

TURKISH THISTLE

Carduus cinereus
Asteraceae, the sunflower family
Category: EDRR

Unknown USGS

FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- This is the first population of Turkish thistle that has been discovered in North America, and little is known about the severity of its invasiveness.
- Potential impacts could negatively effect the environment, economy, and recreational activities.
- Turkish thistle was temporarily listed on Idaho's Noxious Weed List as an EDRR species after a confirmed presence of Turkish thistle was discovered in the Pittsburg Landing area of Hells Canyon, Idaho County, Idaho.
- A population was also discovered on the Oregon side of Hells Canyon.



Unknown USGS

Description

- Annual that can grow up to 4 feet tall in the right conditions.
- Flowers are loosely arranged, typically with each having its own stem.
- Floral bracts contain hair on the edges, whereas other closely-related species lack hair.



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Introduction and Movement

- Turkish thistle is native to the Irano-Turanian Region which extends from Turkey east to the Himalayas.
- Was first documented in North America in 2007, being misidentified as Italian thistle until 2014.
- Can easily spread by seed dispersal via wind, water, and human and animal vectors. It is not known to reproduce vegetatively.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Turkish thistle and report any sightings.
- Make sure to remove and properly dispose of all seed and plant materials on vehicles, clothing, shoes and pets before you exit or enter outdoor recreational sites.
- Always Remember To: **KNOCK IT OFF!**



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Sources

- Oregon Department of Agriculture Pest Risk Assessment: <https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/Weeds/TurkishThistlePlantPestRiskAssessment.pdf>

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DISTRIBUTION MAP

