

Table 3. Noxious Weeds and Other Invasive Non-Native Plants Known to Occur in Placer County

Common Name	Scientific Name	CDFR Rank ¹	CalEPPC Rank ²	Habitat
Russian knapweed	<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	B	--	Fields, cultivated sites, roadsides, ditchbanks, waste areas
Barbed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i>	B	Annual grasses list	Serpentine habitats, grasslands
Tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	*	A-2	Riparian areas, grasslands, oak woodlands
Wild onion	<i>Allium vineale</i>	B	--	Disturbed sites, vineyards, orchards, irrigated or moist areas
Giant reed, Arundo	<i>Arundo donax</i>	*	A-1	Riparian areas
Wild oat, Slender wild oat	<i>Avena</i> spp.	--	Annual grasses list	Grasslands, oak woodlands; widespread
False brome	<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i>	--	Annual grasses list	Grasslands
Black mustard	<i>Brassica nigra</i>	--	B	Disturbed sites, grasslands, agricultural lands
Ripgut brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	--	Annual grasses list	Grasslands, oak woodlands
Red brome	<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i>	--	A-2	Widespread in a variety of habitats and soil types
Cheat grass, Downy brome	<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	--	A-1	Widespread; once thought to occur only east of the Sierra crest
Lens-podded hoary cress, Lenspod whitetop	<i>Cardaria chalepensis</i>	B	B	Agricultural lands, especially irrigated crops, disturbed areas, riparian areas, and ditches
Heart-podded hoarycress, Whitetop	<i>Cardaria draba</i>	B	A-2	Agricultural lands, especially irrigated crops, disturbed areas, riparian areas, and ditches
Globe-podded hoarycress, Hairy whitetop	<i>Cardaria pubescens</i>	B	--	Agricultural lands, especially irrigated crops, disturbed areas, riparian areas, and ditches
³ Plumeless thistle	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	A	--	Colonizes disturbed areas, agricultural lands, and waste areas, especially in sandy fertile soils

Table 3 continued

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Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	A	--	Colonizes disturbed areas, agricultural lands, and waste areas, especially in sandy fertile soils
Italian thistle	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	C	B	Grasslands, shrub lands, oak woodlands
³ Distaff thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas in grasslands and agricultural lands
Purple star-thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	B	B	Moist areas in grasslands, especially heavy, fertile alluvial soils
Diffuse knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	A	--	Light well-drained soils
³ Iberian star-thistle	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	A	--	Moist areas in grasslands, often on ditchbanks
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	A	Red Alert	Riparian areas, meadows, grasslands, forest habitats
Tocalote	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	*	B	Widespread around the state, less common than yellow star-thistle locally
Yellow star-thistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	C	A-1	Widespread, up to 7,000 feet in elevation
Skeleton weed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	A	--	Disturbed roadsides, crop lands, rangelands, residential areas
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	B	B	Riparian areas
Bull thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	*	B	Riparian areas, marshes, meadows, logged areas
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	--	B	Riparian areas, oak woodlands; widespread
Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	C	--	Agricultural lands, disturbed areas
Pampas grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	--	A-1	Riparian areas, marshes, disturbed

Table 3 continued

Common Name	Scientific Name	CDFR Rank ¹	CalEPPC Rank ²	Habitat
Artichoke thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	B	A-1	Disturbed open areas in chaparral, grasslands, agricultural lands, riparian areas
Bermuda grass	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	C	--	Generally moist or irrigated soils on disturbed roadsides, also in turf, gardens, and riparian areas
Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	C	A-1	Oak woodlands, Sierra foothills
³ Brazilian waterweed, Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>	--	A-2	Streams, ponds, sloughs, lakes; known to occur in northern Sierra Nevada foothills
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	--	A-2	Streams, ponds, sloughs, lakes
Quack grass	<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, cultivated fields, mountain meadows
Bluegum	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	--	A-1	Commonly planted for shelter, shade in foothill areas
³ Oblong spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	B	--	Waste areas, disturbed sites, roadsides, fields, pastures; up to 200 m (650 ft)
³ Tall fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	--	B	Grasslands, coastal scrub, meadows
Edible fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	--	A-2	Riparian areas

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Common Name	Scientific Name	CDFR Rank ¹	CalEPPC Rank ²	Habitat
Wild fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	--	A-1	Grasslands, riparian areas
French broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	C	A-1	Oak woodlands, coastal scrub
Baby's breath	<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i> var. <i>paniculata</i>	B	--	Horticultural escape, invades disturbed areas on sandy soils, open grassy areas; usually found above 1200 m (3900 ft)
Halogeton	<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>	A	Red Alert	Disturbed, arid sites, especially roadsides
English ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	--	B	Riparian areas, coastal forests
Velvet grass	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	--	B	Wetlands, riparian areas, wet meadows, grasslands
³ Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	A,F	Red Alert	Aquatic habitats
Klamathweed	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	C	B	Meadows, woodlands, conifer forests
Yellow water iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	--	B	Wetlands, pond margins
Dyer's woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	B	Need more information	Well known invader in Utah; threat to wildlands
Perennial pepperweed, Tall whitetop	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	B	A-1	Coastal and inland marshes, riparian areas, wetlands, grasslands
Ox-eye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	--	B	Grasslands, mountain meadows
Toadflax	<i>Linaria genistifolia</i> ssp. <i>dalmatica</i>	A	--	Disturbed open areas, fields, pastures, degraded rangelands, roadsides, crop lands
Italian ryegrass	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	--	Annual grasses list	Grasslands, wetlands, vernal pools

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Common Name	Scientific Name	CDFR Rank ¹	CalEPPC Rank ²	Habitat
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	B	Red Alert	Horticultural escape; noxious weed of wetlands, riparian areas
Alkali mallow	<i>Malvella leprosa</i>	C	--	Agricultural lands, disturbed sites
Pennyroyal	<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	--	A-2	Wetlands, vernal pools
³ Nimblewell	<i>Muhlenbergia schreberi</i>	B	--	Turf weed, also in pastures, orchards, forest sites, residential areas, moist woodlands
Parrot's feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	--	B	Streams, lakes, ponds
Eurasian milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	--	A-1	Streams, lakes, ponds
³ Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>	--	B	Horticultural / agricultural escape; reported as invasive in riparian habitats
Scotch thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i> ssp. <i>acanthium</i>	A	--	Natural areas, disturbed areas, roadsides, fields, especially fertile soils
³ Taurian cottonthistle	<i>Onopordum tauricum</i>	A	--	Natural areas, disturbed areas, roadsides, fields, especially fertile soils
Bermuda buttercup	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	--	Need more information	Disturbed sites; invasiveness in undisturbed habitats unknown
Harding grass, Bulbous canarygrass	<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>	--	B	Moist soils, wetland and riparian areas, meadows
Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	B	--	Horticultural escape, invades riparian and wetland areas, especially bare volcanics

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³ Giant knotweed	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>	B	--	Horticultural escape, invades riparian and wetland areas, especially open, sunny sites
Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	--	B	Riparian areas, canyons
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus discolor</i>	--	A-1	Riparian areas, marshes, oak woodlands, seeps and springs
Russian thistle	<i>Salsola tragus</i>	C	--	Sandy soils in grasslands, roadsides, disturbed areas, including disturbed natural areas
³ Bouncing-bet	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	--	A-2	Riparian areas, meadows
³ Peruvian pepper tree	<i>Schinus molle</i>	--	B	Horticultural species, invasive in riparian habitats
³ Tansy ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	B	B	Grasslands, disturbed areas, waste places, roadsides
Scarlet wisteria, Red sesbania,	<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	--	Red Alert	Riparian areas; known from Miner's Ravine, Roseville
Giant foxtail	<i>Setaria faberi</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, agricultural lands, roadsides, vineyards, orchards; moist or dry soils
Carolina horsenettle	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, degraded agricultural lands, pastures, especially sandy well-drained soils
White horsenettle	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, agricultural lands, roadsides, vineyards, forest openings, waste areas
Lance-leaf nightshade, Orangeberry nightshade	<i>Solanum lanceolatum</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, especially gardens, agricultural lands
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	C	--	Ditchbanks, moist areas in orchards and pastures, roadsides

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Medusa-head	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>	C	A-1	Grasslands, including serpentine and gabbro habitats
³ Tamarisk, salt cedar	<i>Tamarix</i> spp.	*	A-1	Riparian areas, desert washes, seeps and springs
Puncture vine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	C	--	Sandy soils in grasslands
Common gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	B	--	Disturbed areas, logged areas, burn sites, agricultural lands
Woolly mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	--	B	Meadows, woodlands, riparian areas, burn sites
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	--	B	Riparian areas, oak woodlands

¹California Department of Food and Agriculture Lists:

F = Federal Noxious Weed, as designated by USDA; targeted for federally-funded prevention, eradication, or containment efforts; A = The agency mandates that these species be targeted for eradication or containment; B = These species are more widespread and, therefore, difficult to contain and the agency allows county Agricultural Commissioners to decide whether to target them for eradication or containment in their jurisdiction; C = These weeds are so widespread that the agency does not endorse state- or county-funded eradication or containment efforts except in nurseries or seed lots; * these weeds have been recently added to the list of Noxious Weed Species Section 4500 of the California Code of Regulations - they do not currently have pest ratings, but will receive ratings (most likely C ratings) in the near future.

²California Exotic Pest Plant Council Lists:

A-1 = Most Invasive Wildland Pest Plants, Widespread; A-2 = Most Invasive Wildland Pests, Regional; B = Wildland Pest Plants of Lesser Invasiveness; Need More Information = Species' status is uncertain, more information is needed; Red Alert = Pest plants with the potential to spread explosively; Annual grasses list = a preliminary list of annual grasses, abundant and widespread in California, that pose significant threats to wildlands.

³Plant could occur in Placer County based on range (known to occur in nearby counties) and presence of suitable habitat, but is not documented - needs verification.