weeds

All noxious weeds identified on the subdivision property prior to construction will be eradicated. Known noxious weeds in the vicinity are discussed in the following section.

WEEDS OF CONCERN

Weed Management Area

The proposed subdivision is in the Dean Stone weed management area. According to the Missoula County Weed District, widespread weeds in the area include spotted knapweed, oxeye daisy, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, houndstongue, St. johnswort, sulfur cinquefoil, common tansy, dalmation toadflax, and field bindweed. Established weeds include orange hawkweed, yellow flag iris, tall buttercup, whitetop, Japanese knotweed, yellow toadflax, and tamarisk. Rare weeds include Russian knapweed.

The area of the proposed subdivision was walked on February 3, 2021 by The Missoula County Weed District Manager Bryce Christiaens. He identified the following noxious weed species in various clusters shown on Exhibit G, Vegetation Map: spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, common tansy, and Canada thistle. Due to the above-mentioned weeds in the vicinity, landowners will continue to monitor the property and take steps to prevent the spread of noxious weeds, if necessary, after initial treatment of the property during and prior to construction.

Weed Management Tools

The primary weed management tool is treatment of the existing noxious weeds. The areas containing identified noxious weeds will be treated with the following herbicide mixture prior to construction:

HERBICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS		
HERBICIDE TYPE	TARGET SPECIES	DOSING (OZ./ACRE)
Aminopyralid (Milestone)	Spotted knapweed, Canada thistle	6
Metsulfuron methyl (msm60)	Common tansy	1
Aminocyclopyrachlor (Method)	Leafy spurge	8

Revegetation of open space will not be required following treatment due to the presence of desirable, competitive grasses on the property. Areas disturbed during construction will be reseeded as soon as possible, and within the same season. Each lot will have landscaping and irrigation; these areas will be mowed and maintained after reseeding to reduce seed production of noxious weeds and prevent their spread.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The developer shall be responsible for implementation and execution of this weed management plan, until such time that each lot is conveyed to a new owner, after which the owner of each lot in the subdivision will be responsible for the control of noxious weeds and the vegetation on their property. Lot owners are encouraged to contact the Missoula County Weed Control Board for additional information regarding methods of control. Owners will have and enact re-vegetation and landscaping plans for any area of the lot which will be disturbed by construction.