

Invasive Species Project

1. Use one of the links below to choose an invasive species that is affecting Michigan.

<http://www.defenders.org/publications/michigan.pdf>

<http://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68002---,00.html>

2. Read all about your chosen organism, and then collect the following information.
 - a. *SUSPECT: Name/A picture of the organism*
 - b. *SUSPECT HIDE OUT: Origin (where it's from)*
 - c. *CRIMES COMMITTED: WHO does it threaten, Why it is a threat to natives*
 - d. *REWARD: What will happen if we remove it?*
 - e. *Join us: How can we help?*
 - f. *Distinguishing Features : A description of the organism*

3. Use ALL of this information to create a “WANTED” poster. There are some examples on this page. All information & at least one picture must be included.

You can use Google Docs, Google slides, or drawing to create the “Wanted poster”

Invasive Species Project Rubric

Each topic is covered on the WANTED poster	/14
Notes on back of this page	/5
Wanted vocabulary is used	/2
Project is good quality (neat, not too busy)	/5
Spelling	/2
Total	/25

WANTED



(Dead, Not Alive)

SCOTCH THISTLE

(a.k.a. *Onopordum acanthium*)

Last Seen Growing In This Vicinity



Distinguishing Features

- ☞ reaches 8 to 10 feet in height
- ☞ stems are erect, branching sharp spiny leaf wings extend down the stem
- ☞ basal leaves may be over 2 feet long and 1 foot wide
- ☞ leaves are coarsely lobed; fine, dense hair on both sides; sharp spines on margins
- ☞ flowers are violet to reddish, 1 to 2 inches in diameter, solitary and numerous

Crimes Committed

- ☞ choking out and the deliberate takeover of other plant's growing space
- ☞ stealing, land, homes, and food from wildlife and livestock
- ☞ corrupting and invading open lands, roadsides, and recreation areas
- ☞ wreaking havoc and mayhem on innocent, unsuspecting ecosystems

Join the Scotch Thistle Patrol

- ☞ help stop the spread of this weedy, seedy desperado
- ☞ remove flowers and double bag, pull plants before they seed
- ☞ remove all weed seeds from clothing, shoes, pets, and vehicles



Reward

Healthy Lands and Wild Ecosystems



Skull Valley Contact: Bob Pearson, 928-442-3645

- *NAME:*
- *Origin (where its from)*
- *What native organism(s) it threatens*
- *Why it is a threat to natives*
- *What will happen if we remove it?*
- *Join us: How can we help?*
- *A description of the organism*
- *A picture of the organism*