

**BLACK BUTTE COPPER PROJECT
WEED MITIGATION
AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prepared for:

Montana Department of Environmental Quality
and
Meagher County Weed District

Prepared By:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	i
INTRODUCTION	1
MEAGHER COUNTY WEED PROGRAM	3
BLACK BUTTE COPPER PROJECT SITE.....	3
WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN.....	9
OVERVIEW	9
WEED MANAGEMENT GOALS	9
TINTINA’S WEED CONTROL PROGRAM	10
USE OF PESTICIDES.....	13
REFERENCES	15

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Noxious Weeds Identified at the Black Butte Copper Project Site.....	6
Table 2. Reclamation Seed Mix For Black Butte Copper Project	13

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. General Location Map	2
Figure 2. Tintina Land Position Map.....	4
Figure 3. Weed Survey Map.....	7
Figure 4. Area Encompassing all Decline Construction Surface Disturbance	8

APPENDIX

Appendix A. State and Meagher County Noxious Weed List	
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INTRODUCTION

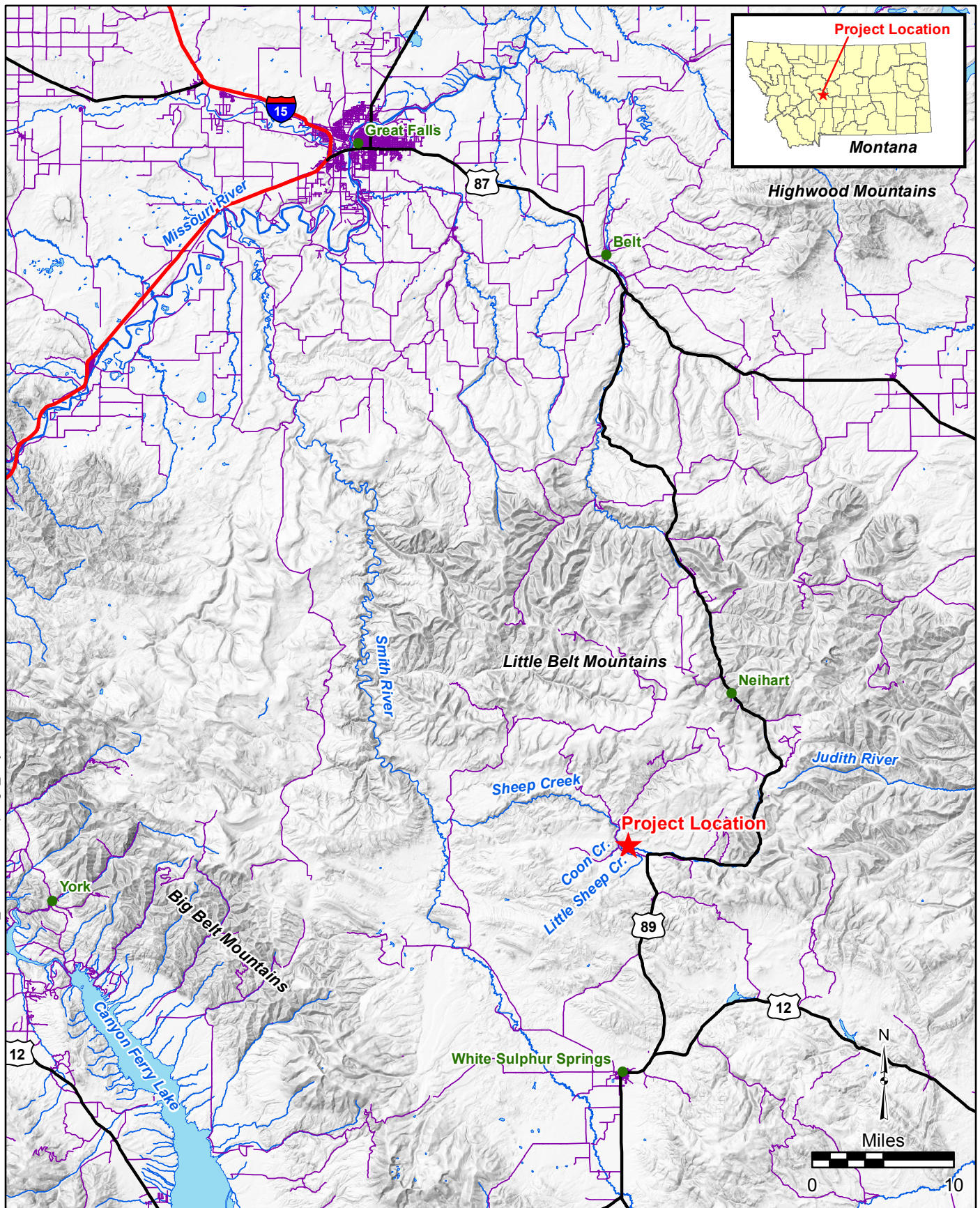
The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requested as part of its preparation of an Environmental Assessment of an Amendment to Tintina Resources, Inc.'s (Tintina) Exploration License to construct an exploration decline, that Tintina prepare a noxious weed mitigation and management plan for its Black Butte Copper Project site, located about 15 miles north of White Sulphur Springs in Meagher County, MT (Figure 1).

Tintina has an existing weed management program that has been developed in cooperation with lease agreements with underlying ranch owners and the Meagher County Weed District for disturbances associated with its ongoing exploration and environmental drilling programs. This plan has been presented previously to MDEQ for approval on numerous occasions during various rounds of permitting for drilling and construction projects at the project site. The Meagher County Weed District has assisted Tintina staff in reviewing this plan and by providing educational information on identification of noxious weeds, appropriate treatment methods, and treatment application rates. In addition, Tintina has consulted with landowners and the County Conservation District on seed types and mixes for re-seeding of disturbed areas. Tintina has a program for preventing the introduction of weeds, and a proven track record of identifying, and suppressing the spread of all weeds, which its operations either may have introduced in newly created disturbance areas and along existing public and private access routes.

The plan set forth in this document is a more formal weed mitigation and management plan that has been developed between the landowners, County Weed District, and Tintina for use during ongoing exploration drilling programs and the proposed exploration decline construction and reclamation process. Under this plan noxious weeds would be controlled using appropriate mechanical, biological, and chemical treatments which meet the requirements of Montana and Federal laws and under a weed control plan to prevent the introduction, establishment and spread of weeds along mine access roads, areas disturbed by exploration drilling or exploration construction projects.

The goals of this plan are to prevent the introduction of, reduce the impact of existing noxious weed populations and to suppress the spread of these populations from activities related to Tintina's ongoing exploration/environmental drilling and proposed decline construction at the site. The plan complies with state and county requirements to control noxious weeds present at the Black Butte Copper site, and will promote increased cooperation and support of weed control at the county, state, and federal level. MDEQ has requested that Tintina submit this plan to the Meagher County Weed District for approval of the plan.

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- | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|------------|
| ★ | Project Location | — | Local Road |
| ● | City | — | Stream |
| — | Interstate | ■ | Lake |
| — | U.S. Route | | |

TINTINARESOURCES

Figure 1
Project Location
Black Butte Copper Project
Meagher County, Montana

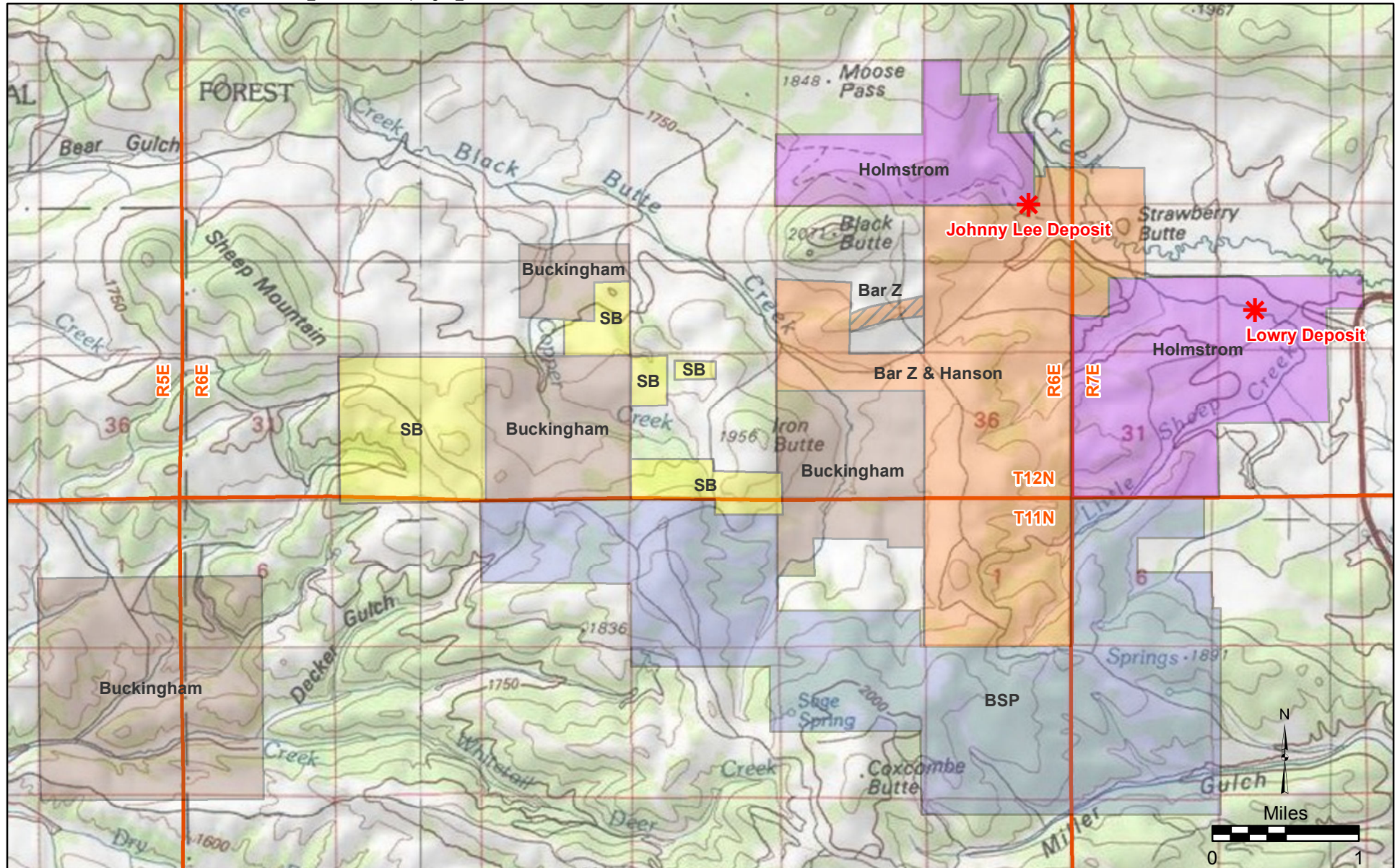
MEAGHER COUNTY WEED PROGRAM

Meagher County, in accordance with the “Montana County Noxious Weed Act,” has been operating a noxious weed management program since 1997. The program’s most recent weed plan (Ohlson, Otto W. 2011, Noxious Weed Management Plan for Meagher County 2011-2013) incorporates the use of an Integrated Weed Management approach. This approach is meant to limit impacts to the environment using ecologically-based weed control, while incorporating education, prevention, early detection, and the use of cultural, mechanical and chemical control of weeds. Mapping, re-vegetation and assessment of success are integral components of the plan and are used to evaluate and adapt management strategies for future work. Tintina in cooperation with Meagher County is committed to this plan for the management of weeds at its project site. Tintina Resources intends to use the Meagher County Weed Plan’s inventory for weed species (Appendix A) as a guide to the potential for the occurrence of noxious weeds and for best possible management and treatment protocols at the project site (Ohlson, O., 2011, Noxious Weed Management Plan for Meagher County 2011-2013).

Most noxious weeds have been introduced by ignorance, mismanagement, or accident. Meagher County defines a noxious weed as any exotic plant species established or introduced into the state that may render land unfit for agriculture, forestry, livestock, wildlife, or other beneficial uses, or that may harm native plant communities. Typically noxious weeds are plants that grow aggressively, multiply quickly without natural controls (native herbivores, soil chemistry, etc.). Within Montana noxious weeds are always introduced species (non-native), and a native plant may not be placed on state or county designated noxious weed lists. Currently Meagher County recognizes the 46 State identified noxious weeds and the Meagher County weed list is attached to this document as Appendix A.

BLACK BUTTE COPPER PROJECT SITE

The Black Butte Copper Project (Project) is located on about 4,700 acres (1,900 ha) of leased mineral rights on private ranch land and staked mining claims on US Forest Service land in Meagher County, 15 miles north of the town of White Sulphur Springs, Montana (Figures 1 and 2). These potential exploration areas occur within Township 12 N, Range 6E, in sections 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36 and Township 12N, Range 7E, in sections 19, 29, 30, and 32. The Project site is located in the Sheep Creek drainage, some 23 miles upstream of its confluence with the Smith River, of which it is a tributary. As part of its underlying landowner lease agreements and as a required contingency for approval of the EA being conducted by MDEQ for the Amendment to its Exploration License to construct a decline, Tintina will assume responsibility for the control of noxious weeds and prevention of their spread, especially in areas of previous exploration, future disturbances related to the development and construction of the exploration decline and along access roads to these sites.



Prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc. 2012

Figure 2

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Deposit | Bar Z Ranch (S) & Hanson (M) |
| BSP Claims (USFS & M) | Buckingham (S) Johnston, Buckingham, Bodell (M) |
| Bar Z Ranch (S) | Holstrom Ranch (S & M) |
| SB Claims (USFS & M) | |

Tintina Land Position Map
Black Butte Copper Project
 Meagher County, Montana

A biological resource report prepared by Joe Elliot (Ecological Consultant) in 2011 (Tintina Resources, 2013, Appendix G) identifying various vegetative and wildlife habitat types/zones in the larger project area also includes a list of dominant plant species and noxious weeds identified in the project area. In addition, riparian and wetlands areas have been mapped in detail by Hydrometrics in 2011 and 2012 and is included in the Amendment Document (Tintina Resources, 2013, Appendix C).

Areas within which Tintina has conducted previous exploration, other areas in which it has not, and along existing private and public access roads where noxious weeds have been identified and mapped include Township 12 North, Range 6 east, sections 24, 25, 26 and 35 and Township 12 North, Range 7 east, sections 19, 29 and 30 (Figure 3). It is not known how many of these infestations preexisted work in the area by Tintina. Mapping by Tintina has identified four noxious weed species in these areas including: Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea biebersteinii*), Canadian Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale* L), and Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) (Figure 3). The 53.4 acres of noxious weeds as mapped by species is presented in Table 1. Treatment of these four noxious weed species identified on site are designated as Priority 2B by both the county and the state, which requires eradication or containment depending on abundance as seen in Table 1. These species have adverse effects including increased erosion, decreased soil cover, and decrease of species diversity especially affecting native species. Increased vehicle access associated with site development and resulting construction on proposed mine related structures and workings increases the potential for the spread of noxious weeds especially those weeds already associated with the site.

Mapped areas of noxious weeds shown on Figure 3 consist predominantly of hounds tongue and Russian thistle along the County Road 119 along Sheep Creek, and the access road to Butte Creek, the private ranch road paralleling Coon Creek, and on the tree covered knob on private ranch land immediately to the north of the proposed exploration decline area. Spotted knapweed only occurs along the upper reaches of Coon Creek, along the County Road 119 in section 30, and in one small area in the southwest quarter of section 26 along the Butte Creek county road. There is only one mapped occurrence of leafy spurge in the northeast quarter of section 25.

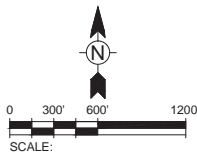
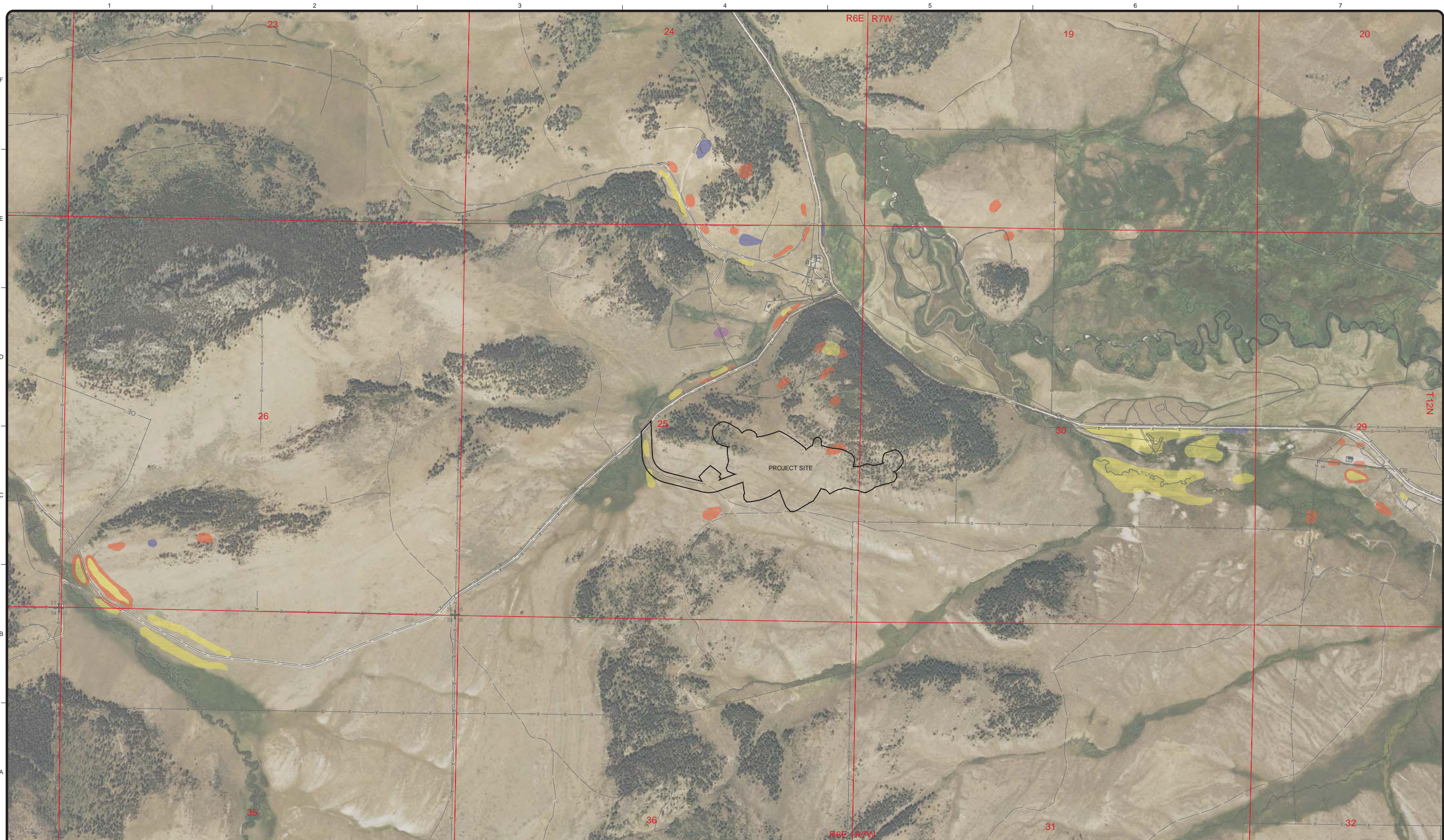
Table 1. Noxious Weeds Identified at the Black Butte Copper Project Site

Common Name	Scientific Name	MontanaState/ County Noxious Weed Designation	Acres¹
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Pr. 2B ¹	35.53
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale L.</i>	Pr. 2B	14.99
Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i>	Pr. 2B	2.57
Leafy Spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	Pr. 2B	0.51
		Total Acres	53.42

¹ Source: State and Meager County Noxious Weed List. Pr. 2B weeds are abundant in Montana and widespread in many counties. Management will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by weed districts.

The location of the exploration decline proposed for construction in the Amendment Document occur within Township 12N, Range 6E, in sections 25, and 26, and Township 12N, Range 7E, in sections 30, and 31, and is illustrated on Figure 4. The area includes 46.5 acres of proposed surface disturbances for construction of the decline portal and associated support facilities.

11/7/2013 8:44:26 AM - N:\PROJECTS\TINTINA GOLD RESOURCES\114-710301 BLACK BUTTE COPPER\CAD\SHEET\FILES\F03-WEED SURVEY MAP.DWG - FIELD, STEVE



- LEGEND
- HOADS TONGUE
 - LEAFY SPURGE
 - CANADIAN THISTLE
 - SPOTTED KNAPWEED

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TINTINARESOURCES

MARK	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY

Client: TINTINA RESOURCES
Proj. Loc.: BLACK BUTTE COPPER MINE

BLACK BUTTE COPPER MINE

WEED SURVEY MAP

Project No.: 114-710301
Designed By: AK
Drawn By: SEF
Checked By: AK

FIGURE
3

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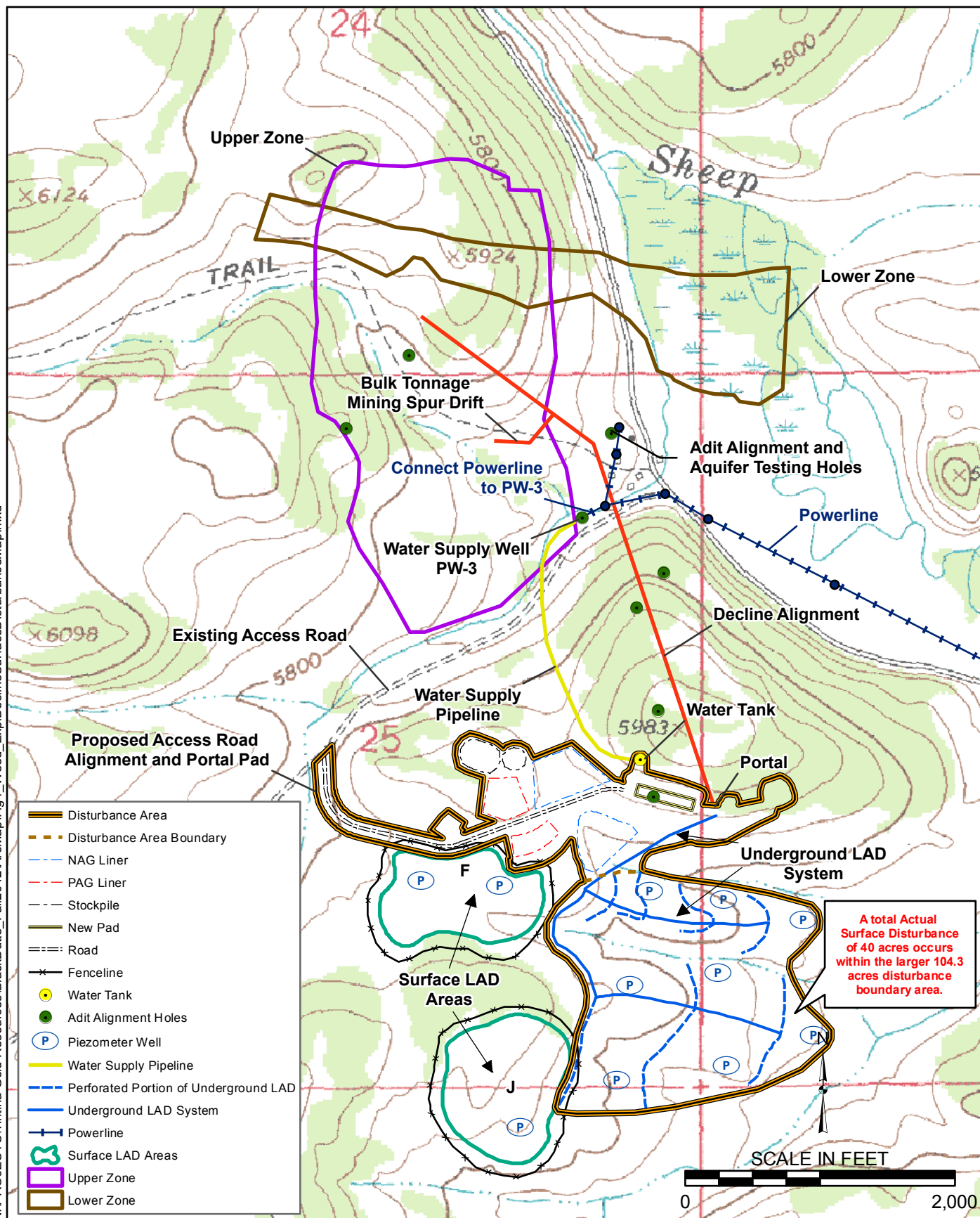


Figure 4
Area Encompassing All Exploration Decline Surface Disturbance
Black Butte Copper Project
Meagher County

WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

OVERVIEW

Tintina Resources is committed to the management of existing noxious weed infestations and prevention of weed introduction or spread into areas associated with exploration drilling or proposed exploration decline construction and associated facilities development. The plan set forth by Tintina Resources is both mitigative and preventative, reducing probability of spread of current noxious species as well as prevent the establishment of new noxious weeds to the area. The plan prioritizes certain noxious species based on their current range, impacts associated with those species, and the level of control required.

Noxious weed species for the Black Butte Copper Project have been identified and extent of each in the area is shown in Figure 3. The effectiveness of control and mitigation strategies presented here will be monitored throughout development and operation of the site. When appropriate, modifications and improvements will be made to this plan with species variation or spread, when priorities of particular weed management plans change, or when new treatment technologies become available.

Several other noxious and invasive species were identified in Meagher County and a list of these is presented as Appendix A of this document. Over time, some of these species pose a risk of spreading into the Project Area as a result of recreation, wildlife, road maintenance, and surface disturbing activities associated with exploration. Mitigation practices and control actions practiced by Tintina are expected to minimize these risks and reduce the likelihood of new infestations, or new species introductions.

WEED MANAGEMENT GOALS

Specific weed management goals for the Black Butte Copper Project are as follows:

1. Tintina will work in cooperation with Meagher County, state, federal and private land managers to control noxious weeds and maintain the integrity of native vegetative systems in the project area.
2. Tintina will cooperate with Meagher County, following guidance provided by the Meagher County Weed District that administers the County's Weed Program, and provides information concerning:
 - a. Identification, mapping and control of noxious weeds;
 - b. Development of management areas with common problems toward a common goal of controlling noxious weeds in the area;
 - c. Use of the IWM program including chemical, mechanical and educational control
 - d. Determine success of the management program methods, and

- e. Recommend any changes or additions needed to more effectively implement the site-specific plan.
3. Tintina proposes to keep its staff informed about noxious weed issues by providing readily available educational and outreach materials, and site-specific weed mapping.
4. Tintina will designate a specific project staff member to oversee and implement its weed monitoring and mitigation program under the direction of their Environmental Manager.
5. Tintina will maintain ongoing programs providing weed inventories, mapping of existing and newly identified weed infestations (if any) and provide this information to the landowners and the County Weed District.
6. Reduce size of existing noxious weed infestations on site by as much as 15 % over the course of construction and operation of the exploration decline.
7. Implement a program that reduces the risk of introduction of new weeds and the spread of existing infestations.

TINTINA'S WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

Crucial to weed management and control is the mitigation of existing species and prevention of spread of noxious weed species, new or existing. Mitigation of noxious weeds involves limiting as much as possible disturbance of land and subsequent introduction of seeds to the area. Proposed activities at the site will be carried out to minimize this risk and ensure that no new species are introduced to the Black Butte Copper Project Area. Limiting disturbance will also minimize the opportunity for existing noxious weed species to spread to new areas on the site. Tintina Resources has adopted a number of measures promoted by Meagher County Weed Control District in defining its weed control program.

Tintina Staff

Tintina has a Senior Field Technician/Coordinator (Chance Mathews) who is principally responsible for overseeing and implementing their weed management and mitigation program. His principal oversight duties are:

- Coordinate with Meager County Weed District so as to remain informed of and up to date on the identification of new infestations, new species, or new weed control methods promoted by the county;
- Coordinating weed control programs and efforts with private landowners, County Weed District, MDEQ and the USFS (if requested);
- Provide weed identification and control information to the project field staff and contractors.
- Conduct internal evaluation of effectiveness of weed control program;

- Accompanying field inspector or representatives of the landowner, MDEQ or County Weed District on inspection of effectiveness of weed control programs;
- Site workers will be kept up to date on the extent of noxious weeds with maps and will be responsible for reporting any apparent new noxious weed introduction; and
- Tintina Resources will use this information in addition to historical and county information to update the weed extent maps and develop treatment priorities as they arise.

The Senior Field Technician is currently supervised by the Project Geologist in order to coordinate weed surveys with past and present surface exploration and monitoring well disturbance areas. As the Project moves forward into construction of the exploration decline and it's support facilities, this supervision will likely transfer to the Projects Environmental Manager.

Prevention of Spread and Early Detection of Weeds

- All field vehicles, drills and construction equipment would be pressure washed to remove all mud, dirt and plant debris before mobilizing onto the site;
- Project work if possible, would begin in un-infested areas, before moving to infested areas;
- Minimize the amount of work in infested areas;
- Clean all equipment when leaving a weed infested work site;
- Restrict activity and movement in weed infested areas and use weed-free areas for staging;
- Limit equipment parking, laydown areas and crew activities to specific un-infested areas;
- Use designated travel corridors including roads and trails;
- Minimize soil disturbance wherever possible;
- Only use weed-free borrow material;
- Field weed surveys would continue to be conducted seasonally of both past and new exploration disturbances, and road access areas for the presence of new noxious weed occurrences;
- As two County roads run through the project area and both access Lewis and Clark National Forest lands, land users and backcountry horsemen are encouraged to use weed free certified hay; and
- To make effective use of the educational and informational materials provided by the County and US Forest Service.

Weed Identification

- Develop capability, using County Weed District educational information, for identifying weed species likely to occur in Project Area, which species are likely to reside in potentially disturbed areas, and treatment options for these species; and
- Ongoing mapping of previously identified or new weed infestations using GPS field mapping and aerial/satellite photographic base maps.

Active Weed Mitigation, Control and Treatment

- Weed control typically starts around June 1st and continues through September 20th or the first snow of the season;
- Spray typically occurs every 20 to 30 days ;
- Methods of application include:
 - Broadcast spraying with a 25gal. boom and/or gun sprayer mounted on a pickup;
 - Broadcast spraying from the pickup is done along gravel surfaced and two-track roads by spraying approximately 30ft on either one or both sides of the road;
 - Backpack spraying using a 4gal. backpack sprayer, all off-road or track spraying is done with the backpack sprayer combined with hand-pulling of weeds to minimize the footprint of the impact;
- The chemicals used are Chaparral herbicide and 2, 4-D A, either individually or as a mixture;
 - For broad leaf or general weed control a mix of 2.5oz chaparral herbicide per acre, is mixed with 2, 4-D A of 2lbs per acre;
 - For noxious control a mix of 3.5oz chaparral herbicide per acre, is mixed with 2, 4-D A of 2lbs per acre; and
- In special cases, for example, knapweed or leafy spurge infestations, hand pulling and then broadcast spraying over the infected area are used, in 15 to 25 day increments until treatment is no longer needed.

Monitoring and Reclamation

- Evaluate the need of closures and other options to let vegetation re-establish following disturbance;
- Monitoring the reduction or spread of previously identified noxious weed infestations;
- Mapping and evaluation of effectiveness of weed control program;
- Modification of the weed control program based on effectiveness, often with advice and assistance from the County Weed Control District or MDEQ;
- Revegetate as directed with reclamation mixes Upland Mix and Meadow mix (Table 2), depending on the scale of disturbance and amount of bare soil and appropriate field setting for the species in each. DEQ requires a re-vegetative plan for all gravel pits, mines, road disturbances and quarries; and
- Mapping, re-vegetation and assessment of success.

Table 2. Reclamation Seed Mix For Black Butte Copper Project¹

Common Name	Scientific Name	Percent Species in Mix Type
Upland Mix		
Slender wheatgrass	<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>	27
Western wheatgrass	<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>	27
Idaho Fescue	<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	17
Alsike Clover	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	14
Orchard Grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	14
Meadow Mix		
Mountain Brome	<i>Bromus marginatus</i>	39
Creeping Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus arundinaceus</i>	20
Alsike Clover	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	19
Orchard Grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	19

¹Source: Montana DEQ

USE OF PESTICIDES

Tintina will use pesticides in concordance with Meagher County and the Montana Pesticide Act. The use and control of pesticides is critical for protection of humans and the environment and will be used in a way to protect health and safety as well as treat invasive weed species. The goals for proper pesticide use and management are as follows (this text is largely taken from the Noxious Weed Management Plan for Meagher County [Ohlson, O., 2011.]):

1. That the weed treatment staff are ensured and provided with a safe working environment,
2. Strict adherence to pesticide safety labels to ensure safe application procedures and a healthy environment,
3. Ensure that Water Quality Protection standards are followed with close regard to the pesticide label and careful application in areas adjacent to water and areas of shallow groundwater,
4. Ensure that chemicals do not enter any water sources during fill operations by using anti-siphon devices,
5. Any employees spraying or in areas in contact with spray will utilize proper use of PPE's following safety label instructions. All care shall be taken to ensure employee safety in this regard,

6. Selecting equipment for best possible safety, efficiency and dependability standards. Servicing and maintenance of this equipment will be provided and detailed records will be kept for any work done on equipment,
7. Selection of appropriate pesticide based on safety, cost, risks and effectiveness of the chemical as well as actual amount used,
8. Application of said chemical with appropriate equipment with special consideration to weather conditions, wind, temperature, and humidity. Application will be in accordance with safety label instructions and droplet size will be controlled to reduce drift. To insure good coverage, an approved surfactant and carrier will be used.
9. Mixing and loading will be carried out in pre-determined locations so as to minimize offsite movement of chemicals.
10. Storing of chemicals shall be located in an approved Chemical Storage Facility located (on site). Disposal of containers will follow state, federal and local laws and will closely follow safety label directions. These containers will be rinsed at least three times and will be returned for refill.

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- USDA Forest Service. 2001. Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices. Accessed at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/rangelands/ftp/invasives/documents/GuidetoNoxWeedPrevPractices_07052001.pdf.

APPENDIX A
MEAGHER COUNTY WEED LIST

A & B. Noxious weed List, with estimated acreage, as adopted by Meagher County Commissioners, Updated by changes in 1998, 2000, 2006, and 2007							
Noxious Weed Species		State Designation (S) County Designation ©					Est Co
Common Name	Scientific Name	Pr. 1A	Pr. 1B	Pr. 2A	Pr. 2B	Pr. 3	Acres
Blueweed	<i>Echium vulgare</i>		C	S			0
Canada Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>				S, C		7500
Cheatgrass	<i>Bromus tectorum</i>					S	40,000
Common Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>				S, C		200
Curlyleaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>		S				0
Dalmation toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmetica</i>				S		5
Diffuse Knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>				S		40
Dyer's Woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>		S				0
Eurasian Watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>		S				0
Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>				S, C		800
Flowering Rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>		S				0
Hawkweed, Orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i> L.			S			0
Hawkweed, Meadow	<i>Hieracium pratense, floribundum</i>			S			0
Hoary Alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>			S			0
Hoary Cress (Whitetop)	<i>Cardaria draba</i>				S, C		650
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> L.				S, C		4400
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>					S	0
Japanese Knotweed comp	<i>Polygonum cuscut. such., poly.</i>		S, C				2
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>				S, C		15,000
Oxeye Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> L.				S, C		330
Perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>			S			0
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria, virgatum</i>		S, C				1
Rush Skeltonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>		S, C				0
Russian Knapweed	<i>Centaurea repens</i>				S, C		50
Saltcedar (tamarisk)	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>				S, C		0
Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>		S				0
Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>				S, C		42,000
St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>				S, C		50
Sulphur Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>				S, C		200
Tall Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i> L.			S			0
Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.			S			0
Yellowflag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> L.				S		0
Yellow Toadflax	<i>Lanaria vulgaris</i>				S, C		750
Yellow Starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	S					0
Absinth wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>				C		500
Black Henbane	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>				C		460
Bladder campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>				C		275
Bull Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>				C		50
Common Burdock	<i>Articum minus</i>				C		360
Common Mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>				C		900
Field Scabious	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>				C		75
Musk Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>				C		2500
Perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>				C		120
Poison Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>				C		80
Scentless Chamomile	<i>Matricaria maritima va agrestis</i>				C		5
Scotch Thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>				C		150
Yellow mignonette	<i>Reseda lutea</i>				C		0
Priority 1A weeds are not present in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication if detected, education and prevention.							
Priority 1B weeds have limited presence in Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment and education.							
Priority 2A weeds are common in isolated areas of Montana. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by weed districts.							
Priority 2B weeds are abundant in Montana and widespread in many counties. Management criteria will require eradication or containment where less abundant. Management shall be prioritized by weed districts.							
Priority 3 are regulated plants: (NOT MONTANA LISTED NOXIOUS WEEDS). These plants have the potential to have significant negative impacts. The plant may not be intentionally spread or sold other than as a contaminant in agricultural products. The state recommends research, education, and prevention to minimize the spread of the regulated plant.							