



Greg Gianforte, Governor | Brian M. Gootkin, Director

Jan. 26, 2023

Members of the Interim Budget Committee Section D,

The Montana Department of Corrections respectfully submits the following information in response to questions posed by members of the Interim Budget Committee Section D at its Jan. 26, 2023 hearing.

Provide an explanation of the mental health classifications used by the DOC.

Each person who enters DOC secure facilities is screened for mental health needs. The DOC uses the following classifications related to mental health among its inmate population.

MH – 0: No evidence of MH needs, no history of MH treatment or diagnosis

MH-1: Minimum impairment, history of diagnosis or MH issues, not on medications, followed by a therapist or psychiatric provider as needed.

MH-2: Mild impairment, current diagnosis, some level of current functional impairment, often prescribed medications, followed by a psychiatric provider.

MH-3: Moderate impairment, current diagnosis, significant symptoms and functional impairment, usually prescribed medications and followed by therapist and psychiatric provider.

MH-4: Severe impairment, current diagnosis, acute symptomology, and functional impairment, usually prescribed meds and followed by therapist and psychiatric provider.

Only MH 3 and 4 are considered Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

Guilty but Mentally Insane (GBMI): This process involves consideration of individuals for alternative placement by a forensic review board at Montana State Hospital. This usually occurs because the person involved has become a security risk at MSH, has met the treatment threshold, or is resistant to treatment. The board makes the decision on whether an alternative placement (often MSP or MWP) is appropriate.

Mental Health Diagnosis: Each person who enters DOC secure facilities is screened for mental health concerns and is evaluated, if warranted. Evaluations are conducted by a qualified mental health practitioner, usually a licensed therapist or psychiatric provider. Many offenders arrive at secure facilities with a mental health diagnosis and are on medications. Following the evaluation at the facility, they are provided a diagnosis when clinically indicated.

Substance Use Diagnosis: Each person who enters DOC secure facilities is screened for substance use and an evaluation is completed by a licensed addictions counselor. Most offenders arrive with a substance-based offense or were under the influence of substances at the time their offense occurred. Following the evaluation at the facility, they are provided a SUD diagnosis if clinically indicated.

Provide additional information about the DOC's education plan.

See **Attachment A**.

Provide information about inmate pay.

Please see **Attachment B** and pay sheet located at the end of the document. Please note, the pay sheet is in the process of being updated related to dog handlers at Crossroads Correctional Center. IWF funds may no longer be used for this function.

In addition, inmates living at the Work-Reentry Center (WRC) and working for DOC's Montana Correctional Enterprises agricultural programs receive the following:

Average inmate pay - \$6/day.

Fire crew active duty - \$50/day

Monthly clothing allowance - \$15 per month

Accumulated sick leave - 0.4 hours/day

While working at the WRC, inmates also save for re-entry, pursuant to state law. In the past two fiscal years, 45 inmates working in agriculture programs accumulated reentry savings. Of those, 24 received \$200 per year and 21 received \$300, totaling \$10,350 in FY22 and \$10,300 in FY21. Inmates cannot access reentry savings while incarcerated unless it relates directly to reentry (driver's licenses, pre-paying rental deposits, etc.).

Provide the DOC's noxious weed management plan and agreement with the Powell County Weed Board.

See **Attachment C**.

Rental voucher summary.

See **Attachment D**.

About how much time does the DOC Victims Service Bureau spend helping victims who are no longer under DOC care/supervision?

The DOC does not specifically track time/services provided to victims whose offenders are no longer under our supervision. The bulk of our staff time is spent on victims of violent and/or sexual crimes whose offenders are in our system. However, we do work closely with other victim and similar support organizations to ensure ongoing and holistic victim support.



Additional information about Acadia proposal, ARPA funds

The DOC applied for ARPA funding to assist with the renovation of the Acadia building in Butte, Mont. for use as a re-entry services center. The DOC is under contract for these services, with the current contract provider for the Butte prerelease center providing the building space for the program. The contract provider’s building space (built in 1898 and 1901) was not adequate to address the many challenges encountered during the COVID-19 pandemic. By purchasing the Acadia facility, the DOC can now ensure there is adequate ventilation, living space, onsite food preparation areas and medical isolation rooms equipped with private toilets, sinks and showers for quarantined offenders with infectious diseases who require continuous care and isolation.

Acadia consists of a single-story building with functional living space for residents, treatment, and indoor and outdoor training space. The original building was built in 1987, with an additional wing built in 2012, and the last wing built in 2015. The facility was previously used as an adolescent treatment facility where the residents ages ranged from 5 to 18. The facility was closed in 2019.

Now that the building has been purchased, updates will be performed to make the building suitable to operate re-entry services.

ARPA Funds Requested and Received: \$8,050,020

Repurposed positions (pre-repurpose, post-repurpose)

Position Pre-repurpose	Position Post-repurpose
Public Safety Division	
P&P Bureau Chief	P&P Quality Assurance Manager
Compliance Specialist 2	PREA Program Manager
Quality Assurance Compliance Manager	Facility Compliance Manager
Project Management Specialist	Facility Compliance Implementation Manager
Trainer	P&P Quality Assurance Compliance Specialist
Training Supervisor	Training Manager
P&P Operations Manager	MLEA Public Safety Trainer
Trainer	Public Safety Support Bureau Chief
Transport Officer	Transport Manager
OMIS Trainer	P&P Quality Assurance Data Quality Analyst
Procedure Writer	Grievance Manager
Correctional Officer 1	Crime Investigator 2
Director’s Office	
Human Resources Supervisor	Constituent Services Manager



Central Services Division	
Correctional Officer (Lewistown Infirmary)	Facility Manager
Computer Systems Analyst	Database Administrator 3
Part-time Admin Assistant, Part-time HR Generalist	Research Analyst
Database Administrator 2	Database Administrator 3
Records Management Assistant	Compliance Specialist 1
Administrative Assistant 3	Compliance Supervisor
Associate Warden	Records Bureau Chief
Rehabilitation and Programs Division	
Contracted Licensed Therapist	Education Bureau Chief
Clinical Therapist	Clinical Psychologist
Correctional Case Specialist (2)	Correctional Programs Specialist
Substance Abuse Counselor	Correctional Programs Officer
Medical Billing Clerk	Administrative Assistant

Also, see **Attachment E**.

Badlands Recovery Center - Contract language related to bed space and usage

The DOC's contract with Community, Counseling, and Correctional Services, Inc. (CCCS) related to bed space and usage at Badlands Recover Center says: "...lease space in Glendive, Montana, for residential substance use disorder treatment." Also, "Lessee shall make reasonable and diligent efforts to maintain a ratio of clients that are at least 75% Medicaid clients. Should the Lessee be unable to maintain a ratio of 75% Medicaid clients after reasonable diligent efforts, Lessee may provide service to non-Medicaid clients. However, the next space that becomes available should be given first preference to Medicaid clients. Lessee shall give priority to the justice-involved population (individuals having had interactions with the criminal justice system as a defendant)."

The Glendive property owned by the department is located in a residential area and, pursuant to administrative rules as well as security considerations, may not house a prison population. Additionally, any community corrections facility located there could not accept sexual or violent offenders.

Dashboard indicating which offenders are waiting to be moved to prerelease or treatment centers, which centers, and how long the offenders have been waiting?

The DOC does not have a dashboard that illustrates this information at this time. That said, the department hopes to create a placement group which would help coordinate placement and movement of individuals to and from prerelease and treatment centers. This group would compile statistics related to its work that would likely reflect the data in this request.



Can you provide insight into how the department is approaching the upcoming PRC RFP process?

The DOC intends to let a Request for Information (RFI) later this calendar year. It will seek to better understand which contract providers might be interested in doing this work, at what locations, for what types of offenders, and number of offenders. The DOC will also request information regarding how the providers will serve offenders using traditional, expanded, and/or specialized services. This RFI will inform potential providers of the development of an RFP to solicit new proposals for continuing to operate the community corrections network for DOC early next year.

What is the average cost per educational course per student?

The DOC doesn't operate its educational offerings on a cost per hour tuition model. Instead, the department is allocated about \$2 million/year from the general fund to provide educational services. That funding is used to hire and pay instructors to teach curriculum and deliver that curriculum to as many offenders as possible. Instruction is provided to offenders based on classification and housing situations; behavior and educational background; and availability and requirements related to the other two considerations.

Please let us know if you have any questions related to these responses.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian M. Gootkin, Director

Attachment A



Greg Gianforte, Governor | Brian M. Gootkin, Director

Sept. 6, 2022

Project Objectives

1. Develop a two-year general and vocational education plan that includes consideration for and application to all Montana prison facilities as a single enterprise.
 - a. This should include consideration of HiSET, CLEP, Second Chance Pell, general post-secondary education, and any/all other education or occupational trainings.
 - b. This should focus on the adult male and female populations, however to the extent there is time, interest, and value in addressing the youth population, that may also be included.
2. Ensure this plan leverages technology, labor market data, partnerships, and industry trends and emerging practices while providing methodology for decision making.
 - a. What is our strategy for determining educational offerings (Secure population demographics? Labor market projections? Available resources? Available supporting partners? Et. al.)
 - b. How are decisions regarding the use and utilization of technology made – what are the consideration points?
 - c. How are decisions regarding what programs are offered made – what, where, how?
 - d. Are there full or partial-kit solutions available in the private or public marketplace that we should look at that would help us achieve our goals?
 - e. What are our education program usage expectations, limits, and wishes?
3. Ensure this plan considers and helps solution the challenges around recruiting and retaining teachers and other education related staff, to include relevant career pathways.
4. Consider if/how this plan's needs and opportunities might extend to alt-secure facilities, including:
 - a. Does DOC include general or vocational educational requirements in related RFP's?
 - b. Do talent pipelines and industry partnerships need to include a formalized plan with alt-secure facilities or P&P?
5. Identify what successful achievement of this plan and/or its parts looks like and how it can/will be measured.

Attachment B



**STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy:	DOC 5.1.1 INMATE ASSIGNMENTS
Chapter 5:	OFFENDER PROGRAMS
Section 1:	Work Programs
Effective Date:	April 1, 1998 Page 1 of 4 and Attachment
Revised:	August 28, 2019
Signature:	/s/ Reginald D. Michael

I. POLICY

The Department of Corrections may provide inmates the opportunity for productive assignments in facilities or industries.

II. APPLICABILITY

All Department secure care facilities.

III. DEFINITIONS

Administrator - The official, regardless of local title (division or facility administrator, bureau chief, warden, superintendent), ultimately responsible for the division, facility or program operation and management.

Facility/Program - Refers to any division, prison, secure care correctional facility, correctional or training program, or community-based program under Department jurisdiction or contract. This term includes the facility building or residence, including property and land owned or leased and operated by the Department.

IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

A. Inmate Compensation

1. Each facility/program will comply with the requirements set forth in this policy and may develop an inmate compensation procedure in compliance with this policy. Due to the unique nature of Montana Correctional Enterprises (MCE), the facility will maintain an inmate compensation procedure in compliance with the oversight of the Department's Leadership Team and not necessarily in accordance with this policy. Guidelines for youth correctional facilities and programs are outlined in section IV.F of this policy.
2. Administrators shall be responsible for spending inmate compensation funding within the facility's annual budget allocation.
3. Administrators may or may not classify an assignment as compensable, if compensated the following provisions apply:
 - a. the rate is based on category according to the [Inmate Compensation Table](#) to ensure compensation is administered in an equitable and consistent manner throughout the Department;

Subject: INMATE ASSIGNMENTS

- b. the compensation rate will be based on shift completion rather than hourly unless otherwise specified in accordance with the Inmate Compensation Table
 - 1) work completed within four hours in a 24-hour period shall be compensated as a half day;
 - 2) work completed within more than four but less than eight hours in a 24-hour period shall be compensated as a whole day.
- c. compensation will not exceed more than a whole day (eight hours) in a 24-hour period regardless of number of inmate assignments or hours worked;
- d. if, due to an emergency or other unusual circumstance, an inmate is required to work more than eight hours in a 24-hour period, the inmate's supervisor(s) will adjust the inmate's schedule on one or more days close in time so the inmate averages no more than eight hours per day; and
- e. compensation periods shall:
 - 1) be consistent to allow the inmate to establish a financial plan;
 - 2) provide compensation beginning on the first day of assignment; and
 - 3) not allow retroactive compensation.
- f. all inmate work assignments must fall within an assignment category.

B. Inmate Assignments

1. The Director may authorize MCE to provide vocational education training and work programs for Department contracted facilities.
3. Facilities/programs will operate all assignments consistent with applicable federal, state, and local health and safety standards.
4. Assignments will coincide with the inmate's classification identified in *DOC Policy 4.2.1 Offender Classification System*; for inmates with special skills, reasonable effort will be made to secure assignments based on the security and safety needs of the facility/program.
5. The administrator will identify the assignment title, duties, and responsibilities for inmate assignments.
6. Assignments should afford inmates the opportunity to learn skills and develop habits and attitudes that will fit occupational needs upon release.
7. Under no circumstances may assignments:
 - a. exceed a standard forty hour work week, unless otherwise approved by an administrator, or designee;
 - b. allow inmates to serve food to other inmates housed in locked status;
 - c. include any duty that would place an inmate in a position to be in contact or in close proximity to confidential or security records without direct supervision; and
 - d. allow inmates to exercise control or authority over other inmates.
8. Assignment performance feedback will be conducted at least semi-annually with criteria including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. grade reports for inmates in education and training assignments;
 - b. demonstrated skills and knowledge;

Subject: INMATE ASSIGNMENTS

- c. observed habits;
 - d. attitude toward fellow inmates and Department employees;
 - e. quality and quantity of tasks;
 - f. care and use of equipment;
 - g. learning ability and adaptability to new procedures;
 - h. general comments from supervisor; and
 - i. compensation, if applicable.
9. An inmate may hold up to two job assignments. An inmate's paid assignments must not total more than eight hours in a 24-hour period. If an inmate has two job assignments, each assignment shall be paid out of a different budget (i.e., Facility and IWF budgets).
10. Assignment programs will accommodate inmates with disabilities in accordance with *DOC Policy 3.3.15 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Offender Accommodations*.
11. The supervisor or individual requesting an inmate for assignment shall review the inmate's OMIS record for previously identified work restrictions, i.e. no lifting over fifteen pounds, restriction from heights, etc. If work restrictions are identified, the supervisor or individual requesting an inmate for assignment will consult with the DOC or facility ADA coordinator to determine whether a reasonable accommodation can be made in accordance with *DOC 3.3.15 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Offender Accommodations*.

C. Inmate Accident Compensation

1. Inmates assigned to an inmate assignment are not eligible for worker's compensation.

D. Special Housing

1. Administrators may deem it necessary to assign inmates to special or designated housing areas related to their assignments.

E. Private Industry Operations

1. MCE may assign inmates to work in private sector industry programs pursuant to *53-30-132, MCA*.

F. Youth Correctional Facilities/Programs

1. Youth correctional facilities may establish an allowance system based upon an earned privilege program and/or a token economy system.
2. Youth correctional facilities will utilize designated inmate pay accounts for specific jobs which may only be used to allow youth to pay restitution. These jobs are not subject to the Inmate Compensation Table.

V. CLOSING

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the administrator of the appropriate secure care facility.

VI. REFERENCES

Subject: **INMATE ASSIGNMENTS**

A. 53-1-203, MCA; 53-3-131, MCA; 53-30-132, MCA

B. DOC Policies 3.3.15, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Offender Accommodations; and 4.2.1, Offender Classification System

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Inmate Compensation Table

Montana Department of Corrections Inmate Compensation Table

Category	Pay Category	Pay Category
	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Daily</u>
*Barber Assignment		\$ 2.00
*Chemical Dep. ITU Participants		\$.50
*Educational Participants		\$ 1.00
Educational Aide Assignments		\$ 1.25
*Facility Aide		\$ 2.00
Food Services	\$ 0.35 - 0.45	\$ 2.80 - \$ 3.60
Infirmery Aide		\$ 1.50 - \$ 3.00
Non-MCE Laundry		\$ 1.25 - \$ 2.00
*Library		\$ 1.25
Maintenance		\$ 1.75 – 3.25
*Photographer		\$ 1.25
*Recreation		\$ 1.25
Non-MCE Hobby		\$ 1.50
Janitorial		\$ 1.25 – 2.00
Warehouse		\$ 3.50 - \$ 4.50
IWF Rep		\$ 1.00
<u>Facility Specific</u>		
*Dog Handlers CCC		\$ 2.25
WRC Workers		\$ 3.50 - \$ 4.50
Special Assistance Crew		\$ 3.00 – 5.00

A facility administrator may adopt procedures to designate certain position categories as skilled work or difficult to fill, and to pay the designated categories at hourly rates not to exceed the highest hourly rate on this table. If the administrator has not adopted such a procedure for a category listed on this table, the category will be paid based on shift completion in accordance with paragraph IV.A.3.b of DOC 5.1.1 Inmate Assignments.

All facilities must work within their current budget for inmate compensation.

The Department encourages facilities to utilize the maximum number of inmates available to promote future job skills.

Reps can only be compensated for 5 days per week.

***items that may be paid by IWF funds**

Attachment C

Montana Correctional Enterprises Ranch Noxious Weed Management Plan And Agreement with Powell County Weed Board FY 2020 and FY 2021

Pursuant to MCA 7-22-2151, following is the biennial Noxious Weed Management Plan (hereinafter referred to as Plan) for the Montana Department of Corrections, Montana Correctional Enterprises (hereinafter referred to as MCE) Ranch. Each biennial plan will be approved by the Powell County Weed Board.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of MCE Management, specifically the Division Administrator, Agriculture Director and Ranch Manager to identify and eradicate all noxious weeds on the MCE owned and leased ranch lands.

Goal Statement

It is the goal of MCE Management to control the spread of noxious weeds on MCE ranch lands and eradicate the weeds where eradication is a viable goal. To achieve this goal, the following will be necessary:

- Identify infestations and address them at the earliest time frame to stop the spread of newly identified weeds and those that are a persistent problem.
- Work closely with neighboring landowners to control the spread of noxious weeds from their lands to MCE ranch lands.
- Erect signage on roads with public access to request the land users to assist in the stopping the spread of weeds by staying on posted roads.
- Continually update and evaluate the Plan to address additional needs as they arise.

MCE Responsibilities

It is the sole responsibility of MCE to provide weed control measures on all owned and leased properties. It is also the responsibility of MCE to comply with all aspects of MCA 7-22-2151.

The MCE Agriculture Director will ensure that the annual report, documenting all noxious weed actions and the cost of those actions, is submitted to the County Weed Coordinator or the State Coordinator by the due date.

In addition, the MCE Agriculture Director will concentrate on the early detection and containment of new weed species and containment of current noxious weeds.

Pursuant to MCA 7-22-2151, the MCE Agriculture Director or a representative will submit a biennial performance report to the Montana Department of Agriculture utilizing the state online

reporting system to document the success and/or needs related to current noxious weed management activities between MCE as a state agency and the Powell County Weed Board.

Powell County Weed Board Responsibilities

Pursuant to MCA 7-22-2151, the Powell County Weed Coordinator will approve the biennial performance report submitted by MCE to the Department of Agriculture regarding the success and/or needs of the MCE's noxious weed management activities.

Other MCE Responsibilities

It will be critical for MCE Management to ensure that all ranch employees involved with the application of pesticides are licensed through the Department of Agriculture pesticide program and that all pertinent training and education that is received is documented.

Control of weed chemicals is critical in all ranch and farm operations but becomes additionally critical in the environment of a correctional facility. The Ranch Manager will ensure that weed control chemicals are appropriately marked, stored and controlled from unauthorized use by inmates or staff. Monitoring of the use and storage of weed control chemicals is critical to the safety and orderly operation of the MCE ranch and Montana State Prison facility.

The Agriculture Director will complete an annual evaluation of weed management efforts and review and update the biennial plan to consider the efforts and outcomes of the current year's activities.

Budget

The annual budget for weed control of MCE ranch lands is set at \$40,000. This amount will be reviewed annually to ensure that the budget is adequate to address the persistent weed problems. If additional budget is required, adjustments will be made as necessary. Powell County Weed Board grant funding will also be utilized as available to assist in addressing the identified noxious weed issues.

Ranch Land Description

The ranch is approximately 37,895 acres, of which 33,288 are owned by the Montana Department of Corrections and 4,606 are leased school trust lands. The leased property is scattered amongst the deeded property.

The ranch land sections are contiguous and located in Powell County, Montana. (See Appendix A.) The ranch lies between the Clark Fork River to the East and the Flint Creek Range to the West, which at the maximum is six miles wide and between the Gold Creek area to the North and Dempsey creek area to the South, which at the maximum is sixteen miles long. In some areas of the ranch, the property is only one section (one mile) wide.

The county roads that cross the ranch, along with a major high-voltage power corridor running the length of the ranch, are the major problems. It is obvious that the pattern of weed infestations has started at these points and has moved outward, primarily down the canyons, coulees, draws, and waterways.

The ranch includes a wide variety of soil types from gravelly glacial moraines to moderately deep loams. These wide variations sometimes occur within short distances and complicate weed control planning and application.

The Montana State Prison complex lies in the center of the ranch and brings some other complications to noxious weed control. These complications include effective application of weed control chemicals and their residual effect.

History

Although there is not an accurate historical document that identifies weed infestation on the ranch, it is logical to assume that some noxious weeds have existed since the time that the state assumed ownership of the property.

Identified Problem Areas, Primary and Secondary Infestations

- Roadsides, hunting parking lots and construction areas near the Montana State Prison facility – Spotted knapweed
- Glacial moraine areas in the Conley Lake, Tin Cup Lake Reservoir and Mud Lake areas – Spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, thistle and white top.
- Road to Powell Reservoir – Spotted knapweed, leafy spurge and hound's tongue.
- Boundary fence with Verlanic Ranch, at the southeast corner of hayfield – Kochia and white top.
- Hillside above Ranch 2 – Spotted knapweed and leafy spurge (2020).
- Ranch 2, Elk Ridge and Job Corps roads – Spotted knapweed and leafy spurge.
- Power line corridor from the south boundary to Powell creek – Spotted knapweed, thistle and black henbane.
- Section pasture – Spotted knapweed.
- Mullen and Taylor drainages - Spotted knapweed, sulfur cinquefoil and leafy spurge.
- Lower Morrison drainage – Leafy spurge.
- South end of the ranch – Leafy spurge.
- Pastures west of the dairy – reoccurrence of small outbreaks of leafy spurge.
- Ditches along neighboring ranch lands in areas of Ranch 2, Morrison ditch and west side canal - Spotted knapweed and sporadic leafy spurge (2020).
- Ranch 7 (surrounding hayfields) – Leafy spurge, yellow toadflax, thistle and black henbane (2019).

Short Term Goals

1. Develop cooperative agreements with neighbors, other state and county agencies and other parties that could mutually benefit from noxious weed control on MCE Ranch and adjoining lands.
2. Cooperate with Department of Agriculture's State Weed Coordinator and the County Weed Coordinator to ensure that all reports are filed timely and accurately.
3. Maintain legislative spending authority for the necessary expenditures through the budget process.
 - a. Earmark funds for noxious weed control purposes (\$50,204.17 spent in 2018-19).
4. Identify problem areas and the primary and secondary infestations
5. Recognize endangered plant or animal species within the weed control areas and provide for their protection, if necessary.
6. Identify all effective preventive measures, such as chemical, biological, crop rotation, composting, restricted vehicle usage and cooperative agreements.
7. Identify best means of eradication such as spray trucks, backpack prayers or aerial application.
8. Develop strategies for prevention of spread to lands that remain unaffected by noxious weeds through a systematic prevention program.
9. Ensure that all ranch staff involved in weed application have current applicator's licenses.
 - a. Ensure that inmate crews that work with the weed control activities are trained and supervised to ensure compliance with all laws and policies.
10. Maintain the good working relationship with Powell County Weed Board.
11. Explore cooperation with Bonneville Power and USFS for weed control on power line right of ways and USFS property and access roads.
12. Inventory, map, monitor and evaluate – Map the current weed infestations, inventory weed types, determine the extent of the infestation and the plan of action for eradication. Complete an annual evaluation of weed management efforts and review and update the plan to consider the efforts and outcomes of the current year's activities.
13. Concentrate on the early detection and containment of new weed species and containment of current noxious weeds.

Fiscal Year 2019 Plan of Action

- Aerial spray 7N10W Sections N and S of Powell Reservoir.
- Bio control of leafy spurge, spotted knapweed and possibly toadflax.
- Spot spray small infestations.
- Mow roadsides in the fall.
- Spray perimeters of Upper and Lower 7 hayfields.

Fiscal Year 2019 Monitoring Completed

- ✓ Cash flow prevented aerial spraying.
- ✓ MSP Maintenance was unable to spray perimeter and compound.
- ✓ Bio control of leafy spurge and knapweed continues to improve.
- ✓ Success on perimeters of Ranch 7.
- ✓ \$4,157.76 of MCE funds spent on weed control.

Fiscal Year 2020 Plan of Action

- Increase amount of dollars spent and number of acres controlled.
- Aerial Spray 7N10W Sections N and S of Powell Reservoir.
- Continue working with Powell County Weed District with bio control options.
- Issue MCE Ranch map to all supervisors for weed identification and monitoring.
- Spray perimeter, compound and gun range.
- Increase number of areas spot sprayed.

Fiscal Year 2020 Monitoring Completed

- ✓ Aerial Sprayed Sections 15, 16 and 21 7N 10W.
- ✓ Sprayed perimeter and gun range.
- ✓ Spots sprayed Ranch 7 and Powell.

Fiscal Year 2021 Plan of Action

- Aerial spray 2,000 acres in N1/2 S2 of 6N 10W and S34, 35 and 36 of 7N 10W.
- Print and issue MCE Ranch maps to all supervisors.
- Increase number of acres sprayed.

Fiscal Year 2021 Monitoring Completed

- ✓ Sprayed N1/2 S2 of 6N 10W and S34, 35 and 36 of 7N 10W (See App. C.)
- ✓ \$51,739 (\$28,000 application and \$23,739 in chemical)

Fiscal Year 2022 Plan of Action

- Aerial spray 2,000 acres in S26, 27, 28 and 29 of 7N 10W.

This Noxious Weed Management Plan has been reviewed and approved by the following parties:

Gayle m Butler
Gayle Butler, MCE Administrator

1-4-2021
Date

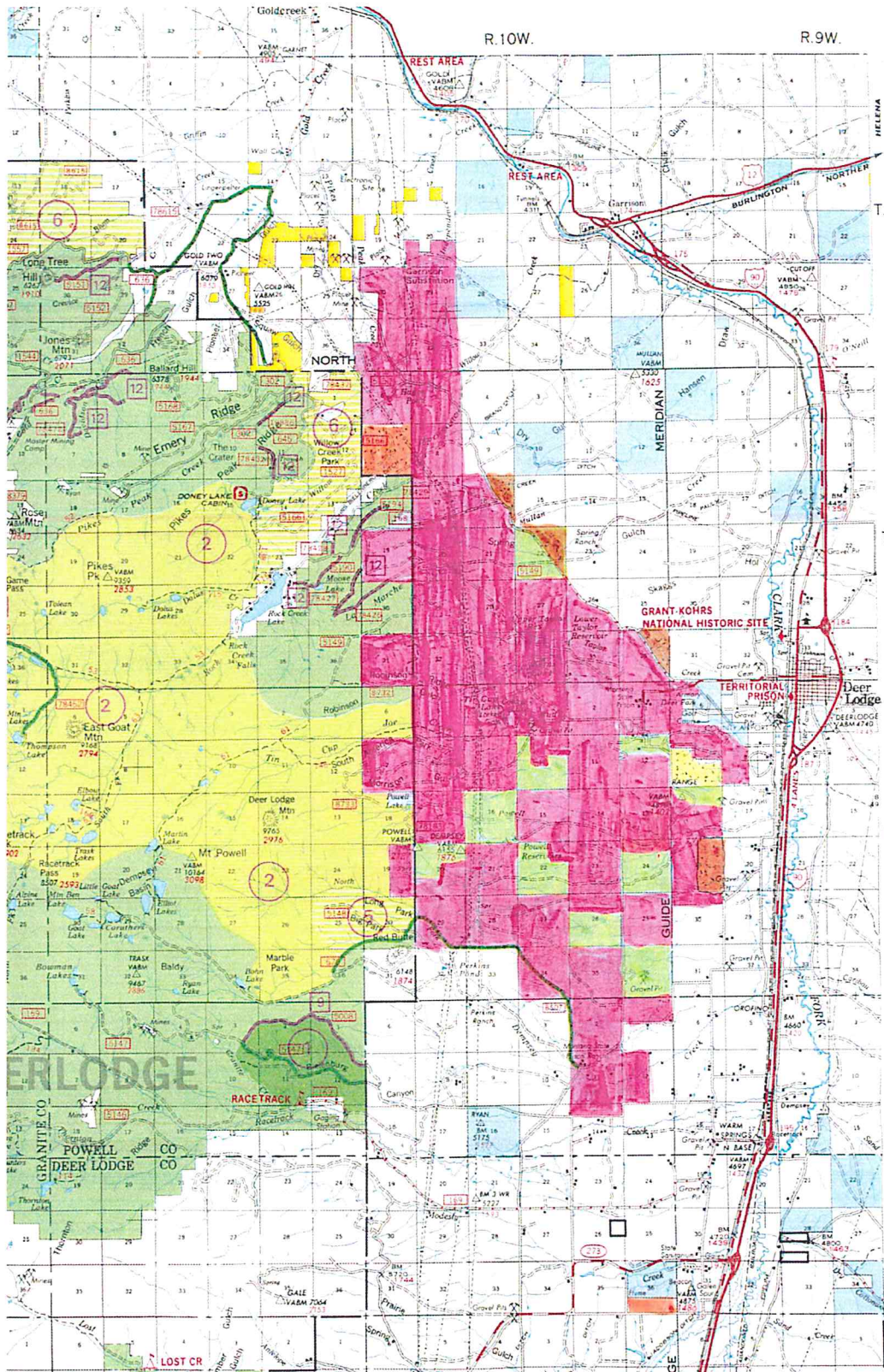
Ross Wagner
Ross Wagner, MCE Agriculture Director

1-4-2021
Date

Karen Laitala
Karen Laitala, Powell County Weed Coordinator

1/4/2021
Date

APPENDIX A MCE RANCH LAND MAP



APPENDIX B
MCE WEED TYPE INFORMATION

Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)

- is a biennial or short-lived perennial
- currently infests more than 4.5 million acres in Montana
- stem height varies from two feet to four feet and slender stems are many branched, and bear single, pinkish-purple flowers at the tips
- flowers are purple to pink, rarely white, with 25 to 35 flowers per head
- flowers bloom from June to October
- seeds germinate in spring through fall when moisture and temperature regimes are suitable
- site conditions and precipitation during the growing season have the greatest effect on the number of seeds produced each year; more seeds are produced and germinate during wet years
- seeds remain viable in the soil for at least seven years
- populations are largely extended through peripheral enlargement of existing stands
- causes loss of wildlife and livestock forage, increases moisture runoff, soil erosion and stream sedimentation
- is controlled through the use of Tordon, Milestone, 2 4-D and added surfactants to control on rangeland
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)

- is a deep-rooted perennial forb that spreads by seeds and a rhizomatic root system
- stems are hairless and pale green or blue-green, and grow 16 to 32 inches in dense patches
- narrow, hairless leaves are alternate on the stem and both stems and leaves contain a milky latex.
- small flowers are green and inconspicuous, but are surrounded by a pair of yellow-green, heart-shaped leaves or bracts often mistaken for flowers
- currently infests more than 600,000 acres in Montana
- overruns and destroys grazing lands for cattle and horses, decreases rangeland plant diversity, threatens native plants and reduces land values.
- is very difficult to control once it becomes established. Intensive, long-term, integrated management is necessary to reduce leafy spurge infestations.
- new infestations originate from seeds or vegetative buds on root pieces which can be brought into uninfested areas by activities such as outdoor recreation, agricultural activities and construction practices
- methods used to manage leafy spurge include prevention, competition, physical control, biological control and chemical control
- chemical control consists of Tordon, Tordon combined with Milestone or Escort and/or 2 4-D and added surfactants as needed
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)

- is a perennial, forming dense colonies by adventitious shoots from widely spreading black roots
- stems are erect, openly branched, 18 to 36 inches taller. Lower leaves are deeply lobed, 2 to 4 inches long; upper leaves entire or serrate, narrow to a sessile base. Cone-shaped flowering heads are ¼ to ½ inch in diameter, solitary at the tip of leafy branchlets. Flowers are pink to lavender
- is a deep rooted, rhizomatous, perennial forb which may penetrate to a depth of over 8 feet.
- flowering occurs in June to September
- grows about two feet tall. Stems are thin, stiff and covered with soft, short hairs. The rosette leaves are narrow at the base and widen toward the top. Stem leaves are grayish-white and have irregular shaped lobes that are divided about on-half of the way to the mid-rib. The flowers are pink to purple
- currently infests more than 47,000 acres in Montana
- can cause nervous disorders if consumed by horses
- populations are largely extended through peripheral enlargement of existing stands
- causes loss of wildlife and livestock forage, increases moisture runoff, soil erosion and stream sedimentation
- is controlled through the use of Tordon, Milestone, 2 4-D and added surfactants as needed
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Canadian Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)

- is a perennial forb reproducing through seed and creeping rootstocks
- has purple flower heads with male and female flowers on separate plants
- stems are 1 to 4 feet tall, ridged, branching above. Leaves are alternate, lacking petioles, oblong or lance-shaped, dived into spiny-tipped irregular lobes. Flowers are unisexual, on separate plants; flowers purple (occasionally white) in heads 1/2 to 3/4 inch in diameter. Fruits are about 1/8 inch long, somewhat flattened, brownish, with a tuft of hairs at the top
- flowering occurs during July and August
- is an aggressive weed that is difficult to control
- can produce up to 20,000 seeds per year per plant
- currently infests more than 1.8 million acres in Montana
- is controlled through the use of Tordon, Milestone, and 2 4-D and added surfactants as needed
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Sulfur Cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)

- is a long-lived perennial with a woody rootstock
- can produce several erect stems which can reach one to three feet in height.
- stands 1 to 1 ½ feet tall, with well-developed rootstocks
- has numerous stem leaves and few basal leaves
- has long hairs growing at right angles to the leafstalk and stem
- flat-topped inflorescences are three to six inches across, and each flower has five light yellow petals surrounding a dark yellow center.
- fruits are achenes, which are dark brown, with lighter, prominent, branched ridges, and narrow, winged margins
- reproduces by seed, but it can be spread by roots if they are moved by tillage or on soil-moving equipment
- is often found in disturbed areas such as roadsides and pastures
- flowering occurs May to July
- regenerates annually via new shoots emerging from the existing rhizomatous root system
- is well adapted to dry open range and pasture areas
- currently infests over 50,000 acres in Montana
- is controlled by Tordon, Milestone, and 2 4-D
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Whitetop (*Cardaria draba*, *Lepidium draba*)

- is a deep rooted perennial forb that spreads by seeds and root fragments
- the flower has four petals and six stamens. Individual white flowers are borne on slender stalks about a half inch long. Dense blooming stands look very much like a late-melting patch of snow. The plants normally grow from 10 to 24 inches tall. All leaves have a covering of soft white hairs.
- currently infests more than 56,000 acres in Montana
- emerges very early in April to May and sets seed by mid summer
- effects on rangeland and pasture is similar to leafy spurge. Reduces bio-diversity forage production and displaces native plant communities in affected areas. They will also invade cropland, especially alfalfa.
- weeds are well adapted to moist habitats, especially sub-irrigated pastures, hay fields, rangeland, roadsides and ditch banks.
- Root system is similar to leafy spurge
- five methods are used to manage this weed: prevention, mechanical control, cultural control, biological control and chemical control
- chemical control includes Tordon, 2 4-D, and Escort. The Ranch uses Escort at the rate of 1 ounce to per acre. Treatment of this weed is long-term.
- The Ranch utilizes all herbicides according to the label and abides by all EPA guidelines



Yellow Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)

- is a perennial plant, reproducing by seed and roots
- stems grow 2 to 3 feet or taller. Both leaves and stems are waxy with a whitish or bluish cast. Leaves are usually heart-shaped.
- has bright yellow snap-dragon-like flowers with a long spur
- often found in well-drained, relatively coarse-textured soils varying from coarse gravels to sandy loams, but are sometimes found in heavier soils
- displaces existing plant communities and associated animal life. Results in a loss of forage for domestic livestock and big game animals
- currently infests more than 96,000 acres in Montana
- is very difficult to control once it becomes established
- single plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds beginning in late June to early July and continuing until October
- six methods are used to manage this weed: prevention, mechanical control, cultural control, grazing, biological control and chemical control
- use of herbicides to manage toadflax is highly variable partly because of the plants' high genetic variability.
- chemical control includes Tordon, 2 4-D

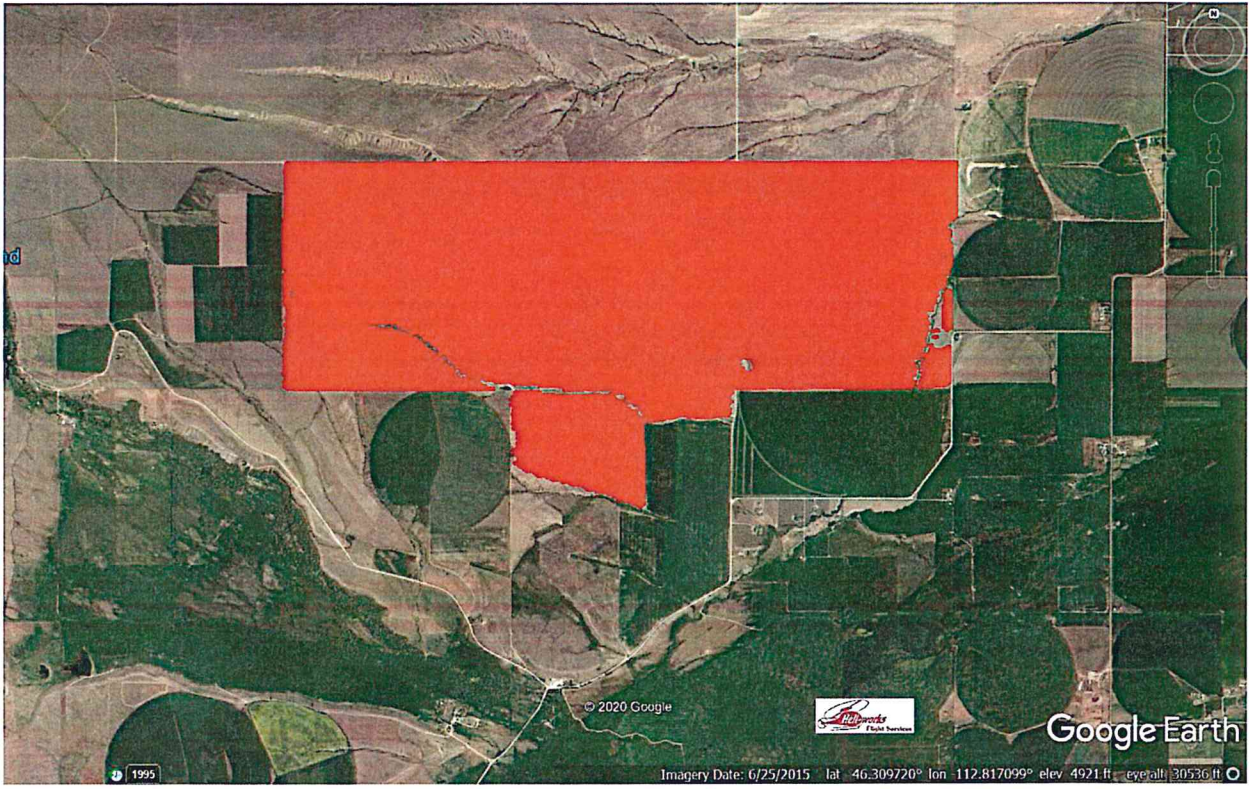


Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)

- is a biennial growing 1 to 4 feet tall and reproducing by seed
- leaves are alternative, 1 to 12 inches to long, 1 to 3 inches wide, rough, hairy and lacking teeth or lobes
- flowers are reddish-purple and terminal
- the grout is composed of 4 prickly nutlets each about 1/3 inch long
- leaves are rough and resemble a hound's tongue
- is found in pastures, along roadsides and in disturbed habitats.
- Is toxic containing pyrrolizidine alkaloids, causing liver cells to stop reproducing. Sheep are more resistant to houndstongue poisoning than are cattle or horses.
- chemical control includes Tordon, 2 4-D and Escort. The Ranch uses Escort at the rate of 1 ounce to a acre



APPENDIX C
MCE RANCH LAND SPRAY MAP



2,000 acres Montana State Prison 9/23, 9/25 and 9/27/2020
Aerial spray 2,000 acres in N1/2 S2 of 6N 10W and S34, 35 and 36 of 7N 10W

Attachment D



**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS**

Greg Gianforte, Governor | Brian M. Gootkin, Director

August 24, 2022

As required by HB 693 Section 1(2) the Department of Corrections (MDOC) is providing this require report to the Law and Justice Interim Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee on the rental voucher program to identify where the voucher program is being utilized based on the location of expenditures and the strengths and weaknesses of the program.

a. Location of Rental Voucher Expenditures by Fiscal Year:

- i. Fiscal Year 2020: 335 rental vouchers* were approved, however, not all approved rental vouchers were used. Expenditures were distributed geographically as:

Location	Expended	Number of Offenders
Anaconda	\$550.00	1
Billings	\$72,875.30	119
Butte	\$5,595.00	9
Deer Lodge	\$400.00	1
Great Falls	\$4,605.00	7
Helena	\$21,610.00	41
Kalispell	\$1,400.00	2
Miles City	\$1,800.00	1
Missoula	\$27,675.04	37
Ronan	\$500.00	1
Shelby	\$975.00	1
Out of State	\$750.00	1

- ii. Fiscal Year 2021: 480 rental vouchers* were approved, however, not all approved rental vouchers were used. Expenditures were distributed geographically as:

Location	Expended	Number of Offenders
Anaconda	\$2,550.00	4
Billings	\$127,248.42	159
Butte	\$7,950.00	12
Deer Lodge	\$600.00	2
Dillon	\$957.00	1
Great Falls	\$7,175.84	7



Havre	\$500.00	1
Helena	\$24,725.00	38
Kalispell	\$400.00	1
Miles City	\$1,022.00	3
Missoula	\$53,155.95	52
Polson	\$1,675.00	3
Ronan	\$500.00	1
St. Ignatius	\$650.00	1
Out of State	\$1,500.00	1

- iii. Fiscal Year 2022: 139 rental vouchers* were approved, however, not all approved rental vouchers were used. Expenditures were distributed geographically as:

Location	Expended	Number of Offenders
Anaconda	\$1,100.00	1
Billings	\$32,558.90	59
Bozeman	\$850.00	1
Butte	\$3,675.00	4
Conrad	\$1,200.00	1
Great Falls	\$6,685.00	8
Helena	\$7,450.00	12
Missoula	\$5,750.00	9
Ronan	\$500.00	1
Out of State	\$125.00	1

b. Strengths of the Program:

- i. The program provides a funding source for safe, stable housing for those releasing from custody.
- ii. The average cost per rental voucher is less than \$1,000, which is a minimal investment for supporting a key component of successful community reintegration.
- iii. The program partners with Probation & Parole Officers to ensure that offenders are referred to other supportive services as necessary to meet court-ordered requirements and individual needs.
- iv. The program makes payments directly to landlords, decreasing the risk of funds being diverted by offenders.

c. Weaknesses of the Program:

- i. Per statute, the funds may only be used for rent. They cannot be used for other housing-related expenses, such as application fees and deposits.
- ii. Per statute, the funds may only be used for those releasing from prison on parole. It may not be used to assist offenders releasing from other facility types or onto other supervision statuses.
- iii. Per statute, MDOC provides a rental voucher to claimants while a claim of wrongful conviction is pending. The current statute provides no limitation on the number of months or the monthly allowance of these rental vouchers, which could be long-term and significant.
- iv. No administrative costs are pulled from this funding allocation by MDOC, meaning there are no additional resources available for outreach, education/training, and support to housing vendors.



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- v. The program has no regulatory authority over vendors** to influence application processes and related fees, eviction processes, or the remittance of funds should an individual leave the residence prior to the end of a month.

* *A rent voucher generally equals one month of rent. However, MDOC was authorized to use rental vouchers for housing deposits during FYs 21-22, based on the COVID-19 state of emergency.*

** *MDOC is working closely with the Department of Public Health and Human Services on efforts to implement a certifying body for recovery residences in Montana. The certification process will require annual certification and assure compliance with standards established by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR). MDOC serves as an ex-officio member of the Board of that entity. Once a significant number of recovery residences in Montana have been certified, MDOC intends to amend ARMs to require vendors classified as recovery residences be certified in order to receive rental voucher funds.*

Attachment E



Montana Department of Corrections

