

2026

– LEWIS COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST –

APPENDIX

Lewis County Noxious Weed List & Action Levels

The Lewis County Noxious Weed List includes the following:

CLASS A

- Identified by the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

CLASS B-DESIGNATES

- Region 3
- Identified by the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

CLASS B-SELECT

- Selected as a local control priority by the Lewis County Weed Board

CLASS C-SELECT

- Selected as a local control priority by the Lewis County Weed Board

Written Findings

Written findings are developed by the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board as part of the weed listing process and provide information on the biology, ecological and economic impacts and management techniques of listed noxious weeds. The Written Findings are posted on the state Weed Board's website at www.nwcb.wa.gov and updated periodically by the WSNWCB.

Action levels or treatment thresholds

The Action levels for the following classes - Class A, Class B designates, County Select Class B, County Select Class C, Class B and Class C weeds on the Lewis County Noxious Weed list are as follows:

Definitions:

"*Eradicate*" means to eliminate a noxious weed within an area of infestation.

"*Control*" of noxious weeds means to prevent all seed production and/or to prevent the dispersal of all propagative parts capable of forming new plants.

"*Contain*" means to confine a noxious weed and its propagules to an already identified area of infestation and prevent the infestation of previously unaffected areas.

"*Dominance ratings*" is a measure of plant density of the target noxious weed. It is an estimate

based on a 0 (zero) to 5 scale, assigned by LCNWCB staff, where:

- 0** = target noxious weed species not present on site
- 1** = target species is present, but not obvious, in the surrounding plant community.
- 2** = target species is present, but not obvious, though on closer examination multiple plants of target species are found present on site.
- 3** = target species is present and obvious in the surrounding plant community.
The target species is not an obvious dominant within the plant community.
- 4** = target species is present and obvious in the surrounding plant community.
The target species is a co-dominant in the plant community.
- 5** = target species is present and dominates the surrounding plant community.

“*Action level*” is the threshold for the Weed Board taking corrective action as determined by the presence or dominance level of a noxious weed. When the action level is met for a Class A, Class B designate, Class B select or C select weed, the Weed Board staff will contact the landowner and begin the process of gaining compliance with the noxious weed law.

NOXIOUS WEED CLASSIFIED as "Class A"

- Control all infestations with the goal of eradication as the *highest priority*.
- Eradication of all plant parts and prevention of seed production *required statewide*.
- **Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level**
- LCNWCB will maintain a practice of surveying for noxious weeds by recording location information, assigning dominance ratings, and mapping infestation areas.
- LCNWCB will specify control strategies appropriate to each site.
- LCNWCB will monitor plant re-growth and propagule production following control actions.

NOXIOUS WEEDS CLASSIFIED as "CLASS B-Designate"

- Control all infestations with the goal of stopping all seed or propagule production.
- Prevention of seed production *required* in designated regions of the state.
- **Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level.**
- LCNWCB will maintain a process of surveying for noxious weeds by recording location information, assigning dominance ratings, and mapping infestation areas.
- LCNWCB will specify control strategies appropriate to each infestation site.
- LCNWCB will monitor plant re-growth and propagule production following control actions.

NOXIOUS WEED CLASSIFIED as "B-select" or "C-select"

- Control all infestations within parcel or identified area of infestation and stop seed or propagule dispersion, as feasible.
- **Action level requiring landowner control:** Determined by the Weed Control Board for each weed species selected, see below.

- LCNWCB will maintain a process of surveying for noxious weeds by recording location information, assigning dominance ratings, and mapping infestation areas.
- As time and resources allow, and deemed feasible the Program Coordinator, LCNWCB staff will specify control strategies appropriate to each infestation site and monitor plant re-growth and/or propagule production following control actions.

Specific Parameters for each “B-select” Noxious Weed Species:

Aquatic:

Egeria, *Egeria densa*:

1. See “AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS” notes below.

Eurasian watermilfoil, *Myriophyllum spicatum*:

1. See “AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS” notes below.

Parrotfeather, *Myriophyllum aquaticum*:

1. See “AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS” notes below.

Terrestrial:

Butterfly bush, *Buddleja davidii*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level within the parcel.
2. Control efforts will always coincide with on-going efforts to: educate landowners about the invasive characters of *Buddleja davidii*, recommend alternative plants that are less invasive, and the prevention of seed production.

Knotweed Complex: Giant knotweed, *Fallopia sachalinensis*, Bohemian knotweed, *Fallopia × bohemica*, Japanese knotweed, *Fallopia japonica*, & Himalayan knotweed *Persicaria wallichii*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level.
 - Exceptions to required control may be allowed on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Program Coordinator when the landowner does not possess the means to treat a riparian or aquatic infestation, such as not possessing an aquatic endorsement on a Washington state pesticide license, and the infestation is within an aquatic or riparian area, or not possessing the financial means to hire a private or professional contractor for the same purpose.
2. Priority for control actions given to river riparian corridors and adjacent parcels where knotweed populations are a source for spread due to flooding, or where lack of enforced control efforts would undermine ongoing programmatic efforts to eradicate knotweeds in targeted, high-priority areas. The latter especially includes situations when adjacent or upstream parcels have been previously treated, especially if the site is the most upstream known untreated knotweed infestation site.
 - Cowlitz River, from the headwaters or most upstream known infestation site downstream to the confluence with Cowlitz County line (approx. river mile 26).

- Newaukum River, from the headwaters or most upstream known infestation site downstream to the confluence with the Chehalis River & including the entirety of the North Fork (headwaters T14N, Rge 1E, Sec 20) and the Middle Fork.
 - Chehalis River and associated tributaries from the respective headwaters or most upstream known infestation site downstream to river mile 86 (St. Parks Rail Bridge crossing west of Spooner Road) and including the South Fork Chehalis River from its headwaters downstream to the Chehalis River.
3. Isolated populations associated with public roads, streams and the adjoining parcels.
 - Considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: population location within the watershed, distance to adjacent populations, probability of spread by water movement, equipment or vehicles, or *adjacent* landowner complaint.

Poison hemlock, *Conium maculatum*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level within the parcel.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in right-of-way corridors: identification and dominance at any level in Lewis County (private or public) Railways, Roads, St. Highways and City maintained roads.
3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: landowner complaints, presence of livestock in the area or adjacent parcels, public safety & maintenance of vegetation to prevent this plant from being a human health hazard.
4. The presence of biological agents on a property does not relieve a landowner of control responsibilities.

Scotch broom, *Cytisus scoparius*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level along the described rights-of-way and any adjoining parcels, or parcels within the described exclusion zones:
 - Exclusion Zone 1: All parcels and rights-of-way within Lewis County to the east of Latitude 122° West, to include Paradise Valley, Milepost 113 of Highway 12 (i.e. Randle Drop Box Rd.), to the eastern boundary of the county. See maps included.
 - Exclusion Zone 2: All rights-of-way and parcels south of the section of Hwy. 12 between Mayfield Lake Bridge (Milepost 82) and the intersection of Highway 12 and State Highway 7 in Morton, WA, (Milepost 98) to the Cowlitz County border. See maps included.
 - Exclusion Zone 3: Starting at the intersection of Hwy. 6 & Interstate 5, all parcels north of the described section of Highway 6 as it heads towards the county's border with Pacific County, and all parcels east of the described section of Interstate 5 as it heads towards the county's border with Thurston County. See maps included.
 - North Fork Road from the intersection with Jackson Hwy., northeast to the end of North Fork Road, also including the entirety of secondary roads Hewett Rd. & Lucas Creek Rd.
 - Centralia Alpha Rd., from the intersection of the aforementioned with North Fork Rd., to its intersection with State Highway 508/Main Ave.
2. Isolated populations associated with any public roads and the adjoining parcels.
 - Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: population location within the watershed, distance to adjacent

populations, the probability of spread by water movement, rock, soil, equipment or vehicles, or adjacent landowner complaint.

- The presence of biological agents on a property does not relieve a landowner of control responsibilities.

Tansy ragwort, *Jacobaea vulgaris*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 3 to 5, for either the entire parcel or any subset area within the parcel.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at any level on city-maintained rights-of-way, Lewis County managed rights-of-way, or St. Highway rights-of-way.
3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: presence of livestock, neighboring livestock and forage production operations, or landowner complaints.
4. The presence of biological agents on a property does *not* relieve a landowner of control responsibilities.

Yellow archangel, *Lamium galeobdolon*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: identification and dominance at any level.
2. Control efforts will always coincide with on-going efforts to: educate landowners about the invasive characters of Yellow archangel and recommend alternative plants that are less invasive.

Specific Parameters for each “C-select” Noxious Weed Species:

Aquatic:

Curlyleaf pondweed, *Potamogeton crispus*:

1. See “AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS” notes below.

Yellowflag iris, *Iris pseudacorus*:

1. See “AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS” notes below.
2. Action level requiring landowner control: priority for control actions given to aquatic systems where populations are a source for spread due to boat trailers, watercraft and flooding, as well as isolated populations associated with small ponds, streams and rivers.
3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: population location within the watershed, distance to adjacent populations, probability of spread by water movement, equipment or vehicles.

Terrestrial:

Bull thistle, *Cirsium vulgare*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 5, for either the entire parcel or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset area within the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at level 4 and/or 5 in any 1,000 ft. length of Lewis County Roads, St. Highways and City maintained roads, as determined by LCNWCB staff.

3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: spread to other parcels and adjacent landowner complaints.

Common Holly, *Ilex aquifolium*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 3 for either the entire parcel or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset area within the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Other considerations that may require landowner control, at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: spread to other parcels and adjacent landowner complaints.

Canada thistle, *Cirsium arvense*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 5 for either the entire parcel or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset area within the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at level 4 and/or 5 in any 1,000 ft. length of Lewis County Roads, St. Highways and City maintained roads.
3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: spread to other parcels and adjacent landowner complaints.

English ivy, *Hedera helix*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 4 or 5 within the parcel or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset of the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: landowner complaints, distance to adjacent populations, probability of spread by equipment, timber or forestry practices, etc.

Evergreen blackberry, *Rubus laciniatus*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 4 or 5 within the parcel, or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset of the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: adjacent landowner complaints, distance to adjacent populations, probability of spread by equipment, timber or forestry practices, etc.

Himalayan blackberry, *Rubus armeniacus*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 4 or 5 within the parcel, or any 10,000 sq. ft. subset of the parcel, as determined by LCNWCB staff.
2. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: adjacent landowner complaints, distance to adjacent populations, probability of spread by equipment, timber or forestry practices, etc.

Italian arum, *Arum italicum*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level, for either the entire parcel or any subset area within the parcel.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at any level in any Lewis County Roads, Railways, St. Highways and City maintained roads.

Oxeye daisy, *Leucanthemum vulgare*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 4 to 5, for either the entire parcel or any subset area of 10,000 sq. ft. or greater within the parcel.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at level 4 or 5 for any 1,000 ft. length in Lewis County Roads, Railways, St. Highways and City maintained roads.
3. Other considerations that may require landowner control at the discretion of the Program Coordinator: *adjacent* landowner complaints.

Reed canarygrass, *Phalaris arundinacea*:

1. Action level requiring control: Identification and dominance at any level in wilderness area portals (USFS wilderness trailheads for Tatoosh, Goat Rocks, William O Douglas, Mt. Adams wilderness areas, as well as parking lots, campgrounds, & areas within ¼ mi of wilderness access points).
2. Ongoing efforts to: educate wilderness users about the invasive character of noxious weeds and how to prevent their spread.

Tree-of-Heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance at any level within the parcel of small statured or “suckering” trees, basal shoots, root sprouts, adventitious shoots, seedlings, or saplings that may be safely treated and/or removed without the aid of a professional contractor or certified arborist, generally 4.5” DBH (“Diameter at Breast Height”) and less.
2. Larger trees, generally greater than 4.5” DBH, may be left standing if the landowner does not possess the means to safely remove them, but all basal shoots, “suckers,” root sprouts, and adventitious shoots, as well as any seedlings and saplings, must be adequately controlled, treated and removed by the landowner.
3. On-going efforts to: educate landowners about the invasive characteristics of *Ailanthus altissima* and recommend alternative plants, especially ornamental trees that are less invasive.

Wild carrot (aka Queen Anne’s Lace), *Daucus carota*:

1. Action level requiring landowner control: Identification and dominance level of 4 to 5, for either the entire parcel or any subset area of 10,000 sq. ft. or greater within the parcel.
2. Action level requiring landowner control in public right-of-way corridors: Identification and dominance at any level in Lewis County Roads, Railways, St. Highways, and municipal roads.

NOXIOUS WEED CLASSIFIED as “Class B” or “Class C” (No Designated or Selected status):

- Contain preexisting infestations and stop the spread of these species to previously unaffected parcels and sensitive areas whenever practicable.
- Maintain a process of surveying for noxious weeds within these classes to evaluate their classification and status on the county weed list.
- Weeds identified in this category may be widely distributed in the region and within areas of Lewis County, making prevention of all seed production within a single season difficult and not always practical. Nonetheless, the weed species in this group are noxious and landowners are encouraged to contain them.
- *Containment* of Class B and Class C weed populations to prevent seed or propagule spread, *especially to areas where they are not already widespread* and are listed as Class B-Designate, Class B-Select, or Class C-select, is the goal.

AQUATIC NOXIOUS WEEDS:

- The Weed Board will require landowners to manage aquatic weeds where it may be determined that they are clearly responsible, especially if the infestation affects adjacent landowners or adjacent lands managed by public agencies.
- Enforced control will be conducted at the discretion of the Program Coordinator. Exceptions to required control may be allowed on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Program Coordinator when the landowner does not possess the means to treat a riparian or aquatic infestation, such as by not possessing an aquatic endorsement on a Washington state pesticide license or not possessing the financial means to hire a private or professional contractor for the same purpose.
- In the aquatic and/or riparian environment where land ownership is not clear, the Weed Board will enlist the cooperation of both relevant landowners and public agencies for resources to manage aquatic noxious weeds to meet the requirements of the Washington State Noxious Weed Law.
- Program priorities in treating aquatic noxious weeds will be guided by: public safety, public access to water resources, and weed distribution within the region.

PLANT SPECIES ON THE MONITOR LIST:

- Survey for and gather data on the ecological impact and geographic extent, density, and spread thereof, as programmatic resources allow, in order to evaluate their potential inclusion and classification on the noxious weed list.
- Provide written or verbal testimony on these plant species to the Washington State Noxious Weed Board as appropriate.

FOR ALL LISTED WEEDS & OTHER TOXIC AND PROBLEM WEEDS:

- Provide weed species identification and educational information.
- Offer control strategies and tactics appropriate to the infestation site, when asked, and as programmatic resources allow.
- Encourage containment and control measures where practical to protect the safety and health of the public, domestic animals, wildlife and the ecological integrity of the region.
- Evaluate weed species for introduction of biological control agents.