Memorandum of Understanding
Colusa, Glenn and Tehama Counties
Weed Management Area

1. BACKGROUND
The counties of Colusa, Glenn, and Tehama share common land features such as flat farm land, rolling foothills and coastal mountains. Weeds know no boundaries. Local weed managers understand that regular coordination, collaboration, and communication can result in improved weed exclusion, detection, control and eradication at both the county and regional level.

2. PURPOSE
The purpose of this document is to establish the mutual understandings of the three counties with respect to their voluntary joint efforts toward regional coordination, collaboration, and communication on the exclusion, detection, control and eradication of noxious weeds.

3. GOALS
The goals of the Colusa, Glenn and Tehama Counties Weed management Area Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are:
   2.1. To foster coordination, collaboration and communication between the three counties on weed-related issues, to achieve greater efficiencies, and enhance public services.
   2.2. To provide a framework for the management and disbursement of funding associated with activities pursued jointly under this MOU.
   2.3. To improve competitiveness for State and Federal grant funding.

4. DEFINITIONS
   4.1. Participants. Participants will include any agency or organization that will cooperate and coordinate activities necessary for the prevention and control of noxious weeds in Colusa, Glenn and Tehama Counties.
   4.2. Project Manager. A project manager will be determined by the Counties signatory to this MOU for any given project regardless of funding source to meet the goals set forth in this MOU.

5. MUTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS
   5.1. Participation. Signatories to this MOU constitute the current participants. Participation is strictly on a voluntary basis and may be terminated at any time without recourse. Additional agencies or organizations who share weed control issues common to the participating agencies or organizations and who are engaged in similar activities will be invited to be signatory to this MOU. Signatories aspire to work collaboratively with other regional programs and technical outreach efforts.
5.2. Activities. Efforts pursued under this agreement will remain consistent with and will not exceed the current authority for any individual participating agency or organization. Efforts will include the detection, exclusion, eradication and or suppression of noxious weeds, along with monitoring and reporting, information dissemination and sharing between agencies and/or organizations, public outreach and education, and other activities at the agreement and direction of the participants.

5.3. County Funding. Counties are not required to commit funding associated with activities completed under this MOU. It is understood that activities under this MOU may result in the more efficient use of existing and future funding resulting from improved collaboration and coordination.

5.4. External Funding. Signatories will work collaboratively in pursuit of external funding associated with common interest activities based on voluntary participation and agreement. When required, mutually agreed upon representatives will serve as Project Managers for activities completed under any contract with an external funding source. Existing county contracting mechanisms will be utilized where available for contractual and invoicing purposes between participating agencies and or organizations. Nothing in this MOU precludes individual counties from the individual pursuit, contracting and completion of work from an externally funded source regardless of a real or perceived regional interest.

5.5. Decision-making. Consensus will be sought when the need for a decision arises.

5.6. Non-binding nature. This document and participation under this MOU are nonbinding, and in no way suggest that an agency or organization may not continue its own activities as each agency or organization is expected to continue its own policies and procedures and undertake efforts to secure project funding from any source. An agency or organization may withdraw from participation at any time.

5.7. Termination. Because the MOU will require periodic review and updating for use into the future, it is envisioned that the joint efforts of those involved will be ongoing in maintaining a living document. Thus this document will remain as a reflection of the understandings of the participants. Individual signatories of this MOU may terminate their involvement at any time with no recourse.
6. SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

We (see attached signatory form), the representatives of our respective agencies or organizations, acknowledge the above as our understanding of how the Colusa, Glenn and Tehama Counties Weed Management Area MOU will be implemented.

Approved As To Form:

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Thomas C. Agin, County Counsel Glenn County, California

Principle contact:

Jean Miller
Glenn County Agriculture Commissioner
P.O. Box 351
Willows, CA 95988
530/934-6501
530/934-6503 fax
jmiller@countyofglenn.net