

## APPENDIX H

### Pertinent New Standards for Invasive Species Prevention

from the

Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Final Environmental Impact Statement, Record of Decision, October 2005

#### Prevention 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** (*emphasis added*), recreation management plans, vegetation management plans, and other land management assessments. This standard will apply to all assessments and analysis documents started or underway as of March 1, 2006.

#### Prevention Standard #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, or a similar certification process.

#### Prevention Standard #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. Choose weed-free project staging areas, livestock and packhorse corrals, and trailheads.

#### Prevention Standard #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. This standard will apply to grazing permits beginning March 1, 2006.

#### Regional Forester's Rationale for Selected Standard #6

I am selecting this standard because incorporating invasive plant prevention practices into rangeland permit management will help reduce the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of invasive plants from grazing (as compared to No Action). **I recognize that this standard may result in changes in grazing locations, timing, intensity, and outputs** (*emphasis added*) (FEIS Chapter 4.6.3). These adjustments would be implemented using existing rangeland administration mechanisms (FSH 2209.13).

#### Prevention Standard # 11:

Prioritize infestations of invasive plants for treatment at the landscape, watershed or larger multiple forest/multiple owner scale.

#### Prevention Standard #12:

Develop a long-term site strategy for restoring/revegetating invasive plant sites prior to treatment.

Prevention Standard #13:

Native plant materials are the first choice in revegetation for restoration and rehabilitation where timely regeneration of the native plant community is not likely to occur.

**Other**

From FEIS, Proposed Standard #2, not selected by the regional Forester, but which gives managers the option to make project-specific changes:

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 equipment and vehicles** prior to entering National Forest System land for all projects, **and before leaving the project site**, when operating in areas where invasive plants have been identified as present at a level where transport of invasive plant seed or vegetation propagules (root fragments) is likely and a concern. This standard would not apply to initial attack of wildland fires, and other emergency situations where cleaning would delay response time.

Regional Forester's rationale:

The costs of implementing this standard could lead to less heavy equipment work because costs may become prohibitive. Administrative costs for timber, other vegetation management, roads, livestock grazing, fire, fuels, recreation, and minerals and mining programs and projects in infested areas under Alternative B could increase to the point where programs and projects could not be funded. I am not adopting this standard from Alternative B because the additional expense and implementation (decision factors 3 and 4) outweigh its potential prevention value. **At the project-specific scale, managers have the option to consider stronger prevention practices such as washing equipment before leaving infested sites.** (*emphasis added*)