

Appendix G

**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR NOXIOUS & INVASIVE WEEDS**

**Project Name: December 2014 Oil & Gas Competitive Lease Sale**

**DOI-BLM-NV-L000-2014-0002-EA**

**Project Lead: Travis Young**

**Nye, Lincoln, White Pine Counties, Nevada (District Wide)**

Proposed Action:

Proposal is to lease 193 parcels throughout the Ely District for the upcoming December 9<sup>th</sup> 2014 lease sale totaling 406, 653.950acres.

**Oil & Gas Lease Parcel Breakdown for December, 2014**

Area	Area Name	Parcel #s	Field Office	Total	County	Total	Acres *
A	North Railroad Valley	1	Egan	1	Nye		
B	South West Ely	2	Schell	2	White Pine	1	473
C	Hamlin Valley	24	Schell	24	White Pine		3,500
D	Hiko - Pahroc	111	Caliente	30	Lincoln	26	47,500
E	Panaca	30	Caliente	25	Lincoln		230,100
F	Tule Springs Hills	25	Caliente	111	Lincoln		69,980
Totals		193			<b>Lincoln</b>	166	55,100
					<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	355,180
							406,653

\* Acres are approximate

Project Location (see map), legal, UTM's: (See Attached Map)

No field weed surveys were completed for this project. Instead the Ely District weed inventory data were consulted.

Caliente Field Office (CFO): The following species are documented within or adjacent to parcels within the CFO (See attached map):

<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	Russian knapweed
<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>	Sahara mustard
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk thistle
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	Spotted knapweed
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull thistle
<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Hoary cress
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	Tall whitetop

<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch thistle
<i>Tamarix spp.</i>	Salt cedar
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Puncturevine

Egan Field Office and Schell Field Office (EFO and SFO): The following species are documented within or adjacent to parcels within the EFO and SFO (See attached map):

<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	Spotted knapweed
<i>Cicuta maculata</i>	Water hemlock
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull thistle
<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Hoary cress
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	Tall whitetop
<i>Tamarix spp.</i>	Salt cedar

Below is a list of un-documented species found on the district; some of which may be present along roads throughout the District.

<i>Arctium minus</i>	Common burdock
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Ripgut brome
<i>Bromus rubens</i>	Red brome
<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	Cheatgrass
<i>Ceratocephala testiculata</i>	Bur buttercup
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field bindweed
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian olive
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Filaree
<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	Kochia
<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>	Halogeton
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Horehound
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Russian thistle
<i>Sysimbrium altissimum</i>	Tumble mustard
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	Yellow salsify
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Common mullein

**Factor 1 assesses the likelihood of noxious/invasive weed species spreading to the project area.**

None (0)	Noxious/invasive weed species are not located within or adjacent to the project area. Project activity is not likely to result in the establishment of noxious/invasive weed species in the project area.
Low (1-3)	Noxious/invasive weed species are present in the areas adjacent to but not within the project area. Project activities can be implemented and prevent the spread of noxious/invasive weeds into the project area.
Moderate (4-7)	Noxious/invasive weed species located immediately adjacent to or within the project area. Project activities are likely to result in some areas becoming infested with noxious/invasive weed species even when preventative management actions are followed. Control measures are essential to prevent the spread of noxious/invasive weeds within the project area.
High (8-10)	Heavy infestations of noxious/invasive weeds are located within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Project activities, even with preventative management actions, are likely to result in the establishment and spread of noxious/invasive weeds on disturbed sites throughout much of the project area.

Factor 1 rates as Low (1) at the present time. This lease sale does not constitute any direct impacts that could affect the spread of noxious and invasive species. However, there is potential for indirect impacts associated with lease development activities.

**Factor 2 assesses the consequences of noxious/invasive weed establishment in the project area.**

Low to Nonexistent (1-3)	None. No cumulative effects expected.
Moderate (4-7)	Possible adverse effects on site and possible expansion of infestation within the project area. Cumulative effects on native plant communities are likely but limited.
High (8-10)	Obvious adverse effects within the project area and probable expansion of noxious/invasive weed infestations to areas outside the project area. Adverse cumulative effects on native plant communities are probable.

Factor 2 rates as Moderate (7) at the present time. On average across all parcels, moderate consequences could be expected from the establishment of noxious/invasive species. Further detailed analysis will be required for any ground disturbing development activities associated with any parcel.

**The Risk Rating is obtained by multiplying Factor 1 by Factor 2.**

None (0)	Proceed as planned.
Low (1-10)	Proceed as planned. Initiate control treatment on noxious/invasive weed populations that get established in the area.
Moderate (11-49)	Develop preventative management measures for the proposed project to reduce the risk of introduction of spread of noxious/invasive weeds into the area. Preventative management measures should include modifying the project to include seeding the area to occupy disturbed sites with desirable species. Monitor the area for at least 3 consecutive years and provide for control of newly established populations of noxious/invasive weeds and follow-up treatment for previously treated infestations.
High (50-100)	Project must be modified to reduce risk level through preventative management measures, including seeding with desirable species to occupy disturbed site and controlling existing infestations of noxious/invasive weeds prior to project activity. Project must provide at least 5 consecutive years of monitoring. Projects must also provide for control of newly established populations of noxious/invasive weeds and follow-up treatment for previously treated infestations.

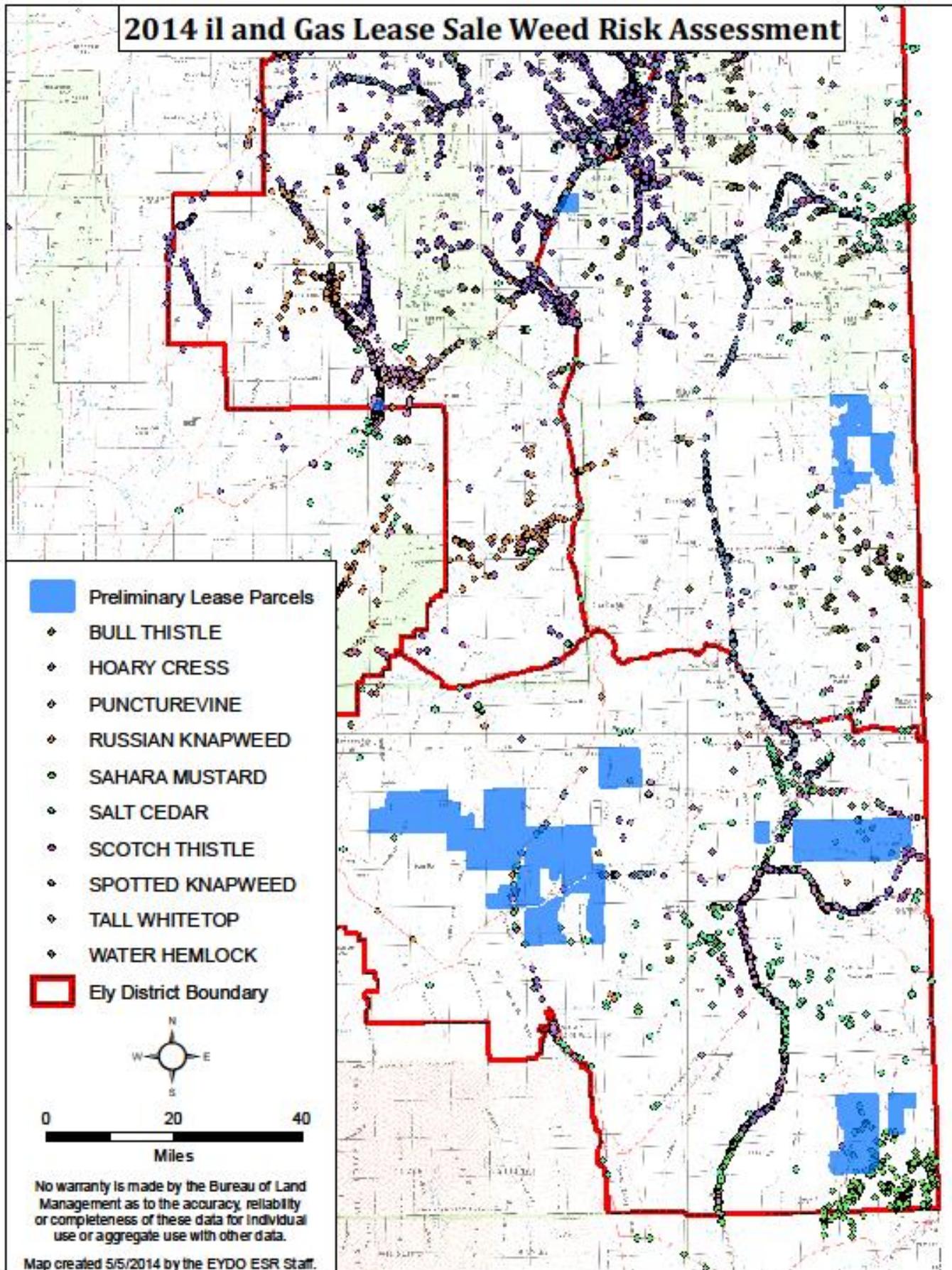
The Risk Rating is Low (7). This indicates that the project can proceed as planned as long as the following measures are followed:

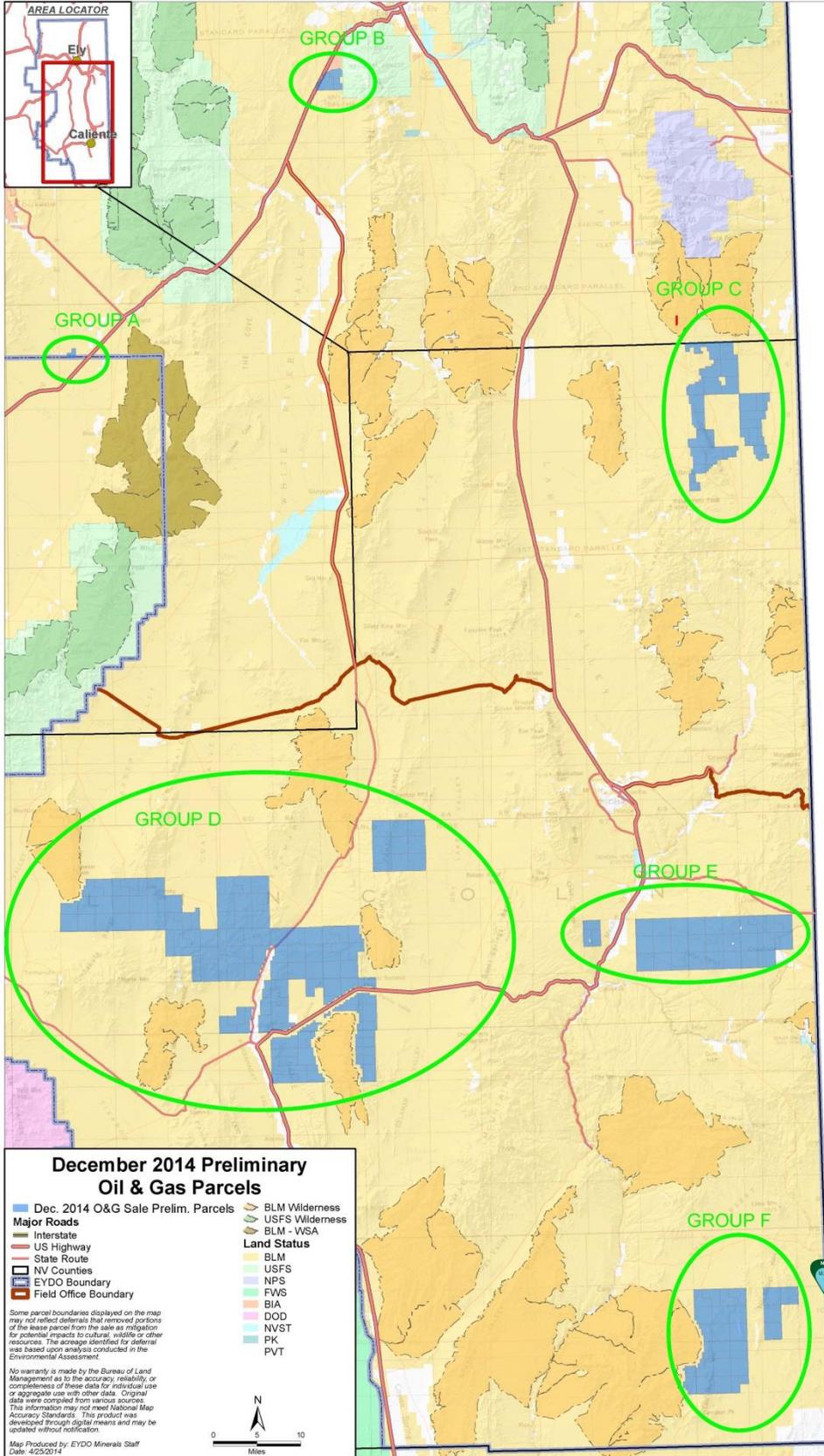
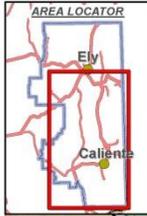
- Any discovery of newly established populations of noxious/invasive weeds will be communicated to the Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds Coordinator.

Reviewed by: Chris McVicars 5/5/2014  
Chris McVicars Date  
Ely District Noxious & Invasive Weeds Coordinator

**Attached are maps of the known noxious and invasive infestations found near lease parcels throughout the District.**

# 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale Weed Risk Assessment





### December 2014 Preliminary Oil & Gas Parcels

Dec. 2014 O&G Sale Prelim. Parcels	BLM Wilderness
Major Roads	USFS Wilderness
Interstate	BLM - WSA
US Highway	<b>Land Status</b>
State Route	BLM
NV Counties	USFS
EYDO Boundary	NPS
Field Office Boundary	FWS
	BIA
	DOD
	NVST
	PK
	PVT

Some parcel boundaries displayed on the map may not reflect deferrals that removed portions of the lease parcels from the sale as mitigation for potential impacts to cultural, wildlife or other resources. The acreage identified for deferral was based upon analysis conducted in the Environmental Assessment.

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Map Produced by EYDO Minerals Staff  
Date: 4/23/2014



**BLM**

**Ely District Office**

