



PROPOSED RULE MAKING

CR-102 (July 2022) (Implements RCW 34.05.320)

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FILED

DATE: May 07, 2025

TIME: 9:05 AM

WSR 25-10-101

Agency: Dept. of Agriculture

☒ Original Notice

☐ Supplemental Notice to WSR

☐ Continuance of WSR _____

☐ Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 24-09-080 ; or

☐ Expedited Rule Making--Proposed notice was filed as WSR _____; or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4) or 34.05.330(1); or

☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW _____.

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) Chapter 16-752 WAC – Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine. As a result of multiple petitions received, the department is proposing adding additional species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine, which would prohibit their sale and distribution. These species include: Common (English) Ivy (*Hedera helix*); Atlantic/Boston Ivy (*Hedera Hibernica*); Spotted Touch Me Not (*Impatiens capensis*); Cape Pondweed (*Aponogeton distachyos*); Hanging Sedge (*Carex pendula*, *Carex pendula* subsp. *pedula* and *Carex pendula* subsp. *agastachys*); Green Alkenet (*Pentaglottis sempervirens*); Common Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare* (except bulbing fennel, *F. vulgare* var. *azoricum*)); European Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*); Herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*); Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*); Sulfur Cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*); Wild basil/basil savory (*Clinopodium vulgare*); Yellow Nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*); Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*); Russian Knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*); Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*); Rough Chervil (*Chaerophyllum temulum*); and Turkish Thistle (*Carduus cinereus*). The department proposes adding Palmer's Amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine. The department also proposes clarifying that the *Daucus carota* subspecies *sativus*, is not included in the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine.

Hearing location(s):

Date:	Time:	Location: (be specific)	Comment:
June 24, 2025	8:30 AM	Microsoft Teams conference call information: Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_YjNkYWFIMTItNWVvMi00OTcwLWFmZTEtZWJmJmQ3OWJiMTlh%2540tHread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%252211d0e217-264e-400a-8ba0-57dcc127d72d%2522%252c%25220id%2522%253a%2522838c55c7-c187-44ae-8de0-2be684ce5d4a%2522%257d&data=05%7C02%7CAClow%40agr.wa.gov%7C733c7bc245bf4bacb19d08dd868f78a9%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C638814672939544249%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydW	Attendees may join the public hearing through the Teams conference link provided.

		UsllYiOilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoITWFpbClslldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=t4ZUjp%2F19NznRnR7fwpglY0b%2B0eoOAZNMIN2zdvQrly%3D&reserved=0 Meeting ID: 286 175 485 906 9 Passcode: vt2Uz38C Dial in by phone +1 564-999-2000,,703163236# United States, Olympia Phone conference ID: 703 163 236#	
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Date of intended adoption: July 1, 2025 (Note: This is **NOT** the **effective** date)

Submit written comments to: Name: Gloriann Robinson, Agency Rules Coordinator Address: PO Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560 Email: wdsrulescomments@agr.wa.gov Fax: (360) 902-2092 Other: By (date) 5:00 PM, June 24, 2025	Assistance for persons with disabilities: Contact Amy Clow, Plant Protection Rules Coordinator Phone: 360-902-2041 Fax: TTY: (800) 833-6388 Email: aclow@agr.wa.gov Other: By (date) 5:00 PM, June 17, 2025
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Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: Adding these species to the list of regulated articles in the Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine helps Washington state meet the primary legislative directive set out in chapters 17.10 and 17.24 RCW, of protecting Washington's environmental and agricultural resources by using quarantines to provide a strong system for the exclusion of plant pests.

Reasons supporting proposal: The intrusion and spread of invasive, non-native, weed species into Washington state continues to concern land managers, both public and private, and places economic well-being at risk for agriculture, forests, horticulture, and floriculture industries, as well as the environment and natural resources. The proposed rule amendment prevents the sale and importation of the plants listed as nursery plants and seeds. The "escape" of these plants has resulted in large public and private expenditures by landowners and land managers, weed boards, and weed districts to control. Initiating quarantines for these plants, forbidding entry or distribution of them gives a critical tool to control and prevent infestation.

The proposed quarantine prohibits the transport, buying, selling, offering for sale, or distribution of these plants, seed, or plant parts, into or within the state of Washington, either in person or online. Businesses could no longer sell or distribute the listed plants, and the department would require the business to destroy the plants, return them to an out of state source, or dispose of the plants in a manner sufficient to avoid infestation.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 17.10.074, 17.24.011, and 17.24.041

Statute being implemented: Chapters 17.10 and 17.24 RCW

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
State Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

If yes, CITATION:

Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters: None.

Type of proponent: ☐ Private ☒ Public ☒ Governmental

Name of proponent: (person or organization) Washington State Department of Ecology, Kathy Furtado, Kristi Park, Patricia Dunn, Maxine Dunkelman, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, and Washington State Department of Agriculture

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Scott Brooks	1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98504	(360) 485-1235
Implementation:	Scott Brooks	1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98504	(360) 485-1235

Is a school district fiscal impact statement required under [RCW 28A.305.135](#)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, insert statement here:

The public may obtain a copy of the school district fiscal impact statement by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

Is a cost-benefit analysis required under [RCW 34.05.328](#)?

☐ Yes: A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Other:

☒ No: Please explain: The Washington State Dept. of Agriculture is not a listed agency under RCW 34.05.328(5)(a)(i).

Regulatory Fairness Act and Small Business Economic Impact Statement

Note: The [Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance \(ORIA\)](#) provides support in completing this part.

(1) Identification of exemptions:

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, **may be exempt** from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act (see [chapter 19.85 RCW](#)). For additional information on exemptions, consult the [exemption guide published by ORIA](#). Please check the box for any applicable exemption(s):

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.061](#) because this rule making is being adopted solely to conform and/or comply with federal statute or regulations. Please cite the specific federal statute or regulation this rule is being adopted to conform or comply with, and describe the consequences to the state if the rule is not adopted.

Citation and description:

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt because the agency has completed the pilot rule process defined by [RCW 34.05.313](#) before filing the notice of this proposed rule.

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under the provisions of [RCW 15.65.570](#)(2) because it was adopted by a referendum.

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(3). Check all that apply:

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(b)
(Internal government operations)

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(e)
(Dictated by statute)

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(c)
(Incorporation by reference)

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(f)
(Set or adjust fees)

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(d)
(Correct or clarify language)

☐ [RCW 34.05.310](#) (4)(g)
((i) Relating to agency hearings; or (ii) process requirements for applying to an agency for a license or permit)

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under [RCW 19.85.025](#)(4) (does not affect small businesses).

☐ This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt under RCW ____.

Explanation of how the above exemption(s) applies to the proposed rule:

(2) Scope of exemptions: Check one.

☐ The rule proposal is fully exempt (*skip section 3*). Exemptions identified above apply to all portions of the rule proposal.

☐ The rule proposal is partially exempt (*complete section 3*). The exemptions identified above apply to portions of the rule proposal, but less than the entire rule proposal. Provide details here (consider using [this template from ORIA](#)):

☒ The rule proposal is not exempt (*complete section 3*). No exemptions were identified above.

(3) Small business economic impact statement: Complete this section if any portion is not exempt.

If any portion of the proposed rule is **not exempt**, does it impose more-than-minor costs (as defined by RCW 19.85.020(2)) on businesses?

- ☐ No Briefly summarize the agency's minor cost analysis and how the agency determined the proposed rule did not impose more-than-minor costs. _____
- ☒ Yes Calculations show the rule proposal likely imposes more-than-minor cost to businesses and a small business economic impact statement is required. Insert the required small business economic impact statement here:

Small Business Economic Impact Statement

Chapter 16-752 WAC

Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine

April 2025

SECTION 1:

Describe the proposed rule, including: a brief history of the issue; an explanation of why the proposed rule is needed; and a brief description of the probable compliance requirements and the kinds of professional services that a small business is likely to need in order to comply with the proposed rule.

The noxious weed and seed plant quarantine is critical in Washington state to protect its natural resources, environment, and more specifically, its agricultural, forest, horticultural, and floricultural industries. This quarantine helps to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive, non-native plants that are highly destructive, competitive, and difficult to control. Noxious weeds can have significant economic and ecological impacts, such as threatening agriculture by reducing crop yields and affecting livestock health, harming native plant communities/biodiversity, degrading soil quality and water resources, as well as potentially impacting public health. By listing these plants in the quarantine, Washington state restricts their sale, transport, and distribution, aiming to help control them before they become widespread.

Several of the plant species under consideration to be included within the Washington State Department of Agriculture's (WSDA) *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* are both transported and sold within the state as nursery plants and seed packets. The subsequent "escape" of these plants has been a documented source of several infestations and has resulted in large public and private expenditures by landowners and land managers, weed boards, and weed districts to control.

The proposed plant species additions to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine would create several significant implications and benefits, particularly in environmental conservation, ecosystem health, and economic cost areas. These benefits may include, but are not limited to the following:

Petitioned Species	Benefits of Prohibited Sale in Washington State
English Ivy/Variants	<p><i>Environmental Conservation and Ecosystem Health</i></p> <p>Despite its 'Class C' Noxious Weed classification in Washington state, English ivy and many of its variants are still widely available for sale. Prohibiting its sale would help reduce the spread of this invasive species, which is well known to prematurely kill trees by climbing up their trunks and taking over their canopies. This invasive ivy may also eliminate understory and habitat, adversely impacting native plants and wildlife. Should its sale be prohibited, efforts to minimize new introductions and control/remove existing ivy will be considerably more effective.</p> <p><i>Economic Benefits</i></p> <p>The annual economic cost of dealing with English ivy is substantial, including property damage, invasive removal costs, and habitat restoration. Prohibiting the sale of English ivy and its variants may help contribute to a reduction of these costs over time as the ivy's spread slows. There are numerous publications detailing non-invasive plant alternatives (Groundcover Alternatives for Western WA Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board) which would allow for nurseries to sustain virtually no economic loss.</p>
Spotted Touch Me Not	<p><i>Prevents Invasion and Protects Biodiversity</i></p> <p>Spotted Touch Me Not's aggressive spread can lead to soil erosion and habitat degradation, particularly in wetlands and riparian areas. Given its ability to displace native ecosystems by outcompeting the surrounding vegetation, this plant species is also known to create strain on wildlife that depend on these native food sources.</p> <p>Prohibiting the sale of Spotted Touch Me Not will assist in the protection of wetlands and riparian areas, and by extension, the wildlife that depends on these areas.</p>
Cape Pondweed	<i>Prevents Invasion and Protects Waterways</i>

	<p>Cape Pondweed is an aggressively invasive plant that can outcompete native aquatic plants, disrupting ecosystems and reducing biodiversity. Its aggressive growth can clog waterways, which affects water flow and aquatic habitats.</p> <p>Prohibiting the sale of Cape Pondweed will assist in the protection of Washington's waterways, and by extension, the native plant and animal populations dependent on diverse, functional ecosystems.</p>
Palmer's Amaranth	<p>Protects Agricultural Farmland and Natural Habitats Palmer's Amaranth is highly competitive and can cause significant yield losses in crops, particularly in corn and soybeans. The weed has not only developed a resistance to multiple herbicides and is costly and difficult to control, but it also has a prolific seed production (estimated at ~250,000 seeds per plant). Its concerning adaptability and high seed production characterizes this species as a significant threat to farmland and surrounding natural habitats.</p> <p>Prohibiting the sale of Palmer's Amaranth will assist in the protection of Washington state's agricultural farmland/natural habitats, particularly for those that depend on corn and soybeans for their livelihood.</p>
Hanging Sedge	<p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption and Protects Waterways Hanging sedge forms dense colonies that outcompete native vegetation, reducing biodiversity in riparian and wetland ecosystems. Its growth can block stream flows, hinder fish passage, and increase erosion by destabilizing stream banks.</p> <p>Prohibiting the sale of Hanging sedge will not only limit its introduction into new areas (aside from its natural seed spread by water and wind), but will also assist in the protection of Washington's waterways, and by extension, the native plant and animal populations dependent on these diverse, functional ecosystems.</p>
Green Alkanet	<p>Prevents Invasive Spread and Protects Biodiversity Green alkanet spreads aggressively through seeds and root fragments, outcompeting native plants and disrupting ecosystems.</p> <p>The restriction of its sale will help preserve native plant species and the wildlife that depend on them, as well as minimizing the risk of ecological imbalance in forests and other shaded areas.</p>
Common Fennel	<p>Protects Native Ecosystems and Supports Biodiversity Common fennel forms dense infestations, crowding out native plants critical for wildlife habitats. It also reproduces prolifically through seeds and root fragments, with seeds remaining viable in soil for years.</p> <p>Prohibiting the sale of common fennel will assist in the protection of native grasslands and pollinator-friendly habitats in Washington state.</p>
European Coltsfoot	<p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption European Coltsfoot aggressively invades riparian areas and wetlands, forming dense colonies that displace native plants critical for ecosystem balance.</p> <p>Protects Public Health European Coltsfoot contains toxic pyrrolizidine alkaloids, which can cause liver damage or cancer if ingested by humans or animals.</p>
Herb-Robert	<p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption Herb-Robert invades forests and displaces native plant species, reducing biodiversity and altering habitats.</p> <p>Protects Soil Health The plant has been observed to release chemicals that inhibit the growth of other species, further harming native ecosystems.</p> <p>Economic Benefits The annual economic cost of dealing with Herb-Robert is substantial, including invasive removal costs and habitat restoration. Prohibiting the sale of Herb-Robert may help contribute to a reduction of these costs over time as the plant's spread slows.</p>
Houndstongue	<p>Protects Livestock Houndstongue is toxic to cattle, horses, and other animals, causing liver damage even when consumed as a byproduct in hay.</p> <p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption Houndstongue forms dense monocultures which displaces native plants and significantly reduces biodiversity.</p>

	<p>Economic Benefits The economic cost of dealing with Houndstongue is substantial, including livestock damage, invasive removal costs, and habitat restoration. Prohibiting the sale of Houndstongue may help contribute to a reduction of these costs over time as the plant's spread slows.</p>
Sulfur Cinquefoil	<p>Protects Native Ecosystems Sulfur Cinquefoil displaces native plants, forming dense monocultures that reduce biodiversity in grasslands, rangelands, and forests.</p> <p>Preserves Forage Quality The plant's high tannin contents make it unpalatable to livestock and wildlife, thus reducing available grazing resources.</p> <p>Reduces Soil Erosion By preventing Sulfur Cinquefoil's infestations, the prohibition helps maintain healthy grasslands that stabilize soil and reduce erosion.</p>
Wild Basil/Basil Savory	<p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption Wild basil forms dense monocultures, displacing native vegetation and reducing biodiversity.</p> <p>Protects Native Habitats Through restricting Wild Basil's sale, native plant communities and the wildlife they support are safeguarded.</p> <p>Economic Benefits Controlling Wild Basil's infestations can be costly and labor-intensive, requiring mechanical removal or herbicide application.</p>
Yellow Nutsedge	<p>Protects Agriculture and Preserves Ecosystems Yellow nutsedge poses a significant risk to agriculture by reducing crop yields immensely. This plant species aggressively competes for water, light, nutrients, and also releases toxic chemicals to crops. Additionally, it also displaces native species in wetlands and riparian areas, thus creating natural habitat and biodiversity disruptions.</p> <p>Economic Benefits Preventing Yellow Nutsedge's establishment avoids expensive and labor-intensive control measures, such as repeated tillage or herbicide applications.</p>
Camelthorn	<p>Protects Agriculture Camelthorn invades pastures and agricultural lands, competing with crops and forage plants while being unpalatable to livestock.</p> <p>Prevents Infrastructure Damage The plant's deep roots can grow through asphalt, concrete, and building foundations, causing costly structural damage.</p> <p>Reduces Injuries and Property Damage Camelthorn's sharp spines can harm humans, livestock, and pets.</p>
Russian Knapweed	<p>Protects Agriculture and Prevents Ecosystem Disruption Russian Knapweed reduces crop yields and forage quality, impacting agricultural productivity and causing financial strain. The plant species causes dense monocultures, displacing native plants, reducing biodiversity, and increasing soil erosion.</p> <p>Economic Benefits Preventing Russian Knapweed's establishment avoids expensive eradication efforts involving mechanical, chemical, or biological controls.</p>
Puncturevine	<p>Protects Livestock and Preserves Ecosystems Puncturevine is toxic to both sheep and cattle, causing severe health issues like paralysis and even death if consumed in mass amounts. The plant species also displaces native vegetation, reducing biodiversity and forage quality in pastures and agricultural areas.</p> <p>Spread Reduction and Prevention of Injuries Once established, the plant reproduces prolifically due to its seeds remaining viable for up to seven (7) years. The plant also contains sharp and spiny burrs, which can injure both animals and humans.</p>
Rough Chervil	<p>Prevents Ecosystem Disruption and Protects Public Health Rough Chervil spreads aggressively, forming dense colonies that outcompete native plants and disrupt soil and fungal networks. Additionally, the plant is toxic to both animals and humans, causing</p>

	<p>skin irritation, gastrointestinal inflammation, cardiac weakness, and other severe symptoms if touched or ingested.</p> <p>Economic Benefits Preventing the spread of Rough Chervil avoids costly and labor-intensive control measures such as repeated herbicide applications and other chemical measures.</p>
Turkish Thistle	<p>Protects Native Ecosystems Turkish Thistle aggressively competes with native plants, reducing biodiversity and altering habitats in rangelands, meadows, and pastures.</p> <p>Preserves Forage Quality and Reduces Soil Erosion Turkish Thistle diminishes available forage to livestock by outcompeting more beneficial species, which then adversely impacts agricultural productivity and causes added financial strain. By displacing native vegetation, this plant species can destabilize soil and create increased soil erosion risks to its surrounding areas.</p>

In summary, banning the sale of all the proposed additions listed above would be a critical step forward in protecting Washington state's trees, wildlife habitats, and ecosystems, all while reducing future economic burdens associated with its inherent invasiveness.

SECTION 2:

Identify which businesses are required to comply with the proposed rule using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes and what the minor cost thresholds are.

NAICS Code (4, 5 or 6 Digit)	NAICS Business Description	Number of Businesses in Washington	Minor Cost Threshold = 1% of Average Annual Payroll	Minor Cost Threshold = 0.3% of Average Annual Revenue	Applicable Minor Cost Threshold
111421	Nursery and Tree Production	180	*\$5,322.57	**\$2,588.86	\$5,322.57
424930	Flower; Nursery Stock; and Florists' Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	101	*\$4,086.45	**\$8,109.70	\$8,109.70
±444220	Nursery; Garden Center; and Farm Supply Retailers	1,286	***\$4,675.20	**\$3,612.25	\$4,675.20

*Data source: 2021 Employment Security Department

**Data source: 2021 Department of Revenue

***Data source: 2021 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

±Data source: Census.gov 2017 report. NAICS code 444240 was created in 2022 to better reflect primary activity of retailing nursery, garden products, and farm supplies

SECTION 3:

Analyze the probable cost of compliance. Identify the probable costs to comply with the proposed rule, including: cost of equipment, supplies, labor, professional services and increased administrative costs; and whether compliance with the proposed rule will cause businesses to lose sales or revenue.

Complying with the proposed additions to WSDA's *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* may incur several types of costs for nurseries and tree producers, florists, garden centers, landscapers, and merchant wholesalers. Below are a few of the identified considerations and potential minimal costs for industry:

Compliance with Regulations (General)

Businesses will need to ensure all aspects of the business comply with the new regulations, including no longer sourcing, disposing of, and stopping sales of prohibited plants. These ongoing requirements may require administrative effort, **but are estimated to have a very minimal impact** and may include, but are not limited to, some of the following:

- Removing prohibited plants from inventory/database and properly disposing of them;
- No longer ordering prohibited plants with the intent to sell; and
- Educating employees on the new additions to the quarantine list.

Inventory Management and Disposal

Should any of the impacted businesses, such as nurseries or garden centers, be found to have prohibited plants in their inventory, they may need to dispose of these plants which could result in direct financial losses. Additionally, there may also be costs associated with replacing disposed of plants with compliant species, thus creating additional need and/or time for

inventory management. As it relates to inventory management and disposal, businesses may come to expect the following costs:

- Identification and Segregation:** Businesses may need to audit their inventory, as well as identify and remove plants and plant parts that are now prohibited. Depending on the number of plants that need to be removed from inventory, this process may increase labor costs for a brief amount of time.
- Disposal Costs:** Plants that are identified as prohibited may need to be disposed of in a manner compliant with regulations which can include specialized disposal methods or facilities (IE. double bagging and placed into municipal waste or burning, if allowed). While these costs can be significant for businesses, these means of disposal are standard practice and should already be implemented by industry.
- Inventory Adjustments:** Businesses may need to adjust their inventory management systems to ensure newly quarantined plants and plant parts are not ordered, inventoried, or sold. This may include updating software, training staff, and potentially writing off inventory that cannot be sold.
 - Additionally, should a business identify that a newly added prohibited plant species was profitable, they may opt to incur additional expenses to build out their inventory with alternatives published within [Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board's Non-Invasive Plant Alternatives](#).

Additional Employee Time

Nurseries, dealers, and the like may expect to incur additional employee time costs as a result of complying with the newly updated *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* list. These costs may include one or more of the following:

- Training and Education:** While not required, businesses may have operational framework requiring employees to be trained to recognize and handle the newly added prohibited plant species. As a result, this includes both time and potentially external training costs associated with these efforts and/or becoming familiar with [Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board's Non-Invasive Plant Alternatives](#) publications.
- Customer Education:** Businesses may find an increased need to educate their customers about the changes ensuring they are aware of the new regulations and that some previously available plant species are now unavailable.

WSDA employed a survey approach to ensure that stakeholder feedback regarding the proposal, along with their perceived economic impact data, were systematically collected and analyzed. These surveys aimed to capture feedback by requesting nominal data detailing the costs of compliance but also offered opportunities for fill-in/narrative responses.

The survey was sent out to a total of four thousand (4,000) recipients as part of WSDA’s Plant Services Program’s newsletter with an open response period of six (6) weeks. Ninety-two (92) responses were received.

Below are the questions and responses received:

Table 3.1

Question Detail	Responses
Question #1: Is your business small (0-50 employees) or large (50+ employees)?	Small (0-50 employees): 89
	Large (50+ employees): 3

Table 3.2

Question Detail	Responses
Question #2: What area of specialization best describes your business?	Gardening & Propagation: 66
	Decorative Uses: 20
	Medicinal Uses: 2
	Culinary Uses: 4

Table 3.3

Question Detail	Responses		
Question #3: Does your business sell any of the following plants as whole, parts, or seeds?	Eighty-five (85) respondents answered 'N/A' or some variation of 'None'. Information about the seven (7) respondents that do sell one of these five species can be found below:		
	Respondent #	Plant Species	Estimated Total Annual Sales

<p>If yes, please specify which, its estimated yearly revenue, and its estimated percentage of your total annual sales.</p> <p>If no, please indicate 'N/A'.</p> <p>(1) Common English Ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>) including 'Baltica', 'Pittsburgh', 'Star', 'Hahns', and 'Gold Child' varieties.</p> <p>(2) Atlantic/Boston Ivy (<i>Hedera hibernica</i>) including 'Hibernica' variety.</p> <p>(3) Spotted Touch Me Not (<i>Impatiens Capensis</i>)</p> <p>(4) Cape Pondweed (<i>Aponogeton distachyos</i>)</p> <p>(5) Palmer's Amaranth (<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>)</p>	16 (small)	Common English Ivy	\$50 - \$80 yearly
	17 (small)	Ornamental Ivy, only variegated forms	Not provided
	20 (small)	Common English Ivy & Atlantic/Boston Ivy	\$200 yearly
	44 (small)	Common English Ivy & Atlantic/Boston Ivy	Not provided
	84 (small)	Not provided	\$150 yearly
	93 (small)	Common English Ivy	About \$2000 yearly. Less than 1% of total annual sales
	94 (small)	Common English Ivy	About \$2300 yearly and 0.5% of total annual sales

Table 3.4

Question Detail	Responses														
<p>Question #4: Does your business sell any of the following plants as whole, parts, or seeds?</p> <p>If yes, please specify which, its estimated yearly revenue, and its estimated percentage of your total annual sales.</p> <p>If no, please indicate 'N/A'.</p> <p>(1) Hanging Sedge (<i>Carex pendula</i> and <i>subsp.</i>, and <i>Carex pendula subsp. agastachys</i>)</p> <p>(2) Green Alkenet (<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>)</p> <p>(3) Common Fennel (<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>) <u>except</u> bulbing fennel and F. vulgare var. azoricum.</p> <p>(4) European Coltsfoot (<i>Tussilago farfara</i>)</p> <p>(5) Herb-Robert (<i>Geranium robertianum</i>)</p>	<p>Eighty-nine (89) respondents answered 'N/A' or some variation of 'None'. Information about the three (3) respondents that do sell one of these five species can be found below:</p> <table><tr><th>Respondent #</th><th>Plant Species</th><th>Estimated Total Annual Sales</th></tr><tr><td>10 (small)</td><td>Common Fennel</td><td>\$50 yearly</td></tr><tr><td>*80 (small)</td><td>*Common fennel and European Coltsfoot</td><td>*Not provided</td></tr><tr><td>88 (small)</td><td>Common Fennel</td><td>~\$100 yearly</td></tr></table>			Respondent #	Plant Species	Estimated Total Annual Sales	10 (small)	Common Fennel	\$50 yearly	*80 (small)	*Common fennel and European Coltsfoot	*Not provided	88 (small)	Common Fennel	~\$100 yearly
Respondent #	Plant Species	Estimated Total Annual Sales													
10 (small)	Common Fennel	\$50 yearly													
*80 (small)	*Common fennel and European Coltsfoot	*Not provided													
88 (small)	Common Fennel	~\$100 yearly													
	<p>*Additional Provided Information</p> <p>Respondent #80: Common Fennel is a very popular culinary spice and the bulb is eaten. It is widely cultivated in our agricultural area. Coltsfoot is a well utilized herbal medicinal and is greatly helpful in teas and tinctures. Both are in our tea blends, and we sell them individually. Because we have so many herbs we sell, the percentage of sales is small in comparison to the overall income, however these are both extremely important plants.</p> <p>WSDA Response: The quarantine will not regulate denatured fennel seeds. Additionally, the main difference between common fennel and bulbing fennel is that common fennel is grown for its leaves and seeds, while bulbing fennel is grown for its bulb-like base and culinary uses:</p> <p>Common fennel (to be quarantined) - Also known as sweet or bronze fennel, this herb-like variety is grown for its leaves, seeds, and shoots, which can be used to flavor soups, salads, and seafood. Common fennel can grow up to 7 ft tall and has a licorice scent. It's a prolific self-seeder and can become invasive.</p>														

Bulbing fennel (NOT to be quarantined) - Also known as Florence fennel or finocchio, this vegetable-like variety is grown for its bulb-like base, which is eaten as a vegetable. The bulb is harvested before the plant flowers or sets seed. Florence fennel can grow up to 5 ft tall and has a bulb base, fronds, and seeds.

While these restrictions may affect herbal teas, tinctures, or medicines made from prohibited plants, the quarantine aims to prohibit the sale, distribution, and transportation of plants, plant parts, and seeds as opposed to its processed product counterparts.

Table 3.5

Question Detail	Responses
<p>Question #5: Does your business sell any of the following plants as whole, parts, or seeds?</p> <p>If yes, please specify which, its estimated yearly revenue, and its estimated percentage of your total annual sales.</p> <p>If no, please indicate 'N/A'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Houndstongue (Cynoglossum officinale) (2) Sulfur Cinquefoil (Potentilla recta) (3) Wild Basil/Basil Savory (Clinopodium vulgare) (4) Yellow Nutsedge (Cyperus esculentus) (5) Camelthorn (Alhagi Maurorum) 	<p>All ninety-two (92) respondents answered 'N/A' or some variation of 'None'.</p>

Table 3.6

Question Detail	Responses
<p>Question #7: Does your business sell any of the following plants as whole, parts, or seeds?</p> <p>If yes, please specify which, its estimated yearly revenue, and its estimated percentage of your total annual sales.</p> <p>If no, please indicate 'N/A'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Russian Knapweed (Rhaponticum repens) (2) Puncturevine (Tribulus terrestris) (3) Rough Chervil (Chaerophyllum temulum) (4) Turkish Thistle (Carduus cinereus) 	<p>All ninety-two (92) respondents answered 'N/A' or some variation of 'None'.</p>

Table 3.7

Question Detail	Responses
<p>Question #7: If your business sells any of the plants considered for quarantine from above, what percentage of inventory do they represent?</p>	0-25%: 13
	26-50%: 1
	51-75%: 0
	76-100%: 0

We don't have/sell any: 78

The following table demonstrates common compliance cost areas for businesses affected by invasive plant regulations, with example cost ranges based on both the survey responses and available industry data/typical business practices. Actual costs will vary by business size and inventory:

Cost Area	One-Time Cost Estimate	Annual Cost Estimate	Notes/Examples
Inventory Audit & Removal	\$500 - \$2,500	N/A	Labor to review stock, identify, and remove prohibited species.
Disposal of Prohibited Inventory	\$250 - \$2,000	N/A	Includes safe disposal/transport for unsellable plants.
System/Process Updates	\$300 - \$1,000	\$100 - \$300	Updating sales, inventory, and ordering systems to flag prohibited species.
Staff Training	\$250 - \$1,500 (initial)	\$200 - \$500 (Refresher/Turnover)	External training courses or in-house sessions for plant ID and compliance.
Professional Services (Consultants)	\$500 - \$2,000 (as needed)	N/A	Plant identification, legal, or compliance consulting.
Customer Education	\$200 - \$500	\$100 - \$250	Printing signage, handouts, or website updates to explain the changes.
Lost Revenue – Unsellable Stock	Variable	N/A	Depends on quantity/value of prohibited plants in inventory.

Additional Considerations:

- One-time costs are typically incurred during the initial compliance period (1st year).
- Annual costs reflect ongoing needs, such as staff turnover, periodic audits, or customer outreach.
- Training rates are based on industry pricing for invasive species management courses and consulting.
See: [Invasive Plant Control, Inc.](#)
- Disposal and lost revenue can vary widely depending on business inventory and the number of prohibited species held.

SECTION 4:

Analyze whether the proposed rule may impose more than minor costs on businesses in the industry.

In Washington state, if a proposed rule is expected to impose more than “minor costs” on businesses, it triggers the requirement for completing a Small Business Economic Impact Statement (SBEIS). As defined in Chapter 19.85 RCW: Regulatory Fairness Act, a ‘minor cost’ is the cost per business that is less than three-tenths of one percent of a business’s annual revenue or \$100, whichever is greater, or one percent of annual payroll.

As previously detailed within *Section 2* of this analysis, WSDA anticipates the proposed rule amendments to impact businesses operating under the following industry codes:

- NAICS 111421: Nursery and Tree Production;
- NAICS 424930: Flower; Nursery Stock; and Florists’ Supplies Merchant Wholesalers;
- NAICS 444220: Nursery; Garden Center; and Farm Supply Retailers

While the WSDA industry survey did not inquire as to the participants’ NAICS code, the table below provides a ‘Minor Cost Threshold’ analysis and matrix which consider the respondents’ perceived cost and/or loss of revenue for compliance in relation to all potentially applicable NAICS codes.

Business	Business Size	NAICS Codes	Perceived Cost/Loss of Revenue for Compliance	Minor Cost Threshold	Conclusion
10	Small	Not Provided	\$50/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Business #10 estimates an annual loss of revenue amounting to \$50/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	

16	Small	Not Provided	\$50-\$80/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Business #84 estimates an annual loss of revenue amounting to \$50-\$80/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
17	Small	Not Provided	Not Provided	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Without data detailing the perceived annual cost/loss of revenue for compliance, it is inconclusive as to whether the proposed rule would impose more than minor costs on business #17.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
44	Small	Not Provided	Not Provided	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Without data detailing the perceived annual cost/loss of revenue for compliance, it is inconclusive as to whether the proposed rule would impose more than minor costs on business #44.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
80	Small	Not Provided	Not Provided	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Without data detailing the perceived annual cost/loss of revenue for compliance, it is inconclusive as to whether the proposed rule would impose more than minor costs on business #80.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
84	Small	Not Provided	\$150/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Business #84 estimates an annual loss of revenue amounting to \$150/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
88	Small	Not Provided	\$100/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Business #88 estimates an annual loss of revenue amounting to \$100/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
93	Small	Not Provided	\$2000/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	Business #93 estimates an annual loss of revenue

				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	amounting to \$2000/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	
94	Small	Not Provided	\$2300/year	\$5,322.57 if operating under NAICS code 111421.	
				\$8,109.70 if operating under NAICS code 424930.	Business #84 estimates an annual loss of revenue amounting to \$2300/year, which is less than the minor cost thresholds of NAICS codes 111421, 424930, and 444220. Thus, it can be concluded that this business would not have more than minor costs imposed on them.
				\$4,675.20 if operating under NAICS code 444220.	

All three (3) of the large business survey participants responded that they do not sell any of the proposed plant species to be prohibited. The remaining 80 (small) business survey participants responded similarly in that they do not sell any of the soon-to-be prohibited plant species, or that their inventory and sales were considered very minor aspects of their operations.

Even in scenarios where a business experiences compliance costs at the higher end of the estimated ranges—for example, incurring several thousand dollars in one-time expenses for inventory removal, system updates, staff training, and lost inventory—the likelihood of these costs exceeding the industries' minor cost thresholds is extremely low. While some businesses may face higher initial compliance expenses, these costs are not expected to approach a level that would create a significant financial burden or threaten business viability.

Conversely, businesses that are less prepared or slower to adjust may face higher costs, particularly if they need to dispose of significant unsellable inventory or invest in outside expertise. However, even at the upper end of the estimated cost range, these expenses are generally expected to remain well below the industry's minor cost thresholds, meaning that the overall financial impact should remain manageable for most businesses.

SECTION 5:

Determine whether the proposed rule may have a disproportionate impact on small businesses as compared to the 10 percent of businesses that are the largest businesses required to comply with the proposed rule.

RCW 19.85.040(1) requires the department to compare the cost of compliance for small businesses with the cost of compliance for the ten percent of businesses that are the largest businesses required to comply with the proposed rules using one or more of the following as a basis for comparing costs: (a) cost per employee; (b) cost per hour of labor; or (c) cost per one hundred dollars of sales.

The addition of plant species to WSDA's Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine may have a disproportionate impact on small businesses, particularly those in the nursery, horticulture, and landscaping industries. WSDA has determined that the following subject areas would need to be considered to accurately assess whether the impact(s) are disproportionate:

(1) Impact on Sales and Inventory

Small businesses that rely on selling plants, seeds, or nursery products may experience significant losses if they are forced to remove certain species from their inventory. This may be challenging for smaller operations that do not have the resources to quickly adapt to new regulations or find alternative products to replace the newly prohibited ones.

(2) Compliance and Regulatory Burden

Small businesses may struggle more than larger counterparts to comply with new regulations due to limited expertise and/or resources. The need to identify and remove quarantined species, as well as to ensure that all products comply with new rules, can be time-consuming and costly. Thus, it is possible that the *Compliance and Regulatory Burden* expense area is disproportionately heavy on smaller businesses.

(3) Economic Impact

The prohibition of selling and distributing certain plant species may lead to economic hardships or losses for small businesses, especially if any of the soon-to-be added plants are significant contributors to their revenue. Thus, it is possible that this may lead to job losses, reduced employee hours, or even business closures if the impact is severe enough.

(4) Voluntary Compliance and Public Pressure

While some small businesses may voluntarily stop selling invasive species in response to public pressure or educational/advocacy campaigns, others may find it increasingly difficult to do so without clear regulatory mandates. Voluntary compliance, however, can still pose challenges for small businesses that need to find, compile, and market non-invasive alternative products.

To better understand the potential financial impacts and operational changes that this proposed rule adoption may have on the industry, WSDA sought to obtain survey responses from over four thousand (4,000) recipients within the Plant Services' nursery subscriber list. Despite efforts to gather representative economic impact data from both small and large businesses, WSDA found the overall participation skewed heavily toward small businesses through its survey responses and webinar attendance. Additionally, for the few large businesses that did participate in the survey, those participants opted to provide narrative responses over nominal amounts.

Without any nominal data/confirmation of prohibited plant sales provided by large businesses or enough responses to indicate ten (10) percent of businesses that are the largest businesses required to comply with the proposed rule, WSDA determined that the rule has an inherently disproportionate impact on small businesses.

SECTION 6:

If the proposed rule has a disproportionate impact on small businesses, identify the steps taken to reduce the costs of the rule on small businesses. If the costs cannot be reduced provide a clear explanation of why.

After review and careful consideration, WSDA was unable to offer some of the mitigation methods detailed below as the proposed rule is intended to protect Washington state's natural resources, environment, and more specifically, its agricultural, forest, horticultural, and floricultural industries.

RCW 19.85.030(2) requires consideration of the following methods of reducing the impact of the proposed amendment on small businesses:

(a) Reducing, modifying, or eliminating substantive regulatory requirements –

The purpose of adding these plant species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine is to protect Washington state's natural resources, environment, and more specifically, its agricultural, forestry, horticultural and floricultural industries. Reducing, modifying or eliminating the substantive regulatory requirements of this rule is counterproductive to the purpose of rule itself and places Washington state at risk. As such, this mitigation method is not feasible for WSDA to offer.

(b) Simplifying, reducing, or eliminating recordkeeping and reporting requirements –

The addition of plant species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine does not impose any recordkeeping or reporting requirements. As such, this mitigation method is beyond the proposed rule amendment's scope.

(c) Reducing the frequency of inspections –

The addition of plant species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine does not present WSDA any opportunities to reduce the frequency of inspections. As such, this mitigation method is beyond the proposed rule amendment's scope.

(d) Delaying compliance timetables –

The addition of plant species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine does not present WSDA any opportunities to delay compliance timetables. As such, this mitigation method is beyond the proposed rule amendment's scope.

(e) Reducing or modifying fine schedules for noncompliance –

The addition of plant species to the *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* (WAC 16-752) does not present WSDA any opportunities to reduce or modify fine schedules for noncompliance. As such, this mitigation method is beyond the proposed rule amendment's scope.

(f) Any other mitigation techniques including those suggested by small businesses or small business advocates –

Previously Petitioned Species Asked to be Removed from Consideration

- Creeping Charlie ([Glechoma hederacea](#))
- Creeping Jenny ([Lysimachia nummularia](#))
- Periwinkle ([Vinca minor](#))

Mitigation Comment/Suggestion #1**Re: Creeping Charlie, Creeping Jenny, Periwinkle****Submitted by: Raintree Nursery, Nursery Advisory Committee Member**

I feel like it is not our job to determine which plants are noxious weeds within our state. If we recommend to stop sales of plants because they might be added to the noxious weeds list at some point then we are making the determination that they are a problem. Recommending that sales of plants that are ON the state noxious weed list be stopped makes total sense. Are any of these plants on any county noxious weed lists? Even if they were, it might be difficult to make a rule about selling plants at the county level.

Perhaps nurseries that sell these plants could be required to provide information to the customer about how these plants grow, and what might be required if/when they begin to spread out of their intended space.

Mitigation Comment/Suggestion #2**Re: Creeping Charlie, Creeping Jenny, Periwinkle****Submitted by: Briggs Nursery, Nursery Advisory Committee Member**

[Creeping Charlie] I am not familiar enough to make a comment either way on this plant.

[Creeping Jenny] I have no objection if this is being added to the list.

[Periwinkle (Vinca minor)] should not be on the list...there are plenty of better choices, however, it does not warrant enough of a threat in Washington to be added to the list (in my opinion).

Mitigation Comment/Suggestion #3**Re: Creeping Charlie, Creeping Jenny, Periwinkle****Submitted by: WSNLA Executive Director, Nursery Advisory Committee Member**

[Retail Perspective] Where does it end? I can see the invasiveness, but I could count on and on and on and on again the number of plants that could be viewed as such. I totally agree education is the key. We sell all these plants, but not as any kind of recommended landscape staple ground over, but rather as basket stuffers for container gardens. I would say 99% of customers do just that, use it to spill out of pots for interest. We do stock Blue Vinca in our ground over area, but don't sell a ton. To me the problem with Vinca is commercial use, not as much homeowner use. It has been over planted by the millions in parks, medians, parking lots, vacant slopes, condos, apartments and other commercial properties all over for decades. Get these folks who design or install to quit recommending it and offer substitute.

We choose to educate our staff on such things, and it certainly comes up with customers if they ask. Again education, if we can let the public know and caution them about choices, I think vast majority will make the right decisions.

[Landscape Design Perspective] My opinion, all 3 of the plants listed should be moved from the monitor list and moved to one of the classes of noxious weeds AND education at nurseries should be offered for all classes of noxious weeds.

[Landscape Perspective] I agree with the other, "current input that was provided to WSDA", etc. That the hierarchy of the plants already being monitored by the board should be the plants considered for moving up the list. These 3 specific plants in my opinion should not just jump up the ladder of invasives. I agree our industry should do more on educating consumers on many plants. Plenty of ground covering plants and vines get way out of control. I don't know this as fact, but will assume that in their consideration for listing the degree of difficulty in their eradication is an important factor.

WSDA Response

The petitions to add these particular species came from a citizen, but we are still obligated to consider them. [The Department] agrees that the rationale for adding a prohibited plant is better when the plant is already on the noxious weed list. Either way, we always want to seek input from NAC (Nursery Advisory Committee) members on plants that are actively being sold in the nursery trade before coming to a decision. Your suggestion to educate customers about the potential invasiveness of these species is a good one and might be a better solution.

Thanks for the input. We've decided against adding these species to the list, for the time being. There would need to be stronger justification, including actual status as a noxious weed at the state level.

Describe how small businesses were involved in the development of the proposed rule.

In Washington state, the efforts to prohibit the sale of English Ivy, amongst others in the proposed rule, have been largely driven by advocacy groups, community initiatives, and regulatory bodies rather than small businesses themselves.

Advocacy and Community Efforts

Groups like the Whatcom Million Trees Project and the Edmonds Ivy League have actively been campaigning to stop the sale of English ivy and have petitioned WSDA to add it to its *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine*, boasting an estimated 950+ signatures in support. These organizations have been educating the public, persuading local nurseries to stop selling English ivy, and advocating for its inclusion in chapter 16-752 WAC.

Public Awareness and Education

The Whatcom Million Trees Project is raising awareness among both public and private landowners about the dangers of English Ivy, encouraging to remove it from their trees and properties. These efforts have included community engagement and volunteer work parties which ultimately led to the creation/submission of the stop sale petition to WSDA.

Collaboration With Nurseries

Efforts are being made to convince local nurseries to voluntarily stop selling English ivy. Some local nurseries have agreed to stop selling English ivy in response to advocacy efforts and community pressures, while others are still being persuaded. For example, nurseries like Garden Spot Nursery, Serenity Farm & Garden, and Tuxedo Garden have all committed to no longer selling English ivy. Additionally, consumers are encouraged to support nurseries that have stopped selling ivy and instead offer non-invasive alternatives.

SECTION 8:

Identify the estimated number of jobs that will be created or lost as the result of compliance with the proposed rule.

The addition of plant species to chapter 16-752 WAC may have both positive and negative impacts on employment, depending on the specific sectors affected.

In support of the notion that the proposed list of plant species to be added to the *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* **may create jobs**, WSDA has identified the following area:

(1) Education and Outreach

By preventing the spread of invasive species through restricting their sale and delivery in Washington state, there may be an increased need for educators and outreach specialists to inform the public about the risks of allowing the establishment of invasive species, as well as both the importance and availability of non-invasive alternatives. As protecting agriculture and forestry remains an important initiative of the state, the need for educational specialists can be critical at the business, city, county, or state level.

In support of the prospect that the addition of the proposed plant species to the *Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine* **may eliminate jobs**, WSDA has identified the following areas:

(1) Nursery and Horticulture Industry

WSDA's prohibition of sale and distribution of plant species in chapter 16-752 WAC may lead to loss of jobs in nurseries, garden centers, and landscaping businesses that previously sold these plants. As a result, these businesses may need to adjust their product offerings which could result in one or more of the following:

1. Reduced market share for the business if one of their mainstay products is added;
2. Reduced demand for certain job position(s) that are heavily associated with soon-to-be quarantined plants; and
3. Business closure if unable to adjust to new regulations.

(2) Seed and Plant Distribution

Companies that are now regulated on the distribution side of seeds and plants may also potentially experience loss of jobs as their product lines are restricted.

In sum, the proposed rule may either create additional jobs or cause a loss of jobs depending on a business's adaptability within the industry.

The public may obtain a copy of the small business economic impact statement or the detailed cost calculations by contacting:

Name: Gloriann Robinson, Agency Rules Coordinator
Address: PO Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560

Phone: (360) 902-1802

Fax: (360) 902-2092

TTY: (800) 833-6388

Email: wsdarulescomments@agr.wa.gov

Other:

Date: 5/6/2025

Name: Greg Haubrich

Title: Assistant Director

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Haubrich", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

WAC 16-752-610 Regulated articles. All plants, plant parts, and seeds in packets, blends, and "wildflower mixes" of the following listed species are designated as regulated articles under the terms of this noxious weed seed and plant quarantine. This list is comprised of the most recent and accepted scientific and common names of the quarantine plant species. Regulated status also applies to all synonyms of these botanical names and interspecies hybrids if both parents are regulated species:

Scientific Name	Common Names
<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	velvetleaf
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree-of-heaven
<u><i>Alhagi maurorum</i></u>	<u>camelthorn</u>
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard
<u><i>Amaranthus palmeri</i></u>	<u>Palmer's amaranth</u>
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	indigobush, lead plant
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	common bugloss, alkanet, anchusa
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	wild chervil
<u><i>Aponogeton distachyos</i></u>	<u>cape pondweed</u>
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian arum
<i>Arundo donax</i> (except variegated cultivars)	giant reed
<i>Bassia scoparia</i> (syn. <i>Kochia scoparia</i>)	kochia, summer-cyprus, burning-bush, fireball, Mexican fireweed
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	hoary alyssum
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	false brome
<i>Buddleia davidii</i> (except accepted sterile cultivars)	butterfly bush
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	flowering rush
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	fanwort
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	plumeless thistle
<u><i>Carduus cinereus</i></u>	<u>Turkish thistle</u>
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	musk thistle, nodding thistle
<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Italian thistle
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	slenderflower thistle
<u><i>Carex pendula</i></u> , <u><i>Carex pendula subsp.</i></u> <u><i>pendula</i> and <i>Carex</i></u> <u><i>pendula subsp.</i></u> <u><i>Agastachys</i></u>	<u>hanging sedge</u>
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	purple starthistle
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	diffuse knapweed

Scientific Name	Common Names
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	brown knapweed, rayed knapweed, brown centaury horse-knobs, hardheads
<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>	bighead knapweed
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	black knapweed
<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>	Vochin knapweed
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	spotted knapweed
<i>Centaurea x gerstlaueri</i> (syn. <i>Centaurea jacea x nigra</i>)	meadow knapweed
<i>Chaenorhinum minus</i>	dwarf snapdragon
<u><i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i></u>	<u>rough chervil</u>
<i>Clematis orientalis</i>	oriental clematis
<u><i>Clinopodium vulgare</i></u>	<u>wild basil/basil</u> <u>savory</u>
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	poison hemlock
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	Australian swamp stonecrop
<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	common crupina
<u><i>Cynoglossum officinale</i></u>	<u>houndstongue</u>
<u><i>Cyperus esculentus</i></u>	<u>yellow nutsedge</u>
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	purple nutsedge
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	spurge laurel
<i>Daucus carota</i> (except for subsp. <u><i>sativus</i></u>)	wild carrot, Queen Anne's lace
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	blueweed, blue thistle, blue devil, viper's bugloss, snake flower
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian elodea
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	hairy willow herb
<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	myrtle spurge
<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	eggleaf spurge
<i>Euphorbia virgate</i> (syn. <i>Euphorbia esula</i>)	leafy spurge
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese knotweed
<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	giant knotweed
<i>Fallopia x bohemica</i>	Bohemian knotweed
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	lesser celandine
<u><i>Foeniculum vulgare</i></u> (except bulbing fennel, <i>F. vulgare</i> var. <i>azoricum</i>)	<u>common fennel</u>
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	goatsrue
<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	French broom
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	shiny geranium

Scientific Name	Common Names
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	<u>herb-Robert</u>
<i>Glossostigma diandrum</i>	mud mat
<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	reed sweetgrass, tall manna grass
<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	Senegal tea plant
<i>Hedera helix</i>	<u>common (English) ivy</u>
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	<u>Atlantic/Boston ivy</u>
<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>	Texas blueweed
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	giant hogweed, giant cow parsnip
<i>Hibiscus trionum</i>	Venice mallow, flower-of-an-hour, bladder ketmia, modesty, shoo-fly
<i>Hieracium</i> spp. All nonnative species and hybrids	nonnative hawkweeds
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	European frog-bit
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	<u>spotted touch-me-not</u>
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	policeman's helmet
<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>	small-flowered jewelweed
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag iris
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	dyers' woad
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i> (syn. <i>Senecio jacobaea</i>)	tansy ragwort
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	African elodea
<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	yellow archangel
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	perennial pepperweed
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy, white daisy, whiteweed, field daisy, marguerite, poorland flower
<i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>	South American spongeplant
<i>Limnobium spongia</i>	American spongeplant
<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> spp. <i>dalmatica</i>	Dalmatian toadflax
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>	water primrose
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	floating primrose-willow
<i>Lycopsis arvensis</i>	annual bugloss
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	garden loosestrife
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife
<i>Lythrum virgatum</i>	wand loosestrife
<i>Marsilea mutica</i>	Australian water clover
<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	wild four o'clock, umbrella-wort
<i>Murdannia keisak</i>	marsh dew flower, Asian spiderwort

Scientific Name	Common Names
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	parrotfeather
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	variable-leaf milfoil
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian watermilfoil
<i>Najas minor</i>	slender-leaved naiad, brittle naiad
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	yellow floating heart
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch thistle
<u><i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i></u>	<u>green alkenet</u>
<i>Persicaria wallichii</i> (syn. <i>Polygonum polystachyum</i>)	Himalayan knotweed
<u><i>Potentilla recta</i></u>	<u>sulfur cinquefoil</u>
<i>Proboscidea louisianica</i>	unicorn-plant
<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i>	kudzu
<u><i>Rhaponticum repens</i></u>	<u>Russian knapweed</u>
<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>	grass-leaved arrowhead
<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	delta arrowhead
<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>	Mediterranean sage
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	meadow clary
<i>Salvia sclarea</i>	clary sage
<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>	ricefield bulrush
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk thistle
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	silverleaf nightshade
<i>Solanum rostratum</i>	buffaloburr
<i>Soliva sessilis</i>	lawnweed
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	johnsongrass
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	smooth cordgrass
<i>Spartina anglica</i>	common cordgrass
<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	dense-flowered cordgrass
<i>Spartina patens</i>	salt meadow cordgrass
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	water soldier
<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	saltcedar
<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>	spurge flax
<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	hedgепarsley
<i>Trapa natans</i>	water chestnut, bull nut
<i>Trapa bicornus</i>	water caltrap, devil's pod, bat nut
<u><i>Tribulus terrestris</i></u>	<u>puncturevine</u>
<i>Tripidium ravennae</i>	Ravenna grass
<u><i>Tussilago farfara</i></u>	<u>European coltsfoot</u>

Scientific Name	Common Names
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse, furze
<i>Utricularia inflata</i>	swollen bladderwort
<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>	Syrian bean-caper