Equipment Cleaning Measures for Invasive Species

In addition to any equipment cleaning protocols specified in the Plans and Standard Specifications associated with the Project, the Contractor is advised that all vehicles and equipment to be used off-road while completing a project or activity within the external boundaries of the Bad River Reservation (hereafter “Reservation”) of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa (hereafter “Tribe”) are subject to the following requirements. The need for these requirements is supported by the Bad River Reservation Wetland and Watercourse Protection Ordinance (BRR WWPO), the Bad River Tribe Water Quality Standards (WQS), and the Bad River Reservation Invasive Species Management Plan for Aquatic and Terrestrial Plants.

In accordance with these codes, standards, and plans, the Contractor must clean all equipment to be used on a off-road project site before it enters the Reservation from an off-Reservation location. (These specifications also apply to all project subcontractors, as well.) All cleaned equipment must undergo an inspection by the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resource Department’s (MNRD) Non-Local Beings Manager, or other designated MNRD staff, prior to being unloaded from any trailer used for transportation or on any project site, and possibly between sites as well.

Equipment Needing to be Cleaned and Inspected

Examples of equipment that will need to be cleaned and inspected include, but are not limited to:

- ATVs
- Backhoes
- Skid steers
- Bokers
- Lifts
- Sheet piling
- Trailers
- UTVs
- Excavators
- Loaders
- Drillers
- Timber matting
- Pick-up trucks
- Watercraft
- Argos
- Bulldozers
- Tractors
- Cranes
- Crossings
- Hand tools
- Kayaks or canoes

When Equipment Needs to be Cleaned and Inspected

In general, vehicles and equipment MUST be inspected when:

1) the equipment is being transported onto the Reservation from off-Reservation; and
2) the equipment is being moved from an area with a known infestation of garlic mustard, giant reed grass (Phragmites), Japanese barberry, wild parsnip, or any other species the Tribe is trying to eradicate or a known human health hazard.

Standards of Clean for Equipment

Equipment should be cleaned—either by power washing, scrubbing, or hand removal—to remove all vegetation (e.g., dead grass, seed heads, twigs, etc.) and dirt (mud, gravel, sand, etc.) from the equipment. For the inspector to consider the equipment “clean” and pass it during inspection, they will look inspect all visible areas of the equipment, including tires and rims (including the inside sides), up in the fender and wheel wells, the top of axles, next to the shock absorbers, and in tracks of the machine and track rollers. Stains and fine residues of mud, sand, etc. associated with transport from the cleaning location to the inspection location will not cause equipment to fail the inspection. However, large clumps of dirt or handfuls of vegetation will result in a failed inspection.

Failed Inspection – Next Steps

If the inspection uncovers an area that has not been adequately cleaned on a piece of equipment, there are two options:

1) lay a tarp or other sort of catchment material under the equipment, clean dirty area, dispose of debris in the trash, and ask for another inspection; this works well if dirt and other debris is dry and can easily be removed by hand with brushes or scrapers; or,
2) remove equipment off-Reservation and clean equipment there using a power washer, or another method, before returning to the Reservation for second inspection.

If equipment requires more cleaning than can be done by hand, but the Contractor’s base is far away, an option could be to bring it to a nearby car wash or contract with a local facility to clean your equipment.

Inspections can be scheduled by calling the MNRD Non-Local Beings Manager at 715-979-1510. Please see MNRD’s “A Guidance for Contractors Concerning Vehicle and Equipment Inspections” for more information on invasive species and additional resources for best management practices related to cleaning standards.