



## Utah County Public Works Weed Control Standard Procedure for Giant Reed Treatment

### 1. Herbicide Treatment.

- a. Herbicide treatment should take place in August to late fall when seed heads are mature, and plants are sending nutrients to the roots for winter storage. Herbicide treatments should take place before the first hard freeze of fall.
- b. Treat with aquatic glyphosate (non-selective herbicide) at a high concentration rate. Read the herbicide label for application rates and for specific instructions for Giant Reed control.
- c. An approved aquatic surfactant is recommended to be added to herbicide spray mixture.
- d. After herbicide application, allow the treated area to sit undisturbed for a minimum of two weeks.
- e. Re-treatment of any new Giant Reed growth is required in subsequent years.

**Note:** The information contained herein represents the standard procedures only for treatment of noxious weeds for Utah County. Utah County does not warrant the procedures contained herein. All legal responsibility for herbicide application is the responsibility of the applicator. If you apply an herbicide, make sure you are not violating any laws and/or restriction specified on the label. If applications are in or around water, verify the herbicide carries an aquatic label. If you have any questions regarding treatment of noxious weeds, please contact your local county public works office or Utah State University Extension office.

### 2. Additional Treatments

- a. Smashing and/or Mowing Treatments  
Smashing/Mowing existing stands of Giant Reed with ground equipment.
  - i. Increases breakdown rate of dead Giant Reed.
  - ii. Makes it easier to see re-growth of Giant Reed for follow up treatments.
- b. Burning Dead Stands
  1. Removes dead stand of Giant Reed.
  2. Control Burns can burn out of control.
  3. If you choose to burn, make sure that all laws and safety procedure are followed.

**Note:** Herbicide treatment combined with additional treatment is recommended. Herbicide treatment alone reduces the ability to identify new growth amongst old dead stands of Giant Reed, resulting in reduced long term success.

### 3. Alternative Mechanical Treatment

- a. Digging up entire plant and root system
  - i. Giant Reed has only been found to spread by roots/creeping rhizomes in North America.
  - ii. Any small root segments can re-sprout and be spread
  - iii. All parts of plant should be contained in a durable heavy-duty garbage bag or other containment device taken directly to the closest Landfill (not transfer station) to prevent spread. These plants then should be covered by a large-deep layer of dirt to prevent any growth.



#### 4. Repeat Control Efforts

100% control is not expected in one year's time. For control/eradication of an infestation, it will take years of consecutive monitoring and treatments. In general, you should have a decrease of Giant Reed every year of treatment, and over time you might eventually accomplish your goal.

