

Non-native invasive species

Non-native invasive species are known to occur on the Forest, however they have only recently been actively surveyed for. Control efforts have focused on pastures on the Forest. A list of known and expected non-native plant species and their risk ranking has been drafted for the Forest to use during botanical surveys; Table 1 shows the species and their risk rankings. A ranking of “1” means the species is considered a severe threat and is a highly invasive non-native plant known to invade natural habitats and replace native species. Non-native plants less invasive than those in rank “1” with less impact on native plant communities generally found in disturbed areas but are capable of spreading into adjacent undisturbed areas pose a significant threat and are given a ranking of “2”. Plants with a ranking of “3” pose a lesser threat, and are non-native plants normally found, spread, and remain in areas of ground disturbance with full sunlight or partial shade. Non-native plants that are problematic elsewhere including parts of West Virginia but whose status is unknown within the Monongahela National Forest proclamation boundary are given a ranking of “4”. Plants ranked as “4” are the “watch list” for the Forest.

Table 1 – Non-native invasive plant species likely to be found on the Monongahela National Forest

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank	Federal (F) or State (WV) Noxious weed list
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree of Heaven	1	
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard	1	
<i>Bromus commutatus</i>	hairy chess or meadow brome	1	
<i>Celastrus orbiculata</i>	Oriental bittersweet	1	
<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i> (<i>C. maculosa</i>)	spotted knapweed	1	
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	crown vetch	1	
<i>Dioscorea oppositifolia</i>	Chinese yam	1	
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	autumn olive	1	WV
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Kentucky 31 fescue	1	
<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	sericea lespedeza	1	
<i>Lonicera spp.</i>	Japanese, amur, Morrow's, Tartarian, or Bell's honeysuckle	1	
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife	1	
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese stiltgrass	1	
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common reed	1	
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	Japanese knotweed	1	
<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>	mile-a-minute vine	1	
<i>Pueraria lobata</i>	kudzu	1	WV
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	multiflora rose	1	WV
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Johnsongrass	1	WV
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernal grass	2	
<i>Arctium minus</i>	lesser burdock	2	
<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	jointed grass or small carpgrass	2	
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese barberry	2	
<i>Bidens aristosa</i>	Ozark tickseed sunflower	2	Native invasive
<i>Bromus inermis var. inermis</i>	smooth brome	2	
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	barren brome grass or poverty brome	2	

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<i>Bromus tectorum</i> var. <i>tectorum</i>	downy chess or cheatgrass	2	
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	2	
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	Quackgrass	2	
<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	leafy spurge	2	
<i>Festuca elatior</i>	tall fescue	2	
<i>Festuca pratensis</i>	meadow fescue	2	
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's rocket	2	
<i>Hieracium pratense</i>	king devil or field hawkweed	2	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow iris or yellow flag	2	
<i>Lespedeza bicolor</i>	Japanese bushclover	2	
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European privet or common privet	2	
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	moneywort or creeping jenny	2	
<i>Melilotus alba</i>	white sweet clover	2	
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	yellow sweet clover	2	
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	star of Bethlehem	2	
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	princess-tree	2	
<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	beefstakeplant	2	
<i>Poa compressa</i>	Canada bluegrass	2	
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky bluegrass	2	
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	rough bluegrass	2	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	knotweed	2	
<i>Polygonum cespitosum</i> var. <i>longisetum</i>	Asiatic water pepper	2	
<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	Japanese spiraea	2	
<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed	2	
<i>Vinca minor</i>	periwinkle	2	
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple	3	
<i>Amaranthus hybridus</i>	common pigweed or green amaranth	3	
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	winter cress or yellow rocket	3	
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	plumeless thistle	3	WV
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	musk thistle	3	WV
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	chicory	3	
<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>	Ox-eye daisy	3	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	bull thistle	3	WV
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Queen Anne's lace	3	
<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>	cut-leaved teasel	3	
<i>Dipsacus sylvestris</i>	common teasel	3	
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	viper's bugloss	3	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	ground ivy or gill-over-the-ground	3	
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	velvet grass	3	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	common St. John's wort	3	
<i>Muscari botryoides</i>	grape hyacinth	3	
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy	3	
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	English plantain or narrow-leaf plantain	3	
<i>Plantago major</i>	great plantain	3	
<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>	sachaline or giant knotweed	3	
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	curly pondweed	3	
<i>Rorippa sylvestris</i>	creeping yellow cress	3	
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	wineberry	3	
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	sheep sorrel	3	

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<i>Rumex crispus</i>	yellow dock or curly dock	3	
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	3	
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	great mullein	3	
<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	porcelain berry	4	
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	flowering rush	4	
<i>Carduus crispus</i>	curled thistle	4	WV
<i>Clerodendrum trichotomum</i>	harlequin glorybower	4	
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian olive	4	
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	broadleaf helleborine	4	
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	giant hogweed	4	F
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla	4	F
<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i> Sieb. & Zucc.	regal privet or border privet	4	
<i>Ludwigia uruguayensis</i>	Willow primrose	4	
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water-milfoil	4	
<i>Ornithogalum nutans</i>	drooping star of Bethlehem	4	
<i>Poncirus trifoliata</i>	hardy orange	4	
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	lesser celandine or fig buttercup	4	
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	common buckthorn	4	
<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	jetbead	4	