

**Cle Elum –Crystal**

**Description:** The topography is relatively flat with large areas of unforested lands due to the checkerboard ownership and a variety of utility and recreation corridors such as powerlines, Interstate 90, the John Wayne trail (an old railway converted to trail) and a dam facility on the south end of Keechelus Lake. This treatment area contains an abundance of winter recreation including groomed trails for cross country ski, dog sled and snowmobiling. A private gravel pit sits adjacent to three large Sno-Parks: Price Creek, Cabin Creek and Crystal Springs. One major trailhead to Stampede pass can be accessed from this treatment area. Swamp Lake is a large wetland complex is located within this treatment area and currently has no threat of invasive plants. Most other invasive plants are confined to road sides and have a dominate presence in utility corridors. Hundreds of acres of invasive plants exist under the powerline corridor and along roads adjacent. Areas with a combination of disturbance and water are dominated by meadow hawkweed, common tansy and Canada thistle.

**Infested acres:** 732

**Total acres:** 11514

**5<sup>th</sup> Field watershed:** KACHESS RIVER-YAKIMA RIVER 1703000103

**Major Streams and Waterbodies:** Mosquito Creek, Stampede Creek, Yakima River, Price Creek, Nobel Creek, Swamp Lake, Toll Creek, Cedar Creek

**Elevation:** 2300 to 4600 feet

**Vegetation Type:** Western hemlock, grand fir, Pacific silver fir, urban-agriculture, riparian and deciduous, wetland, Ponderosa pine, montane shrub, montane herbaceous opening, Douglas-fir, aquatic emergent, water, non-vegetated, mountain hemlock, and low elevation grassland.

**Soils:**

**Precipitation:** 49-113 in/yr.

**Special Management Areas:** John Wayne Trail (state parks)

**Recreation:** ORV, snowmobiling, Nordic skiing, dog sledding, and huckleberry/mushroom hunting

**Grazing:** None

**TES, ISSSP Species:** *Schistostega pennata*

**Other land Ownerships:** State Parks, BNSF Railway Co. Plum Creek, Forterra, Stampede Sand and Gravel, The Mountaineers

**Vectors of spread:** Vehicle traffic, recreational use, importing gravel, 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. 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. State parks also have an herbicide program to treat along their trail system. Some manual control of knapweed is being completed during the spring along groomed cross country ski routes by a local ski club.

**Existing NEPA:** Some of this treatment area is covered under the 2008 Roaring Thin EA and 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 Code	Common Name	# of Sites	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Site Type	Objective
--------------	-------------	------------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

ARAB3	absinthium	3	65.4	1.8	1,5,6	Control
CEBI2	spotted knapweed	17	214.6	88.4	1,3,5,6	Control
CEDE5	meadow knapweed	7	168.5	53.9	1,3,5,6	Eradication
CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	11	197.2	35.2	1,3,5,6	Containment
CIAR4	Canada thistle	17	217.3	48.3	1,3,5,6	Tolerate/Suppression
CIVU	bull thistle	16	212.5	34.6	1,3,5,6	Tolerate
CYSC4	Scotch broom	12	301.5	68.6	1,3,5,6	Eradication
HIAU	orange hawkweed	1	23.8	0.2	1,5,6	Eradication
HYPE	common St. Johnswort	23	226.5	135.7	1,3,5,6	Containment
HYRA3	hairy catsear	7	166.1	128.8	1,3,5,6	Eradication
LEVU	oxeye daisy	22	225.2	101.9	1,3,5,6	Control/Suppression
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	6	165.5	2.9	1,3,5,6	Control/Suppression
LIVU2	butter and eggs	2	8.0	0.1	1,5,6	Eradication
PHAR3	reed canarygrass	2	22.4	0.2	1,5,6	Tolerate
SEJA	stinking willie	1	0.2	0.0	1	Eradication
SESY	woodland ragwort	3	30.4	1.0	1,5,6	Eradication
SEVU	old-man-in-the-Spring	2	2.7	0.2	1,5,6	Tolerate
TAVU	common tansy	15	209.6	30.2	1,3,5,6	Control
		<b>167</b>	<b>2457.5</b>	<b>732.2</b>		