

Transportation and Utility Rights-of-Way Best Management Practices for Invasive Species

Soil Disturbance BMPs

Planning

- BMP SD 1: Prior to implementing activities, scout for and locate invasive species infestations, consistent with the scale and intensity of operations.
- BMP SD 2: Consider the need for action based on: 1) the degree of invasiveness; 2) severity of the current infestation; 3) amount of additional habitat or hosts at risk for invasion; 4) potential impacts; and, 5) feasibility of control with available methods and resources.
- BMP SD 3: Plan activities to limit the potential for introduction and spread of invasive species, prior to construction.

Activities

- BMP SD 4: Minimize soil disturbance which may include using existing roads, access points, staging areas and alternative construction.
- BMP SD 5: Avoid invasive species populations when feasible and minimize the spread of invasive species during soil disturbance activities.
- BMP SD 6: Prior to moving equipment out of an infested area or into an uninfested area, clean soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical.
- BMP SD 7: Stabilize disturbed soils as soon as possible.
- BMP SD 8: Use non-invasive cover crops or native seed for revegetation.
- BMP SD 9: Provide appropriate resources in identification of known invasive species for ROW workers.

Vegetation Management and Inspection/Monitoring BMPs

Planning

- BMP VM 1: Prior to implementing activities scout for, locate and document invasive species infestations, consistent with the scale and intensity of operations.
- BMP VM 2: Plan activities to limit the potential introduction and spread of invasive species, prior to construction.
- BMP VM 3: Assess current available resources and seek new resources to prevent invasive species spread.

Activities

- BMP VM 4: Prior to moving equipment out of an infested area and then into an uninfested area, clean soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical.
- BMP VM 5: Inspect and clean clothing, footwear and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, and invertebrates before and after activities.
- BMP VM 6: Carefully dispose of soils, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP VM 7: Locate and use staging areas that are free of invasive plants to avoid spreading seeds and other viable plant parts.
- BMP VM 8: Consider the likely response of invasive species when conducting activities that result in disturbed soil, increased sunlight, fire, etc.

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BMP VM 9: Ensure that control treatments are applied within the appropriate time window.

BMP VM 10: Monitor ROW's during day-to-day activities and post-management activities; determine necessary treatments based on presence of invasive species.

BMP VM 11: Provide training in identification, control and prevention of known invasive species to employees and contractors performing vegetation management

Transport of Materials BMPs

Planning

BMP TM 1: Take steps to avoid the movement of invasives to non-infested areas during transport activities.

BMP TM 2: Prior to transporting materials, manage the load to limit the spread of invasive species.

BMP TM 3: Prior to moving equipment out of an infested area or into an uninfested area, clean soil, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical.

BMP TM 4: Dispose of soils, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.

BMP TM 5: Establish staging areas and temporary facilities in locations that are free of invasives.

BMP TM6: Use soil and aggregate material from sources that are free of invasive species.

BMP TM 7: Manage stock piles to limit the spread of invasive species.

BMP TM 8: Do not transport woody material that may contain invasive species.

BMP TM 9: If you must transport woody material that may contain invasive species, bring them to a designated area for appropriate disposal.

BMP TM 10: Keep and reuse onsite materials rather than importing new materials.

Revegetation and Landscaping BMPs

Planning

BMP RV 1: Plan activities to limit the potential introduction and spread of invasive species, prior to revegetation.

BMP RV 2: Select appropriate, non-invasive species for revegetation and landscaping activities.

Activities

BMP RV 3: Inspect and clean clothing, footwear and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after activities.

BMP RV 4: Prior to moving equipment out of an infested area and into an uninfested area clean soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting propagules.

BMP RV 5: Revegetate disturbed soils as soon as feasible to minimize invasive species establishment.

BMP RV 6: Where site conditions permit, allow natural revegetation of the ground layer to occur.

BMP RV 7: Ensure the species specified in the plan are the ones being used.

BMP RV 8: Monitor the revegetation site.