South Central Region, Area 2 Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plan

2024



Washington State Department of Transportation Maintenance and Operations Division

Introduction

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) South Central Region Area 2 manages approximately **680** miles of transportation corridor throughout Yakima, Kittitas, Benton and Lewis Counties. This right-of-way is part of the state highway system including I-82, US-12, US 97, SR 24, SR 821, as well as several other secondary state routes. A map of the area and roads maintained is included on the following page.

The primary roadside vegetation management objectives are in relation to traffic safety and preservation of the highway infrastructure. Additionally, as a landowner WSDOT is required to control all listed noxious weeds that occur on the right-of-way by state law (RCW 17.10 and 15.15.010). It is important that WSDOT not only meet the legal requirements for weed control, but also consider the needs and concerns of adjacent landowners in this area.

With these priority objectives in mind, WSDOT practices an annually cycling process called Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM). Plans like this are maintained and updated annually for all areas of the state with an overall goal of establishing the most naturally self-sustaining roadsides vegetation possible. Adjustments are made year to year in each area plan based on monitoring the previous years' accomplishments and results, available budget, and prioritization of other highway maintenance activities.

This plan serves as the guidance document for vegetation maintenance in South Central Region Area 2 for the 2024 growing season. It identifies priority locations and prescribes treatments for accomplishing safety and weed control objectives through a combination of seasonally timed control measures. Each year's actions are designed as part of a coordinated multi-year strategy to minimize roadside maintenance requirements wherever possible. This plan also accounts for specific locations where maintenance tactics are adjusted due to environmental conditions, neighboring properties, local partnerships, or restoration work done through WSDOT design and construction.

The information contained in this plan document can be geographically referenced by crews in the field using iPads and the agency's Highway Activity Tracking System (HATS). Accomplishments and results are also tracked geographically through this system, providing site specific reference of historic actions and results. This development in WSDOT maintenance management will greatly improve the agency's success in properly executing planned actions, monitoring and documenting results of treatments, and in measuring cost and results over time.

WSDOT welcomes input from local public and private entities on its weed control and other vegetation management activities. Wherever appropriate the agency is looking for opportunities to plan and cooperate with others in managing the roadside. Please direct any questions, comments or suggestions to the South Central Region Area 2 Superintendent – Pedro Perez, or the State's Roadside Asset Manager – Ray Willard.

Pedro Perez Maintenance Superintendent pedro.perez@wsdot.wa.gov (509)573-8370

900 E. Selah Rd. Yakima, WA 98901

Ray Willard, PLA

State Roadside Asset Manager ray.willard@wsdot.wa.gov (360)688-0291 PO Box 47358 Olympia, WA 98504-7358



South Central Area 2 – Vicinity Map Figure 1

South Central Region, Area 2 IVM Work Plan – 2024

The section outlines the overall approach and geographic distribution of roadside vegetation management requirements throughout the maintenance area in 2024. Information is organized in relation to four groups defined in the WSDOT Maintenance Accountability Program (MAP) for the performance of roadside vegetation maintenance activities: **Control of Vegetative Obstructions**, **Noxious Weed Control**, **Nuisance Vegetation Control**, and **Landscape Maintenance**. **Safety Rest Area** Landscape Maintenance and **Stormwater** Facilities vegetation maintenance activities are also covered. Specific locations as noted in this work plan are also mapped in the Highway Activity Tracking System (HATS) for reference by maintenance in the field.

Safety First

Safety of our employees, the traveling public, and the environment are WSDOT's highest priorities and key to our success. Pre-Activity Safety Plans (PSAP) are developed for all activities and crews review, discuss, and sign these plans at tailgate meetings, prior to each day's work. When applying herbicides, our licensed pesticide applicators read the entire label before using products and use the products strictly in accordance with label precautionary statements and directions. WSDOT has implemented additional agency specific environmental restrictions on some products, to minimize any risk to aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems. Applicators wear protective equipment applicable to the products being used and discuss any potential environmental and/or human health risks as part of the daily PASP meeting. Technicians inspect their calibrated equipment daily to ensure it is in proper working order. Herbicides are kept in locked facilities and stored in an organized condition.

Control of Vegetative Obstructions – 3A4

The work of this group of maintenance activities relates to the safety and operational requirements of the highway. These items are considered first priority in terms of the overall roadside maintenance needs. Vegetation management objectives and work activities in this category fall into four groups – Pavement Edge Maintenance/Zone 1, One Pass Mowing/Zone 2, Tree and Brush Control/Zone 2 and 3, and Hazard Tree Removal/Zone 3.

Pavement Edge Maintenance/Zone 1

Work Operation: 1615

HATS Form: Pesticide Application – Zone 1

HATS Map Layer: Reference lines – Roadside Features/Spray Zone 1 Reference

This work involves the annual application of herbicides to road shoulders where necessary throughout the area. The objective of these applications in designated locations is preserving of a band of vegetation-free gravel shoulder adjacent to the pavement. This treatment is necessary in the mapped locations described below to provide visibility and maintainability of roadside hardware and guideposts, allow room for vehicles to safely pull off on shoulders, facilitate stormwater drainage, and/or provide added visibility of wildlife approaching the highway.

Total Units of Planned Treatment

- Apply approximately **200** acres of herbicide treatment to road shoulders throughout the area.
- Additional bare ground will be applied as **Landscape treatment** in Yakima and Union Gap (beyond 4 ft. from pavement edge)

Locations of Planned Treatments

- Planned treatment sites are being mapped in HATS layer Spray Zone 1 Reference.
- Locations where bare ground treatments will be applied to all gravel shoulder sections include:

Rimrock Section

<u>US 12:</u> Up to the Wenatchee National Forest boundary at milepost 179: 4 feet application under all guardrail from milepost 179 to milepost 198.66.

<u>-</u>Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

-Residual Application includes selective treatment of cracks in asphalt shoulder both directions on 4 lane freeway from milepost 190.79 to 198.66.

<u>SR 410:</u> Up to Wenatchee National Forest boundary at milepost 100: 4 feet under all guardrail from milepost 100 to milepost 116.37.

- Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

Toppenish Section

<u>I-82:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 36.33 to milepost 69. Including a 4 foot Zone 1 application to both the shoulder and median, both directions from milepost 50 to milepost 69. No residual under median cable guardrail from milepost 37 to milepost 38.48 due to native grasses and shrubs.

Residual Application includes selective treatment of cracks in asphalt shoulder both directions on 4 lane freeway from milepost 36.33 to milepost to 69.

<u>SR 22</u>: 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 22.87. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>SR 223:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 3.81. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>SR 241:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 7.52. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>US 97:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail and cable barrier both directions from milepost 33.22 to milepost 76.36. A 1 foot shot of residual will be made adjacent to the median jersey barrier both directions from milepost 61.54 to milepost 76.36

<u>-</u>Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, continuing out to100 feet past the intersection.

-Residual treatment includes all gravel bowls and islands at intersections on US 97 North from milepost 61.54 to milepost 74.74.

-Roundabouts all get treated as bare ground.

East Selah Section

<u>I-82:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 15.03 to milepost 36.33. Including a 4 foot Zone 1 application to both the shoulder and median, both directions from milepost 29.06 to milepost 36.33.

<u>-</u> Residual Application includes selective treatment of cracks in asphalt shoulder both directions on 4 lane freeway from milepost 15.03 to milepost to 30.

<u>US12:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 198.72 to milepost 202.75. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100

feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>SR 24:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 44. A 4 feet application will be made both directions to the roadside shoulder from milepost 0 to milepost 6.47. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>SR 821:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 12.95. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

<u>SR 823:</u> 4 feet application under all guardrail both directions from milepost 0 to milepost 4.74. Including 4 feet application to all intersections starting 100 feet prior to intersection, treating to right of way line, and then out to 100 feet past the intersection.

-Selected gravel island locations around the Selah Interchange.

Selected Locations in Selah Section

<u>US 12 & Gordon Road:</u> Blanket bareground treatment to rock within fenced area.

<u>I-82</u>: Bareground treatment to selected Roadside and Landscape Areas at Interchanges on I-82 at Exits 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 36. These sections are recorded as Landscape Maintenance treatments.

Locations within Area 2 where bare ground treatment extends across the entire median include:

- o I-82 median through Yakima from milepost 29.34 to milepost 37.
- US 12 median from milepost 201.90 to milepost 202.11
- Entire width of median from milepost 198,08 (Suntides Intersection) to milepost 198.66 (Nelson Bridges).

White Pass Section

US 12: No bare ground in this section

Treatment Methods

- Herbicides are applied each spring using a truck mounted power spray system calibrated to deliver either a 4 ft. or 6 ft. band of spray mixture adjacent to the paved shoulder. The resulting width of treated shoulder may be wider than the intended width due with steeper shoulder slope.
- Wider applications may be made in areas where noxious weeds are established on the edges.
- If there is green up by the time Zone 1 applications are made, glyphosate products will be added to the mixes as described:
 - Mix 1 (Toppenish):
 - Roundup Pro Concentrate @ 32 oz/acre (When needed)
 - Diuron 4L @ 256 oz/acre
 - Lockdown SC @ 10 oz/acre
 - Oust XP @ 3 oz/acre
 - Unfoamer
 - o In-Place

Mix 2 (Selah):

- Roundup Pro Concentrate @ 32 oz/acre (When needed)
- Esplanade SC @ 5 ozl/acre
- Lockdown @ 10 oz/acre

- Escort XP @ 3 oz/acre
- o Unfoamer
- o In-Place

Safety Mowing/Zone 2 Work Operation: 1625 HATS Form: Mowing Zone 2

HATS Map Layer: Reference lines – Roadside Features/Mowing Zone 2 Reference

This work includes routine mechanical cutting of all vegetation on the road shoulder in a band width immediately adjacent to pavement. Mowing is necessary in areas where taller growing grasses or other vegetation are present and must be annually or semi-annually cut back for visibility and maintenance of roadside hardware and delineators, to maintenance traffic sight distance at curves and intersections, and for improved visibility of wildlife approaching the highway. Mowing height for these operations is typically 6 to 8 inches above the ground. In many cases this type of mowing is unnecessary if an adequate width of Zone 1 is present.

Total Units of Planned Mowing

• Approximately **400 acres** will be mowed annually

Locations of Planned Mowing

- US 12 Milepost 199-202.5
- SR 24 Milepost 0-6.47
- I-82 Milepost 31-38
- I-82 Milepost 50-69
- SR 410 throughout forested sections, and MP 69.2-76 on the upper end
- US 12, MP 166 to 190
- US 97 MP 62 to 74

Treatment Methods

- Mowing with 2 or 3 decks 16 ft. to 24 ft. width as needed throughout
- Mowing with arm mower in forested sections

Tree and Brush Control/Zone 2 and 3

Work Operations: 1622, 1625, 1626

HATS Forms: Pesticide Application (for spray applications,) and three sub-forms under Tree/Brush Control –Trimming Mechanical, Trimming Manual, and Mowing HATS Map Layer: None

This includes safety and traffic operations related work in Zone 2, such as periodic sidetrimming or removal of brush and trees or tree branches encroaching on or overhanging traffic operations, and impacting sign visibility. Also included is work in Zone 2 and 3 when selectively controlling emergent early succession tree species – to prevent them from growing into mature hazard trees within striking distance of the road.

Total Units of Planned Treatment

- Approximately **100 acres** will be treated with mechanical trimming or mowing of seedlings.
- Less than **5 acres** will be treated with herbicides, stump treatment and some Garlon on willow.

Locations of Planned Treatments

- As needed where willow and other brush grows into Zone 2
- Where we have Tree of Heaven or Russian Olive growing into Zone 2

Treatment Methods

- Spray late season for seedlings and light trimming on encroaching branches
 - Herbicides used:
 - Garlon 3A @ 128 ozl/acre

- Trimming manually with chain/pole saws, mowing unwanted seedlings with deck or side arm mower.
- Cut stump surfaces will be treated with Garlon 3A daub treatment

Hazard Tree Removal/Zone 3

Work Operation: 1628 HATS Forms: Hazard Tree Removal – Individual Tree Removal, Stand Removal, and Cleanup Fallen Trees

HATS Map Layer: None

Trees within and adjacent to the right of way are routinely monitored by maintenance staff for potential risk to the highway and/or neighboring structures. Individual and stands of mature trees identified as a potential imminent threat are further evaluated and removed as soon as possible if there is any indication of risk.

Total Units of Planned Treatment

• Up to **400** mature hazardous trees may be removed from the area each year. <u>Locations of Planned Treatments</u>

- Focus is on US 12 and SR 410 for forested areas.
- Focus is Tree of Heaven and Russian Olive for lowland areas.

Treatment Methods

- Chain saws, Chipper
- Hack and squirt or basal bark treatment for Tree of Heaven, followed by cutting after trees are dead.
- Timber is left to decompose on site wherever possible
- Washington State Parks Arborist crew or private contractors may be utilized where needed

Noxious Weed Control – 3A2

This group of activities includes control of non-native invasive weed species as defined by state law and individual county designation. This group of activities is second priority vegetation management work after safety related objectives have been addressed. While all Class A, B, and C noxious weed species as listed in RCW 17.10 are considered potential targets for WSDOT noxious weed control, the agency is currently not funded to achieve 100% control of all noxious weeds. Therefore, the top priorities for weed control are focused on locations and species that are more limited in distribution on the right of way – where there is a chance of successful eradication. To prioritize control of species that are already widespread in the area, WSDOT works with the local county noxious weed boards and coordinators, to annually review and determine which species and locations will be specifically targeted.

To prioritize, plan, and track noxious weed control, WSDOT maps and monitors weed infestations in two categories: **Priority**, and **Planned Treatment**. **Priority** locations are where Class A noxious weed species exist on the right of way, and complete eradication is required by state law. **Planned Treatment** sites are locations where there are new, and/or limited distribution infestations of Class B and C noxious weed exist, and eradication is possible.

Noxious Weed Control

Work Operations: 1616, 1618, 1641, 1699

HATS Forms: Pesticide Application (for spray applications,) and three sub-forms under Noxious Weed Control General– Manual/Mechanical, Seed/Fertilize/Mulch, and Biological HATS Map Layer: Reference Points – Roadside Features/Noxious Weed Control Priority, Noxious Weed Control Planned Treatment, and Noxious Weed Control General Reference

Operations are prescribed throughout the season to prevent the spread of any legally designated noxious weed species, and to reduce or eliminate populations wherever possible. Integrated treatment plans combine field monitoring and an integral mixture of seasonally timed control methods with proven effectiveness on designated species.

Successful plans are consistently implemented over a series of years and annually adjusted as necessary based on field observations. Care must be taken in all cases to avoid damage to surrounding desirable/native vegetation.

Common Name/Botanical Name	Treatment Notes
Cereal rye (Secale cereal)	Talk to Yakima Weed Board
Common reed (Phragmites australis)	Target sites mapped and treated in the
	spring/summer, now monitoring sites
Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>)	Control where visible in conjunction with other
	weed control applications
Hoary alyssum <i>(Berteroa incana)</i>	Target sites mapped and treated in the
	spring/summer
Houndstongue Cynoglossum officinale)	larget sites mapped and treated in the
	spring/summer
Knapweed sp. (Centaurea sp.)	Control where visible in conjunction with
	treatment sites in apositio sounties will be
	manned this year
Knotwood Jananaaa (Daluganum	Has showed up on the right of way in the past
Knolweed, Japanese (Polygonum	and was controlled. Any future occurrences will
cuspidatum)	be mapped.
Kochia	
Loosestrife purple (Lythrum salicaria)	Pops up in places but mostly controlled in the
	past. Any future occurrences will be mapped.
Perennial pepperweed	
Rush Skeletonweed (Chondrilla juncea)	Target sites mapped and treated in the
	spring/summer
Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius)	Only occurs on the west side of US 12. All
	visible plants are treated each year.
Spurge, myrtle <i>(Euphorbia myrsinites)</i>	Occurs on SR 410 MP 104, site will be mapped
	this year.
Tansy ragwort (Senecio jacobaea)	Only occurs on the west side of US 12. All
	Visible plants are treated each year.
I histle, Scotch (<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>)	Control where visible in conjunction with
	in apositio ocuption are being manad
Tree of Heaven (Ailenthus altising)	If controlled as a soldling, mature trees are
Thee of Heaven (Ananimus allisima)	controlled as Hazard Trees
Whitetop	
Yellow starthistle (Centaurea solstitialis)	Target sites mapped and treated in the
	spring/summer

Target Species on WSDOT Right of Way in South Central Area 2:

Total Units of Planned Treatment

- Approximately **75 acres** will be treated with a mixture of herbicide treatments and other methods
- Approximately **450 acres** will be treated by mowing to suppress seed production on I-82 corridor
- Approximately **10 acres** will be treated with mowing or hand pulling <u>Locations of Planned Treatments</u>
 - Locations for seasonally planned treatment sites are being mapped in HATS over the course of the 2024 season, including county weed board identified reoccurring "hot spots" and priority sites identified by the spray crews.
 - Mowing is only in occasional situations where the weed board

Treatment Methods and Timing

- Timing of early spring treatments is critical
- As described in the table above, seasonally timed applications will be made with the following herbicide mixtures:

Spring Season Targets

o Milestone @ 5 oz/acre, Spreader 90 @ 32 oz/acre per 50 gallons carrier.

Summer Season Targets

- Milestone @ 5-7 oz/acre, Spreader 90 @ 32 oz/acre per 50 gallons carrier.
- E2 @ 2-5 pts./acre, Spreader 90 @ 32 oz/acre per 50 gallons carrier.

Fall Season Targets

 Milestone @ 5-7 oz/acre, Spreader 90 @ 32 oz/acre per 50 gallons carrier.

Nuisance Vegetation Control – 3A3

Nuisance vegetation control takes place only in a select set of carefully prioritized locations throughout the state, primarily along wider rights of way and interchanges on limited access highways. These locations are delineated on maps in HATS as polygon outlines in Zone 3. Locations are prioritized to take place where there is heightened local interest in the visual appearance and condition of the roadside vegetation. Typical locations include: wider areas along limited access freeways in urban and suburban areas, freeway interchanges for local urban centers, environmentally sensitive areas, and areas where neighbors are willing to partner with WSDOT on management efforts. Because nuisance weed control activities are not related to safety or legal requirements, and are primarily undertaken to improve the visual appearance of the roadside, they are considered the last priority vegetation management needs.

For all areas designated to receive Nuisance Vegetation Control, multi-year treatment plans have been developed. The actions contained in these plans will be executed and tracked in relation to specific Zone 3 polygons for **Nuisance Vegetation Control Zone 3**, referenced on HATS maps and described below.

Nuisance Vegetation Control

Work Operations: 1611, 1612, 1641, 1699

HATS Feature-based Forms: Herbicide Application, Manual/Mechanical, Biological, and Seed/Fertilize/Mulch

HATS Map Layer: Feature polygons – Roadside Features/Nuisance Vegetation Control Zone 3

Maintenance activities in each identified location are planned and tracked as multi-year treatment strategies, utilizing monitoring and the most effective combination of control methods – with a goal of establishing desirable vegetation that requires only minimal maintenance. Care must be taken in all cases to avoid damage to surrounding desirable/native vegetation. In some cases, soil enhancements may be used as well as seeding or planting of beneficial competition species. Successful plans are consistently implemented over a series of years and annually adjusted as necessary based on field observations.

Total Units of Planned Treatment

• Approximately **20 acres** will be mowed for nuisance.

• Approximately **10 acres** will be treated with herbicides for nuisance weed control. Locations of Planned Treatments

• Reference HATS layer – Nuisance Vegetation Management.

Treatment Methods and Timing

• Engage local partners, such as City and County Governments, local businesses, and bordering land owners to take interest and support our vegetation management program & policies. Propose agreements and shared cost strategies.

Landscape Maintenance – 3A5

Landscape maintenance work includes all vegetation management activities that take place on roadsides within areas designated as formal urban planting areas where the intention is to enhance the appearance of freeways through urban centers. For these roadsides the goal is to maintain clean conditions and healthy plantings in all three zones, and to control all weeds. Planted vegetation is intended to be preserved and enhanced over time through pruning, hedging, trimming, and fertilization where necessary.

Landscape

Work Operations: 1513, 1516, 1518, 1525, 1541, 1552, 1561, 1599

HATS Forms: Pesticide Application (for all spray applications), and six sub-forms under Landscape – Weed Control/Manual, Weed Control/Mechanical, Pruning/Hedging/Edging, Seed/Mulch/Plant/Fertilize, Mowing Lawn, Irrigation System Operations & Maintenance, and Other Maintenance as Approved by Superintendent

Landscape maintenance operations are only conducted in a limited number of locations as described below and mapped in HATS. Maintenance activities in each identified location are planned based on a multi-year treatment strategy. Treatment decisions are based on monitoring and the proven most effective combination of maintenance actions, to keep plantings (and lawns if present) looking healthy and trimmed throughout the year.

Total Units of Planned Treatment

• There are approximately **62 acres** of formally landscaped roadside. Locations of Planned Treatments

- Reference HATS layer Landscape Maintenance.
- Locations of designate formal landscape include:
 - US 12 in the vicinity of North 1st Street Interchange
 - Interstate 82 in the vicinity of North 1st Street Interchange
 - Interstate 82 in the vicinity of Yakima Avenue Interchange
 - Interstate 82 in the vicinity of Nob Hill Blvd. Interchange
 - Interstate 82 in the vicinity of Valley Mall Blvd. Interchange

Treatment Methods and Timing

- Fertilize turf, trees, and shrubs early spring.
- Casoron around trees and shrubs, early spring.
- Approximately **30 acres** of gravel mulch is treated in conjunction with Zone 1 residual at Valley Mall I/C, median I-82 through Yakima, and E. Selah I/C
- Mow turf April October.
- Spray Roundup in turf areas around trees and borders to delineate from mowing activities; early spring and late summer if needed.
- Prune/trim trees and shrubs, late fall, winter, early spring or as needed.
- Maintain and perform necessary repairs to landscape irrigation system April October.

Safety Rest Area Site Maintenance – 7B1

Landscape maintenance work at safety rest areas throughout the state includes all vegetation management activities that take place in relation to the design and layout of individual rest areas. For these highly developed landscape assets, the goal is to maintain healthy, attractive plantings throughout the site as well as along the rest area frontage along the highway. Planted vegetation is intended to be preserved and enhanced over time, through pruning, hedging, trimming, with irrigation and periodic fertilization used where necessary.

Safety Rest Area Site Maintenance

Work Operations: 1711, 1752, 1789 HATS Forms: HATS Map Layer: Reference polygons – SRA Landscape Reference

Rest area landscape maintenance operations are carried out by the Rest Area Attendants in many cases, with the local area maintenance crews or regional specialty crews helping out when needed for irrigation and specialized weed control operations.

Locations of Planned Treatments

- Rest area facilities maintained by SC Region Area 2 include:
- Selah Creek SRAs EB and WB, I-82 MP 22.5 and 24.5 0

Total Units of Planned Treatment

- High maintenance landscape les than **1 acre**
- Low maintenance landscape approximately **2 acres**

Treatment Methods and Timing

- Routine pickup of vegetative debris as needed
- Annual start up and winterization of irrigation system •
- Routine lawn mowing throughout the growing season
- Weed control operations •

Stormwater Facilities Maintenance – 2A4

Stormwater facilities maintenance operations that include vegetation management considerations are discussed in this section of the plan. This work is regulated by the agreement WSDOT has established under the statewide National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit granted to the agency by the USEPA.

NPDES Maintenance

Work Operations: 1368, 1399

HATS Forms: Pesticide Application (for all spray applications)

HATS Map Layer: All biofiltration feature types listed under Stormwater Features Layer There are several vegetation management activities necessary to maintain function and operation of certain constructed stormwater management facilities such as vegetated filter strips and swales along the edge of pavement and throughout the roadside, and stormwater retention/detention ponds in the more urbanized areas. Each of these features includes a manual which details the requirements in relation to control of vegetation and sediment buildup over time. Any vegetation control work required within designed treatment features is charged to the stormwater program.

Locations of Planned Treatments

- All stormwater management facilities with biofiltration components are mapped within the Stormwater Features Layer in HATS.
- Vegetation management activities in stormwater management features are specified in the Owner's Manual for each constructed feature.
- Required work in stormwater features within the area for 2024 include: • None required

Treatment Methods and Timing

Weed control within stormwater management features is carried out in concert with other weed control activities throughout the area.