



## MT. BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

# NEW INVADERS-2007

### New Noxious Weed Sites: Analysis and Proposed Treatment—Site Restoration

#### **Introduction**

Welcome to the second edition of “New Invaders”—an annual report to meet the requirements of our Forest Plan, New Invaders Strategy.

In April 2005, the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor made a decision to treat high-priority invasive plants (noxious weeds)\*. As part of his decision, the Forest Plan was amended and the *New Invaders Strategy* was added to the Forest-wide standards and guidelines for noxious weed management. This allows rapid assessment and a decision on appropriate treatment for newly-discovered weed sites, before they start to expand uncontrollably. The Strategy will also contribute to meeting the goals and objectives of our Forest Plan.

#### **The key parts of the New Invaders Strategy include:**

- Each year, surveys are done for new invasive weed sites by our Forest botanists, other specialists, and our partners (such as The Nature Conservancy and various county weed boards).
- New weed sites are prioritized, using the process described in the 2005 Decision. High priority sites are added to the list for treatment.

- For the new sites, an initial proposed treatment and restoration plan is selected—based on the type of weed, and the size and location of the infestation. Only the methods included in the 2005 Decision are available for both treating the weeds and restoring the site.
- The effects of treating the new sites are estimated: **they must fall within the scope of the 2005 analysis to be added to the list (with no additional NEPA decision)**. In addition, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service must review the new sites and concur. The new sites are also reviewed by the Forest Archaeologist.
- Finally, an annual newsletter listing the new sites is to be produced and mailed to interested parties. This document is the newsletter for 2007.

#### ***New Weed Sites and Selected Treatment and Site Restoration***

Table 1 and 2 list the general locations of the newly-documented weed infestations that have been added to the 2005 Decision for priority treatment (added as addenda to Table Decision-3, from the 2005 EA).

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\*Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact, Proposed Treatment of Invasive Plants and New Invaders Strategy – Forest Plan Amendment #26, June 3, 2005.

The selected treatments at these newly-documented sites—as shown in the table below—all fall within the scope of the April 2005 Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact. The April 2005 decision remains in place; adding the newly-documented sites to Table Decision-3, under the New Invaders Strategy, does not constitute a new decision and is not subject to appeal.

### **Treatment of New Weed Sites: Effects on Aquatic Resources**

In June 2007, USDC NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reviewed and concurred with the newly surveyed weed sites and their proposed treatment. For sites within 300 feet of streams, the selected treatments *May Affect*, but are *Not Likely to Adversely Affect* listed threatened or endangered fish species. Treatment of sites farther than 300 feet from streams were determined to have *No Effect*. All mitigation measures specified in the original Biological Assessment still apply and are required for all treatment sites. Documentation is in the Project Record in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor's Office in Mountlake Terrace, Washington.

### **Treatment of New Weed Sites: Effects on Wildlife**

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Wildlife Biologist reviewed the new sites and selected treatment and determined that treatment would have *No Effect* on threatened or endangered wildlife species. All mitigation measures specified in the original Biological Assessment still apply and are required for all treatment sites. Documentation is in the Project Record in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor's Office in Mountlake Terrace, Washington.

### **Treatment of New Weed Sites: Effects on Heritage Resources**

The Forest Archaeologist was briefed on the new sites and raised no concerns with respect to heritage resources. The few weed sites near any heritage sites would be treated with herbicide, which has no effect on heritage resources (see 2005 EA, pages 3–52 and 3–53 for further information on herbicide effects). Therefore, treatment of all sites meets the conditions listed under the Programmatic Agreement Regarding Cultural Resources Management on National Forests in the State of Washington (Appendix A). All mitigation measures originally identified in the 2005 Decision apply to the treatment of these new sites.

### **Treatment of New Weed Sites: Effects on Sensitive and Survey and Manage Plants**

There will be *No Impact* on Sensitive or Survey/Manage plant species with treatment of these newly-surveyed sites. Refer to the 2007 Botanical Evaluation files at the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor's Office in Mountlake Terrace, Washington for the complete analysis.

### ***Your Opportunity to Comment***

To comment on any of these sites, please contact: Laura Potash Martin, Forest Botanist, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, 21905–64<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043–2251, 425–744–3423 or [llmartin@fs.fed.us](mailto:llmartin@fs.fed.us)

The Forest always welcomes information from any source on infestations of invasive plants. Please contact the nearest Ranger District office with information on newly found sites.

The tables below show the new weeds to be treated and the chosen treatment method.

These sites become addenda to the 2005 Environmental Assessment Table Decision-3.

**Table 1. North Zone Sites. 2007 Addenda to Table Decision-3.**

<b>Site name/District</b> DRD = Darrington District MB = Mt. Baker District	<b>Species</b>	<b>Proposed treatment method</b>	<b>NRIS ID#</b>	<b>Selected restoration with rationale</b>
Glacier FS house/MB	English ivy, periwinkle, Himalayan blackberry.	Hand-pulling or cutting of all by the Whatcom County Inmate Crew	01-AR-066, 01-AR-067, 01-AR-070	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Glacier FS house, east/MB	Bohemian knotweed.	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate either by contract or by Whatcom County weed control	01-AR-072	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Taylor spawning channel/MB	Scotch broom and Canada thistle	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	01-AR-068, 01-AR-069	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 18 near the 025 spur/MB	Spotted knapweed	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	01-LP-026	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Baker Lake Road @ MP 0.9/MB	Spotted knapweed	Hand pulling by Forest Service	01-AR-071	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 1855/DRD	Meadow hawkweed	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	02-AR-038	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 18 @ MP 8.4 and 8.9/DRD	Scotch broom	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	02-AR-037	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 2642 #2/DRD	Orange hawkweed	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	02-AR-039	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 41 @ MP 13.1–13.4/DRD	Policeman's helmet	Hand-pulling by Forest Service	02-AR-036	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Decline Creek sale area/DRD	Bull thistle, Canada thistle, herb Robert, and tansy ragwort.	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	02-SJ-001 through 02-SJ-012	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 24 @ MP 0.1/DRD	Bohemian knotweed	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by The Nature Conservancy	02-AR-040	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Road 2083 @ MP 0.5/DRD	Scotch broom	Spraying of aquatic glyphosate by contract	02-AR-041	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).

Table 2. South Zone Sites. 2007 Addenda to Table Decision-3.

<b>NRIS ID Number</b>	<b>Polygon Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>River Basin</b>	<b>Who will treat weeds, funds, and permitting</b>	<b>Proposed Treatment Method</b>	<b>Infestation Size (acres)</b>	<b>Selected Restoration and Rationale</b>
05-TF-034	361	Snoqualmie Point Stewardship	Butterfly bush	Snoqualmie	Forest Service contract	Application of aquatic glyphosate by contractors	20	Apply MBS non-native non-invasive seed mix covered with weed-free mulch
05-TF-035	362	Snoqualmie Point Stewardship	Scotch broom	Snoqualmie	Forest Service contract	Application of aquatic glyphosate by contractors	25	Apply MBS non-native non-invasive seed mix covered with weed-free mulch
05-TF-036	363	Snoqualmie Point Stewardship	Himalayan blackberry	Snoqualmie	Forest Service contract	Application of aquatic glyphosate by contractors	25	Apply MBS non-native non-invasive seed mix covered with weed-free mulch
05-TF-037	363	Snoqualmie Point Stewardship	Evergreen blackberry	Snoqualmie	Forest Service contract	Application of aquatic glyphosate by contractors	25	Apply MBS non-native non-invasive seed mix covered with weed-free mulch
05-TF-038	364	Snoqualmie Point Stewardship	Tansy ragwort	Snoqualmie	Forest Service contract	Application of aquatic glyphosate by contractors	0.5	Apply MBS non-native non-invasive seed mix covered with weed-free mulch
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Stevens Pass ski area parking lots and administrative sites	Oxeye daisy	Skykomish	Ski area	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).

**Issue No. 1 (2007)**

<b>NRIS ID Number</b>	<b>Polygon Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>River Basin</b>	<b>Who will treat weeds, funds, and permitting</b>	<b>Proposed Treatment Method</b>	<b>Infestation Size (acres)</b>	<b>Selected Restoration and Rationale</b>
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Highway 2 between MP 63 and 64	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County Noxious Weed Control Board	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Railroad tracks south of Hwy 2, just west of MP 59	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	South Fork Skykomish and Tye Rivers along Iron Goat Trail #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	South Fork Skykomish and Tye Rivers along Iron Goat Trail #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	South Fork Skykomish and Tye Rivers along Iron Goat Trail #3	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Iron Goat Trail #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Iron Goat Trail #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Along Iron Goat/Tye #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Along Iron Goat/Tye #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Southside of Highway 2, west of MP 57	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).

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<b>NRIS ID Number</b>	<b>Polygon Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>River Basin</b>	<b>Who will treat weeds, funds, and permitting</b>	<b>Proposed Treatment Method</b>	<b>Infestation Size (acres)</b>	<b>Selected Restoration and Rationale</b>
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Tye River, north and south of Highway 2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	South Fork of Skykomish River between RM 23 and 24 #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	S. Fork of Skykomish River, between RM 23 and 24 #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	S. Fork Skykomish River near Money Creek Bridge #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	S. Fork Skykomish River near Money Creek Bridge #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Money Creek Road between RM 5 and 6 #1	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
Not yet assigned	Not yet assigned	Money Creek Road between RM 5 and 6 #2	Bohemian knotweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
06-SS-051	47	Beckler Road, Bolt Creek crossing	Orange hawkweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB?	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).
06-AR-085	Not yet assigned	Alpine Baldy Road storage/trail construction	Meadow hawkweed	Skykomish	King County NWCB?	Application of aquatic glyphosate by cooperators	0.1	Passive restoration (site is 0.1 acre or less in size).