

## **Chelan – Crupina**

**Description:** This is the only infestation of *Crupina vulgaris* in Washington State. It is a WA Class A Noxious Weed and infests approximately 600 acres between Prince Creek and Hunts Bluff in the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness (on the Chelan Ranger District) and adjacent private lands. The Lakeshore Trail runs through the length of the infestation. Small populations of diffuse and spotted knapweed are found in campgrounds, and Japanese knotweed and Scotch broom are found on Moore Point. Most of the area was burned in the 2001 Rex Creek Fire.

**Infested acres:** 91.8

**Total acres:** 4541

**5<sup>th</sup> Field watershed:** Upper Lake Chelan 1702000902

**Major Streams and Waterbodies:** Lake Chelan, Fish Creek, Meadow Creek, Cascade Creek, Pioneer Creek, Rex Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Prince Creek.

**Elevation:** 1400 – 4000 ft.

**Vegetation Type:** shrub steppe/grassland, early successional dry forest, mixed conifer forest, bigleaf maple in riparian sites.

**Soils:** Sandy Loam

**Precipitation:** Low elev. – 14-16"/yr, High elev. – 40-44"/yr

**Special Management Areas:** Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness

**Recreation:** Developed campsites, dispersed camping, hunting, hiking, horseback, boat-in campsites.

**Grazing:** The Round Mountain grazing allotment was voluntarily vacated after crupina was discovered.

**TES, ISSSP Species:** *Pellea brachyptera*, *Spiranthes porrifolia*

**Other land Ownerships:** Private

**Vectors of spread:** Trail use, wildlife.

**Ongoing Treatments:** The crupina infestation has been treated at varying levels since 1988, shortly after it was discovered. In the late 1980s and early 1990s prison crews were brought in to pull and spray the crupina infestations. Funding was reduced in the late 1990s and as a result only the trail corridor was treated, with hand pulling. After the 2001 Rex Creek Fire increased funding allowed for a larger effort with Washington Conservation Corp crews handpulling up to 300 acres a year. The 2003 Crupina Integrated Weed Management EIS allowed for spot spraying of crupina infestations. Between 2004 and present crews have been treating the crupina infestation with a combination of hand pulling and spot spraying with backpack sprayers. NFWF Foundation Pulling Together Initiative Grants, Chelan County Title II funds, and WA State Weed board grants have helped fund the project.

**Existing NEPA:** Crupina EIS 2003. Wenatchee Forest wide EA 1998.

**IWM Strategy:** Prevent crupina from spreading to new areas, and monitor and sign wilderness access points (boat launches, trailheads, campsites). Monitor for new invaders. Continue to use the most effective combination of handpulling and spot spraying to work toward eradication of crupina populations. Use biocontrols should they become available. Eradicate the small infestations of knapweed and scotchbroom.

### Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

<b>Common Name</b>	<b># of sites</b>	<b>site types</b>	<b>Infested acres</b>	<b>Objective</b>
Common crupina	14	1,2,3,5,6	91.1	Eradicate
Diffuse knapweed	2	1,3,5,6	.6	Eradicate
Spotted knapweed	1	3	.1	Eradicate
Scotch broom	1	5,6	.01	Eradicate
Cheatgrass	3	3	124.4	Contain
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>216</b>	