PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, noxious weeds are a growing threat to endangered ecologies, our environment and natural biological diversity; and

WHEREAS, noxious weeds cause depletion of water resources, increased fire hazard and incidence of wildfires, reduction in habitat for native fauna and crowding out of native plant species; and

WHEREAS, noxious weeds claim more than 4,000 acres of land a day in the western United States and reduce the value of land for agricultural, recreational, and other purposes; and

WHEREAS, control of noxious weeds costs property owners and public and private land managers many millions of dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, noxious weeds can cause sickness and death in animals and reduce the value of forage and feed for livestock; and

WHEREAS, the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner has a longstanding program to control skeleton weed, Iberian star thistle, artichoke thistle, yellow star thistle, puncture vine, milk thistle, Italian thistle, Klamath weed, Russian thistle, poison hemlock and purple star thistle and other noxious weeds by the use of Integrated Pest Management practices including the use when practical of biological control organisms; and

WHEREAS, the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner and University of California Cooperative Extension have extensive programs to provide aid, assistance, and educational resources for property owners and managers to help deal with invasive weed species; and

WHEREAS, the California Legislature has passed legislation (ACR 114) establishing July 18-24, 2005, as California Invasive Weed Awareness Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Napa County designates the week of July 18-24, 2005, as "Invasive Weed Awareness Week" in Napa County and in so doing, encourages education on the prevention of invasive weed species to the benefit of the natural and agricultural resources in Napa County.

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Diane Dillon, Chair
Napa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Pamela A. Miller
Clerk of the Board