

Baseball Infields

Weed Control Method	Priority	Status	Season	Date	% effective	Notes
Infield drag with the 5&1 twice a month	Normal	scheduled	all season	2024	50%	Drag with the grader, pulling all annuals. Manually remove all weeds and throw away.
Hand pull and dig bindweed and grass	Normal	Completed	Late fall	2024	10%	No temp workiers used for this in 2023. Staff dug up root systems of the bindweed and grass. Weeds returned rapidly.
Spot Burn with handheld weed burners	Normal	scheduled	spring/summer	2024	20%	Pre-season when plants are flowering prior to going to seed. Continue this in 2024.
Carpet weed steam the entire infield to kill all seeds	low	not scheduled	early spring	2024	0%	This will be experimental with steam machine if the machine is available and staff is available. Not available in 23
Manual Weed Pull with students as a public lands stewardship work project	Normal	on schedule	mid summer	2024	10%	Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers organize Summer Advantage Students from Crystal River Elementary One Day only and Bill Hanks only in 2023. Try to repeat
Seek consultation with Natural Land Manager Specialists for next step	High	scheduled	Spring	2024	0%	Contracted with Alpha Naturals for two applications of his proprietary orgainc weed spray for the bind weed. Did not seem to make a difference in 2022
Top dress with new infield material	High	Scheduled	Spring	2024		Grader drag, laser level, and then a top dressed in 2023. Weeds came back and grass also on perimeter.
Biological Control	low	not scheduled	Spring	2024		The bindweed gall mite, <i>Aceria mahlerbae</i> , has proven to be effective in reducing field bindweed infestations. This is an option for large infestations. Available from Colorado Department of Agriculture, 970-464-7916.
Spot spray Use of chemical based Herbicide	High	needs BOT approval	Spring/Fall	2024	0%	This step will be necessary when the previous methods of weed mitigation are not successful.

The bind weed is taking over and needs to be dealt with. Covid caused a re-growth of the weed due to lack of use of the field and lack of machinge dragging. The root system grows horizontally about 6-10 inches below the surface sending off shoots of new plants. Just hand picking the foliage only makes the weed stronger and bigger. I want to see if digging the root systems will slow down the spread. We tried Alpha Naturals in 2022. Biological control would not work here due to the distrubances with dragging and play. If the bind weed is unaffected from these new techniques, Prior to summer use a Mag Chloride saturation of exisiting infield dirt then a top dress of new material. This technique could