



Wallowa County Weed Watch

Common Bugloss

Common Bugloss is an aggressive noxious weed! A native of the Mediterranean, it is now invading Wallowa County!

The Problem

Common Bugloss has potential to add to the already very serious noxious weed problem in Wallowa County. It can occupy a wide variety of rangeland sites and habitats and thrives within a range of elevations.

Common Bugloss is spreading in Wallowa County. Currently it can be found within the Imnaha River Corridor from Indian Crossing to the Snake River. It has also been found near Lostine and Wallowa Lake.

Common Bugloss is high priority weed for Wallowa County and Oregon State, and requires aggressive treatment measures. It is a recognized weed in the Spokane area and has been a growing problem there for twenty years.

Identification

Common Bugloss is a perennial plant with a deep taproot. It grows up to three feet tall at maturity and each plant can have multiple flowering stalks.

The flower stem is coiled like a fiddle neck at first. As each flower bud opens, the coil gradually straightens out. Leaves alternate on the stem and are covered with rough hairs. The flowers are on the ends of the stalks and have bright blue to purple petals and small white centers.

Seeds are small and nutlike. When they get buried in the soil they remain viable for a long period of time. Wind, water, vehicles, animals and contaminated hay can spread the seeds.

Treatment

Small patches of Common Bugloss can be controlled by repeated digging and pulling. Make sure to get as much root as possible.

Larger patches may require chemical treatment. Common Bugloss can be controlled using Escort, Tordon and 2,4-D, or with Roundup. Roundup should only be used for spot spraying; it is a non-selective herbicide and will kill any plant that it contacts. Herbicides should be applied at the bud stage of growth with at least 0.5% surfactant added to the spray mix.



Read and follow all label instructions when applying herbicides. Trade names have been used to simplify instructions and no endorsement or warranty is expressed or implied by the Wallowa County Weed Board or this brochure.

For more information or to report weed sites call:

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