



## Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board

2024

### BY THE NUMBERS

**295**

acres treated in total

**70**

County road miles spot treated

**31**

Acres of poison hemlock controlled in Port Townsend City Limits

**1,040**

Jefferson County Residents assisted in gaining new knowledge in identification or control

**1,750**

Washington Conservation Corps Member Hours

**11,125**

pounds of Scotch broom removed from the PUD corridor

### ISSUE

Noxious weeds can reduce crop yields, destroy native plant and animal habitat, damage recreational opportunities, clog waterways, lower land values, create erosion problems and fire hazards, as well as poison humans and livestock. In Washington State, noxious weeds are a legally defined term in the RCW 17.10. The Jefferson County Weed Control Board has a stated mission, “to serve as responsible stewards of Jefferson County by protecting the land and resources from the degrading impact of noxious weeds.” In Jefferson County, noxious weeds pose a threat to our vibrant farmlands, unique watersheds, and our many thriving recreational areas that are well-visited.

While plants like poison hemlock, tansy ragwort, and knotweed remain important to control, there were a few new priority species this year. Wild chervil (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and wild basil savory (*Clinopodium vulgare*) are spreading through our county at a rapid pace. JCNWCB must work with land owners, property managers, and navigate environmental challenges to begin controlling weeds on a large scale.

### RESPONSE

The Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board utilizes partnerships to ensure that a wide variety of lands can be cared for. Some of our partners include Washington State Parks, Jefferson County Public Works, The City of Port Townsend, Public Utility District #1, Friends of Fort Worden, Washington Conservation Corps, and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group. JCNWCB is able to provide technical assistance, weed control, and educational outreach for our partners, as well as to all residents of Jefferson County.





QUOTES



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*It was an honor to help steward the land in Jefferson County, especially the roadsides or corners that are often neglected or seen as having less value.*

*-Alexa MacAulay, Field Inspector JCNWCB*



*"It's a uniquely beautiful place, given its location and the landscape. You can have a leisurely walk and gather much about the landscape."*

*-Joe Albrecht, Supervisor WCC Belfair Restoration, on the PUD corridor*



OUTCOMES

- The Jefferson County Weed Board provided technical support to over 1,000 Jefferson County residents during the 2024 calendar year. The program advised on the identification and control of specific noxious weeds as well as recommended revegetation strategies.
- The program surveyed over 250 road miles in the County, leading to the discovery of new weeds and infestations, helping to jumpstart Early Detection and Rapid Response.
- Public Outreach events included tabling at the Farmers Market, providing education and materials to garden clubs, giving presentations at schools, and working with Habitat for Humanity to ensure education for new homeowners. By providing knowledge to local residents, not only do they feel empowered to navigate their own weeds, but they become citizen scientists and can report infestations they see.
- With increased partnership support and grant opportunities, JCNWCB continues to grow. In 2024 we hired a seasonal employee and utilized more crew time with the Washington Conservation Corps. This allowed more sites to be surveyed, treated, and monitored than in previous years. We look forward to continue stewarding public lands, providing support to private land managers, and find new ways to serve Jefferson County residents in 2025.

