

# Washington Invasive Ranking System

Washington Natural Heritage Program

## *Fallopia × bohemica* (Bohemian Knotweed)

Assessed by

Emily Stevenson (Program Coordinator, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Program)  
14 December 2023 (WIRS Version 1.5)

Ecological Impact Rank: **High** (92)

Confidence: **High** (75)

Management Difficulty Rank: High (93)

Confidence: High (80)

Biological Characteristics of Invasiveness: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Concern Related to Distribution and Abundance: High (89)

Confidence: Low (20)



**Photo Credit:** Scot Loring 2018, used under Creative Commons license (CalFlora, 2024).

### Ranking Notes

Rapid assessments only, based primarily on professional expertise.

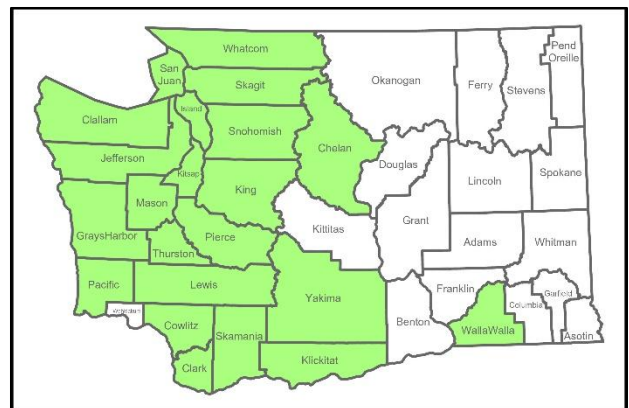
Many closely related knotweeds (*Fallopia*) also have high ecological impacts.

### Legal Listings

[Washington State Weed Board](#): Class B, Washington State quarantine list

[Washington Invasive Species Council](#): No

### Section 1: Distribution and Abundance



**Figure 1.** Distribution of counties where *Fallopia × bohemica* has been documented in Washington State (CPNWH, 2023; EDDMapS, 2023; iNaturalist Contributors, 2023).

**Q1: Current Range Size in Washington**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

This taxa is found in 56% of Washington counties (CPNWH, 2023; EDDMapS, 2023; iNaturalist Contributors, 2023).

Source: Herbarium records and other observations

**Q2: Current Trend in Total Range**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q3: Proportion of Potential Range Currently Unoccupied**

Rating: Low

Confidence: Low

This taxa is already present in 56% of counties of Washington (CPNWH, 2023; EDDMapS, 2023; iNaturalist Contributors, 2023).

Source: Herbarium records and other observations

**Q4: Local Range Expansion or Change in Abundance**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q5: Diversity of Ecosystems Invaded**

Ecosystem types: Not Rated

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Section 2: Biological Characteristics**

**Q6: Aggressive Mode of Reproduction**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q7: Innate Potential for Long-Distance Dispersal**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q8: Potential to be Spread by Human Activities**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q9: Allelopathy**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q10: Competitive for Limiting Abiotic Factors**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q11: Growth Form**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q12: Germination Requirements**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q13: Invasiveness of Other Plants in Genus**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q14: Shade Tolerance**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q15: Disturbance Tolerance**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q16: Propagule Persistence**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source: Not Rated

**Q17: Palatability**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Section 3: Ecological Impact**

**Q18: Impact on Ecosystem Abiotic Processes**

Abiotic Processes: Geomorphology, Hydrology

Rating: High

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

**Q19: Impact on Ecosystem Structure**

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: High

This plant readily invades sparsely vegetated cobble bars before native willows may establish. It may also convert herbaceous marshes into monocultural shrublands.

Source: Professional expertise

**Q20: Impact on Ecosystem Composition**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q21: Impact on Particular Native Species**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q22: Observed Ability to Invade Undisturbed Ecosystems**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q23: Observed Ability to Invade Naturally Disturbed Ecosystems**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional Expertise

**Section 4: Management Difficulty**

**Q24: General Management Difficulty**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q25: Minimum Time Commitment**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q26: Impacts of Management on Native Species**

Rating: Not Rated

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q27: Inaccessibility of Invaded Areas**

Rating: High

Confidence: High



Plants readily spread along river drainages and frequently occur on cobble bars and other sites that are difficult to access.

Source: Professional expertise

**Q28: Sociopolitical Implications of Management**

Rating: Moderate/Low

Confidence: High

This plant is often seen as an attractive ornamental and may serve as forage for honeybees. Perhaps more significantly, because of the way it spreads along major river drainages, management generally requires coordinated efforts across multiple jurisdictions and between public and private parties.

Source: Professional expertise

**Additional Comments**

None

**References**

- CalFlora. 2024. CalFlora Database. <https://www.calflora.org/>. Accessed: December 17, 2024.
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- iNaturalist Contributors. 2023. iNaturalist Research-grade Observations, Accessed via GBIF.org. <https://doi.org/10.15468/ab3s5x>. Accessed: October 5, 2023.