

## White Salmon & Bingen

### Tree of Heaven/Spotted Lanternfly Eradication, Prevention and Demonstration Project

Underwood Conservation District, Yakama Nation Fisheries and other partners

Project Statement of Work / Draft / February 2022

#### STATEMENT OF WORK

The White Salmon and Bingen, Wash., area is host to a robust population of Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*: ToH) in close proximity to established, extensive orchards, vineyards and mixed-pine forests. *Ailanthus* is a preferred host of the Asian invasive spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*: SLF), which is causing extensive damage since its introduction in the East coast of the US only a few years ago, and is expanding its range. An infestation here could be detrimental to numerous natural and agricultural resources. The goals of this proposed effort are several:

#### Mapping

- ☆ Involve local community (landowners, local officials, students, agricultural producers) in a meaningful, replicable community-science, urban-conservation project;
- ☆ Using community volunteers, map the entire *Ailanthus* population within the White Salmon/Bingen urban growth area, as a discrete epicenter of the tree's population using the WA Invasives smart phone app;

#### Community & Landowner Outreach

- ☆ Provide outreach to landowners about impacts of ToH/SLF, benefits and maintenance of native landscape trees;
- ☆ and develop a template, based on lessons-learned, for community weed-education and *Ailanthus* eradication efforts that can be readily employed by other Northwest conservation districts, cities, etc.

#### ToH Removal & Replanting

- ☆ Train cities' public works staff on ToH treatment methods
- ☆ provide a demonstration plot on city property to pilot treatment techniques to monitor success over time and adaptively manage

- ☆ With the assistance of county weed boards and local public works staff, eradicate the *Ailanthus* population within the urban-growth area, on public land;
- ☆ replace removed ToH with native (or non-invasive ornamental) tree species;

### **Planning**

- ☆ Create language that can be used in ordinances and vegetation management plans to encourage compliance and reporting, and a process for future treatment
- ☆ Develop the outline of an adaptive management plan for ongoing ToH monitoring, removal/replacement and follow-up treatments
- ☆ Monitor ToH treatment sites and plan follow-up of treatments to prevent re-invasion
- ☆ Develop/tailor an EDRR pest preparedness plan for Spotted Lanternfly for the area (with help of USDA/WSDA)

The White Salmon/Bingen *Ailanthus*/lanternfly effort is envisioned as a collaborative project involving Underwood Conservation District, the Yakama Nation Fisheries program, the Cities of Bingen and White Salmon (city leaders, public works officials and tree boards), local community-science volunteers, school teachers & students, civic organizations, landowners, the agricultural community, transportation entities, WSDA, and local weed control boards.