



February 3rd, 2025

Dear Columbia Gorge CWMA members and prospective members,

The **Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)** is an organization dedicated to preventing the spread of invasive plants throughout the Columbia River Gorge. The CWMA supplies a valuable service to land managers and residents by providing a forum for information sharing, producing educational opportunities, and collecting and consolidating data and resources relating to the management of invasive weeds. Since 2023, the CWMA has returned to in person events with the calming of the COVID-19 pandemic. For our members' benefit we have also continued to offer our meetings in a hybrid format as well, which has increased participation at our general meetings.

In 2024, we updated our five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the supporting document between the CWMA and its members, and we are looking to grow our membership even larger with your support. This MOU is available on [our website](#), along with this request for support. If you haven't had a chance to sign onto the MOU and would like to become a member of the CWMA, please reach out to our CWMA Coordinator.

As we continue to serve and support our constituents, we ask that our current and prospective members also consider becoming sponsors of the CWMA. Our sponsors support the CWMA through financial donations or by providing staff time and resources. Contributions from sponsoring organizations allow the CWMA to support their Coordinator, improve communications, increase capacity for planning and hosting events, and develop outreach capabilities. The funding level amount is entirely determined by your organization. The current level of member funding can support our 0.25 FTE coordinator, but increased funding support will be crucial to the continuation of the CWMA's services beyond 2025.

As you are preparing your budgets, please consider becoming a sponsor to help fund the Columbia Gorge CWMA. Together we can keep collaborative weed control in the Columbia River Gorge strong. Please contact our CWMA Coordinator, Brendan Fordyce (503-998-3458, columbiagorgecwma@gmail.com) to learn more about becoming a sponsoring member of the Columbia Gorge CWMA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily Stevenson".

Emily Stevenson

Columbia Gorge CWMA Interim Co-Chair

estevenson@co.skamania.wa.us

509-427-3941

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angie Kimpo".

Angie Kimpo

Columbia Gorge CWMA Co-Chair

angie.kimpo@portlandoregon.gov

503-544-5633