San Miguel County Noxious Weed of the Month: Yellow toadflax (priority)

Yellow toadflax is very prevalent in San Miguel County. It is located on the east end of Telluride in the mountains, on the Idarado Legacy Trail, and in Ophir. Although this species is beautiful it is a destructive noxious weed!

How to identify Yellow toadflax:
- Perennial
- Reproduces by seed and creeping roots
- Plants are 1-2 feet tall
- Flowers June thru September
- Yellow flowers, 1 inch long, with a bearded orange throat and spur. Clusters of 15-20 at ends of stems
- An escaped ornamental, similar to snapdragons, with multiple stems at base
- Fibrous roots, creeping 3 feet deep and 10 feet laterally
- Found in rangeland, pastures, meadows, forests and right of ways.
- Pale green leaves pointed at both ends

Yellow toadflax causes these effects in the environment:
- Displaces desirable vegetation quickly, as it forms dense spreading roots
- Seeds are viable in the soil for 8 years and 1 plant produces up to 30,000 seeds annually
- Inedible to livestock
- Aggressive weed in rangelands
- Reduces rangeland value
- Reduces available forage for wildlife and livestock

San Miguel County Vegetation Control & Management urges all County residents to manage any Yellow toadflax infestations with elimination in mind. Weed control is a community effort! Please do your part. For more information about Yellow toadflax and other noxious weeds in San Miguel County please contact Julie Kolb, Manager, Vegetation Control & Management at juliek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov