

Purpose:

Because certain undesirable plants, primarily aggressive non-native invaders, constitute a threat to the continuous economic and environmental value of the lands of the state, these species must be managed on private and public lands using integrated management techniques which are least damaging to the environment and which are practical and economically reasonable.

And, in order to be compliant with Colorado Revised Statutes 35-5.5-101--119 the Fire Mountain Board of Directors has adopted the following policy in regard to noxious weeds along the Fire Mountain Canal corridor and at the Paonia Reservoir.

Actions:

The Fire Mountain Canal and Reservoir Company (FMCRC) operates the canal by agreement with the North Fork Conservancy District which contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation for the operation and maintenance of the canal and the Paonia Reservoir. The Paonia Project Integrated Pest Management Plan of July 21, 2009, will be used as a guide to manage pests on all Project land and facilities.

The Fire Mountain Board of Directors will annually determine a portion of the annual assessment be used toward meeting the requirements of the statutes.

The canal superintendent will present to the board a plan that will include specific segments of the canal that have infestations of noxious weeds. The superintendent will also present a cost effective management plan to include specific sites and methods to be employed. The board will take this under advisement and adopt a plan. Additional segments may be identified and addressed at any other time during the year.

In the event that the owner(s) of private property within the easement of the canal chooses not to allow the Fire Mountain to use whatever means it feels necessary to manage weeds on segments that are adjacent to their property, the property owner will at his own expense control the weeds in that segment of the canal. However, all weed control methods used by private landowner with the canal corridor will be coordinated with and approved by the FMCRC. If a property owner chooses not to allow the Canal Company to manage weeds, the owner must clearly post that section and notify the canal company in writing of that desire by June 1 of each year. In the event the property owner does not manage weeds, the Board of Directors may follow the procedure outlined in the statutes to manage the weeds.

See [firemountaincanal.com](http://firemountaincanal.com) for more information.