**Plant:** Bull thistle (Cirsium vulgare). This is **NOT** an Idaho State listed noxious weed.

**Identification:** This is a biennial thistle, with extremely hairy, deeply lobed leaves. It is usually dark green, and grows up to 4 feet tall. The seed heads are approximately the size of a golf ball, with pink to purple flowers. The rosettes can get up to 24 inches across, and grow in pastures, rangeland, crop areas, and lawns. It is a very competitive plant and can grow in well vegetated areas.

**Defense:** Mechanical control can be effective, such as cutting the root with a shovel and pulling the weed. Many chemicals are also effective, such as Milestone, Opensight, and Escort XP.

Always read and understand the label and restrictions on any pesticide you are using. The label is the law.

