USACE Invasive Plant Species Best Management Practices

Chinese Privet (Ligustrum sinense) - Oleaceae (Olive)







Habitat & Life History

Terrestrial/ornamental - Native to Eurasia - UPL, FACU, & FAC - Perennial shrub/tree

Integrated Management Strategy Selections Prevention Chemical Biological Mechanical Cultural



PREVENTION

Establish dense native tree canopy to prevent infestation & to protect riparian & upland habitat



CHEMICAL CONTROL

- Herbicides—2,4-D, glyphosate, triclopyr
- Use-pattern—most common: foliar spray, cut/paint, basal oil, stem-injections; other: hack & squirt
 *Refer to product label for specific instructions on rate & use-pattern



BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Potential biological agent—Ochyromera ligustri (seed weevil)



MECHANICAL CONTROL

- Hand pull, dig roots, cut/shred; for mature trees, control prior to fruiting/seeding; remove propagules from site
- Be mindful of potential removal-erosion issues; use phased-removal approach or artificial or natural armoring
- Most effective if used in conjunction with herbicide application followed by native vegetation establishment



CULTURAL CONTROL

Flooding (long-term); plant competitive native vegetation



MANAGEMENT SEQUENCING

- Timing of control methods—best option is to apply cut/paint mechanical/chemical control in late growing season when temperatures are mild and before seed-set—varies by species; a 6-week post-treatment monitoring period is recommended before soil disturbance or grubbing to confirm efficacy
- Monitoring—maintain long-term monitoring & adaptive management for most effective control
- Niche-filling/Restoration—replace removal sites with native woody vegetation & erosion-control measures



COMMENTS

Privet spreads by seed & readily re-sprouts from stumps & roots; mechanical methods may unintentionally
contribute to spread if used without herbicide & monitoring treatment period

