



## Program Accomplishments



Sweet Home RD Staff installed boot brushes at heavily used trailheads in the summer of 2019.

## Fiscal Year 2019

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# Pacific Northwest Region

## 2019 State & Private Invasive Plant Accomplishments

State & Private funds help maintain capacity for these important programs that protect State, private, tribal and USFS land from the serious economic and ecological impacts of noxious weeds. Highlights of 2019 accomplishments include:

### Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

- Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program reveals a 1:34 cost-benefit for EDRR efforts and 1:15 cost-benefit for biological control projects
- ODA completed inspections for 38 growers and certified 3,685 acres as weed-free.
- Continued the pilot weed-free gravel / rock source program that resulted in an additional 235,000 tons of material to be certified as weed free.
- Managed 77 Biological control agents on 27 weed species.
- Identified, surveyed and treated the only known population of Welled Thistle (*Carduus crispus*) in the United States.
- Conducted control on 7,500 acres in conjunction with numerous partners.
- Have achieved a 99% reduction in yellowtuft alyssum in southern Oregon.



**Figure 1.** ODA detected and treated a large population of woolly distaff thistle in Douglas County.

Contact: **Shawna L. Bautista**, Regional Invasive Plant Program Manager, 503-808-2697



**Figure 2.** WSDA setting up pre-release monitoring plots for new whitetop biocontrol agent releases.

### Washington Department of Agriculture (WSDA)

- Released over 114,960 biocontrol agents (13 species) at 316 sites on 9 weed species, treating at least 1,580 acres.
- Land managers received over \$158,000 worth of biocontrol releases at not cost to them; and saved \$63,200 in herbicide costs.
- Provided training and continuing education credits to pesticide applicators, valued at over \$662,000 worth of education credits.
- Conducted a public perception survey in Washington and Idaho and found people are highly supportive of biocontrol.
- Established new monitoring plots and collected data at existing plots to record effectiveness of biocontrol releases and new biocontrol agents.
- Issued an RFP to sub-grant \$5,000 for EDRR projects in counties, accomplishing 20 acres of control, and preventing hundreds of acres of infestation.



**Pacific Northwest Region**  
State & Private Forestry  
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# Pacific Northwest Region, continued

## 2019 National Forest Invasive Plant Accomplishments

This year, the Region accomplished 44,494 acres of invasive plant treatments. This is a decline of almost 9,000 acres from the previous year, due in part, to a low wildfire year and a reduction in the fire-associated treatments.

### Regional highlights include:

- The Region collaborated with 174 different partners to control invasive plants on NFS land in 2019!
- The Colville NF Inventoried aquatic invasive species on over 30 lakes to identify baseline populations, develop a restoration plan and provide mitigation during fire suppression activities.
- Regional Office staff participated in a field day with Friends of the Columbia River Gorge and students from University of Utah to treat blackberries competing with oak seedlings.
- The Deschutes NF partnered with ODA and Friends of the Metolius to treat 2 acres of ribbongrass on the Wild & Scenic Metolius River.
- The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie NF and partners conducted training for 50 people, 9 of which went on to contribute 416 hours surveying 219 acres of trails and manually treating nearly 6 acres.



Figure 1. The Ochoco NF hosted a Northwest Youth Corps project to manually control houndstongue in Bridge Creek Wilderness area.

Contact: **Shawna L. Bautista**, Regional Invasive Plant Program Manager, 503-808-2697



Figure 2. ODA staff spot spraying ribbon grass on the Wild & Scenic Metolius River.

- The Clallam County NWCB, and Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, treated 8 acres of Canada thistle at a popular stock camp in the Buckhorn Wilderness on the Olympic NF.
- The Alyssum Working Group has reduced infestations of yellowtuft alyssum by 90% on and near the Rogue River-Siskiyou NF.
- The Siuslaw NF treated 4 acres in important meadow habitat for the federally threatened Oregon silverspot butterfly.
- The Wallowa-Whitman NF used Wilderness Stewardship funds for invasive plant inventory in Seven Devils Wilderness.
- Northwest Youth Corps worked on Middle Fork District of the Willamette NF to remove blackberry to improve northwestern pond turtle habitat.



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# Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

Invasive plant control is focused on treatments to sites threatened by infestations, EDRR sites, and restoration sites. Most treatments are completed by partners.

- Invasive plant treatments continue at key restoration sites - all accomplished through partnerships and volunteers.
- Skamania County continued treatment of an infestation of butterfly bush on Woodard Creek. Work will be required for many years. After the treatments, appropriate restoration with native plants will help prevent re-infestation.
- Invasive plant control continues at Sandy River Delta in support of the on-going restoration of native hardwood forests and pollinator habitat.
- Our partnership with Friends of the Columbia Gorge Public Land Stewardship program resulted in 201 volunteers contributing 809 hours pulling invasive plants throughout the Scenic Area.
- 841 acres treated using herbicide, manual, mechanical, and competitive plantings.
- Unit worked on updating mapping and inventory efforts and entry in NRIS-TESP/IS.
- Participated in and lead 40 participants for the Columbia Gorge CWMA field day focused on effects of Eagle Creek.



**Figure 1.** Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area tours Eagle Creek fire. Observing Herb Robert which is a threat to endemic plants.



**Figure 2.** University of Utah students and regional office staff “freeing” oak seedlings from being buried by blackberry.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 840.8 acres

Inventories=150 acres

Monitoring=776.9 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP), Sandy River Watershed Council, Ash Creek Forest Management, Friends of Sandy River Delta, Friends of Trees, Skamania County Weed Department, Klickitat County Weed Dept, Oregon Equestrian Trails, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Friends of the Gorge, Center for Ecodynamic Restoration (CEDR), Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Clark College, YCC-Next Door crew.

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**Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area**  
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# Colville National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Colville National Forest combats invasive plant infestations and spread through treatments, prevention and education.

- During 2019, the Forest Service partnered with the Pend Oreille County Weed Board to control a population of flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*) along the Pend Oreille River which was located within the Riverbend Shoreline Stabilization Project on Forest Service Land.
- Have continued to conduct pre/post treatments of invasive plants in sequence with the 20 year vegetation management planning schedule and meet Forest Plan objectives.
- Inventoried aquatic invasive species on over 30 lakes to identify baseline populations, develop a restoration plan and provide mitigation during fire suppression activities.
- Education/Outreach – Approximately 150 employees on the Colville National Forest were trained in the identification of Invasive Plants and prevention measures aimed at reducing their spread.
- Completed weed-free inspections and certifications for multiple commercial rock sources that deliver gravel, fill and barrow material for use on the National Forest.



**Figure 1.** Riverbend Shoreline Stabilization Project where Flowering Rush was found and treated.



**Figure 2.** Pierre Lake with a population of yellow-flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*).



**Figure 3.** Treatment of Japanese Knotweed along the Sanpoil River.

### 2018 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 1,292 acres

Monitoring = 1,259 Acres

### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program = \$ 106,370

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration = \$39,932

### Partners/Cooperators

Ferry County Noxious Weed Board, Pend Oreille County Weed Board, Colville National Forest Grazing Permittees, Stevens County Conservation District, Washington State Department of Transportation.

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# Deschutes National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Invasive Plant program partners with all other natural resource program areas on the Forest to plan and implement projects. Staff includes the forest botanist, four district botanists, and four summer temporary crew members. All invasive plant staff is shared with the botany program.

- Heart of Oregon Crews and Central Oregon YCC crews treated 350 acres of weeds on the Deschutes NF.
- In partnerships with ODA and Friends of the Metolius we treated 500 acres, including 2 acres of ribbongrass treatments on the Wild & Scenic Metolius River.
- Wilderness Weed Surveys: a Wilderness Stewardship Grant allowed us to survey weeds in **five** Cascade Wilderness Areas, including 80 miles of trail in Mt. Jefferson Wilderness, 20 miles of trail in Mt Washington Wilderness, 37 miles in Diamond Peak Wilderness and 22 miles in Three Sisters Wilderness.
- Funding from a Cooperative Forest Landscape Restoration project allowed herbicide monitoring data to be collected and compiled.
- Eurasian watermilfoil surveys at Crescent, Odell, Suttle, and Scout Lakes, and Lake Billy Chinook with fisheries and R6 PNW Lab dive team.
- Over 800 people participated in education and outreach activities including: Metolius Ribbongrass Outreach, Sisters District Invasive Species Training Day, Let's Pull Together Sisters, REALMS at Ryan Ranch, Outdoor Adventure Day, Wilderness Weeds Training, Noxious Weed Board presentations.



**Figure 2.** Justina Pearl (Heart of Oregon Corps) collecting *Cyphocleonus achates*, knapweed root weevil.



**Figure 1.** Oregon Department of Agriculture staff spot spraying ribbon grass on the Wild and Scenic Metolius River.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = about 4600 acres

Inventories = about 1500 acres

CFLR Monitoring = about 2300 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

ODA, ODOT, Klamath and Deschutes Counties, Deschutes County Noxious Weed Board, COIC, HOC, Kev Alexanian, Midstate Electric, Friends of Metolius, Camp Sherman Weed Warriors, Friends of Cascades Wilderness, Oregon Mycological Society, YCC, Coalition for the Deschutes, Discover Your Forest, Ecosystems Management Inc., Black Butte School, Volunteers.

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**Deschutes National Forest**  
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# Fremont-Winema National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- Treated 2,333 acres of weed patches on NFS lands, 1,338 acres manually and 993 acres with herbicide.
- Partnership funding contributed to weed control on approximately 220 acres of non-federal lands.
- 64 sites (6.5 acres) were considered eradicated, 1,509 sites (327 acres) were classified as inactive, 270 new sites (222 acres) documented.
- Continued or Initiated treatment of approximately 210 acres of ventenata and medusahead, two very serious invasive annual grasses.
- Increased control efforts for Canada thistle within the Crooked Mud Honey Accelerated Landscape Restoration project and continued to stress the need for increased integration and priority of weed management within these projects.
- Seasonal crews surveyed or prepped approximately 15,250 acres in future timber harvest, recent wildfire, and sensitive plant habitat.



**Figure 1.** Youth Conservation Corps crew removing Mediterranean sage.



**Figure 2.** Botany Crew pulling weeds at Heart Lake on forest-wide work day.

### Public Outreach/Education

- Presented discussion of pre and post emergent herbicide application considerations for ventenata. Attended by app. 15 local ranchers and federal agency personnel.
- Presented overview of ventenata impacts and control difficulties to 40 Lake County Inmates, who are growing sagebrush seedlings for grouse habitat.
- Presented invasive plant identification and ecology session to 55 K-5th graders at the Westside School.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2,333 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Lake County Cooperative Weed Management Area  
Klamath County Public Works Department  
Klamath Watershed Partnership  
Integral Youth Services  
Paisley and Lakeview Youth Conservation Corps

### Contacts

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**Fremont-Winema National Forest**  
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# Gifford Pinchot National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- Formed a new partnership agreement with Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) for Invasive species work.
- We treated 2,424 acres at 1,739 treatment areas.
- Treated 3 new EDRR sites: orange hawkweed, European coltsfoot, and shiny leaf Geranium.
- Continuing to treat many high value wetland, meadow and open forest habitats to restore wildlife habitat, with new emphasis on treating English holly and inventory/treatment of herb-Robert and shiny leaf Geranium.
- We continue to engage with two high-school youth job skill programs: Forest Youth Success and White Pass Discovery Teams, to accomplish invasive species control work and education about invasive species .
- PNW Invasive Plant Council and our County partners worked with other organizations to host 2 Invasive species education workshops.
- Cascade Forest Conservancy helped us target priority invasive populations in 4 locations on the forest, bringing volunteer groups out for two weekend trips.
- After four years of manual “dive team” removal of Eurasian Milfoil from Coldwater Lake – none was detected this year!



**Figure 1.** WCC, Lewis County Weed Board and the Forest started treatments on a newly discovered 6 acre patch of invasive plants on a remote section of the Green River Trail, on the Mt. St. Helens District.



**Figure 2.** WCC treating Canada thistle in a large meadow in the William O’Douglas Wilderness. This remote meadow is premium habitat for elk and many other species dependent on wet or dry meadow habitat. They also treated thistle at Glacier Lake, in the Goat Rocks Wilderness.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2370 acres

Inventories - Over 100 miles of Forest Roads and 20 acres within wilderness

Monitoring - 1550 acres

**Partners/Cooperators:** Partners with Cowlitz, Klickitat, Lewis and Skamania County Weed Boards. New Partnership with Washington Conservation Corps. Mt. St. Helens Institute, Cascade Forest Conservancy, Pacific Northwest Citizen Science, Columbia River Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area, Backcountry Horsemen, and Government Mineral Springs homeowners.

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**Gifford Pinchot National Forest**  
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# Malheur National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

Our 2019 integrated weed management accomplishments include:

- Treatment on more than 5,300 acres.
- 1,051 acres of survey.
- 9 biocontrol releases.
- Manual/mechanical removal on 7 acres.
- Strong partnerships with local Soil & Water Conservation Districts.
- Weed identification training and outreach with more than 50 seasonal and permanent employees.
- Cooperative work with engineering department on establishing better and more accessible GIS-based weed-free gravel pit data.
- Completed invasive plant and herbicide-use handbook, including spill response plan and program goals.
- New equipment acquired for more efficient herbicide application (e.g. sprayers, tanks, etc.).
- Integration of field data collection and TESP-IS mobile.
- Early Detection and Rapid Response treatments on new infestations of Russian knapweed, black henbane, perennial pepperweed, and Mediterranean sage.



**Figure 1.** Blue marker dye indicating herbicide application on Dalmatian toadflax along a forest roadside.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated: 5,300+ acres  
Inventories: 1,051 acres  
Monitoring: 6,974 acres

### Partners/Cooperators (12+)

Grant Soil & Water Conservation District, Harney County Weed Control, Harney County CWMA, Burns Paiute Tribe, Oregon Department of Agriculture, USDA APHIS, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Blue Mountains Forest Partners, Harney County Restoration Collaborative, Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, Oregon Department of Transportation, private landowners and ranchers.

### Contact:

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Joseph Rausch: Forest Botanist, 541-575-3141



### Malheur National Forest

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**Figure 2.** Kristina Trahern and Valerie Fansler, 2019 invasive plant seasonal technicians, conduct weed control in a dispersed camp.

# Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

Integration, partnerships and increased internal efficiency best characterized Invasive Plant Treatment this year.

- Treated 1,250 acres of invasive plant infestations and monitored 751 acres of previously treated infestations.
- 407 acres were treated by the Invasive Plant Specialist, representing a new high for acres treated.
- Documented 134 new infestations and treated 28 infestations as part of EDRR. Completed treatments on 1 KV plan.
- First detection of garlic mustard (Skykomish District) and giant knotweed (Darrington District) documented on the Forest. Treated as part of EDRR.
- Co-hosted citizen science/weed watcher trainings. Of the over 50 attendees, 9 contributed 416 hours surveying 219 acres of trails and manually treating nearly 6 acres.
- Additional volunteers contributed 180 hours surveying 18 acres and treating 136 acres.
- Partners completed 843 acres of treatments primarily along rivers across the Forest.
- Integrated with Engineering and Recreation Programs to complete treatments associated with storm damage, in 21 commercial rock quarries, in 4 campgrounds, and in support of Access and Travel Management decisions.



**Figure 1.** North Zone Work Party, 2019. They treated 29 acres of Scotch broom and butterfly bush on the Skagit River, Ovenell Parcel.



**Figure 2.** Sauk-Suittle Tribal partner treating knotweed along the Sauk and Skagit River. They treated 277 acres of knotweed.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 1250 acres

Inventories = 134 new infestations

Monitoring = 751 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Whatcom Co. Corrections, Skagit Co. CWMA, Upper Snoqualmie CWMA, Skagit River System Cooperative, Skagit Land Trust, Skagit Co. NWCB, Whatcom Co. NWCB, Snohomish Co. NWCB, King Co. NWCB, King Co. Weed Watchers, Snohomish Co. Public Works, The Ryther Group, Summit at Snoqualmie Ski resort, Steven's Pass Ski Resort, Muckleshoot Tribe, Sauk-Suittle Tribe, BPA, PSE, WSDOT, PNW-IPC, NSEA, SFEG, MTSGT.

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**Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**

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# Mt. Hood National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

In 2019, the Mt. Hood National Forest successfully implemented its twelfth year of noxious weed treatment and prevention since signing the *Site-Specific Invasive Plant Treatments* FEIS in March 2008.

- Cooperated in a multi-agency partner effort to treat orange and meadow hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*, *H. caespitosum*) within the Bonneville Power Administration powerline corridor at Lolo Pass and surrounding areas. Treatments were conducted by the Clackamas SWCD, Portland Water Bureau, ODA and FS staff.
- Partnership with Hood River SWCD, landowners and ODA to contain garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) found on private land within one mile of the Forest Boundary.
- Worked with the Clackamas SWCD and PGE to improve meadow habitat for an R6 sensitive plant species (blue-eyed grass, *Sisyrinchium sarmentosum*) through manual and chemical invasive species treatments.
- Partnered with the Walama Restoration Project to fund hand treatments of houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) through a National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program Grant.
- Hosted 30 members of the Boy Scouts of America (Arrowcorps), who pulled 30 acres of houndstongue.
- NW Youth Corps crew removed multiple weed species at administrative sites, campgrounds and along trails.
- Local youth crew (The Next Door) handpulled 10 acres of houndstongue and tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobea*).
- Worked with CSWCD to hand-pull false brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*) and herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) along 7.5 miles of trail and multiple campground sites.



**Figure 1.** Beth Myers-Shenai of Oregon Department of Agriculture treating a new spotted knapweed site. (photo by C. Mead)



**Figure 2.** Boy Scouts of America and Walama Restoration Project staff after a long day of treating weeds. (photo by C. Mead)

### 2019 Accomplishments

Treated 2,123 acres

#### Partners/Cooperators:

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA); Oregon Department of Transportation; Wasco, Hood River, Clackamas, and Multnomah Counties; Clackamas, Hood River and Wasco SWCDs; Bonneville Power Administration; Portland General Electric; Portland Water Bureau; Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area; 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area; Walama Restoration Project; NW Youth Corps; The Next Door; Boy Scouts of America.

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**Mt. Hood National Forest**  
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# Ochoco National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Invasive Plant Program partners with all other natural resource program areas on the Forest to plan and implement projects. Staff includes the forest botanist, two district botanists, and four summer temporary crew members. Permanent staff is shared with the botany program.

- We are treating about 80% of our sites with herbicides, 19% mechanical treatments, and about 1% using biocontrol.
- Eradicated one EDRR Scotch broom site, about one acre on the Lookout Mountain District.
- Continue to collect data on medusahead and ventenata across the forest using the Medusahead Strike Team.
- Our current integrated/ partnership projects include McKay Creek Floodplain Reconnection and Black Canyon Restoration and well as Ingram Meadow Restoration. The invasive plant program works closely with Range, Fisheries, and Wildlife program areas.
- Education/Outreach – Made contact with over 800 people. Events included: Wildfest, Career days-YCC, Heart of Oregon Corps, Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson County Fairs, Paulina School Outdoor day, and shared information on invasive plant prevention practices as well as play-clean-go initiative, at recreation events (endurance rides, trail runs, mountain bike rides).



**Figure 1.** Heart of Oregon AmeriCorps crew member Ray, treats knapweed. This is our third year training youth to work with FS staff to apply herbicides using backpack sprayers.



**Figure 2.** The Ochoco NF hosted a Northwest Youth Corps project to manually control houndstongue in Bridge Creek Wilderness area.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2,440 acres

Inventory and Monitoring = 1,483 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Jefferson County Weed Management Area, Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District, Jefferson county and Crook County Weed Control, Crooked River Weed Management Area, Discover Your Forest, Heart of Oregon Corps, COIC YCC, Friends & Neighbors of Deschutes Canyon Area, Great old broads, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Oregon Wild, Native Plant Society of Oregon, Grant Co SWCD, Northwest Youth Corps.

Contact:

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# Olympic National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

In 2019, the Olympic National Forest (ONF) successfully treated over 700 acres of weeds. About half of these were completed by two County Noxious Weed Control Boards (NWCBs) primarily using Title II funds; the other half was completed by a FS crew, with assistance from the Washington Conservation Corps (WCC). Additional work was completed through several other Partnerships.

- The Clallam County NWCB, with assistance from the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, treated an 8 acre Canada thistle infestation at Camp Handy, a popular stock camp in the Buckhorn Wilderness.
- County and FS staff inspected and treated 20 on-Forest rock sources and gravel pits for weeds. Many of these quarries have been receiving annual treatments for several years, which is reflected in an overall reduction of infestations at these sites.
- Over 40 Private, State and County owned rock sources were inspected by staff from the Clallam, Grays Harbor, and Mason County NWCBs. These inspections benefit the ONF and the entire Olympic peninsula. They were funded largely through Title II of the Secure Rural Schools Act.
- Focused treatments continue in support of a large road decommissioning project, and for both pre- and post-harvest weed treatments associated with timber sales.
- 10,000 Years Institute and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group continue to treat invasive plants in the Humptulips and Calawah River drainages on the Pacific RD, and the Dosewallips River watershed on the Hood Canal RD.



**Figure 1.** Backcountry Horsemen of Washington helped treat invasive plants in the Buckhorn Wilderness.



**Figure 2.** A large 15 acre opening at the Schmidts Knob homestead site is heavily infested with everlasting peavine, Canada thistle and Scotch broom.

- Funds from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) paid for 50+ acres of treatments focused on meadows and large openings, including the Pats Prairie and Cranberry Bog Botanical Areas, Schmidts Knob (see Figure 2) and elk forage units. These treatments were completed in partnership with the Clallam County NWCB and the WCC.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 717 acres  
Treatment Areas Monitored = 1061 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Clallam, Grays Harbor and Mason County Noxious Weed Control Boards, Washington Conservation Corps, Backcountry Horseman of Washington, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, 10,000 Years Institute, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group.

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**Olympic National Forest**  
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# Okanogon-Wenatchee National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

Over 3,873 acres were treated using herbicide, hand pulling, and biocontrols. Five Ranger Districts applied for and were awarded Title II (Secure Rural Schools) funds for Invasive plant treatments in 2020 – which will greatly increase our ability to complete priority work.

- EDRR- New infestations of whitetop, oxeye daisy, Dalmatian toadflax, rush skeleton weed, common bugloss, and St. John's wort were found and treated.
- County weed boards, the Chelan PUD, BPA, WDFW, Conservation Northwest were important partners for treatment of invasive plants on Forest Service land.
- Education/Outreach – Invasive plant stewardship was the focus for 525 4<sup>th</sup> grade and middle school students at three different events on the Cle Elum Ranger District.
- Washington Conservation Corps Crews treated common crupina (WA Class A noxious weed) as part of the Regional priority Crupina Control project.
- Invasive plant prevention and survey were included in planning for Forest Restoration projects across the Forest. Forest Leadership Team was briefed on the need to include and fund invasives prevention for all projects.
- Burned Area Emergency Rehab funds were used for survey and treatment of invasive plants in the Cougar Creek, Jolly Mtn., Mcleod and Crescent fire areas.



**Figure 1.** Orange hawkweed treatment on the Methow Valley Ranger District.



**Figure 2.** Washington Conservation Corps crew treating common crupina on the Lakeshore trail, Chelan Ranger District.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 3,873

Monitoring - 9,700 acres

Inventory – 4,785 acres

**Regional priority Project (Crupina) - \$45,000**

**Partners/Cooperators** - WA Dept. of Ecology  
Conservation Corps, WA State Department of Ag.,  
WA State Noxious Weed Board, Chelan County  
Noxious Weed program, Chelan County PUD,  
WDFW, WSU Extension biocontrol program, Yakama  
Nation, Yakima County, WSDOT, Kittitas County  
Weed Board, Kongsburger Ski Club, Mid-Columbia  
Fisheries, BOR, Conservation Northwest, Twisp River  
Weed Warriors, Okanogon County Noxious Weed  
board, BPA, Washington Outdoor School.

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# Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The RRSNF invasive plant staff met their targets and objectives this year through hard work and cooperating with partner groups. The staff includes two GS-11 District Botanists, one GS-09 District Botanist, eight GS-07 seasonal, three GS-06, and three GS-04 Bio Tech (Plants).

- Treated 1,931 acres of invasive plants. 550 acres with herbicide and 1381 acres through manual/hand pulling.
- Surveyed and inventoried over 12,000 acres and over 1,100 miles of roads for invasive plant species.
- Continued a long term partnership with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) focused on spotted knapweed and biddy-biddy treatments.
- Partnered with the Klamath National Forest to treat hounds tongue on and off FS lands.
- Implemented invasive treatment of knotweed and other invasive plants on the Rogue River floating on guided rafts with BLM partners. Treated knotweed on the Illinois River.
- NW Youth Corp completed 6 weeks of invasive plant control on forest. Sek-wet-si crew provided an additional 6 weeks of work.
- Utilized stewardship agreement to complete manual invasive treatment on Forest with youth crews.
- The Alyssum Working Group advanced their long term goal of eradication, resulting in significant reductions in existing populations. Partners include BLM, Oregon Department of Agriculture, TNC, and others.
- BAER implementation surveyed for and treated invasive plants in the Taylor Creek and Klondike fire areas.
- Botanists and Invasive Plant crews on the forest served as resource advisors and BAER team members assisting on wildland fire preventing the spread of weeds.



**Top:** Treating yellowtuft alyssum on the Illinois River, treated weeds at Applegate Lake.

**Bottom:** Documenting knotweed on the Illinois River.

### 2019 Accomplishments

*Invasive Plants Treated = 1,931 acres*

*Inventories = 12,000 acres surveyed during projects, 1,100 miles of road inventoried as part of targeted invasive plant surveys*

### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program NFWW = \$210,267  
Regional Priority Alyssum Funds NFWW = \$50,000  
Timber Sale Associated CWKV = \$162,000  
Title II RAC = \$15,000  
BAER = \$153,883  
Partners Contributions = \$12,879  
**Total = \$604,029**

### Partners/Cooperators

BLM, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Jackson County Community Justice Crew, NW Youth Corp, Lomakatski Restoration, Sek-wet-si

### Contacts:

Stu Osbrack, District Botanist, Wild Rivers RD, 541-592-4052  
Kailey Clarno, District Botanist, Gold Beach/Powers, 541-247-3656  
Dave Bowden District Botanist, Siskiyou Mountains RD, 541-899-3855



Covering *Potentilla recta*



NYC crew treating invasives



**Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest**  
3040 Biddle Road  
Medford, OR 97504



# Siuslaw National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- The Siuslaw National Forest acquired a weed steaming machine in 2019. The steamer will primarily be used for clearing meadows dominated by herbaceous non-native species in preparation for native plantings. Initial test areas were treated starting in July with apparent short term success. Monitoring is in place to quantify the effectiveness of this treatment type.
- In cooperation with wildlife biologists and the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly Working Group, the invasive species program treated 4.1 acres of meadow habitat for invasive species.
- Invasive species monitoring plots were installed in two areas proposed for fall prescribed burning. Data collected from these plots will help the Forest understand the impacts of clearing the duff layer as well as the effectiveness of post-treatment seeding.
- A strong community of volunteers helped clear three campgrounds of Scotch broom and ten acres of sand dunes of Scotch broom, gorse, and European beachgrass. These efforts improved habitat for native plants adapted to shifting sand as well as providing improved pollinator habitat.



**Figure 2** clockwise, starting at the top: 1) Trailer mounted steam machine, 2) steaming vegetation along a roadside, 3) regrowth of oxeye daisy two months post-treatment.



**Figure 1.** Great Old Broads for Wilderness helped clear invasives from the Sandtracks Picnic Area.

### Partners/Cooperators

Northwest Youth Corps, Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Siuslaw Watershed Council, Lincoln County Highway Department, Power of Florence, Mid-Coast Cooperative Weed Management Area, Oregon Dunes Cooperative Weed Management Area, Joshua Lane Weed Volunteers, Alliance for Recreation and Natural Areas (AFRANA), Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE), Marys Peak Alliance, Tillamook County Soil & Water Conservation District, Midcoast Watersheds Council, Reedsport and Siuslaw Middle Schools.

### Forest Contacts:

Chelsea Monks, Forest Botanist, 541-750-7130  
Ken Hiser, Hebo District Botanist, 503-392-5114  
Armand Rebeschke, Restoration Botanist, 541-563-8419  
Matt Smith, Restoration Botanist, 541-563-8425



**Siuslaw National Forest**  
3200 SW Jefferson Way  
Corvallis, OR 97339

# Umatilla National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The accomplishments of the invasive plant program on the Umatilla National Forest demonstrate the power of implementing activities in an integrated manner. Over 20 people from the range, recreation, wildlife, fire, botany, and silviculture staff worked together to inventory, treat, and monitor undesirable non-native invasive plants.

- Staff treated 4,300 gross acres of invasive plants. Most of this was done with spot spraying of herbicides. The actual number of acres where herbicide was applied is much less than the gross acres. Many sites now only have a few residual plants remaining.
- Botany surveys over 4,450 acres included searching for, and documenting, non-native invasive plants.
- We partnered with the Oregon Department of Agriculture on several projects treating high-priority State-listed noxious weeds.
- Used Title II funds to hire summer temporary invasive treatment crews. These dedicated employees have come back year after year to provide an important contribution towards controlling invasives on the forest.
- Yellow starthistle photo points and bio-control monitoring in Mill Creek municipal watershed.
- Invasive plant inventory, treatment and monitoring on completed section and future planned reach of Meacham Creek restoration project.



**Figure 1.** Starthistle monitoring in Mill Creek Municipal Watershed.



**Figure 2.** Pomeroy RD staff treating invasive plants in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plant Acres Treated = 4,300

Inventories = 4,450 acres (during botanical surveys)

Monitoring = all treated areas

### Partners/Cooperators

Asotin County, WA; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), Oregon Dept. of Agriculture; Tri-County CWMA (OR) ; Grant, Union, Umatilla, Wheeler, and Wallowa Counties, OR; Vale District BLM, OR; Wallowa Resources, and Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.

### Contacts

Program manager:	Paula Brooks	541-278-3931
	paula.j.brooks@usda.gov	
Heppner RD:	Tim Collins	541-676-2114
North Fork John Day RD:	Brad Lathrop	541-427-5366
Pomeroy RD:	Blaine Beehler	509-843-4663
Walla Walla RD:	Terry Reynolds	509-522-6071



**Umatilla National Forest**  
72510 Coyote Rd.  
Pendleton, OR 97801

# Umpqua National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- We treated 2,305 acres of invasive plant species across the Umpqua National Forest using Integrated Pest Management Practices.
- Yellow floating heart, an Oregon Class A aquatic weed, was treated with imazapyr for the fifth year at the Willow Sump site and has now been reduced by 99%. Second year spraying occurred at Beaver Pond. Both ponds were treated by the ODA's noxious weed program.
- False brome, another high priority species, was treated with glyphosate across 468 acres.
- Treated about 600 gross acres of spotted knapweed with Tordon.
- Early detection/ rapid response on nine new infestations of spotted knapweed.
- Other priority weeds were mechanically removed including: Armenian blackberry, black locust, Canada thistle, English ivy, Italian thistle, Japanese knotweed, meadow knapweed, rush skeletonweed, Scotch broom, sulfur cinquefoil, sweet pea, yellow archangel and yellow starthistle.
- In partnership with the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, a YCC crew completed noxious weed management on the Cottage Grove Ranger District.



**Figure 1.** Oregon Department of Agriculture spraying yellow floating heart at Beaver Pond.



**Figure 2.** treating Canada Thistle in the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness Area.

- The Phoenix Alternative High Schools treated invasive weed infestations in the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness Area.
- Completed BAER weed treatments in the Columbus and Miles fires on the Tiller Ranger District.
- Douglas County Soil & Water Conservation District treated brooms and rush skeletonweed on the highways leading onto the Umpqua NF using Title II funds.

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2,305 acres

Inventories = 2,000 acres

Monitoring = 1,773 acres

### Partners/Cooperators

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Douglas County Soil & Water Conservation District, Douglas County Weed Board, PacifiCorp, Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council and Phoenix Alternative High School.

Contact:

**Richard Helliwell**, Forest Botanist, 541-957-3337



**Umpqua National Forest**  
2900 NW Stewart Parkway  
Roseburg, OR 97471

# Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest had record high treatments in 2019. Accomplishments reflected are based on grant funding, strong partnerships and seasonal weed crews on the ground.

*4,100 acres across the forest were treated with a 87% average control, resulting in 2,132 net acres improved*

- Obtained Wilderness Stewardship funds for invasive plant inventory in Seven Devils Wilderness (year 2 of 3). Updated pesticide use permits for Wilderness.
- Participated in the nation-wide Wild Spotter pilot program to help map invasive species in Wilderness areas and Wild and Scenic River corridors.
- Completed Regional BMP monitoring for chemical use near water bodies.
- Seeded 60 grapple piles (approximately 1 acre) in the Little Timber Sale and Hilgard Project Areas.
- 15 Acres of Bio Control Release on St. Johnswort in Union County in partnership with APHIS.



**Figure 2.** Upper Snake River Partnership Rush skeletonweed treatments. The “Blue Boot” crew!

### 2019 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 4,100 acres (558 sites)

Partnership Acres = 677 acres

Contract Acres = 51 acres

Monitoring = 374 sites monitored

### Funding

Grant Funding = \$26,000

Additional Funds (Region) = \$10,000

Volunteer contributions = \$11,189

### Partners/Cooperators

Tri-County Coordinated Weed Management Area, Upper Burnt River CWMA, Baker County SWCD, Baker County Weed Program, Union County Weed Program, Wallowa Resources, Wallowa County Veg. Dept., Oregon Department of Agriculture, Permittees, Volunteers, Greater Hells Canyon Council, Wallowa County Pilots Association, Nez Perce Fisheries, APHIS, BLM, Permittees, Private landowners, & contractors.

Contacts:

**Beckijo Wall**, North Zone Inv. Plants, 541-426-5535

**Scott Schaefer**, South Zone Inv. Plants, 541-963-8550

**Maura Laverty**, Program Manager, 541-523-1286

**Table 1. 2019 Top 5 invasive plants treated.**

Species	Acres Treated
Diffuse Knapweed	827
Whitetop	752
Spotted Knapweed	529
Scotch Thistle	317
Rush Skeletonweed	308



**Figure 1.** ODA, Baker County Invasive Plant Program, TriCounty CWMA, and USFS tour addressing yellow starthistle management in designated sage grouse habitat.



**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**

1550 Dewey Ave, Suite A

Baker City, OR 97814

# Willamette National Forest

## 2019 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

### **Accomplishments**

We treated 2,805 acres of weed infestations using manual and chemical treatments. Our partners at Oregon Department of Agriculture continue to be key in helping us treat and survey weeds across the Forest.

### **Integrated Projects**

We partnered with the Aquatics program on McKenzie District where we are treating weeds in South Fork McKenzie Restoration project prior to floodplain restoration.

At Montane Meadow Enhancement projects we pulled St. Johnswort and chemically treated blackberry and shiny geranium along with young tree removal and prescribed burning. The crew also installed boot brush stations at trailheads (Figure 1. ) as a prevention measure.

### **Partnerships**

We received a Wilderness Stewardship Grant and worked with the recreation folks and Deschutes NF to survey **five** Wildernesses on the Willamette: Middle Santiam, Menagerie, Opal Creek, Mt. Jefferson and Mt. Washington. We documented 41 weed populations in and adjacent to all wilderness areas except one.

Northwest Youth Corps worked on Middle Fork District removing blackberry at Calapooia Meadows for pond turtle habitat.

Linn County Juvenile Crew treated Scotch broom throughout Sweet Home Ranger District.

We collaborated with HJ Andrews Experimental Forest to conduct surveys and treatments.



**Figure 1.** Sweet Home RD Staff installed boot brushes at heavily used trailheads in the summer of 2019.

**Marion County Corrections Crew** helped with weed control at the upgraded Detroit Flats Day use area.

### **2019 Accomplishment**

Invasive Plants Treated = 2,805 acres

### **Partners/Cooperators**

Oregon Department of Agriculture; Northwest Youth Corps; Linn County Juvenile Work Crew; HJ Andrews Experimental Forest/Oregon State University; Deschutes NF; Santiam 4H, Marion County Corrections Crew.

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**Willamette National Forest**  
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