



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

**Forest Service**

Pacific Northwest  
Region



# Invasive Plants

## Program Accomplishments



Dr. Tamzen Stringham and associates from University of Nevada developed state-and-transition models for the Crooked River National Grassland and trained staff on application for improved invasive plant management and prevention.

## Fiscal Year 2017

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# Pacific Northwest Region

## 2017 National Forest Invasive Plant Accomplishments

This year, the Region accomplished 52,902 acres of invasive plant treatment, exceeding our Regional target.

### Regional highlights include:

- Over 600 acres in the Sandy River Delta has been restored to hardwood forests and native understory plants as a result of invasive plant treatments, recreational enhancements, and native species planting.
- Implemented 105 acres of targeted spot spray herbicide treatments along the Metolius River to control invasive ribbongrass and yellow flag iris with support from Friends of the Metolius.
- Ensured over 80 Special Use Permits included appropriate invasive plant prevention measures.
- Implemented sage grouse habitat improvement on the Fremont-Winema NF – surveyed 1,500 acres, treated 200 acres of medusahead and 60 acres of Ventenata, inventoried 270 additional acres of Ventenata.
- Nearly eradicated Eurasian watermilfoil from Coldwater Lake in Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.
- Treated all trailheads to the Eagle Cap Wilderness and 10 backcountry airstrips on the Wallowa-Whitman NF.
- Inspected well over 160 gravel pits, both Forest Service and commercial, to develop weed free rock and gravel sources.



**Figure 1.** A new partnership with Heart of Oregon Corps trained AmeriCorps young adults to apply herbicide alongside Forest Service staff, Ochoco National Forest.



**Figure 2.** Umatilla National Forest, Walla Walla RD employee Terry Reynolds implementing raft-based treatments on Lower Grande Ronde River.

- Developed new partnership with the Burns Paiute Tribe to treat invasive plants in ancestral-use territories on national forest lands.
- Provided invasive plant prevention messaging to the Information Center for the 2017 total solar eclipse. 3,357 total public contacts were made.
- Worked with the Quinault Indian Nation and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group to treat knotweed on the Olympic NF.
- Partnership with PNW-Invasive Plant Council resulted in 8 free ID training sessions reaching 162 people, resulting in 1,357 acres surveyed and 76 new invasive plant records on 3 National Forests.
- Incorporated herbicide restriction guidelines for sensitive soil types into the new Blue Mountains soil GIS atlas.
- Yellow floating heart was treated with imazapyr for the third year and has been reduced by 98% on the Umpqua NF.

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

## Invasive Plant Program Facts

- Acres of National Forest in the Region: 24.7 million
  - 15.7 million acres in Oregon
  - 9 million acres in Washington
- Acres of Wilderness: 7.5 million
- 2017 Invasive Plant Information:
  - 99,252 acres surveyed for invasive plants
  - Currently mapped infestations - 692,651 acres
  - Top invasive plants by acres in the Region are:
    - Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) – 86,220 acres
    - Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*) – 78,971 acres
    - Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) – 54,705 acres
  - Invasive plants in designated Wilderness Areas: 26,561 acres (note that the inventory is incomplete)
    - 21,078 acres in Oregon
    - 5,517 acres in Washington
  - Species causing the greatest adverse effects: knapweeds, Medusahead, Ventenata, annual Bromes, houndstongue, hawkweeds, reed canarygrass, Scotch broom, Japanese and Bohemian knotweeds, whitetop, rush skeletonweed, yellow starthistle, European beachgrass
- 2017 Invasive plant accomplishments:
  - 52,902 acres of invasive plants treated with over 120 partners
  - 42,875 acres restored
  - 56,093 acres monitored
  - Average effectiveness of treatments = 84% control
  - Rare species benefitting from invasive plant treatments include, but are not limited to, coastal coho salmon, Oregon spotted frog, northern spotted owl, western snowy plover, Oregon silver spot butterfly, Mardon skipper, sage grouse, *Sidalcea hirtipes*, *Carex macrocephala*, *Abronia umbellata*, *Sisyrinchium sarmentosum*, *Silene spaldingii*, *Mirabilis macfarlanei*



# Pacific Northwest Region

## 2017 State & Private Invasive Plant Accomplishments

We have an excellent and productive relationship with our State and Private partners for invasive plant management. Severe budget cuts across all programs (federal, State, and private) have seriously hampered some containment efforts of high-priority invasive plants, but we continue to accomplish important work. Highlights of 2017 accomplishments include:

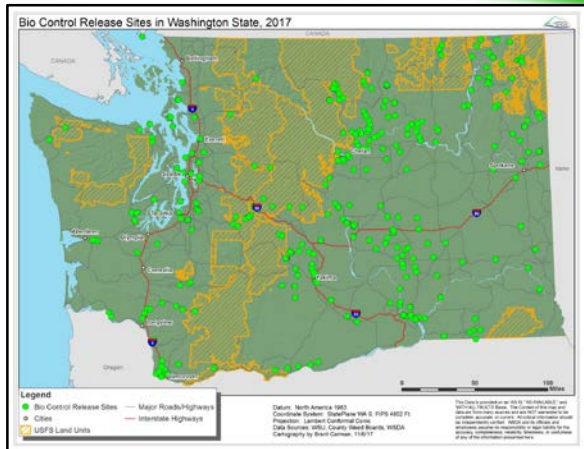
### Oregon Department of Agriculture

- Conducted 85 inspections resulting in certifying 5,258 acres of weed free forage.
- Treated 10,050 acres of 13 priority noxious weeds along with numerous partners.
- Hosted a very successful Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium
- Biocontrols released at 35 sites treating 175 acres and monitored 12 previous release sites.
- The Governor declared the week of May 14-20, 2017 to be Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week
- Staff made 13 public presentations and participated in 6 education events, including the Oregon State Fair where 3,000 people were contacted.
- Collected weed data from over 90 contributors and updated over 300,000 data points for 128 State-listed noxious weeds in the Oregon WeedMapper database. Of these data points, 10,606 were new observation on NFS land in Oregon.



**Figure 1.** Matgrass (*Nardus stricta*) targeted for eradication in Oregon, it degrades meadows and grasslands.

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**Figure 2.** Biocontrol release sites in Washington in 2017

### Washington Department of Agriculture

Grants to WSDA support the Integrated Weed Control Project biocontrol program, which:

- Released over 178,000 biocontrol agents at 420 sites, treating at least 2,100 acres.
- Developed the "Biology and Biological Control of Common Gorse and Scotch Broom" manual with FS Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team.
- First release in North America of the hawkweed gall wasp (*Aulacidea subterminalis*) was made on USFS land to control mouseear hawkweed.
- Conducted the first releases in Washington of the Canada thistle rust fungus (*Puccinia punctiformis*).
- Issued a grant to Ferry County Scotch Thistle project, which treated 363 acres in cooperations with Confederated Colville Tribes.
- Issued a grant to treat 10 acres of rush skeletonweed at the remote Stehekin Airstrip in cooperation with National Park Service and Chelan County.



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# Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The effort to control invasive plants is never ending; our approach is to limit treatments to specific sites that are threatened by infestations, to EDRR sites, and to sites under-going restoration. Most of the treatments are completed by partners.

Highlights include:

- Skamania County identified and began treatment of an infestation of butterfly bush on Woodard Creek, near Beacon Rock State Park, under the EDRR process. More work will be required in 2018. After the treatments, appropriate restoration with native plants will help prevent re-infestation.
- Invasive plant control continues at Sandy River Delta (SRD) in support of the on-going restoration of native hardwood forests and off-channel fish enhancement work. Along a fence demarcating the closed area set aside for wildlife, control of reed canary grass and blackberries continued in preparation for planting more native shrubs and forbs for pollinators.
- Now that over 600 acres at SRD has been restored to hardwood forests and native plants, we are monitoring the results and formulating the future need for weed control. While the results are very encouraging, continued weed work and plantings in the understory are critical before these restored forests can be left to flourish on their own.

### 2017 Accomplishments

Acres treated = 1026 ac.

USFS Invasives funding = \$85,000

Partnership funding: \$201,000+

#### Partners/Cooperator

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP), Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, Ash Creek Forest Management, Friends of Sandy River Delta, Friends of Trees, YESS, Mt Hood Community College, Skamania County, Klickitat County, Wasco County, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Center for Ecodynamic Restoration (CEDR), among others.



**Figure 1.** Riparian area infested with butterfly bush. The infestation on Woodard Cr. was over 60 plants in both the immediate water's edge and in more upland areas. Skamania County had to work their way through blackberries to reach the site. It was determined that the best approach was to treat all the invasive plants present and restore the area with native willows and shrubs.



**Figure 2.** Hardwood forest after 15 years of growth at Sandy River Delta. When canopy closes, this is the critical time to plant understory shrubs and other herbaceous flora to increase shading and further impede infestations by blackberries.

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# Colville National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

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

- *The Colville National Forest completed all invasive plant mitigations required for vegetation and fuels stewardship projects in the implementation of restoration activities.*
- In 2017 the Forest increased its focus on treating invasive plants at dispersed recreation sites and meadows. Priority species treated were yellow hawkweed, orange hawkweed, spotted knapweed.
- Through a partnership with the Ferry County Noxious Weed Control Board the Sanpoil River was surveyed for Japanese Knotweed and plants were found scattered over approximately 2 river miles on NFS land in addition to other private and tribal lands. Cooperative control efforts are planned across all ownerships during 2018.
- 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.
- The Colville National Forest completed weed-free inspections and certifications for 12 commercial rock sources that deliver gravel, fill and barrow material for use on the National Forest.



**Figure 1.** Herbicide application by a contractor at a dispersed recreation Site to control yellow hawkweed.



**Figure 2.** Commercial rock resource inspected & certified weed-free.

### 2017 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2054.1 acres

Monitoring = 1028 Acres

#### Funding (examples)

Base Invasive Plant Program = \$ 159,500

Additional NFTM Invasive Plant funding = \$ 60,000

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration = \$14,057

Partnership funding through title II = \$84,000

#### Partners/Cooperators

Ferry County Noxious Weed Control Board, Pend

Oreille County Noxious Weed Control

Colville National Forest Grazing Permittees, Stevens

County Conservation District, Washington State

Department of Transportation.

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# Deschutes National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

### Invasive Plant Treatments and Monitoring

- Implemented 6,385.5 acres of invasive plant treatments across the forest using a variety of methods.
- Monitored 5,040.3 acres to ensure effectiveness of invasive plant treatments.
- Implemented 105 acres of targeted, spot spray herbicide treatments along the Metolius River to control invasive ribbongrass and yellow flag iris. Completed with expanded partnerships with Friends of the Metolius.
- Lead a collaborative effort with the fuels department to assist with weed treatments and monitoring before and after conducting a prescribed burn in the Rim Rock unit of Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District.

### Survey and Prevention

- Surveyed 2,583 acres and 131 miles for invasive plant populations.
- Ensured over 55 Special Use Permits and 36 CE's included appropriate invasive plant prevention measures.
- Inspected 19 mineral material sites to ensure aggregate and other materials used on NSF lands are weed free.
- 5.75 acres of habitat on the Bend-Fort Rock District were revegetated using genetically local native plant species to prevent establishment of invasive plant populations.

### Conservation Education and Outreach Programs

- Contributed over 85 hours of invasive plant messaging through 17 different presentations, workshops, outdoor education and volunteer events.
- Integrated with forest staff on aquatic invasive species concerns/threats and organized staff 1-day workshop for agency personnel on the identification of aquatic invasive species.



**Figure 1.** Local youth playing “Guess the Noxious Weed” at the Deschutes County Fair Invasive Species Education Station.



**Figure 2.** Oregon Department of Agriculture partner Mike Crumrine, treating orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) on an island in the Deschutes River.

### 2017 Accomplishments

**Expenditures: NFVW \$200,292**  
**NFTM \$50,000**

### Partners/Cooperators: 18

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Deschutes County Vegetation Management, Deschutes County Weed Board, Klamath County Weed Control, Heart of Oregon Corps (YCC), Bend-La Pine School District, Klamath County School District, Northwest Youth Corps, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC), Friends of the Metolius, Caldera, Camp Sherman Weed Warriors, Central Oregon Children's Forest, Oregon Department of Transportation, Mt. Bachelor, Bitterbrush Broads, Native Plant Society.

### Contacts:

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**Beth Johnson/Jerry Hustafa (acting summer 17)** Sisters RD, 541-549-7727



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

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- Integrated Invasive Weed Accomplishment of 2,652 treated acres (2,600 acre target).
- Manual Treatments = 1,583 acres, Summer field crews, Integral Youth Services, and YCC crew.
- Chemical Treatments = 1,069 acres.
- Agreement with Lake County Cooperative Weed Management Area (LCCWMA) = 513 acres.
- Agreement with Klamath County Public Works Department = 556 acres.
- Ruby Pipeline = 49 acres resurveyed during 2017. High amounts of annual grasses intermixed with desired species occurring in some areas. Kinder-Morgan conducted 3<sup>rd</sup> year of herbicide treatments, mostly Canada thistle but some musk thistle and dyers woad.
- Collaboration with LCCWMA resulted in weed treatments on Collins Sawmill yard and Lakeview Redi-Mix quarry sites, thereby decreasing the potential for weed transport between private and NFS and lands.
- Received an additional \$56,700 for work in sage grouse focal habitat. To date, surveyed 1,500 acres and inventoried 270 acres of ventenata and about 10 acres of broadleaf weeds. 200 acres of medusahead was treated on adjacent private land and 60 acres of ventenata treatments were initiated on NFS land in FY18 (October).
- In total, surveyed 3,700 acres for invasive annual grasses and mapped 700 acres, primarily involving ventenata grass.
- Task Order contract completed 3,180 acres of plant surveys in the Thomas Creek ALR project area.
- Continued assessments of juniper control treatments with respect to annual grass response.
- Re-measured monitoring plots in medusahead site 2015 treated in 2015, and added two monitoring sites from 2017 treatments. Evaluated seeding efforts of medusahead treated site.
- At least 500 new weed sites added to inventory comprising almost 3000 acres. Ventenata comprised the vast majority of these acres. Approximately 385 new sites (75 acres) of broadleaf weeds.
- Manual treatments on 1,050 sites involved pulling over 84,750 plants.
- 1,261 sites totaling 282 acres were classified as inactive.
- 88 sites totaling 10.4 acres classified as eradicated.
- 6,983 additional acres surveyed.
- Unobligated funds as a result of unfilled seasonal positions applied to native plant nursery and growout costs.

### 2017 Summary

Invasive Plants Treated = 2,652 acres

Inventories = 6,983 acres

### Funding

NFVW0217 = \$ 296,724

NFVW0217 (Sage Grouse Habitat) \$ 56,700

WFHF0217 = \$ 70,000

CFLN0216 = \$150,000

SRS2 2015 = \$87,106

SRS2 2014 = \$90,000

### Partnership Funding

\$130,000 Klamath County Public Works Department

\$175,221 Lake County Cooperative Weed MA

\$87,106 Integral Youth Services

\$14,450 JHSN and BSE



### Fremont-Winema National Forest

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# Gifford Pinchot National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest partners with four county weed boards as well as volunteer groups and individuals to implement an effective program across two large districts and the Mount St. Helens National Monument. We continue to hold many priority weed populations in check, and detect and treat new priority invasions. In 2017 we began treating Canada thistle in 3 remote wilderness settings. We also targeted 75 acres of forest for holly removal, and found and treated 3 new populations of Mouse-ear hawkweed.

- The forest has ongoing treatments in high value meadow systems. Treatments are supported by Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation(RMEF), stewardship, regional office T&E and invasive programs and Title II funds. The districts continue to work with partners to monitor and treat rock pits. This has allowed our rock sources to be available for use in 2017 for widespread road repairs after a serious flooding event in 2015.

- We are entering the 10th year of implementing our site specific Invasive EIS. Treatment methods appropriate to the species and site are chosen, including manual and chemical treatments. Previous biological controls, such as the Cinnabar caterpillar continue to work for us on the forest.

- PNW Citizen Science provided two high quality plant identification courses for volunteers and employees. Volunteers were encouraged to hike their favorite trails and report on any invasives found.

- The invasive prevention message shared at a variety of venues including the three fishing derbies, Sturgeon Festival, Earth Day celebration, White Pass educational day, and county fairs reached approximately 7,000 individuals.

- Successfully funded invasive treatment projects through Title II, Retained Receipts, RMEF, RO additional funds and RO TE&S funding projects included Coldwater Lake Eurasian milfoil treatment, meadow treatments, Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument-mouse ear hawkweed, knapweed and scotch broom treatments, and quarries.



**Figure 1.** Canada thistle treatments. William O Douglas Wilderness area near Jug Lake

### 2017 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 2542 acres

Inventories

Monitoring 1500 acres

#### FY 2017 Invasive Budget

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Base – NFVW  | \$130,000        |
| RO Add- NFVW   | \$14,000         |
| Title 11 funds                                       | \$73,000         |
| Oregon Spotted Frog invasive site strategy/treatment | \$3,500          |
| KV   | \$56,341         |
| Retained Receipts                                    | \$78,700         |
| <u>RMEF</u>  | <u>\$41,750</u>  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$397,291</b> |

#### Partners/Cooperators

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Cowlitz, Lewis, Klickitat and Skamania County Weed Boards, Mt St Helens Institute, Cascade Forest Conservancy, Pacific North West Citizen Science, Backcountry Horsemen.

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**Gifford Pinchot National Forest**

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# Malheur National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

This year the Malheur National Forest completed our first full year of herbicide treatments under the 2015 EIS/ROD. Major accomplishments include:

### Treatments –

- 2,450 acres actively treated with herbicide or through manual and mechanical techniques. Treatment priorities included state and country roads, Forest Service roads, logging operations, fuels treatments, and aquatic restoration projects.
- Two employees received their Oregon State public herbicide applicator licenses and focused their herbicide treatments on high-value restoration areas.

### Inventory and Monitoring –

- Monitored 2,686 acres for treatment effectiveness.
- Inventoried over 400+ sites/7,000+ acres of 31 non-native species (11 which are primary targets for treatment).
- As part of the CFLRP multiparty monitoring program, we monitored 120 sites that were seeded in 2015 to determine effectiveness in suppressing invasive plants. Each site was monitored for composition and cover of seeded native plants and invasive species (figure 1).
- Continued to monitor (and treat) infestations in the Canyon Creek Complex and Rail fires (funded in part by BAER).

### Partnerships –

- Developed new partnership (participating agreement) with the Burns Paiute Tribe to treat invasive plants in ancestral-use territories on national forest lands.
- Developed new partnership (participating agreement) with Harney County Weed Control to treat invasive plants on national forest lands in Harney County.
- Continued partnerships with Grant Soil & Water Conservation District to treat infested roadsides, rockpits, and rangelands.
- Continued partnerships with North Fork John Day Watershed Council youth crews and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to control infestations through manual/mechanical treatments.

**Invasive Plant Treatments = 2,450 acres**

|                     |            |               |
|---------------------|------------|---------------|
| <b>Expenditures</b> | \$ 161,836 | NFVW          |
|                     | \$ 15,000  | CFLN          |
|                     | \$ 15,035  | H6KJ3V (BAER) |

**Partners/Cooperators –** North Fork John Day Youth Crew, Grant Soil & Water Conservation District, Burns Paiute Tribe, Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Harney County Weed Control, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Transportation, Upper South Fork John Day Watershed Council, Blue Mountains Forest Partners, Harney County Restoration Collaborative, private landowners and ranchers.



**Figure 1.** Native grass seeding can be an effective treatment for suppressing weeds. *Top:* Unseeded slash pile burn scar is infested with invasive bull thistle. *Bottom:* Burn pile scar was seeded with great basin wildrye and bluebunch wheatgrass, which are suppressing invasive species (some weeds are present at very low coverage, but not visible in photo).

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**Malheur National Forest**

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# Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

### Highlights:

- Treated over 1,300 acre using broadcast, spot spray, biocontrol, and cut-stump methods. Monitored over 1,150 acres of previously treated infestations.
- Documented 76 new infestation and treated 50+ EDRR infestations. Completed treatments on 7 KV plans.
- Co-hosted a citizen science/weed watcher training with King Co NWCB and the Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council at the Snoqualmie Ranger Station. 23 volunteers surveyed 66 acres and donated 178 hours of their time on trails throughout the Forest.
- Mapped 11 high priority invasive plants on the 285 acre Skiyou parcel within the Skagit Wild and Scenic River as part of a restoration assessment.
- Pulled St. Johnswort and Spotted Knapweed with 40 youths from the Ryther group at Gold Creek Pond.
- King Co. NWCB treated 397 acres of knotweed along the Skykomish and Tye Rivers. Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group treated 234 acres of knotweed along the Sauk and Skagit Rivers.
- Inspected 11 commercial rock quarries for invasive species and surveyed 28 FS owned rock quarries for use in ERFO projects across the Forest.
- Partnered with the Tulalip and Muckleshoot Indian tribes and Timberline Silvics to treat 51 acres of various invasive species on 5 Elk Forage Units in the HWY 410 corridor.



**Figure 1.** Youth from the Ryther Group pulling St. Johnswort at Gold Creek Pond on the Snoqualmie Ranger District.



**Figure 2.** Forest Service Intern placing a biocontrol on Scotch Broom at the McCullough Seed Orchard on the Snoqualmie District.

### 2017 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 1,302 acres  
Inventories = 76 new infestations  
Monitoring = 1,154 acres

#### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program = \$ 92,000  
Additional Invasive Plant funds to partners = \$ 22,000  
KV Projects = \$32,000

#### Partners/Cooperators

Whatcom Co. Corrections, Tulalip Tribe, Skagit Co. CWMA, Snoqualmie CWMA, Skagit River System Cooperative, Skagit Co. NWCB, Whatcom Co. NWCB, Snohomish Co. NWCB, King Co, NWCB, Timberline Silvics, Mt. Adams Institute, AmeriCorps, Ryther Group, Summit at Snoqualmie Ski resort, Steven's Pass Ski Resort, Forterra, Muckleshoot Tribe, BPA, PSE, WSDOT, PNW-IPC, NSEA, SFEG, MTSMT.

### Contacts:

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# Mt. Hood National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

In 2017, the Mt. Hood National Forest successfully implemented its tenth year of noxious weed treatment and prevention since signing the *Site-Specific Invasive Plant Treatments* FEIS in March 2008.

### Accomplishment highlights include:

- Cooperated in a multi-agency partner efforts to treat orange and meadow hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*, *H. caespitosum*) within the Lolo Pass powerline corridor and surrounding areas. Treatments conducted by the Clackamas SWCD, Portland Water Bureau, ODA and FS staff.
- Partnership with Hood River SWCD, Master Gardeners, landowners and ODA to contain garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) found within one mile of the Forest Boundary. Conducted surveys along a wild and scenic river corridor, and near forest boundaries. Hand treated certain populations.
- The Clackamas SWCD conducted surveys on the forest throughout the Clackamas and Sandy River Watersheds as part of efforts with WeedWise program and the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP).
- Presented during a Weed Management 101 training hosted by the Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area.
- Co-hosted an EDRR training in Sandy, Oregon with the Clackamas SWCD.
- Local YCC crew of five handpulled 10 acres of houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) and tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobea*) near a riparian area and campground.
- The Timber Lake Job Corp assisted with local fire efforts, and manned the weed wash station during the Rim Fire.



**Figure 1.** Timber Lake Job Corp crew member powerwashing vehicle at the Rim Fire weed wash station. (photo by C. Mead)



**Figure 2.** 2017 YCC Crew hand pulling houndstongue and tansy ragwort. (photo by C. Mead)

### 2017 Accomplishments

| Funding   |      | Activity  |
|-----------|------|---|
| \$110,000 | NFVW | Invasive plant treatment                                  |
| \$181,000 | SSCC | Forestwide Retained Receipts                              |
| \$45,000  | CWKV | Invasive plant treatment                                  |
| \$43,000  | SRS2 | Title 2 Funding, Clackamas, Hood River and Wasco Counties |
| TOTAL     |      | 1,934 Acres treated                                       |

### Partners/Cooperators:

Oregon Department of Agriculture; Oregon Department of Transportation; Wasco, Hood River, Clackamas, and Multnomah Counties; Clackamas, Hood River and Wasco SWCD; Bonneville Power Administration; Portland Water Bureau; Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area; 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area.

### Contacts:

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# Ochoco National Forest & Crooked River National Grassland

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

### Invasive Plant Treatments and Monitoring

- Implemented 3,756 acres of invasive plant treatments across the forest using a variety of methods.
- Monitored 3,946 acres to ensure effectiveness of invasive plant treatments (includes some treatments from FY16).
- Partnered with Heart of Oregon Corps to develop new herbicide application program to provide local young adults with job skills and increase treatment capacity.
- Partnered with Northwest Youth Corps to accomplish 42 acres of manual invasive plant treatments within Bridge Creek Wilderness Area.

### Survey and Prevention

- Continued collaboration and internal engagement efforts to develop and apply state-and-transition models to improve management response to invasive annual grasses on CRNG.
- Surveyed 1,450 acres for invasive plant populations (est. need to update SURVEY in TESP-IS).
- Ensured over 25 Special Use Permits and project analyses included appropriate invasive plant prevention measures.
- Inspected 78 mineral material sites to ensure aggregate and other materials used on NSF lands are weed free.

### Conservation Education and Outreach Programs

- Developed and delivered a series of 3 field-based weed identification workshops attended by 50 volunteers and Forest Service personnel.
- Provided invasive plant prevention messaging and staffing capacity to the Fire Prevention Information Center for the 2017 solar eclipse. 3,357 total public contacts were made over 8 days.
- Conducted over 120 hours of invasive plant messaging through other presentations, outreach events and activities.
- Generation Green Intern successfully served 640-hour internship, participating in all aspects of program delivery.



**Figure 1.** A new partnership with Heart of Oregon Corps trained Americorps young adults to apply herbicide alongside Forest Service staff.



**Figure 2.** Dr. Tamzen Stringham and associates from University of Nevada developed state-and-transition models for the Crooked River National Grassland and trained staff on application for improved invasive plant management and prevention.

### 2017 Accomplishments

#### Expenditures:

**NFVW \$224,494, CWKV \$11084,  
CWF2 \$10,161, CMLG \$1,897**

#### Partners/Cooperators: 12

Discover Your Forest, Northwest Youth Corps, Heart of Oregon Corps, Jefferson County Weed Control, Wheeler Soil & Water Conservation District, Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District, Crook County Weed Control, Crooked River Weed Management Area, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, Middle Deschutes Watershed Council, Friends & Neighbors of Deschutes Canyon Area (FANS), Agricultural Research Service, Burns, Oregon

#### Contacts:

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**Jill Welborn**, Paulina Ranger District Botanist, 541-416-6635; [jilwelborn@fs.fed.us](mailto:jilwelborn@fs.fed.us)



#### Ochoco National Forest

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Prineville, OR 97754



# Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

*The ROD for the Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest-wide Site-specific Invasive Plant Treatment FEIS was signed. The EIS updated the list of herbicides available and allowed for an Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR).*

Over 100 acres were identified and treated using the new EDRR process. Common houndstongue, common burdock, Dalmatian toadflax and oxeye daisy were among the invasive plants found and treated.

- The WDFW partnered with the USFS to conduct common houndstongue surveys and treatment on and adjacent to USFS land.
- Invasive plant prevention was included in Resource Advisor guidance on fires across the Forest. Weed wash stations and helicopter bucket cleaning were emphasized.
- Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) Crews treated common crupina as part of an ongoing partnership with Chelan Ranger District. The WCC treated 800 acres on the Tonasket R.D. using BAER funding.
- The Methow Ranger District partnered with the Libby Creek Watershed Association and the Twisp River Weed Warriors to control invasive plants in those watersheds.
- Biocontrols were released on the Chelan, Entiat, Methow, and Tonasket Ranger Districts through the WSU cooperative extension using Title 2 and Chelan County PUD funds.



**Figure 1.** Hector Rodriguez, Chelan Invasive Plant Crew Lead helps prevent invasive plant invasion by seeding native grass in areas disturbed by fire suppression.



**Figure 2.** Biocontrol release on diffuse knapweed, Methow Ranger District. Our hard-working insect partners!

### 2017 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 6,278 acres

Inventories = 2,100 acres

Monitoring = 10,979 acres

### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program = \$ 342,927

Rural County Title 2 Funds= \$ 81,671

Burned Area Emergency Repair = \$32,000

Partnership funding = \$10,000

Challenge cost share = \$25,000

KV= \$4,000

CMXF (BPA), NFXN (Holden Mine) = \$16,000

### Partners/Cooperators

Washington Conservation Corps, Chelan, Okanogan and Kittitas County Noxious Weed Programs, Crupina Eradication Task Force, Chelan County Public Utility District. WSU Extension Bioagent Program, Entiat National Fish Hatchery, Libby Creek Watershed Assoc., Twisp River Weed Warriors, WSDOT.

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**Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**  
215 Melody Lane  
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# Olympic National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

**In 2017, the Olympic National Forest successfully treated 610 acres of weeds on the Forest. About half of these were completed by two County Weed Boards using Title II funds; the other half was completed by the WCC and an FS crew.**

### *Significant accomplishments and highlights*

- Co-presented with Cathy Lucero of the Clallam County NWCB to about 200 people at the Scotch Broom Symposium about FS prevention standards, with an emphasis on the weed-free gravel requirement. Clallam County NWCB and FS rock source inspection programs were described; the benefits, limitations, and success of each were also discussed.
- County and FS staff inspected and treated 21 on-Forest rock sources for weeds. Worked with Timber, Engineering and Roads to plan future rock source development and use, with an emphasis on invasive plant prevention. Privately owned quarries were also inspected in Clallam, Jefferson, and Mason Counties, some at the request of the quarry owners who are aware of the FS weed-free gravel standard.
- Efforts were continued to control a severe Scotch broom infestation adjacent to a timber sale planning area. Initial manual treatments were completed in 2016; this year, the WCC completed over 20 acres of herbicide treatments. In addition to the Scotch broom, a previously undetected yellow archangel infestation, scattered tansy ragwort and Canada thistle were also controlled. The long term plan is to re-vegetate the site with pollinator friendly native species.
- Began focused treatments in the Dungeness watershed in support of a large road decommissioning project. Included in this project is a set of spur roads where a severe infestation of everlasting peavine has been controlled through a multi-year, collaborative effort between the Clallam County NWCB, and the Olympic NF Invasives, Natives, Wildlife, and Timber programs. Revegetation with a suite of pollinator-friendly native species will be an important part of the prescription for these roads, and others like them in the watershed.
- Worked with the Quinault Indian Nation and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group to treat knotweed in the Boulder Creek drainage in the Quinault area, and the Dosewallips River watershed on the Hood Canal RD.
- The Olympic Forest Collaborative to treated herb Robert infestations in the H to Z and Lake Cushman timber sale planning areas. This group is a collaborative effort between private timber and local environmental groups to accomplish on-the-ground work on the Forest.



**Figure 1.** Thick mats of Everlasting peavine are present on several roads that are part of a road decommissioning project in the Dungeness watershed. These areas were a major target for treatment this year. Long term plans after treatment includes revegetation with pollinator friendly native species.

### **2017 Accomplishments**

Invasive Plants Treated = 615 acres  
Treatment Areas Monitored = 1200 acres

#### **Funding**

NFVW = \$162,000  
CWKV = \$7,100  
Title II = \$20,000 (Mason County); \$21,668 (Clallam and Jefferson County)

#### **Partners/Cooperators**

Clallam, Jefferson and Mason County Noxious Weed Control Boards, Quinault Indian Nation, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Washington Conservation Corps, Olympic Forest Collaborative.

#### **Contacts:**

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**Cheryl Bartlett** Forest Botanist and Invasive Plant Program Coordinator, 360-956-2283



**Olympic National Forest**  
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# Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

*The RRSNF invasive plant staff met their goals and objectives this year by cooperating extensively with partner groups and leveraging funding to the maximum extent possible. The staff includes one GS-12 Forest Botanist, two GS-11 District Botanists, two GS-7 seasonal crew leaders and ten seasonal GS-5/6 Bio Tech (Plants).*

- A main focus in fy17 was preparing for NEPA analysis in fy18 by more accurately mapping invasive plant sites throughout the forest. Roughly 2,000 new sites were mapped and a total of about 6,500 acres were added to the forest level inventory.
- 2,456 acres of invasive plants were treated. 257 acres with herbicide and 2,199 through manual/hand pulling.
- 3,526 acres surveyed for projects and about 500 miles of road were inventoried as targeted weed surveys.
- Continued a long term partnership with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) focused on spotted knapweed and biddy-biddy treatments.
- NW Youth Corp completed 8 weeks of work on forest.
- The Alyssum Task Force advanced their long term goal of eradication, resulting in significant reductions in existing populations.
- Initiated a hounds tongue partnership control project on the Siskiyou Mountain crest with the Klamath NF.
- Wildfire had a huge impact on our program this year. Collectively botanists on the forest spent roughly 3,200 hours managing for invasive plants as resource advisors and BAER team members between July and October.



**Figure 1.** Getting after hounds tongue on the Siskiyou crest



**Figure 2.** Acting Regional Invasive Species Coordinator Jennifer Lippert and ODA partner Carri Pirosko monitoring the efficacy of biddy-biddy treatments at the Gold Beach ranger station.

### 2017 Accomplishments

*Invasive Plants Treated = 2,456 acres*

*Inventories = 3,526 acres surveyed during projects, ~500 miles of road inventoried as part of targeted invasive plant surveys*

*Monitoring = ~800 acres of sites treated in past years were monitored. Rate of efficacy between 50-70%.*

#### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program NFWW = \$137,162  
Regional Priority Alyssum Funds NFWW = \$50,000  
Timber Sale Associated CWKV = \$187,698  
Title II RAC = \$22,361  
Partners Contributions = \$53,000  
**Total = \$450,221**

#### Partners/Cooperators

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Jackson County  
Community Justice Crew, NW Youth Corp, BLM

#### Contacts:

Clint Emerson, Forest Botanist, 541-618-2056  
Stu Osbrack, District Botanist, Wild Rivers RD, 541-592-4052  
Kailey Clarno, Dist. Botanist, Gold Beach/Powers, 541-247-3656



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



# Siuslaw National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- In 2017, invasive plant management focused on supporting habitat restoration projects. Sand dune habitat key to the recovery of threatened western snowy plover and sensitive pink sand verbena (*Abronia umbellata*), riparian meadow restoration supporting threatened coastal coho salmon, upland meadow projects to increase pollinator diversity, and the acceleration of late-successional forest were included. Other priorities were invasive plant species with limited occurrence on the Forest and treatment of rock pits identified for current use or future development.
- Methods included manual and mechanical on 276 acres and chemical treatment on 710 acres. For the year, a total of 986 treatment acres were completed.
- Invasive plant inventory data was collected on about 3,000 acres during project planning, post-project monitoring.
- Inventory data suggests some invasive species are spreading and becoming more abundant in areas previously resistant to infestation.
- Working with partners, 11 educational events highlighting the identification and impact of invasive plants were attended by about 145 people.
- Partners and volunteers contributed to the control of invasive plants in special habitats including a Research Natural Area, wilderness, and a Scenic Botanical Area.



**Figure 1.** Volunteers with Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) and Alliance for Recreation and Natural Areas (AFRANA) gather for a presentation before removing oxeye daisy and purple foxglove from Mary's Peak meadows.



**Figure 2.** Northwest Youth Corps spent four weeks on the Forest manually removing invasives from high value sand dune habitat in a Research Natural Area and Oregon Dunes NRA.

### 2017 Accomplishments

Invasive Plants Treated = 986 acres

Inventories = about 3,000 acres

Monitoring = 500 acres

### Funding

Appropriated (NFVW, NFRW, CMRD) = \$ 232,00

Trust fund and Stewardship (STWD, CWKV) = \$ 61,400

Secure Rural Schools Title II (SRS2) = \$ 32,200

Contributed and volunteer in-kind funding = \$ 11,000

### Partners/Cooperators

Northwest Youth Corps, Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Siuslaw Watershed Council, Lincoln County Highway Department, Benton Soil and Water Conservation District, 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, Jim Grano, Reedsport and Siuslaw Middle Schools.

### Contacts:

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**Siuslaw National Forest**

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Corvallis, OR 97333

# Umatilla National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- The main focus of the program is to treat roadside infestations. Many sites now only have a few plants per mile (primarily diffuse and spotted knapweeds).
- Grizzly Complex Fire-Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness Inventory/Treatment (target species: meadow hawkweed, rush skeletonweed, sulphur cinquefoil).
- Meacham Creek Restoration Project; in cooperation with Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, inventory and treatment of common bugloss.
- Inventory and Early Detection, Rapid Response for tansy ragwort, meadow hawkweed.
- Added Aminopyralid as a newly approved herbicide. This chemical is less toxic to the environment and people.
- Grande Ronde Wild & Scenic River campsite and gravel bar treatments, with multiple cooperators (target species: leafy spurge, sulphur cinquefoil, meadow hawkweed).
- Worked with multiple partners to leverage limited funds through matching participating agreements.
- All botany surveys for integrated vegetation management projects documented invasive plants as well as rare plants.
- North Fork John Day Ranger District staff partnered with the Oregon Department of Agriculture to treat and inventory an isolated population of meadow hawkweed.
- Soil scientists (Jim Archuleta and Mary Young) incorporated herbicide restriction guidelines for sensitive soil types into the new Blue Mountains soil GIS atlas. This will add planning which herbicides to use for various soils.



Figure 1. Priority species-meadow hawkweed



Figure 2. Walla Walla RD employee Terry Reynolds implementing raft-based treatments on Lower Grande Ronde River.

### 2017 Accomplishments

**Invasive plant gross acres treated** = 6,890 (110% of target)

**Inventories** = 50 miles of roads and trails in Grizzly fire, including portions of Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness

4,800 acres (much of this done along with rare plant surveys for vegetation management projects)

#### Funding

Base Invasive Plant Program = \$ 244,000

Additional Invasive Plant funding:

SPF coop funding = \$20,000

KV project funding = \$65,000

Integrated Veg program (inventory)= \$10,000

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

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**Umatilla National Forest**  
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# Umpqua National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

- Over 3,000 acres of invasive plant species were treated 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 third year and has been reduced by 98%. False brome, another high priority species, was treated with glyphosate across 200 acres.
- Additional acres of priority weeds were treated mechanically, including Armenian blackberry, Canada thistle, English ivy, Italian thistle, Japanese knotweed, Malta thistle, meadow knapweed, rush skeletonweed, Scotch broom, St. Johnswort, vinca, yellow archangel and yellow starthistle, using partners including the Al Kennedy, M.L. King and Phoenix Alternative High Schools and FS seasonal crews.
- We have initiated the use of the IS-Mobile Collector to improve accuracy and efficiency of weed inventories in preparation for the upcoming Umpqua Weed treatment EIS.
- Surveyed for invasive plants and proposed treatments for BAER projects on several fires across the forest.



**Figure 1.** Martin Luther King HS crew treating Armenian blackberry.



**Figure 2.** Canada thistle resprouting after the Fall Creek fire

| BLI  | Treatment Acres |
|------|-----------------|
| NFVW | 2663            |
| CWKV | 174             |
| CWFS | 233             |

### Partners/Cooperators:

Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Lane county Dept of Public works  
PacifiCorp  
Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Douglas County Weed Board  
Upper Willamette Weed Management Area  
Douglas County Weed Management Area  
Al Kennedy Alternative High School  
Martin Luther King Alternative High School  
Phoenix Alternative High School

**Contact:** Richard Helliwell, 541-957-3337



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



# Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Wallowa-Whitman NF Invasive Plant Program had a very successful year. Prevention, control, surveying, and working with partners remain the focus.

*We're proud to report the addition of Aminopyralid for use with our invasive plant treatments. In 2017, 3,054 acres across the forest were treated at 79% average control, resulting in 1,796 net acres improved.*

- Eagle Cap Wilderness – all trailheads treated, contracts to treat meadow hawkweed in 6 drainages.
- Backcountry airstrip weed treatments – treatment of 10 backcountry airstrips.
- Partnered with Oregon Departments of Transportation and Agriculture for the coordinated treatment of 9 miles of I-84 ROW over the Blue Mountains.
- Restoration/Prevention: Seeded grapple piles following East Face Timber Stand Improvement Project.
- Participated in multi-ownership project to treat rush skeletonweed near Hooker Flat and meadow hawkweed on Mount Harris.
- Snake River campsite poison ivy treatments.
- Contributed to Upper Burnt River CWMA survey of Camp Creek.



**Figure 1.** Monitoring bio control treatment of St. Johnswort by Forest Health Protection Entomologist Lia Spiegel and a volunteer.



**Figure 2.** Partnership project: Snake River Weed Treatments

### 2017 Accomplishments

#### **Invasive Plants Treated = 3053 acres**

- 560 acres treated through partnerships and volunteers
- 230 acres treated through contract
- 30 acres bio-control releases

#### **Inventories**

- 1,081 acres inventoried

#### **Funding**

Base Program = \$199,746

Additional funding (Grants) = \$70,024

KV and BAER funding = \$48,500

#### **Partners/Cooperators**

Tri-County Coordinated Weed Management Area, Upper Burnt River CWMA, Baker County SWCD, Baker County weed program, Wallowa Resources, Wallowa County Veg. Dept., Wallowa County Pilots Association, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Permittees, Volunteers, Hells Canyon Preservation Council, APHIS (David Felley), and Private landowners, and contractors.

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**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**

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# Willamette National Forest

## 2017 Invasive Plant Accomplishments

The Willamette National Forest accomplished much of its program this year with the aid of partners.

### ***Significant accomplishments / highlights***

We treated 4450 acres using manual and chemical treatments.

Our partners at **Oregon Department of Agriculture** helped us treat and survey many weed sites, especially on the Detroit and McKenzie Ranger Districts.

### ***Integrated Projects***

We partnered with the Aquatics program on McKenzie District in a **Challenge cost share** where we are treating weeds in **South Fork McKenzie Restoration Project** prior to some major floodplain restoration.

### ***Partnerships***

**Northwest Youth Corps (NWYC)** worked on Sweet Home District for 5 weeks and spent a lot of focused time in Camas Prairie, a gathering place for traditional uses, where they removed blackberry. A different NWYC crew worked on Middle Fork District removing English ivy on 50 acres.

**Marion County Corrections Crew** removed Scotch broom on Highway 22 in front of our Ranger station outside our fence line (below).

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



**Figure 1.** This roadside along Highway 22 used to be full of Scotch broom in front of the Ranger District office; now it's just beautiful fall foliage.



**Figure 2.** Detroit 4H Volunteers cut Scotch broom and blackberry at Detroit Flats Day Use Area.

### **2017 Accomplishments**

Invasive Plants Treated = 4450 acres

Integrated work= NFWF 53 ac; PSRS 45 ac

### **Funding**

Base Invasive Plant Program KV - \$ 220,110  
VW-\$ 149,403

Partnership funding included NFWF and PSRS

### **Partners/Cooperators**

Oregon Department of Agriculture; Oregon Department of Transportation; Northwest Youth Corps; Marion County Corrections Crew; Linn County Juvenile Work Crew; Bonneville Power Administration; Portland General Electric; Eugene Water and Electric; HJ Andrews Experimental Forest/Oregon State University; Detroit 4H Youth Group.

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