

## Methow – Early Winters Creek

**Description:** This area is comprised of the highway 20 corridor from the old Early Winters to Washington Pass. The area also includes the 5110-100 road system on lower Sandy Butte area and the roads that lead to the campgrounds and trailheads. The area includes 4 developed campgrounds, 3 trailheads, a picnic area, a snow park, the old Early Winter District compound, and the Cedar Creek and Cutthroat Lake trails. Common tansy, St John's Wort, spotted knapweed, and Dalmatian toadflax, are scattered and patchy along the lower 5 miles of the highway 20 corridor where Dalmatian toadflax is in moderate to high densities near Early Winters Campground. There are small common tansy sites and one oxeye daisy site associated with the campgrounds and a houndstongue and an oxeye daisy site near Cedar Creek on the lower Sandy Butte area. Diffuse knapweed densities are low with one high density population at Cedar Creek trailhead. There are a few scattered St. John's wort patches on the upper Highway 20 corridor but weed densities are very low.

**Infested acres:** 8.9

**Total acres:** 18,272

**5<sup>th</sup> Field watershed:** UPPER METHOW RIVER, HUC 1702000802

**Major Streams and Waterbodies:** Early Winters Creek, Cedar Creek.

**Elevation:** 2200 to 7700 feet

**Vegetation Type:** western hemlock/subalpine fir/huckleberry with douglas fir/pinegrass in lower dry sites and some moist alpine parkland in upper elevations.

**Soils:** developed mainly from glacial activity (continental and alpine) and from volcanic ash deposition on the surface; till left by the glaciers is generally coarse with soil textures mostly sandy loams and loamy sands with rock fragment content from 15 to 65 percent gravels, cobbles and stones.

**Precipitation:** 22-70 inches

**Special Management Areas:** Snow park, trailheads, campgrounds, Historic Early Winter District compound

**Recreation:** hiking, developed and dispersed camping, hunting, and winter sports

**Grazing:** The area is not within an active allotment.

**TES, ISSSP Species:** *Botrychium pinnatum*

**Other land Ownerships:** N/A

**Vectors of spread:** Vehicle traffic, hiking, wildlife

**Ongoing Treatments:** The highway 20 corridor is under the administration of the Washington Department of Transportation (DOT) which includes all roadside weed treatments. The DOT treatments have been inconsistent and populations have not been reduced. The campgrounds and trailheads are treated as needed and weed populations remain low.

**Existing NEPA:** None

**IWM Strategy:** Use herbicides to control all new invader populations where manual treatment is not effective. When effective, use manual control where new invader populations are small and where there are populations near water. Continue to survey for new invaders. Treatment at the campgrounds and trailheads will continue to be a priority to prevent the spread of weeds on roads by vehicles and on trails by hikers/outfitters.

### Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species	Common name	Infested acres	# of sites	Site types	Objective
CYOF	Houndstongue	0.2	1	1,3,5,6	Eradication/Control

HYPE	St. Johnswort	5.2	3	1,3,5,6	Containment
LEVU	oxeye daisy	1.1	5	1,3,5,6	Control/Suppression
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	0.9	4	1,5,6	Control/Suppression
TAVU	common tansy	1.4	5	1,3,6	Control