

PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

Lepidium latifolium

EARLY DETECTION, RAPID RESPONSE.

Invasive weeds reduce land values, degrade natural areas and once established are very difficult to control. When found, the plants must be removed and the area monitored to prevent future spread. The Invasive Species Program (ISP) is a joint effort between TRCD and NTCD who collaborate with the *Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group (LTBWCG)*, a diverse group of agencies and community members dedicated to preventing and controlling invasive weed species in the Tahoe Basin. An early detection and rapid response network is coordinated by the LTBWCG to ensure that the entire basin is surveyed annually. TRCD offers one-on-one vegetation consultations for homeowners to help identify and control local invasive weed infestations and to find native plant alternatives. By being an extra set of eyes, educated homeowners increase our ability to detect new infestations in Tahoe.

How did Perennial Pepperweed get here?

Native to southern Europe and western Asia, it was introduced in contaminated sugar beet seeds around 1900. Seeds and plant fragments spread by floating down rivers and by attaching to vehicles. This invasive weed forms monocultures that threaten riparian areas across the west.



Origin: Southern Europe and Western Asia
Noxious Weed List: NV-Yes, C-listed; CA-Yes B-listed
Habitat: Wetlands, riparian areas and floodplains
Life Cycle: Perennial
Flowering time: June-August
Spread: Seeds and extensive creeping root system
Height: 1-6 ft, commonly 3 ft
Stems: Branching stems emerging from a woody perennial root
Leaves: Alternate, lance shaped, green/gray color. Leaves are largest at the base and are smaller towards the top of the stem
Flowers: 4 petals, forming dense clusters at the tips of branches
Flower color: White



Why is it a threat to the Tahoe Basin?

- ☹ Deeps roots do not hold soil and contribute to erosion
- ☹ Very difficult to remove and control
- ☹ Displaces native grasses on stream banks



NOXIOUS WEED:

An invasive plant that is difficult to control, aggressive, and intrusive, as well as detrimental to important native species.

Those listed as B-Listed are:

- Established in scattered populations
- Control required in areas where populations aren't well established
- Not allowed in nurseries

C-listed:

- Widespread
- Control is at discretion of state quarantine officer
- Not allowed in nurseries

Do Not Disturb!
TAHOE NATIVE



Yarrow

- ☺ **Flower:** Small 4-petaled flowers form flattened flower heads or dome-shaped clumps
- ☺ **Flower color:** White or pink
- ☺ **Stem:** Hairy, single stem gives rise to clusters of flowers
- ☺ **Leaves:** Hairy, feathery, very finely divided. Alternate and clasping the stem.

Call Us!
NONNATIVE INVASIVE



Perennial pepperweed

- ☹ **Flower:** 4 petals, form dense clusters at the tips of branches
- ☹ **Flower color:** White
- ☹ **Stem:** Numerous, branching from a woody perennial root
- ☹ **Leaves:** Alternate, lance shaped, green-gray color

Think you spotted this invasive weed?

- 1) Please contact your local Resource Conservation District. In California, call TRCD (530) 543-1501 ext. 113. In Nevada, call NTCD (775) 586-1610 ext. 28.
- 2) A member of the Invasive Species Program (ISP) staff will come identify the plant and record the weed's location to add to our Basin-wide map.
- 3) District staff will work with you to determine the best method of control that fits your property and the invasive weed(s) present. With your permission, the District will monitor the site after control measures are completed to ensure control efforts succeeded.
- 4) At your request, your local RCD also provides native and adapted plant consultations to homeowners free of charge. After evaluating your property, staff can provide plant plans for your yard and accompany you to a local nursery to help pick out native plants that will thrive on and add beauty to your landscape.

