

Methow – Hidden Lakes

Description: This area is comprised of the south two Hidden Lakes and Cougar Lake area on the Lost River and the associated trail systems. The area includes 7 outfitter camps and many miles of trail. There is an established whitetop population at the outfitter camp between the 2 Hidden Lakes. Trail access to this treatment area is via the Billy Goat trailhead which has a large population of oxeye daisy with a high potential of spread into the treatment area. There is a whitetop site on the Hidden Lakes trail between the Billy Goat trailhead and the wilderness boundary also with spread potential into the treatment area. This area has hundreds of acres of open moist alpine parkland (meadows) plant communities that are suitable habitat for invasive plants that have a mesic moisture requirement, i.e., oxeye daisy and orange hawkweed. There is a concern that weeds will spread along the trail system and into the open meadows.

Infested acres: 1.13

Total acres: 29,337

5th Field watershed: LOST RIVER, HUC 1702000801

Major Streams and Waterbodies: Lost River, Diamond Creek, Drake Creek

Elevation: 3600 to 8100 feet

Vegetation Type: Lodgepole pine, Subalpine fir, Parkland, High elevation herbaceous and shrub, Douglas-fir, Montane herbaceous opening

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: 32-60

Special Management Areas: Wilderness

Recreation: hiking, outfitterguide camping, dispersed camping, hunting, **Grazing:** pack and saddle stock grazing

TES, ISSSP Species: None

Other land Ownerships: N/A

Vectors of spread: hiking, pack and saddle stock, and wildlife

Ongoing Treatments: The whitetop has been hand pulled by wilderness personnel since 2008

Existing NEPA: None

IWM Strategy: Use herbicides to control all new invader populations where manual treatment is not effective. Continue to survey for new invaders. Outfitters will use only pelletized feed or certified weed-free feed and develop a weed ID and mapping program under Forest Service direction.

Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species	# of sites	site types	Infested acres	Objective
Whitetop	1	1,2	1.13	eradicate