

LEAVE NO WEEDS

NOXIOUS WEEDS AFFECT EVERYONE

Noxious weeds are invasive, exotic species that spread rapidly and choke out native species. They degrade the environment and upset the delicate balance of nature. They reduce wildlife habitat and biodiversity, change the function of natural ecosystems and increase erosion rates sending sediment into streams. Noxious weeds interrupt aesthetic and visual values, reducing your recreation experience.

HELP STOP THEIR SPREAD

Noxious weeds are spread onto National Forest System lands when seeds are carried in and take root. Seeds can ride on vehicles, watercraft, clothing, Velcro fastenings, gear and even the soles of your shoes. Floaters or campers who are unaware of their presence can spread them from one campsite location to another. After they mature, noxious weed seeds are carried by wind, water and people, spreading across the forest. The cycle begins anew. Some plants can produce thousands of seeds, which remain viable for many years.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO

Be Aware & Prepare

- Prior to each trip, check your clothing (especially Velcro fastenings), equipment, vehicles, and watercraft for weed seeds. Remove any seeds found. Burn them or place them in a sanitary landfill.
- Clean watercraft before and after backcountry trips.
- Learn to identify common local weeds and weeds found in the Selway River corridor. (See other side for weeds found in Selway River corridor.)

Camp & Travel in Weed Free Areas

- Try to launch and take out in areas free of weeds.
- At each launch or takeout check for and remove weeds from clothing (especially Velcro fastenings), gear and watercraft. Bag and pack out weed seeds.
- Camp only at existing campsites.
- Avoid traveling through or camping in weed infested areas.

Pull & Pack out Weeds When Possible

- Pull when soil is moist to get the entire root system and kill the plant.
- Wear gloves.
- Pull only species you can identify.
- Pull only taprooted species.
- Leave-non-seed-producing plants or plant parts on site. Bag and pack out seed producing parts. Be careful not to spread seeds on the way home.
- Dispose of seeds in a sanitary landfill or burn them.

NOXIOUS WEEDS IN THE SELWAY RIVER COORIDOR