



# Washington State Program for the Control of Invasive Knotweeds





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# History

- Approximately \$4 million invested by WSDA for knotweed control since 2004
- WSDA provides funding, supplies, technical support to cooperators in 28 counties to date
- Program partners include County Noxious Weed Control Boards, Tribal Governments, Non-governmental Organizations, other state agencies



# Framework

- WSDA supported local projects by providing funding, herbicide, and completing NPDES-required risk assessment
- Annual Budget \$470,000 in 2011



# 2011 Results

- WSDA received 15 proposals, requesting over \$411,000
- Supported 14 projects including one biological control project
- Project activities occurred in 15 Counties



# 2011 Results

- WSDA provided \$319,000 in direct funding, and \$10,000 of herbicide to control projects
- 1,100 solid acres of knotweed treated
- Project work occurred on 760 river miles
- 1,413 landowners assisted in 2011



# Biological Control

- Oregon State testing a sap-sucking psyllid (*Alphalara itadori*)
  - Northern biotype from Hokkaido
  - Southern biotype from Kyushu
- Both biotypes effective at reducing the above and below ground biomass of knotweed in a 50-day exposure
- Experimental results show the Kyushu biotype has greater reproductive success on Bohemian and Japanese knotweed
- Hokkaido biotype has greater reproductive success with Giant knotweed.
- *OSU is waiting review by the Technical Advisory Group on Biological Control of Weeds and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for permitting and release of the biological control agents in North America*



# Funding

- Funding shifted from General to other sources, primarily ALEA
- Funding shift has allowed contracts to be amended so money can be spent in year 2 of biennium
- WSDA expects up to \$300,000 in contracts and herbicide support in 2012 for RFPs



# 2012 Project Selection

- WSDA posted request for proposals in late April, due May 31st
- Based on previous stakeholder input, WSDA has supported projects that:
  - Address areas with low-level knotweed infestations
  - Could cost-effectively control knotweed populations
  - Had the potential to protect ecologically important areas



# 2012 Project Selection

- Support multiple project partners in one project area
- Treatment strategies follow an integrated pest management approach
- Protect functional riparian habitats or endangered plant species
- Control work is performed on both private and public land
- Put on-the-ground control projects in motion



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Knotweed Control Program

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