

Methow – Squaw and SF Gold Creek

Description: This area is comprised of the Squaw, McFarland, and South Fork Gold Creek road systems and includes the off road Shrub Steppe habitat on the east side of the area. All of the recent Hungry Hunter Ecosystem Management Project is within this area with associated logging disturbance. There are 3 large populations and a few small scattered patches of Dalmatian toadflax within the shrub steppe habitat on the south facing slopes of Squaw Creek Canyon. New populations of toadflax and sulfur cinquefoil are establishing on the block of private land on Hunter Mountain. There is a large population of houndstongue in Vinegar Gulch and relatively small patches on Mills Flat and in Mulhollan Gulch. Houndstongue is also present on private land on McFarland and SF Gold Creeks. Small patches of sulfur cinquefoil are present. Diffuse knapweed is scattered and patchy at low densities along all roads

Infested acres: 15

Total acres: 35,051

5th Field watershed: LOWER METHOW RIVER, HUC 1702000807

Major Streams and Waterbodies: Squaw Cr., McFarland Cr., SF Gold Cr.

Elevation: 1300 to 7200 feet

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

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: 12-48 inches

Special Management Areas: Snow park

Recreation: hunting and some dispersed camping, winter sports

Grazing: None

TES, ISSSP Species: None

Other land Ownerships: Private

Vectors of spread: Vehicle traffic, logging, dispersed camping, hunting, livestock, and wildlife

Ongoing Treatments: Okanogan IWM EA 1997. The higher density areas of diffuse knapweed have been treated with herbicide and biocontrol has been effective with populations greatly reduced. Dalmatian toadflax treatments have been effective but new introductions continue to be found. The houndstongue densities have been greatly reduced. The higher priority weeds continue to be spot treated with herbicide and population densities continue to be reduced.

Existing NEPA: Most of this treatment area is covered under the 1997 and 2000 Okanogan National Forest Integrated Weed Management EAs.

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 and Dalmatian toadflax 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 prevent and revegetate new soil disturbance.

Existing Sites and Treatment Objectives

Species Code	Common name	Infested acres	# of sites	Site types	Objective
CADR	whitetop	0.2	2	1,5,6	Eradication

CANU4	musk thistle	0.1	1	1,5	Eradication
CEDI3	diffuse knapweed	11.0	14	1,3,5,6	Containment
CYOF	Houndstongue	1.1	4	1,5,6	Eradication/Control
LIDA	Dalmatian toadflax	1.8	10	1,5,6	Control/Suppression
PORE5	sulfur cinquefoil	0.4	4	1,5,6	Control
SEJA	tansy ragwort	0.1	1	1,5	Eradication
TAVU	common tansy	0.1	1	1,5	Control