

Cle Elum –Mineral Springs

Description: This treatment area borders the Wenatchee River Ranger District at the summit of Blewett Pass. State Route 97 also bisects this treatment area. Recreational uses include groomed snowmobile and cross country skiing trails. Additionally, approximately 200 recreational and commercial level mining claims are being utilized in this treatment area as well as recreational gold panning in Swauk creek. The historic mining town of Liberty is also within this treatment area. Public facilities consist of two primitive campgrounds; Mineral Springs and Swauk Creek, one interpretive trail; Swauk Forest Discovery trail, Blewett Pass Sno-Park, Mineral Springs small Sno-Park, Pipe Creek Non-Motorized area and one Voluntary Non-Motorized area north of State Route 97. Numerous motorized trails are accessed from this point, for both motorcycles and ATVs. Meadow knapweed can be found in high densities throughout the roadside and extending for acres into meadows. Invasive plants are primarily roadside but the extensive network of mining activities have moved plants over areas off road due to the large seed bank of invasive plant species. Any ground disturbing activities including fire have proven to stimulate these populations. Prescribed burning activities have also exhibited similar responses and larger populations of Canada thistle and knapweed are growing in abundance in these areas. The 2012 Table Mt. Fire burned through the NE portion of this treatment area. Houndstonge appears to be associated with the active sheep grazing allotment in this treatment area.

Infested acres: 431

Total acres: 38746

5th Field watershed: TANEUM CREEK – YAKIMA RIVER 1703000105

Major Streams and Waterbodies: Swauk Creek, Iron Creek, Hovey Creek, Hurley Creek, Medicine Creek, Durst Creek, Baker Creek, Blue Creek, Williams Creek, Boulder Creek, Mill Creek

Elevation: 2400 to 6300 feet

Vegetation Type: Douglas-fir, grand fir, subalpine fir, western hemlock, montane herbaceous opening, montane shrub, riparian and deciduous, low elevation grassland, non-vegetated, Ponderosa pine, shrub steppe, urban-agriculture, wetland, Pacific silver fir, aquatic emergent, and parkland.

Soils:

Precipitation: 29-37 in/yr.

Special Management Areas: None

Recreation: Hunting, hiking, ORV, snowmobiling, Nordic skiing, mushroom hunting, horseback riding, recreational/ commercial mining and camping.

Grazing: Stafford (11), Swauk (36552), and Table Mountain (26)

TES, ISSSP Species: *Cypripedium fasciculatum* and *Cypripedium montanum*

Other land Ownerships: Private, DNR, BLM campground

Vectors of spread: Vehicle traffic, recreational use, livestock, wildlife, soil disturbing activities, private lands, recreational and commercial mining.

Ongoing Treatments: Both the FS and the Kittitas County Weed Board have been controlling weed populations along road corridors. Biological control for meadow knapweed and Canada thistle has been release here.

Existing NEPA: This treatment area is covered under the 2009 Liberty Fuels II EA, 2007 Iron Restoration and 1999 Forest-wide Noxious Weed EA: Wenatchee National Forest.

IWM Strategy: Use herbicides to control all new invader populations and to reduce the populations of species listed in table 1. where densities and spread potential are the highest. Continue to use biocontrol on meadow knapweed and Canada thistle populations outside of herbicide control areas. When effective, use manual control where new invader populations are small and where there are populations near water. Continue to monitor for new invaders. Continue to prevent and revegetate new soil disturbance.

Table 1. Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species Code	Common Name	# of Sites	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Site Type	Objective
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ARAB3	absinthium	13	238.6	21.3	1,3,5,6	Control
CEBI2	spotted knapweed	29	380.0	43.4	1,3,5,6	Control
CEDE5	meadow knapweed	21	346.8	50.0	1,3,5,6	Eradication
CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	44	459.2	198.3	1,3,5,6	Containment
CIAR4	Canada thistle	36	409.2	80.5	1,3,5,6	Tolerate/Suppression
CIIN	chicory	10	169.9	6.2	1,3,5,6	Containment
CIVU	bull thistle	20	264.7	8.4	1,3,5,6	Tolerate
CYOF	Houndstongue	14	113.8	4.3	1,3,5,6	Eradication/Control
HYPE	common St. Johnswort	12	207.3	10.3	1,3,5,6	Containment
LEVU	oxeye daisy	6	95.0	2.2	1,3	Control/Suppression
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	4	75.0	1.5	1,3,5	Control/Suppression
LIVU2	butter and eggs	2	17.6	0.4	1,3,6	Eradication
MAPE2	scentless false mayweed	5	13.6	2.2	1,3,5,6	Suppression
PORE5	sulfur cinquefoil	7	22.4	1.5	1,3,5,6	Control
TAVU	common tansy	3	49.3	0.7	1,3,6	Control
		226	2862.4	431.2		