APPENDIX G

Beyond Prevention: Site-Specific Invasive Plant Treatment Project

Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, and Mason Counties in the State of Washington

Olympic National Forest Prevention Guidelines

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Sierra Cascade Intensive Forest
Management Research Cooperative
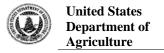*photo by Joseph M. DiTomaso*

English Ivy, An Invasive Target Species

Editor's note: The National Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices" (7/5/01) was published as part of the R6 2005 FEIS. This document is available on request by calling the Olympic National Forest (see DEIS cover page) or on the following website:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/invasiveplant-eis/FEIS/appendicies-pdf/App-E-National-Prevention-Practices-Guide-0405-FEIS.pdf.

The following letters demonstrate the Olympic National Forest commitment to preventing invasive plants as recommended in the "Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices."

File Code: 2080/1950   **Date:** February 4, 2005
Route To:

Subject: Olympic Policy for Invasive Plant Prevention

To: Regional Forester, Linda Goodman

REPLY DUE FEBRUARY 4, 2005

I fully support your emphasis on Invasive Plant prevention measures for Region 6, and am actively involved in communicating this on the Olympic National Forest. We have adopted project planning requirements and invasive plant prevention measures since 1995. My most recent guidance on this topic is noted in the attached letter to the Forest Leadership Team on Nov. 27, 2002. I provided direction for the planning stages of projects, site restoration planning and the use of the National "Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices".

I will continue to reinforce the need for invasive plant analysis and prevention measures, as well as the use of the Prevention Analysis Principles from your 10/1/04 letter.
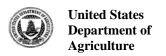
Sincerely,

/S/ KATHY A.
O'HALLORAN   FOR
DALE HOM
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

cc: District Rangers, Forest Staff Officers, Joan Ziegltrum

File Code:

2080

Route To:

Date: November 27, 2002

Subject: Noxious Weed Guidance

To: Forest Leadership Team

Noxious weeds and other invasive plants may pose a serious threat to the health of National Forests, and I want to provide guidance for the management of invasive plants on the Olympic.

The Executive Order 13112, Invasive Species (Feb. 1999), provides direction that "Federal agencies shall: (1) prevent the introduction of invasive species; (2) detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner; (3) monitor invasive species populations accurately and reliably; (4) provide for restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded."

We have also had renewed regional emphasis from the Director of Natural Resources on the prevention of noxious weeds and available prevention tools. Please see the attached letter concerning invasive plant contract provisions (2450, 8/28/02) and the cover letter and National "Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices" (7/5/01).

I am providing the following guidance for the Olympic Forest:

1. <u>All ground disturbing projects need to assess invasive plants in the planning stages of the project</u>. Surveys should be conducted where invasive plants are suspected, prior to completion of the NEPA analysis. The analysis should document the need or lack of need for invasive plant treatment of existing populations, prevention measures and document decisions concerning use of equipment cleaning requirements.

   <u>Site Restoration planning</u> should include an evaluation of the need to seed a site or use other erosion control devises. When needed, use weed free straw and seed mixes with local native species or non-invasive non-native plants. See the attached regional policy letter (April 1994). The Olympic supported this policy in a 1995 policy letter as well (no longer available electronically).

2. <u>Prevention</u> of noxious weed spread or new infestations is key in our project work. Address prevention in the planning stages with the help of the Forest Service "Guide to Noxious Weed Prevention Practices". Evaluate the use of equipment cleaning provisions, weed prevention and treatment clauses for special use permits and other prevention measures. See the Olympic National Forest Integrated Weed Management Program Environmental Assessment for priorities for weed control (Decision 1999).

3. <u>Conduct project-level inventories</u> where invasive plants are suspected and document any new noxious weed sites for the national database. Inventory, early detection & invasive plant data stewardship are important to document current conditions, as well as a baseline for monitoring.

Our invasive plants program also includes: timely treatment of infestations; monitoring; public education and internal awareness; and cooperative weed management with Counties, Weed Boards, the Olympic National Park and other landowners.

Please give your attention to addressing invasive plant concerns on the Olympic and following this guidance.

/s/ Dale Hom

DALE HOM
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

cc: Joan Ziegltrum, Gary Smith, Sheila Martinso

Standard #	Text of Standard
1	Prevention of invasive plant introduction, establishment and spread will be addressed in watershed analysis; roads analysis; fire and fuels management plans, Burned Area Emergency Recovery Plans; emergency wildland fire situation analysis; wildland fire implementation plans; grazing allotment management plans, recreation management plans, vegetation management plans, and other land management assessments.
2	Actions conducted or authorized by written permit by the Forest Service that will operate outside the limits of the road prism (including public works and service contracts), require the cleaning of all heavy equipment (bulldozers, skidders, graders, backhoes, dump trucks, etc.) prior to entering National Forest System Lands. This standard does not apply to initial attack of wildland fires, and other emergency situations where cleaning would delay response time.
3	Use weed-free straw and mulch for all projects, conducted or authorized by the Forest Service, on National Forest System Lands. If State certified straw and/or mulch is not available, individual Forests should require sources certified to be weed free using the North American Weed Free Forage Program standards (see Appendix O) or a similar certification process.
4	Use only pelletized or certified weed free feed on **all National Forest System lands**. If state certified weed free feed is not available, individual Forests should require feed certified to be weed free using North American Weed Free Forage Program standards or a similar certification process. This standard may need to be phased in as a certification processes are established.
6	Use available administrative mechanisms to incorporate invasive plant prevention practices into rangeland management. Examples of administrative mechanisms include, but are not limited to, revising permits and grazing allotment management plans, providing annual operating instructions, and adaptive management. Plan and implement practices in cooperation with the grazing permit holder.
7	Inspect active gravel, fill, sand stockpiles, quarry sites, and borrow material for invasive plants before use and transport. Treat or require treatment of infested sources before any use of pit material. Use only gravel, fill, sand, and rock that is judged to be weed free by District or Forest weed specialists.
8	Conduct road blading, brushing and ditch cleaning in areas with high concentrations of invasive plants in consultation with District or Forest-level invasive plant specialists, incorporate invasive plant prevention practices as appropriate.

These invasive plant prevention standards from the R6 2005 ROD are part of the Olympic National Forest Plan. The Olympic National Forest will comply with these standards as required.