

## Methow – North Cascades Smoke Jumper Base

**Description:** This area is comprised of the non irrigated areas at the smokejumper base and the Airstrip. There is a large open area on the east and south side of the base which includes the bone yard area and the jump tower area. Diffuse knapweed and dalmation toadflax are scattered and patchy throughout this area. There is a whitetop site in the open field and Russian thistle and kochia are in dense patches on the jump tower landing mound. This area is used for smoke jumper training, sometimes ATV training and to load and unload fire suppression supplies. This site is adjacent to the Airstrip which is managed by the Washington Department of Transportation. The airstrip has very dense populations of diffuse knapweed and scattered patches of dalmation toadflax and kochia which is currently under a herbicide spray plan to be implemented by the WDOT starting in 2009.

**Infested acres:** 13

**Total acres:**

**5<sup>th</sup> Field watershed:** MIDDLE METHOW RIVER, HUC 1702000806

**Major Streams and Waterbodies:** None within treatment area. Methow River is the closest waterbody.

**Elevation:** 1700 to 1800

**Vegetation Type:** open dry site shrub steppe, mostly bluebunch wheatgras and bitterbrush with weedy annual grasses and forbs including some bulbous bluegrass.

**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 inches

**Special Management Areas:** NCSB

**Recreation:** R & R for smokejumpers

**Grazing:** None

**TES, ISSSP Species:** None

**Other land Ownerships:** WDOT Airstrip

**Vectors of spread:** Vehicle traffic, smokejumper training activities, fire suppression supplies movement activities, ATV training

**Ongoing Treatments:** The open area and bone yard were treated with herbicide in 2007 and 2008.

**Existing NEPA:** Administrative site

**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: around the jump tower and in the bone yard. Insure the WDOT continues to control the weeds on the Airstrip. Handpull small new invader populations where manual treatment is effective. Continue to monitor for new invaders. Use biocontrol on diffuse knapweed populations outside of herbicide control areas.

### Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species	# of sites	site types	Infested acres	Objective
whitetop	1	1,2,6	.11	Eradication
diffuse knapweed	2	1,2,6	7.43	Suppression
Dalmatian toadflax	1	1,2,6	5.51	Control

