Cle Elum – Catherine

Description: A variety of land management historically and currently occurs in this treatment area. Due to the proximity to a railroad line, the ownership has been largely checkerboard and major utility and transportation corridors dissect the landscape (I-90, BPA and PSE). Its close proximity to Seattle drives the type and level of recreational use occurring in this location. A major ski area (The Summit at Snoqualmie) is located on the Snoqualmie Pass and the Pacific Crest Trail borders this treatment area. Lost Lake, Mirror Lake, Twin lakes, Gold Creek Pond and Stirrup Lake are all popular lake destinations. Major access points to the Pacific Crest Trail, Gold Creek Valley, Lake Lillian, and Swan Lake are found here as well. A groomed trail system for both cross country skiing and snowmobile exist here. Large infestations of orange hawkweed are located on the ski area and are moving up onto the pacific crest trail. This species is the most threating to this treatment area due to its ability to colonize ground with low light and high vegetative cover. Most other invasive plants are confined to road sides and have a dominate presence in utility corridors. Areas with a combination of disturbance and water are dominated by meadow hawkweed, common tansy and Canada thistle.
Infested acres: 273
Total acres: 18425
5th Field watershed: CEDAR RIVER 1711001201, KACHESS RIVER-YAKIMA RIVER 1703000103, SOUTH FOR SNOQUALMIE RIVER 1711001003, UPPER GREEN RIVER 1711001003
Major Streams and Waterbodies: Keechelus Lake, Lost Lake, Gold Creek, Coal Creek, Wolfe Creek, Resort Creek, Rocky Run, Roaring Creek, Mill Creek, Dandy Creek, Meadow Creek, Stirrup Creek, Cedar River, Tunnel Creek, Hyak Creek
Elevation: 2600 to 5600
Vegetation Type: Pacific silver fir, mountain hemlock, western hemlock, montane herbaceous opening, montane shrub, non-vegetated, riparian and deciduous, parkland, urban-agriculture, water, grand fir, aquatic emergent, wetland, high elevation herbaceous and shrub open, Douglas-fir
Soils:
Precipitation: 69-135 in/yr.
Special Management Areas: Alpine Lakes Wilderness, Pacific Crest Trail
Recreation: Downhill skiing, hiking, water sports, vacation rental, huckleberry/mushroom hunting, ORV, snowmobiling, Nordic skiing, dog sledding, rock climbing, plinking and camping.
Grazing: None
TES, ISSSP Species: None
Other land Ownerships: The Summit at Snoqualmie ski area, Forterra, MBS, Private, WSDOT, The Mountaineers, Plum Creek, State Parks
Vectors of spread: Vehicle traffic, recreational use, utility/transportation vegetation management, soil disturbing activities and wildlife.
Ongoing Treatments: WSDOT is currently treating invasive plant populations with herbicide along the I-90 corridor and active restoration to the roadsides is occurring and will occur until 2025. These restoration activities associated with the I-90 expansion to 6 lanes will include continued herbicide treatment of existing invasive populations, native seeding and revegetation. The Summit at Snoqualmie ski area also treats invasive populations on the ski area itself. The Cle Elum Ranger District has a small herbicide program throughout this treatment area as pre and post treatment of timber management activities. The Kittitas County weed board is primarily treating private lands and some BPA corridors outside of their normal vegetation management cycle. Every three years, BPA is actively treating their invasive plant populations during this time. The gold creek pond area, a remnant of I-90 overburden material, now converted into an interpretive site has ongoing restoration including spot herbicide treatment, manual removal and native seeding and revegetation.
Existing NEPA: A large portion of the treatment area is covered under the 2008 Roaring Thin EA and several sections are covered under the 1999 Forest-wide Noxious Weed EA: Wenatchee National Forest.

IWM Strategy: Integrated vegetation management tools are being utilized including herbicides, biological control, manual and revegetation. This treatment area is located within an active Upper Yakima/Cle Elum watershed CWMA consisting of a variety of land managers to cohesively treat invasive plant issues in this area. The long term strategy is to reduce the use of herbicides over time and use revegetation with native plants to compete with new invasive infestations. Continued monitoring for new invaders and attempts to limit new soil disturbance will occur.

Table 1. Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species	Common name	# of sites	Net acres	Gross acres	Site types	Objective
CEBI2	spotted knapweed	12	23.4	142.6	1,3,5,6	Control
CEDE5	meadow knapweed	2	5.3	29.9	1,5,6	Eradicate
CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	7	10.7	139.0	1,5,6	Containment
CIAR4	Canada thistle	10	12.1	114.2	1,5,6	Tolerate/Suppression
CIVU	bull thistle	15	10.0	177.4	1,3,5,6	Containment
CYSC4	Scotch broom	4	8.9	60.2	1,5,6	Tolerate
DIPU	purple foxglove	1	0.2	10.0	1,3	Control
HIAU	orange hawkweed	6	4.0	73.0	1,3,5,6	Eradicate
HICA10	meadow hawkweed	1	0.2	0.2	1	Containment
HYPE	common St. Johnswort	20	98.1	217.0	1,3,5,6	Control/Suppression
HYRA3	hairy cats ear	2	17.9	29.9	1,5,6	Control
LEVU	oxeye daisy	18	63.0	199.6	1,3,5,6	Eradicate
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	3	3.0	75.0	1,5,6	Control/Suppression
TAVU	common tansy	9	16.3	138.5	1,3,5,6	Control
		110	1406.5	273		