

Assessing infestations

A good assessment and a map can help get the job done

Invasive terrestrial plant prevention and management activities begin with an understanding of what the problem is on a particular property and the surrounding area. A good assessment will include an overview of what species are present, distribution and abundance and in the case of woody species, age class. Combine the assessment with a simple map to help you:

- Share information between land managers and landowners.
- Make decisions about what to treat first, depending upon available time and money, land management goals and upcoming activities (e.g. road building or logging operation).
- Identify likely sites for new infestations (e.g. log landings, new trails or roads).
- Determine what treatment methods are most appropriate for the site.
- Communicate with a potential contractor.
- Identify likely sites for Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR).
- Communicate with NRCS staff who review applications for Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) or Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) [see Tool 3: *“Landowner’s Guide to Seeking Funding from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)”*].
- Develop a more detailed plan for prevention and treatment [see Tool 6: *“Weed Management Plant Template”*].

Learn more about how to conduct an assessment by using the following tools:

The landowner plant assessment form: search the Resource hub for `“tool_1_landowner_invplantassessment”`

The Current Use Invasive Plant Assessment methods: search the Resource hub for `“tool2_uvainvasiveplantassessmentmethods”`



www.vtinvasives.org