

## Attachment A

### Program of Work, Warnings and Risks

#### Program –

Arundo donax, also called River cane or Giant reed, is aggressive, non-native and considered an invasive species. Nueces River Authority is administering a program to control Arundo donax on upper Nueces basin rivers and creeks.

#### Herbicide application –

Nueces River Authority intends to engage a licensed professional herbicide applicator to treat Arundo on lands in the floodplains of the Frio, Sabinal, Dry Frio, Nueces, Leona, Turkey Creek and San Felipe Creek. All chemicals are approved for aquatic environments and labeled as having no effect on animal species and as non-toxic to birds, mammals, honeybees, earthworms, fish, algae and aquatic invertebrates. Use of the systemic herbicide Habitat™ by BASF (Sepro), containing the plant amino acid blocker *Imazapyr* is planned and/or the herbicide Clearcast™ by Sepro, containing the active ingredient *Imazamox*.

These herbicides are known to be effective in control of Arundo and will also kill or injure other plant species that come in contact with the chemical. During application care will be taken when Arundo is growing in close proximity to desirable vegetation but some non-target plant injury or death may occur.

Once treated, Arundo plants begin to die very slowly over 1-2 years and dead stalks can remain standing for 3-4 years. Treated plants should not be disturbed but landowners are encouraged to remove sprouting branches or pups.

#### Sprout pulling –

Nueces River Authority intends to engage contractors to hand-pull new sprouts on lands adjacent to the river's edge. Pulled sprouts will be placed on dry ground, out of the river channel, to decay.

#### Re-vegetation –

Native riparian plants can be expected to begin colonizing dead Arundo clumps within 1 year. Nueces River Authority intends to engage volunteers and professionals to plant desirable native riparian trees within these clumps over the next several years. Native trees may include Black Willow, *Salix nigra* and Bald cypress, *Taxodium distichum*. Both plants are known to aide riparian stability; creating reinforcement against erosion.

#### Fire hazard –

High in wax content, Arundo donax is an extremely volatile fuel, dead or alive. It is known to substantially increase danger of wildfire occurrence, intensity, and frequency and to decrease the riparian areas ability to act as a firebreak. Fire hazard is especially high in the winter when the plant is dormant. Fire is known to stimulate Arundo growth and re-growth.

Initials:
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