

RE: In Regards to the Bonneville County Public Works Application and Permit to use Right of Way

This policy will implement a program of weed control and revegetation of the disturbed ROW.

Majority of new invasions of noxious and invasive weeds occur along road ways due to some sort of disturbance. Most disturbances along the ROW are caused by developments or utility work along the site. In past cases most disturbances were not required to return the site to a similar vegetative state that was found prior to the project. This permit is to reduce this invasion of weeds and develop a notification system to BCW of where these activities are to occur so that we can start monitoring the sites for new invaders.

When organizations utilize the County Right-of-Way (ROW) and cause soil disturbance during the construction phase of the project this has become a large factor in the increase of unwanted invasive and noxious weeds along these roadways. This is creating more expense to Bonneville County and environmental impacts to the ROW due to the invasion of undesired weeds. The Permittee needs to accept responsibility in that their activities need to consider re-establishing the ROW to a similar condition that was found prior to the disturbance.

A minimum of 4 (four) inches of topsoil must be in place prior to revegetating/Seeding the site.

The action plan will be a cooperative agreement between BCW and the Permittee depending upon the amount of surface area of the ROW that becomes disturbed:

Disturbance is defined as any movement of soil, aggregate or vegetation.

- 1) If there is less than 15% of the ROW disturbed, the Permittee will be assessed a fee of \$0.02 per linear foot, either parallel or perpendicular to the roadway, whichever is greater. This will be payable to BCW in which BCW will control unwanted weeds within the disturbed site at our discretion. This will generally be the case when utility conduit is placed by boring, ripping, pulling cable, or dragline type of installation.
- 2) If there is between 15% and 30% of the ROW disturbed, the Permittee will reseed the site by the use of incorporating approved grass seed into or over the disturbed area. More information on seeding methods, seed types, and where to obtain seed can be found on our Bonneville County Weed Control Website. This will generally be the case for any open trenching that is performed.
- 3) Greater than 30% of the ROW is disturbed the Permittee will reseed the site by means of seed drilling (Conventional or No-till) or hydro seeding, or Erosion Control Blankets of the disturbed area utilizing approved grass seed or seed mixes. More information on seeding methods, seed types, and where to obtain seed can be found on our Bonneville County Weed Control Website in Appendix I. This is will generally be the case when complete excavation occurs within the ROW.
- 4) Due to the nature of this project being a Curb and Gutter within a subdivision or similar location or other special circumstances such as full hard surface or complete gravel or other situation

this project is exempt from this permitting process. _____ BCW Representative
(Initial).

Failure to comply with this agreement will result in the same procedures as found in the Bonneville County Public Works Application and Permit to use Right of Way form found in paragraph three (3): *“The applicant shall be responsible to the County for the payment of any additional expense to the return of the ROW as nearly as practical to its original condition as determined by Bonneville County Weed Control Department. No new permits will be issued to the Permittee until such claim has been settled.”*

Please contact BCW for information, questions, or comments on this permit process. BCW will inspect the site, before and after, to ensure fulfillment of process. Contact BCW at:

weeds@co.bonneville.id.us or

Office - 208-529-1397

Fax – 208-529-1398

Located at 2702 Manwill Road

Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

Once work is completed please notify Bonneville County Weed so that we can inspect and sign off our permit which will allow the Permittee to return to Bonneville County Public Works to complete their permitting process.

Appendix I

Seeding Options:

In regards to option 2. Incorporating approved grass seed into or over the disturbed area. This can be accomplished by dragging a harrow or similar tool over the soil, topdressing seed with a spreader, and then dragging a chain over the site. This should be followed by a heavy roller to ensure adequate seed to soil contact.

See: <http://www.co.bonneville.id.us/images//PDF/Weeds/Articles/Presentation%20-%20How%20to%20Revegetate%20a%20site%20IWA%202016.pdf>

Due to the fact that there are a limit number of suppliers of special grass seed blends in most cases any Non-Irrigated Pasture Blend of seed should be acceptable. Irrigated Pasture blends will not be adequate in most ROW applications.

Seed selection will be determined based on growth height, Zone Selection, and general soil types for our region of Idaho.

Seeding rates are generally between 20 and 40 lbs per acre.

Best seed germination rates are during the cooler months. In most cases after the 1st of October to allow mother nature to provide moisture and sunshine.

Seed selection must be approved by Bonneville County Weed Control prior to revegetating the site.

Suggested seeds to be used: Combinations up to 20lbs , 80-90% germination rate, Noxious weed free

Combinations of three or more species will be suggested.

Vavilov II wheatgrass

Siberian wheatgrass

Sodar wheatgrass

Crested wheatgrass

Idaho fescue

Hard fescue

Local suppliers of seed and information:

Idaho Grimm Growers

395 S Broadway St, Blackfoot, ID 83221, USA

Blackfoot, ID 83221, USA

(208) 785-0830

<https://www.idahogrimmgrowers.com/seed-list>

Cedera Seed Inc.

114 State Highway 31

Swan Valley, Idaho 83449

208-483-3683

<http://www.growseedsswanvalley.com/>

For more information on Vegetation Management in Right-of-Ways please refer to Idaho Transportation Departments link below. This is an excellent document developed by Cathy Ford and other from Idaho Transportation Department.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=idaho+transportation+department+vegetation+managment&oq=idaho+transportation+department+vegetation+managment&aqs=chrome..69i57.50885j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

Local Custom Vegetation Managers may include:

Mountain West Hydroseeding – 208-709-5854

Simmon Sports and Services: 208-681-0679 or Tractors4hire.com