



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Northwest
Region

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Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
For the Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program
Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants

Dear Citizens:

I am pleased to announce the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the *Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program - Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants*. The FEIS discloses the potential environmental effects of adding management direction related to invasive plants to National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans in the Pacific Northwest Region (Region Six). Invasive plant prevention and treatment standards would be added, a new and expanded set of invasive plant treatment tools would be available to the National Forests.

On August 22, 2004, the Forest Service released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that considered four alternatives: No Action, the Proposed Action, plus two additional action alternatives (Alternatives B and D). All three of the action alternatives were designed to reduce the rate of spread of invasive plants within Region Six, increase the effectiveness of invasive plant management, and protect human health and the environment.

During the 90-day DEIS review period we received approximately 300 pieces of correspondence. Most of the correspondence originated in Oregon and Washington. The comments have been reviewed and considered individually and collectively. We responded to the comments by:

- 1) Modifying alternatives – The wording of standards was changed in response to comments and one new standard was added to all alternatives.
- 2) Supplementing analysis – Several sections of the FEIS include supplemental analysis or clarifying discussions in response to comments.
- 3) Corrections – Some comments resulted in corrections to the existing analysis. Appendix A of the FEIS provides a summary of all public comments.

The Proposed Action remains the Forest Service preferred alternative. I expect to release a Record of Decision later this summer, once all interagency consultations are completed.

For more information on this FEIS, contact Eugene Skrine at 503 808-2685 or electronically at r6_IPEIS@fs.fed.us. Additional information will also be posted on our website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/invasiveplant-eis.

Sincerely,



LINDA GOODMAN
Regional Forester

