



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES - INVASIVE PEST RESPONSE

LAST UPDATED 01.13.25

The Department of Agriculture's decision packages for detecting and eradicating invasive pests focus on combating threats like the Japanese beetle, northern giant hornet, and invasive moths. These packages include enhanced monitoring and rapid response strategies to prevent the spread of these pests and protect local ecosystems and agricultural industries. *Note: All items included in the Governor's proposed budget, have been updated to reflect the funding allocated.*

Japanese Beetle Eradication \$9.522M, one-time - GFS	Japanese beetle, <i>Popillia japonica</i> Newman, is a regulated plant pest that attacks more than 300 plant species. In addition to attacking landscape plants, other susceptible hosts include important crops such as apples, grapes, hops, pears, sweet cherries, caneberries and cannabis among many others. Funds would be used to conduct detection and eradication programs.
Exotic Pest Early Detection \$250,000, ongoing - GFS	This proposal requests ongoing funding for monitoring, early detection, and preparation to ensure WSDA is positioned for rapid response in the event of a new pest outbreak.
Northern Giant Hornet Eradication* \$2.2M, ongoing - GFS/GFF	The Northern Giant Hornet was first detected in Washington state in December 2019 and poses risks to honeybees, native insects, and human health. Although no hornets were found in 2022 and 2023, state-matching funds are requested for 2025-2027 if any are detected during the 2024 trapping season. <i>WSDA maintained current biennium capacity to complete surveys and additional trapping in the spring to confirm, but it has been declared eradicated. The agency rescinded its request for state-matching funds.</i>
Spotted Lantern Fly \$400,000, one-time - GFS	Spotted lanternfly (<i>Lycorma deliculata</i>) poses a serious threat to three key agricultural industries, grape, hop, and apple in Washington state. The Pest Program requests additional funding to continue detection and eradication programs.
Invasive Moth Eradication \$3.248M, one-time - GFS/GFF	This proposal requests General Fund-State and General Fund-Federal for the 2025-2027 biennium for the Pest Program to conduct detection and eradication programs for invasive moths including <i>Lymantria dispar</i> , both Asian and European varieties known as <i>Lymantria dispar asiatica</i> and <i>Lymantria dispar</i> respectively. Funds will allow WSDA to conduct trapping activities in high-risk counties each year to more effectively detect any populations while they are small and easier to eradicate.

**Not included in the Governor's proposed budget*

CONTACTS:

EVAN SHEFFELS

Senior Policy Advisor

Cell: 360/742-8157 | Email: ESheffels@agr.wa.gov

LAURA BUTLER

Legislative Liaison/Policy Advisor

Cell: 360/810-0320 | Email: LButler@agr.wa.gov