

THE OTHER SIDE OF INVASIVE PESTS IN OREGON

Invasive pests in Oregon can have far reaching effects beyond the well-known negative impacts on agricultural economy and natural resources. Invasive pests can also directly affect market access and jobs, water quality, watersheds, pesticide use, and human health.

1. Protecting Oregon's Natural Resources and Agricultural Economy

Invasive pests, such as Gypsy moth, Japanese beetle, scotch broom, Armenian blackberry, sudden oak death, are threatening Oregon's agricultural and natural resources. ODA's Invasive Pest Programs keep invasive pests out of Oregon, through **quarantine regulations**, apply the **Early Detection and Rapid Response** approach and implement **eradication projects** and **biological control** to manage invasive pests.

2. Water Quality, Watershed Protection, and Pesticides

Invasive pests have a critical impact on water quality, watershed health, and pesticide use. The **Spotted Wing Drosophila**, an invasive vinegar fly pest, has caused increased pesticide use in orchards and has disrupted many of the advances in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. Its adverse impact on fruit crop production has sometimes resulted in increased spray regimens of every 5-7 days.

We have successfully kept the **Gypsy moth**, out of Oregon for more than 30 years with early detection and successful eradication programs. Continuous defoliation by Gypsy moth caterpillars in the eastern US has shown to increase water and soil temperatures. These temperature increases can have a series of cascading adverse effects on other wildlife and riparian plant communities.

The **Waterprimrose, *Ludwigia***, is a serious aquatic noxious weed that is threatening millions of Dollars of watershed restoration investment in the Willamette river. *Ludwigia* is changing water and soil chemistry adversely impacting salmon and waterfowl habitat. In addition, *Ludwigia*-infested waterways lose more water through accelerated evaporation.

Flowering rush is an escaped ornamental that invades and dominates slow moving waters with muddy substrates up to 20 feet deep. It threatens irrigation systems on the Columbia River, salmon migrating through the Columbia, and water quality in general. This noxious aquatic plant forms large monocultures that outcompete native plants.

3. Market Access and Jobs

Oregon's nursery and agricultural products must be certified as pest-free before they can be exported to other states and foreign countries. Without our invasive pest surveys, many Oregon products could not be shipped and agricultural businesses would be severely affected. This would directly result in market and job losses for those involved in the production and exportation of commodities.

4. Human Health

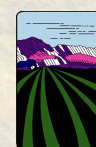
Invasive pests have the potential to affect every aspect of our lives, including human health. Mosquitoes can vector West Nile virus, Dengue virus, and other human and animal diseases. The hair of Gypsy moth caterpillars can cause allergic reactions in sensitive people.

SUMMARY

An effective Early Detection and Rapid Response system for invasive pests will decrease adverse impacts to Oregon by maintaining access to important export markets, protecting Oregon's natural resources and agricultural economy, including watersheds and water quality, reducing pesticide applications, and decreasing potential impacts to human health.



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