



# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Crater Lake National Park  
Post Office Box 7  
Crater Lake, Oregon 97604

February 3, 2016

### **Project Proposal for Invasive Vegetation Management Plan**

In order to guide management of non-native, invasive plant species within Crater Lake National Park, the National Park Service invites your participation in scoping for a park-wide Invasive Vegetation Management Plan. The National Park Service anticipates preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project and is seeking general comments and concerns about issues that should be included within the scope of this plan and pertinent information about potential techniques and treatments. Comments are welcomed during the period of February 3, 2016 to March 9, 2016. Information gathered from this scoping will be used to draft alternatives to address non-native, invasive plant species in the park. Interested individuals, agencies, and park stakeholders will have an opportunity to comment on specific details when the EA is released for an additional review period this spring. A map showing the location of Crater Lake National Park is included with this letter.

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Invasive Vegetation Management Plan is to provide a framework for managing non-native, invasive plants in order to protect the park's native ecosystems. This plan will provide guidance on preventing new infestations of invasive plant species and outline an adaptive management process for controlling existing populations of invasive plants using manual, mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical methods. Additionally, the Invasive Vegetation Management Plan will establish methods for tracking and reporting invasive plant species' occurrence and their control in order to measure progress gained over many years. This plan will provide park staff the tools to protect and enhance native vegetation and biodiversity, and maintain the integrity of park ecosystems and their associated processes.

#### Need

Invasive species are one of the biggest threats to the park's ecosystems. Seventy-five non-native plant species have been documented within the park, with new species found on an annual basis. The park lacks a comprehensive strategy outlining goals and objectives for preventing the establishment of invasive plant species, controlling their spread, and monitoring the efficacy of control treatments. National Park Service policy directs park units to develop plans for managing invasive plant species as one of the fundamental ways to uphold its mission to protect and preserve park resources for future generations to experience and enjoy.

#### Goals

Goals of the Invasive Vegetation Management Plan are to:

1. Prevent the introduction of invasive plant species within Crater Lake National Park.
2. Control invasive plant species within the park through eradication, containment, and reduction of invasive plant population densities and abundance.
3. Use an adaptive management process based on the best available science and current knowledge to determine the best treatment options for controlling invasive plant species.
4. Monitor treatment efficacy, and use results of monitoring to inform management.
5. Educate and inform park visitors on the Invasive Vegetation Management program and involve interested individuals in prevention, control, and monitoring efforts.

Crater Lake National Park appreciates any comments and/or suggestions you have on the scope of this proposed plan. Participating in public review of park planning efforts is an excellent way for you to participate in the stewardship of the park.

Anyone providing written comments should be aware his or her entire comment including their personal identifying information such as personal address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifier may be made publicly available at any time. While anyone wishing to comment may ask the NPS withhold personal identifying information from public review, the NPS cannot guarantee it will be able to do so.

Please submit your comments by March 9, 2016 in the following ways:

- The best and preferred method for reviewing project information and submitting comments is on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website:  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/IVMP>
- If unable to utilize the online comment tool mentioned above, comments may be mailed to:

Crater Lake National Park  
Attn: Invasive Vegetation Management Plan  
P.O. Box 7  
Crater Lake, Oregon 97604

Mailed comments must be postmarked by March 9, 2016

- If necessary, comments may also be emailed to: [crla\\_public\\_affairs@nps.gov](mailto:crla_public_affairs@nps.gov)

Specific project questions should be directed to Park Botanist Jen Beck at (541) 594-3072 or [jen\\_beck@nps.gov](mailto:jen_beck@nps.gov).

Thank you for your interest in supporting the development of an Invasive Vegetation Management Plan for Crater Lake National Park.



Craig W. Ackerman  
Superintendent