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Comments: I read the proposed invasive species reduction plan in the Siuslaw National Forest. The planned use of herbicides is disappointing, when mechanical and bio methods are available. I'm a resident and property owner in Yachats, just meters away from the border of the Siuslaw. So my concerns are personal and local.

The identification of invasive species that is required for careful, focused, herbicide application is the same ID method required for mechanical removal. Applying or spraying a chemical, with poorly understood side effects, may save time but is no more effective than pulling or cutting out or scraping the unwanted plants. Drone spraying is particularly worrisome since it would be more indiscriminate. Widely spraying plant killing chemicals would harm the desired plants and trees. And there is a great risk of harm to animals and humans.

This chemical spraying method is intended to treat 2,000 acres. The potential for harm is far greater than 2,000 acres. Thoughtful citizens expect the managers of our natural resources to, first and foremost, do no harm. "Abundance of caution" should be your directive. Chemical spraying has a great risk of harm. I urge you to completely discard this method.

Steven Chase

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