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## NOXIOUS WEEDS FOUND IN TWO MOON PARK NEAR BILLINGS, MONTANA

**Key words:** noxious weeds, Two Moon Park, Yellowstone River.

Two Moon Park, a 61-ha (150-acre) Yellowstone County Park, located north of the Yellowstone River east of Billings, Montana, is a designated wildlife preserve. In a checklist of the vascular plants of Two Moon Park, 114 species were catalogued among 40 families and 95 genera (Khaleel *et al.* 2000). Examination of these taxa revealed several species that are designated as noxious weeds in Montana and several others classified as INVADERS/USDA noxious weeds listed in PLANTS database (USDA National Resources Conservation Service 1999). Of the Montana noxious weeds, seven species among six genera were Category I noxious weeds, and one species, saltcedar (*Tamarix ramosissima* Ledeb.), was Category 2 noxious weed (USDA National Resources Conservation Service 1999). The Category I noxious weeds included three species of Asteraceae and one each of Apiaceae, Brassicaceae, Convolvulaceae and Euphorbiaceae (Table 1). Except hoary cress (*Cardaria draba* [L.] Desv.), all noxious weeds that we identified were exotic species (Zamora 1991). Category I

noxious weeds are currently established and generally widespread in Montana. Therefore, management for these weeds should include awareness and education (Mullin 1991). In Two Moon Park spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa* Lam.) was relatively more abundant than Canadian thistle (*Cirsium arvensis* [L.] Scop.) or gypsyflower (*Cynoglossum officinale* L.). Among other species listed in the INVADERS/USDA noxious weeds database (USDA, National Resources Conservation Service 1999) we found 26 species in Two Moon Park (Table 1). These included 10 species among nine genera of Asteraceae, five species among five genera of Brassicaceae, three species among two genera of Polygonaceae, two species among two genera of Apiaceae, and one species each of Amaranthaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Fabaceae, Poaceae, Scrophulariaceae, and Solanaceae. Voucher specimens and slide photographs of each plant in its natural habitat are located in the MSU-Billings herbarium.

### LITERATURE CITED

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**Table 1.** Checklist of noxious weeds from Two Moon Park, Yellowstone County, Montana.

Family	Scientific name	Common name
Amaranthaceae	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> L.	redroot amaranth
Apiaceae	<i>Carum carvi</i> L.	caraway
	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	poison hemlock
Asclepiadaceae	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i> Torr.	showy milkweed
	<i>Arctium minus</i> Bernh.	lesser burdock
	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i> L.	absinthium
	<i>Artemisia frigida</i> Willd.	prairie sagewort
	* <i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i> DC. (= <i>Centaurea maculosa</i> auct. non Lam.)	spotted knapweed
	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	chicory
	* <i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Canadian thistle
	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Ten.	bull thistle
	<i>Grindelia squarrosa</i> (Pursh) Dunal	curlycup gumweed
	<i>Lactuca serriola</i> L.	prickly lettuce
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	common sowthistle
	* <i>Tanacetum vulgare</i> L.	common tansy
	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> G.H. Weber ex Wiggers	common dandeloin
	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> L.	rough cocklebur
	Boraginaceae	* <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> L.
Brassicaceae	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> (L.) Medik.	shepherd's purse
	* <i>Cardaria draba</i> (L.) Desv.	whiteweed or hoary cress
	<i>Descurainia pinnata</i> (Walt.) Britt.	western tansy-mustard
	<i>Erysimum cheiranthoides</i> L.	wormseed wallflower
	<i>Sinapsis arvensis</i> L. (= <i>Brassica kabera</i> (DC.) L.C. Wheeler)	charlock mustard
	<i>Thlaspi arvense</i> L.	field pennycress
Convolvulaceae	* <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	field bindweed
Euphorbiaceae	* <i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.	leafy spurge
Fabaceae	<i>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</i> Pursh.	American licorice
Poaceae	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> L.	reed canarygrass
Polygonaceae	<i>Polygonum hydropiper</i> L.	marshpepper knotweed
	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i> L.	curlytop knotweed
	<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.	curly dock
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> L.	common mullein
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i> L.	climbing nightshade
Tamaricaceae	* <i>Tamarix ramosissima</i> Ledeb.	saltcedar

\* Montana state-listed noxious weeds as on 2/14/00.

The scientific and common names conform to those contained in the PLANTS database. Published on the Internet; (<http://plants.usda.gov/plants>), accessed August 28, 2000.

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