

# Washington Invasive Ranking System

Washington Natural Heritage Program

## *Lathyrus latifolius* (Everlasting-pea)

Assessed by

Regina Johnson (Assistant Natural Areas Ecologist, Westside, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources)  
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Ecological Impact Rank: **Low** (47)

Confidence: **High** (83)

Management Difficulty Rank: High (70)

Confidence: High (70)

Biological Characteristics of Invasiveness: High (92)

Confidence: High (75)

Concern Related to Distribution and Abundance: High (91)

Confidence: High (100)



**Photo Credit:** David Giblin 2022, used under Creative Commons license (Burke Herbarium, University of Washington, 2024).

### Ranking Notes

Rapid assessment only, based primarily on professional expertise. This species was assessed

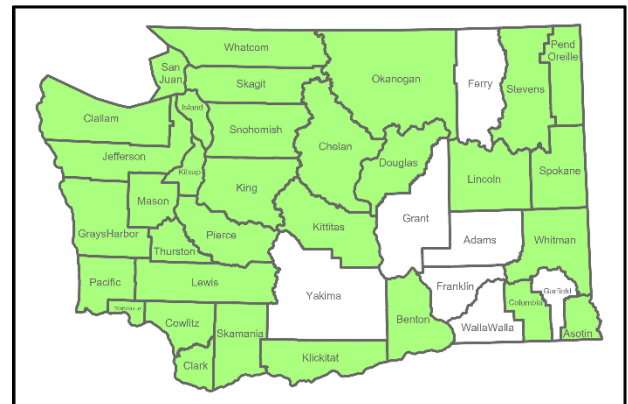
concurrently with *Lathyrus sylvestris* and much of the information is the same. *Lathyrus latifolius* and *L. sylvestris* have similar appearance, ecological impacts and management techniques, though *L. latifolius* is more common in Washington (R. Johnson, pers. comm. 2024).

### Legal Listings

[Washington State Weed Board](#): Monitor List

[Washington Invasive Species Council](#): No

### Section 1: Distribution and Abundance



**Figure 1.** Distribution of counties where *Lathyrus latifolius* has been documented in Washington State (CPNWH, 2024; EDDMapS, 2024; iNaturalist Community, 2024).

**Q1: Current Range Size in Washington**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

*Lathyrus latifolius* is found in 82% of counties in Washington State (CPNWH, 2024; EDDMapS, 2024; iNaturalist Community, 2024).

Source: Professional expertise, Herbarium records and other observations

**Q2: Current Trend in Total Range**

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: Low

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: High

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q5: Diversity of Ecosystems Invaded**

Ecosystem types: Forest & Woodland, Grassland & Shrubland

Rating: Low

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Section 2: Biological Characteristics**

**Q6: Aggressive Mode of Reproduction**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

This plant is toxic to wildlife and primarily spreads via violent dehiscion and vegetative reproduction (Burnham, 2013; Sweet, 2020).

Source: Published research, Professional expertise

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

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q9: Allelopathy**

Rating: Unknown

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q10: Competitive for Limiting Abiotic Factors**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q11: Growth Form**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q12: Germination Requirements**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q14: Shade Tolerance**

Rating: Low/Insignificant

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

**Q15: Disturbance Tolerance**

Rating: Yes

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q16: Propagule Persistence**

Rating: Unknown

Confidence: Not Rated

Source:

**Q17: Palatability**

Rating: Yes, plant is unpalatable

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

**Section 3: Ecological Impact**

**Q18: Impact on Ecosystem Abiotic Processes**

Abiotic Processes: Nutrient dynamics, Light availability

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

**Q19: Impact on Ecosystem Structure**

Rating: Low

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q20: Impact on Ecosystem Composition**

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q21: Impact on Particular Native Species**

Rating: Insignificant

Confidence: Moderate

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: Low

Confidence: High

This species establishes best with some level of disturbance.

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: Moderate

Confidence: High

Source: Professional expertise

**Q25: Minimum Time Commitment**

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: Moderate

Constant reintroduction extends the time commitment for treating this species.

Source: Professional expertise

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

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: Moderate

This species can't be manually treated (digging or pulling). Spraying will result in collateral damage of

co-occurring species because this plant grows over and through neighboring plants.

Source: Professional expertise

**Q27: Inaccessibility of Invaded Areas**

Rating: Moderate

Confidence: High

This species is commonly found on beach bluffs, road cuts, and slides.

Source: Professional expertise

**Q28: Sociopolitical Implications of Management**

Rating: High

Confidence: Moderate

Some people may mistake this species for a sweet pea and object to management based on that misconception.

Source: Professional expertise

**Additional Comments**

None

**References**

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