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## **TEAM Leafy Spurge survey of ranch operators, land managers and local decision makers**

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### **Abstract:**

A 1998 survey of ranchers, local decision makers and public land managers reported on perceptions and attitudes regarding weed management in general and specifically on perceptions and weed management practices regarding leafy spurge. The survey identified and evaluated managerial, institutional and social factors that affect the rate and extent of implementation of various leafy spurge controls. Overall, respondents shared similar concerns about controlling leafy spurge and understood that leafy spurge is a long-term management problem. Results of the 1998 survey have been used by the TEAM Leafy Spurge (TLS) effort in implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) research and demonstration projects to address concerns and constraints to leafy spurge control identified in the survey. A second survey of the same ranchers, local decision makers and public land managers is scheduled for June 2001 to measure changes in perceptions of weed management issues as well as to identify needs for future research, demonstration and outreach efforts and compare the results to the initial survey. The survey will also include a number of questions designed to measure the producers' interaction with the TLS program and their evaluation of various TLS products and activities.