

Invasive Species Prevention and Management

Cleaning Forestry Equipment



Forest Resources Division

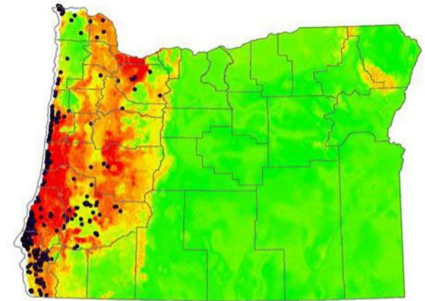
Noxious weeds cost Oregonians millions of dollars annually in control measures and lost productivity. Many weed species have seeds that can persist in the soil for decades, creating management headaches for years to come. Preventive measures, such as cleaning soil from heavy equipment can significantly reduce the risk of spreading invasive species from one area to another. In Oregon, noxious weed laws are administered by Oregon Department of Agriculture.



Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). ODF

Purchasing, selling, or transporting state listed noxious weeds is prohibited by law (OAR 603-052-1200).

Gorse is a highly flammable invasive relative of Scotch broom. Its seeds can survive for decades in soils. Potential costs surpass \$200 million a year, making it one of the riskiest plants to Oregon's forests.



Gorse has high potential to spread to red areas above. Source: ODA

Cleaning forestry equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species

Use a high-pressure washer to make sure your equipment is thoroughly clean of soil, plant material and other debris.

Before forestry operations:

- Clean equipment in commercial yard or parking lot outside of forested areas.
- Parking surface should be hard-pack or paved material.
- Collect refuse and dispose in containers destined for landfill.
- Monitor area for escaped plants and treat accordingly.

After forestry operations:

- Cleaning after operations prevents seeds from being distributed along roads and nearby forested areas.
- Coordinate with land manager to determine location for cleaning heavy equipment (e.g., landing).
- Collect and dispose of refuse.
- Managers should monitor cleaning sites over time and treat escaped plants accordingly.



Questions or more info:

Wyatt Williams
Invasive Species Specialist
503-798-5436
wyatt.williams@odf.oregon.gov

