

**Hamlin Park Restoration Plan
2017 Master Native Plant Stewardship Program
Washington Native Plant Society**



Washington Native Plant Society

Work Plan Amendments

Prepared By
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On behalf of



Washington Native Plant Society

Work Plan Comments from KCD

Very good plan! Detailed justification of species based on current vegetation and soil conditions, plus description of effective BMPs for weed removal. Breaking up the work plan and planting plan by each zone acknowledges the different conditions and shows how each area will be treated differently.

Scotch broom removal: Stewards mention cutting back and applying 18" of mulch – source for this treatment? King County Noxious Weeds BMPs make no mention of this technique while WNPS' site recommendations say 8" of mulch where Scotch broom is removed. We recommend following the KC Noxious Weed BMP for controlling Scotch broom.

From King County Noxious Weeds' BMPs:

- Cutting can be an effective control method for older plants that are no longer green at the base. If cutting, it is best to cut the plants when they are stressed during the summer drought in late July to August. Cut stems as close to the ground as possible. Monitor for re-growth and cut again. The disadvantage of this method is that plants are typically in seed during the late summer. Cutting may spread the seeds around so try to cut the plants before the seed pods mature.
 - Cutting has been shown to be most effective on plants with a stem diameter greater than 2". Younger, smaller diameter plants that are cut should be monitored closely for regrowth.
 - Older plants are less likely to re-sprout from cut stems (usually about 20 percent over 5 years old will re-sprout).
 - Younger plants are more likely to re-sprout (about 50 percent).
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Concern – Removal methods for Scotch broom.

Solution – Follow the King County Noxious Weeds BMP for controlling Scotch broom:¹ Most of the Scotch broom at the site is older, and measures greater than 2 inches DBH. Therefore manual cutting as close to the ground after the plants have been stressed from the dry, summer months should be an effective treatment. Younger, smaller plants may be pulled

with a weed wrench to completely remove the root mass. Application of mulch does not need to exceed eight inches.² (see page 9)

References

1. King County. Noxious Weeds, King County.
www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/program-information.aspx (2014).
2. Chalker-Scott, L. Viewpoint Impact of Mulches on Landscape Plants and the Environment — A Review 1. *J. Environ. Hortic.* **25**, 239–249 (2007).