15 Non-Native Plants at Lake Mead National Recreation Area
To report weed locations use non-native plant survey form and/or contact:

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702-293-8734

References used in putting this book together. These books are also good references in identifying weeds.

Weeds of the West
Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West
Weeds of California and Other Western States
Jepson Desert Manual
Invasive Plants of California’s Wildlands

www.calphotos.berkeley.edu
Date _______________________________________________________

Surveyor ___________________________________________________

Phone _______________________________________________________

Email _______________________________________________________

Weed species (if known) ______________________________________

Species location (ex. UTM coordinates in Nad 83, mile marker, road name) ______________________________________

Number of plants hand pulled (if applicable)__________________________

Estimate infestation size (number of plants and/or acre size) ____________

___________________________________________________________

Digital photos (if possible)
ABOUT THIS BOOK:

Description: Are the plants perennial or annual. Typical time the plant flowers. Is it on the Nevada, Arizona, or Utah noxious weed lists?

Origin: The plant’s native distribution.

Reproduction: How does the plant reproduce? Vegetatively (underground roots, above ground roots, root fragments) or by seeds.

Known locations at Lake Mead NRA? A brief description of where known infestations are located throughout the park.

Control: Mechanical methods are hand pulling or digging up the plant with tools. When digging up plants make sure to remove all of the root material. Herbicide control should only be done by certified and experienced applicators, such as the Lake Mead EPMT or the Weed Manager. If herbicide is the only control method listed in this book, then one should not attempt to hand pull the plant. This will only cause the plant to resprout and increase the infestation. Report all weeds to the Weed Manager (702-293-8734).
Russian knapweed

Acroptilon repens
Russian knapweed
*Acroptilon repens*
Asteraceae: Sunflower family

**Description:** Perennial; flowers May to September; noxious weed in Nevada, Arizona, and Utah

**Origin:** Europe and Asia

**Reproduction:** Vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead**
**NRA:** Overton Wildlife Management Area

**Control:** Herbicide, because of its extensive root system. Do not handpull.
Malta starthistle
*Centaurea melitensis*
Malta starthistle
Centaurea melitensis
Asteraceae: Sunflower family

Description: Annual; flowers April to July; noxious weed in Nevada

Origin: Africa and Europe

Reproduction: Seeds

Known locations at Lake Mead NRA: Overton Wildlife Management Area and Tassi Spring

Control: Mechanical (hand pull)
Camelthorn

Alhagi pseudalhagi
Camelthorn
*Alhagi pseudalhagi*
Fabaceae: Legume family

**Description:** Perennial; flowers June to August; magenta to pink flower color; noxious weed in Nevada and Arizona

**Origin:** India and southwest Asia to North Africa

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead**
**NRA:** Virgin River and Grand Wash Bay

**Control:** Herbicide, because of its extensive root system. Do not handpull.
Sahara mustard

*Brassica tournefortii*
Sahara mustard
*Brassica tournefortii*
Brassicaceae: Mustard family

**Description:** Annual; flowers December to April; noxious weed in Nevada; can form dense stands displacing native vegetation; leaves have bumps and irritating hairs

**Origin:** Mediterranean area

**Reproduction:** Seeds

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Disturbed and sandy areas

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull, bag any seed pods)
Perennial pepperweed

*Lepidium latifolium*
Perennial pepperweed
*Lepidium latifolium*
Brassicaceae: Mustard family

**Description:** Perennial; flowers May to September; noxious weed in Nevada and Utah

**Origin:** Eurasia

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Las Vegas Wash, Virgin River, and Willow Beach Fish Hatchery

**Control:** Herbicide, because of its extensive root system. Do not handpull.
African mustard
*Malcolmia africana*
African mustard
*Malcolmia africana*
Brassicaceae: Mustard family

**Description:** Annual; flowers in the spring

**Origin:** Mediterranean

**Reproduction:** Seeds

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Primarily in the Overton Arm area of the park

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull)
London rocket
*Sisymbrium irio*
London rocket
*Sisymbrium irio*
Brassicaceae: Mustard family

**Description:** Annual; flowers January to May

**Origin:** Europe

**Reproduction:** Seeds

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:**
Disturbed areas

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull)
Tree tobacco
Nicotiana glauca
Tree tobacco

*Nicotiana glauca*

Nyctaginaceae: Four O’clock family

**Description:** Perennial, evergreen; all parts of the plant are toxic; flowers March to November

**Origin:** Southern Bolivia and Northern Argentina

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Lake Mead shoreline

**Control:** Herbicide, do not hand pull.
Athel
*Tamarix aphylla*
Athel  
*Tamarix aphylla*  
Tamaricaceae: Tamarisk family

**Description:** Perennial, evergreen tree; flowers March to August

**Origin:** Africa and the Middle East

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Developed areas and Lake Mead shoreline

**Control:** Herbicide
Saltcedar
*Tamarix ramosissima*
Saltcedar

*Tamarix ramosissima*

Tamaricaceae: Tamarisk family

**Description:** Perennial, deciduous tree; flowers April to August; noxious weed in Nevada

**Origin:** Asia

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Lake Mead and Mohave shoreline and springs

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull seedlings) or Herbicide
Oleander
*Nerium oleander*
Oleander
*Nerium oleander*
Apocynaceae: Dogbane family

**Description:** Perennial, evergreen; all parts of plant are poisonous, including smoke if burned; flower in spring and summer

**Origin:** Eurasia, Mediterranean region

**Reproduction:** Seeds and vegetative

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Developed areas, all campgrounds, and is naturalizing on Lakes Mead & Mohave shoreline

**Control:** Herbicide, do not hand pull.
Puncture vine
*Tribulus terrestris*
Puncture vine
_Tribulus terrestris_
Zygophyllaceae: Caltrop family

**Description:** Annual; mat-forming; burs can puncture bicycle tires; flowers May to October; noxious weed in Nevada and Arizona

**Origin:** Europe

**Reproduction:** Seeds

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Disturbed areas and developed areas

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull)
Russian thistle
*Salsola tragus*
Russian thistle
*Salsola tragus*
Chenopodiaceae: Goosefoot family

Description: Annual; flowers March to April

Origin: Russia

Reproduction: Seeds

Known locations at Lake Mead NRA: Disturbed areas

Control: Mechanical (hand pull)
Fountain grass

Pennisetum setaceum
Fountain grass
Pennisetum setaceum
Poaceae: Grass family

**Description:** Perennial; flowers July to October; noxious weed in Nevada

**Origin:** North Africa and Middle East

**Reproduction:** Seeds

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Lake Mohave shoreline

**Control:** Mechanical (hand pull or dig up whole plant) or Herbicide. Cut off seed heads and bag.
Giant reed

*Arundo donax*
**Giant reed**  
*Arundo donax*  
Poaceae: Grass family

**Description:** Perennial; flowers in March to November; noxious weed in Nevada; roots and stem fragments can float downstream and establish a new infestation.

**Origin:** Mediterranean area

**Reproduction:** Vegetative; no viable seeds reported in the United States

**Known locations at Lake Mead NRA:** Developed areas

**Control:** Herbicide, because of its extensive root system. Do not hand pull.