

## Methow – Eightmile and Falls Creek

**Description:** This area is comprised of the road systems within the Eightmile and Falls Creek drainages and the trails above the end of the Eightmile road. There are five developed campgrounds, one trailhead and outfitter horse corral. Diffuse knapweed populations are very low within the treatment area and confined to roads with only a few roads with high density populations. Oxeye daisy and sulfur cinquefoil are the weeds of greatest concern in the Eightmile drainage. There is a large oxeye daisy site at the Billy Goat trailhead and a whitetop site on the trail to hidden lakes. Sulfur cinquefoil is well established in the Buck Lake area. The only new invader weed sites in the Falls Creek drainage is common tansy and St. johnswort on the lower Falls Creek road above the Chewuch River.

**Infested acres:** 92.9

**Total acres:** 35,447

**5<sup>th</sup> Field watershed:** LOWER CHEWUCH RIVER, HUC 1702000804

**Major Streams and Waterbodies:** Eightmile Creek, Falls Creek

**Elevation:** 2200 to 7400 feet

**Vegetation Type:** Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine, Lodgepole pine, Shrub steppe, Conifer mix, Subalpine fir, Low elevation grassland.

**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:** 18-36 inches

**Special Management Areas:** 5 campgrounds and 1 trailhead

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

**Grazing:** The area is all within the Cub cattle allotment.

**TES, ISSSP Species:** *Botrychium crenulatum*, *Cypripedium montanum*

**Other land Ownerships:**

**Vectors of spread:** Vehicle traffic, recreational use, livestock, and wildlife

**Ongoing Treatments:** The new invader weed sites have been treated with herbicide in the Buck Lake area. Manual treatments have been made on the oxeye daisy site at the Billy Goat trailhead. Many of the new invader sites have not been treated. The campgrounds continue to be hand pulled each year.

**Existing NEPA:** Only the First Creek drainage is covered under the 1997 Okanogan National Forest Integrated Weed Management EA.

**IWM Strategy:** Use herbicides to control all new invader populations and to reduce the populations of diffuse knapweed where densities and spread potential are the highest. Continue to use biocontrol on diffuse knapweed 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 revegetate soil disturbance. Outfitters will use only pelletized feed or certified weed-free feed and develop a weed ID and mapping program under Forest Service direction. 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
---------	-------------	----------------	------------	------------	-----------

CADR	whitetop	0.1	2	1,5	Eradication
CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	61.7	5	1,3,5	Containment
CIAR4	Canada thistle	1.0	1	1,3,6	Tolerate/Suppression
CYSC4	Scotch broom	0.01	1	1	Eradication
HYPE	St. Johnswort	0.3	3	1,5,6	Containment
LEVU	oxeye daisy	3.1	11	1,3,5,6	Control/Suppression
PORE5	sulfur cinquefoil	25.9	13	1,3,5,6	Control
TAVU	common tansy	0.7	3	1,3,5,6	Control