

Invasive plant practices on the Gifford Pinchot as taken from the Forest Plan.

Under Forest wide management direction in the GP forest plan

Chapter 2: page 38 and 39

Pest Suppression and Prevention

“ To meet forest objectives, Integrated Pest Management prescriptions will be utilized to manage pests within the standards and guidelines for each management area. They may include manual, mechanical, cultural, biological, chemical, prescribed fire, and regulatory methods. Private landowners and other public agencies should be consulted and a cooperative effort made to control or minimize pest infestations when appropriate..

Noxious weeds and all unwanted vegetation will be treated by one or more of the following strategies, depending on the degree to which the infestation has progressed: prevention, early treatment, maintenance, correction or deferred action. Prevention is the preferred treatment. Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) methods available for use are: education, prevention measures, physical or mechanical methods, cultural methods (including prescribed fire), biological agents and herbicides.

If treatment is needed, it must be designed to lead toward a long term prevention strategy. Economic, environmental, sociopolitical effects, and human health, especially with the use of fire or herbicides, will be analyzed.”

Riparian Reserve Standards and guidelines for Pest Management

“Pests which adversely affect riparian vegetation should be suppressed or prevented using techniques which do not degrade water quality. Cultural and biological methods will be favored.”

Chapter 2 page 55

“The forest plan incorporates the Pacific Northwest Regions FEIS for Managing competing and Unwanted Vegetation (1986) Use of vegetation treatments methods (biological, mechanical, prescribed burning, or herbicides is allowed only when other methods (i.e. prevention) are ineffective or will unreasonably increase project costs. Emphasis will be on prevention and early treatment of unwanted vegetation and full public involvement in all aspects of project planning and implementation.”

“Noxious weed management is in cooperation with the Washington Dept. of Agriculture as documented in the MOU signed by the Regional Office, for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, in February 1991. The forest also cooperates with the Weed Control Extension Agents of Lewis, Skamania, Klickitat, and Pierce Counties, and with farmers, ranchers, and neighboring landowners on the management of noxious weeds.

There are 37 noxious weeds that could or do occur on the forest. It then goes on to define class A, B, and C weeds. If you want this list in the plan I can send.

With regard to Timber Sale contracts: We do include **C6.35 Equipment Cleaning** on all contracts, as well as seeding of skid trails and landings where needed.