

Notable Weed Infestations of the Pryors, 2013

Crooked Creek Road:

Mustard weeds on roadbanks

Appeared 2012 following road construction in 2010 and 2011.
Seeds originally from straw mulch in 2002.
Will gradually revert to native plant community. Forest Service plans no action.

Canada thistle

Seeds originally from straw mulch in 2002.
Seeds now spread by vehicles above Big Ice Cave.
Treatment plan under discussion with Forest Service.

Hounds tongue.

Infestation along road may be spread by vehicles.
MWA plans weed pull on Saturday 15 June 2013.

Burnt Timber Ridge:

Leafy Spurge

First appeared in 2012.
Seeds definitely from a vehicle.
BLM will aggressively treat with herbicides.

Spotted knapweed

New infestation. First appeared in 2012.
Assume from vehicles.
BLM and Forest Service are spraying with herbicides. MWA and BLM will do weed pull on Saturday 29 June 2013.

Sykes Ridge Road:

Halogeton

Along two or three miles of road from southeast entrance of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range.
Was present 20 years ago.
Now spread up road by vehicles.
BLM plans no action. At some time this decision needs to be reevaluated.

Cottonwood Spring:

Russian olive and tamarisk

In lower Big Coulee drainage
Said to be brought in by birds; but maybe was brought in when corral was constructed in 1960's.
BLM cut out the Russian olive and tamarisk and treated stumps in 2010. Site needs to be monitored.

Red Pryor:

Cheatgrass.

A large infestation, spread during Red Waffle fire of 2002.
BLM and Forest Service plan no action.
Pryors Weed Campaign will gather information about this infestation in 2013.

Sage Creek

Spotted knapweed,

Widely spread above entrance to Forest Service lands.
Infestation probably spread by vehicles and cattle.
Forest Service sprays annually with herbicide. MWA and Forest Service will do a weed pull on Saturday 15 June 2013.

Dalmatian toadflax

700 acres infested on upper reaches.
Escaped ornamental from homestead.
Forest Service sprays annually with herbicide. Biocontrol is being discussed with Forest Service.

Bear Canyon

Infested with various weeds including Hounds tongue and Cocklebur.
Weeds have been present in canyon for well over ten years.
Weeds spread up canyon by ATVs and hikers. ATVs are banned from the narrow wooded portion of the canyon.
Bear Canyon is an Important Bird Area for Audubon. Members are considering possible actions in cooperation with BLM and Forest Service.