

# PRESENTATION FACTSHEET

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**Presentation Title:** ASRP Noxious Weeds

**Date:** 3/7/2024

**Presenters:** Andrew Mealor

**Board Approval Needed:** Discussion

## Background Materials:

**Previous Presentation(s):** No

**Previous Material(s) Links:**

**Date(s) of Presentation:** Enter date.

Please Insert Previous Material Link(s) – enter N/A if not applicable.

**Previous Board Action(s) Taken:** Choose One.

## Key Points for Insert Current Presentation Title Here.

- “Noxious weeds” are a classification of invasive plants
- The ASRP considers controlling noxious weeds to be a near term priority action
- Controlling noxious weeds is different from other ASRP actions in terms scale and scope
- The ASRP is already funding near-term actions with immediate results while also setting up longer-term holistic strategies

## About Noxious Weeds

Noxious weeds are:

Non-native, invasive plants that are competitive and highly destructive to:

- Agriculture
- Natural Systems
- Human Resources

Noxious weed laws are administered through State + County Noxious Weed Control Boards + WSDA

## **Noxious Weeds and the ASRP**

Noxious weeds are identified as a limiting factor for habitat restoration by the ASRP. Removal is an immediate priority action.

Noxious weed control is a common element of ASRP-funded projects

Noxious weeds can:

- Impair access to off-channel habitats or small streams
- Prevent growth of native riparian plant communities
- Reduce shade and increase temperature
- Reduce wood loading and increase erosion
- Reduce habitat complexity
- Increase incision/Reduce floodplain connectivity

## **Unique elements of Noxious Weed Control**

Comprehensive noxious weed control requires large scale planning and coordination

Noxious weeds grow quickly and often benefit from land disturbance- including some restoration actions

Sources of noxious weeds may be very far from restoration project areas

Many management programs already exist, with overlapping jurisdictions:

- Four counties (Grays Harbor, Mason, Thurston, Lewis) each have both a conservation district and a noxious weed control board
- The Chehalis Tribe and the Quinault Indian Nation
- WDFW, DNR, and Federal Agencies

## **What is the ASRP doing about noxious weeds?**

Short term actions:

- Mowing Reed Canary Grass at Oregon Spotted Frog breeding sites
- Removing noxious weeds from current ASRP project sites prior to planting with natives

Long term actions

- Studying feasibility of chemical controls on Reed Canary Grass within Oregon Spotted Frog sites
- Surveying extent of Elodea in Satsop
- Funding basin-wide noxious weed control tracking, coordination, and reporting
- Sub-basin knotweed control programs

### **Presenter Follow Up Actions:**

ASRP Staff will bring funding considerations to the board for larger noxious weed control projects. This could include noxious weed control in the Cloquallum basin and a Chehalis Basin-wide weed control coordination project.