

# 2025

## End of Season Summary and Reports



Sunflower Broomrape *Orobanche cumana* Yakima WA

Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board

1213 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Yakima Washington 98901

509-574-2180

Data Compiled by Susan Bird December 2025



## Mission Statement

The Weed Board administrates under the authority of the Washington State Revised Code, RCW, Chapter 17:10, wherein, the Board is authorized to develop a weed abatement program within Yakima County. The Weed Board has hired a staff and developed a weed control program wherein specific "Noxious Weeds" are located, mapped and controlled within the guidelines of the adopted County weed control policy.

Some weed species are declared "Noxious" within the state and classified as Class A, Class B, Class B designate and Class C.

The Noxious Weed problem in Yakima County may be classified into three sectors: agriculture, transportation/utility, and incorporated municipals.

The Agricultural sector, because of its size, would hold the largest acreage percentage, by far, and hence have the largest population of noxious weeds and related weed problems. However, this is only partly true due to the very nature of farming and range production which demands good weed control. With this in mind, the other two sectors must be considered and managed within our overall objectives.

Our objective is to exercise some form of control over all problem weeds within Yakima County and respond to all citizen complaints. Our response may be expressed in the form of a written notice, complaint letters or a telephone call to a landowner. However, major emphasis will be placed on those weeds that are classified as "Noxious" and require mandatory control.

Our goal is to provide professional, as well as technical assistance to the landowners of this county by helping landowners to understand the nature of their particular weed problem, weed growth habits and offer control suggestions. In many cases, landowners simply need a specific plant properly identified. Weed identification is a service we offer. The Weed Board's principal goal is to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and obtain acreage reduction where situations allow.



2025  
YAKIMA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST  
& CONTROL POLICY

The YAKIMA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED BOARD (here in after referred to as the BOARD) shall promote weed control by personal contact with LANDOWNERS and through public media. The BOARD will also promote weed control through public seminars, hearings, demonstrations, field tours, school lectures, and at regularly scheduled board meetings. LANDOWNERS are responsible for the control of noxious weeds on their property as per RCW 17.10.140 prior to blooming stage, seed maturity and the development of a root system that would enable said weeds to propagate and spread.

The BOARD shall encourage landowners to control noxious weeds on their own property through their own means, or by means commercially available. Control is defined as stopping all seed production and containing the noxious weeds to the current infested locations. The Weed Board Coordinator and Inspectors will assist landowners in locating and identifying noxious weeds and encourage the landowner to report to the BOARD other noxious weed infestations. The BOARD, or AUTHORIZED STAFF, has the authority to enter all property within the jurisdiction of this BOARD for the purpose of administering the weed laws of the State of Washington under R.C.W. Chapter 17.10.160.

If the property owner does not promptly act to control the noxious weeds in accordance with R.C.W. 17.10 and this policy, the YAKIMA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED BOARD may cause their being controlled at the expense of the landowner as per R.C.W. 17.10.170. Charges for regulatory work shall be incurred by the landowner based on the cost, including labor and materials and, if necessary, legal, and administrative fees. Such expenses, when necessary, shall constitute a lien against the property after a hearing and determination has been made on such expense and approved by the BOARD.

The W.A.C. Chapter 16.750 constitutes the Washington State Noxious Weed List, which is classified as "A", "B", and "C" weeds. The following shall constitute Yakima County's Noxious Weed List and control is required within Yakima County.

- All Class "A" Weeds
- Class "B" Weeds, (All designated & those listed)
- Class "C" Weeds, (listed)
- All underlined weeds are educational only & no control is required.

The Yakima County Noxious Weed Board will conduct regularly scheduled meetings and will encourage public attendance and participation.

**Resolution #55:** The following requirements will be the policy for placing a weed on the County's Noxious Weed List:

- A. The Weed Board shall announce the noxious weed list within the guidelines set forth in R.C.W. 17.10.090.
- B. The order in which a weed be submitted to the Board for consideration to be placed on the noxious weed list, the following information must be submitted to the Noxious Weed Board.
  - 1. Location of weed, with an estimation of acreage.
  - 2. Verification that adjacent property owners have been notified on the intent to have the weed placed on the Noxious Weed List.
  - 3. Characteristics of the weed in consideration.
- C. The Weed Board has the right to place the weed in question on a review and study list for a set period of time not to exceed one year and, at that time, make a policy statement on the weed in question.

## YAKIMA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST FOR 2025

In accordance with R.C.W. 17.10 a County Noxious Weed List comprising the names of the following plants, which have been declared noxious by the State of Washington Noxious Weed Board, and Yakima County Weed Control Board. Said Board finds these plants to be weedy; highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control by cultural or chemical practices. Said weeds shall comprise the NOXIOUS WEED LIST for Yakima County for 2025 or until another list is adopted by this Board.

### YAKIMA COUNTY lies in REGION 5

#### ALL CLASS "A" NOXIOUS WEEDS (Mandatory Control) (\*\* Known to be in Yakima County)

COMMON NAME:	SCIENTIFIC NAME:		
Amaranth	Amaranthus palmeri 2024	oriental clematis**	<i>Clematis orientalis</i>
palmer 2024		purple starthistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>
common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	reed sweetgrass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>
cordgrass, common	<i>Spartina anglica</i>	ricefield bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>
cordgrass, dense flower	<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	<b>roundleaf bittersweet 2025</b>	<b><i>Celastrus orbiculatus 2025</i></b>
cordgrass, salt meadow	<i>Spartina patens</i>	sage, clary	<i>Salvia sclarea</i>
cordgrass, smooth	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	sage, Mediterranean**	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>
dyer's woad**	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
eggleaf spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	Small-flowered jewelweed	<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>
false brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	South American spongeplant	<i>Limnium laevigatum</i>
floating primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	Spanish broom**	<i>Spartium junceum</i>
flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Syrian bean-caper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
French broom**	<i>Genista monspessulan</i>	Texas blueweed**	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>
garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	thistle, Italian	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>
giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	<b>thistle, marsh 2025</b>	<b><i>Cirsium palustre 2025</i></b>
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>	thistle, milk**	<i>Silybum marianum</i>
hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	thistle, slenderflower	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>
Johnsongrass**	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	thistle, Turkish	<i>Carduus cinereus</i>
knapweed, bighead**	<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>	variable-leaf milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>
knapweed, Vochin	<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>	wild four o'clock**	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>
kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>		
meadow clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>		

#### CLASS "B" NOXIOUS WEEDS (\*\*Known to be in Yakima County) (Class B designate-bd require mandatory control) (All underlined weeds are educational only & no control is required)

COMMON NAME:	SCIENTIFIC NAME:		
blueweed bd	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	hanging sedge bd	<i>Carex pendula</i> , & subsp. <i>agastachys</i>
Brazilian elodea bd	<i>Egeria densa</i>	hawkweed oxtongue bd	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>
bugloss, annual bd	<i>Lycopsis arvensis</i>	hawkweed, orange** bd	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
bugloss, common bd	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	hawkweeds: All nonnative species and hybrids of the meadow subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> , subgenus <i>Pilosella</i>
camelthorn bd	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	hawkweeds: All nonnative species and hybrids of the wall subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> , subgenus <i>Hieracium</i>
common fennel bd, (except bulbing fennel)	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> (except <i>F. vulgare</i> var. <i>azoricum</i> )	herb-Robert bd	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
common reed** bd (nonnative genotypes only)	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	hoary alyssum bd	<i>Berteroa incana</i>
common tansy**	<i>Tenacetum vulgare</i>	houndstongue** bd	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
<u>Dalmatian toadflax**</u>	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> ssp. <i>dalmatica</i>	indigobush bd	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
European coltsfoot bd	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	knapweed, black bd	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
fanwort bd	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	knapweed, brown bd	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>
gorse bd	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	<u>knapweed, diffuse</u> **	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>
grass-leaved arrowhead bd	<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>	Knapweed, spotted**bd	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>
hairy willow-herb** bd	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	knapweed, meadow** bd	<i>Centaurea x gerstlaueri</i>
		<u>knapweed, Russian</u> **	<i>Rhaponticum repens</i>

knotweed, Bohemian **bd	<i>Fallopia x bohemica</i>
knotweed, giant **bd	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>
knotweed, Himalayan **bd	<i>Persicaria wallichii</i>
<u>kochia</u> **	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>
Lesser celandine bd	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
knotweed, Japanese ** bd	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>
loosestrife, garden bd	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>
loosestrife, purple** bd	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
loosestrife, wand bd	<i>Lythrum virgatum</i>
Malta starthistle bd	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>
parrotfeather** bd	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
<u>perennial pepperweed</u> **	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
<u>poison hemlock</u> **	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
policeman's helmet bd	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
<u>puncturevine</u> **	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
ravenna grass**	<i>Tripsidium ravennae</i>
rough chervil bd	<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>
rush skeletonweed** bd	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
saltcedar **bd (unless intentionally planted pre 2004)	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>
Scotch broom **bd	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
shiny geranium bd	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>
spurge flax bd	<i>Thymelaea passerine</i>
spurge laurel bd	<i>Daphne laureola</i>
spurge, leafy bd	<i>Euphorbia virgata</i>
spurge, myrtle** bd	<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>
<u>sulfur cinquefoil</u> **	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
tansy ragwort** bd	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>
thistle, musk** bd	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
thistle, plumeless bd	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>
thistle, Scotch** bd	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>
velvetleaf ** bd certain areas	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>
water primrose bd	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>
white bryony bd	<i>Bryonia alba</i>
wild basil / basil savory bd	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
wild chervil **bd	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
yellow archangel** bd	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>
yellow floating heart** bd	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
<u>yellow nutsedge</u> **	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>
yellow starthistle ** bd	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>

**CLASS "C" NOXIOUS WEEDS** (All underlined weeds are educational only & no control is required)

COMMON NAME:

absinth wormwood \*\*  
black henbane \*\*  
cereal rye \*\*  
common barberry  
common catsear  
English ivy 4 cultivars only:

Eurasian watermilfoil hybrid

European, American  
beachgrass & hybrids

Green alkanet

hairy whitetop \*\*

hoary cress \*\*

Italian arum\*\*

jointed goatgrass

jubata grass\*\*

old man's beard \*\*

oxeye daisy \*\*

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

*Artemisia absinthium*  
*Hyoscyamus niger*  
*Secale cereale*  
*Berberis vulgaris*  
*Hypochaeris radicata*  
*Hedera helix* 'Baltica',  
'Pittsburgh', and 'Star', *H.*  
*hibernica* 'Hibernica'  
*Myriophyllum spicatum* x *M.*  
*sibiricum*  
*Ammophila arenaria* A.  
*breviligulata*, & *A. arenaria* x  
*breviligulata*  
*Pentaglottis sempervirens*  
*Lepidium appelianum*  
*Lepidium draba*  
*Arum italicum*  
*Aegilops cylindrica*  
*Cortaderia jubata*  
*Clematis vitalba*  
*Leucanthemum vulgare*

COMMON NAME:

pampas grass\*\*  
perennial sowthistle \*\*  
scentless mayweed \*\*  
smoothseed alfalfa dodder \*\*  
spikeweed  
spiny cocklebur \*\*  
spotted jewelweed  
Swainsonpea \*\*  
thistle, Canada \*\*

Control only in T7N R20, 21, 22, 23E

tree-of-heaven \*\*

white cockle

Wild carrot\*\*

yellow flag iris \*\*

yellow toadflax \*\*

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

*Cortaderia selloana*  
*Sonchus arvensis* ssp. *arvensis*  
*Tripleurospermum inodorum*  
*Cuscuta approximata*  
*Hemizonia pungens*  
*Xanthium spinosum*  
*Impatiens capensis*  
*Sphaerophysa salsula*  
*Cirsium arvense*  
*Ailanthus altissima*  
*Silene latifolia*  
*Daucus carota* except subsp  
*sativa*  
*Iris pseudacorus*  
*Linaria vulgaris*

For a complete listing of the State Weed List go to [www.nwcb.wa.gov/](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/) or stop by the Yakima County Weed Board Office for a copy of the State Weed List.

This 2025 Yakima County Noxious Weed List and Control Policy has been adopted by

Mark Herke

Chairman of the Board

Tom Mains

Board Member

Daniel Fuller

Board Member

Rodney Jones

Board Member

Bonnie Abercrombie

Board Member

## Equipment loans and Grants end of season 2025 & Summary

### Herbicide Grants / Cost Share for controlling Class A and B Designated Noxious Weeds

Treating: Scotch Thistle, Yellow Starthistle, Houndstongue, Rush Skeletonweed, Spotted Knapweed, and Mediterranean Sage,

**408 Grants Given**, (up 51) 554 sent out, 87 didn't apply, 495 granted, 408 picked them up.

Value of Herbicide: \$ **17136.84** \$14,758.50 (^\$ 9,167.49 from 2024), **\$2,378.35 WSDA**

AVERAGE PER GRANT: **\$36.17** / grant (^\$ 21.01 from 2024)

spot treat **7,343.69** acres. (^ 1,105.68 from 2024)

**425 Gallons herbicide**: (up 58 gallons) average cost per gallon: \$40.32 (^ \$25.07 from 2024)

66.00 G GrazonNextHL \$4342.11, 6.75 G Milestone \$2632.50, 334 G 2,4-D \$6845.64

4.00 G Rangestar \$107.80

4.75 G Milestone. Provided by WSDA value \$2047.50

9.00 G 2,4-D "reclaimed" value \$184.05

1.00 G Vastlan provided by WSDA \$146.80 **Total** "non-expensed" product: **\$2,378.35**

**7343.69** Infested acres treated (^ 1,105.58 acres from 2024)

value of grant \$2.00/ acre 7,343.69 acres treated ( ^\$.88/acre from 2024)

**Herbicides granted**: GrazonNextHL®, RangeStar®, 2,4-D®, WeedMaster®, Milestone®

*D&M Chemical Was the only supplier.*

**15** Total equipment usage agreements of loan spray equipment down 10 from 2024.

**548** Inspection notices were sent to landowners ; (2024=1061; 2023=277; 2022=367).

422 1<sup>st</sup> notice , 119 2<sup>nd</sup> notice , 7 Final Notice, 1 Enforcement.

**9** Inter-agency Cooperative Projects were completed for 2025 season:

Japanese Knotweed- WSDA

Purple Loosestrife, WSDFW

Mediterranean Sage. WSNWCB

Oriental Clematis WSNWCB

Orobanche Cumana WSDA

Tansy Ragwort, USFS

Tree of Heaven, WSDA

Greenway Vegetation Pre-emergent – Yakima Greenway

GreenDot Roads systems, WSDNR, no work was done on this project in 2024



## 2025 Integrated Weed Control Project Biocontrol Release Report -Yakima County-

Washington State is facing an invasion of non-native, highly invasive noxious weeds, including knapweeds, purple loosestrife, whitetop, Russian knapweed, yellow starthistle, and Dalmatian toadflax. Non-native noxious weeds destroy biological diversity, decrease forage, increase erosion potential, and decrease land values across the state and western USA. Washington State landowners and land managers often do not have the time, funds or expertise to implement an integrated control strategy. The Integrated Weed Control Project (IWCP) assists with implementation by providing biological control agents to those with appropriate release sites. In addition, our project further addresses this need by educating and engaging land managers and landowners for a better understanding of invasive weed issues and the importance of prevention, early detection/rapid response, integrated management tools and restoration to solve their own weed problems.

---

### January-December 2025 release information:

- 7 releases
- 1,750 biocontrol agents (BCA)
- 4 biocontrol agent species used to control 2 weed species
  - Russian knapweed
    - › *Aulacidea acroptilonica* (gall-forming wasp): 3 releases; 1,000 BCA
  - Diffuse knapweed (releases contained both *B. fausti* and *L. minutus*)
    - › *Bangasternus fausti* (seed-feeding weevil): 2 releases; 234 BCA
    - › *Larinus minutus* (seed-feeding weevil): 2 releases; 416 BCA
  - Spotted knapweed
    - › *Cyphocleonus achates* (root weevil): 2 releases; 100 BCA

### Additional work:

- Monitored one Russian knapweed site (Beebee). Both *Jaapiella ivannikovi* and *Aulacidea acroptilonica* (Russian knapweed) are well established at sites in Yakima County and plants are stunted with little flowering.
- Conducted pre-release monitoring at whitetop sites in Yakima (one) and the Sunnyside Wildlife Area (two). A gall-forming mite, *Aceria drabae*, was approved by the USDA APHIS as a biocontrol agent for whitetop. We will continue to conduct pre-release monitoring until we have access to this biocontrol agent. We expect to receive the mite in Spring 2026 and plan to release the mite at the Sunnyside Wildlife Area. Yakima County will be the first county to receive this biocontrol agent in Washington State.
- Surveyed yellow starthistle sites with Sue Bird for potential pre-release monitoring populations for the new root-crown weevil, *Ceratopion basicorne*. Determined that yellow starthistle populations were too low at all sites surveyed.

Date	Site Name	Biocontrol Agent	# Released	Weed Species	Coordinates	
5/8/2025	Stapleton - Stone Road	Aulacidea acroptilonica	400	Russian knapweed	46.5768	-120.7398
5/8/2025	Van Wyk	Aulacidea acroptilonica	400	Russian knapweed	46.546	-120.544
5/8/2025	N. of Lil'BR Smoke Shack	Aulacidea acroptilonica	200	Russian knapweed	46.5462	-120.5007
6/22/2025	Herke Ranch	Larinus minutus/ Bangsternus fausti	250	diffuse knapweed	46.5274	-120.8018
6/26/2025	Wenas Grade	Larinus minutus/ Bangsternus fausti	400	diffuse knapweed	46.7341	-120.6833
8/13/2025	A2000 TreePhone (1)	Cyphocleonus achates	50	spotted knapweed	46.4994	-121.1132
8/13/2025	Ahtanum "NFA" Roadside	Cyphocleonus achates	50	spotted knapweed	46.5632	-120.9259

Past release information:

- 2024: 31 releases of 7,896 BCA
- 2023: 13 releases of 3,139 BCA
- 2022: 16 releases of 3,908 BCA
- 2021: 32 releases of 14,234 BCA
- 2020: 22 releases of 12,450 BCA
- 2019: 30 releases of 11,233 BCA
- 2018: 26 releases of 6,425 BCA
- 2017: 36 releases of 8,885 BCA
- 2016: 54 releases of 11,850 BCA
- 2015: 51 releases of 9,868 BCA
- 2014: 43 releases of 9,252 BCA
- 2013: 27 releases of 7,400 BCA
- 2012: 18 releases of 3,800 BCA
- 2011: 27 releases of 5,710 BCA
- 2010: 23 releases of 7,261 BCA
- 2009: 27 releases of 7,900 BCA
- 2008: 36 releases of 10,146 BCA
- 2007: 9 releases of 1,750 BCA

**Your report has been submitted! Thank you for your contributions to the effort of controlling Noxious Weeds in Washington**

[Print](#)
[Return Home](#)


## Annual Treatment Report for Aquatic Noxious Weed General Permit

### I. Permittee Information

Application Year: 2025

Name of Entity: Yakima Co Noxious Weed Board

Are you a commercial pest control business? ☐ Yes ☒ No

### II. Herbicide Treatment Information

☒ No pesticides applied.

Waterbody Name	County	WRIA	Target Plant	Herbicide	Amount Applied	Acres Treated	EPA Registration Number
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	37 - Lower Yakima	None	Florpyrauxifen-benzyl	0.0000 None	0.0000	6769080
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	37 - Lower Yakima	None	Imazapyr	0.0000 None	0.0000	228-534
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	38 - Naches	Loosestrife	Imazapyr	0.1160 Gal	0.9300	228-534
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	37 - Lower Yakima	Knotweeds	Imazapyr	0.1000 Gal	0.2000	228-534
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	37 - Lower Yakima	Loosestrife	Imazapyr	1.5600 Gal	12.5000	228-534
Lower Yakima River and its backwaters	Yakima	37 - Lower Yakima	Loosestrife	Triclopyr TEA	0.1480 Gal	0.2900	627193767690
Naches River and its Backwaters	Yakima	38 - Naches	Knotweeds	Imazapyr	0.0800 Gal	0.1660	228-534
Upper Yakima River and its Backwater	Yakima	39 - Upper Yakima	None	Triclopyr TEA	0.0000 None	0.0000	627193767690

### III. Certification

*"When I clicked submit, I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision. The information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."*

Washington State use ONLY

Submitted Date	Date Received
12/16/2025	



## **2025 Aquatic Weeds end of season Report:**

### **Yellow Floating Heart and Parrot Feather**

**Yellow Floating Heart:** There are 3 known locations in Yakima County. All locations are privately owned ponds in the west side of Yakima. One has a drain that leaves the property and enters a bar ditch /drainage area. YFH has never been found in this drainage.

#### **Total time and mileage round trip:**

2 hours spent survey; (no spray was applied in 2024 season).

2 sites treated , 1 site not accessible

65 gallons solution 8 oz ProcellaCor®; 32.5 oz DyneAmic®

54 miles traveled

ProcellaCor was used in 2023, and no spray was applied in 2024 due to no growth.

**Parrot Feather** : Yakima County has three known sites of Parrot Feather: One active site in a backwater pond south of I-82 near Zillah. This pond is currently not direct fed by the river, however, has been known to flood with high waters and has the potential to contaminate the river.

2 other sites have been treated in the past and no growth has been noted in a few years. They will continue to be monitored.

#### **Total Time and Mileage round trip:**

2.0 hours Survey

97.5 Miles Traveled

No Treatment was conducted by YCNWCB. Fish & Wildlife chose to treat with ProcellaCorEC®, their crews conducted the treatments in 2023 and 2024. For the first time in years, the water has open surface space. UNFORTUNATELY, with open water animal movement is more likely to spread the plants. Floods in Early December may be moving the plants. Spring – summer of 2026 will require more survey to be done.

Both ***Yellow Floating Heart*** and ***Parrotfeather*** seem to respond better to high volume foliar applications. Areas where less volume is applied, the treatment is not as effective. I.e.: backpack vs. truck tank applications. Records from Multiple years on these projects show challenges with water levels, seed bank densities, and established root systems. Past photos do show improvement on some Yellow Floating Heart sites. Parrot Feather seems to increase and decrease annually. We will continue to monitor and treat all sites for known infestations as well as survey surrounding areas for new infestations.

## Purple Loosestrife Report & Summary 2025

This year Mainly treatments on foot with backpack sprayers were made along the Yakima River. No Canoe was used by our crew to treat ponds and lakes along the freeway for the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Most of the River Treatment with Yakama Nation was done on foot with backpacks. The I-82 ponds were done by the YCNWB crew.

0 Biological control releases were made. There was noticeable biocontrol activity.

1 inspector worked on the Purple Loosestrife Herbicide Application Project. August treatments were done with help from Yakama Nation spray crew.

90 Manpower **hours**(^ 30.05 hrs.) Spray and Survey: \_treating PLS total value: \$ 2610.00

1169 **Travel Miles** (^ 354) round trip to work on PLS Project total value \$ 546.05

26 Days (^5) working on project.

40 parcels were surveyed and treated:

36 River Sites (^ 4) treated & surveyed

4 off river sites treated

84.11 **Gallons Herbicide Solution Used** total value \$.

4 gallons solution (^ 1.5) on Non-F&W sites,

10.72oz Polaris® (^5.97 oz) (0.084 gallons) \$7.98

2.04 oz DyneAmic® (0.02 gallons) \$1.04.

80 gallons solution (v 8 gallons ) on F& W sites.

215.38 Oz. Polaris® Used (1.68 gallons) @ \$95/gallon= \$159.60

19.0 Oz. Renovate3® Used (0.15gallons) @ \$127.77/gallon= \$ 19.17

40.013 Oz. DyneAmic® Used (0.31gallons) @ \$52/gallon = \$ 16.12

Total acres treated: 4.48 acres treated with Polaris (3 pints / acre)/ acre; .08 acres treated with Renovate3 (7quarts/acre)

Total Project Financial Value: \$ 3359.96

The actual value of Purple Loosestrife control project. Immeasurable.

Report compiled by Susan Bird, December 2025

# 2025 End of Season Report

## Japanese Knotweed in Yakima County K6090

The 2025 Yakima County Noxious Weed Board's Japanese Knotweed Control Program, conducted on the Naches River, American River, and Yakima River, and those knotweed patches off the main rivers but within their watersheds, was initiated July 17 and spraying concluded for the season Sept 15. These are **active** and not inclusive of parcels that have been deemed eradicated after several years of no return or development of sites.

**ON RIVER:** One crew member spent 23 days / 77.3 Hours, traveled 1242 miles to and from sites: spot spraying 18 on-river parcels (multiple sites) using 8.27 gallons solution: 24.43 ounces Polaris© and 4.6 ounces Dyne-Amic© on the Naches & Yakima Rivers. There is a total of 80 confirmed “active” parcels with multiple River sites since 2010. Yakima Nation provided a crew as well.

### Site #1: Naches River WRIA 38

- a) Area: From the Naches Road Bridge in Naches, WA to its confluence with the Yakima River.
- b) 8 “river sites” were treated. Type of Control: We spot sprayed with back-packs using 5.09 gallons solution: Polaris© herbicide. The Surfactant used was Dyne-Amic©. Terrestrial sites used Polaris© at 2.6oz/gallon and Dyne-Amic© surfactant at 0.5 oz / gal water.
- c) No difficulties encountered were insurmountable. No aquatic treatments were done.

### Site #2: Yakima River WRIA 37

- a) Area: From the confluence of the Naches River and the Yakima River downstream to Union Gap at the Century Landing.
- b) 10 sites treated used 3.18 gallons solution: Polaris @ 2.6oz/gallon w/ DyneAmic@ 0.5oz/gallon
- c) 0 “river” island sites were treated using a drone. One river island has been found, needs treated on Fish & Wildlife parcel, south of Union Gap, and 2 DOT islands Permission has been granted; logistics are being worked on to treat summer of 2026 with a drone. Boat and land access are not safe.

### OFF River: The following sites are off the main rivers but within their watersheds:

67 Terrestrial non crop sites were treated. (down from 94)  
23 sites treated with Milestone© at .3 oz/gallon water & Dyne-Amic© surfactant at .5 oz/gallon water.  
40 sites treated with Polaris© at 2.6oz/gallon water & Dyne-Amic© surfactant at .5 oz/gallon water  
4 sites treated with Cornerstone© & Green Shoots© foam.

One inspector. 19 Days / 24.65 Hours; 455 miles; Visited 264 parcels; spot treated 67 sites with 28.8 Gallons of solution: 24.43 ounces (2.6 oz/gallon) of Polaris© herbicide, 0.4 ounces Milestone© Herbicide and 16.77 ounces (0.50z/ gallon) of Dyne-Amic©. 1.5 condensed acres treated.  
We found 9 new off-river sites this year.

123 sites had no returning growth and have been placed on a “watch list”.

6 sites that have been on multi-year “watch list” had return plants.

22 properties have not granted permission to treat; letters have been sent. All off river terrestrial sites.

**Results: TOTALS:**

- ❖ • At the majority of the previous sites we found a lot of plants dead with no regrowth, approximately 15-20% of the sites had a few stems showing regrowth
- ❖ 1.75 acres condensed acres were treated with 31.95 gallons solution:  
84.3 ounces (0.65gallons) Polaris©, 0.4 ounces Milestone©, 16.77 ounces Dyne-Amic©
- ❖ Miles traveled: 1697 miles 101.95 Manpower hours.  
River miles surveyed & treated: Naches River 28 miles, Yakima River 7.5 miles.

**Expenses:** \$ 2,956.55 labor

\$ 1,136.99 Mileage state rate of .67 / mile

\$ 153.15 Chemical & equipment combined total used.

**Total: \$ 4,246.69 Dollar value/cost of project benefit to environment: immeasurable.**

**WSDA invoiced \$4,000.00 YCNWB cost share \$246.69 + equipment use.**

The number of people assisted increased on the total off-river sites. Landowners were contacted and educated on the invasive nature of Japanese knotweed and the need to control and eradicate it in Yakima County and Washington State. Landowners were also informed that follow-up inspections would be necessary, and treatments carried out when needed. A few landowners expressed their gratitude for our help and told of their futile efforts to eradicate the knotweed on their own. Permission Forms were sent out for signatures. Properties that were sold, the new landowners were contacted and sent Permission Forms. No unattainable difficulties were found at any of the sites. Results have been the same on and off the rivers. We will continue to survey and perform chemical treatments in the years to come just as we have surveyed and performed the treatments over the past years to control the spread of Japanese Knotweed.

WSDOT and WSDNR will work with YCNWB in 2026 for river island treatment using a drone.

**Total Landowners:671 parcels total: 591off-river parcels and 80 on-river parcels.**

There is a total of 671 confirmed "active" parcels/sites since 2010 (83 sites are on-river sites).

264 parcels were surveyed, 85 required treatments.

Estimated Condensed Acres treated:1.75 condensed acre off-river 0.3 condensed acre on-river. Estimated River miles surveyed & treated Naches River 28, Yakima River 7.5.

Report compiled by Susan Bird completed December 11, 2025

## **2025 Dryland Grain/CRP Survey & Report**

Inspector Sue Bird made multiple visits to the dryland areas in the southern end of the county, Mabton/ Bickleton area, during the 2025 season. A few contacts with landowners were made. Most dryland grain growers are doing a good job of weed control. This is due to the very nature of their production operation: good crop rotation, summer fallow, and the use of selective herbicides.

Rush Skeletonweed was treated on Ridge Rd. Areas of greatest concern are Ridge Road near Alderdale Road, and Byron Hill Road at Township Road East to Benton County Line. Both areas had very few return plants. Township Rd. CRP has returned to crop and treated.

The Rush Skeletonweed sites on Turpin Rd. from 2015 and 2017 did not return. The Township / Byron Rd area continues to be a concern. Landowners are continuing efforts of control.

Yellow Starthistle on Wandling Rd. in the County right of way did not return. Wandling Ranch is actively treating with Milestone as YST is found. They're doing a great job.

**Several Scotch Thistle plants** were found on Glade Rd. 1.9 miles west of Alderdale Rd. below the guard rail. N and S of Glade Rd and in the field to the south of the creek. East of Milepost 10, the plants were cut below the soil surface & treated by Sue & Jeff. Landowners were contacted and treatment was done by them.

**Puncturevine and knapweed** were not sprayed on the east end of Ridge Rd. And along Byron Rd due to lack of personnel available.

**Total Landowners:** 345 parcels, 80 landowners    **Estimated Acres:** 93,913.06 acres

## 2025 Rush Skeletonweed Survey & Report

Rush Skeletonweed is an aggressive perennial introduced from Eurasia. It presently infests several million acres in the western US. The cost associated with control of this species reaches into the millions of dollars annually.

There are biologic controls that are used to help control Rush Skeletonweed, however in Yakima County the use of these bio control agents are not feasible due to the fact that it takes years to get them established and we have small infestations scattered in different areas of the county. We believe the spread is mainly vehicular all sites are roadside or easement origin.

Coordination between Yakima County Noxious Weed Control, WA State DOT and private landowners is the goal to contain & control the spread of Rush Skeletonweed.

**Total Landowners:**37

<u>Naches</u>	<u>22 no return</u>
<u>Satus Pass</u>	<u>3 ( DOT sprayed 2024)</u>
<u>Turpin Rd</u>	<u>2- no return</u>
<u>Township Rd</u>	<u>4 no return</u>
<u>Byron Rd.</u>	<u>2 no return</u>
<u>Hwy 24</u>	<u>1 ( DOT ROW, DOT Sprayed 2024)</u>
<u>E. Selah I-82</u>	<u>2 (DOT Lot Elton Rd and ROW e of I-82) no return</u>
<u>Ahtanum Rd.</u>	<u>1 (2 plants 2020, no returns 2021)</u>

**Holmason Rd. Bonnaville Power ROW 2** : Sue and Eric did trials with Envue on Rangeland 2024 Pursuing NRCS program assistance for landowners. Return survey with Envue, they're encouraging owners to work with NRCS to control RSW on rangeland.

**Estimated Acres spread over:** 500

**Estimated condensed Acres treated:** 4

**Miles traveled to survey:** 250

**Herbicide applied:** no applications were made in 2025.

## **Rush Skeletonweed History in Yakima County:**

**2015** new sites were found on Turpin Rd and Township Rd.

Hwy 97 so of Dry Creek Turn -out was treated and mapped in coordination with the Yakama Nation Vegetation Management Dept.

Road ROW was treated by NWCB spot spraying and DOT.

HWY 24 from Junction 241 west to milepost 18 off and on both sides of hwy. heaviest between milepost 24 and 29. DOT and NWCB spot sprayed throughout the season as it was spotted.

**2016** the township road site had spread approximately a mile east along the bar ditch and into CRP and grain crops.

Skeletonweed in the grain crop was hand pulled/ dug out. Roadside was treated with selective herbicides. A new site was located a mile up Turpin from the original site. The site found in 2014 had no new growth.

Hwy 12 scattered from S. Naches rd. to the 410 Y. Mainly along the residential area, roadside locations. Again, traffic and vehicular movement seems to be the main cause of movement for Rush Skeletonweed.

**2017** Turpin Rd had one new site across road from original site. Sprayed and walked surrounding area. Site ½ mile south had no new plant.

Township-Byron rd. areas RS has moved out into cropland currently in CRP belonging to 3 landowners including one section of DNR currently leased. All owners were notified and added to contact list. Roadside treatment was conducted for right of ways and around power poles. The north side of Township, E. of Byron Rd had been sprayed but missed power pole sites.

Hwy 97 was not checked later in the season. However, Klickitat Co. Coordinator said he mostly saw it in the tribal owned areas. DOT has controlled within their right of way in years past.

**2018** No new growth on Turpin Rd. all areas walked throughout the season. No return plants. Landowners on Township & Byron rds. participated in Herbicide grant program and are actively fighting RSW. Roadsides were treated in summer and again in fall.

Hwy 97 sites burnt off in summer, however, RSW returned in carpet form after fall rains. Treatment was applied in fall. DOT was notified of new growth in right of ways.

Hwy 24, sites are scattered between previous sites. Treatment was done summer and fall. DOT is on board and actively assisting with control within their right of ways.

Hwy. 12, continues to be a travel point and RSW is moving south into properties. Private landowners have been notified and are joining in control efforts. Concern has been expressed

from WSD Fish and wildlife about it moving onto game dept. land. They are alert and will control as needed.

**2019** No new growth on Turpin Rd. all areas were walked again to verify no new growth. Landowners on Township and Byron Rds. did not participate in grant program however did spray this year. RSW in bar ditch on Township was graded mechanically.

Hwy 97 was not visited due to manpower limitations and timing.

Hwy 24 was treated by DOT; bio organisms are found on north east end of sites.

Hwy 12 continues to be a travel point and was treated by landowners, unknown if other treatment was conducted.

A new site of RSW was found on Bonneville Power Right of Way north of Sunnyside. Sue spot sprayed, 30 gallons GrazonNextHL® on sites accessible from road. Arrangements are being made with BPA and the Landowner to continue treatment. Probably an early spring application depending on weather.

**2020** No new growth on Turpin Rd. all areas were walked again to verify no new growth. Landowners on Township and Byron Rds. did not participate in grant program however did spray this year. RSW in bar ditch on Township was graded mechanically.

The new site of RSW found on Bonneville Power Right of Way north of Sunnyside. Found 2019 was treated. Annual follow up will continue.

**2021** all sites are monitored and re checked for new growth & Powerline access is treated.

**2022** The site north of Sunnyside, Power line easement has spread westward through the rangeland. Spot treating was done; however, it is not effective in areas that germination continues throughout the year. Broadcast of the area is recommended, however the landowner passed away in June of 2022 and land is in probate. Follow-up will continue and new owners will be contacted.

**2023** a new site on Ridge Rd was found and treated by grain producer/ board member Tom Mains. It will be surveyed and treated in 2024. No other survey or treatment was conducted due to limited personnel. The owner of the site north of Sunnyside along Bonneville Power ROW passed away and no new contacts are available. It will be followed up on in 2024.

**2024** Rush Skeletonweed was treated on Ridge Rd. Areas of greatest concern are Ridge Road near Alderdale Road, and Byron Hill Road at Township Road East to Benton County Line. Both areas had very few return plants. Township Rd. CRP has returned to crop and treated. The Rush Skeletonweed sites on Turpin Rd. from 2015 and 2017 did not return. The Township / Byron Rd area continues to be a concern. Landowners are continuing efforts of control.

## **Mediterranean Sage end of season report 2025**

**Project Process:** Every landowner including 5 Tribal agencies in Yakama Nation, within 2.5 miles of known sites of Mediterranean Sage were sent letters and personal contact was attempted by the Noxious Weed Control Board Inspector. Landowners of 392 deeded/entrust parcels were sent information on Mediterranean Sage. *Landowners who have the plant were very receptive to our control offers. In Yakima County we assist all landowners that have a class A noxious weed with herbicide control. 5 landowners verified having Med. Sage. Signed permission to treat forms. 3 area landowners also signed; however, no Mediterranean sage plants were found on their properties. 260 acres were surveyed, and the Mediterranean sage was treated if found.*

**Challenges with this project:** Tribal contacts are limited yet improving. Rangeland surveying is time consuming in deep dry weeds/grasses. New germination continues throughout the season with slightest rainfall or disturbance. This plant tumbles and spreads seeds as it moves. Resulting in rapid prolific seed dispersal. Summer rains and warm temps stimulate seed germination throughout the growing season.

### **Mediterranean Sage 2025**

6 parcels in Yakima County are known to have Mediterranean Sage. (deeded and /or leased land)

0 new sites were found this season! Previous Years Maps have not changed.

3 sites were treated by landowners 1 site is Tribal, and no plants were found by Yakama Nation crew.

2. Spring applications of herbicide on trust lease and deeded lands

Herbicide used 2025 spray season: was granted to landowners to apply

240 miles traveled round trip value: \$ 163.20

22.7 hours manpower time value hours : \$ 749.10

6 days: 3.5 hours labor hours spraying & Survey. 10 hours travel to and from site

No spray applications were made in fall treatments. CWLRS assisted with spring survey& mechanical treatment of 260 acres. 15.7 hours at \$150/hr.+8%tax = \$2543.40

70 Gallons solution applied: 4.0 oz Escort /Chlorsulfuron 75; 51.2 oz Milestone; 80 oz Li700

7.31 condensed acres treated.

WSDA Class A \$5,000.00 grant funded Oriental Clematis and Med Sage projects: \$2457 spent on OC. \$2543.00 On Med Sage. \$ 913.30 provided by YCNWB as matching funds for Med. Sage Project

Total expense of Project : \$3,455.40 Total value immeasurable crop and environmental protection.

2024-2025 seasons, July 1, 2024-June30,2025.

Project improvement over 10 years: initial 120 acres of treatment to less than 10 acres requiring treatment in 2025.

Report compiled by Susan Bird, Project Coordinator & Outreach Specialist December 16, 2025



## **Oriental Clematis end of season report 2025**

Oriental Clematis is a Class A Mandatory Control Noxious Weed in Washington State. In Yakima County we have it in limited locations in the lower Yakima Valley, from Zillah to Sunnyside. It is found along canal banks, in trees, pastures, and fence lines, as well as along the Yakima River. Scattered infestations are found across more than 23.85 square miles, within an estimated 45,264-acre area. Control of Oriental Clematis in Yakima County benefits the entire state as we are currently the only known location of the invasive. By controlling with the goal of eradication, the program prevents the expansion / spread to other counties and state lands. AS of the completion of the 2025 spray season:

100 parcels in Yakima County are known to have / had Oriental Clematis. (73 landowners)

0 new sites were found this season in new areas.

3 parcel sites (working with 4 landowners) were treated.

0 sites were not accessible this season.

97 of the identified sites treated in the past did not have new growth this year.

100 sites have permission to enter.

### **Herbicide used 2025 spray season:**

0.5 gallons of solution by ground equipment

10 Gallons Solution with Drone: 16 oz Vastlan©; 2 oz Milestone©, 5 oz DyneAmic©,

.5 total condensed acre treated

**Time Spent Spray and Survey, Travel and Records:** \_\_\_\_\_ hours.

2 hours. Drone survey 75 acres.

2.5 hours Survey & Spraying sites.

8 hours traveling to / from sites. 395miles traveled, (round trip: office to sites and back)

1 hours on records

**No aquatic treatments were made.**

All treatments were spot spray only, treating growing vines & leaves

Most Sites treated in 2015 -24 with Forefront HL© Milestone© or GrazonNextHL© have not returned.

Sites that returned were sites where heavy vine growth and seed banks were established.

Note: On difficult sites to get to, that were not heavily sprayed with solution, Oriental Clematis is persisting. Volume of coverage is essential to gain control. Dense foliage and seed production, persistence seems to be a deterrent in eradication.

This year we contracted services with 1 independent company:

- 1) Ag Drones Northwest provided drone survey and application on difficult to reach sights in spring. Collaboration with this company was very beneficial and we hope to work with them on future projects.

A Grant of \$ 5,000 from the State Weed Board for combined Oriental Clematis and Mediterranean Sage was obtained to enable hiring Survey and Treatments via Drone fall-2024 - spring of 2025. Fall treatments are funded by a new grant from WSNWCB for 2025-2026 season.

\$2457.00 was used toward Oriental clematis control (\$2543 went towards Med. Sage project)

\$1,744.00 Drone survey and treat ,

\$ 268.60 Travel (395 miles @ .68)

\$ 444.40 Time / 14.33 labor hours at \$31/hr.

Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, Sunnyside office is involved in treatment and survey for the 2024-25 season as one of the new sites was on their land. It did not regrow in 2025.

Of original sites, only 3 locations had active growth in 2025. From a multiple week project annually, it is down to a few days to survey and a day to treat.

Eradication of oriental clematis is finally foreseeable.

## **Orobanche Cumana, Sunflower Broomrape 2025**

A new and first find for Yakima County, and North America was found in a garden on the northwest edge of Yakima in July. The plant was reported on iNaturalist by the owner as an unknown plant to have Identified by its many users who identified it as an orobanche and recommended they get it Identified by a lab and the USDA. Samples were collected by WSU and sent to USDA. USDA asked for more mature samples and asked that it be allowed to grow. The owner of the property went on vacation and returned to plants that had grown and gone to seed. WSDA collected remaining stems sent some to USDA for testing and both labs confirmed it to be *Orobanche cumana*. A parasite of helianthus – sunflowers. A member of the daisy family. All stems were removed and collected by WSDA for disposal.

*Orobanche Cumana* is a parasitic plant that requires sunflower, ( tobacco, & / or tomatoes) to enable it to grow as a parasite for nutrients. It does not produce its own chlorophyll and acquires its water and nutrients by attaching to the host plant. It is a serious economic threat to industry and potentially risks interstate and international export of all vegetative of products. Seeds can stay dormant for over 50 years, are dust like measuring 0.15 mm in size, and can be windborne, water moved and move with dust movement. Orobanche lifespan is less than 2 months. The first 2-3 weeks take place underground and is not readily visible. Once they emerge, they flower and produce seed in 2 weeks or less. One stem can produce several hundred thousand seeds which are viable for several decades.

The plant needs certain chemistry in the soil to initiate germination and adhesion to the host plant. Around the world this plant has impacted sunflower seed oil crops, tomatoes and tobacco crops. It has been found on Asteraceae, Solanaceae, and helianthus families of plants. And can switch hosts in few generations. It is a serious concern internationally.

Communication with sunflower specialists and retired USDA ARS scientist has guided our control efforts. And aided in research data acquisitions.

WSDA sent out a Press release the first week of October asking Yakima residents to look for it. At this point Yakima County Noxious Weed Board reached out to the WSDA and asked for information. No prior notice of the find had been sent to The Weed Board.

YCNWB inspector visited the site and walked property with the owner, surveying the 2-acre gardens for the weed around all tobacco, sunflower, and Asteraceae species in the gardens. Not *O. cumana* was found in any of the gardens. Soil samples were taken by WSDA and YCNWB inspector and sent for lab analysis. The labs didn't work as hoped due to high amounts of organic material in the samples.

Yakima Co. Weed Board and WSDA petitioned the WA State Weed Board, they held a meeting Oct. 20 for an emergency Class A Listing. October 21 it was filed with the state and *Oroanthe cumana* was listed as a Class A Noxious Weed. Allowing treatment and burning, eradication process to take place and a quarantine of the property to be initiated.

WSDA and Yakima Co Weed Board worked together to notify all landowners within one mile radius of the find. 2165 letters were mailed and asked permission to survey the sunflowers growing in the areas. Both departments provided crews to knock on doors and survey all properties within ½ mile that had sunflowers growing intentionally or volunteer in the 2025 season no other locations were found to have *O. Cumana*.

All work done on site was collaborative effort with WSDA, Yakima Co. Weed Board, and contracted help from Central Washington Land Restoration Service.

All workers that were on the site wore Tyvek pants and multiple layers of Tyvek booties to prevent possible seed movement offsite.

On October 22, the site of the find was cleared of all vegetation within 50 feet of the find, vegetation was burnt, using a burn trailer and weed torches, the ground was burnt off using propane torches. The Yakima Fire Department crews provided surrounding area and structural support to prevent the fire from escaping. City of Pasco provided the burn trailer, and WSU Extension Prosser transported it to and from the site. All non-burnable items in the area were sorted; cleanable items were stacked inside the site hoop house for cleaning at a later date. The hoop house was emptied, sprayed with quaternary ammonia, and nursery items were stacked inside it to be solarized, and possibly steamed to remove possibility of seed. All items returned to the hoop house can be treated with steam or soapy water to be usable. The estimate value of these items is in the thousands. The hoop house was then sealed to be addressed next summer.

All non-salvageable items were double bagged, and bags treated with quaternary ammonia to be transported in an enclosed trailer to a sanitary landfill and buried in the asbestos burial site. These items included driplines, weed barrier cloth, disposable planters, etc. 15 large 55-gallon construction bags were taken to Yakima Solid Waste sanitary burial area in terrace heights.

October 23, the site was sprayed with 30 gallons of solution, applying the maximum allowed rate of Aminopyralid. The 100 ft x 100 ft area, and approximately 20-foot buffer zone was treated. This is to prevent broadleaf weeds from growing up in the cleared site under solarizing plastic. The area was then covered with 4 inches of pine shavings, and covered with 6 ml. clear plastic, then surrounded with a 3 ft silt fence to help keep plastic sheeting protected from disturbance, both human and animal.

October 24, final pins and silt fence installation was completed.

Door knocking in vicinity and survey work continued into early November. As new permission to survey forms are returned, the weed board staff continues to survey and communicate with landowners. The site is checked and any issues caused by wind addressed as needed. Mid December additional weight of railroad ties and pallets were added to the plastic to prevent blowing.

The USDA has not provided any guidance for quarantine requirements or containment. WSDA is working on wording and requirements for quarantine. Currently the property of the site is quarantined, no vegetation or soil can be moved off site. All equipment and clothing worn on site must be cleaned before leaving the property. WSDA is working on a quarter mile of site quarantine.

Work, time and travel expenses were paid for by a grant from WSDA emergency containment fund. Supplemental funding may be acquired after the quarantine is in place from USDA. Early detection and treatment of the site will lesson required treatment over time.

It is currently unknown how the O. cumana seeds ended up here and how long they've been laying dormant waiting to grow. The site was an orchard, removed 15 years ago. It is over the drain field to the home on the property and is a garden area. 4 years ago, the owner transplanted blueberries, black berries and raspberries from the Spokane area to this location. In 2024 they planted sunflowers in the blueberry row and allowed them to go to seed. No O. cumana grew in 2024. Summer of 2025, volunteer sunflowers grew in the same area, and O. cumana was discovered in July. No other locations on the 8+ acre property had O. cumana, several sunflowers were growing on the property in other garden areas, and none were infested. This site will be closely monitored by WSDA and Weed Board staff to ensure no further O.cumana is allowed to mature.

2026 project plans include potential steaming under plastic, adding fertilizer or mustard seeds to be incorporated into the soil to aid in seed destructions and possibly planting with a germination stimulating trap crop such as sorghum or corn to encourage O.cumana seed bank depletion. Dept. of ag timeframe is 3 years without O.cumana growth. However, the seeds last more than 50 years in soil. Survey will continue.

Yakima County Noxious Weed Board will continue working with WSDA to survey for Orobanche Cumana and address it if found.

### **DNR Green Dot Road and network weed treatment 2025 YCNWC-25-01**

This season's treatments focused on the Bethell Ridge, Snider springs fire burn area.

Greendot Roadsides and landings were spot treated for nonnative plants moving along the access roads.

Canada thistle/ creeping thistle, bull thistle and knapweeds were the main treated targets. Dalmatian toadflax is starting to move along roadsides. Areas were treated and marked for future bio releases. One site location of Scotch Broom was found off Bethel Ridge Road and treated. It was reported by one of the field rangers. 1.5 miles off main road on a side road.

20 Days spent on project 2 inspectors/applicators

116 Hours spray and survey value: \$ 3,845.50

175 Miles of road surveyed & spot treated

40.5 Hours travel to and from sites

1197 Miles travel round trip value \$ 801.99

700 Gallons solution applied

6.6 quarts Milestone \$ 529.65

3.8 gallons surfactant \$ 197.60

Cost of program covered by Department of Natural resources \$ 5374.74

Cost share in travel time to and from site and equipment use: \$1342.58

Value of program in prevention and protection of natural areas: **Immeasurable.**

## 2025 End of Season Tree-of-Heaven Project Summary

2025 Yakima County Noxious Weed Control Board was awarded an extension to the grant type contract with WSDA to treat locations of Tree of Heaven within Yakima County. **Tree-of-Heaven** is widespread throughout the populated areas of Yakima County. It was sold as an ornamental and planted throughout residential areas. Tree-of-Heaven spreads aggressively by papery wind born seeds as well as underground root systems sending up suckers hundreds of feet from the parent tree. If it is cut, the tree responds by sending up hundreds of saplings creating dense thickets of trees. Tree-of-Heaven has been found to harbor the spotted lantern fly. An invasive insect that chooses this tree for overwintering and egg & nymph stages. Spotted Lantern Fly attacks most crops, the top 3 affected crops are Grapes, Apples and Hops. (Spotted Lantern Fly is not known to be in Washington State yet.) For this reason, WSDA has allocated funding for this grant and enlisted the help of Yakima County Noxious Weed Board to assess the size and scope of spread of Tree-of-Heaven in hopes of removing a potential step in the ladder of infestation of spotted lantern fly.

**2022 survey work was conducted of the entire county. Over 7000 locations were mapped. 2023 Grant funded the beginning of control Work in Yakima County funding work done through June 30 2024. In June of 2024 WSDA amended the grant and funded Treatment/ Removal of Tree-of-Heaven along major corridors in Yakima County. To be completed between June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025. A new grant for January -June of 2026 has been funded for an additional \$7,000.00.**

**2025 Time on project 1 inspector/applicator total 123.54 hours. Value in Wage & Benefits: \$2841.42**  
**99 sites were treated 1011 Miles traveled. Value per diem .67/mile: \$677.37**

**0 Cut stump treatments. Trunk Injections on 36 sites**

**704 Ez-Ject Lance Imazapyr shells**

**1196 Ez-Ject Lance Glyphosate shells Total: \$ 1964.50**

**Basil Bark Treatments were conducted on 89 Sites.**

**Total: \$ 697.66**

**Total solution applied: 42.28 gallons Basil Bark solution:**

**Product Applied 1351.68 oz: 10.56 gallons Garlon4**

**4058.88 oz: 31.71 gallons Basil Oil**

**Ground Foliar Treatments on 0 sites Drone Foliar treatments on 0 sites**

**Outreach 96 letters to landowners, permissions to treat.**

**Cost of Project \$6180.95 Value of Project, immeasurable.**

Supplies and applications were paid for with grant funds. We did not hire contractors in 2025. We contacted landowners where Tree of Heaven was found within ½ mile w of Rail and ½ mile east of I-82 transportation corridors. 2024 addressed Rail and Interstate corridors from Union Gap to Selah. Yakima County Weed Board provided “ partial Match funds in equivalence as wages and benefits of inspectors & Equipment use Work continues on this project through June 30, 2026 with an additional grant of \$7,000.00 starting Jan 2. 2026. **The Cost of this project since inception 2023: \$15,000 grant funds, \$14,303.79 (to date) matching funds: \$29,303.79 The Value of this project is immeasurable.**

The job of County Noxious Weed Boards is to help Protect the Agricultural economy from invasive species. We will do what can be done.

Report Compiled by Susan Bird December 19, 2025.

## **Education Report & Summary 2025**

Noxious Weed Control Continues Education in the field of noxious Weed control at various events. Providing as well as receiving training. In 2025 In person Education opportunities increased. Several Webinars were attended by Weed Board Staff throughout the winter seasons. As well as attending in person Wilbur-Ellis, Helena, and D&M Pesticide Education classes. Education of staff and public improves weed control efforts immensely! Without knowledge of what needs to be controlled, there will be no effort to do so.

### **Outreach and Education** Displays and information booths at:

March 6: Washington Middle School STEAM night, **200 students + parents**

April 12 Arbor-fest 2025 , **3500 adults and children**

May 20-21 West Valley FFA Ag Day, **800 elementary + preschool students, 250 parents, & teachers.**

June 21 Master gardeners Ahtanum youth park 400+

July 16-19-West Valley Junior Fair- Wiley City

Aug 6-10 Yakima Valley Fair - Grandview

Sept. 13 Steppe into the Square-Tieton

Sept. 19-28 Central Washington State Fair: daily presentations were given by Susan Bird. *Fair attendance numbers not known.*

Oct 28 SVID- Roza training 150+

### **In Person Presentations** by Outreach Specialist Susan Bird

Jan 15 G.S. Long Growers Meeting 200

Feb. 12 Yakima Master Gardeners 60+

Feb. 18 Kittitas Master Gardeners 20+

Feb. 20 Oregon Vegetation Management Conf. 200+

Mar. 6 Okanogan Co Weed Class Omak 75

May 12 West Valley Kiwanis Club 30

May 13 Adams Co Weed Class Ritzville 21

June 10 Okanogan Conservation WA Conservation 50+

July 8 Master Gardener Weed Walk 25

July 8 Toppenish Garden club Parker heights. 30

July 10 Master Gardener Weed ID class 30

Nov. 4-6 State Weed Conference 405 in person/ 125 online

Dec. 2 Columbia Irrigation Project Moses lake 200+

### **VIA ZOOM** Presentations given at:

Jan 7 USDOT Webex *national attendance*

APR 22 WSDOT TEAMS statewide

Dec. 2 WISC Pulling Together 285

### **Published outreach:**

May 10 half page Yakima Herald "Tree of heaven ID & control"

2026 is filling up fast for presentations in Yakima County, and beyond.

## **2025 Summary of Noxious Weed Control Program**

The 2025 control year came together in a successful completion of multiple projects with Excellent personnel. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Inspector position and summer help positions were not filled this year. The Manager, Coordinator/Outreach Specialist and Maintenance Specialist were able to work together on all projects requiring assistance.

We were able to communicate with landowners over the phone, via letters, and on field walks as always. The Annual Hearing and Quarterly Board meetings were all in person and Phone-in meetings system with OK attendance. Work was completed and tasks carried out as needed. We loaned out several sprayers multiple times throughout the summer to aid in weed control. There was good participation in the herbicide grant program for cost share as well.

Grants were received for class A projects to control and Oriental Clematis & Mediterranean Sage from the State Weed Board allowing for the contracting of outside agencies for help with herbicide applications. Drone treatments were conducted on Oriental Clematis sites near Zillah. A grant from WSDA was acquired for treatment and removal of Tree of Heaven in transportation corridors. Work continued along the Rail corridor and Interstate corridor through Union Gap and Yakima through spring of 2025. Fall TOH was not worked on. A cooperative control project with WSDA is in the development stages statewide.

Limited Tribal cooperative projects were done on the river, due to manpower issues. The inspector was able to do a lot of backpack and foot work spraying the river system and surveying for terrestrial and aquatic invasives, namely Knotweeds and Purple Loosestrife, as well as canoe work on the ponds for Purple Loosestrife.

All inspectors worked on mapping and treating locations of Japanese Knotweed, Purple Loosestrife & Houndstongue, as well as Scotch thistle, Yellow Star Thistle, Oriental Clematis, Mediterranean Sage, and Tansy Ragwort. Parrot Feather was not treated by YCNWCB this year on the State Fish and Wildlife location. Yellow Floating heart was treated this year with ProcellaCor, one site was not accessible due to landowner absence. Sites are improving but not eradicated. Hairy Willowherb in West Valley area, all known locations were treated by landowners.

A New Invasive Species *Orobanche Cumana* was found in northwest Yakima, Noxious Weed crew worked with WSDA and notified and surveyed all land within 1 mile of site and worked together to contain the site, quarantine regulations are being written by WSDA. It is listed as a Class A Noxious Weed. WSDA provided a grant for materials, contracted help, and some wages to cover the initial containment efforts.

Biological Controls were released on Russian, Diffuse, & Spotted Knapweeds. Some Biological Agents were collected and re-distributed on Knapweeds, and on Dalmatian Toadflax within the county, as well as sent to other counties. We have good populations of assorted Knapweed biological agents. There are a couple Yellow Star locations being watched for potential releases of newly approved agents. The populations of existing biological agents are well established.

Report by S. Bird December 2025

### **The Yakima County Noxious Weed Board Members:**

Geographical Area 1 <b>Dan Fuller</b> PO Box 130 Tieton WA 98947 <a href="mailto:fullerorchards@yahoo.com">fullerorchards@yahoo.com</a>	Term: 4 yr 2023-2026	Geographical Area 4 <b>Tom Mains</b> 790 Ridge Rd Mabton, WA 98935 <a href="mailto:tommain41@gmail.com">tommain41@gmail.com</a>	4 yr 2023-2026
Geographical Area 2 <b>Mark Herke</b> 19201 Ahtanum Rd Yakima, WA 98903 <a href="mailto:mherke@mail.com">mherke@mail.com</a>	4yr 2024-2027	Geographical Area 5 <b>Rodney Jones</b> 3200 Stover Rd Grandview, WA 98930 <a href="mailto:RJones@callisons.com">RJones@callisons.com</a>	4yr. 2023-2026
Geographical Area 3 <b>Bonnie Abercrombie</b> 3690 South Wapato Road Toppenish, WA 98948 Position: Board Member <a href="mailto:bonnie.abercrombie@co.yakima.wa.us">bonnie.abercrombie@co.yakima.wa.us</a>	4yr 2023-2026	<b><u>County Extension</u></b> Non-voting Board Member <b>Tipton Hudson</b> <a href="mailto:tip.hudson@co.yakima.wa.us">tip.hudson@co.yakima.wa.us</a>	Indefinite term.

### **Yakima County Noxious Weed Board** **1213 S 18<sup>th</sup> Street Yakima WA 98903**

**Jeff Knutson** Noxious Weed Department Manager  
509-945-3179  
[Jeff.knutson@co.yakima.wa.us](mailto:Jeff.knutson@co.yakima.wa.us)

**Susan Bird**, Program Coordinator  
509-945-3357  
[susan.bird@co.yakima.wa.us](mailto:susan.bird@co.yakima.wa.us)

**Eric Bakker** Noxious Weed Maintenance Specialist – Inspector  
509-945-3763  
[eric.bakker@co.yakima.wa.us](mailto:eric.bakker@co.yakima.wa.us)

**Theresa Noel** Office Specialist – secretary.  
509-574-2180  
[theresa.noel@co.yakima.wa.us](mailto:theresa.noel@co.yakima.wa.us)



