

Noxious Plant Surveys



MB&G botanists are experts in conducting noxious weed surveys, vegetation assessments, and habitat mapping

MB&G botanists have considerable experience with survey protocols for noxious plants as well as threatened or endangered Pacific Northwest plant species. We efficiently coordinate with regulatory agencies to develop effective survey protocols for an individual species, habitat, or survey area. Once our team determines survey protocol for targeted species, we utilize current botanical literature and databases, interviews with local botanical experts, and plant physiology information to optimize field survey scheduling for accurate species identification or presence determinations.

Our team is skilled in locating and mapping individual plant populations and critical habitat with the latest GPS equipment and geospatial software. Our expertise includes designing avoidance and relocation plans for sensitive plant species, and the development of project protocols to restrict the spread of noxious weed species. We also have vast experience in the preparation of tailored site restoration and improvement plans focusing on enhancing sensitive plant species habitat while controlling noxious weed species.

Northwest Terrain Experts

As a Northwest-based firm, MB&G is familiar with the region's terrain and topography. We have a great understanding of natural resources within the Pacific Northwest ecoregions and how to obtain supporting information from public sources to enhance that understanding.



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MB&G botanist utilizing MobileMap in the field to survey for rare and undesirable plant species.

Leading Proprietary Technology in the Field: MB&G MobileMap™

Our team uses field tablets with MB&G's proprietary application, MB&G MobileMap, to map undesirable plant populations in the field. MobileMap utilizes external GLONASS GPS receivers and supports heads-up digitizing (also known as 'redlining') to collect field data using a high-resolution aerial image map display, and can be integrated into a client's undesirable plant GIS schema. Utilization of MobileMap minimizes field time and allows accurate and budget-friendly data collection.

Recent Noxious Plant Survey Projects



PacifiCorp North Umpqua Noxious Weed Inventory

MB&G completed the North Umpqua Noxious weed inventory for PacifiCorp on time and within budget. Our biologists coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service to confirm target noxious weeds and to determine the locations of weed control activities. MB&G developed a handheld GPS data dictionary to efficiently document changes to previously identified noxious weed populations and accurately map new infestations. Our biologists designed PacifiCorp's database to allow easy comparisons between previous, current, and future inventories as well as documented the effectiveness of prior noxious weed control efforts.

Bonneville Power Administration Lane-Wendson No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild

Working as a subconsultant to Parsons Brinkerhoff, MB&G is currently assisting Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) with the environmental permitting required for the replacement of wooden utility poles along a 41-mile-long transmission line located in Lane County, Oregon. MB&G completed a wetland delineation and functional assessment, prepared a Wetland Delineation Report and Joint Permit Application, and completed documents to support an Environmental Assessment. Due to MB&G's familiarity with the project right-of-way and our local knowledge of noxious weed species, MB&G was also awarded the work to perform a noxious weed survey of the entire transmission corridor for BPA during spring of 2015.



Oregon Department of Transportation Program Management of Mitigation and Monitoring Sites

Starting in 2008 with the Program's inception, MB&G has managed and implemented ODOT's Mitigation Monitoring Program, a 10-year, multi-million dollar Program for up to 200 biology and wetland mitigation sites associated with transportation projects throughout Oregon. MB&G is responsible for overall program development and management, which includes annual monitoring and reporting, maintenance plans, and subconsultant task order oversight to maintain environmental permit compliance. MB&G also prepares corrective action plans for failing habitat enhancement measures, unsustainable planting plans, noxious weed infestations, and significant erosion problems. In order to manage all mitigation sites, MB&G developed the Mitigation Monitoring Reporting System (MMRS) which supports thousands of photos and documents, tight integration of GIS and GPS data, notifications based on specific site activities, and produces ODOT compliant reports. MMRS provides a map interface with easy navigation and high resolution aerial imagery.



Oregon Department of Transportation I-5 Elkhead to Anlauf Resurfacing

The Elkhead to Anlauf Resurfacing project resurfaced and widened an 11-mile section of Interstate 5 in Douglas County. The project area contained rare and sensitive plant species and suitable habitats for other rare species, as well as populations of noxious weeds. MB&G performed rare plant surveys and noxious weed inventories for the entire project area and prepared a Botanical Clearance Report to document the survey findings.

