

RUSSIAN THISTLE

Russian thistle, one of a number of plants called tumbleweed, is highly invasive and can pose a serious fire hazard. The plant spreads easily, as it breaks off and tumbles across the landscape, scattering seeds along the way. It outcompetes native species, reducing plant diversity important to wildlife. Hand-pull small plants; bag mature plants to avoid spreading seeds. The stems on mature plants are very sharp – you will need to wear gloves. Monitor areas where plants have been pulled to catch the plants while young the next year.