

**IAA Between Washington State Department of Agriculture**  
**and Mason County and Its Agent**  
**Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board**  
**2022 Report**

Report compiled by  
**Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board**  
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## Introduction

On August 17, 2021, the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board (MCNWCB) received \$20,000.00 in grant funding from the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) for the period July 01, 2021 to June 30, 2023, Contract Number: K3547. The purpose of the agreement is to provide Mason County and its agent, MCNWCB, funding for a project to control invasive knotweed species within riparian corridors of Mason County.

### **2022 Objectives included:**

- Continue control assistance to property owners along Finch, Sherwood/Anderson, Coulter, and Stimson Creeks and in the areas surrounding North Bay and the town of Allyn who have current WSDA 'Permission to Enter private Land and Waiver of Liability' agreements with MCNWCB.
- Continue efforts to obtain new permissions, survey and treat knotweed infestations along Mission and Little Mission Creeks. Obtaining permissions of property owners along both creeks are key in preventing knotweed encroachment onto Belfair State Park.
- Prevent the reinfestation of the WA Department of Fish & Wildlife salmon hatchery in the lower portion of the Coulter Creek system.
- Document knotweed infestations along priority systems and provide site descriptions, population characteristics, and landowner information.
- Identification of other noxious weed species encountered, such as butterfly bush, giant hogweed, perennial pepperweed, spotted-jewelweed, policeman's helmet, yellow archangel and yellow-flag iris within the project areas and documentation in the WSDA iForm program.



Noxious Weeds staff treats a large patch of knotweed along Mission Creek. This is year 3 of treatment on this property. Last year, this infestation extended to the creek's edge, but staff have incrementally pushed the knotweed wall back.

## WSDA Knotweed Accomplishments

- Completed a two-month treatment season from August 1, 2022 to October 6, 2022.
- Received 10 new **“Permission(s) to Enter Private Land and Waiver of Liability.”** Renewed 10 **“Permission(s) to Enter Private Land and Waiver of Liability”**.
- Renewed WA State DNR Land Use License on March 22, 2022.
- Completed treatment on 63 parcels and approximately 8.48 miles of river and shoreline.
- Visited multiple private properties to provide information to residents about noxious weeds, weed laws, and request permission to survey for and treat knotweed. During some of these site visits, staff identified noxious weeds other than knotweed and provided information on control.
- Participated in the Shelton Rock & Mineral Show and Oyster Fest. Events like these provide an opportunity for staff to engage with the local community and educate about the impacts of riparian noxious weeds such as knotweeds. Weed booklets and boot brushes were popular with engagement from 636 attendees.
- See Appendix 1 for summarized metric accomplishments.

## Non-WSDA Knotweed Accomplishments

- Completed treatment on 12 parcels throughout Mason County.



This property owner went above and beyond to assist with our control of knotweed. Corridors were cut into the thicket of Himalayan blackberry and padded with used carpet. He also volunteered and participated in the treatment.

- Treated the most upstream point of knotweed along Lilliwaup Creek in WRIA 16. A representative of the property reached out during the 2021 field season, but staff were unable to complete a treatment last year. This year, staff treated approximately 0.02 solid acres of knotweed along Lilliwaup Creek.
- Collaborated on knotweed control with a landowner who signed a volunteer agreement and assisted with the treatment.
- See Appendix 2 for summarized accomplishments.





**A HUGE knotweed infestation in Allyn, WA next to a new development project was discovered after a conversation with a new property owner on Coulter Creek.**

## Difficulties

- Property owner contacts continue to require considerable time and, in many cases, repeat visits are necessary to secure permissions. Every year there are changes in ownership along the funded systems, and this can set our knotweed control efforts back.
- Gaining property owners' permission along Little Mission and Mission Creek continues to be a challenge. 4 new permissions along Mission Creek allowed staff to push further downstream.
- Two property owners continue to withhold permissions along Sherwood Creek and Finch Creek despite repeat contacts and various communication methods.
- Prior to on-site visits and communications, two private landowners had cut knotweed during the treatment season. These are property owners new to the concerns of knotweed and successful treatment methods. Staff educated both property owners and expect successful treatment during the 2023 field season.
- While treating knotweed along Mission Creek, staff learned that a section of knotweed had already been treated. A chance encounter by field staff revealed that another entity had treated select patches of knotweed along the creek without communicating with the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Program. This led to confusion and frustration by some private property owners along Mission Creek.

## Conclusion

Since 2013, WSDA has provided stable, dedicated funding, which supports Mason County Noxious Weed Control's efforts to control knotweed in the county. Initial control measures took place along three systems, North Bay/Allyn, Sherwood and Finch Creeks. With continued funding, the MCNWCB has expanded project scope to include additional creeks.

During the 2015-2016 biennium, treatment efforts increased to four systems. We continued work on North Bay/Allyn, Sherwood and Finch Creek and began survey and treatment on Coulter Creek. During the 2017-2018 biennium we doubled the number of systems to include Stimson Creek, Little Mission Creek, Mission Creek and Anderson Creek, a tributary of Sherwood Creek. From 2019-2021, we focused on continuing our work within these systems and increasing our survey width for knotweed. In 2022, we continued our work on high priority systems and pushed farther downstream along Mission Creek.

**2023-2026 Recommendations include:**

- Mason County Noxious Weed Control Program will submit a proposal for funding in 2023 for continued knotweed treatments along priority systems.
- Given the program's repeated attempts to engage landowners along Mission and Little Mission Creeks through mailings, staff will explore the idea of hosting an open house in the community to garner support. Belfair State Park, which is the location of the mouth of Little Mission and Mission Creek, would be an ideal location for an open house. Additionally, an emphasis on home visits will occur early in the 2023 field season.
- Given the Program's new permission for treatment of the uppermost known infestation of knotweed along Lilliwaup Creek, and additional investments in knotweed control in WRIA 16 along the Hood Canal, staff plans to include Lilliwaup Creek in the 2023 proposal.
- The discovery of a large knotweed infestation throughout a new housing development in Allyn will likely provide an opportunity for much landowner and builder engagement. The director of Mason County's Community Development was notified of this finding late in the season. There may be an opportunity to work with Building Inspectors and other staff to mitigate the impacts of knotweed in this new neighborhood.
- Staff would like to collaborate with other entities involved in knotweed control in Mason County. As all of our program's expand, it is imperative to be communicating with one another about priority systems and ensure a cohesive message being sent to Mason County community members. Additionally, this would prevent unintended overlap in treatments.

Currently, 110 property owners, owning 474 parcels, are participating in this WSDA funded knotweed control project. Knotweed was treated with non-WSDA funding for an additional 9 landowners, owning 34 parcels. As expected, waterways in their fifth, sixth, and seventh treatment year have fewer infested acres of knotweed and are requiring much less effort, herbicide and time. With the continued support of WSDA knotweed grant funding, the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board will continue to maintain and expand its knotweed control efforts.

## Appendix 1 – Summary of 2022 WSDA Knotweed Accomplishments

WRIA & System	14	14 & 15	15 (mostly)	15			16	Total
	Sherwood -Anderson Creek	North Bay/ Allyn	Coulter Creek	Mission Creek	Little Mission Creek	Stimson Creek	Finch Creek	
Acres Permitted	116.32	21.14	2,182.23	2,671.98	0	1,856.87	95.41	6,961.76 permitted acres
Land Owners Permitted	26	17	14	18	0	10	25	110 landowners permitted
Land Owners Worked-on	7	9	6	17	0	6	12	57 landowners worked-on
Parcels Permitted	37	27	329	32	0	14	35	474 permitted parcels
Parcels Worked-on	7	10	9	17	0	8	12	63 parcels worked-on
New Permissions	1	2	1	4	0	0	2	10 new permissions
Renewed Permissions	1	2	1	1	0	5	0	10 renewed permissions
Solid Acres of Knotweed Treated (Acres)	0.31	0.08	0.07	1.15	0	0.02	0.1	1.74 solid acres
River & Shoreline Miles Surveyed	3.33	0.18	1.66	2.48	0	4.30	1.14	13.09 river & shoreline miles surveyed
River & Shoreline Miles Treated	2.53	0.15	1.04	2.0	0	2.28	0.48	8.48 river & shoreline miles surveyed

## Appendix 2 – Summary of 2022 non-WSDA Knotweed Accomplishments

WRIA & System	14				15		16			Total
	No Name Creek - Union, WA	South Hood Canal	Spencer Lake	Terrestrial	Lucas Creek	Terrestrial	Ground-water	Lilliwaup Creek	Terrestrial	
Acres Permitted	1.21	10.29	1.56	41.97	3.62	42.89	2.95	19.17	29.85	153.51 permitted acres
Land Owners Permitted	1	3	2	7	1	6	2	1	2	25 landowners permitted
Land Owners Worked-on	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	9 landowners worked-on
Parcels Permitted	1	3	2	9	1	6	3	6	3	34 parcels permitted
Parcels Worked-on	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	7	12 parcels worked on
New Permissions	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	4 new permissions
Renewed Permissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1 renewed permission
Solid Acres of Knotweed Treated (Acres)	0	0.04	0	0	0	0	0.37	0.02	0.76	1.19 solid acres



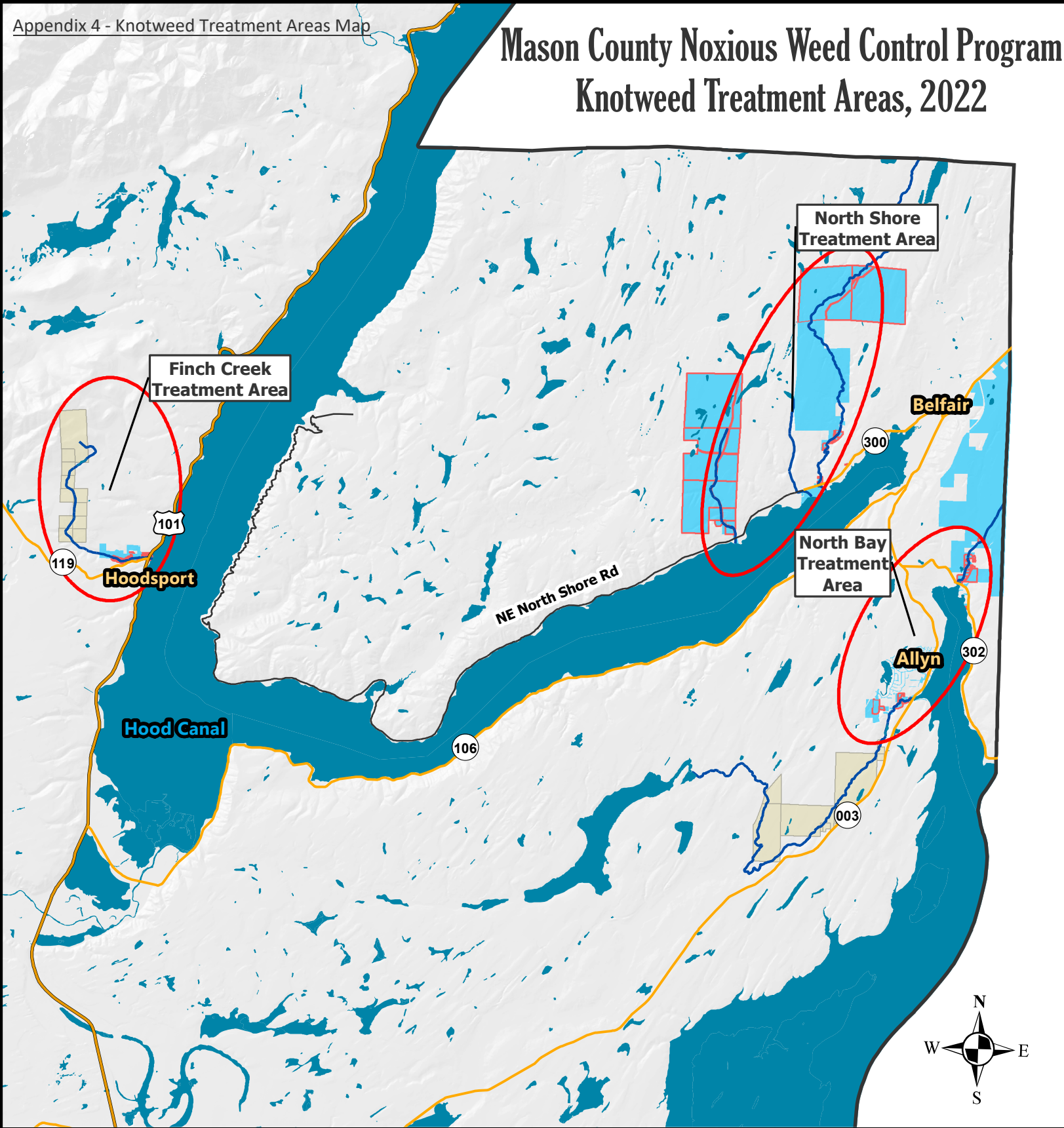
### Appendix 3 – Summary of 2022 WSDA Knotweed Treatment Dates

Date	Pin	NPDES?	WRIA	Waterbody Treated	Species
8/18/2022	12220-50-11020	Yes	14	North Bay	POBO10
8/18/2022	12204-43-00020	No	15	Coulter Creek System - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/18/2022	12216-24-00010	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
8/18/2022	12216-21-00050	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
8/18/2022	12216-21-00020	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
8/22/2022	12318-00-60000	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/23/2022	22203-00-60000	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
8/23/2022	22203-40-00000	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
8/23/2022	22327-00-60000	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
8/23/2022	22334-00-60000	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
8/24/2022	22313-00-60000	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12209-31-00000	Yes	14	Coulter Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12209-31-00050	Yes	14	Coulter Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12209-31-60040	Yes	14	Coulter Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12209-33-60020	Yes	14	Coulter Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12209-32-60050	Yes	14	Coulter Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-50-71001	No	14	North Bay/Allyn System - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-50-71005	No	14	North Bay/Allyn System - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-50-71004	No	14	North Bay/Allyn System - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-50-71007	No	14	North Bay/Allyn System - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-34-90330	Yes	14	Sherwood Creek	POBO10
8/25/2022	12220-33-90221	No	14	Sherwood Creek - Terrestrial	POBO10
8/28/2022	22336-12-00010	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/29/2022	22336-11-90003	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/29/2022	22336-11-90004	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/29/2022	22336-12-90021	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/29/2022	22336-12-90022	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/30/2022	22336-11-90002	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/31/2022	22336-12-00040	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/31/2022	22336-13-00040	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/31/2022	22336-13-00050	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
8/31/2022	22336-13-00060	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/1/2022	22336-11-90002	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/1/2022	22336-11-90004	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/1/2022	22336-12-00010	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/1/2022	22361-13-90000	No	15	Mission Creek System - Terrestrial	POBO10
9/2/2022	22203-43-00010	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
9/2/2022	22203-44-00000	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
9/2/2022	22203-44-00010	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10

Date	Pin	NPDES?	WRIA	Waterbody Treated	Species
9/2/2022	22211-51-01001	Yes	15	Stimson Creek	POBO10
9/7/2022	12220-50-08001	Yes	14	North Bay	POBO10
9/7/2022	12229-51-00003	Yes	14	Sherwood Creek	POBO10
9/7/2022	12220-33-90221	No	14	Sherwood Creek - Terrestrial	POBO10
9/7/2022	12209-24-90050	Yes	15	Coulter Creek	POBO10
9/7/2022	12209-24-90013	Yes	15	Coulter Creek	POBO10
9/7/2022	12209-24-90040	No	15	Coulter Creek System - Terrestrial	POBO10
9/8/2022	22336-50-00014	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/8/2022	22336-50-00017	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/8/2022	22336-50-00025	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/8/2022	22336-88-88888	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
9/15/2022	12220-50-71004	No	14	North Bay/Allyn System - Terrestrial	POBO10
9/15/2022	12216-21-00050	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
9/15/2022	12216-24-00010	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
9/15/2022	12216-21-00060	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
9/15/2022	12216-21-00020	Yes	15	North Bay	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-03001	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-11001	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-12001	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-12002	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-12004	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/21/2022	42212-50-11006	No	16	Finch Creek System - Terrestrial	POBO10
9/22/2022	12230-10-04000	Yes	14	Anderson Creek	POBO10
9/22/2022	12230-11-00070	Yes	14	Sherwood Creek	POBO10
9/22/2022	12229-22-90344	Yes	14	Sherwood Creek	POBO10
9/22/2022	12229-51-00001	Yes	14	Sherwood Creek	POBO10
9/26/2022	42211-41-00460	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/26/2022	42211-50-00901	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
9/26/2022	42211-41-00400	No	16	Finch Creek System - Terrestrial	POBO10
10/5/2022	22336-12-00040	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
10/5/2022	22336-50-00900	Yes	15	Mission Creek	POBO10
10/6/2022	42211-50-00006	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
10/6/2022	42211-50-00010	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
10/6/2022	42211-50-00014	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10
10/6/2022	42211-50-00901	Yes	16	Finch Creek	POBO10

# Mason County Noxious Weed Control Program

## Knotweed Treatment Areas, 2022



### Legend

- 2022 Treatment Parcels (63)**
- Permitted Parcels (474)**
- Additional DNR Permitted Lands**

*.Shp Files Available upon Request*  
Created by Kela Hall-Wieckert on 12/21/2022

North Bay Treatment Area - Sherwood-Anderson & Coulter Creek, and scattered parcels along North Bay and in the Town of Allyn.

Finch Creek Treatment Area - only includes treatments along Finch Creek. Staff also completed non-WSDA funded treatments along Lilliwaup Creek.

North Shore Treatment Area - Stimson, Little Mission, and Mission Creek.