

2024 Site Inspection – City of Vergas

July 31, 2024

The native planting has excellent native establishment and diversity. However, maintenance is necessary to control weeds. This document will include photos, names, and control methods for each weed species.





We observed a mowed area within the native planting, outlined above and identified by the dark green erosion matting visible in the photo. It's important to note that mowing, as shown here, can disrupt the establishment of native plants, potentially leading to their eradication. This mowing practice would not align with the terms of the cost-share contract.

Mowing can be a management technique for weed control on native plantings; however, this area is cut too short for weed management. We recommend maintaining 8" on weedy areas, *if necessary*, so that the establishing native seeds and plugs are not killed. The native planting area should not otherwise be regularly mowed as lawn grass.

Maintenance suggestions:

Many of the weeds present are beginning to produce seed, addressing their removal as soon as possible is recommended to contain their spread. It's always best to remove weeds and their roots. Cutting at the base and removing them from the area can also prevent seed distribution.

Crown vetch spreads underground via rhizomes, making it nearly impossible to pull out with the roots. It may be effective to find where the plant is rooted and spot treat with an aquatic friendly herbicide, careful to avoid herbicide drifting onto native species in the planting. Vetch is very aggressive and will require ongoing observation and maintenance to contain.



Spotted Knapweed – Noxious weed, should be eradicated. Can be pulled by hand



Thistles – various species, should be eradicated. Pull or cut and remove



Common mullen - Easy to hand pull



Crown vetch

Can be very invasive. We have seen several plantings choked out by vetch. It spreads via rhizomes so is challenging to pull out roots. Likely needs spot treatment with herbicide.



Sweet clover - Yellow and white flowers. Easy to hand pull



Absinthe Wormwood – White/green/ashy sage colored, very aromatic leaves. Pull by hand



Prickly lettuce – Easy to pull by hand