

# STOP THE SPREAD

## Rush Skeletonweed is a serious threat to Montana lands!

Please help us keep *Rush Skeletonweed* out of Montana. Many states in the Pacific Northwest already battle extensively with *Rush Skeletonweed*, and it is a growing problem here in Montana. Here are some ways **YOU** can help keep it from spreading.

### How to Stop the Spread

- Wash out of State vehicles, boat trailers, ATV's and all other recreational vehicles before coming to MT. (*don't forget the undercarriage*)
- Animals using MT lands should be fed weed free forage for at least three days before entering the state.
- Do not buy out of state hay unless certified weed free.
- If you spot Rush Skeleton, identify the area and contact local weed control immediately. (406) 826-3487. There is a \$50 reward for new sites.



### Rush Skeletonweed ID traits

- Rosettes often resemble dandelions
- Stems have very few leaves
- Stems also have small purplish downward pointed hairs on the base of stem.
- Flowers are approx. 3/4 " in diameter and yellow in color.
- A white milky latex is visible when stem or leaves are broken.



## Rush Skeletonweed

Rush Skeletonweed is considered a new invader in the state of Montana. Many sites are located in Lake County and are centralized around the Pablo area, with a few scattered exceptions. Every summer, Lake County Weed Control contacts landowners to get permission to access properties to treat this weed.

Rush Skeletonweed is a perennial plant and can spread via wind-blown seed or through its rhizomatous root system. It favors arid, open sites, but can grow in most disturbed or forested areas. It typically blooms from July into September and has small, yellow flowers. Adult plants can range from 8" up to 36" tall. The stem has multiple branches and appear nearly leafless, hence the "skeleton" in the name.

If you see Rush Skeletonweed or suspect you have it on your property, please contact Lake County Weed Control immediately.