



Yachats Weed of the Month – August 2023

Hedge bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*) (also known as Morning Glory)

Impact: Morning glory vines grow rapidly from seeds or root fragments and can smother and topple shrubs and small trees. In our region it is often found growing in conjunction with blackberry and ivy, which shows just how competitive and invasive this weed is. The seeds and roots may be moderately toxic. Seeds can remain viable for over 30 years.

Identification: Morning glory is a twining, perennial vine that blooms from June to September. The stems can form dense, tangled mats as they intertwine with any vegetation they encounter. The leaves are shaped like arrowheads, about 2-4 inches long. This invasive plant is most easily identified by its characteristic trumpet-shaped flowers, white to pinkish and about 2-3 inches in diameter.

Management: Hand removal is the recommended method of dealing with morning glory. Since roots will resprout, it is much more effective to dig them out, as far as possible, rather than just pull and break off the vines. Whatever method you use, be sure to repeat the process at least three times during the growing season. Also, deal with the plants before they set seed – that means right away! Don't try to compost any plant parts that contain roots. Dry them out thoroughly or bag them for disposal. As with all weeds, persistence is the key to controlling them. The Trails Crew has relentlessly fought Morning Glory at the Community Park and Whale Park, and now there is very little of it at either site.

The Weed of the Month is brought to you by the Yachats Trails Crew. Visit our website www.yachatstrails.org

