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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly support Alternative B. I own roughly 180 acres of land within the Sacramento Ranger District. Each year, I contract through the Otero SWCD with a licensed professional applicator to treat my property with appropriate EPA-approved herbicide. The application is done strictly in accordance with label instructions and all applicable regulations. I do this, at considerable personal expense, to control recurrent infestations of noxious and invasive weeds, including musk thistle and star thistle. However, as my property is nearly completely surrounded by USFS lands which typically receive little or no effective treatment, and thus serve as a seed source for the very same species of weeds that I am seeking to eradicate on my side of the fence, my efforts can have only a limited and temporary effect. I am aware that the current limitations on effective weed management on USFS lands also acts as a disincentive to other private land owners who might otherwise wish to take advantage of the OSWCD program to control weed populations on their own properties. I believe that to be effective, a consistent, coordinated program of weed management must be applied on an ecological basis, without regard to property boundaries. To that end, I support giving the LNF the full range of treatment alternatives, including herbicides, that are available to private land owners and other land managers. Of the three Alternatives, only Alternative B satisfies this requirement.