

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Tamarisk & Russian Olive Removal



RiverEdge West
RESTORE + CONNECT + INNOVATE

Prepared for Landowners | By Christa Brown | 2024

This document is intended to provide general management recommendations with associated references. It is not exhaustive or intended to be prescriptive.

SMALL-SCALE MANAGEMENT

Recommendations for tamarisk and Russian olive management on the small-scale:

RiversEdge West works across the entire community, however fundraising efforts are often limited to larger scale projects. For smaller scale projects, RiversEdge West is happy to provide technical assistance and support. This is a document intended to assist you with managing and removing tamarisk and Russian olive on your property.

TIP: Weedy trees are just like any other weeds and can come back every year from new seeds. Be prepared to manage small sprouts of new tamarisk and Russian olive annually. You can help with this by planting other species on the bare ground that outcompetes the weeds.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

For new growth/saplings:

- * **Pulling or spraying**

Maintenance of invasive trees at new growth works best when pulling the saplings and their root system out before they grow too large. Saplings and young weedy trees can also be sprayed to kill off growth (please see Chemical Use section). Once these trees are mature though, only using mechanical work will just suppress them temporarily and will not eradicate the infestations. This includes just trying to cut the trees down which will result in more vigorous regrowth and the need for more frequent cuttings.

For mature trees:

- * **Cut-stump**

This is a highly recommended method for managing mature invasive trees by combining mechanical work and applying chemicals. This process can occur anytime of the year but would be most effective in the fall as the health of the tree recedes into its roots and the herbicide will also be pulled into the roots to kill off continued growth.



Photo by Pamela Beane/Unsplash

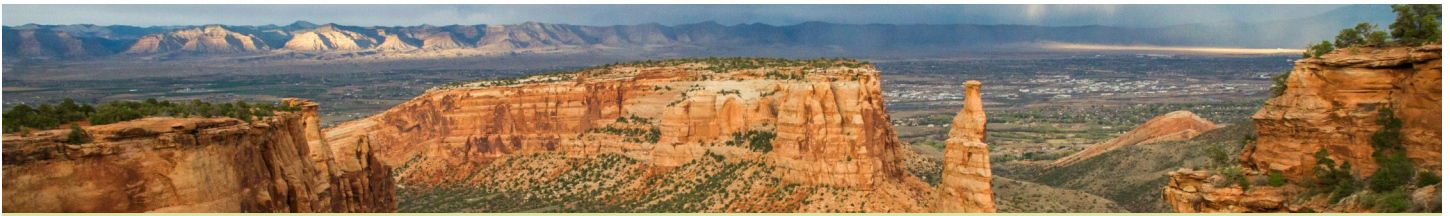


Photo by Holly Mandarich/Unsplash

Cut-stump Application:

- Cut the majority of the invasive trees down, have your herbicide of choice ready, and then cut the stumps all the way to the ground as best as possible.
- After cutting, tamarisk need herbicide applied within a 5 minute window and Russian olives have a 15 minute window. This is important because both tamarisk and Russian olive have immediate wound healing properties that could slow down the effectiveness of the herbicide if you wait any longer.
- Apply the herbicide by the method outlined on the label of your chosen herbicide onto the surface of the exposed stump, focusing on the outer tree rings of the current tree growth.

Chemical Use for Above Methods:

Please abide by all federal, state, and local laws and follow the herbicide manufacturer’s recommendations printed on the label.

If you are spraying the foliage of the saplings or young invasive trees (less than 5 inches in diameter and less than 6 feet tall), here are the herbicide recommendations from the USDA:

Chemical:	2,4-D	Picloran - best on saplings	Triclopyr	Glyphosate	Imazapyr	Tebuthiuron
Common products:	Many common products	Tordon 22K	Garlon 3A, Garlon 4, Ultra, Remedy Ultra, Pathfinder II	Roundup, Accord XRT II, & others	Arsenal, Habitat, Stalker, Chopper, Polaris	Spike

If you are working on the cut-stump method, here are the herbicide recommendations from the USDA:

Chemical:	Triclopyr	Glyphosate (undiluted) (best on Russian olive)	Imazapyr (best on tamarisk)
Common products:	Garlon 3A, Garlon 4, Ultra, Remedy Ultra, Pathfinder II	Roundup, Rodeo, Aquamaster	Arsenal AC, Habitat, Stalker, Chopper, Polaris

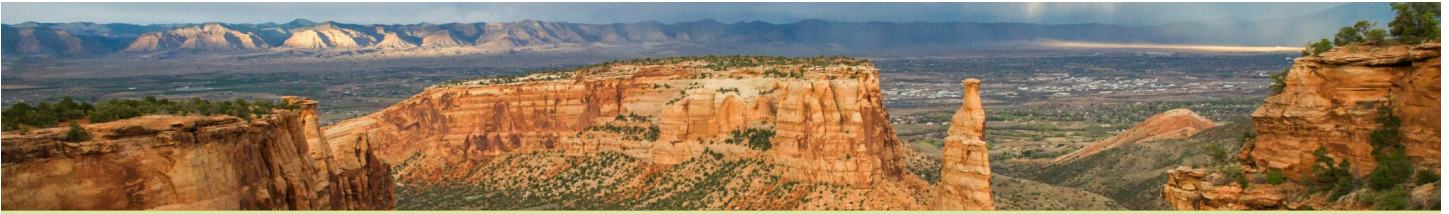


Photo by Holly Mandarich/Unsplash

REFERENCES

Please read more about the individual herbicides for: application use, mixing uses, and the total amount needed. Below are some references for these chemicals that were listed above.

UC Weed Research & Information Center. (2013). *Russian-olive - Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States*. https://wric.ucdavis.edu/information/natural%20areas/wr_E/Elaeagnus.pdf

UC Weed Research & Information Center. (2013). *Tamarisk - Weed Control in Natural Areas in the Western United States*. https://wric.ucdavis.edu/information/natural%20areas/wr_T/Tamarix.pdf

USDA (2014). *Field Guide for Managing Russian Olive in the Southwest*. https://riversedgewest.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Field_Guide_for_Managing_RO_SW.pdf

USDA (2014). *Field Guide for Managing Saltcedar in the Southwest*. https://riversedgewest.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Field_Guide_for_Managing_Tam_SW.pdf

Additionally, the CSU Extension Office is a resource for herbicide questions and prescriptions:

- Plant Invasion Ecology - Cynthia.S.Brown@colostate.edu
- General Weed Control Practices - Franck.Dayan@colostate.edu