
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5281

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment (originally sponsored by Senators Morton, Rasmussen and Stevens; by request of Department of Agriculture)

Read first time 02/14/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to noxious weeds; amending RCW 17.10.905,
2 17.10.010, 17.10.020, 17.10.030, 17.10.040, 17.10.050, 17.10.060,
3 17.10.070, 17.10.074, 17.10.080, 17.10.090, 17.10.100, 17.10.110,
4 17.10.120, 17.10.130, 17.10.134, 17.10.140, 17.10.145, 17.10.154,
5 17.10.160, 17.10.170, 17.10.180, 17.10.190, 17.10.205, 17.10.210,
6 17.10.235, 17.10.240, 17.10.250, 17.10.300, 17.10.310, 17.10.350,
7 17.10.890, and 17.10.900; adding new sections to chapter 17.10 RCW;
8 recodifying RCW 17.10.905; and repealing RCW 17.10.005, 17.10.150,
9 17.10.200, 17.10.320, 17.10.330, and 17.10.340.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

11 **Sec. 1.** RCW 17.10.905 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 13 s 17 are each
12 amended to read as follows:

13 The purpose of this chapter is to limit economic loss (~~((due to the~~
14 ~~presence and spread of noxious weeds on or near agricultural land))~~ and
15 adverse effects to Washington's agricultural, natural, and human
16 resources due to the presence and spread of noxious weeds on all
17 terrestrial and aquatic areas in the state.

18 The intent of the legislature is that this chapter be liberally
19 construed, and that the jurisdiction, powers, and duties granted to the

1 county noxious weed control boards by this chapter are limited only by
2 specific provisions of this chapter or other state and federal law.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 17.10.010 and 1995 c 255 s 6 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 ~~((Unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context,~~
6 ~~the following words and phrases as hereinafter used in this chapter~~
7 ~~shall have the following meanings)) The definitions in this section
8 apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
9 otherwise:~~

10 (1) "Noxious weed" means ~~((any))~~ a plant ~~((which))~~ that when
11 established is highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control
12 by cultural or chemical practices.

13 (2) "State noxious weed list" means a list of noxious weeds adopted
14 by the state noxious weed control board ~~((which))~~. The list is divided
15 into three classes:

16 (a) Class A ~~((shall))~~ consists of those noxious weeds not native to
17 the state that are of limited distribution or are unrecorded in the
18 state and that pose a serious threat to the state;

19 (b) Class B ~~((shall))~~ consists of those noxious weeds not native to
20 the state that are of limited distribution or are unrecorded in a
21 region of the state and that pose a serious threat to that region;

22 (c) Class C ~~((shall))~~ consists of any other noxious weeds.

23 (3) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, firm,
24 the state or any department, agency, or subdivision thereof, or any
25 other entity.

26 (4) "Owner" means the person in actual control of property, or his
27 or her agent, whether ~~((such))~~ the control is based on legal or
28 equitable title or on any other interest entitling the holder to
29 possession and, for purposes of liability, pursuant to RCW 17.10.170 or
30 17.10.210, means the possessor of legal or equitable title or the
31 possessor of an easement: PROVIDED, That when the possessor of an
32 easement has the right to control or limit the growth of vegetation
33 within the boundaries of an easement, only the possessor of ~~((such))~~
34 the easement ~~((shall be))~~ is deemed, for the purpose of this chapter,
35 an "owner" of the property within the boundaries of ~~((such))~~ the
36 easement.

37 (5) As pertains to the duty of an owner, the words "control",
38 "contain", "eradicate", and the term "prevent the spread of noxious

1 weeds" (~~shall~~) means conforming to the standards of noxious weed
2 control or prevention in this chapter or as adopted by rule (~~or~~
3 ~~regulation~~) in chapter 16-750 WAC by the state noxious weed control
4 board and an activated county noxious weed control board.

5 (6) "Agent" means any occupant or any other person acting for the
6 owner and working or in charge of the land.

7 (7) "Agricultural purposes" are those (~~which~~) that are intended
8 to provide for the growth and harvest of food and fiber.

9 (8) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture
10 or the director's appointed representative.

11 (9) "Weed district" means a weed district as defined in chapters
12 17.04 and 17.06 RCW.

13 (10) "Aquatic noxious weed" means an aquatic plant species that is
14 listed on the state weed list under RCW 17.10.080.

15 (11) "Screenings" means a mixture of mill or elevator run mixture
16 or a combination of varying amounts of materials obtained in the
17 process of cleaning either grain or seeds, or both, such as light or
18 broken grain or seed, weed seeds, hulls, chaff, joints, straw, elevator
19 dust, floor sweepings, sand, and dirt.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 17.10.020 and 1969 ex.s. c 113 s 2 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 (1) In each county of the state there is (~~hereby~~) created a
23 noxious weed control board, (~~which shall~~) bearing the name of the
24 county within which it is located. The jurisdictional boundaries of
25 each board (~~shall be coextensive with~~) are the boundaries of the
26 county within which it is located.

27 (2) Each noxious weed control board (~~shall be~~) is inactive until
28 activated pursuant to the provisions of RCW 17.10.040.

29 **Sec. 4.** RCW 17.10.030 and 1987 c 438 s 2 are each amended to read
30 as follows:

31 There is (~~hereby~~) created a state noxious weed control board
32 (~~which shall be~~) comprised of nine voting members and three nonvoting
33 members. Four of the voting members shall be elected by the members of
34 the various activated county noxious weed control boards, and shall be
35 residents of a county in which a county noxious weed control board has
36 been activated and a member of said board, and those qualifications
37 shall continue through their term of office. Two (~~such~~) of these

1 members shall be elected from the west side of the state, the crest of
2 the Cascades being the dividing line, and two from the east side of the
3 state. The director of agriculture (~~((shall be))~~) is a voting member of
4 the board. One voting member shall be elected by the directors of the
5 various active weed districts formed under chapter 17.04 or 17.06 RCW.
6 The Washington state association of counties (~~((shall))~~) appoints one
7 voting member who shall be a member of a county legislative authority.
8 (~~((The director shall appoint three nonvoting members representing
9 scientific disciplines relating to weed control.))~~) The director shall
10 (~~((also))~~) appoint two voting members to represent the public interest,
11 one from the west side and one from the east side of the state. The
12 director shall also appoint three nonvoting members representing
13 scientific disciplines relating to weed control. The term of office
14 for all members of the board (~~((shall be))~~) is three years from the date
15 of election or appointment.

16 The board, by rule, shall establish a position number for each
17 elected position of the board and shall designate which county noxious
18 weed control board members are eligible to vote for each elected
19 position. The elected members (~~((shall))~~) serve staggered terms.
20 Elections for the elected members of the board shall be held thirty
21 days prior to the expiration date of their respective terms.
22 Nominations and elections shall be by mail and conducted by the board.

23 The board shall conduct its first meeting within thirty days after
24 all its members have been elected. The board shall elect from its
25 members a (~~((chairman))~~) chair and (~~((such))~~) other officers as may be
26 necessary. A majority of the voting members of the board (~~((shall))~~)
27 constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business and (~~((shall be))~~)
28 is necessary for any action taken by the board. The members of the
29 board (~~((shall))~~) serve without salary, but shall be reimbursed for
30 travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties under this
31 chapter in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 (~~((as now
32 existing or hereafter amended))~~).

33 **Sec. 5.** RCW 17.10.040 and 1987 c 438 s 3 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 An inactive county noxious weed control board may be activated by
36 any one of the following methods:

37 (1) Either within sixty days after a petition is filed by one
38 hundred registered voters within the county or, on its own motion, the

1 county legislative authority shall hold a hearing to determine whether
2 there is a need, due to a damaging infestation of noxious weeds, to
3 activate the county noxious weed control board. If such a need is
4 found to exist, then the county legislative authority shall, in the
5 manner provided by RCW 17.10.050, appoint five persons to ~~((hold seats~~
6 ~~on))~~ the county's noxious weed control board.

7 (2) If the county's noxious weed control board is not activated
8 within one year following a hearing by the county legislative authority
9 to determine the need for activation, then upon the filing with the
10 state noxious weed control board of a petition comprised either of the
11 signatures of at least two hundred registered voters within the county,
12 or of the signatures of a majority of an adjacent county's noxious weed
13 control board, the state board shall, within six months of the date of
14 ~~((such))~~ the filing, hold a hearing in the county to determine the need
15 for activation. If a need for activation is found to exist, then the
16 state board shall order the county legislative authority to activate
17 the county's noxious weed control board and to appoint members to
18 ~~((such))~~ the board in the manner provided by RCW 17.10.050.

19 (3) The director, ~~((with notice to))~~ upon request of the state
20 noxious weed control board, ~~((may))~~ shall order a county legislative
21 authority to activate the noxious weed control board immediately if an
22 infestation of a class A noxious weed or class B noxious weed
23 designated for control ~~((within the region wherein the county lies as~~
24 ~~defined in RCW 17.10.080))~~ on the state noxious weed list is confirmed
25 in that county. The county legislative authority may, as an
26 alternative to activating the noxious weed board, combat the class A
27 noxious weed or class B noxious weed with county resources and
28 personnel operating with the authorities and responsibilities imposed
29 by this chapter on a county noxious weed control board. No county may
30 continue without a noxious weed control board for a second consecutive
31 year if the class A noxious weed or class B noxious weed ~~((designated~~
32 ~~for control within the region wherein the county lies))~~ has not been
33 eradicated.

34 **Sec. 6.** RCW 17.10.050 and 1987 c 438 s 4 are each amended to read
35 as follows:

36 (1) Each activated county noxious weed control board ~~((shall))~~
37 consists of five voting members ~~((who shall be))~~ appointed by the
38 county legislative authority. In appointing ~~((such))~~ the voting

1 members, the county legislative authority shall divide the county into
2 five (~~sections, none of which shall overlap and each of which shall be~~
3 ~~of the same approximate area~~) geographical areas that best represent
4 the county's interests, and (~~shall~~) appoint a voting member from each
5 (~~section~~) geographical area. At least four of the voting members
6 shall be engaged in the primary production of agricultural products.
7 In counties with designations of spartina as a noxious aquatic weed,
8 one member of the county noxious weed board shall have knowledge of
9 this weed and its control. There (~~shall be~~) is one nonvoting member
10 on (~~such~~) the board who (~~shall be~~) is the (~~chief~~) chair of the
11 county extension (~~agent~~) office or an extension agent appointed by
12 the (~~chief~~) chair of the county extension (~~agent~~) office. Each
13 voting member of the board (~~shall~~) serves a term of four years,
14 except that the county legislative authority shall, when a board is
15 first activated under this chapter, designate two voting members to
16 serve terms of two years. The board members shall not receive a salary
17 but shall be compensated for actual and necessary expenses incurred in
18 the performance of their official duties.

19 (2) The voting members of the board (~~shall represent the same~~
20 ~~sections designated by the county legislative authority in appointing~~
21 ~~members to the board at its inception and shall~~) serve until their
22 replacements are appointed. New members of the board shall be
23 appointed at least thirty days prior to the expiration of any board
24 member's term of office.

25 Notice of expiration of a term of office shall be published at
26 least twice in a weekly or daily newspaper of general circulation in
27 (~~said~~) the section with last publication occurring at least ten days
28 prior to the nomination. All persons interested in appointment to the
29 board and residing in the (~~section~~) geographical area with a pending
30 nomination shall make a written application that includes the
31 signatures of at least ten registered voters residing in the
32 (~~section~~) geographical area supporting the nomination to the county
33 noxious weed control board. After nominations close, the county
34 noxious weed control board shall, after a hearing, send the
35 applications to the county legislative authority recommending the names
36 of the most qualified candidates, and (~~shall~~) post the names of those
37 nominees in the county courthouse and (~~in three places in the~~
38 ~~section~~) publish in at least one newspaper of general circulation in
39 the county. The county legislative authority, within ten days of

1 receiving the list of nominees, shall appoint one of those nominees to
2 the county noxious weed control board to represent that ~~((section))~~
3 geographical area during that term of office.

4 (3) Within thirty days after all the members have been appointed,
5 the board shall conduct its first meeting. A majority of the voting
6 members of the board ~~((shall))~~ constitutes a quorum for the transaction
7 of business and ~~((shall-be))~~ is necessary for any action taken by the
8 board. The board shall elect from its members a ~~((chairperson))~~ chair
9 and ~~((such))~~ other officers as may be necessary.

10 (4) In case of a vacancy occurring in any voting position on a
11 county noxious weed control board, the county legislative authority of
12 the county in which ~~((such))~~ the board is located shall appoint a
13 qualified person to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

14 **Sec. 7.** RCW 17.10.060 and 1987 c 438 s 5 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) Each activated county noxious weed control board ~~((may))~~ shall
17 employ or otherwise provide a weed coordinator whose duties ~~((shall~~
18 be)) are fixed by the board but which shall include inspecting land to
19 determine the presence of noxious weeds, offering technical assistance
20 and education, and developing a program to achieve compliance with the
21 weed law. The weed coordinator may be employed full time, part time,
22 or seasonally by the county noxious weed control board. County weed
23 board employment practices shall comply with county personnel policies.
24 Within sixty days from initial employment the weed coordinator shall
25 obtain a pest control consultant license, a pesticide operator license,
26 and the necessary endorsements on the licenses as required by law.
27 Each board may purchase, rent, or lease ~~((such))~~ equipment, facilities,
28 or products and may hire ~~((such))~~ additional persons as it deems
29 necessary for the administration of the county's noxious weed control
30 program.

31 (2) Each activated county noxious weed control board ~~((shall-have))~~
32 has the power to adopt ~~((such))~~ rules and regulations, subject to
33 notice and hearing as provided in chapters 42.30 and 42.32 RCW ~~((as new~~
34 or hereafter amended)), as are necessary for an effective county weed
35 control or eradication program.

36 (3) Each activated county noxious weed control board shall meet
37 with a quorum at least quarterly.

1 **Sec. 8.** RCW 17.10.070 and 1987 c 438 s 6 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) In addition to the powers conferred on the state noxious weed
4 control board under other provisions of this chapter, it (~~shall have~~)
5 has the power to:

6 (a) Employ a state noxious weed control board executive secretary
7 (~~who shall~~), and additional persons as it deems necessary, to
8 disseminate information relating to noxious weeds to county noxious
9 weed control boards and weed districts (~~and who shall work~~), to
10 coordinate the educational and weed control efforts of the various
11 county and regional noxious weed control boards and weed districts, and
12 to assist the board in carrying out its responsibilities;

13 (b) Adopt, amend, (~~change,~~) or repeal (~~such~~) rules, pursuant to
14 the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW, as may be
15 necessary to carry out the duties and authorities assigned to the board
16 by this chapter.

17 (2) The state noxious weed control board shall provide a written
18 report before January 1 of each odd-numbered year to the governor, the
19 legislature, the county noxious weed control boards, and the weed
20 districts showing the (~~funds disbursed by the department to each~~
21 ~~noxious weed control board or district,~~) expenditure of state funds on
22 noxious weed control; specifically how the funds were spent(~~(,)~~); the
23 status of the state, county, and district programs; and recommendations
24 for the continued best use of state funds for noxious weed control.
25 The report shall include recommendations as to the long-term needs
26 regarding weed control.

27 **Sec. 9.** RCW 17.10.074 and 1987 c 438 s 7 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

29 (1) In addition to the powers conferred on the director under other
30 provisions of this chapter, the director (~~shall~~), with the advice of
31 the state noxious weed control board, (~~have~~) has power to:

32 (a) Require the county legislative authority or the noxious weed
33 control board of any county or any weed district to report to it
34 concerning the presence, absence, or estimated amount of noxious weeds
35 and measures, if any, taken or planned for the control thereof;

36 (b) Employ (~~such~~) staff as may be necessary in the administration
37 of this chapter;

1 (c) Adopt, amend, (~~change~~) or repeal (~~such~~) rules, pursuant to
2 the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW, as may be
3 necessary to carry out this chapter;

4 (d) Do such things as may be necessary and incidental to the
5 administration of its functions pursuant to this chapter including but
6 not limited to surveying for and detecting noxious weed infestations;

7 (e) Upon receipt of a complaint signed by a majority of the members
8 of an adjacent county noxious weed control board or weed district, or
9 by five hundred registered voters that are land owners within the
10 county, require the county legislative authority or noxious weed
11 control board of the county or weed district that is the subject of the
12 complaint to respond to the complaint within forty-five days with a
13 plan for the control of the noxious weeds cited in the complaint;

14 (f) If the complaint in (~~subsection~~) (e) of this subsection
15 involves a class A or class B noxious weed, order the county
16 legislative authority, noxious weed control board, or weed district to
17 take immediate action to eradicate or control the noxious weed
18 infestation. If the county or the weed district does not take action
19 to control the noxious weed infestation in accordance with the order,
20 the director may control it or cause it to be controlled. The county
21 or weed district (~~shall be~~) is liable for payment of the expense of
22 the control work including necessary costs and expenses for attorneys'
23 fees incurred by the director in securing payment from the county or
24 weed district. The director may bring a civil action in a court of
25 competent jurisdiction to collect the expenses of the control work,
26 costs, and attorneys' fees;

27 (g) In counties (~~which have not activated their~~) without an
28 activated noxious weed control board, enter upon any property as
29 provided for in RCW 17.10.160, issue or cause to be issued notices and
30 citations and take the necessary action to control noxious weeds as
31 provided in RCW 17.10.170, hold hearings on any charge or cost of
32 control action taken as provided for in RCW 17.10.180, issue a notice
33 of civil infraction as provided for in RCW 17.10.230(~~7~~) and 17.10.310
34 through 17.10.350, and place a lien on any property pursuant to RCW
35 17.10.280, 17.10.290, and 17.10.300 with the same authorities and
36 responsibilities imposed by these sections on county noxious weed
37 control boards;

1 (h) Adopt a list of noxious weed seeds and toxic weeds which shall
2 be controlled in designated articles, products, or feed stuffs as
3 provided for in RCW 17.10.235.

4 (2) The moneys appropriated for noxious weed control to the
5 department shall be used for administration of the state noxious weed
6 control board (~~((for determining the economic impact of noxious weeds in
7 the state of Washington))~~), the administration of the director's powers
8 under this chapter, the purchase of materials for controlling,
9 containing, or eradicating noxious weeds, the purchase or collection of
10 biological control agents for controlling noxious weeds, and the
11 contracting for services to carry out the purposes of this chapter. In
12 a county with an activated noxious weed control board, the director
13 shall make every effort to contract with that board for the needed
14 services.

15 (3) If the director determines the need to reallocate funds
16 previously designated for county use, the director shall convene a
17 meeting of the state noxious weed control board to seek its advice
18 concerning any reallocation.

19 **Sec. 10.** RCW 17.10.080 and 1989 c 175 s 57 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) The state noxious weed control board shall each year or more
22 often, following a hearing, adopt a state noxious weed list.

23 (2) (~~((At the hearing))~~) Any person may request during a comment
24 period established by the state weed board the inclusion, deletion, or
25 designation change of any plant to the (~~((lists to be adopted by the
26 state noxious weed control board. Any hearing held pursuant to this
27 section shall conform to the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter
28 34.05 RCW: PROVIDED, That adding a weed to or deleting a weed from the
29 list shall constitute a substantial change as provided for in RCW
30 34.05.340))~~) state noxious weed list.

31 (3) The state noxious weed control board shall send a copy of the
32 list(~~((s))~~) to each activated county noxious weed control board, (~~((to
33 each regional noxious weed control board,))~~) to each weed district, and
34 to the county legislative authority of each county with an inactive
35 noxious weed control board.

36 (4) The record of (~~((hearing shall))~~) rule making must include the
37 written findings of the board for the inclusion of each plant on the

1 list. ((Such)) The findings shall be made available upon request to
2 any interested person.

3 **Sec. 11.** RCW 17.10.090 and 1987 c 438 s 9 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 Each county noxious weed control board shall, within ((~~thirty~~)
6 ninety days of the ((~~receipt~~) adoption of the state noxious weed list
7 from the state noxious weed control board and following a hearing,
8 select those weeds from the class C list and those weeds from the class
9 B list not designated for control in the noxious weed control region in
10 which the county lies ((~~which~~) that it finds necessary to be
11 controlled in the county. The weeds thus selected and all class A
12 weeds and those class B weeds that have been designated for control in
13 the noxious weed control region in which the county lies shall be
14 classified within that county as noxious weeds, and those weeds
15 ((~~shall~~)) comprise the county noxious weed list.

16 **Sec. 12.** RCW 17.10.100 and 1987 c 438 s 10 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 Where any of the following occur, the state noxious weed control
19 board may, following a hearing, order any county noxious weed control
20 board or weed district to include a noxious weed from the state board's
21 list in the county's noxious weed list:

22 (1) Where the state noxious weed control board receives a petition
23 from at least one hundred registered voters within the county
24 requesting that the weed be listed.

25 (2) Where the state noxious weed control board receives a request
26 for ((~~such~~) inclusion from an adjacent county's noxious weed control
27 board or weed district, which the adjacent board or district has
28 included that weed in ((~~the~~) its county list, and ((~~which~~) the
29 adjacent board or weed district alleges that its noxious weed control
30 program is being hampered by the failure to include the weed on the
31 county's noxious weed list.

32 **Sec. 13.** RCW 17.10.110 and 1987 c 438 s 11 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 A regional noxious weed control board comprising the area of two or
35 more counties may be created as follows:

1 Either the county legislative authority ((and/or)), or the noxious
2 weed control board, or both, of two or more counties may, upon a
3 determination that the purpose of this chapter will be served by the
4 creation of a regional noxious weed control board, adopt a resolution
5 providing for a limited merger of the functions of their respective
6 counties noxious weed control boards. ((Such)) The resolution
7 ((shall)) becomes effective only when a similar resolution is adopted
8 by the other county or counties comprising the proposed regional board.

9 **Sec. 14.** RCW 17.10.120 and 1987 c 438 s 12 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 In any case where a regional noxious weed control board is created,
12 the county noxious weed control boards comprising the regional board
13 shall still remain in existence and shall retain all powers and duties
14 provided for ((such)) the boards under this chapter.

15 The regional noxious weed control board ((shall be)) is comprised
16 of the voting members and the nonvoting members of the component
17 counties noxious weed control boards or county legislative authorities
18 who shall, respectively, be the voting and nonvoting members of the
19 regional board: PROVIDED, That each county shall have an equal number
20 of voting members. The board may appoint other nonvoting members as
21 deemed necessary. A majority of the voting members of the board
22 ((shall)) constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business and
23 ((shall be)) is necessary for any action taken by the board. The board
24 shall elect a ((chairperson)) chair from its members and ((such)) other
25 officers as may be necessary. Members of the regional board ((shall))
26 serve without salary but shall be compensated for actual and necessary
27 expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

28 **Sec. 15.** RCW 17.10.130 and 1987 c 438 s 13 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 The powers and duties of a regional noxious weed control board are
31 as follows:

32 (1) The regional board shall, within ((thirty)) ninety days of the
33 ((receipt)) adoption of the state noxious weed list from the state
34 noxious weed control board and following a hearing, select those weeds
35 from the state list ((which)) that it finds necessary to be controlled
36 on a regional basis. The weeds thus selected shall also be contained
37 in the county noxious weed list of each county in the region.

1 (2) The regional board shall take ~~((such))~~ action as may be
2 necessary to coordinate the noxious weed control programs of the region
3 and ~~((shall))~~ adopt a regional plan for the control of noxious weeds.

4 **Sec. 16.** RCW 17.10.134 and 1987 c 438 s 14 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Obligations or liabilities incurred by any county or regional
7 noxious weed control board or any claims against a county or regional
8 noxious weed control board ~~((shall be))~~ are governed by chapter 4.96
9 RCW or RCW 4.08.120: PROVIDED, That individual members or employees of
10 a county noxious weed control board ~~((shall be))~~ are personally immune
11 from civil liability for damages arising from actions performed within
12 the scope of their official duties or employment.

13 **Sec. 17.** RCW 17.10.140 and 1969 ex.s. c 113 s 14 are each amended
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) Except as is provided under ~~((RCW 17.10.150))~~ subsection (2) of
16 this section, every owner shall perform~~((7))~~ or cause to be performed
17 ~~((such))~~ those acts as may be necessary to ~~((control and to prevent the~~
18 ~~spread of noxious weeds from his))~~:

19 (a) Eradicate all class A noxious weeds;

20 (b) Control and prevent the spread of all class B noxious weeds
21 designated for control in that region within and from the owner's
22 property; and

23 (c) Control and prevent the spread of all class B and class C
24 noxious weeds listed on the county weed list as locally mandated
25 control priorities within and from the owner's property.

26 (2) Farm and agricultural lands classified under RCW 84.34.020(2)
27 and forest lands classified under RCW 17.10.240(3), or meeting the
28 definition of forest lands contained in RCW 17.10.240, are subject to
29 the requirements of subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section at all
30 times. Forest lands are subject to the requirements of subsection
31 (1)(c) of this section only within a one thousand foot buffer strip of
32 adjacent land uses. In addition, forest lands are subject to
33 subsection (1)(c) of this section for a single five-year period
34 following the harvesting of trees for lumber.

35 **Sec. 18.** RCW 17.10.145 and 1995 c 374 s 75 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

1 All state agencies shall control noxious weeds on lands they own,
2 lease, or otherwise control. Agencies shall develop plans in
3 cooperation with county noxious weed control boards to control noxious
4 weeds in accordance with standards in this chapter. All state
5 agencies' lands must comply with this chapter, regardless of noxious
6 weed control efforts on adjacent lands. (~~County noxious weed control~~
7 ~~boards shall assist landowners to meet and exceed the standards on~~
8 ~~state lands.~~)

9 **Sec. 19.** RCW 17.10.154 and 1987 c 438 s 16 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 It is recognized that the prevention, control, and eradication of
12 noxious weeds presents a problem for immediate as well as for future
13 action. It is further recognized that immediate prevention, control,
14 and eradication is practicable on some lands and that prevention,
15 control, and eradication on other lands should be extended over a
16 period of time. Therefore, it is the intent of this chapter that
17 county noxious weed control boards may use their discretion and, by
18 agreement with the owners of land, may propose and accept plans for
19 prevention, control, and eradication (~~which~~) that may be extended
20 over a period of years. The county noxious weed control board may make
21 an agreement with the owner of any parcel of land by contract between
22 the landowner and the respective county noxious weed control board, and
23 the board shall enforce the terms of any agreement. The county noxious
24 weed control board may make any terms (~~which~~) that will best serve
25 the interests of the owners of the parcel of land and the common
26 welfare (~~which~~) that comply with this chapter (~~and the rules adopted~~
27 ~~thereunder~~).

28 **Sec. 20.** RCW 17.10.160 and 1987 c 438 s 17 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 Any authorized agent or employee of the county noxious weed control
31 board or of the state noxious weed control board or of the department
32 of agriculture where not otherwise proscribed by law may enter upon any
33 property for the purpose of administering this chapter and any power
34 exercisable pursuant thereto, including the taking of specimens of
35 weeds (~~or other materials~~), general inspection, and the performance
36 of eradication or control work. Prior to carrying out the purpose(~~s~~)
37 for which the entry is made, the official making such entry or someone

1 in his or her behalf, shall (~~have first made~~) make a reasonable
2 attempt to notify the owner of the property as to the purpose and need
3 for the entry.

4 (1) When there is probable cause to believe that there is property
5 within this state not otherwise exempt from process or execution upon
6 which noxious weeds are standing or growing and the owner (~~thereof~~)
7 refuses permission to inspect the property, a judge of the superior
8 court or district court in the county in which (~~such~~) the property is
9 located may, upon the request of the county noxious weed control board
10 or its agent, issue a warrant directed to (~~such~~) the board or agent
11 authorizing the (~~search for the noxious weeds described in the request~~
12 ~~for the warrant~~) taking of specimens of weeds or other materials,
13 general inspection, and the performance of eradication or control work.

14 (2) Application for issuance and execution and return of the
15 warrant authorized by this section shall be in accordance with the
16 applicable rules of the superior court or the district courts.

17 (3) Nothing in this section requires the application for and
18 issuance of any warrant not otherwise required by law: PROVIDED, That
19 civil liability for negligence shall lie in any case in which entry and
20 any of the activities connected therewith are not undertaken with
21 reasonable care.

22 (4) Any person who improperly prevents or threatens to prevent
23 entry upon land as authorized in this section or any person who
24 interferes with the carrying out of this chapter shall be upon
25 conviction guilty of a misdemeanor.

26 **Sec. 21.** RCW 17.10.170 and 1987 c 438 s 18 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) Whenever the county noxious weed control board finds that
29 noxious weeds are present on any parcel of land, and that the owner
30 (~~thereof~~) is not taking prompt and sufficient action to control the
31 (~~same~~) noxious weeds, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 17.10.140
32 (~~and 17.10.150~~), it shall notify the owner that a violation of this
33 chapter exists. The notice shall be in writing and sent by certified
34 mail, and shall identify the noxious weeds found to be present, order
35 prompt control action, and specify the time, of at least ten days from
36 issuance of the notice, within which the prescribed action must be
37 taken. Upon deposit of the certified letter of notice, the noxious
38 weed control authority shall make an affidavit of mailing (~~which shall~~

1 be)) that is prima facie evidence that proper notice was given. If
2 seed (~~(dispersion)~~) or other propagule dispersion is imminent,
3 immediate control action may be taken forty-eight hours following the
4 time that notification is reasonably expected to have been received by
5 the owner or agent by certified mail or personal service, instead of
6 ten days. If a landowner received a notice of violation from the
7 county noxious weed control board in a prior growing season, removal or
8 destruction of all above ground plant parts may be required at the most
9 effective point in the growing season, as determined by the county weed
10 board, which may be before or after propagule dispersion.

11 (2) The county noxious weed control board or its authorized agents
12 may issue a notice of civil infraction as provided for in RCW 17.10.230
13 (~~(and)~~), 17.10.310 (~~(through)~~), and 17.10.350 to owners who do not take
14 action to control noxious weeds in accordance with the notice.

15 (3) If the owner does not take action to control the noxious weeds
16 in accordance with the notice, the county board may control them, or
17 cause their being controlled, at the expense of the owner. The amount
18 of (~~(such)~~) the expense (~~(shall)~~) constitutes a lien against the
19 property and may be enforced by proceedings on (~~(such)~~) the lien except
20 as provided for by RCW 79.44.060. The owner (~~(shall be)~~) is liable for
21 payment of the expense, and nothing in this chapter shall be construed
22 to prevent collection of any judgment on account thereof by any means
23 available pursuant to law, in substitution for enforcement of the lien.
24 Necessary costs and expenses including reasonable attorneys' fees
25 incurred by the county noxious weed control board in carrying out this
26 section may be recovered at the same time as a part of the action filed
27 under this section. Funds received in payment for the expense of
28 controlling noxious weeds shall be transferred to the county noxious
29 weed control board to be expended as required to carry out the purposes
30 of this chapter.

31 (4) The county auditor shall record in his or her office any lien
32 created under this chapter, and any (~~(such)~~) lien shall bear interest
33 at the rate of twelve percent per annum from the date on which the
34 county noxious weed control board approves the amount expended in
35 controlling (~~(such)~~) the weeds.

36 (5) As an alternative to the enforcement of any lien created under
37 subsection (3) of this section, the county legislative authority may by
38 resolution or ordinance require that each (~~(such)~~) lien created
39 (~~(shall)~~) be collected by the treasurer in the same manner as a

1 delinquent real property tax, if within thirty days from the date the
2 owner is sent notice of the lien, including the amount thereof, the
3 lien remains unpaid and an appeal has not been made pursuant to RCW
4 17.10.180. Liens treated as delinquent taxes (~~shall~~) bear interest
5 at the rate of twelve percent per annum and (~~such~~) the interest
6 (~~shall~~) accrues as of the date notice of the lien is sent to the
7 owner: PROVIDED, That any collections for (~~such~~) the lien shall not
8 be considered as tax.

9 **Sec. 22.** RCW 17.10.180 and 1987 c 438 s 19 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 Any owner, upon request pursuant to the rules and regulation of the
12 county noxious weed control board, (~~shall be~~) is entitled to a
13 hearing before the board on any charge or cost for which the owner is
14 alleged to be liable pursuant to RCW 17.10.170 or 17.10.210. The board
15 shall send notice by certified mail within thirty days, to each owner
16 at the owner's last known address, as to any (~~such~~) charge or cost
17 and as to his or her right of a hearing. The hearing shall be
18 scheduled within forty-five days of notification. Any determination or
19 final action by the board (~~shall be~~) is subject to judicial review by
20 a proceeding in the superior court in the county in which the property
21 is located, and (~~such~~) the court (~~shall have~~) has original
22 jurisdiction to determine any suit brought by the owner to recover
23 damages allegedly suffered on account of control work negligently
24 performed: PROVIDED, That no stay or injunction shall lie to delay any
25 (~~such~~) control work subsequent to notice given pursuant to RCW
26 17.10.160 or pursuant to an order under RCW 17.10.210.

27 **Sec. 23.** RCW 17.10.190 and 1987 c 438 s 20 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 Each activated county noxious weed control board (~~shall cause to~~
30 ~~be published~~) must publish annually, and at (~~such~~) other times as
31 may be appropriate, in at least one newspaper of general circulation
32 within its area, a general notice. The notice shall direct attention
33 to the need for noxious weed control and (~~shall~~) give (~~such~~) other
34 information (~~with respect thereto~~) concerning noxious weed control
35 requirements as may be appropriate, or (~~shall~~) indicate where such
36 information may be secured. In addition to the general notice required
37 (~~hereby~~), the county noxious weed control board may use any

1 appropriate media for the dissemination of information to the public as
2 may be calculated to bring the need for noxious weed control to the
3 attention of owners. The board may consult with individual owners
4 concerning their problems of noxious weed control and may provide them
5 with information and advice, including giving specific instructions and
6 methods when and how certain named weeds are to be controlled.
7 ~~((Such))~~ The methods may include ~~((definite systems of tillage,~~
8 ~~cropping, management, or use of livestock))~~ some combination of
9 physical, mechanical, cultural, chemical, and/or biological methods,
10 including livestock. Publication of a notice as required by this
11 section ~~((shall))~~ is not ~~((be))~~ a condition precedent to the
12 enforcement of this chapter.

13 **Sec. 24.** RCW 17.10.205 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 13 s 16 are each
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Open areas subject to the spread of noxious weeds, ~~((other than~~
16 ~~crop land,))~~ including but not limited to subdivisions, school grounds,
17 playgrounds, parks, and rights of way shall be subject to regulation by
18 activated county noxious weed control boards in the same manner and to
19 the same extent as is provided for ~~((agricultural lands))~~ all
20 terrestrial and aquatic lands of the state.

21 **Sec. 25.** RCW 17.10.210 and 1987 c 438 s 22 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1) Whenever the director ~~((or))~~ the county noxious weed control
24 board, or a weed district finds that a parcel of land is so seriously
25 infested with class A or class B noxious weeds that control measures
26 cannot be undertaken thereon without quarantining the land and
27 restricting or denying access thereto or use thereof, the director
28 ~~((or))~~ the county noxious weed control board, or weed district, with
29 the approval of the director of the department of agriculture, may
30 issue an order for ~~((such))~~ the quarantine and restriction or denial of
31 access or use. Upon issuance of the order, the director ~~((or))~~ the
32 county noxious weed control board, or the weed district shall commence
33 necessary control measures and ~~((shall prosecute them with due~~
34 ~~diligence))~~ may institute legal action for the collection of costs for
35 control work, which may include attorneys' fees and the costs of other
36 appropriate actions.

1 (2) An order of quarantine shall be served, by any method
2 sufficient for the service of civil process, on all persons known to
3 qualify as owners of the land within the meaning of this chapter.

4 (3) The director shall, with the advice of the state noxious weed
5 control board, determine how the expense of control work undertaken
6 pursuant to this section, and the cost of any quarantine in connection
7 therewith, (~~shall be~~) is apportioned.

8 **Sec. 26.** RCW 17.10.235 and 1987 c 438 s 30 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) (~~Any person who knowingly or negligently sells a product,~~
11 ~~article, or feed stuff designated under subsection (2) of this section~~
12 ~~containing noxious weed seeds or toxic weeds designated for control~~
13 ~~under subsection (2) of this section and in an amount greater than the~~
14 ~~amount established by the director for the seed or weed under~~
15 ~~subsection (2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~

16 (~~2~~)) The director of agriculture shall adopt, with the advice of
17 the state noxious weed control board, rules designating noxious weed
18 seeds (~~the presence of~~) which shall be controlled in products,
19 screenings, or articles to prevent the spread of noxious weeds. The
20 rules shall identify the products, screenings, and articles in which
21 (~~such~~) the seeds must be controlled and the maximum amount of
22 (~~such~~) the seed to be permitted in the product, screenings, or
23 article to avoid a hazard of spreading the noxious weed by seed from
24 the product, screenings, or article. The director shall also adopt,
25 with the advice of the state board, rules designating toxic weeds (~~the~~
26 ~~presence of~~) which shall be controlled in feed stuffs and screenings
27 to prevent injury to the animal that consumes the feed. The rules
28 shall identify the feed stuffs and screenings in which the toxic weeds
29 must be controlled and the maximum amount of the toxic weed to be
30 permitted in (~~such~~) the feed.

31 (2) Any person who knowingly or negligently sells or otherwise
32 distributes a product, article, screenings, or feed stuff designated by
33 rule containing noxious weed seeds or toxic weeds designated for
34 control by rule and in an amount greater than the amount established by
35 the director for the seed or weed by rule is guilty of a misdemeanor.

36 (3) The department of agriculture shall, upon request of the buyer,
37 inspect products, screenings, articles, or feed stuffs designated
38 (~~under subsection (2) of this section~~) by rule and charge fees, in

1 accordance with chapter 22.09 RCW, to determine the presence of
2 designated noxious weed seeds or toxic weeds.

3 **Sec. 27.** RCW 17.10.240 and 1995 c 374 s 77 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The activated county noxious weed control board of each county
6 shall annually submit a budget to the county legislative authority for
7 the operating cost of the county's weed program for the ensuing fiscal
8 year: PROVIDED, That if the board finds the budget approved by the
9 legislative authority is insufficient for an effective county noxious
10 weed control program it shall petition the county legislative authority
11 to hold a hearing as provided in RCW 17.10.890. Control of weeds is a
12 ~~((special))~~ benefit to the lands within any such section. Funding for
13 the budget ~~((shall be))~~ is derived from any or all of the following:

14 ~~((1))~~ (a) The county legislative authority may, in lieu of a tax,
15 levy an assessment against the land for this purpose. Prior to the
16 levying of an assessment the county noxious weed control board shall
17 hold a public hearing at which it ~~((shall))~~ will gather information to
18 serve as a basis for classification and ~~((shall))~~ then classify the
19 lands into suitable classifications, including but not limited to dry
20 lands, range lands, irrigated lands, nonuse lands, forest lands, or
21 federal lands. The board shall develop and forward to the county
22 legislative authority, as a proposed level of assessment for each
23 class, ~~((such))~~ an amount as ~~((shall))~~ seems just. The assessment rate
24 shall be either uniform per acre in its respective class or a flat rate
25 per parcel rate plus a uniform rate per acre: PROVIDED, That if no
26 ~~((special))~~ benefits ~~((should be))~~ are found to accrue to a class of
27 land, a zero assessment may be levied. The county legislative
28 authority, upon receipt of the proposed levels of assessment from the
29 board, after a hearing, shall accept~~((r))~~ or modify by resolution, or
30 refer back to the board for its reconsideration all or any portion of
31 the proposed levels of assessment. ~~((The findings by the county
32 legislative authority of such special benefits, when so declared by
33 resolution and spread upon the minutes of said authority shall be
34 conclusive as to whether or not the same constitutes a special benefit
35 to the lands within the section.))~~ The amount of ~~((such))~~ the
36 assessment ~~((shall))~~ constitutes a lien against the property. The
37 county legislative authority may by resolution or ordinance require
38 that notice of the lien be sent to each owner of property for which the

1 assessment has not been paid by the date it was due and that each
2 (~~such~~) lien created (~~shall~~) be collected by the treasurer in the
3 same manner as delinquent real property tax, if within thirty days from
4 the date the owner is sent notice of the lien, including the amount
5 thereof, the lien remains unpaid and an appeal has not been made
6 pursuant to RCW 17.10.180. Liens treated as delinquent taxes (~~shall~~)
7 bear interest at the rate of twelve percent per annum and (~~such~~) the
8 interest (~~shall~~) accrues as of the date notice of the lien is sent to
9 the owner: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any collections for (~~such~~) the
10 lien shall not be considered as tax; or

11 (~~(2)~~) (b) The county legislative authority may appropriate money
12 from the county general fund necessary for the administration of the
13 county noxious weed control program. In addition the county
14 legislative authority may make emergency appropriations as it deems
15 necessary for the implementation of this chapter.

16 (~~(3)~~) (2) Forest lands used solely for the planting, growing, or
17 harvesting of trees and which are typified, except during a single
18 period of five years following clear-cut logging, by canopies so dense
19 as to prohibit growth of an understory may be subject to an annual
20 noxious weed assessment levied by a county legislative authority that
21 (~~shall~~) does not exceed one-tenth of the weighted average per acre
22 noxious weed assessment levied on all other lands in unincorporated
23 areas within the county that are subject to the weed assessment. This
24 assessment shall be computed in accordance with the formula in
25 subsection (~~(4)~~) (3) of this section.

26 (~~(4)~~) (3) The calculation of the "weighted average per acre
27 noxious weed assessment" (~~shall be~~) is a ratio expressed as follows:

28 (a) The numerator (~~shall be~~) is the total amount of funds
29 estimated to be collected from the per acre assessment on all lands
30 except (i) forest lands as identified in subsection (~~(3)~~) (2) of this
31 section, (ii) lands exempt from the noxious weed assessment, and (iii)
32 lands located in an incorporated area.

33 (b) The denominator (~~shall be~~) is the total acreage from which
34 funds in (a) of this subsection are collected. For lands of less than
35 one acre in size, the denominator calculation may be based on the
36 following assumptions: (i) Unimproved lands (~~shall be~~) are
37 calculated as being one-half acre in size on the average, and (ii)
38 improved lands (~~shall be~~) are calculated as being one-third acre in
39 size on the average. The county legislative authority may choose to

1 calculate the denominator for lands of less than one acre in size using
2 other assumptions about average parcel size based on local information.
3 ~~((+5+))~~ (4) For those counties that levy a per parcel assessment to
4 help fund noxious weed control programs, the per parcel assessment on
5 forest lands as defined in subsection ~~((+3+))~~ (2) of this section shall
6 not exceed one-tenth of the per parcel assessment on nonforest lands.

7 **Sec. 28.** RCW 17.10.250 and 1987 c 438 s 32 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The legislative authority of any county with an activated noxious
10 weed control board or the board of any weed district may apply to the
11 director for noxious weed control funds when informed by the director
12 that funds are available. Any ~~((such))~~ applicant must employ adequate
13 administrative personnel to supervise an effective weed control program
14 as determined by the director with advice from the state noxious weed
15 control board. The director with advice from the state noxious weed
16 control board shall adopt rules on the distribution and use of noxious
17 weed control account funds.

18 **Sec. 29.** RCW 17.10.300 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 13 s 15 are each
19 amended to read as follows:

20 No lien created by RCW 17.10.280 ~~((shall))~~ exists, and no action to
21 enforce the same shall be maintained, unless within ninety days from
22 the date of cessation of the performance of ~~((such))~~ the labor,
23 furnishing of materials, or the supplying of ~~((such))~~ equipment, a
24 claim for ~~((such))~~ the lien ~~((shall be))~~ is filed for record as
25 ~~((hereinafter))~~ provided in this section, in the office of the county
26 auditor of the county in which the property, or some part ~~((thereof))~~
27 of the property to be affected ~~((thereby))~~ by the claim for a lien, is
28 situated. ~~((Such))~~ The claim shall state, as nearly as may be, the
29 time of the commencement and cessation of performing the labor,
30 furnishing the material, or supplying the equipment, the name of the
31 county noxious weed control board ~~((which))~~ that performed the labor or
32 caused the labor to be performed, furnished the material, or supplied
33 the equipment, a description of the property to be charged with the
34 lien sufficient for identification, the name of the owner, or reputed
35 owner if known, or his or her agent, and if the owner is not known,
36 that fact shall be mentioned, the amount for which the lien is claimed,
37 and shall be signed by the county noxious weed control board, and be

1 verified by the oath of the county noxious weed control board, to the
2 effect that the affiant believes that claim to be just; and ((such))
3 the claim of lien may be amended in case of action brought to foreclose
4 the same, by order of the court, as pleadings may be, insofar as the
5 interest of third parties shall not be affected by such an amendment.
6 ~~((A claim or lien substantially in the same form provided by RCW~~
7 ~~60.04.060 and not in conflict with this section shall be sufficient.))~~

8 **Sec. 30.** RCW 17.10.310 and 1987 c 438 s 24 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 The county noxious weed control board may issue a notice of civil
11 infraction if after investigation it has reasonable cause to believe an
12 infraction has been committed. ~~((It shall be a misdemeanor for any~~
13 ~~person to refuse to identify himself or herself properly for the~~
14 ~~purpose of issuance of a notice of infraction. Any person wilfully~~
15 ~~violating a written and signed promise to respond to a notice of~~
16 ~~infraction shall be guilty of a misdemeanor regardless of the~~
17 ~~disposition of the notice of infraction.))~~ A civil infraction may be
18 issued pursuant to RCW 7.80.005, 7.80.070 through 7.80.110, 7.80.120
19 (3) and (4), and 7.80.130 through 7.80.900.

20 **Sec. 31.** RCW 17.10.350 and 1987 c 438 s 28 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Any person found to have committed a civil infraction under this
23 chapter shall be assessed a monetary penalty~~((No monetary penalty so~~
24 ~~assessed may))~~ not to exceed one thousand dollars. The state noxious
25 weed control board shall adopt a schedule of monetary penalties for
26 each violation of this chapter classified as a civil infraction and
27 ~~((shall))~~ submit the schedule to the appropriate court. If a monetary
28 penalty is imposed by the court, the penalty is immediately due and
29 payable. The court may, at its discretion, grant an extension of time,
30 not to exceed thirty days, in which the penalty must be paid. Failure
31 to pay any monetary penalties imposed under this chapter ~~((shall be))~~
32 is punishable as a misdemeanor.

33 **Sec. 32.** RCW 17.10.890 and 1987 c 438 s 37 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 The following procedures shall be followed to deactivate a county
36 noxious weed control board:

1 (1) The county legislative authority (~~shall~~) holds a hearing to
2 determine whether there continues to be a need for an activated county
3 noxious weed control board if:

4 (a) A petition is filed by one hundred registered voters within the
5 county;

6 (b) A petition is filed by a county noxious weed control board as
7 provided in RCW 17.10.240; or

8 (c) The county legislative authority passes a motion to hold such
9 a hearing.

10 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, the
11 hearing shall be held within sixty days of final action taken under
12 subsection (1) of this section.

13 (3) If, after a hearing, the county legislative authority
14 determines that no need exists for a county noxious weed control board,
15 due to the absence of class A or class B noxious weeds designated for
16 control in the region, the county legislative authority shall
17 deactivate the board.

18 (4) The county legislative authority shall not convene a hearing as
19 provided for in subsection (1) of this section more frequently than
20 once a year.

21 **Sec. 33.** RCW 17.10.900 and 1987 c 438 s 38 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 Any weed district formed under chapter 17.04 or 17.06 RCW prior to
24 the enactment of this chapter, (~~shall~~) continues to operate under the
25 provisions of the chapter under which it was formed: PROVIDED, That if
26 ten percent of the landowners subject to any such weed district, and
27 the county noxious weed control board upon its own motion, petition the
28 county legislative authority for a dissolution of the weed district,
29 the county legislative authority shall provide for an election to be
30 conducted in the same manner as required for the election of directors
31 under the provisions of chapter 17.04 RCW, to determine by majority
32 vote of those casting votes, if (~~such~~) the weed district (~~shall~~)
33 will continue to operate under the (~~aet~~) chapter it was formed. The
34 land area of any dissolved weed district (~~shall forthwith~~) becomes
35 subject to the provisions of this chapter. Any district assessment
36 funds may be transferred after the dissolution election under contract
37 to the county noxious weed control board to fund the noxious weed
38 control program.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 34.** A new section is added to chapter 17.10 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The state noxious weed control board shall:

4 (a) Work with the various federal and tribal land management
5 agencies to coordinate state and federal noxious weed control;

6 (b) Encourage the various federal and tribal land management
7 agencies to devote more time and resources to noxious weed control; and

8 (c) Assist the various federal and tribal land management agencies
9 by seeking adequate funding for noxious weed control.

10 (2) County noxious weed control boards and weed districts shall
11 work with the various federal and tribal land management agencies in
12 each county in order to:

13 (a) Identify new noxious weed infestations;

14 (b) Outline and plan necessary noxious weed control actions;

15 (c) Develop coordinated noxious weed control programs; and

16 (d) Notify local federal and tribal agency land managers of noxious
17 weed infestations.

18 (3) The department of agriculture, county noxious weed control
19 boards, and weed districts are authorized to enter federal lands, with
20 the approval of the appropriate federal agency, to survey for and
21 control noxious weeds where control measures of a type and extent
22 required under this chapter have not been taken.

23 (4) The department of agriculture, county noxious weed control
24 boards, and weed districts may bill the federal land management agency
25 that manages the land for all costs of the noxious weed control
26 performed on federal land. If not paid by the federal agency that
27 manages the land, the cost of the noxious weed control on federal land
28 may be paid from any funds available to the county noxious weed control
29 board or weed district that performed the noxious weed control.
30 Alternatively, the costs of noxious weed control on federal land may be
31 paid from any funds specifically appropriated to the department of
32 agriculture for that purpose.

33 (5) The department of agriculture, county noxious weed control
34 boards, and weed districts are authorized to enter into any reasonable
35 agreement with the appropriate authorities for the control of noxious
36 weeds on federal or tribal lands.

37 (6) The department of agriculture, county noxious weed control
38 boards, and weed districts shall consult with state agencies managing
39 federal land concerning noxious weed infestation and control programs.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 35.** RCW 17.10.905 is recodified as a section
2 between RCW 17.10.005 and 17.10.010.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 36.** The following acts or parts of acts are
4 each repealed:

5 (1) RCW 17.10.005 and 1995 c 374 s 72;

6 (2) RCW 17.10.150 and 1987 c 438 s 15, 1975 1st ex.s. c 13 s 7,
7 1974 ex.s. c 143 s 2, & 1969 ex.s. c 113 s 15;

8 (3) RCW 17.10.200 and 1987 c 438 s 21, 1979 c 118 s 3, & 1969 ex.s.
9 c 113 s 20;

10 (4) RCW 17.10.320 and 1987 c 438 s 25;

11 (5) RCW 17.10.330 and 1987 c 438 s 26; and

12 (6) RCW 17.10.340 and 1987 c 438 s 27.

--- END ---