

WESTERN INVASIVES NETWORK

Introduction to the WIN Digital IPM Calendar

This digital resource was adapted, by WIN, from an existing document that was originally published by Portland Metro and the 4-County CWMA and revised/republished in 2020. While the information is presented in a different manner, the content of this resource is the same as what can be found in the hard copy/pdf version that was published in 2020. Additions to the resource are limited to photos, distribution maps (links) and links to other supporting documents and resources.

Please read the following information, taken from the original document, before using this resource.

Statement of Intent

One goal of the 2013 funding levy is to improve Metro's natural area stewardship, increasing management and invasive species control to improve both the water quality and the wildlife habitat values. Natural area maintenance (core stewardship) will address basic stewardship on virtually all of Metro's natural areas, totaling almost 12,000 acres. This improvement, though related, is distinct from targeted restoration projects that the levy will fund on an additional 2000 acres. Stewardship efforts will emphasize reduction of future maintenance costs and protection of habitat quality through effective weed management. Towards these ends, the King County Weed Management Calendar is modified here, with the permission of King County. Metro's revised weed calendar expands the list of target species while compiling the best treatment information available from Portland's professional land managers. It has also been augmented with an integrated calendar, a table of contents with treatment summary and this statement of intent. While this document acts as a baseline for managing Metro properties, it is Metro's hope that other agencies, companies, groups and landowners will find this calendar useful with some potential adjustments. It is not, however, intended to describe all treatments for all situations. The primary purpose of the new Portland invasive species calendar is to identify the most useful method and timing for effective treatment. These treatments will apply to approximately 80% of Metro's management cases. Many factors, such as conditions in the field and bad weather, will cause management to change, either slightly or drastically. The scale of restoration also plays a key role in choice of management. The recommendations in this document apply overwhelmingly to initial large-scale restoration (>1/4 acre), so many manual and mechanical methods will not be highlighted. On the other hand, a reduction in effort for succeeding years of management can be expected, possibly restoring the need to use smaller scale (manual/mechanical) methods.

Notes from the editor:

The revision of this calendar has proved both enlightening and complicated. Much has changed in the world of environmental management since King County (WA) first released its well-known and highly respected 'Weed Management Calendar' in 2003. A decade later, and somewhat south in Portland (OR), methods and views have evolved and shifted. The fact of changes should come as no surprise, as old methods are tested over time and new species of concern arrive. A range of managers, from sizable governmental organizations to 2-person contracting firms, now have substantial and varied experience with these species. Perhaps most remarkable has been the overall consistency in treatment recommendations. Still, there has been a variety of input, which has been difficult to synthesize. In several cases, it seemed important to present the discussion for the consideration of land managers. In the case of winter treatments, which CAN be effective while minimizing damage to native flora and fauna, we have included 3 tabs with more detail regarding technique. Please take time to become familiar with the nuances presented there.

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The following topics should be considered by professionals using this calendar:

surfactant: varies among organizations, but commonly used surfactants include Syltac, MSO, 'R11 (aq), Agridex (aq), LI-700 (aq), and Competitor (aq). The surfactant is frequently cited as having significant effect, either positive or negative, on the effectiveness of the active ingredient. All accounts of effectiveness to this date, however, are anecdotal. The parenthetical (aq) indicates safety in streamside buffers as of February, 2014.

nesting season: by far the source of most comments, there was substantial concern that 'May-June' was too short and should be extended to at least April 15-July 31st, with argument made for March 1-September 1. There were other, simultaneous concerns about the prohibition of cutting (or seeming to) removes a potentially necessary tool. So, the description of the cutting window represents an attempt at striking a balance. Weigh carefully all factors before cutting blackberry between April and August.

interchangeability: many species respond as well to triclopyr [3A or salt] as glyphosate. Comments were made about several species responding just as well to one active ingredient as to the other. Reasons for recommending a particular active ingredient (besides effectiveness) would be: already using it on other species on that site, limiting effects on grasses (choosing triclopyr), imminent seed set (choosing triclopyr), or minimizing risks to crews, especially eyes (choosing glyphosate).

aminopyralid: be aware of the difference between Milestone (40.6% aminopyralid) and Capstone [formerly Milestone VM+] (2% aminopyralid AND 16% triclopyr amine). 0.2% solutions [0.25 oz/gal] of Milestone are being used effectively for non-annuals. Know the other potential side effects of aminopyralid, such as "pre-emergent" persistence and tree mortality.

imazapyr & knotweed: there is some discussion about the a) potential side-effects and b) effectiveness of imazapyr. Some organizations are seeing pre-emergent effects, which limit recolonization of sprayed areas, while other are not. A few organizations choose to use imazapyr every few years, to limit impacts but also to finish off plants not succumbing to years of other treatments. At the same time, it is not clear that imazapyr is necessarily more successful at killing knotweed. While imazapyr remains a viable treatment, we recommend that it be used cautiously and in limited quantities.

mixing: combination herbicides, especially of triclopyr and glyphosate, can lead to a white sludge in sprayer nozzles. Be sure to add surfactant last, and to observe whether triclopyr first (recommended) makes a difference.

cut stump, girdle, and frill ["hack and squirt"]: generally these can be effective all times of year, but some times are better than others and some species respond better than others. Pay particular attention to "self-rinsing" in late winter/early spring as newly-running sap can wash herbicide off the stump.