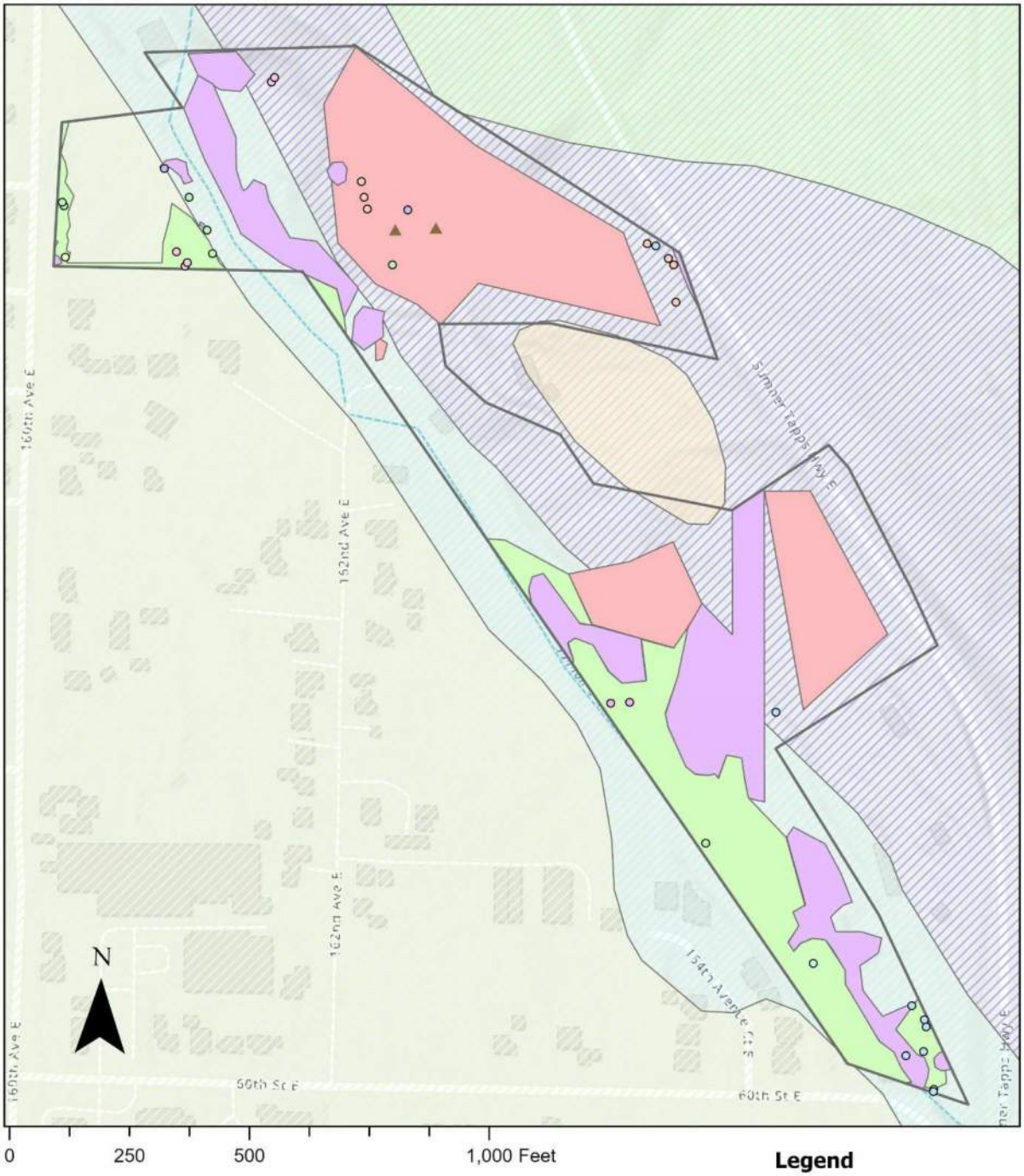
Invasive Species Location Map - Section 5



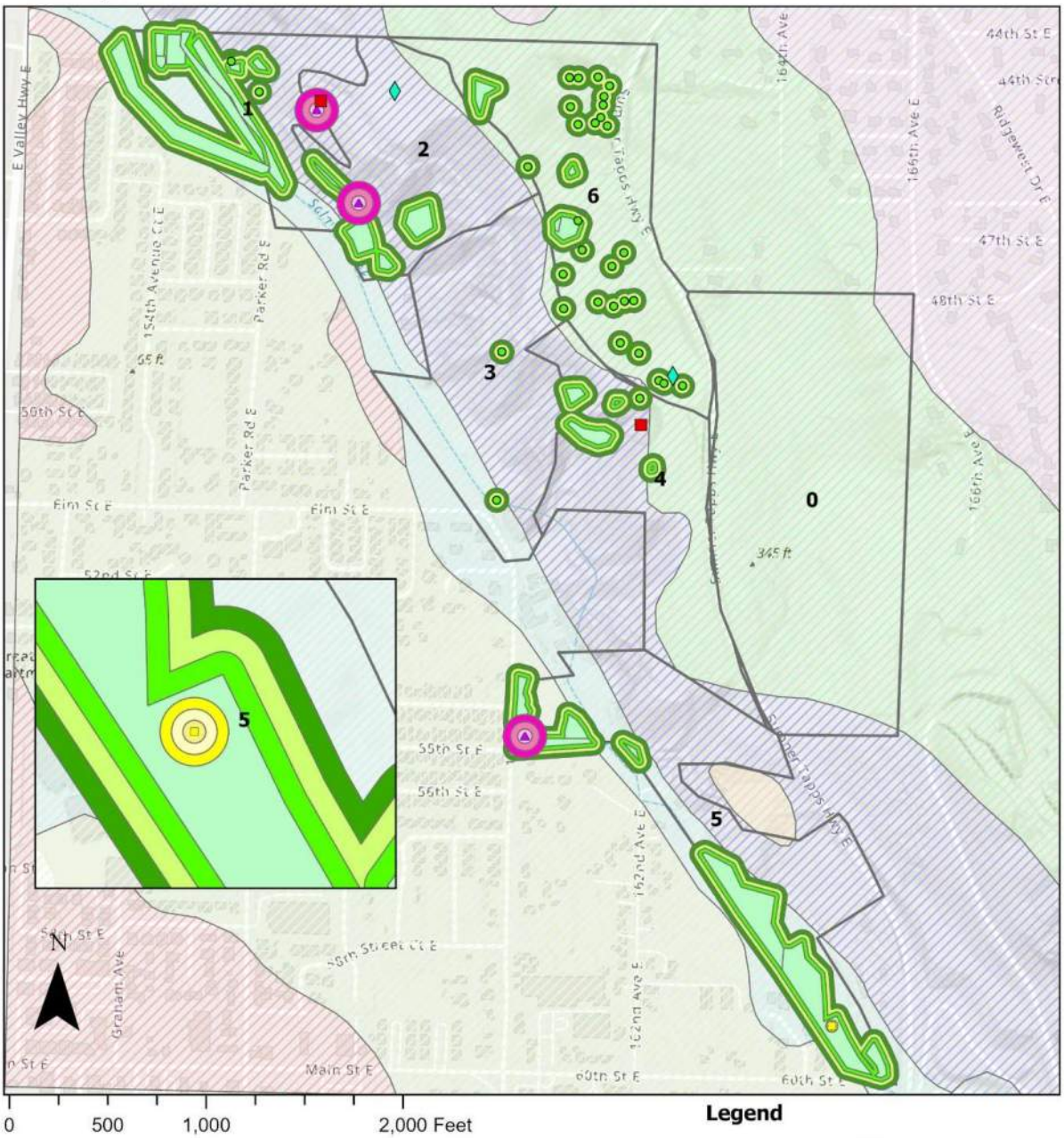
Made by Makayla Holcom on 5/22/24

Sources: dead tree, invasive species points, and invasive species polygons collected by GRC Bio Invasions 2024 class. Section 5 boarder provided by City of Sumner. Soil data provided by Web Soil Survey. Base map provided by ESRI.

Legend

- Dead Tree
- Invasive Species Locations
  - Blackberry
  - Butterfly Bush
  - English Holly
  - English Ivy
  - Field Bindweed
  - Other
  - Scotch Broom
  - Yellow Flag Iris
- Section 5 Boarder
- Reed Canary Grass
- Blackberry
- English Ivy
- Soil Types
  - 1C
  - 1D
  - 31A
  - 39A
  - 42A
  - 47F
  - 6A
  - PITS

Sumner Watershed Invasive Species Spread Map - Yellow Flag Iris, Reed Canary Grass, and Bindweed



Legend

- Bindweed Location
- Yellow Flag Iris Location
- Reed Canary Grass Individual Location
- Reed Canary Grass Patch Location
- Sumner Watershed Sections

Soil Types
- 1C
- 1D
- 31A
- 39A
- 42A
- 47F
- 6A
- PITS

Bindweed Spread
- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

Reed Canary Grass Spread
- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

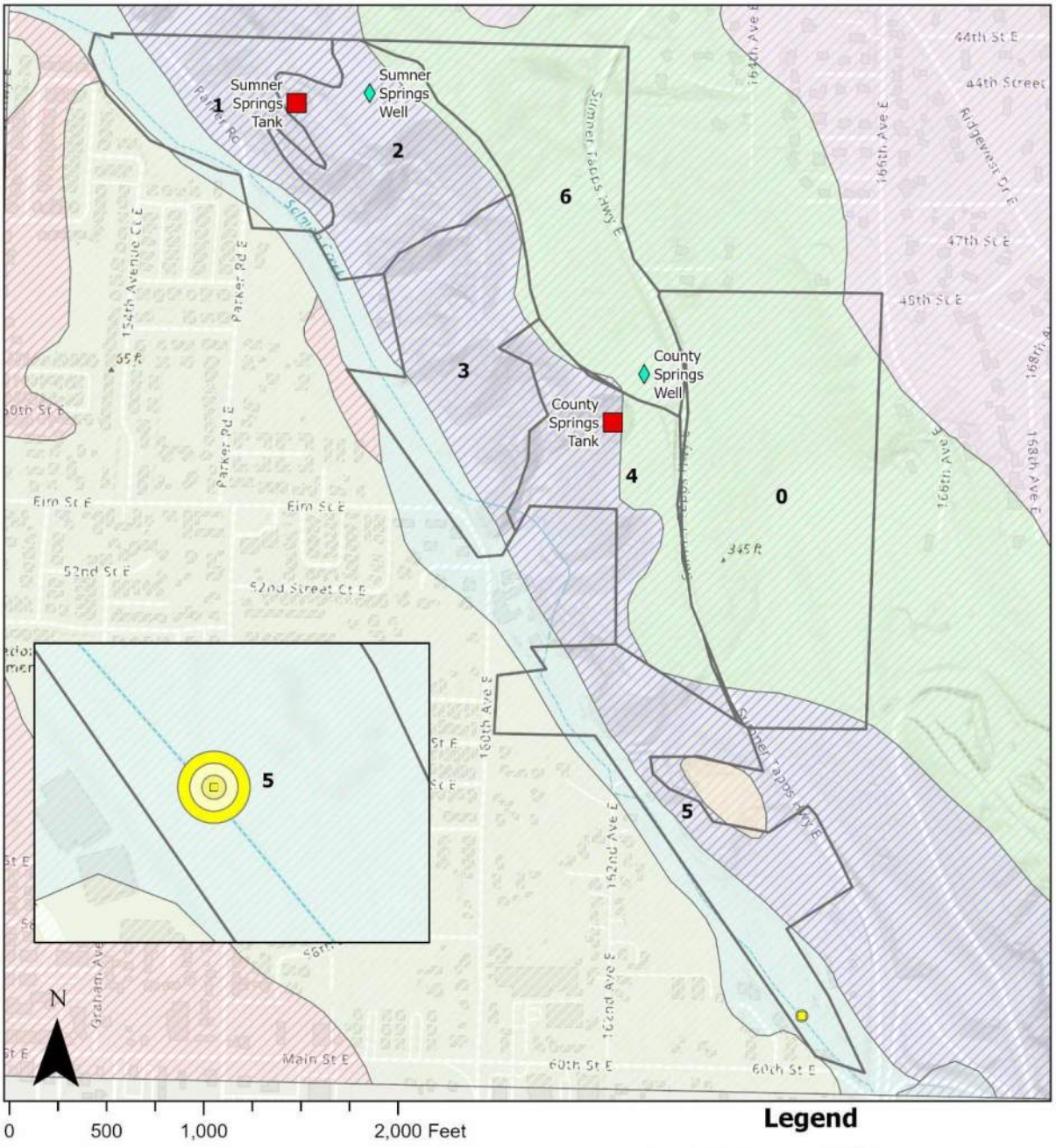
Yellow Flag Iris Spread
- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

- Storage Tanks
- Wells

Made by Makayla Holcom on 5/22/24

Sources: dead tree, invasive species points, and invasive species polygons collected by GRC Bio Invasions 2024 class. Section 5 boarder provided by City of Sumner. Soil data provided by Web Soil Survey. Base map provided by ESRI.

Sumner Watershed Invasive Species Spread Map - Yellow Flag Iris



Legend

- Sumner Watershed Sections
- Yellow Flag Iris

Yellow Flag Iris Spread
- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

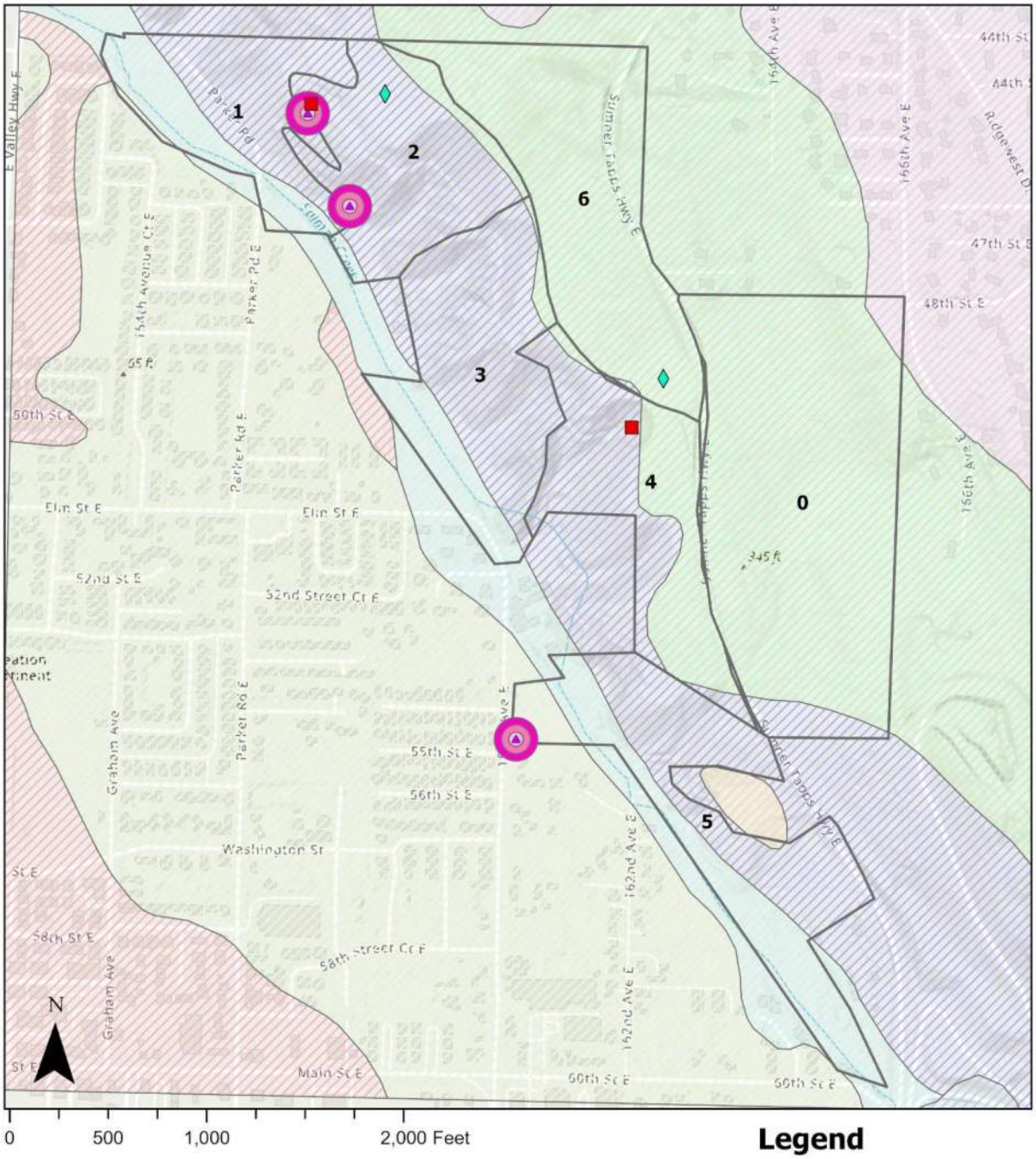
Soil Types
- 1C
- 1D
- 31A
- 39A
- 42A
- 47F
- 6A
- PITS

- Storage Tanks
- Wells

Made by Makayla Holcom on 5/22/24

Sources: dead tree, invasive species points, and invasive species polygons collected by GRC Bio Invasions 2024 class. Section 5 boarder provided by City of Sumner. Soil data provided by Web Soil Survey. Base map provided by ESRI.

Sumner Watershed Invasive Species Spread Map - Bindweed Spread



Legend

- Bindweed Locations
- Sumner Watershed Sections

Bindweed Spread

- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

Soil Types

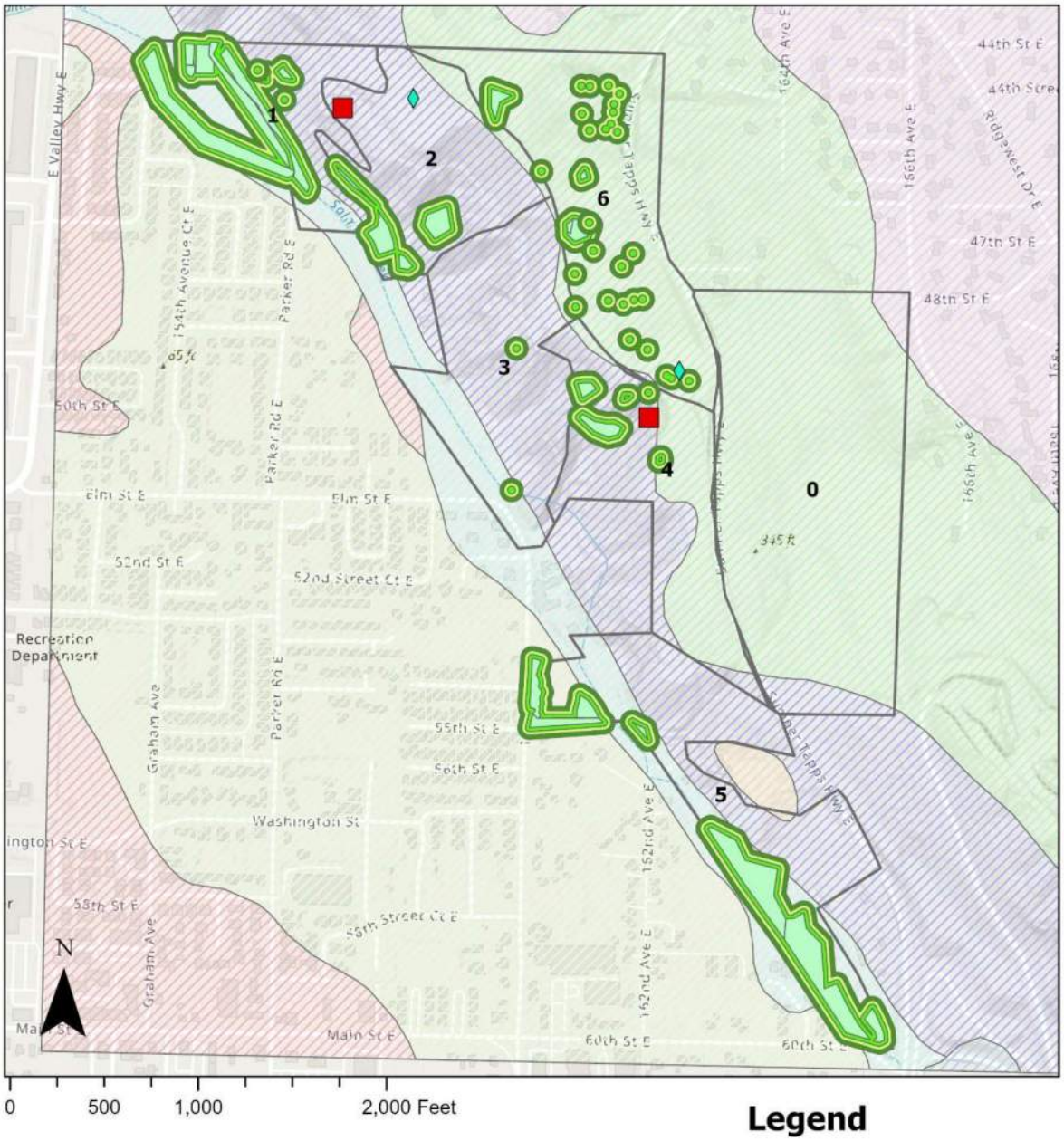
- 1C
- 1D
- 31A
- 39A
- 42A
- 47F
- 6A
- PITS

- Storage Tanks
- Wells

Made by Makayla Holcom on 5/22/24

Sources: dead tree, invasive species points, and invasive species polygons collected by GRC Bio Invasions 2024 class. Section 5 boarder provided by City of Sumner. Soil data provided by Web Soil Survey. Base map provided by ESRI.

Sumner Watershed Invasive Species Spread Map - Reed Canary Grass Spread



Legend

- Sumner Watershed Sections
- Reed Canary Grass Patch Location
- Reed Canary Grass Individual Location

Reed Canary Grass Spread

- Three Years
- Six Years
- Nine Years

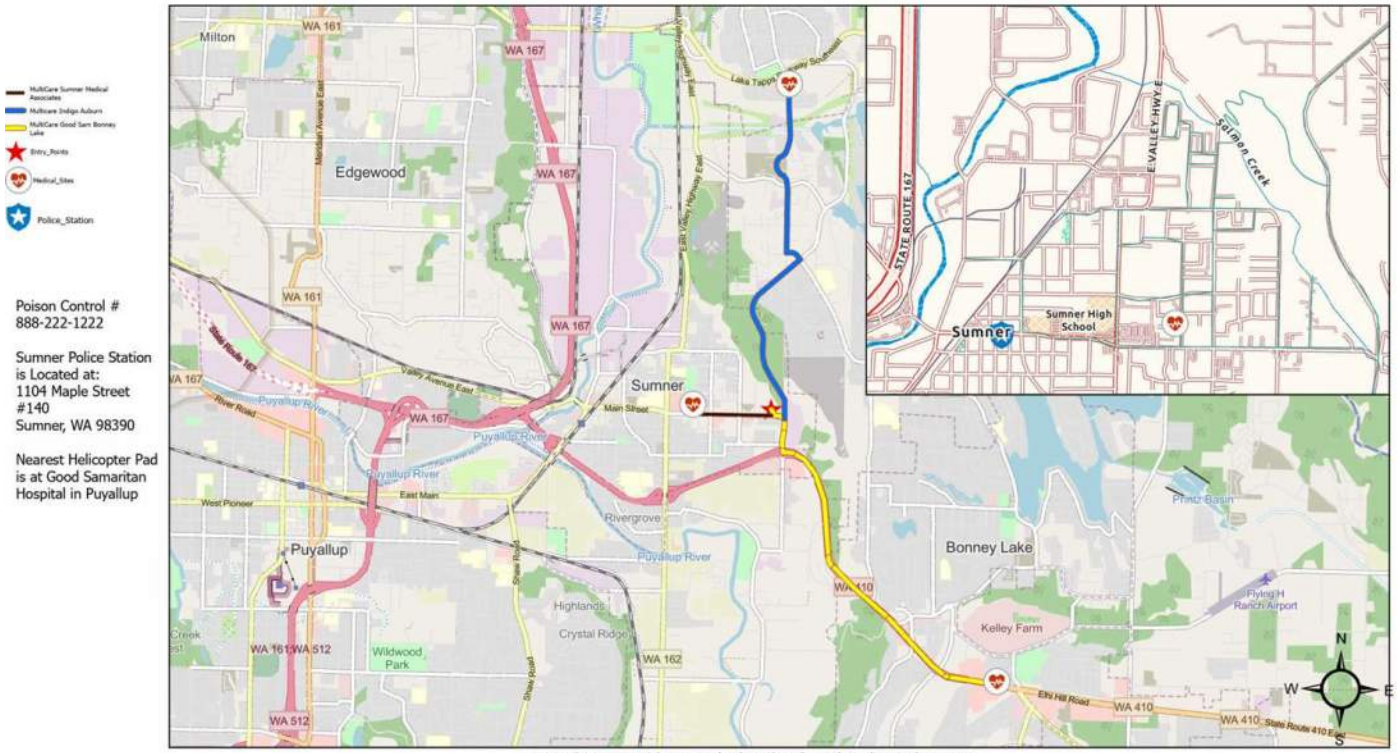
Soil Types

- 1C
- 1D
- 31A
- 39A
- 42A
- 47F
- 6A
- PITS
- Storage Tanks
- Wells

Made by Makayla Holcom on 5/22/24

Sources: dead tree, invasive species points, and invasive species polygons collected by GRC Bio Invasions 2024 class. Section 5 boarder provided by City of Sumner. Soil data provided by Web Soil Survey. Base map provided by ESRI.

Routes to Nearest Emergency Room/Urgent Care/Medical Clinic



Poison Control #
888-222-1222

Sumner Police Station
is Located at:
1104 Maple Street
#140
Sumner, WA 98390

Nearest Helicopter Pad
is at Good Samaritan
Hospital in Puyallup

0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

Created By: Sean Eckman, Makayla Holcomb, and Andrew Schnereger
05/31/2024
Sources: Fastest Routes Provided by Google Maps; Basemap Provided by ESRI

Setting Priorities Guideline

Current Extent of the Species	Current and Potential Impacts of the Species	Value of the Habitats/Areas the Species Infests or Could Infest	Difficulty of Control and Establishing Replacement Species
1 Species not yet on the site but which are present nearby. Pay special attention to species known to be pests elsewhere in the region.	**1** Species that alter ecosystem processes such as fire frequency, sedimentation, nutrient cycling, or other ecosystem processes. These are species that "change the rules of the game", often altering conditions so radically that few native plants and animals can persist	**1** Infestations that occur in the most highly valued habitats or areas of the site - especially areas that contain rare or highly valued species or communities and areas that provide vital resources.	**1** Species likely to be controlled or eliminated with available technology and resources and which desirable native species will replace with little further input.
2 Species present as new populations or outliers of larger infestations, especially if they	**2** Species that outcompete natives and dominate otherwise undisturbed	**2** Infestations that occur in less highly valued portions of the site. Areas already	**2** Species likely be controlled but will not be replaced by desirable natives without an active

are expanding rapidly.	native communities.	badly infested with other weeds may be given low priority unless the species in question will make the situation significantly worse.	restoration program requiring substantial resources.
3 Species present in large infestations that continue to expand.	**3** Species that do not outcompete dominant natives but: a. prevent or depress recruitment or regeneration of native species (for example, the forest understory weed garlic mustard may depress recruitment by canopy dominants); OR b. reduce or eliminate resources (e.g., food, cover,		**3** Species difficult to control with available technology and resources and/or whose control will likely result in substantial damage to other, desirable species.

	nesting sites) used by native animals; OR c. promote populations of invasive non-native animals by providing them with resources otherwise unavailable in the area		
4 Species present in large infestations that are not expanding.	**4** Species that overtake and exclude natives following natural disturbances such as fires, floods, or hurricanes, thereby altering succession, or that hinder		**4** Species unlikely to be controlled with available technology and resources.

Priorities are based on a scale of 1-4, except for “Value of Habitats”, which has only two. The list is a descending scale of priorities, so a value of 1 would be the highest priority and 4 the least priority.

Sources:

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Section F - Specific Management Recommendations from Group 6

C. Tables 6-8

Table 6: Prioritized List of Weed Species.

Species	Prioritization
Bittersweet Nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*)	Low
Blue Bell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica)*	Low
Bull Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare)*	Medium
Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus)*	Low
Cutleaf Blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*)	Low
English Holly (*Ilex aquafolium*)	High
English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)	High
Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea)*	Low
Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)	Low
Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)	High
Laminated Root Rot (*Coniferiporia sulphurascens*)	Low
Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*)	High
Reed Canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)	Medium
Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius)*	Medium
Spurge Laurel (*Daphne laureola*)	Low

Table 7: Weed Management Plan Implementation Schedule.

Species	**Control Method**	**Area**	**Implementation Timeframe**
Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*)	Manual cutting of climbing vines with herbicide applied to vine ends. Herbicide spot-sprayed on ground vegetation	Sparsely invaded areas, small pockets	Treatment should be applied before stem elongation in spring. **Winter months** are recommended.
Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*)	Mechanical lopping or mowing followed by herbicide treatment on regrowth two weeks later	Densely invaded areas, thick and high matts of vegetation growth	Lopping and mowing should be done before the plant goes to seed in late summer. While this can be done in spring and summer, **winter**

			months are recommended.
Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*)	Manual cutting of climbing vines and mechanical lopping or mowing of ground vegetation. Both treatments should be followed by immediately digging out entire root system	Sensitive areas where herbicide cannot be used	Lopping and mowing should be done before the plant goes to seed in late summer. Digging is easiest when soil is moist, **winter months** are recommended for minimizing impact to surrounding vegetation.
Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)	Mechanical hand pulling, grubbing up with shovel	Sparse invasions, very small pockets	Mechanical hand pulling and shovel removal should be performed in early springtime (**March-April**) prior to seeding.
Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)	Herbicidal foliar treatment	Larger invasion pockets	Herbicidal foliar treatments should be applied in early springtime (**March-April**) prior to seeding.

Table 8: Projected Resource Costs to Implement Weed Management Plan.

Species	Manual Removal	Mechanical Removal	Chemical Control	Monitoring & Follow-up
Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*) Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)	Involves physical labor to cut, pull, and dig out vines. This method is labor-intensive but minimizes ecological disturbance. Cost might range from $500 to $2,000 per acre, depending on labor rates and vine density	Using machinery to clear large areas. This can be quicker but more disruptive to the environment and possibly more expensive if specialized equipment is required. Costs could range from $1,000 to $3,000 per acre	This method requires professional application and follow-up treatments. The cost can vary widely, typically from $100 to $800 per acre, depending on the chemicals used and number of applications.	Post-removal monitoring and additional treatments for regrowth. This might cost $50 to $200 per acre per year, depending on the need for ongoing herbicide application or additional manual removal.
Laminated Root Rot (*Coniferiporia sulphurascens*)	N/A	Consult Forester	N/A	Consult Forester

Example Cost Estimate for 30 Acres:

- **Manual Removal:** $500 to $2,000 per acre × 30 acres = $15,000 to $60,000
- **Mechanical Removal:** $1,000 to $3,000 per acre × 30 acres = $30,000 to $90,000
- **Chemical Control (if necessary):** $100 to $800 per acre × 30 acres = $3,000 to $24,000
- **Restoration with Native Species (optional):** $500 to $2,500 per acre × 30 acres = $15,000 to $75,000

Total estimated cost can range from $15,000 to potentially over $150,000 depending on the methods chosen, the scale of restoration, the diversity of invasive species and the specifics of the infestation. Some of the invasive plant species in section 6 would be ideal for volunteer work parties and opportunities for citizens to become involved in future monitoring (The Research Group, LLC., 2014), (Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, 2017).

SPECIFIC CONTROL PLANS FOR HIGH PRIORITY WEED SPECIES

1. Scientific name: *Clematis vitalba* **Common name:** Old Man's Beard

Updated _____

a. PRIORITY High

b. DESCRIPTION

Also known as traveler's joy, old man's beard is a perennial deciduous climbing vine in the buttercup family (*Ranunculaceae)* (Karr, 2019). Originally imported from Europe, Africa, and southwestern Asia as an ornamental, this species is known for its aggressive, smothering tendencies and is listed as a Class C noxious weed in Washington (King County, n.d.). Growing up to 100 feet in length, it produces cream-white flowers during the summer months which turn into feathered, wind-born seeds in late summer and early fall.

c. CURRENT DISTRIBUTION ON THE SITE

(Refer to Appendix 3 and 4)

Currently, old man's beard prevalence is high in small pockets of Section 6, with scattered dispersal on the fringe of these areas. While it is abundant in these pockets, it is currently contained to only a few acres in this section.

d. DAMAGE & THREATS

Old man's beard poses several threats to forests in the Pacific Northwest and can have detrimental impacts on native trees, plants, animals, and ecosystem functions such as water cycling.

The primary risk for this species is the competition for site resources it creates. Competition for sunlight, water, and nutrients can impact native trees and plants that promote healthy water cycling by providing ecosystem elements such as shade, soil stabilization, and microbial inputs to upper soil horizons. Additionally, old man's beard causes physical threats to native trees by being a vigorous climber, adding physical weight to the tree, leading to increased breakage and mortality.

Old man's beard is a threat to all ages and sizes of trees, including younger trees that are necessary to restock the forest. As older trees decline, the lack of these younger trees can affect the structure and functions of the forest, eventually resulting in open clearings with little to no canopy and reduced erosion control.

This vine also climbs up larger trees, smothering and weighing them down, increasing breakage and mortality. The added understory vegetation of this climbing vine can also serve as ladder fuel, increasing fire hazards in the area (King County, 2010).

Old man's beard is toxic if ingested and can cause severe skin irritation and rashes in some people (King County, 2010).

e. GOALS

Given the limited extant of this prolific and problematic species, stopping future expansion of old man's beard along with the complete removal of its current population on site is the long-term management goal. This should be prioritized while the population is relatively small and limited in range, as further establishment will make this much more costly and time-intensive to achieve.

f. OBJECTIVES (Measurable)

A realistic objective would be to reduce cover of this target species by 50% over its 5-acre range within the next year, followed by complete eradication by the end of year 2.

g. MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

(1) No treatment: Left untreated, this old man's beard will spread to other areas of the watershed. This species' tendency to disperse via wind combined with its current uphill location may accelerate this establishment in lower-elevation regions of the property. Once entrenched throughout the watershed, this species will be very difficult to remove. High tree mortality and change to forest structure can be expected long-term, especially in areas already weakened by laminated root rot, erosion, and other invasive plants.

(2) (Treatment option 1): This alternative does not use herbicides, due to the high disturbance of soil caused by root removal and potential for regrowth, this method is not recommended in areas where groundwater contamination of sources to the Sumner Well and County Well is not a concern. Expedited control of fringe establishment areas will lower the future rate of spread. Initial treatments should prioritize sparse outer populations, with eradication of denser, more heavily concentrated inner areas afterwards.

Climbing vines can be cut horizontally at waste height, following the lower section of the vine back to the root, digging it out. Suspended vines can be left on the tree, as long as no portion of the vine is touching the ground.

Lopping or mowing treatment should then be applied to the groundcover prior to late summer, when the plant begins to seed. This mechanical treatment should be followed by

digging up the entire root system. While root removal can be done any time, it is easiest when the soil is moist. Winter months are recommended to minimize disturbance to surrounding vegetation.

(3) (Treatment option 2): This alternative uses herbicides and is recommended due to the minimal impact on the soil which can result from manual root removal and grubbing. Expedited control of fringe establishment areas will lower the future rate of spread. Initial treatments should prioritize sparse outer populations, with eradication of denser, more heavily concentrated inner areas afterwards.

Climbing vines can be cut horizontally at waste height, with herbicide applied to both ends. Immediately after cutting the vine, apply a 50% mixture triclopyr amine formulation (Brush-B-Gon™, Garlon 3A ™, Renovate ™) to water and apply to stump using a paintbrush, eyedropper, or squeeze bottle (King County, 2010).

Herbicide treatment on groundcover leaves and stems can be applied in early spring before stem elongation. If spring stem elongation has already occurred or in areas where growth is especially dense, lopping or mowing of ground cover is needed, followed by herbicide application to plant regrowth two weeks later (King County, 2010). A 2% glyphosate solution (RoundUp™) can be used as a foliar herbicide on groundcover and regrowth. 2.5 ounces per gallon of water can be mixed and applied via backpack sprayer to leaves and stems prior to stem elongation or following mechanical treatments.

Figure. The photos above are examples of old man's beard. The first photo (left) shows the creamy white flower that blooms in the summer. The second photo (center) shows the distinct leaf pattern of the plant. The third photo (right) shows its climbing and smothering growth habits.

2. Scientific name: *Geranium robertianum* **Common name:** Herb Robert

Updated _____

a. PRIORITY: Low

b. DESCRIPTION

Herb Robert is an invasive geranium native to Northern Africa, Europe, and Asia. It has distinct 5-petal pink flowers in spring and summer, with dissected green leaves year-round. Herb Robert can survive in many environments and is spread by seeds being ejected 15-20 feet from the plant.

c. CURRENT DISTRIBUTION ON THE SITE

(Refer to Appendix 3 and 5)

Herb Robert is currently spread throughout Section 6 in small pockets and individual offspring. Abundance of Herb Robert is low throughout the section.

d. DAMAGE & THREATS

The primary threat posed by Herb Robert is that it occupies space that native vegetation could be successful in. Herb Robert can withdraw nutrient resources from other competing native flora. The damage posed by this reduces populations of native species in areas occupied by Herb Robert, which can disrupt valuable ecosystem functions and services such as water and nutrient cycling, shelter and food sources and fungal networks.

e. GOALS

The long-term goal for Herb Robert is to reduce populations to occupy less than 5%. Eradication or near-eradication of Herb Robert from Section 6 would allow more forest floor space to be available to native plant species.

f. OBJECTIVES (Measurable)

Control objectives for Herb Robert consist of reducing the species to less than 5% from Section 6 within 7 years. The plant could be removed from Section 6 within the first 3-6 years and then follow-up procedures taken to ensure its eradication in the following year(s).

g. MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

(1) No treatment: With the no-treatment approach Herb Robert populations will continue to grow on forest floors in Section 6. Herb Robert is not a strong competitor and will not overtake strong, established groundcover of native plants, however; Herb Robert will take

advantage of openings in vegetation and disturbed areas. Herb Robert populations will grow into denser groundcover.

(2) (Treatment option 1): Treatment option 1 is an herbicide-free approach that consists of manual control methods. Herb Robert's shallow root system makes manual control methods like hand pulling and shovel removal ideal. Manual removal of Herb Robert should occur between April-May before seeding to avoid further regeneration.

(3) (Treatment option 2): Treatment option 2 is a combination approach of herbicide application and manual removal. In early April glyphosate herbicide (Roundup™) can be used to target smaller populations with spot treatments via backpack spraying at 1.5%, or 2oz per gallon of water. After at least 30 days, the remaining populations can be removed by hand pulling or shoveling.

Discussion: The no-treatment option can be beneficial because it is most cost effective, however; it is only recommended for areas with very sparse, small populations. The primary benefit of manual control (treatment option 1) is that it removes the root system and targets the intended species, however; manual control can be time consuming and may require a large team to complete. This method is good for areas that do not have large populations on site. This method would be good for including volunteer work parties. A mixture of manual and chemical control (treatment alternative 2) should be used sparingly and only in areas where there is no concern for potential groundwater contamination in sources to the county and Sumner wells; it is also important to consider cost and impacts to other native plant species. This method can be effective in areas that have a mixture of population sizes. This option is not recommended for volunteer work given the use of herbicide treatments and concerns from work party members that may be unfamiliar with herbicidal treatments. If none of these treatment methods seem reasonable, a noxious weed specialist should be contacted for further instruction.

Figure 2. The photos above are examples of herb Robert. The first photo (left) shows the distinct pink flower that blooms in spring and continues through the summer season. The second photo (center) shows the red, identifiable stem of the plant. The third photo (right) shows the leaf pattern of the plant.

3. Scientific name: *Coniferiporia sulphurascens*

Common name: Laminated root rot

Updated _____

a. PRIORITY: Medium

b. DESCRIPTION: This disease occurs in the Pacific Northwest in Canada and the United States and infects Douglas-fir, mountain hemlock, grand fir, and white fir, often killing them. Other tree species vary in susceptibility and degree of tolerance. Deciduous trees are immune. Laminated root rot infects new hosts when uninfected roots of susceptible trees grow into contact with infected stumps or roots, once infected trees die, the fungus continues to live on-site commonly causing large infection centers, making management of an infected site difficult.

c. CURRENT DISTRIBUTION ON THE SITE

(Refer to Appendix 3 and 6)

d. DAMAGE & THREATS: Undesired reductions in stand densities by causing high levels of mortality and may limit the species of trees that can be grown to a large size on a site. Ground fire severity may increase due to the abundant down wood in infection areas. On recreational and administrative sites, forest work sites, and along roadsides, trees with

laminated root rot have a high potential for failure and can present a significant safety hazard.

e. GOALS: Goals include future disease resistance, wildfire resistance, and slope stability. Integrating disease resilient trees to curb the laminated root rot occurring onsite is crucial for overall forest health and water protection.

f. OBJECTIVES: To slow the spread and minimize extensive losses of the Douglas-fir in section 6. Complete eradication within this section is not an objective.

g. MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

(1) No treatment: Canopy gaps created by laminated root rot result in a more diverse stand structure and at times a more diverse plant species composition, as resistant or non-host trees, shrubs, and forbs are released or become established from the infection center outward, following the slowly expanding fringe of dying host trees. Bark beetles and woodborers are attracted to trees infected with root disease, providing good foraging habitat for woodpeckers and a dynamic forest structure for many other wildlife species. This natural forest succession would only be maintained without the outside pressures of the invasive species on site

(2) (Treatment option 1); One approach involves favoring less susceptible and immune species on sites infected with laminated root rot. This approach does not eliminate the pathogen from the site because the fungus continues to survive on the less susceptible species but reduces the effects of disease upon the stand. This approach is usually preferred on heavily infested sites like this one, because it is generally cost effective, and maintains conifer cover on the site. Less susceptible and immune species may be planted in the openings the root rot pockets have made. Reinitiating canopy cover could potentially help shade out the invasives on site. While it is common to plant Western red cedar when dealing with this species of root rot, it should be noted that Western red cedar is also experiencing die-off in section 6 and may not be the best choice without more research (Mellen-McLean et al., 2017). Species like big leaf maple, and red alder would be suitable for the elevation as well as the moisture levels on site and could be viable alternatives to planting susceptible conifers.

(3) (Treatment option 2): A second approach is to create a buffer between an expanding laminated root rot infection center and the adjacent portion of the stand that is judged to be healthy. This may be accomplished in several ways, from complete removal of trees for a prescribed distance, usually 50 ft, surrounding the center, to removing only host trees from the buffer area. This approach requires accurate information on the spatial distribution of the root disease in the stand, obtained by conducting a root disease survey,

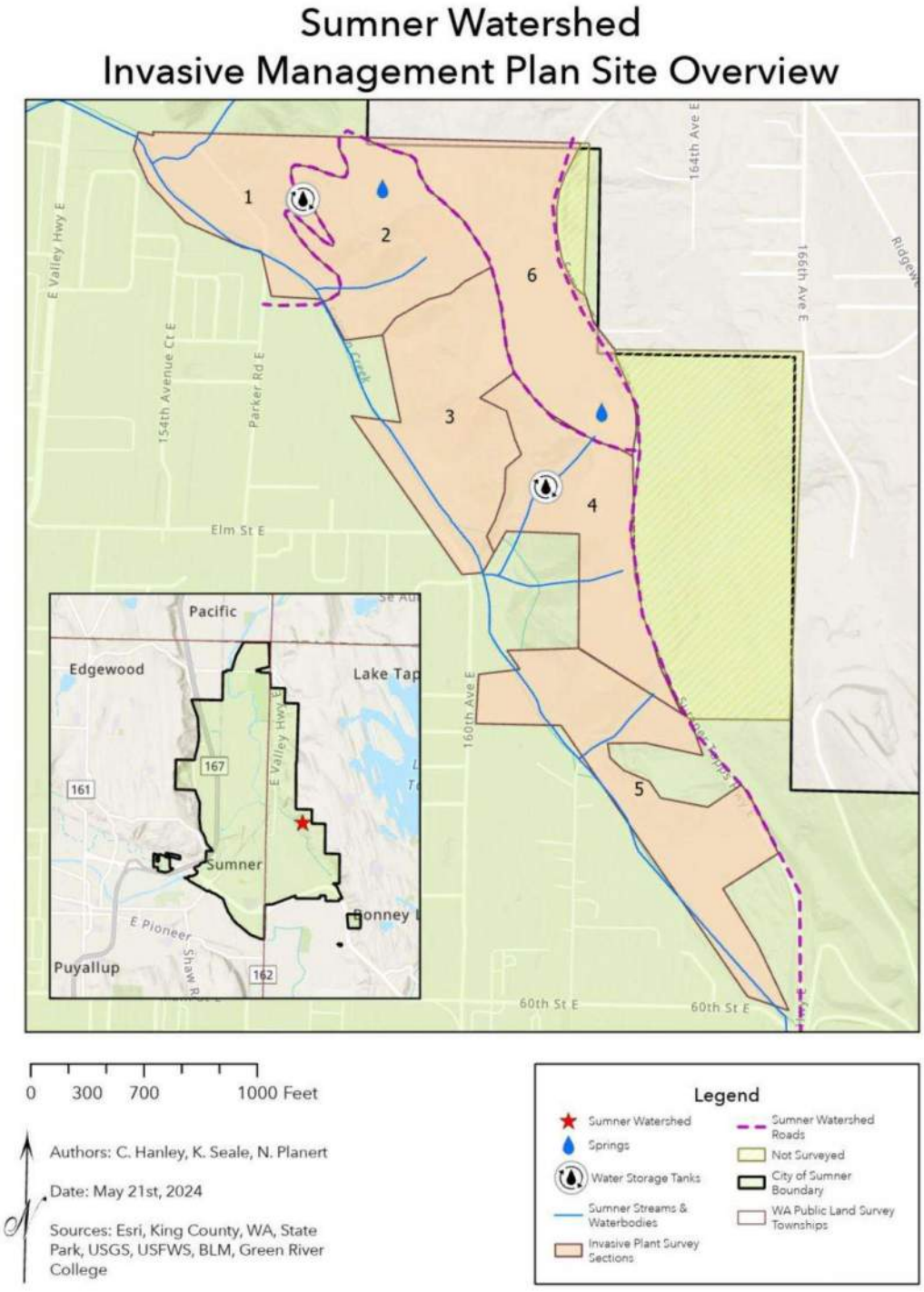
before implementation is considered, and is appropriate only in situations where distribution of the fungus is discreet and not diffuse (Mellen-McLean et al., 2017).

Discussion: Each alternative offers unique benefits and considerations for balancing forest health and biodiversity when considering the management of the large amount of known laminated root rot pockets within section 6. A mix of no treatment and alternative 1 would be most suitable for the site. Investing in replanting some of the open gaps within the root rot pockets with species that are immune to the disease would improve the stand structure over time, as well as shade out many of the noxious weeds found onsite. Leaving some of the root rot gaps within the section to naturally regenerate leaves valuable edge habitat for many native species to utilize. The City of Sumner should contact a silviculturist or forester for guidance on this issue.

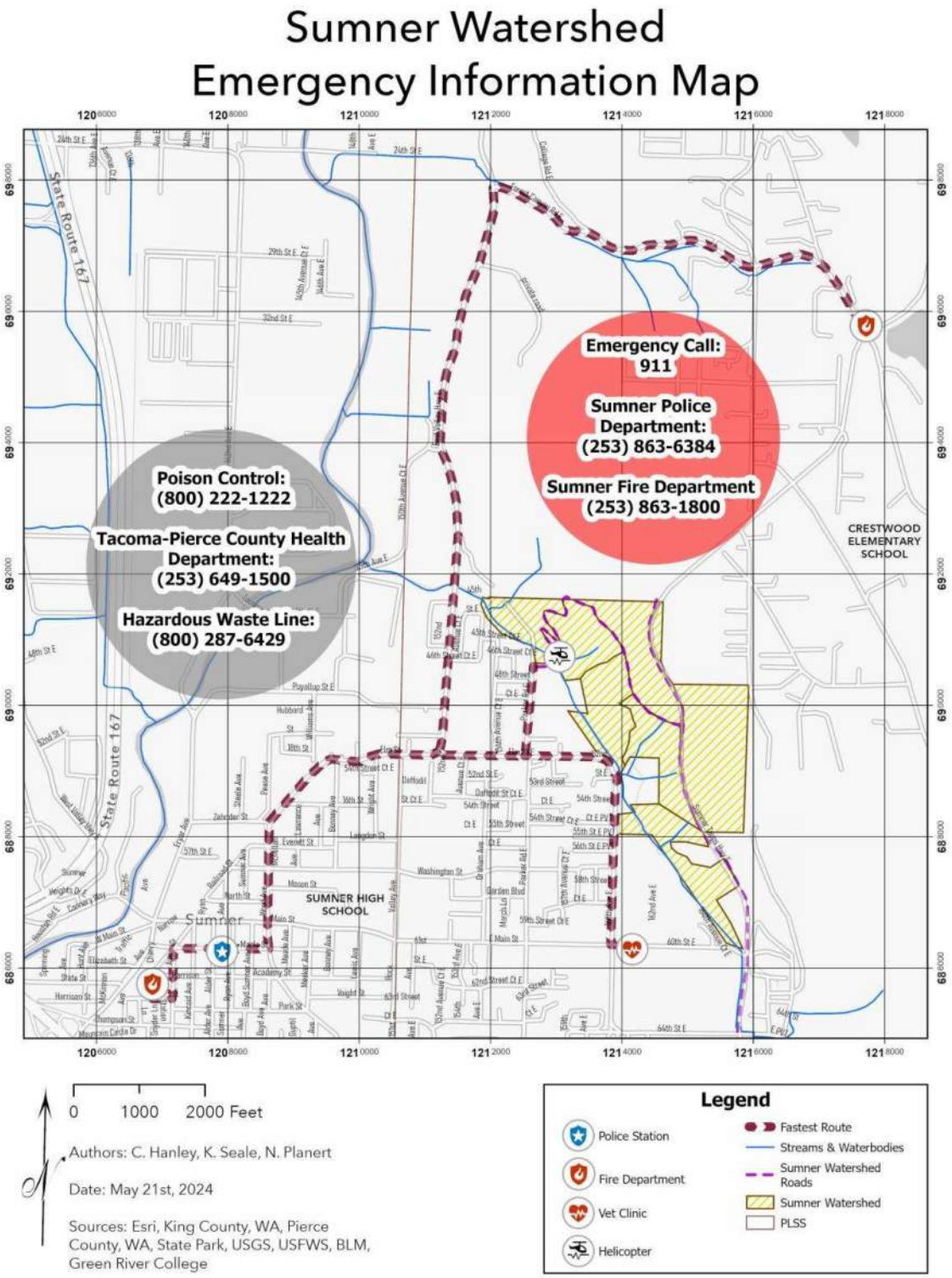
Figure 3. These photos include examples of the laminated root rot (possibly other species of rot included). Left photo shows the decaying wood delaminating into sheets, Middle photo shows how the wood is decaying in layers, and the right photo shows the effects of wind throw on a tree weakened by root rot.

Appendix

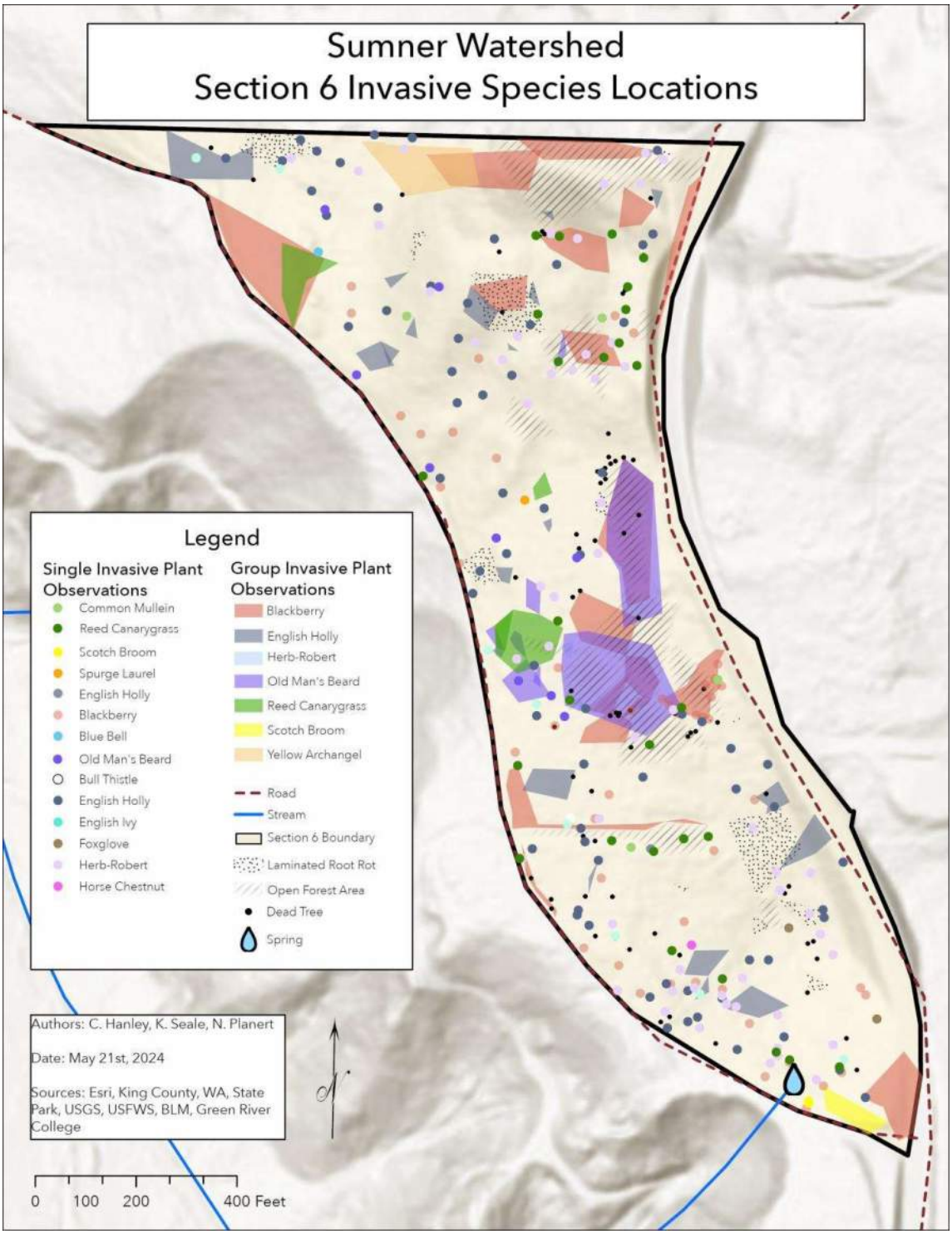
Appendix 1 - Site overview map



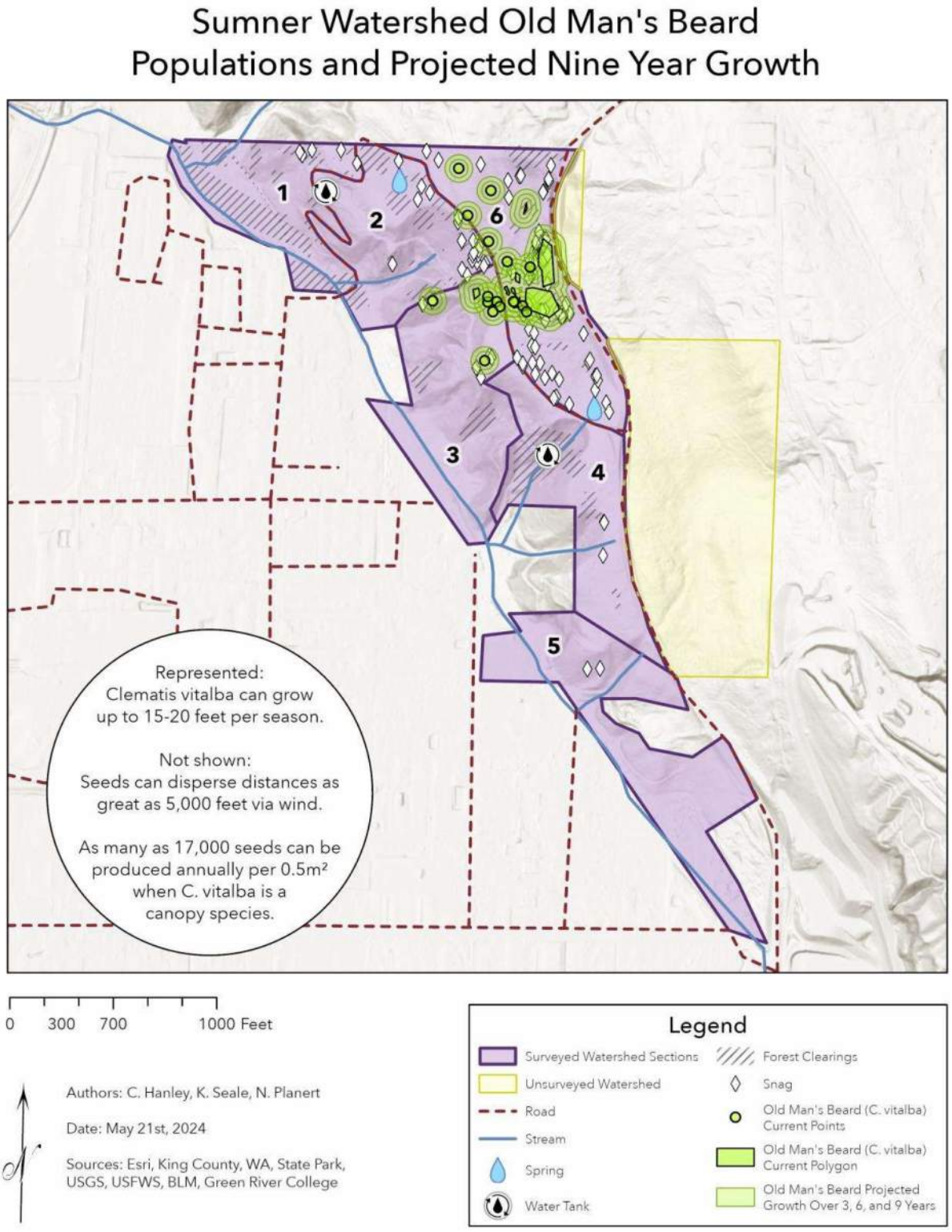
Appendix 2 - Emergency information/map to nearest hospitals



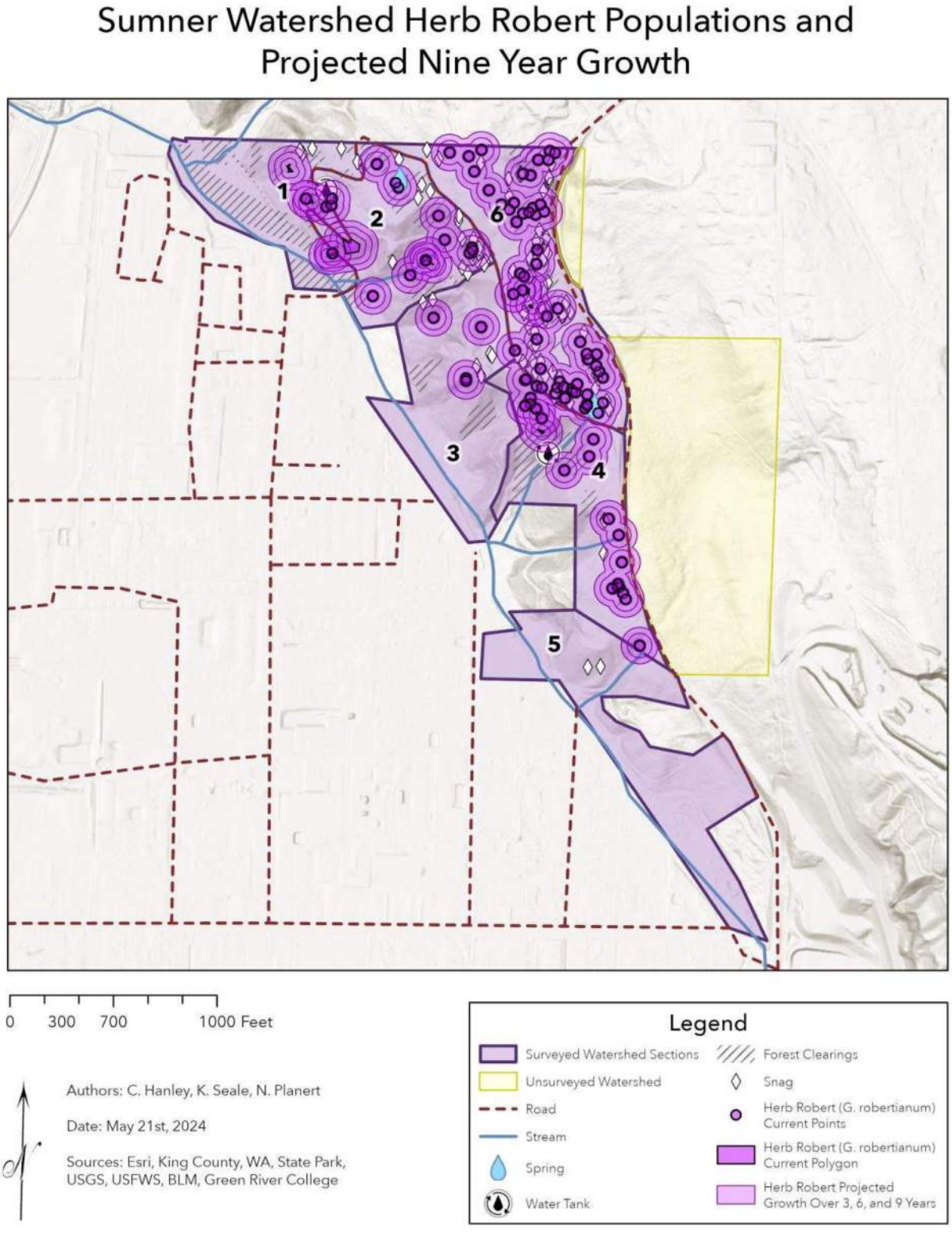
Appendix 3 – All Invasive Species Observed on Site 6



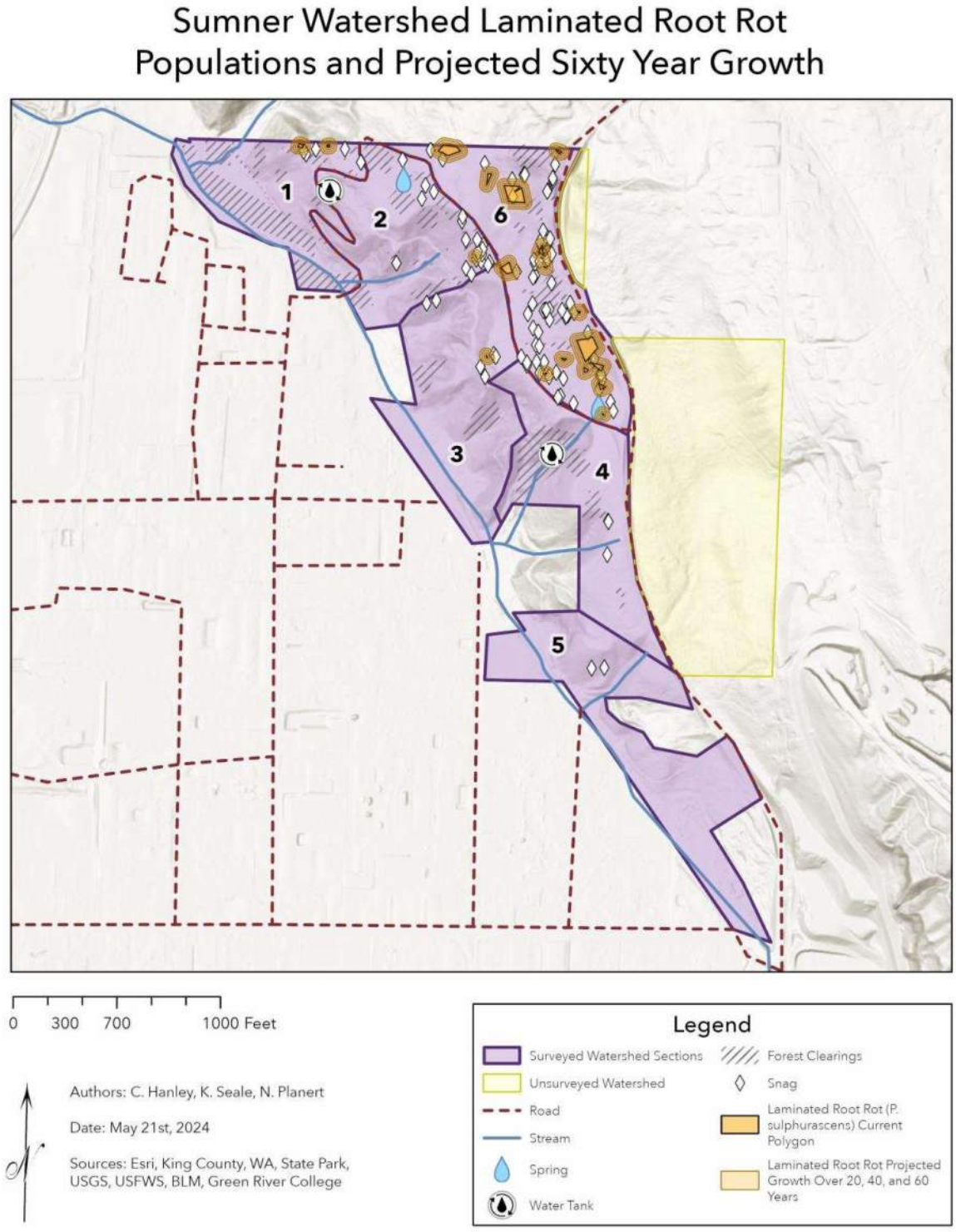
Appendix 4 – Current and Projected Old Man's Beard Populations in Watershed



Appendix 5 – Current and Projected Herb Robert Populations in Watershed



Appendix 6 – Current and Projected Laminated Root Rot in Watershed



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Chapter 5 – GUIDELINES[1] FOR HERBICIDE USE

PURPOSE

These Guidelines are designed to ensure that you carefully consider the overall impacts of herbicide use on your conservation targets, other native species, and the ecological system. Base all decisions whether to control weeds, and whether to use herbicides instead of other methods, on the conservation targets and management goals for the site. In addition, the health and safety of applicators and others in the vicinity must be considered **BEFORE** pesticides are applied. Simply put, one should be confident that the proposed herbicide will do more conservation good than harm and not endanger the health of the applicators or others in the area.

TO SPRAY OR NOT TO SPRAY?

Determining the right course of action in weed management can be difficult. For many land managers, whether to apply herbicides is an ethical decision that is not taken lightly. Herbicides are often used as a last resort, when other attempts have failed, and action is imperative.

The following checklist summarizes the steps that need to be taken to ensure that proper consideration has been given to current weed problems, and that the use of herbicides is warranted for each individual case.

1. Determine whether invasive plants threaten conservation targets or management goals on the site. Use herbicides (versus other control methods) only if confidant they can be used safely and will do more conservation good than harm. If you decide to use herbicides, be sure to record your reasons for doing so. TNC's Site Conservation Program (http://www.consci.org/scp) can help you identify targets and threats, and make a Site Conservation Plan. TNC's Site Weed Management Plan Template (http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/products.html) can help you set control priorities and develop a plan to implement them.

2. Develop safety protocols for STORING, MIXING, TRANSPORTATING, HANDLING SPILLS, and DISPOSING OF UNUSED HERBICIDES & CONTAINERS **BEFORE** obtaining herbicides.

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[1] These Guidelines and TNC's Standard Operating Procedures were designed to make TNC use of herbicides meet or exceed the Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides enacted by the U.S. EPA January 1 1995. Although the Worker Protection Standard does not cover pesticide use in natural areas, except on sites leased for agricultural production, TNC's operations should at the very least measure up to this Standard.

It is **NOT** the purpose of TNC's Standard Operating Procedures nor of these Guidelines to require stewards to produce lengthy herbicide use plans.

3. Follow all federal, state and local regulations regarding herbicide use. You **MUST** read and follow product labels. It is a violation of federal law to use an herbicide in a manner inconsistent with its label.

4. Contact your State Department of Agriculture or County Agriculture Commissioner for information about state and local regulations regarding applicator permits and posting requirements. (See the list of state regulatory agencies in the Appendix.)

5. Check with the legal staff for your program (State or Regional Office) **BEFORE** obtaining herbicides if you have any questions about regulations or liability issues.

6. Herbicides may be applied only by TNC employees or contractors who have all certificates and licenses required by the state and/or county. Volunteers may NOT apply herbicides unless they are properly licensed AND have signed a consent & release form.

7. Applicators MUST wear all protective gear required on the label of the herbicide they are using. Provide all safety and protective gear requested by the employee(s) applying the herbicide. The health and safety of the applicator are of foremost concern.

SITE CONDITIONS

Site conditions to be considered include accessibility, proximity to open water, depth to groundwater, the presence of rare species and other conservation targets, and the site's sensitivity to trampling that could occur when the herbicide is being applied.

To prevent contamination of water bodies, management plans should carefully consider the hydrology of the system that is being treated. Hypothesize potential runoff scenarios and take appropriate measures (such as buffer zones) to prevent them. Underground aquifers and streams should be considered as well.

The herbicides covered in this Manual are regarded as posing relatively low risk for use in natural areas because they are not likely to contaminate groundwater, have limited persistence in the environment, and are of low toxicity to animals. Critical reviews of several common herbicides are available at a small charge from the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP, P.O. Box 1393, Eugene, OR 97440, (503) 344-5044, http://www.pesticide.org). Information is also available from the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (NCAMP, 701 E Street SE #200, Washington DC 20003, (202) 543-5450, www.ncamp.org).

In addition to federal pesticide registration, some states also have their own registration procedures and requirements and almost all states have their own pesticide applicator licensing, certification, or registration. To find out if a particular herbicide is registered

for use on wildlands in your state, call the state pesticide regulatory agency (see the Appendix for a list of state regulatory agencies).

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING COMPOUNDS

The presence of synthetic chemicals in the environment, especially those designed to control unwanted species (insecticides and herbicides), and the acute and long-term effects of those chemicals on wildlife and humans have been of concern since the publication of Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" in 1962. New evidence indicates that the functioning of animals (including humans) endocrine systems can be severely altered by low-level cumulative exposure to some synthetic chemicals. Many different classes of industrial chemicals released into the environment exhibit potential endocrine-disrupting activities, such as mimicking or blocking the action of natural animal hormones. Exposure to these compounds during critical periods of development (in utero, or early postnatal) can result in irreversible damage to wildlife and to humans. In general, the compounds found in insecticides are usually more toxic than those in most herbicides, as most herbicides block or alter biochemical processes found exclusively in plants.

Numerous studies have reported that agricultural and industrial waste chemicals adversely effect wildlife populations. Endocrine-altering compounds, however, can also be found naturally (such as the phytoestrogen genistein, that is found in soy protein). Some studies suggest that the effects of synthetic chemicals are negligible relative to those of naturally occurring plant estrogens. Many synthetic compounds are known to bioaccumulate, which may greatly magnify their effects. It has also been suggested that combinations of synthetic compounds act synergistically with effects far greater than those of any one compound.

Some studies suggest that synthetic endocrine-disrupting chemicals alter growth, development, and reproduction rates, and can cause abnormal behavior in various wildlife species. Further, there is increasing concern regarding potential effects of synthetic endocrine disruptors on human reproduction and development, including, but not limited to, increased breast and ovarian cancers, infertility, increased testicular cancer, decreased semen quality, and increased spontaneous abortion rates.

A review by CAST (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) published in 2000, concluded that current scientific evidence does not clearly link endocrine-disrupting chemicals with decreased male reproductive capacity or increased rates of breast cancer in women. However, this review did not completely dismiss the potential role that these chemicals may have as causative agents for adverse human health effects. Herbicides are only a small subset of all synthetic chemicals produced, and thus far, only 2,4-D has been implicated for possible endocrine-disrupting impacts. Some reproductive and developmental problems in wildlife populations have been attributed to endocrine-disrupting chemicals, but evidence of other effects are far from conclusive.

For more information:

Colborn, T., Dumanoski, D. and J.P. Myers. 1996. Our Stolen Future: Are We Threatening Our Fertility, Intelligence and Survival. A Scientific Detective Story. Penguin Books, New York.

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Lyons, G. 1999. Endocrine disrupting pesticides. Pesticides News 46: 16-19. Pesticide Action Network UK.

Safe, S.H., Foster, W.G., Lamb, J.C., Newbold, R.R. and G. Van Der Kraak. 2000. Estrogenicity and endocrine disruption. Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), Issue Paper no. 16.

HERBICIDE PROPERTIES

Consider the following herbicide properties when deciding which compound to use:

1. Effectiveness against the target species.
2. Mechanisms of dissipation (persistence, degradation, and likelihood of movement via air or water to non-target organisms).
3. Behavior in the environment (in soils, water, and vegetation).
4. Toxicity to birds and mammals, aquatic species, and to other non-target organisms (including algae, fungi, and soil organisms).
5. Application considerations
6. Safety
7. Human toxicology

In general for work in natural areas, it is best to select compounds that are effective against the weed, not likely to drift, leach to groundwater or wash into streams, nontoxic to people and other organisms, not persistent in the environment, and is easy to apply. In some circumstances, a single application of a more toxic or persistent chemical that kills the weed, however, may be preferable to a less persistent, less toxic compound that must be applied repeatedly. Strive to do the job with the smallest **total** negative impact to the environment.

PROTECTIVE GEAR FOR APPLICATORS

The health and safety of the applicator are of foremost concern. Applicators MUST wear all protective gear required on the label of the herbicide they are using. Any additional safety and protective gear requested by TNC applicators must be provided. See the following textbox (page 5.6) for additional information regarding personal protection needs.

Even if not required, all TNC or volunteer applicators should wear the following when mixing or applying herbicides:

1. Rubber boots,
2. Protective aprons or suits (e.g., disposable tyvek suits) or sturdy overalls that are not used for other activities,
3. Rubber gloves (tyvek and nitrile gloves are recommended - one study indicated that neoprene can be penetrated by herbicides under field conditions),
4. Safety glasses or goggles.

Some applicators may even wish to wear respirators where not required. A dust mask may be worn when a respirator is not required, but pesticide safety officers point out that dust masks usually fit loosely and do not stop volatile compounds. Furthermore, they can indirectly increase chances of exposure if they cause heating, sweating, and irritation, which induce the wearer to repeatedly wipe or scratch their face.

Some companies that supply protective gear include:

A.M. Leonard, Inc.
241 Fox Drive
Piqua, Ohio 45356-0816
Phone: 1-800-543-8955
Web Address: http://www.amleonard.com

Ben Meadows Company
190 Etowah Industrial Court
Canton, GA 30114
Phone: 1-800-241-6401
Web Address: http://www.benmeadows.com

Forestry Suppliers, Inc.
P.O. Box 8397
Jackson, MS 39284-8397
Phone: 1-800-647-5368
Web Address: http://www.forestry-suppliers.com

Gempler's Inc.
P.O. Box 270
Belleville, WI 5350
Phone: 1-800-382-8473
Web Address: http://www.gemplers.com

Lab Safety Supply Inc.
P.O. Box 1368
Janesville, WI 53547-1368
Phone: 1-800-356-0783
Web Address: http://www.labsafety.com

Safety Solutions, Inc.
6161 Shamrock Ct.
P.O. Box 8100
Dublin, Ohio 43016-2110
Phone: 1-800-232-7463
Web Address: http://www.safetysolutions.com

PERSONAL PROTECTION IN HERBICIDE HANDLING

Adapted from Ohio State University's Extension Publication #825 "Applying Pesticides Correctly"
by Jennifer Hillmer, The Nature Conservancy-Ohio

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Herbicide labels indicate the minimum protective equipment required. This may vary by application technique. Cotton, leather, canvas, and other absorbent materials are not chemical resistant, even to dry formulations.

- Always wear at least a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy shoes or boots, and socks. The more layers of fabric and air between you and the pesticide, the better the protection.
- A thick layer of spray starch on clothing will add some protection from pesticides.
- Hands and forearms usually receive the most pesticide exposure. Wear chemical-resistant gloves, and tuck shirt sleeves into gloves (gloves should reach up the forearm, with cuffs to catch runs and drips).
- Canvas, cloth, and leather shoes or boots are almost impossible to clean adequately. Wear chemical-resistant rubber boots that come up at least halfway to the knee if the lower legs and feet will be exposed to herbicides or residues.

AVOIDING CONTAMINATION

- Wear chemical-resistant gloves (rubber or plastic such as butyl, nitrile, or polyvinyl chloride are common types).
- Make sure gloves are clean, in good condition, and worn properly. Replace gloves often. Wash and dry hands before putting on gloves. Wash gloves before removing them.
- Wash hands thoroughly before eating, drinking, using tobacco products, or going to the bathroom.
- Cuff gloves if pesticide is expected to run down towards the sleeves. Tuck sleeves into gloves.

EYE AND RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

- PPE labeling might require goggles, face shields, or safety glasses with shields. Some formulas or handling activities pose more risks to eyes than others. Dusts, concentrates, and fine sprays have the highest risk of causing pesticide exposure.
- There are many types of dust-mist masks and respirators, all of which must fit and be used properly to be effective.
- Respiratory protection is most important in enclosed spaces or when the applicator will be exposed to pesticides for a long time.
- Pesticides that can volatilize require the use of respirators. Check label requirements.

PERSONAL CLEAN-UP AFTER HERBICIDE USE

- Wash gloves and footwear (if possible) with detergent and water before removing them.
- Change clothing and put clothes used during application in a plastic box or bag, and keep it away from children or pets Use a mild liquid detergent and warm water to wash your hands, forearms, face, and any other body parts that may have been exposed to pesticides. Take a warm shower and wash your hair and body at the end of the work day.

LAUNDRY

- Do not wash work clothing and personal protective equipment in the same wash water with the family laundry. Handle with care and wash your hands after loading the machine.
- If you have chemical-resistant items, follow the manufacturer's washing instructions. Wash boots and gloves with hot water and liquid detergent. Wash twice, once outside and once inside. Air-dry boots and gloves.
- Rinse clothes in a machine or by hand.
- Wash in plenty of water for dilution and agitation.
- If using a washing machine, using heavy-duty liquid detergent in hot water for the wash cycles.
- After washing the clothes, run the washer through one complete cycle with detergent and hot water, but no clothing, to clean the machine.
- Hang items to dry if possible in plenty of fresh air. Do not hang in living areas.
- Using a clothes dryer is acceptable, but over time the machine may become contaminated with pesticide residues.

EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS AND EQUIPMENT

Applicators must have easy access to emergency decontamination and first aid kits whenever they are applying herbicides, even if they are out in the field. All applicators should have access to an eyewash kit and at least 2 gallons of clean water.

Decontamination kits are available from many suppliers or can be assembled independently. Rubber buckets or tubs with tight sealing lids are convenient for homemade kits and should include:

1. Two (or more) 1 gallon containers filled with potable water,
2. Eyewash kits or eyewash bottles with buffered isotonic eyewash,
3. Hand or body soap (bring enough for all workers to thoroughly wash their hands when in the field),
4. Paper or other disposable towels,
5. A full tyvek coverall with foot covers,
6. A map and directions to the nearest medical facilities. Such maps should be posted in prominent locations at all preserve offices and work buildings. Include a copy as an Appendix to your weed control plan.

POSTING TREATED AREAS

Federal requirements for posting treated areas, if any, are listed on the herbicide label. Glyphosate, triclopyr and most other herbicides used in natural areas have no federal posting requirements. Some municipalities and counties have stricter requirements (e.g., Boulder, Colorado). Always keep treated areas off limits to the public at least until the herbicide dries. Treated areas may be kept off limits for longer periods if the herbicide is persistent in the environment.

When posting areas that are accessible to the public (trails, visitor centers etc.), place notices at the usual points of entry or along the perimeter of treated sites. The posting should include a notice that the area has or will be treated, the name of the herbicide used, the date of the treatment, appropriate precautions to be taken, the date when re-entry is judged to be safe, and a phone number for additional information. The notices should be removed after it is judged safe to re-enter the area.

STORING HERBICIDES

Store herbicides in a well ventilated, cool, dry area where food and drinks are never stored or prepared. Most pesticides should not be stored for any length of time below 40° F. The floor should be concrete or lined with plastic or other impermeable material to prevent leaks from reaching the soil.

The area should be inaccessible to the public and/or locked except when chemicals are being removed or returned. Containers should be labeled to indicate the following: contents (ratio of herbicide, surfactant, water, etc.), date mixed, and approximate volume remaining when placed in storage. The containers must be stored carefully and never stacked.

Heavy plastic garbage bags, a shovel, and a soil absorbent (e.g., cat litter) must be available for use in cleaning-up small leaks or spills. For more information on spills see below.

MIXING HERBICIDES

USE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN MIXING HERBICIDES! Dermal exposure to a small amount of a concentrated herbicide can be equivalent to the exposure received after a full day of working in a treated field (Libich et al. 1984). Before mixing any herbicide, READ THE LABEL. Herbicide labels are legal documents and users are obligated to read and obey them.

Establish a mixing area. Herbicides should be mixed only in pre-designated areas - preferably either in an industrial sink near the storage site or in an area near the treatment site(s) in which damage from small spills or other herbicide contamination would be minimal. Field mixing sites should have relatively few native or other desirable species, not be susceptible to erosion or runoff, and rarely, if ever, be visited by the public or preserve staff. In addition, mixing sites should provide easy access for containment and clean up of spills.

At the mixing site, assemble the appropriate equipment including safety and clean-up gear and measuring and mixing utensils. Heavy plastic garbage bags, a shovel, and an absorbent (e.g. cat litter) must be easily available at field mixing sites in case of a larger spill. Remember to wear all protective gear while handling and mixing herbicides. Avoid metal measuring utensils as some pesticides can react with metal. Clearly label herbicide-measuring equipment to avoid confusion with equipment used for measuring food. Wash all utensils before storage to prevent contamination of future mixes.

Prior to mixing, determine the order that chemicals will be added to the mix. Generally, adjuvants are added prior to the herbicide, but consult the label for specific instructions. When mixing, start by filling the spray tank or other mixing vessel half to three-quarters full with water. The water should be clean and clear to prevent contamination of the mixture or clogging of tank nozzles and hoses. The water should have a neutral or slightly acidic pH, as alkaline water can cause the pesticide to breakdown prior to application. Add a buffer or acidifier to the water if necessary.

Carefully measure the herbicide concentrate and add it to the tank water. Small measuring errors can lead to large errors in the amount of pesticide applied. Be aware of if you are using the active ingredient (a.i.) or acid equivalent (a.e.) of the herbicide (see sidebar below for more details). The measuring container should be rinsed and the rinsate added to the tank solution. The container of liquid herbicides should be triple rinsed with ¼ container volume of water. Add rinsate to the tank solution or store it in a separate container labeled "WATER AND RINSATE FOR HERBICIDE ONLY, NONPOTABLE"

ACTIVE INGREDIENT (A.I.) VS. ACID EQUIVALENT (A.E.)

Labels on herbicide containers and instructions for mixing herbicides sometimes use units of herbicide active ingredient (a.i.) or acid equivalent (a.e.). The herbicide may be sold in different concentrations, but units of a.i. or a.e. provide standard measures, so the mixing instructions can apply in all cases. In order to follow these instructions, you will need to determine how many a.i. or a.e. are in an ounce, or quart or liter, of the concentrate on hand.

The "active ingredient" (a.i.) of an herbicide formulation is responsible for its herbicidal activity or ability to kill or suppress plants. The a.i. is always identified on the herbicide label by either its common name or chemical name, or both. Herbicide formulations available for sale commonly contain other so-called "inert" compounds too.

The "acid equivalent" (a.e.) of an herbicide is just the acid portion of the a.i., and it is this acid portion that is responsible for herbicidal effects. The acid portion (or parent acid) is generally associated with other chemical compounds to form a salt or an ester, which is more stable and better able to move through a plant's waxy cuticle, and into the plant. The salt or ester is the a.i.

Weak acid herbicides are formulated as salts or esters through the addition of a salt or ester molecular group to the parent acid molecule. This allows the herbicide acid to mix properly with adjuvants and enhances the compound's ability to move into plant tissue. Once the herbicide enters the plant, the salt or ester group is cleaved off the parent molecule, allowing the acid to affect the plant.

Because the salt or ester molecular group can vary dramatically in size, a measure of the percent a.i., especially in the case of a weak acid herbicide, does not adequately reflect the percentage of acid in the formulation. Thus, the a.e. is used to determine the amount of the product to be applied.

Product labels for weak acid herbicides will list the product's percentage of active ingredient, as well as other inert ingredients, at the top of the label. The percentage of acid equivalent in the formulation is usually listed below these percentages in a separate table or paragraph.

TRANSPORTING HERBICIDES

Herbicides should be transported in tightly sealed containers placed in a well-constructed and watertight carrying box or bucket, such as a Rubbermaid tub or cat litter bucket. A good container will prevent leaks in vehicles, onto applicators, or to the environment. Each program should develop techniques and use materials that will best serve the needs of a particular site or circumstance. In some cases, you may want to carry only a small amount of herbicide to treat weeds encountered while conducting daily activities in the field.

Jack McGowan-Stinski of TNC's Michigan program uses large five-gallon buckets with tight lids to transport herbicides and application equipment into the field. The buckets are large enough to hold all the necessary equipment and can be carried by groups of volunteers. Jennifer Hillmer of TNC's Ohio Program often treats weeds distributed over great distances while working in the field by herself. Jennifer keeps pesticides in a crook-necked squirt bottle for easy application and carries the squirt bottle and other application equipment in a four-liter, square, leak-proof, Nalgene bottle, which can be

carried in her backpack along with other field equipment. Jennifer recommends laboratory supply companies as a good place to find equipment for herbicide application and storage.

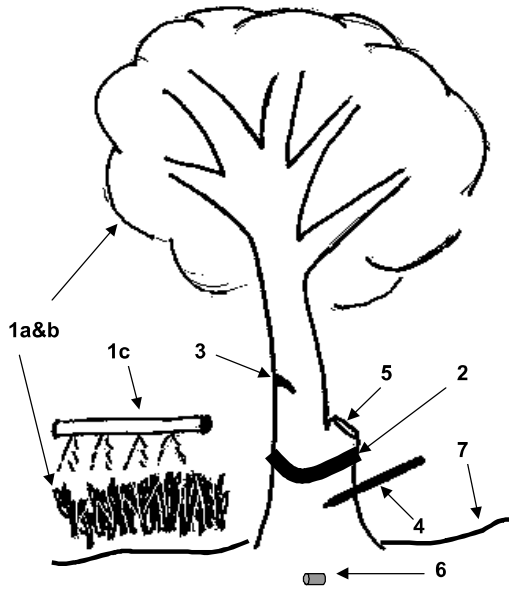
APPLICATION OF HERBICIDES

Application Methods

Herbicides can be applied in a variety of ways. The most appropriate application method is determined by the weed being treated, the herbicide being applied, the skills of the applicator, and the application site. Standard application techniques can sometimes be modified to better suit the needs of natural area management. A few land managers have come up with simple but ingenious techniques and tools that save money, are more effective and safer, and are easier to use than standard methods. We include some of these in the detailed descriptions of techniques below, and encourage you to innovate because there is still plenty of room for improvement.

Methods of application (diagrammed below) can be broadly classified as follows:

1) To intact, green leaves (foliar application)
    a. Spot application (backpack applicator, spray bottle);
    b. Wick application (wipe-on);
    c. Boom application;
2) Around the circumference of the trunk on the intact bark (basal bark);
3) To cuts in the trunk/stem (frill; hack and squirt);
4) Injected into the inner bark;
5) To cut stems and stumps (cut stump);
6) In pellet form at the plant's base (rarely used in natural areas);
7) To the soil before the target species seeds germinate and emerge (rarely used in natural areas).



1. Foliar Applications

These methods apply herbicide directly to the leaves and stems of a plant. An adjuvant or surfactant is often needed to enable the herbicide to penetrate the plant cuticle, a thick, waxy layer present on leaves and stems of most plants. There are several types of foliar application tools available.

A. Spot applicators – Spray herbicide directly onto target plants only, and avoid spraying other desirable plants. These applicators range from motorized rigs with spray hoses to backpack sprayers, to hand-pumped spray or squirt bottles, which can target very small plants or parts of plants. Crook-necked squirt bottles and similar equipment can be ordered from laboratory supply companies and are easy to carry over distances and through dense vegetation.
B. Wick (wipe-on) applicators - Use a sponge or wick on a long handle to wipe herbicide onto foliage and stems. Use of a wick eliminates the possibility of spray drift or droplets falling on non-target plants. However, herbicide can drip or dribble from some wicks.
    i. "Paint sticks" and "stain sticks" sold at local hardware stores have been used successfully for wick application. These sticks have a reservoir in the handle that can hold herbicide, which soaks a roller brush at the end of the handle. The brush is wiped or rolled across leaves and stems.
    ii. The "glove of death" is a technique developed by TNC land stewards for applying herbicide in an otherwise high quality site. Herbicide is sprayed directly onto a heavy cotton glove worn over a thick rubber/latex (or nitrile) glove. The wearer of the glove can then apply the herbicide with total precision and little or no runoff.
C. Boom applicator - A boom, a long horizontal tube with multiple spray heads, is mounted or attached to a tractor, ATV (or other four-wheel drive vehicle), helicopter, or small plane. The boom is then carried above the weeds while spraying herbicide, allowing large areas to be treated rapidly with each sweep of the boom. Offsite movement due to vaporization or drift and possible treatment of non-target plants can be of concern when using this method.

2. Basal Bark

This method applies a 6 to 12 inch band of herbicide around the circumference of the trunk of the target plant, approximately one foot above ground. The width of the sprayed band depends on the size of the plant and the species' susceptibility to the herbicide. The herbicide can be applied with a backpack sprayer, hand-held bottle, or a wick. Ester formulations are usually best for basal bark treatments, as esters can pass most readily through the bark (as compared to salts). Esters can be highly volatile, however, so basal bark treatments should be performed only on calm, cool days. During summer, treatment is best carried out in the mornings, which tend to be cooler. The basal bark treatment works best on young trees with smooth bark. It is usually not effective against older plants with thick corky bark.

3. Frill or Hack & Squirt

The frill method, also called the "hack and squirt" treatment, is often used to treat woody species with large, thick trunks. The tree is cut using a sharp knife, saw, or ax, or drilled with a power drill or other device. Herbicide is then immediately applied to the cut with a backpack sprayer, squirt bottle, syringe, or similar equipment. Because the herbicide is placed directly onto the thin layer of growing tissue in the trunk (the cambium), an ester formulation is not required.

Jack McGowan-Stinski (TNC-Michigan) recommends using the drill treatment rather than cutting, for trees with dbh (diameter at breast height) greater than three inches. He has volunteers use "tree steps" to drill holes into trees. Tree steps are large metal screws that can be screwed into a tree trunk by hand to provide steps for tree climbing. When applying herbicide, tree steps are lightweight drilling tools that can be easily carried into the field and used by untrained volunteers. These tools are available at most hunting stores and cost only a few dollars each.

Jack recommends drilling one hole for each inch in dbh. (A ten-inch dbh tree would require at least ten holes.) Holes should be drilled at a slight downward angle to prevent the herbicide from running out, and should be deep enough to penetrate the inner bark or growing tissue.

Some added recommendations made by Jack for using the drill method include: 1) Spray-paint tree steps with a neon color to prevent them from being lost if dropped in dense vegetation. 2) Spray-paint circles directly onto the trees around the drilled holes. This will ensure that no holes are overlooked by the herbicide applicator. After the hole is filled with herbicide, the applicator can spray paint a line through the hole to indicate that it was treated.

4. Injection

Herbicide pellets can be injected into the trunk of a tree using a specialized tool such as the EZ-Ject Lance. The EZ-Ject lance's five ft long, metal tube has "teeth" on one end that grip the trunk of the tree. A sharp push on the other end of the tube sends a brass capsule of herbicide into the tree trunk. It is a convenient way of applying herbicide and requires minimal preparation or clean up. In addition, it is an easy and safe way to apply herbicides with minimal exposure.

There are however, some serious drawbacks to this method. The lance and capsules are expensive ($425 per lance; approximately $500 per 4,800 capsules, depending on herbicide), and full-sized lances can be unwieldy, particularly in thickets. The lance furthermore, is difficult to thrust with enough power to drive the capsules far enough into thick barked trees to be effective. A large number of capsules placed close together are often necessary to kill large trees.

At the Albany Pine Bush Preserve in New York, glyphosate gel pellets were injected using an EZ-Ject Lance into trees with an average dbh of eight centimeters. In some

cases, crowns of treated trees later showed signs of stress, but most of these re-sprouted vigorously and none of the treated trees died (Hawver et al. 2000).

For information or to order an EZ-Ject Lance contact Odom Processing Engineering Consulting, Inc., 800 Odom Industries Road, Waynesboro, MS, 39367, (601) 735-2680, (888) 395-6732, www.ezject.com.

Herbicides can also be injected into herbaceous stems by using a needle and syringe. Jonathan Soll (TNC-Oregon) reports 100% control of small patches of Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) with no off-target effects, by injecting every single stem near the base with herbicide. He adds that this method may actually use more herbicide than foliar spraying (since you use high concentations of the herbicide), and caution with the needle and syringe is necessary since you are carrying around a sharp object.

5. Cut-Stump

This method is often used on woody species that normally re-sprout after being cut. Cut down the tree or shrub, and immediately spray or squirt herbicide on the exposed cambium (living inner bark) of the stump. The herbicide must be applied to the entire inner bark (cambium) within minutes after the trunk is cut. The outer bark and heartwood do not need to be treated since these tissues are not alive, although they support and protect the tree's living tissues.

Herbicide can be applied to cut stumps in many ways, including spray and squirt bottles, or even paint brushes. Care must be taken to avoid applying too much herbicide, and allowing it to run-off the stump and onto the ground. Herbicide can also dribble from bottles or brushes and fall on desirable plants or the ground. To help avoid these problems, Jack McGowan-Stinski (TNC-Michigan) developed an inexpensive and easy to assemble application tool using PVC pipe and a sponge through which the herbicide can be applied. See the Appendix for a diagram and instructions on how to build one.

Sometimes even treated stumps will re-sprout, so it is important to check them at regular intervals (2 to 6 months) for at least a year. Depending on the vigor of the re-sprouts, these can be treated by cutting, basal bark applications, or foliar applications. Even when foliar applications are called for, treating re-sprouts is usually far easier and requires much less herbicide than treating the tree (before it was cut down) with a foliar application.

The cut stump treatment allows for a great deal of control over the site of herbicide application, and therefore, has a low probability of affecting non-target species or contaminating the environment. It also requires only a small amount of herbicide to be effective. Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) and buckthorns (*Rhamnus* spp.) have been successfully controlled using this method (Hawver et al. 2000; J. McGowan-Stinski, pers. comm.).

Selecting a Method

Minimize

Select a technique(s) that (1) minimizes risks of contact to the applicator and others that may be in the area during and after herbicide application, AND (2) minimizes release of herbicide to the environment, particularly if the herbicide could contact non-target species. Avoid using boom application where possible (1c above) because it can result in a relatively high amount of herbicide contacting non-target species and bare ground. Also, avoid using pellets and pre-emergence herbicides (6 & 7 above, respectively) because they are relatively persistent in the environment.

Use a dye

Mix a dye with the herbicide so applicators can see which plants have been treated and if they have gotten any herbicide on themselves or their equipment. Some pre-mixed herbicides include a dye (e.g., Pathfinder II® includes the active ingredient triclopyr, a surfactant, and a dye). Ester based herbicides like Garlon 4® require oil-soluble dyes like colorfast purple®, colorfast red®, and basoil red® (for use in basal bark treatments), which are sold by agricultural chemical and forestry supply companies. Clothing dyes like those produced by Rit® will work in water-soluble herbicides such as Garlon 3A®. These dyes are inexpensive and available at most supermarkets and drugstores.

Who May Apply Herbicides?

TNC employees or contractors who apply herbicides must have all certificates or licenses required by the state. Each state has its own requirements. Some require applicators working in natural areas to be certified and others do only if compounds designated "restricted-use" by the EPA or the state are to be used. Most states conduct applicator training programs and in many areas local Agricultural Extension Agents give workshops on proper herbicide use.

Volunteers may NOT apply herbicides unless they are properly licensed AND have signed a consent & release form. An example of such a form produced by the Illinois Field Office is provided as an Appendix. **Check with the legal staff for your program before drafting one of these forms or using volunteers to apply herbicides.** TNC staff who supervise volunteers should be properly licensed or certified.

Protection Against Herbicides

When using herbicides, the safety of the applicator, to others, and to the environment is of utmost importance. Be sure to read the earlier textbox (page 5.6) on "Personal Protection in Herbicide Handling" regarding specific equipment requirements, how to avoid contamination, eye and respiratory protection, how to clean-up after herbicide use, and how to launder clothes and equipment used during herbicide application.

When to Apply Herbicides

The best time to apply an herbicide is determined primarily by the herbicide's mode of action and the physiology of the target plants. In seasonal climates, it is often best to apply herbicides in autumn or prior to the dry season, 3 to 6 weeks before the target plant

goes dormant for the season. This is because many plants apparently transfer sugars and nutrients from their stems and leaves to belowground storage organs at this time and will carry herbicides along to these areas as well. Contrary to assumptions that plants will be most vulnerable when weak, herbicides are usually ineffective when applied during a drought or other stressful conditions. This is because most herbicides work by attacking growing tissue and metabolic processes, which plants 'shut down' when stressed. In fact, late winter or early spring are often good times to apply herbicide because this is when plants begin growing again, and can efficiently translocate the herbicide throughout their tissues. Fosamine ammonium, the dormancy enforcer, is best applied in the late fall just before leaf drop. The herbicidal effects of fosamine ammonium however, are not observed until the following spring when treated plants fail to re-foliate.

In some cases, the site of application may determine the best time to apply a herbicide. For example, buckthorns (*Rhamnus* spp.) growing in wet, boggy areas are easiest to treat during winter when the ground is frozen. Check the label or consult your distributor for the best application time under the conditions at your site.

Note that with some herbicides there is a long time lag between time of herbicide application and the first evidence that they are working. This is particularly true of herbicides that work by inhibiting amino acid or lipid synthesis, because the plant(s) can rely on stored supplies to continue growing.

Record Keeping
When using herbicides it is critical (and, in some cases, required by law) to keep records of all plants/areas treated, amounts and types of herbicide used, and dates of application. This information will be important in evaluating the project's success, improving methodology, and identifying mistakes. In addition, it documents the procedure for future site managers and biologists. Records of abundance/condition of the targeted weeds and nearby desirable plants before and after treatment will also be valuable in evaluating the effectiveness of the herbicide.

HERBICIDE DISPOSAL

Equipment cleanup
Following use, application equipment and empty containers should be triple rinsed with clean water using 10% of the container volume for each rinse. If possible, rinse equipment in the treatment area and apply the wastewater to weeds or store for future use as a dilutant. Left over herbicide mix that will not be used later should be treated as hazardous waste.

Container disposal

Use the state herbicide container recycling program where available. In Minnesota, herbicide dealers are required to collect empty containers from customers. If no specific agri-chemical container recycling program is available, puncture the empty container to prevent anyone from using it as a container again, and then dispose of or destroy it. In most areas, small numbers of empty, triple-rinsed containers can be disposed in the trash for pick-up or taken to the local dump, unless the label states otherwise. In parts of California and some other states you may be required to get written permission from your County Agriculture Commissioner to dispose of containers. Call your local Commissioner for details. Some jurisdictions require containers to be burned, while others prohibit burning pesticide containers. If the herbicide label states that the container may not be disposed of in regular sanitary landfills, call your county or municipal waste department for information on Hazardous Material Collection dates.

Equipment and applicator clean-up

After use, first clean and store application equipment and then thoroughly rinse personal protection gear (gloves, boots, etc.) with cold water from a hose or container that is hand-held (gloves off) and was not used during application work. All personal protection gear should then be washed in mild soap and water. Finally, applicators should wash their hands and any herbicide-exposed areas of their bodies. Applicators should shower and change clothing as soon as possible. Clothes used during the application must be washed and dried separately from other clothing before it is worn again, even if it appears uncontaminated.

Contaminated clothing

If herbicide concentrate spills on clothing, the clothing should be discarded or, where permitted, burned immediately. Wrap contaminated clothing and other materials in newspaper before placing in trash or landfill. Clothing and other items contaminated with certain commercial products, such as technical grade 2,4-D or formulations in which 2,4-D is the only active ingredient, are classed as hazardous waste. Call your local hazardous materials center for instructions on how to dispose of this material. In cases where small quantities are involved it may be possible to dispose of contaminated clothing in the trash.

RESPONDING TO SPILLS

Rules and regulations regarding pesticide spills vary between states and counties. Therefore, before obtaining herbicides, call the local fire department or county Hazardous Materials Office for information on local regulations. In most cases, the proper response to a spill depends on the volume and concentration of herbicide released, location of the spill, and the chemical(s) involved. If possible, inquire as to whether a report would be required in a hypothetical situation in which all the herbicide was spilled (1) on the soil in the interior of the preserve and (2) along a public road. A rule of thumb employed by some public land management agencies is not to call for help from the local Hazardous Materials Office for herbicide spills unless they contaminate too much soil to dig up and place in plastic garbage bags. However, since our goal is to protect biodiversity, land

managers are expected to minimize damage to native populations. Hazardous Materials officers we spoke to considered spills under 100 gallons to be "small". Most emergency systems appear to be designed to deal with these larger volumes used in agriculture and industry, which are far larger than those typically used in natural areas.

Be sure to carry a "Pesticide Kit" for emergency spills (see the following Pesticide Spill Kit equipment list). If a spill occurs, keep people away from affected areas until the clean-up process is complete. When small volumes of dilute herbicide are spilled they may be treated by carefully digging up the affected soil and litter, and spreading this material at the legal rate or concentration. Small diesel (sometimes used as a crude surfactant) and gasoline spills may be treated by adding organic material (e.g., cow manure or compost) to the affected area and keeping it moist. It may take several years for the spilled material to degrade.

PESTICIDE KIT EQUIPMENT LISTS
adapted from work by Jack McGowan-Stinski and Jennifer Hillmer

PESTICIDE SPILL KITS
- Emergency phone numbers
- Labels and MSDSs of all pesticides on hand
- Personal Protective Equipment: gloves, footwear, apron, goggles, face shield, respirator
- Heavy plastic bags for material storage
- Containment "snakes" (chemsorb tubes or pads to contain & absorb spilled chemicals)
- Absorbent materials (cat litter, vermiculite, paper, etc.)
- Neutralizing agents (bleach and hydrated lime)
- Sweeping compound for dry spills
- Shovel, broom, dustpan
- Heavy duty detergent, chlorine bleach, and water
- Fire extinguisher certified for all types of fires
- Sturdy plastic container that closes tightly and will hold the largest quantity of pesticide on hand
- First aid supplies
- Fresh water (at least 3 gallons; bring extra for wash-up after application)
- Eyewash
- Soap (dish soap or hand soap)
- Towels
- Change of clothes
- Additional items required by labeling

ADDITIONAL HERBICIDE FIELD EQUIPMENT
- Extra application equipment (e.g., squeeze bottles, nalgene bottles, sponges)
- Funnel
- Herbicide dyes
- Herbicide in original containers
- Extra water, soap, towels, plastic bags

In any spill considered to be an emergency, call the local fire department. They may come to the site to help prevent further spread of the chemical but if the spill is large they will likely require a certified company to do the clean-up.

Companies often charge initial fees of roughly $2,000 plus hourly fees of $100/hour for the work to meet minimum legal clean-up requirements. If a spill occurs and there is uncertainty about legal requirements for reporting and clean-up, contact the program's legal staff immediately. They can ensure that all federal, state and local regulations are met.

REFERENCES

Hawver, C. A., S. B. Gifford, and J. Hecht. 2000. Comparison of methods to control invasive plant species in the Albany Pine Bush Preserve. Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission, Latham, New York. 50 pgs.

Libich, S., J. C. To, R. Frank, and G. J. Sirons. 1984. Occupational exposure of herbicide applicators of herbicides used along electric power transmission line right-of-way. Am. Ind. Hyg. Assoc. J. 45(1):56-62.

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Updated: June 2003


EMERGENCY INFORMATION
Map created by Macy Mackey 5/23/24 for NRRS 386 & 477
Watershed Property shapefile provided by Instructor Sam Thompson
Roads and City Boundaries accessed on Pierce County Open GeoSpatial Data Portal
World Hillshade Base provided by ESRI
City of Sumner Watershed IMP - Spring 2024 - Prepared by Zachary Arenivas, Emma Guerrant, and Macy Mackey
City of Sumner Watershed Property
Pierce County Roads
Route to nearest Hospital
Route to nearest Fire Dept.
Route to nearest Police Dept.
SUMNER
PUYALLUP
WA-167
WA-512
WA-410
WA-512
ELM ST
WOOD AVE
Sumner Police Department
1104 Maple St #140, Sumner WA 98390
(~5 min)
East Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 113
800 Harrison St, Sumner WA 98390
(~6 min)
Good Samaritan Hospital - Puyallup
401 15th Ave SE, Puyallup WA 98372
(~15 min)
FOR SHARPS AND HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL:
Hidden Valley Transfer Station
17925 Meridian E, Puyallup, WA 98375
253-847-7555
Hours: 8am-5:45pm, Open 7 days a week
In case of exposure to poisonous, hazardous, or toxic substances, call the Washington Poison Center (WAPC) emergency hotline: (800)222-1222
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