Plant: Chicory (Cichorium intybus)

This is **NOT** an Idaho state listed noxious weed.

Identification: Chicory is a stout taprooted perennial that grows up to 4ft tall. It is often misidentified as Rush skeletonweed with its wiry stems. It only produces leaves its first year, with a rosette very similar to a dandelion. The second and subsequent seasons a wiry stem bolts up and starts branching with buds for flowers. These plants bloom in mid-summer through fall, with numerous blue, occasionally pink or white flowers. These can be found in pastures, roadways, field edges, and lawns.

Defense: If unwanted, with small infestations you can dig this plant out, making sure to get most of the taproot. Mowing is not effective, as it will continue to grow unless the root is removed. Herbicides need to be able to translocate through this plant, or you will only kill to top portion and the root will sprout new plants. Herbicides such as Escort XP and Milestone, paired with a surfactant are great options.

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

