
APPENDIX 3. GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

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GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

Adaptive Management – A systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of operational programs (British Columbia Ministry of Forests and Range).

ADOT – Arizona Department of Transportation

ASDM – Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

Buffelgrass Working Group – A group of individuals assigned, appointed, or elected to collectively oversee implementation of the Buffelgrass Strategic Plan. The working group provides expertise and assistance to the operational needs pertaining to buffelgrass management of partnering organizations.

CESU – Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit; A national network of cooperative units established through university systems to provide research, technical assistance, and education to federal land management, environmental, research agencies and their potential partners.

CISMA – Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

Contain – Confine an invasive species and propagules to an identified area of infestation.

Control – As appropriate, includes eradicating, suppressing, reducing, or managing invasive species populations, preventing spread of invasive species from areas where they are present, and taking steps such as restoration of native species and habitats to reduce the effects of invasive species and to prevent further invasions (Executive Order 13112).

CWMA – Cooperative Weed Management Area

Eradicate – Completely eliminate an invasive species within an area of infestation.

Evaluation – Relating information obtained from monitoring to the management goal, objectives, and success criteria outlined in a management/operating plan.

GIS – Geographic Information Systems

GPS – Global Positioning Systems

Goal – The general target or end result desired to be achieved through management.

Integrated invasive species management – A management system that uses all suitable methods in an environmentally sound and compatible manner to reduce invasive species populations to levels below those causing unacceptable economic or ecological consequences.

Integrated pest management (IPM) – see Integrated invasive species management

Invasive species – An alien [non-native, exotic, introduced] species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health (Executive Order 13112).

Inventory – A catalog of natural resources on a defined area. May include specifics on geological features, soil types, water features (lakes, streams, riparian areas, etc.), and species present (flora and fauna), among others.

Monitoring – The repeated systematic observation of a particular site.

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

NAWMA – North America Weed Management Association; A network of public and private professional weed managers who are involved in implementing any phase of a county, municipal, district, state, provincial, or federal noxious weed law.

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

Non-native species – With respect to a particular ecosystem, any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem (Executive Order 13112 definition for alien species). A species is considered non-native when it is located outside its natural range or its natural zone of dispersal.

Noxious weed – Those plant species designated as such by federal or state law. Noxious weeds represent a subset of those plant species that can be considered invasive plants. Noxious weeds generally will possess characteristics of aggressiveness and difficulty to manage. The definition generally applies to any living stage or viable plant part (including, but not limited to, seeds and reproductive parts) of a designated plant species; however, Arizona State law separately regulates the purity of seeds used for planting that may contain a designated noxious weed.

NPS – National Park Service

Objective – Somewhat specific targets, in some cases the attainment of which are measurable, and that in all cases whose implementation contributes to the accomplishment of management goals.

PCDOT – Pima County Department of Transportation

Prevention – Activity (inspection, regulation, sanitation, education) that will reduce the likelihood of introduction of a targeted (or in many cases non-targeted when best management practices are followed) invasive plant into a given area.

Rehabilitation – Process of returning, as nearly as possible, an ecosystem to a state of health.

Restoration – Process of returning, as nearly as possible, a biotic community to a condition of ecological integrity. The goal of restoration is to produce a self-sustaining system as similar as possible to the natural communities with intact ecological processes.

Riparian – Pertaining to a zone between aquatic and terrestrial situations, such as bordering streams, rivers, and lakes, in which soil moisture is sufficiently in excess of that otherwise available locally so as to provide a more mesic habitat than that of contiguous uplands.

SAHBA – Southern Arizona Home Builder's Association

SDW – Sonoran Desert Weedwackers

Species – Group of organisms all of which have a high degree of physical and genetic similarity, generally interbreed only amongst themselves, and show persistent differences from members of allied groups of organisms.

Strategic plan – A document that describes the broad goals, management, and coordination strategies of a particular invasive species within a geographically defined area. Such a plan provides the long-term vision (five years or longer) for the working group, provides programmatic guidance to the annual operating/management plans of partnering organizations, and provides a template for the program plans of its individual participants.

Survey – An effort that aims to detect the presence and absence of certain species, usually conducted on-the-ground. Data obtained during a survey may be combined with other spatially collected data in a database used to inform management decisions.

TMP – Tucson Mountain Park

U.S. FWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USGS – United States Geological Survey

Weed – Any plant that is growing in a place where it is not wanted and interferes with management objectives for that place. The term has no scientific meaning. Weeds commonly are considered to share certain attributes: they are adept at colonizing disturbed habitats (though not all plants that are colonizers are weeds), such as plowed fields and roadsides; they are numerous and grow aggressively; and they are bothersome and have no economic value. A plant does not have to be non-native to be considered a weed.