[EXHIBIT 6 - STRATEGIC PLAN (INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN)]
Strategy For Integrated Weed Management in the
XXXX Cooperative Weed Management Area
(Date)

I. INTRODUCTION:

A common operating approach to the management of noxious weeds and other invasive plants is to focus strictly on specific sites. Weeds are treated, but the relationship of the treatment to the entire weed problem in an area is not addressed. In addition, individual landowners and managers in a given area attempt to manage weeds based on narrowly defined objectives, independent of each other.

Treatment of specific weeds and sites remains a critical component of an effective strategy. However, long-term solutions to the problem of noxious weeds and other invasive plants must include a broad-scale approach to weed management. A weed management area is a broad-scale approach to managing invasive exotic plants. The landscape view places specific weeds and treatment sites in context with geographic distribution of invasive plants, susceptible habitats and management feasibility. The weed management area focus is finding solutions to invasive weeds across a landscape, rather than strictly focusing on treatments on specific land ownerships. The following plan outlines a landscape approach to the weed problem in the XXXX CWMA.

II. PURPOSE:

The XXXX (XXXX CWMA) is intended to bring together those responsible for weed management within the XXXX, to develop common management objectives, set realistic management priorities, facilitate effective treatment, and coordinate efforts along logical geographic boundaries with similar land types, use patterns, and problem species.

III. CWMA BOUNDARIES:

The XXXX (XXXX CWMA) is the geographic area encompassed within the XXX Watershed (HUC Number 170XXXXX). Major boundary landmarks include highway XX to the north, XX ridge to the east, south along Old XX Road to the XX River along the west boundary. A map of the CWMA is included in Appendix D.

IV. COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA GOALS:

Prevent the introduction, reproduction, and spread of designated noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants into and within the XXXX. Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds to a point that natural resource damage is within acceptable limits. Implement the most economical and effective control methods for the target weeds. Implement an integrated management system using all appropriate available methods or a combination of methods.

V. STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cooperators of the weed management area include private landowners, county government, tribal government, university, state and federal land management agencies, and interested organizations and individuals. A steering committee has been organized from interested cooperators to jointly:

- Develop and maintain an integrated inventory
- Establish Control Priorities
- Develop specific Weed Management Objectives
- Formulate Weed Management Zones based on geographic areas
- Develop area-wide informational, educational, and public awareness material

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• Coordinate the use of resources and manpower to treat designated weed infestations
• Manage designated weeds in an integrated approach

Upon completion of the XXXX long-range plan, the coordinating committee would continue to meet periodically to develop the Annual Operating Plan, monitor accomplishments, maintain the basin-wide inventory, assess effectiveness of control strategies and tactics, and make necessary adjustments.

VI. INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

Integrated weed management "… is a system for the planning and implementation of selected methods of management for preventing, containing, or controlling undesirable plant species or group of species using all available strategies and techniques."[1] Together these strategies and techniques are economically and environmentally more effective than any single option. All control methods are available and are prescribed on species/infestation specific basis. Elements of Integrated Management included in this plan are: Education/Awareness, Prevention/Early Detection, Inventory, Treatment (including physical, biological, cultural and chemical methods), and Monitoring.

A. Education/Awareness.

Education and awareness programs foster public understanding of the threat invasive exotic plants pose to the natural resources of the XXXX, the techniques used to manage the weeds and the role humans play in the dispersal and establishment of invasive weeds. Awareness also provides an important first step in the detection of new invaders. Education includes the training of weed district and agency personnel, private landowners and general public in weed identification, new management techniques, monitoring protocols and other skills needed for the management of noxious and other invasive weeds.

B. Prevention/Early Detection.

Prevention measures are management practices that reduce the potential for the introduction, establishment or spread of weeds. Prevention is a high priority in the management of noxious weeds. In the long term, it is more cost effective to prevent weeds from establishing than to initiate post-infestation treatment. The following list of land management activities requires consideration and evaluation of prevention measures, including, but not limited to:

- Timber management
- Road construction/reconstruction and maintenance
- Construction and use of rock pits
- Range management activities
- Recreational activities (including construction and maintenance of rec. sites, and areas of concentrated use such as campsites, trailheads and trails, and off-road vehicle use)
- Mining activities
- Wildlife enhancement projects and management
- Fire suppression and rehabilitation
- Farm management

C. Inventory.

An inventory is the collection, documentation, and storage of information on the extent and location of invasive weeds within the XXXX. A critical part of integrated management is a current inventory of infestations occurring within the CWMA. An inventory provides

[1] Definition from Federal Noxious Weed Law

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necessary information for establishing site-specific priorities and management objectives, and for prescribing treatment methods. It highlights the need for preventive measures and is the baseline for effective monitoring.

D. Treatment Methods.

Under the integrated approach, all control methods are available. It is the use of all available options in combination that results in the most successful program. Specific treatment is determined by plant species, site characteristics, and management objectives. The following management techniques of noxious weed control will be considered on a site-specific and plant species basis:

Physical/Mechanical: The use of physical or mechanical methods for weed control can be effective on small infestations of annual or biennial species. Hand grubbing, mowing, tilling, and burning are commonly used to physically destroy weeds or interfere with their reproduction. To be effective, treatment must take place before seed production. Plants that have flowered must be removed from the site and destroyed. Repeated mowing or tilling during the growing season is required with most weed species.

Biological: Biological weed control involves the deliberate introduction and establishment of natural enemies to reduce the target plant's competitive or reproductive capacities. Insects are the most common agent released against noxious weeds. Plant pathogens, such as fungi, are increasing in use. Sheep and goats have been effective in reducing densities and limiting spread of specific weed species. Biological control can be a slow process, often requiring 10 to 20 years to be effective. Its purpose is not eradication but a reduction in densities and rate of weed spread to an acceptable level. It is most effective on dense weed infestations over large areas.

Chemical: Herbicides are an effective and efficient tool for the control of noxious weeds. Herbicide application and rates are dependent upon specific site characteristics, target plant, location, non-target vegetation and land use. Herbicides are an important method of treatment when control or eradication is the management objective. Environmental concerns make it critical to follow all label instructions, site directions and safety precautions when using any herbicide.

Cultural/Land Use: Cultural practices are activities that purposefully enhance and maintain the growth of desired vegetation. Practices that retain, enhance, or introduce desirable plant species that out-compete or dominate exotic plant species can serve as prevention, control and/or follow-up. Examples that are applicable to the management area are seeding, planting, fertilizing, and retaining brush and tree canopy cover. Grazing prescriptions that are designed to maintain or enhance perennial vegetation in a healthy state or maintain soil cover is an important practice in slowing the spread of invasive plants. Minimizing the extent and duration of exposed soil during management actions can also reduce the risk of weed establishment.

E. Monitoring.

Monitoring is the collection of information to determine the effectiveness of management actions in meeting the prescribed objectives. Noxious weed management focuses upon density and rate of spread of invasive exotic plant species and the effect these aggressive plants have on the natural resources. The cooperators are also interested in the effectiveness of prescribed actions on the target plant and the response of desirable vegetation. Monitoring will help determine if our prescriptions and activities are accomplishing the goals and objectives established by XXXX CWMA partners.

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VII. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES:

The following management objectives and treatment priorities will be assigned to specific species and/or infestations to provide direction to control actions and to coordinate management efforts of the XXXX CWMA cooperators. Management objectives will be developed and implemented for geographic units that follow watersheds within the XXXX. These sub-units of the XXXX CWMA will become the operational focus of the weed management strategy. These objectives and priorities will focus resources where they are the most effective in managing weeds across the established geographic units (watersheds). This Plan does not directly affect or alter weed management programs outside the XXXX.

Management Objective Definitions:

Eradicate. Elimination of a noxious weed based on absence as determined by a visual inspection by the control authority during the current growing season.

Control. Means any of the following: prevention, rehabilitation, eradication or modified treatments.

Containment. Weeds are geographically contained and are not increasing beyond the perimeter of the infestation.

General Management Priorities for the XXXX Cooperative Weed Management Area:

1. Prevent the establishment of listed noxious weed species.
2. Eradicate listed noxious weed species.
3. Treat transportation corridors and areas of concentrated activities, such as roads, trails, campgrounds, trailheads, parking lots and/or treat satellite infestations of listed noxious weed species.
4. Reduce the density or slow the spread of widespread established listed noxious weed species.

Table 1: Weed Classification for the XXXX CWMA

Established Invaders	New Invaders
Common crupina	Dalmatian toadflax
Yellow star thistle	Meadow knapweed
Spotted knapweed	Scotch broom
Houndstongue	Diffuse knapweed
Orange hawkweed	Yellow toadflax
Field bindweed	Whitetop (Hoary Cress)
Scotch thistle	Leafy spurge
Oxeye daisy	Matgrass
Japanese knotweed	Perennial pepperweed
Canada thistle	Musk thistle
Puncturevine	Black henbane
Jointed goatgrass	Russian knapweed
Poison hemlock	Purple loosestrife
Milium	Tansy ragwort
Rush Skeletonweed	Plumeless thistle
Small bugloss	

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The following approach provides for a mix of management techniques and a varied intensity of applications according to specific objectives.

VIII. SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Education/Awareness

Education and Awareness is a critical element in the long-term management of noxious weeds in the XXXX. Creating awareness of the threat to the XXXX's natural resources and the need to manage weeds will provide the foundation for active treatments, early alert programs, and prevention practices. Continued education of practitioners may ensure that effective strategies and new technologies will be incorporated into management actions. The following Education/Awareness focus will be incorporated into the XXXXCWMA strategy for managing noxious weeds:

1. Conduct annual weed fairs/seminars and tours.
2. Develop and maintain a weed management display for public gatherings such as fairs, expos, conventions, and shows. Current focus includes county fairs, statewide horse expo, outfitter and guide convention, home and garden show, etc.
3. Develop interpretive signs to alert the general public of the threat of weeds and the efforts in the CWMA.
4. Post weed identification signs at specific trailheads, road turnouts and other public places.
5. Develop an Adopt-A-Weed program at specific beaches, campgrounds and trailheads. Possible groups include garden clubs, Boy Scouts and recreation clubs.
6. Provide presentations to classrooms and special interest groups such as horse council, Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) groups, powerboat/rafting groups, etc.
7. Develop and implement training programs to familiarize agency personnel with noxious weeds.
8. Develop brochures and pamphlets specific to the CWMA. Examples include noxious weed-free feeds, early alert posters and local overview of existing weeds.
9. Facilitate communication and coordination of cooperators and partners in the CWMA.
10. Develop demonstration plots for treatment and management techniques.
11. Develop and maintain a quarterly newsletter for the CWMA.
12. The committee will work with cooperative agencies in developing qualification guidelines for weed management personnel.

B. Recommended Prevention Strategies

Prevention means to reduce conditions that favor the presence of noxious weeds through management of habitat disturbance and weed dispersal, and the improvement of vegetation condition. Cooperators will strive to integrate appropriate prevention measures into management activities and promote the use of practices that reduce rates of weed spread throughout the XXXX. Cooperators will work with agencies, organizations, and individuals in the development and implementation of prevention practices that could be effective in reducing dispersal and establishment. The following measures are provided as examples. Adopted practices need not be limited to those listed below.

1. To the extent possible, minimize disturbance in areas or habitats highly susceptible to weed invasion.
2. Revegetate disturbed sites as soon as possible after disturbance.
3. Encourage the use of high-quality seed that is free of noxious weeds. Consider having the seed tested for "all states noxious weeds," prior to planting.
4. Promote and support the use of certified noxious weed seed-free, and/or noxious weed-free feeds.

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5. Clean equipment and vehicles by washing or compressed air when transporting between sites (including logging equipment if the equipment is to be used off-road).
6. Manage high human use areas, such as campgrounds, trailheads, turnouts, parking lots, equipment yards, and scaling sites, in a weed-free state.
7. Maintain existing weed-free areas.
8. Maintain rangeland and open forest sites in healthy vigorous condition.
9. Where practicable, maintain tree and brush cover.
10. Where feasible, limit access through heavily infested areas.
11. Do not drive vehicles (ORV, trucks, etc.) through infestations.
12. Where shoulders or drainage ditches are covered by desirable herbaceous cover, to the extent possible, the vegetation should be left in place rather than blading it off, if such practice can be done without causing excessive damage to the road surface or significant public safety hazard.
13. Road maintenance should incorporate practices to prevent the spread of noxious weeds.
14. Avoid the use of noxious weed-infested sites as staging areas for large projects, such as fires, construction, landings, etc.
15. Provide noxious weed identification training and discuss the connection between weed spread and human activities.
16. The following practices are intended to reduce the risk of transporting noxious weed seed by livestock:
    - Where practical, do not herd or trail livestock through weed infestations.
    - Graze livestock in weed infested areas when weeds are not flowering or producing seeds.

18. Use the following practices to reduce the risk of spreading weeds by pack and saddle stock.
    - Pack and saddle stock should be fed noxious weed-free feed for two to three days prior to traveling in the backcountry.
    - Pack and saddle stock should be brushed to remove any weed seed.
    - Exclude pack and saddle stock from dense weed sites, where the risks are high and the animals could spread the weeds off-site.

19. Maintain an early alert program where cooperators and interested public report the location of new weeds or new locations of existing weed infestations.

C. Inventory

A coordinated weed inventory will be maintained and submitted to ISDA for the entire management area. At a minimum, the inventory will include: Date, size of infestation, name of target plant, density, and location.

To facilitate the management of information, the CWMA is divided into logical geographic units. These units are:

North Fork of the XXXX River Drainage.
South Fork of the XXXX River Drainage
XXXX River Drainage
Mainstem XXXX River Drainage and Tributaries. (from XXXX to XXXX)
XXXX Creek

The results of the [YEAR] noxious weed inventory are summarized in Appendix B. . The information can also be found at http://XXXX. The summary provides an initial assessment of the extent and distribution of noxious weeds within the management area. This inventory will be updated as often as feasible from new reports of weed infestations and inventories.

D. Species Management Objectives.

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The elements of education, prevention, early detection, and inventory will be integrated with specific control actions. Management objectives are listed for each weed species by sub-basin in the table found in Appendix A. The objectives are developed based on geographic distribution, habitat relationships, invasiveness, relative abundance, and treatment feasibility of specific weeds. Established and widespread weed species within the sub-basins may be stratified into management zones within AOP for each sub-basin. Zones with low population levels of the target plant would be managed for eradication and specific sites maintained as weed-free.

E. Annual Operating Plan.

Each year an Annual Operating Plan (AOP) will be developed for each sub-basin within the CWMA. The AOP outlines the management actions and activities that the cooperators agree to accomplish for the current year. The AOP guides the implementation of the Strategic Plan and is designed to establish the yearly actions that contribute to weed management objectives and priorities of the basin.

The AOP will identify the treatment priorities, treatment tools, prevention measures, locations of priority infestations, specific responsibilities, and other management activities that the sub-basin cooperators agree to accomplish for that current year. Individual cooperators and partners may not accomplish each action item outlined in the AOP, but the combined actions of the cooperators will result in the accomplishment of high priority practices across individual sub-basins.

Common practices that are implemented across sub-basins, such as educational programs, prevention measures, and inventory work, will be coordinated with the CWMA Steering Committee and the sub-basin's groups.

F. Management Implementation.

Each year sub-basin groups will meet to develop an AOP for individual sub-basins that is consistent with the strategic plan. The CWMA has been divided into the following sub-basins with lead cooperators:

Sub-Basins	Lead Responsibility
North Fork of the XXXX River	XXXX NF
South Fork of the XXXX River	XXXX NF; XXXX County
XXXX River	XXXX County, XXXX County
Mainstem XXXX River & Tribes (from XXXX to XXXX)	XXXX County, XXXX Tribe
XXXX Creek	Idaho Department of Lands

It is the lead cooperator's responsibility to contact other partners in the sub-basin to develop and coordinate the AOP, which will be developed by December of each year for the coming year. AOPS will be implemented by all cooperators within the sub-basin and will be conducted in a manner that will further the AOP's goals, objectives, and priorities t. A copy of the sub-basin AOP will be sent to the basin coordinating committee chair.

The full basin coordinating committee will review yearly accomplishments during the fall/winter meeting. The review will focus on accomplishments in relation to the priorities outlined in the strategic plan and the AOP for the current year.

Updates and modifications to the AOP will be discussed, agreed upon, and documented during scheduled meetings.

G. Monitoring/Evaluation.

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Monitoring and evaluation will focus on four general questions:
• Is the plan being implemented?
• Are the objectives and priorities realistic and achievable?
• Are the treatments effective in meeting the planned objectives?
• Are the weeds continuing to spread beyond our control actions?

Information as a result of specific monitoring of herbicide treatments, bio-control agents, and general weed spread will be evaluated to answer the three resource questions stated above.

1. Long-Term Spread of Weeds:

Monitoring of weed spread and/or suppression will be accomplished through the existing database and GIS layer. A focus inventory to re-map infestations will be completed in five years to compare with [YEAR] inventory. Yearly treatment summaries will also be used to assess weed spread.

2. Herbicide Treatment:

Herbicide treatments will be monitored following two general intensity levels.

a. Visual Assessments: Personnel will conduct visual reconnaissance of the treated area after chemical application to determine the presence or absence of target plants, and/or desirable vegetation.
b. Systematic sample: Within selected infestations sample plots will be established to document changes in target plant densities, and species composition and cover of desirable vegetation.

3. Biocontrol Agents:

CWMA will develop and implement monitoring protocols for biological control agents. The partnership will work with qualified professionals to develop specific monitoring techniques that can be effectively applied across the release zones.

Monitoring will determine insect establishment success, insect population trends, insect impact on target plants, and the effect of insect populations on weed population density and spread.

General visual reconnaissance will periodically be completed for target organisms that have been targeted towards specific weeds.

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APPENDIX A. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES BY SUBBASIN

WEED SPECIES	North Fork	South Fork	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
Knotweed, Japanese	Eradicate	Control	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Beancaper, Syrian	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Bindweed, Field	Contain	Contain	Contain	Contain	Contain
Broom, Scotch	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Buffalobur	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Bursage, Skeletonleaf	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Whitetop (Hoary cress)	Eradicate	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Crupina, Common	Contain	Control	Control	Contain	Control
Goatgrass, Jointed	Eradicate	Control	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Hawkweed, Orange	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Contain
Hawkweed, Meadow	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Hemlock, Poison	Eradicate	Control	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Henbane, Black	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Johnsongrass	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Knapweed, Diffuse	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Knapweed, Meadow	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Knapweed, Russian	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Knapweed, Spotted	Control	Contain	Contain	Control	Contain
Loosestrife, Purple	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Matgrass	Eradicate (1)	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Milium,	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Nightshade, Silverleaf	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Pepperweed, Perennial	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Puncturevine	Eradicate	Contain	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate
Ragwort,	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate

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Tansy					
Skeletonweed, Rush	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Sowthistle, Perennial	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Spurge, Leafy	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Spurge, toothed	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Star thistle, Yellow	Contain	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate	Contain
Thistle, Canada	Control	Control (4)	Control	Control	Contain
Thistle, Italian	Eradicate	Contain	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Thistle, Musk	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Thistle, Plumeless	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Thistle, Scotch	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Toadflax, Dalmatian	Eradicate (3)	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Toadflax, Yellow	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate
Woad, Dyers	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate	Eradicate

See Page 3 for definitions. (1) Contain between XXXX River and XXXX County Line; (2) Contain within XXXX City Limits; (3) Contain from XXXX River to XXXX/XXXX County Line; (4) Focus treatment on high human use areas in coordination with other weed priorities. NOTE: Within any Containment Area, if satellite infestations appear beyond the containment line, the management objective for that outbreak is Eradicate.

APPENDIX B.

Current Weed Inventory of the XXXXCWMA

(Insert weed inventory information here)

APPENDIX C.

Weed Names

Common Names	Scientific Names
Beancaper, Syrian	Zygophyllum fabago
Bindweed, field	Convolvulus arvensis
Broom, Scotch	Cytisus scoparius
Buffalobur	Solanum rostratum
Bugloss, small	Anchusa arvensis
Bursage, skeletonleaf	Ambrosia tomentosa
Whitetop (Hoary cress)	Cardaria draba
Crupina, common	Crupina vulgaris

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Daisy, oxeye	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
Goatgrass, jointed	Aegilops cylindrica
Hawkweed, orange	Hieracium aurantiacum
Hawkweed, yellow	Hieracium pratense
Hemlock, poison	Conium maculatum
Henbane, black	Hyoscyamus niger
Houndstongue	Cynoglossum officinale
Johnsongrass	Sorghum halepense
Knapweed, diffuse	Centaurea diffusa
Knapweed, Russian	Centaurea repens
Knapweed, spotted	Centaurea maculosa
Knapweed, meadow	Centaurea pratensis
Knotweed, Japanese	Polygonum cuspidatum
Loosestrife, purple	Lythrum salicaria
Matgrass	Nardus stricta
Mediterranean sage	Salvia aethiopis
Milium	Milium vernale
Nightshade, silverleaf	Solanum elaeagnifolium
Pepperweed, perennial	Lepidium latifolium
Puncturevine	Tribulus terrestris
Ragwort, tansy	Senecio jacobacea
Skeletonweed, rush	Chondrilla juncea
Sowthistle, perennial	Sonchus arvensis
Spurge, leafy	Euphorbia esula
Spurge, toothed	Euphorbia dentata
Star thistle, yellow	Centaurea solstitialis
Thistle, Canada	Cirsium arvense
Thistle, musk	Carduus nutans
Thistle, plumeless	Carduus acanthoides
Thistle, Scotch	Onopordum acanthium
Toadflax, yellow	Linaria vulgaris
Toadflax, Dalmatian	Linaria dalmatica
Woad, dyer's	Isatis tinctoria

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APPENDIX D.

Map of the XXXXCWMA
(Insert map here)