

IDENTIFYING HIGH PRIORITY WEED TARGETS

The following table contains many of the known roadside noxious weeds for Clallam County. The table is arranged to show which weeds are the highest priority for control based on potential economic or environmental impacts and feasibility for control. The list is not comprehensive and will change as conditions change.

"Plant status" indicates one of several categories: a **noxious weed** (a prioritized legal designation including Class A, Class B and Class C weeds where control may be required under state law), a **non-native, invasive** plant capable of causing economic or environmental impacts, but not listed by the state, and **weedy**, so prevalent that it is generally considered naturalized or an aesthetic nuisance. Infestations of invasive, non-native species are more easily eliminated before they become established.

To be most efficient when deciding treatment priorities, where known, weeds are characterized as widespread or rare. The following abbreviations are used in the "status" column in Table 2:

ISSC = Invasive Species of Special Concern

NCR = Noxious, Control Required

NR = Noxious, Rare

NW = Noxious, Widespread

WR = Weedy, Rare

WW = Weedy, Widespread

Weeds are assigned to a "category" based on information in the "status" column. Weeds are categorized as follows:

Category 1 weeds are Class A, B designate, and selected B or C noxious weeds, additional noxious weeds and invasive species of special concern that are very limited in distribution, and newly discovered invaders that were previously unknown in the county (EDRR - early detection, rapid response). Category 1 weeds are the *highest priority* for control.

Category 2 weeds are noxious weeds that are widespread, but of particular concern to the public or an affected public entity. Category 2 weed infestations will be added to the annual work plan to methodically reduce widespread weeds over time and to accommodate requests.

Category 3 weeds are those that are so widespread they are generally considered naturalized or a nuisance. These weeds are tolerated. Control is not considered feasible.



Known roadside weeds in Clallam County

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	4- LETTER WEED CODE	CATEGORY	STATUS	THREAT
Category 1 Weeds					
alyssum, hoary	<i>Berteroa incana</i>	BEIN	1	NCR	Aggressive invader in fields of forage crops; toxic to horses
Blueweed^	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	ECVU	1	NR	Invades pastures and meadows and outcompetes desirable plants; only known from one NPS road
brome, false	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	BRSL	1	NCR	Aggressive bunch grass that is highly invasive in shaded woodlands, open prairies, and grasslands; only known from one location on FS road
chervil, wild	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	ANSY	1	NCR	Will grow in many soil types and light levels; quickly forms monocultures and poses a threat to agriculture and natural areas
cinquefoil, sulfur	<i>Potentilla recta</i>	PORE	1	NCR	Not readily grazed by livestock and wildlife; dense stands exclude other species
comfrey, common	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	SYOF	1	ISSC	Used medicinally for poultices; liver damage when ingested; can form dense stands; difficult to control once established
fennel, common	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	FOVU	1	NCR	Dense stands exclude native vegetation; outcompetes desirable forbs and grasses in pastures and grasslands
geranium, shiny	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	GELU	1	NCR	Rapid spreading; displaces native herbaceous plants; allelopathic, inhibits the germination of small-seeded forbs in forest understory
hairy whitetop	<i>Lepidium appelianum</i>	LEAP	1	NR	Monocultures displace desirable plants; unpalatable; can be toxic to cattle
hawkweed, European	<i>Hieracium sabaudum</i>	HISA	1	NCR	Dense stands exclude other species; bitter and unpalatable, little forage for livestock and wildlife

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hawkweed, orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	HIAU	1	NCR	Dense stands exclude other species; bitter and unpalatable, little forage for livestock and wildlife
hawkweed, yellow	<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>	HICA	1	NCR	Dense stands exclude other species; bitter and unpalatable, little forage for livestock and wildlife
hogweed, giant*	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	HEMA	1	NCR	Skin contact with sap causes severe dermatitis and blistering on people and animals
Italian arum	<i>Arum italica</i>	ARIT	1	NR	Toxic; forms dense monocultures; difficult to control once established; rare in Clallam County
Jewelweed, spotted	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	IMCA	1	NCR	Invades riparian areas and wetlands, roadsides; only found on private and FS roads
knapweed, diffuse	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	CEDI	1	NCR	Spreads seed by tumbling; prickly flower heads; unpalatable after early spring
knapweed, meadow	<i>Centaurea x gerstlaueri</i>	CEMO	1	NCR	Outcompetes pasture species; degrades wildlife habitat; interferes with agriculture
knapweed, mountain	<i>Centaurea montana</i>	CEMO2	1	ISSC	Dense stands exclude native vegetation; out-competes natural forage species
knapweed, spotted	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	CEST	1	NCR	Allelopathic plant that can inhibit the germination of grasses; forms dense stands that exclude desired plants and wildlife
knotweed, Bohemian	<i>Fallopia X Bohemian</i> <i>(Polygonum bohemicum)</i>	POBO	1	NCR	Easily spreads by disturbance; dense colonies eliminate other plant species and can degrade fish habitat; causes structural damage

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knotweed, giant	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i> <i>(Polygonum sachalinense)</i>	POSA	1	NCR	Easily spreads by disturbance; dense colonies eliminate other plant species degrades fish habitat; structural damage to human structures
knotweed, Japanese	<i>Fallopia japonica</i> <i>(Polygonum cuspidatum)</i>	POJA	1	NCR	Easily spreads by disturbance; dense colonies eliminate other plant species and can degrade fish habitat; causes structural damage to human structures
kochia^	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>	BASC	1	NCR	Serious agriculture and pasture pest; Annual that quickly forms monocultures in disturbed, open sites; flammable; toxic to livestock; only found on Hwy 101 currently
loosestrife, purple*	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	LYSA	1	NCR	Dense stands eliminate other plant species; poor palatability; degrades wildlife habitat and hunting and fishing areas.
lupine, tree	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	LUAR	1	WR	Can hybridize with native lupine; forms dense monocultures; drought tolerant, likes disturbed areas
moleplant	<i>Euphorbia lathyris</i>	EULA	1	ISSC	Latex causes severe skin irritation and can be fatal if ingested; spreads rapidly
nightshade, bittersweet	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	SODU	1	NR	Aggressive and vine like, grows in disturbed lands and pastures; toxic to livestock
old man's beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	CLVI	1	NR	Climbing growth smothers other plants, even trees
poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	COMA	1	NCR	Highly toxic to humans and animals; all parts of the plant are toxic; severe birth defects

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ribbon grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> cultivar	PHAR2	1	NR	Aggressive invader displaces other plants in wet sites; an ornamental form of reed canary grass; may also be used as a source for psychedelic drugs
rush skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	CHJU	1	NR	Aggressive invader; displaces native plant communities; only known from one historical site on Hwy 101
sowthistle, perennial	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	SOAR	1	NR	Aggressive invader; outcompetes desirable forbs and grasses in pastures; limited distribution in Clallam County
spurge laurel	<i>Daphne laureola</i>	DALA	1	NCR	Toxic to humans and animals; contact with plants can cause dermatitis
tansy, common	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	TAVU	1	NCR	Dense stands degrade forage value; toxicity issues for humans and livestock
tansy ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i> (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>)	JAVU	1	NCR	Poisonous to horses, cattle, and pigs; animals grazing tansy can produce tainted milk, may result in toxic residue in honey
teasel, common	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	DIFU	1	NCR	Forms dense stands of prickly, unpalatable plants; degrades habitat and reduces accessibility
thistle, Italian	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	CAPY	1	NCR	Forms dense stands of prickly, unpalatable plants; potential roadside fire hazard
toadflax, Dalmatian	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> ssp. <i>dalmatica</i>	LIDA	1	NCR	Invades pastures and meadows, outcompeting desirable plants; only 1 known infestation on Hwy 101
wild basil savory	<i>Clinopidium vulgare</i>	CLVU	1	NCR	Aggressive invader, outcompetes native understory
willow herb, hairy	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	EPHI	1	NCR	Semi aquatic in wetlands, ditches, streambank; dense growth can outcompete native vegetation

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wormwood, absinth	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	ARAB	1	NR	Aggressive invader, will outcompete desirable forbs and grasses in pastures, fields and native grasslands
yellow archangel	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	LAGA	1	NCR	Aggressive invader, competes understory species, degrades wildlife habitat
Category 2 Weeds					
bamboo, spp	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	PHAU	2	NR	Bamboo species form dense thickets and roots; jeopardize line of site and asphalt on county roads; causes structural damage to human structures
barberry, common	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	BEVU	2	NR	Can form undesirable thorny thickets that can crowd out native species.
bindweed, field	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	COAR	2	WW	Outcompetes native vegetation and reduces crop yields; climbs and forms dense tangled mats
blackberry, cutleaf	<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	RULA	2	NW	Dense canopies crowd out native species; impenetrable barrier
blackberry, Himalayan	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	RUAR	2	NW	Dense canopies crowd out native species; impenetrable barrier
broom, Scotch	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	CYSC	2	NW	Forms dense stands; unpalatable; interferes with forest regeneration; fire hazard; scent can exacerbate human grass allergies; seeds are toxic to horses and livestock
burdock, common	<i>Arctium minus</i>	ARMI	2	WR	Forms large rosettes; hooked spines on seeds become entangled in fur of animals
Butter-fly bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	BUDA	2	NR	Invades natural areas; crowds out native vegetation in riparian areas and interferes with natural succession

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canarygrass, reed	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	PHAR	2	NW	Unpalatable unless young, forms dense stands that crowd out native plants; especially difficult to control; serious wetland invader; stops process of succession in riparian sites, impedes tree seedling
cheatgrass or downy brome	<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	BRTE	2	ISSC	Depletes soil moisture in early spring; fire hazard in summer; known to occur in Clallam County, but not on roadsides; will be treated under EDRR protocol if observed
chicory, common	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	CIIN	2	WW	Aggressive invader along roadsides, abandoned lots, lawns and overgrazed pastures
common mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	VETH	2	WR	Formerly on State Weed list; unpalatable, not widespread
hawthorn, English	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	CRMO	2	NR	Carried by birds into forests and open fields where it can form dense, thorny thickets that outcompete native species
herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	GERO	2	NW	Rapid spreading; displaces native herbaceous plants; allelopathic, inhibits the germination of small-seeded forbs in forest understory
iris, yellow flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	IRPS	2	NR	Toxic to humans and animals; displaces vegetation at wet margins of ditches, ponds, and lakes; plant resins can cause skin irritation in humans
Ivy, English	<i>Hedera helix</i> varieties	HEHE	2	NW	Forms dense carpets in understory; climbs and can kill trees or make them more prone to topple during storms; sap can cause allergic reactions and plant is toxic to humans and cattle

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mountain ash, European	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	SOAU	2	ISSC	Escaped ornamental that invades natural forests and grows rapidly; can quickly begin to outcompete native vegetation; seeds spread readily by birds
Mustard, wild	<i>Brassica spp.</i> (or <i>Sinapis arvensis</i>)	BRSP	3	WW	Common weed in fields, roadsides and abandoned areas; can interbreed with domestic Brassicas and contaminate seed crops
nightshade, hairy	<i>Solanum physalifolium</i>	SOPHY	2	NR	Thrives in degraded pastures and disturbed areas, poisonous to humans and livestock
peavine, everlasting	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	LALA	2	ISSC	Forms dense thickets; seeds can be toxic to livestock; seriously interferes with forest regeneration where it invades from edges of timber units
periwinkle, large	<i>Vinca major</i>	VIMA	2	WW	Dominates in forest understories and displaces native vegetation
St John's wort, common	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	HYPE	3	NW	Causes photosensitization when grazed; toxic at all stages of growth
thistle, bull	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	CIVU	2	NW	Aggressive competitor; unpalatable for cattle; decreases forage
thistle, Canada	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	CIAR	2	NW	Aggressive competitor, unpalatable; decreases forage; host species for several agricultural pests
toadflax, yellow	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	LIVU	2	NR	Invades rangelands and cultivated fields; reduces yields; only known on Hwy 101

Category 3 Weeds

buttercup, creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	RARE	3	WW	Depletes wet soil potassium; grows 40 sq ft/year; toxic to animals
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carrot, wild	<i>Daucus carota</i>	DACA	3	NW	Damages agricultural commodity as it may cross pollinates with domestic carrot, seriously degrading the quality of commercial carrot seed production
catsear, common	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	HYRA	3	NW	Crowds out palatable forage species; thrives in highly disturbed areas
chervil, burr	<i>Anthriscus caucalis</i>	ANCA	3	WW	Aggressive and can form monocultures; displaces native vegetation in pastures and along ROW's.
daisy, oxeye	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	LEVU	3	NW	Livestock avoid grazing; milk from dairy cows has unpleasant flavor
dandelion, common	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	TAOF	3	WW	Dense circular mats that crowd out desirable species
English holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	ILAQ	3	WW	Dense thickets can dominate shrub layer and suppress desirable vegetation
foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	DIPU	3	WW	Can be toxic to livestock; spreads aggressively in disturbed areas
orchard grass and other pasture grasses	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	DAGL	3	WW	Outcompetes and suppresses native vegetation including pasture grasses

^ Found on roadsides not owned or maintained by County

*No active sites, but previously documented