

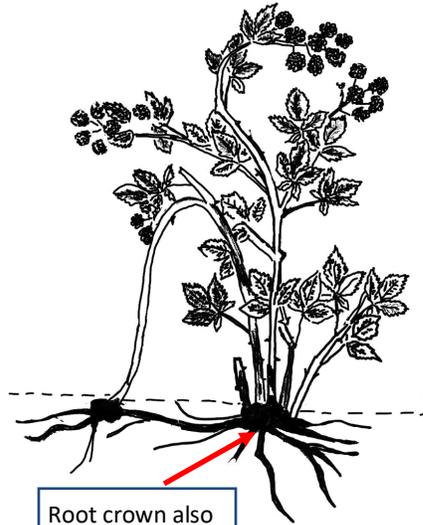
# Guide for Removal of Invasive Himalayan Blackberry



Invasive Himalayan blackberry  
(5 - leaf pattern)



Himalayan blackberry in flower



Root crown also known as "heart"

## MECHANICAL REMOVAL

- Used with large dense patches of **ONLY** blackberry. Higher impact on landscape.

- **Tools:** weed whacker, excavator, mower, front-end loader, etc.

**CAUTION:** Permit may be required for land disturbing activities (Contact Tulalip Tribes Planning Department for more info). Before using heavy equipment, mark the locations of underground utilities (including septic systems).

1. Following the steps in the protocol above, use a weed eater with a blade or mower to cut the canes to 2ft height, and use: (1) a digging tool for manual removal, or (2) a front-end loader or similar equipment to remove the root structure.

2. You can use excavator arm to remove the full plant. This activity is prohibited in sensitive areas, including wetlands and is discouraged for areas with partially wet soils.

3. Proper disposal: To remove canes and root mass from the landscape, first dry and then mulch. If mulching is not possible, composting or transporting the remnants to an appropriate landfill is recommended.

\*If you live on **fee-simple** land, Snohomish County Noxious Weeds may be able to provide some services to aid in control of this weed.

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## MANUAL REMOVAL (Preferred Method)

- Most simple method, but labor intensive.
  - Most suitable for small patches of blackberry.
  - **Tools:** shovel, loppers, clippers, hoe, and claw mattock.
- To remove blackberry and stop it from growing back, two steps are required:

1. Use the clippers/loppers/machete to cut the above ground portion of the plant to 2ft height. The vegetation removed can be dried on a tarp and burned later.
2. Using a digging tool (shovel, claw mattock, pickaxe) remove the rest of the plant (the shallow roots that connect to a root crown or "heart"). Removing this part of the plant is crucial if you want to prevent re-growth.

- Make sure to store the root crown away from contact with the ground to prevent re-sprouting.



Claw mattock

## CHEMICAL CONTROL

Carefully selected and applied herbicides can provide efficient control of Himalayan blackberry in some instances. However, there are negative aspects to be considered: **Herbicides can cause environmental damage and can be very hazardous to human and animal health, especially if detailed usage and safety directions are not strictly followed. Some herbicides promote vegetative growth from lateral roots. If used incorrectly, herbicides may just temporarily kill the above-ground portions of the plant.**

To learn more about chemical controls and the options available to you, please visit our website (<https://nr.tulaliptribes.com/Topics/Wetlands>) or contact the Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources Department.



Care should be taken in areas where desirable native species are mixed with the Himalayan blackberry. For example, salmonberry (shown below) often grows in close proximity.



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