RCW 17.26.015  Lead agency—Responsibilities.  (1) The state
department of agriculture is the lead agency for the control of
spartina and purple loosestrife with the advice of the state noxious
weed control board.

(2) Responsibilities of the lead agency include:
(a) Coordination of the control program including memorandums of
understanding, contracts, and agreements with local, state, federal,
and tribal governmental entities and private parties;
(b) Preparation of a statewide spartina management plan utilizing
integrated vegetation management strategies that encompass all of
Washington's tidelands. The plan shall be developed in cooperation
with local, state, federal, and tribal governments, private
landowners, and concerned citizens. The plan shall prioritize areas
for control. Nothing in this subsection prohibits the department from
taking action to control spartina in a particular area of the state in
accordance with a plan previously prepared by the state while
preparing the statewide plan;
(c) Directing on the ground control efforts that include, but are
not limited to: (i) Control work and contracts; (ii) spartina survey;
(iii) collection and maintenance of spartina location data; (iv)
purchasing equipment, goods, and services; (v) survey of threatened
and endangered species; and (vi) site-specific environmental
information and documents; and
(d) Evaluating the effectiveness of the control efforts.
The lead agency shall report to the appropriate standing
committees of the house of representatives and the senate no later
than December 15th of each year through the year 1999 on the progress
of the program, the number of acres treated by various methods of
control, and on the funds spent. [1998 c 245 § 4; 1995 c 255 § 10.]