

# Skamania County Class A Garlic Mustard Eradication Project Report for 2021 - 2022

Funding:

WSDA – 2021 - 2022.....	\$5,000
WSNWCB – 2021 - 2022.....	\$2,500
Private Landowner Contributions (cash) – 2021 – 2022.....	\$8,878
Skamania County –2021 - 2022.....	\$1,000
<b>Total – 2021 - 2022.....</b>	<b>\$17,378</b>

**Project Purpose/Objectives:**

To eradicate garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) from Skamania County

- Apply control measures against garlic mustard with the goal of eradication in Skamania County
- Prohibit the further spread of this Class A noxious weed to protect adjacent private, state, and National Forest lands
- To assist the private and public landowners with eradication of Class A noxious weeds on their properties and maintain work previously conducted
- Protect native habitat using integrated pest management
- Extend public outreach and education through affected communities
- Cooperate with private landowners on eradication efforts



*Trying to survive  
after being pulled*

## Garlic Mustard – Infestations & Eradication Efforts

- 22 private landowners affected with garlic mustard infestations, 2 of which are large homeowner associations having a total of 85 individual stakeholders
- 6 isolated patches on county, city and state right-of-way (all are small and two are close to eradication)
- 1 infestation in a county park, 1 in a federal park
- 1 new infestation found
- Approximately 65 gross acres (6.8 infested acres) in Skamania County
- 145 labor hours funded by WSDA grant
- Mapping conducted using iForm



*Garlic mustard's favorite place to grow*



*Before and after treatment*

## Infestations & Eradication Efforts, Continued

- Sites were treated in April with herbicide then followed up with manual removal later in the season
- A mix of triclopyr and aminopyralid was used on most of the sites and small/older sites were manually controlled



*Winning the war at an 8-year-old site*

## Garlic Mustard – Challenges in 2021 - 2022

- One site, on the brink of eradication, was covered by a PUD crew limbing trees in 2020; one plant found in 2022.
- In our most complex site, a road was built in 2020 through an infestation and trees were cut in another, making it difficult to find and treat garlic mustard. The potential for spread dramatically increased and was confirmed in 2022 with the discovery of a large patch (see photo).
- Size of seed producing plant varies from 2 inches – 3 feet; will re-flower if root is broken when pulled.
- Pulled flowering plants will try to recover if left unbagged.



*Disturbance and spread in a complex site*

## Garlic Mustard – Successes and Future Plans

- Most infestations showed a reduction from previous years
- Private landowner cooperation and funding agreements from our largest garlic mustard infestation allowed us to treat, monitor, and apply follow-up treatments to our smaller sites with funding from WSDA
- Landowners continue to monitor, making our treatments more effective
- Early spring herbicide applications reduce the number of bolting plants and therefore our labor hours
- Many sites that were once a monoculture of garlic mustard are now recovering with native plants
- Follow-up foliar application to rosettes in the fall will help minimize manual treatment next spring
- Continue outreach to landowners at events, including the Skamania County Fair
- Continue collaborating with other natural resource managers to compare and learn about garlic mustard eradication



*Finding the needle in a haystack*