

Methow – Gold Creek

Description: This area is comprised of the road systems within the North Fork Gold Creek, Martin Creek, and Foggy Dew Creek drainages including the 4340-100 road system on the lower Middle Fork Gold Creek. There are 2 trailheads, a developed campground, and an outfitterguide corral within the area. Whitetop, St John's wort, and houndstongue are the greatest concern. There are relatively large populations of whitetop and St. John's wort near the Foggy Dew developed campground and a whitetop site at the Crater Creek trailhead. Houndstongue was recently found at the outfitterguide corral near Crater Creek and is on the private land along the lower 4340 road along with small populations of Dalmatian toadflax and whitetop. There is also a large population of houndstongue in the DNR section in the NE corner of the treatment unit. Diffuse knapweed is scattered and patchy along all roads with some high density populations on the Crater Creek trailhead road 4340-300 and the Foggy Dew road 4340-200.

Infested acres: 14.5

Total acres: 21,749

5th Field watershed: LOWER METHOW RIVER, HUC 1702000807

Major Streams and Waterbodies: North Fork Gold Creek, Martin Creek, Foggy Dew Creek, Middle Fork Gold Creek.

Elevation: 1500 to 6800 feet

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

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: 14-48 inches

Special Management Areas: 1 campground, 2 trailheads

Recreation: Hiking, outfitter-guiding, hunting, developed and dispersed camping.

Grazing: The area is within the vacant Buttermilk sheep allotment.

TES, ISSSP Species: Bull trout in North Fork Gold Creek

Other land Ownerships: Private, State Dept. of Natural Resources

Vectors of spread: Vehicle traffic, camping, hunting, livestock, outfitter-guide stock, and wildlife

Ongoing Treatments: The higher density areas of diffuse knapweed have been hand pulled. The new invader weeds have been hand pulled are treated with herbicide at the trailheads and the campground.

Existing NEPA: None

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. 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. 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	0.4	2	1,5,6	Eradication

CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	13.5	7	1,3,5,6	Containment
CYOF	Houndstongue	0.2	2	1,5,6	Eradication/Control
HYPE	St. Johnswort	0.2	2	1	Containment
LEVU	oxeye daisy	0.1	1	1,3,5	Control/Suppression
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	0.2	2	1,5,6	Control/Suppression