

2022 Noxious Weed Control Plan Annual Report

Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project

FERC Project No. 308



Prepared by:



December 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION..... 1
2.0 PROJECT LOCATION 3
3.0 REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE..... 5
 3.1 USFS and WWNF regulations guidelines 5
 3.2 Oregon Revised Statutes 5
 3.3 Noxious Weed Monitoring List 6
4.0 2022 MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT 11
 4.1 Prevention 12
 4.2 Noxious Weed Monitoring 12
 4.3 Control Methods 12
 4.4 Revegetation Success..... 12
5.0 2023 MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT 13
6.0 REFERENCES..... 13

FIGURES

Figure 1: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project Vicinity Map4

TABLES

Table 1: 2022 Oregon State and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds..... 6
Table 2: Noxious Weeds Located in 2022 within the Project Boundary..... 12

APPENDICES

Appendix A Noxious Weed Monitoring Area and 2022 Wallowa Falls Noxious Weeds
Maps
Appendix B Invasive Plant Inventory Form and Herbicide Application (2510) Forms

1.0 Introduction

The Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 308) received a new operating license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) on January 5, 2017 (FERC 2017). Article 415 of the FERC license required PacifiCorp to file a noxious weed control plan (NWCP) with FERC within 6 months from the date of the license issuance (July 5, 2017):

Article 415. Noxious Weed Control Plan. The revised Noxious Weed Control Plan required by Appendix B, condition 6, must be developed after consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The licensee must include with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee must allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing must include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan must not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee must implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service Final Section 4(e) Conditions were filed on February 16, 2016, and included as Appendix B in FERC license (FERC 2017). The following conditions apply to the NWCP (PacifiCorp 2017):

Condition No. 6 – Noxious Weed Management Plan (NWMP) The Licensee shall, within six months following License issuance, revise the Noxious Weed Management Plan (NWMP), Appendix K, Volume III of the FLA [Final License Application] (February 2015), in consultation with the USDA Forest Service. The NWMP shall include measures A through D below and must meet USDA Forest Service standards, guidelines, methods, and monitoring protocols for actions undertaken on National Forest Service (NFS) lands. The NWMP shall be filed with the Commission for approval. After Commission approval, the Licensee shall immediately implement the NWMP.

- A. The Licensee shall implement applicable noxious weed control measures found in invasive plant management direction for the Pacific Northwest Region and/or the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended for the period of the License. Future changes or modifications to the management direction will require the Licensee to coordinate with the USDA Forest Service at the Annual Resource Coordination Meeting required in Condition 5 to ensure the Licensee's implementation activities comply with those changes or modifications.

- B. The Licensee shall survey and treat noxious weeds on NFS lands within the FERC Project Boundary for three (3) consecutive years between June 1 and July 31 following construction or maintenance activities described in the FLA. If for three consecutive years, no noxious weeds are detected during the annual surveys, then survey intervals shall shift to a biennial schedule until a noxious weed infestation is detected. Control methods that will effectively control all Class A and other target weeds shall be implemented the same year as detection as allowed by U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program, Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants (April 2005a) and Record of Decision (ROD) (October 2005b).
- C. The exact timing between June 1 and July 31 are recommended to implement control methods for optimal effectiveness in association with the guidelines provided by U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program, Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants (April 2005a) and Record of Decision (ROD) (October 2005b). Manual control methods shall include measures including but not limited to reseeding, mulching and supplemental irrigation to ensure establishment of non-noxious vegetation in treated areas.
- D. The Licensee shall ensure that: a) ground cover in treated areas equals or exceeds 80 percent of that in an undisturbed control area with similar vegetation and is adjacent to the Project area and b) species composition in disturbed areas equals or exceeds 75 percent non-weedy species. If the standards above are not feasible or achievable, the Licensee shall consult and coordinate with the USDA Forest Service to develop suitable alternatives.
- E. The Licensee shall include a status report in its Annual Report, required by Condition No. 5 – Resource Coordination, describing activities related to weed control, assessment of weed areas, and identification of future efforts to control noxious weed spread and colonization within the Project boundary.

PacifiCorp submitted the Noxious Weed Control Plan (NWCP) to the Commission on June 1, 2017, pursuant to Article 415 and the Forest Service Final Section 4E Conditions included as Appendix B of the FERC license. A FERC order approving NWCP was issued by the Commission on July 25, 2017. PacifiCorp implemented the NWCP in 2017 prior to receiving the Commission approval to ensure that noxious weed monitoring and control methods were completed during the growing season and would optimize effectiveness.

This report complies with the FERC License Appendix B USDA, Forest Service Final Section 4(e) Condition No. 5- Resource Coordination requiring PacifiCorp to provide an Annual Report to Wallowa Whitman National Forest (WWNF) on the status of the NWCP activities for that year (FERC 2017). The status report should be completed by December 1 each year to allow for at least a 30-day review prior to the Annual Resource Coordination meeting. This status report will only apply to the Project Boundary as described in Section 2.0 and shown in Appendix A and includes the following information:

- The current year Invasive Plant Inventory Forms
- A description of the control methods, operation and maintenance, and success of the control methods conducted that year and the accompanying treatment forms [Herbicide Application (2510), Insect Release (2550), and/or Mechanical/Physical Treatment (2530)]
- Future anticipated soil disturbing activities, noxious weed prevention methods to be conducted, and identification of future efforts to control noxious weed spread and colonization for the following year within the Project Boundary
- Future expected efforts and a schedule for monitoring
- Compliance with the current Wallowa Whitman National Forest, State and Local regulations for weed management activities
- Results of revegetation success for all ground disturbance activities

2.0 Project location

The Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project is located on the East Fork Wallowa River near the town of Joseph, Oregon in Wallowa County. The project powerhouse discharges into the West Fork Wallowa River upstream of Wallowa Lake (Figure 1).

The Project Boundary is an estimated 26 acres and encloses project operations, such as Royal Purple Creek Diversion Dam, the pipeline and open channel conveying water from the Royal Purple Creek Diversion Dam to the East Fork Dam and impoundment, penstock, powerhouse, transmission line, and non-project substation (FERC 2017). Portions of the access road, tailrace, and Pacific Park Campground are also included within the Project Boundary (FERC 2017). Approximately half of the lands within the Project Boundary are owned by PacifiCorp and the other half are on federal lands managed by WWNF. Appendix A shows the Project Boundary and the associated features.

Areas within the Project Boundary may be more susceptible to noxious weeds due to exposed soils and/or are adjacent to frequent human activity. Therefore, the Project Boundary is differentiated into three noxious weed priority areas to prioritize monitoring, prevention, and control methods accordingly. Noxious weed priority areas are defined as follows and are shown on Appendix A.

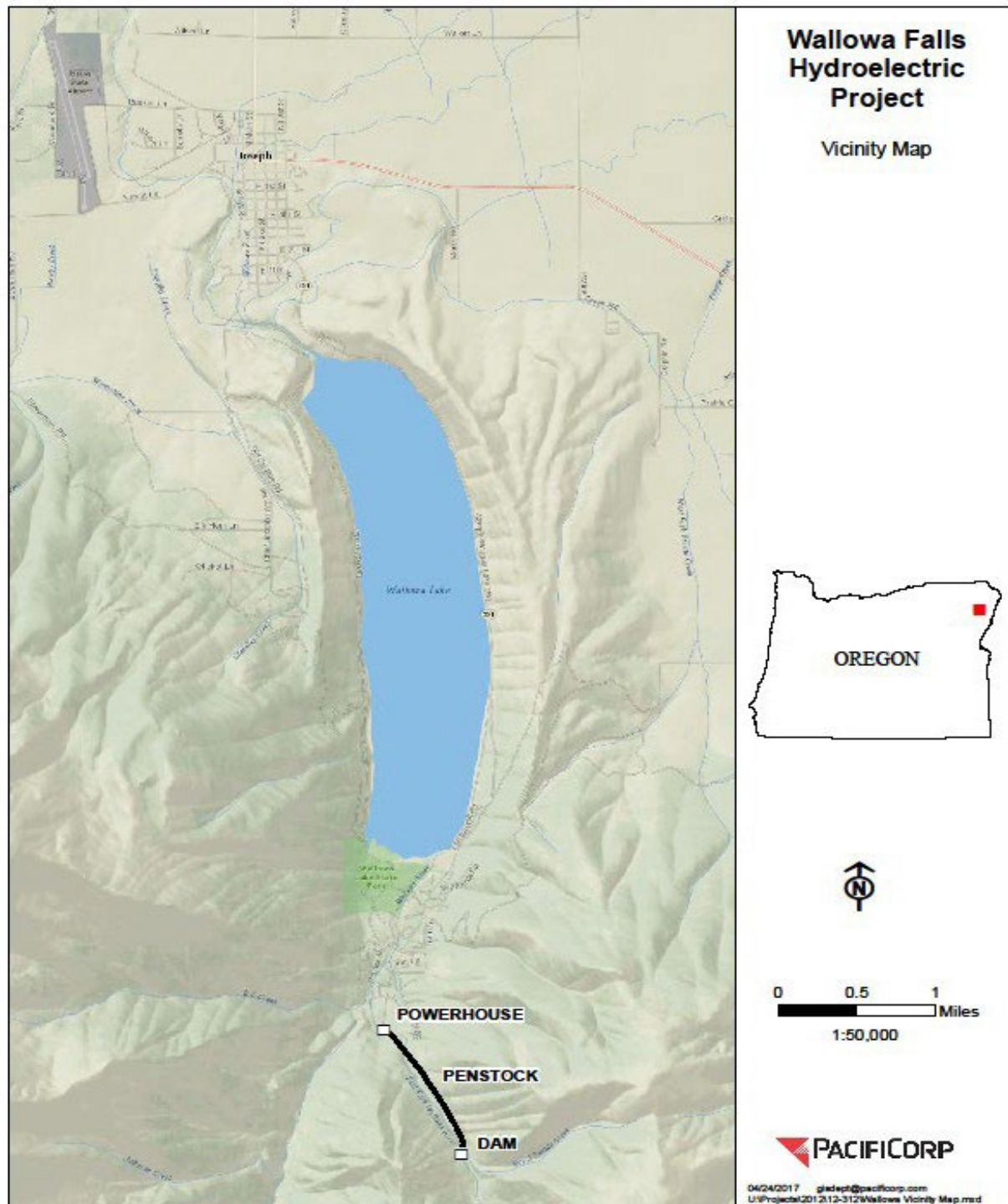
High Priority: areas with frequent or continued soil disturbance, frequent or constant exposure to weed seed vectors, or is known to have existing noxious weeds. These areas include the campground, forebay area, and portions of the WWNF trail within the Project Boundary.

Medium Priority: areas with prior or frequent soil disturbance but low exposure to weed seed vectors. Examples of this would include the access road and penstock.

Low Priority: areas that have intact soils and a low exposure to weed seed vectors. Examples of this would include talus slopes and forested areas away from high use areas.

These areas may be modified as needed to adjust for changes in the Project Boundary or public use (e.g., new trails etc.). In 2019 the new tailrace location was identified as a High Priority Noxious Weed area due to the 2019 construction and expected exposure to weed seed vectors.

Figure 1: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project Vicinity Map



3.0 Regulation and Compliance

A comprehensive review of current and applicable WWNF, State and local regulations was completed. The laws are as follows and PacifiCorp complied with these regulations and guidelines for all noxious weed monitoring and management in 2022:

3.1 USFS and WWNF regulations guidelines

The following USFS documents were used as guidelines and reference for all noxious weed monitoring and control methods implemented in 2022:

- Land and Resource Management Plan Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, as amended (USFS 1990).
- Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants Final Environmental Impact Statement (USFS 2005a).
- Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants Record of Decision. (USFS 2005b).
- Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Invasive Plants Treatment Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. (USFS 2010a).
- Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Invasive Plant Treatment Project Record of Decision. (USFS March 2010b).

3.2 Oregon Revised Statues

The following Oregon Revised Statues (ORS) are chapter 569 Weed Control that provide state and county authority to manage noxious weeds and are applicable to NWCP:

2015 ORS 569.175 applicable definitions:

- (1) "Noxious weed" means a terrestrial, aquatic or marine plant designated by the State Weed Board under ORS 569.615 as among those representing the greatest public menace and as a top priority for action by weed control programs.
- (2) "Person" means a person as defined in ORS 174.100 (Definitions), the federal government or any of its agencies, the State of Oregon or any of its agencies, or any city, county, district or municipal corporation of this state

2015 ORS 569.185 State Department of Agriculture authority:

- (13) Request any person owning or controlling land within this state to control, prevent the spread of or, when feasible, eradicate noxious weeds, and to supervise such activities.

2015 ORS 569.350 Necessity of eradication of weeds:

Noxious weeds have become so thoroughly established and are spreading so rapidly on state, county and federally owned lands, as well as on property in individual ownership and in transition to county ownership through tax delinquency, that they hereby are declared a menace to the public welfare. While it is recognized that complete eradication may not be practicable, it hereby is established that steps leading to eradication and control are

necessary and that responsibility rests not only on the individual landowner and operator but also on the county, state and federal government, and that the county, state and federal government should cooperate with individual owners in the control and eradication of noxious weed pests.

3.3 Noxious Weed Monitoring List

State of Oregon and Wallowa County maintain a list of target Noxious Weeds that are separated into the following three categories for prioritizing management (Oregon Department of Agriculture 2020):

A listed Weed: A weed of known economic importance which occurs in the state in small enough infestations to make eradication or containment possible; or is not known to occur, but its presence in neighboring states make future occurrence in Oregon seem imminent.

Recommended action: Infestations are subject to eradication or intensive control when and where found.

B listed Weed: A weed of economic importance, which is regionally abundant, but which may have limited distribution in some counties.

Recommended action: Limited to intensive control at the state, county or regional level as determined on a site specific, case-by-case basis. Where implementation of a fully integrated statewide management plan is not feasible, biological control (when available) shall be the primary control method.

T Designated Weed: A designated group of weed species that are selected and will be the focus for prevention and control by the Noxious Weed Control Program. Action against these weeds will receive priority. T designated noxious weeds are determined by the Oregon State Weed Board and directs Oregon Department of Agriculture to develop and implement a statewide management plan. T designated noxious weeds are species selected from either the A or B list.

The following table is a list of species included in the 2022 NWCP monitoring:

Table 1: 2022 Oregon State and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
Absinthe Wormwood*	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>		B
African Rue	<i>Peganum harmala</i>	A (T)	
Annual Bugloss*	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>		B
Armenian blackberry (Himalayan blackberry) *	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	B	B
Atlantic Ivy	<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	B	

Table 1: 2022 Listed Oregon and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds (continued)

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
Bachelor Button *	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>		B
Barbed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i>	A (T)	
Biddy-biddy	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	B	
Bigseed dodder	<i>Cuscuta indecora</i>	B	
Bohemian Knotweed	<i>Polygonum behemicum</i>		A
Buffalobur	<i>Solunum rostratum</i>	B	
Bull thistle **	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	B	
Bur Buttercup *	<i>Ceratocephala testiculata</i>		B
Butterfly bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	B	
Camelthorn	<i>Alhagi pseudalhag</i>	A	
Canada thistle **	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	B	B
Cape Ivy	<i>Delairea odorata</i>	A (T)	
Chicory *	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>		B
Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	A	
Common Bugloss *	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	B(T)	A(T)
Common Burdock **	<i>Arctium minus</i>		B
Common cordgrass	<i>Spartina anglica</i>	A	
Common crupina *	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	B	B
Common frogbit	<i>Hydrocharis morsus-range</i>	A	
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	B	
Common Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>		A
Common Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>		B
Creeping yellowcress	<i>Rorippa sylvestris</i>	B	
Cut-leaf Teasel	<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>	B	
Dalmatian Toadflax *	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>	B (T)	B
Delta arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria platyphyla</i>	A (T)	
Dense flowered cord grass	<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	A (T)	
Diffuse Knapweed*	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	B	B
Dyer's Woad*	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	B	T
English hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	B	
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	B	
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	B	

Table 1: 2022 Listed Oregon and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds (continued)

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
European water chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>	A	
False Brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	B	
False Hoary Alyssum *	<i>Berteroa incana</i>	A(T)	
Field Bindweed*	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	B	B
Five-angled Dodder	<i>Cuscuta pentagona</i>	B	
Floating Primrose Willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	B (T)	
Flowering Rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	A (T)	
French Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	B	
Garden yellow loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	A (T)	
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	B (T)	A(T)
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	A (T)	
Giant Knotweed	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>	B	A
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	B	
Goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>	A (T)	
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	B (T)	
Hairy whitetop *	<i>Lepidium pubescens</i>	B	A
Halogeton	<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>	B	
Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	B	
Himalayan knotweed	<i>Polygonum polystachum</i>	B	
Hoary Alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>	A (T)	A(T)
Hoary cress whitetop*	<i>Lepidium draba</i>	B	
Houndstongue**	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	B	B
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	A	
Iberian star-thistle	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	A (T)	A
Indigo bush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	B	
Italian Thistle	<i>Cardus pycnocephalus</i>	B	A(T)
Japanese dodder	<i>Cuscuta japonica</i>	A	
Japanese knotweed*	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	B	T
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	B	
Jointed goatgrass*	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>	B	B (T)

Table 1: 2022 Listed Oregon and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds (continued)

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
Jubata grass	<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	B	
King devil hawkweed	<i>Pilosella piloselloides</i>	A	
Kochia*	<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	B	B
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria lobata</i>	A(T)	
Large-flower Primrose Willow	<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	B (T)	
Leafy Spurge*	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	B(T)	A (T)
Lens podded whitetop*	<i>Cardaria chalapensis</i>	B	
Lesser celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	B	
Long-Spine sandbur	<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>		B
Matgrass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>	A (T)	
Meadow Hawkweed*	<i>Hieracium pratense</i>	B (T)	T
Meadow Knapweed*	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>	B	A
Mediterranean Sage	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>	B	A(T)
Medusahead Rye*	<i>Taeniatherum canput-medusae</i>	B	B(T)
Milk thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	B	
Mouse-ear hawkweed	<i>Pilosella pilosella</i>	A (T)	
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	B	A(T)
Myrtle Spurge	<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	B	A(T)
Oblong spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	A (T)	
Old man's beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	B	
Orange Hawkweed*	<i>Pilosella aurantiacum</i>	A (T)	A(T)
Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>		A(T)
Ovate goatgrass	<i>Aegilops ovata</i>	A	
Oxeye Daisy*	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>		B
Parrot's feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	B	
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	A (T)	
Perennial peavine	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	B	
Perennial Pepperweed*	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	B (T)	A(T)
Pheasanteye (Blooddrop)*	<i>Adonis aestivalis</i>	B (T)	
Plumeless Thistle*	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	A (T)	A
Poison Hemlock*	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	B	B
Policeman's Helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	B	

Table 1: 2022 Listed Oregon and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds (continued)

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
Portuguese broom	<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	B(T)	
Puncturevine*	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	B	A
Purple Loosestrife*	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	B	A
Purple nutsedge	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	A	
Purple Star-thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	A (T)	T
Ragweed	<i>Ambrosia artemisifolia</i>	B	
Ravennagrass	<i>Saccharum ravennae</i>	A (T)	A
Reed Canarygrass (Ribbon grass)	<i>Phalaris arundinaceae</i> var. <i>Picta</i>	B (T)	B
Rose campion	<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>		A
Rush Skeletonweed*	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	B(T)	B(T)
Russian Knapweed*	<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	B	A(T)
Salt meadow cordgrass	<i>Spartina patens</i>	A (T)	
Saltcedar*	<i>Tamarix ramoissima</i>	B (T)	
Scotch Broom**	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	B	A(T)
Scotch Thistle*	<i>Onopordium acanthium</i>	B	B(T)
Shiny leaf geranium	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	B	
Silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	A	
Slender flowered thistle	<i>Cardus tenuiflorus</i>	B	
Small broomrape	<i>Orobranche minor</i>	B	
Smooth Cordgrass	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	A (T)	
Smooth distaff thistle	<i>Carthamus baeticus</i>	A	
Smoothseed alfalfa (Dodder)	<i>Cuscuta approximata</i>	B	
South American waterweed	<i>Egeria densa</i>	B	
Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium juneceum</i>	B	
Spanish Heath	<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	B	
Spiny cocklebur	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	B	
Spotted Cats Ear	<i>Hypochoeris maculata</i>		T
Spotted Knapweed**	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	B (T)	A(T)
Spurge laurel	<i>Daphne Laureola</i>	B	
Squarrose knapweed	<i>Centaurea virgata</i>	A (T)	
St. Johnswort*	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	B	
Sulfur Cinquefoil*	<i>Potentilla recta</i>	B	B (T)
Swainsonpea	<i>Sphaerophysa salsula</i>	B	

Table 1: 2022 Listed Oregon and Wallowa County Listed Noxious Weeds (continued

Common Name ^{2,3}	Scientific Name ^{1,2}	Oregon State Category ²	Wallowa County Category ³
Sweetbriar Rose*	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>		B
Syrian bean-caper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>	A	
Tall Buttercup*	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>		B
Tansy Ragwort*	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	B (T)	A(T)
Tree of Heaven*	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	B	
Tuarian thistle	<i>Onopordum tauricum</i>	A(T)	
Turkish Thistle	<i>Cardus cineris</i>	A(T)	
Velvetleaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	B	
Ventenata (North Africa grass)*	<i>Ventenata dubia</i>	B	B
Water soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	A	
Waterprimrose	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>	B (T)	
Wetted Thistle*	<i>Cardus crispis</i>	A (T)	A(T)
West Indian spongeplant	<i>Limnobiium laevigatum</i>	A	
White bryonia (white bryony)	<i>Bryonia alba</i>	A	A
White Campion	<i>Silene latifolia</i>		B
Wooly distaff thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	A (T)	
Yellow archangel	<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	B	
Yellow flag iris*	<i>Iris psuedoacorus</i>	B	A(T)
Yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	A (T)	
Yellow hawkweed*	<i>Pilosella floribundum</i>	A (T)	
Yellow nutsedge	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	B	
Yellow starthistle*	<i>Centuarea solstitialis</i>	B	A
Yellow toadflax*	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	B	B
Yellowtuft	<i>Alyssum coriscan</i>	A(T)	

*Noxious weeds are known to exist within Wallowa County ^{1, 2}

**Noxious weeds are known to exist within the Project Boundary (Bio-Resources 2022)

¹ Natural Resources Conservation Service 2018 ² Oregon Department of Agriculture 2020

³ Wallowa County 2022

4.0 2022 Monitoring and Management

The following is description of noxious weed monitoring, control and other management strategies that occurred in 2022 within the Project Boundary.

4.1 Prevention

Activities that disturb soils through the removal of native vegetation result in exposed ground that promotes the establishment of noxious weeds. Therefore, noxious weeds will be controlled prior to conducting any soil disturbing activity and the area will be revegetated to prevent noxious weed establishment. No ground disturbing activities occurred within the Project Boundary in 2022.

4.2 Noxious Weed Monitoring

PacifiCorp contracted with local contractor, Kendrick Moholt (Bio-Resources, Inc.) to implement the NWCP monitoring and oversee control methods. The noxious weed monitoring surveys were completed by Kendrick on July 13, 2022, and included all high and medium priority noxious weed areas. A record of each noxious weed infestation has been documented on Invasive Plant Inventory Forms are provided in Appendix B. The table below provides a list of the noxious weeds' location and status.

One Scotch thistle (*Onopordium acanthium*) plant was found near the velocity barrier at the end of the tailrace. No meadow hawkweed plants were located in 2022. If either of these species is found to increase in the future, chemical treatment is recommended.

Table 2: Noxious Weeds Located in 2022 within the Project Boundary.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Oregon State Category	Wallowa County Category	Location
Scotch thistle	<i>Onopordium acanthium</i>	B	B (T)	Campground
Bull thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	B		Trail
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>			Trail
Common Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>		B	Trail
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	B	B	Trail
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>		B	Trail
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	B (T)	A (T)	Road

4.3 Control Methods

On July 28 and 30, 2022, a Bio-Resources, Inc. botanist (Mr. Moholt) performed a manual removal control operation targeting weeds within the Project Area. These techniques consisted of hand pulling individual plants, digging plants with a shovel, and the use of a string trimmer in the campground area. Manual control techniques were exclusively used on both PacifiCorp property and property managed by the US Forest Service. No chemical treatment was conducted in 2022.

4.4 Revegetation Success

All areas of prior ground disturbance within Project Boundary will be evaluated during the annual noxious weed monitoring to determine if the following criteria have been met:

- a) ground cover in treated areas equals or exceeds 80 percent of that in an undisturbed control area with similar vegetation and is adjacent to the area of ground disturbance and
- b) species composition in disturbed areas equals or exceeds 75 percent non-weedy species.

These areas will be monitored until the above criteria is met for 3 consecutive years. If the criteria cannot be met and is not feasible or achievable, then PacifiCorp will consult and coordinate with the US Forest Service at the Annual Resource Coordination Meeting. The 2019 construction at the forebay and tailrace realignment are monitored and have met this criterion in 2022.

5.0 2023 Monitoring and Management

The construction of the tailrace reroute and royal purple pipe extension began in 2019 and was completed in 2020. The royal purple pipe extension is currently within a high priority portion of the current Noxious Weed Monitoring Area. The portion of the new tailrace reroute has been included in the high priority area in the Noxious Weed Monitoring Area (Appendix A).

The planned 2023 noxious weed monitoring will include all high and medium priority areas within the Project Boundary (Appendix A) and noxious weed control will occur as needed. In 2022, the royal purple pipe was repaired following an eroding slope. Soil stabilization is being evaluated for the area and may require additional soil disturbance. As a result, this area will be a high priority for noxious weed monitoring and control in 2023. The USFS made the following recommendations that will be incorporated into the 2023 noxious weed monitoring and management:

- Photo points of noxious weed treatment sites will be established and taken at each Noxious Weed Monitoring survey to document the changes over time.
- Implement manual control, where possible, to minimize the use of chemicals.

We also recommend continuing post-construction weed monitoring and control efforts in the late summer/early fall through 2024. Particular attention should be paid to any meadow hawkweed that may germinate. Though never seen along the access road in past surveys, Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*) has been observed recently invading the valley below the Project boundary. If either meadow hawkweed or Scotch thistle are found, they should be aggressively treated with a chemical control. Other, less aggressive species may be more appropriately treated with mechanical methods.

6.0 References

Bio-Resources, Inc. 2022. Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project Special Status Plant and Noxious Weed Management. August 2022.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). 2017. PacifiCorp Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric License (FERC) Project No. 308. Issued January 5, 2017.

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). 2018. The PLANTS Database URL: <http://plants.usda.gov> (15 May 2018). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401- 4901 USA.
- Oregon Department of Agriculture. 2020. Noxious Weed Policy and Classification System 2020.
- PacifiCorp. 2017. Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. P-308 Noxious Weed Control Plan. Portland, Oregon.
- United States Forest Service. 1990. Land and Resource Management Plan Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, as amended. United States Forest Service. URL: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5260139.pdf. (September 24, 2013).
- United States Forest Service. 2005a. Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants Final Environmental Impact Statement. United States Forest Service April 2005. URL: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3812803.pdf. (April 20, 2017)
- United States Forest Service. 2005b. Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants Record of Decision. United States Forest Service October 2005. URL: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5302164.pdf (April 20, 2017).
- United States Forest Service. 2010a. Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Invasive Plants Treatment Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. United States Forest Service. March 2010. URL: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/wallowawhitman/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5192845> (September 24, 2013).
- United States Forest Service. 2010b. Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Invasive Plants Treatment Project Record of Decision. United States Forest Service April 2010. URL: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/wallowa-whitman/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5192845> (September 24, 2013).
- Wallowa County. 2022. 2012 Noxious Plant List. URL: <https://co.wallowa.or.us/public-works/vegetation/2017-noxious-plant-list/> (October 18, 2022).

Appendix A

Noxious Weed Monitoring Area and 2022 Wallowa Falls Noxious Weeds Maps

Appendix B
Invasive Plant Inventory Form and
Herbicide Application (2510) Forms

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

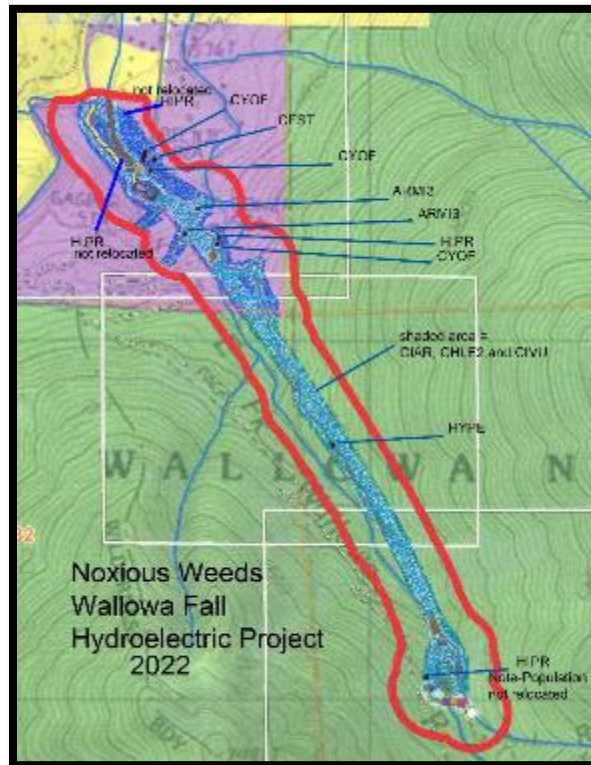
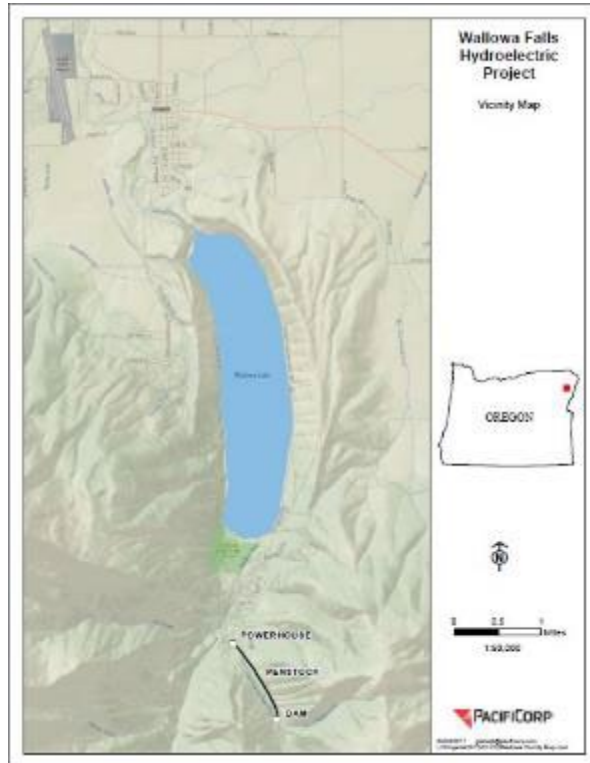
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership/District: USFS, WWNF, Eagle Cap and PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5800'	GPS Coordinates: 0483259 E 5012652N to 0484159E 5011062N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road__ Trail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> River__ Other campground			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>33</u> NW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , SW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , NW ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄ , SE ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>29</u> SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>32</u> NE ¹ / ₄ of NE ¹ / ₄			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CIVU	Common Name: Bull Thistle		
Scientific Name: <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	
Distribution: C Lumped__ Linear____ SE Scattered even____ SP Scattered Patchy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuous_____			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.10	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~25		Understory Cover % (all): 40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High__ Med <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low____		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial__ Ephemeral____		System: Lake__ River__ Spring__ Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-20%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Bull Thistle
Cirsium vulgare

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

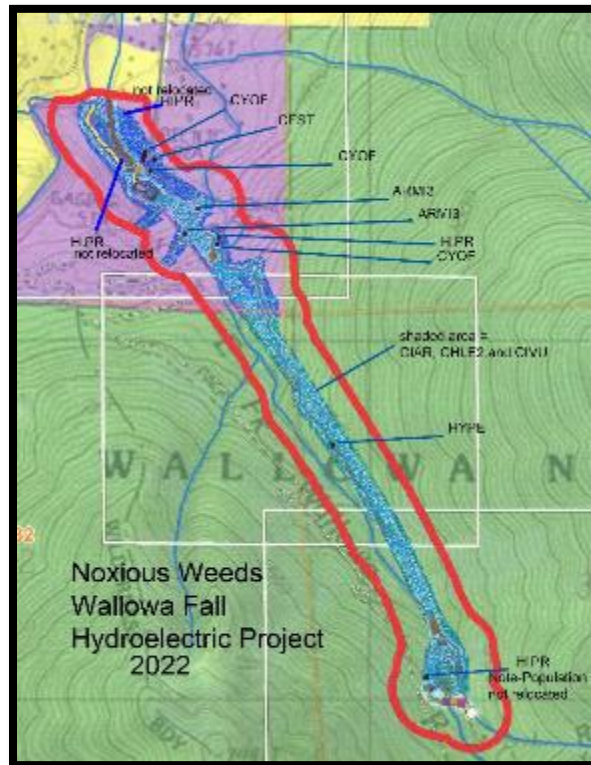
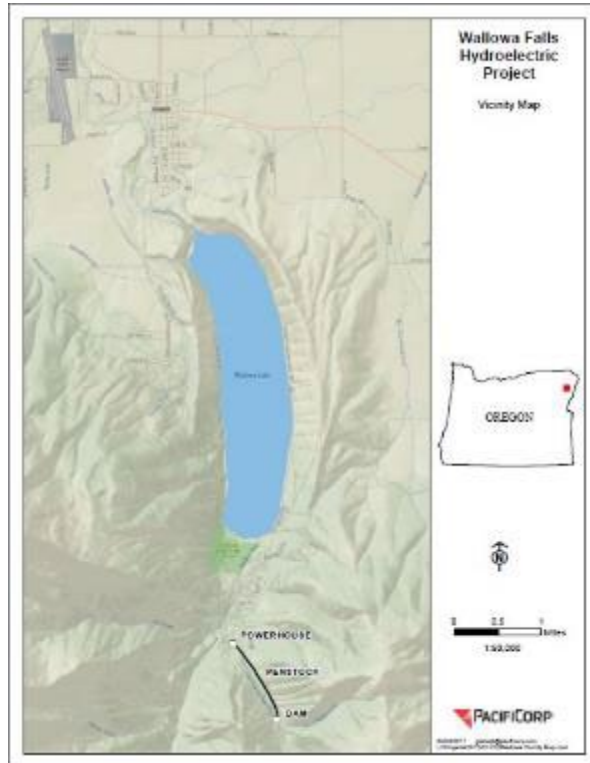
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership/District:USFS, WWNF, Eagle Cap and PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'-5800'	GPS Coordinates: 0483259 E 5012652N to 0484159E 5011062N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road__ Trail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> River__ Other campground			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>33</u> NW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , SW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , NW ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄ , SE ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>29</u> SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>32</u> NE ¹ / ₄ of NE ¹ / ₄			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CIAV	Common Name: Canada Thistle		
Scientific Name: <i>Cirsium arvense</i>		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	
Distribution: C Lumped__ Linear____ SE Scattered even____ SP Scattered Patchy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuous_____			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.3	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~1000		Understory Cover % (all):40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High__ Med <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low____		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial__ Ephemeral____		System: Lake__ River__ Spring__ Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-20%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Canada Thistle
Cirsium arvense

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

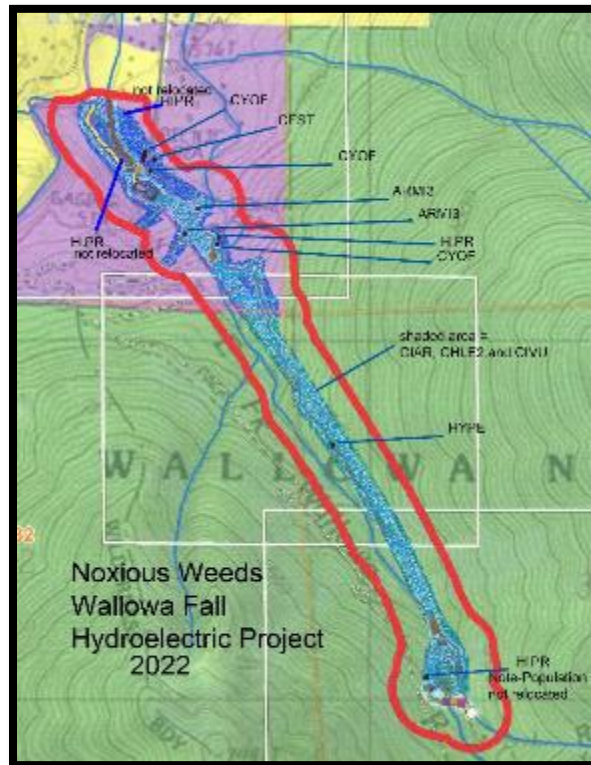
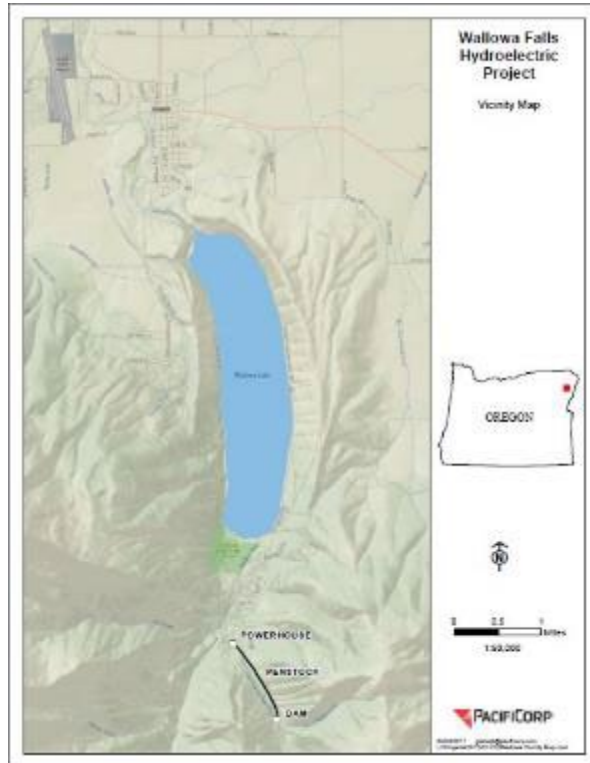
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership: PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5000'	GPS Coordinates: 0483488E 5012298N and 0483529E 5012336N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road__ Trail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> River__ Other Campground			
Township: 3S Range: 45E Section: 29 ¼ sec: SE of ¼ sec: SE			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: ARMI3	Common Name: Common Burdock		
Scientific Name: <i>Arctium minus</i>		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	
Distribution: CLumped__ Linear__ SEScattered even__ SPScattered Patchy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuous__			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.1	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~5		Understory Cover % (all): 60-90%	
Potential to Spread: High__ Med <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low__		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial__ Ephemeral__		System: Lake__ River__ Spring__ Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-10%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Common Burdock

Arctium minus

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

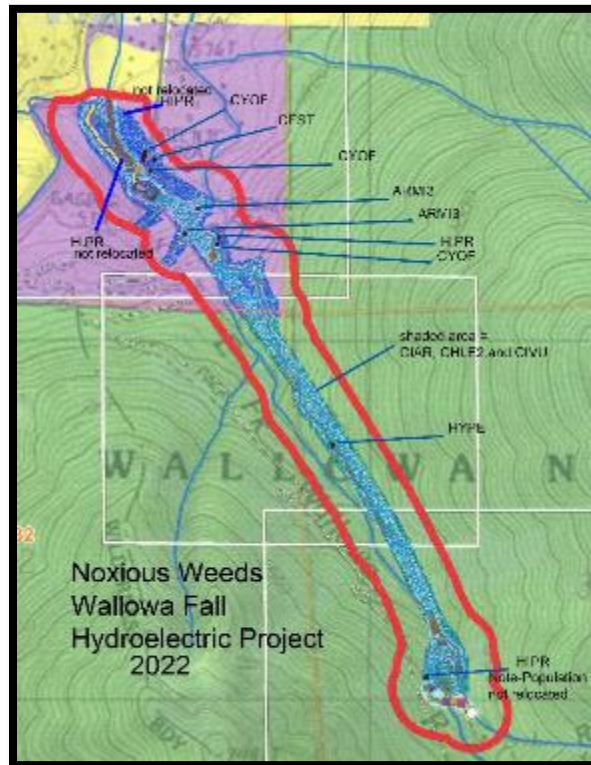
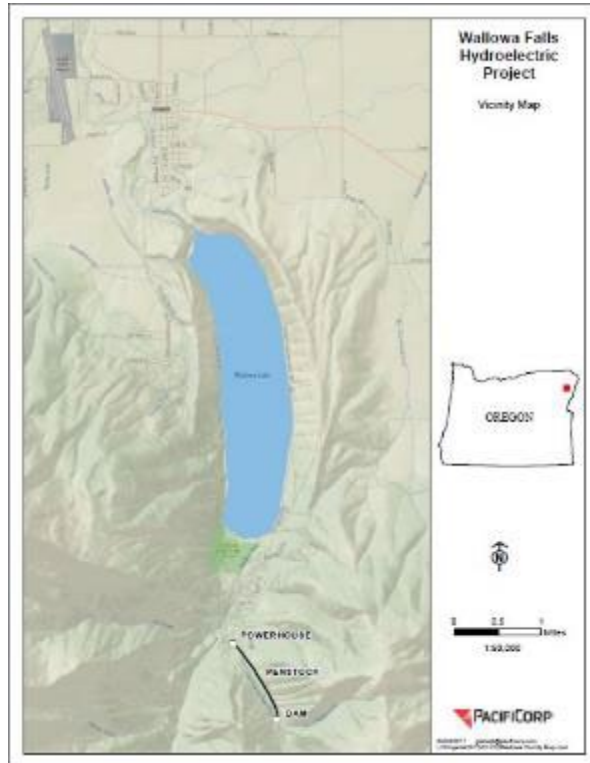
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership: PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5000'	GPS Coordinates: 0483297 5012651N and 0483577E 5012260N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: <u> </u> Y <u> </u> N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road <u> </u> Trail <u>X</u> River <u> </u> Other <u> </u> #			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>29</u> $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: <u>NW</u> of $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: <u>SE</u>			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>29</u> $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: <u>SE</u> of $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: <u>SE</u>			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CYOF	Common Name: Houndstongue		
Scientific Name: <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>		Phenology: R <u> </u> B <u> </u> FL <u>X</u> S	
Distribution: C Lumped <u> </u> Linear <u> </u> S E Scattered even <u> </u> S P Scattered Patchy <u>X</u> Continuous <u> </u>			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.15	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~60		Understory Cover % (all): 40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High <u>x</u> Med <u> </u> Low <u> </u>		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial <u> </u> Ephemeral <u> </u>		System: Lake <u> </u> River <u> </u> Spring <u> </u> Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-10%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Houndstongue
Cynoglossum officinale

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

No meadow hawkweed *Hieracium caespitosum* (Synonym: *Hieracium pratense*) were located during the initial survey nor during control efforts in 2022.

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

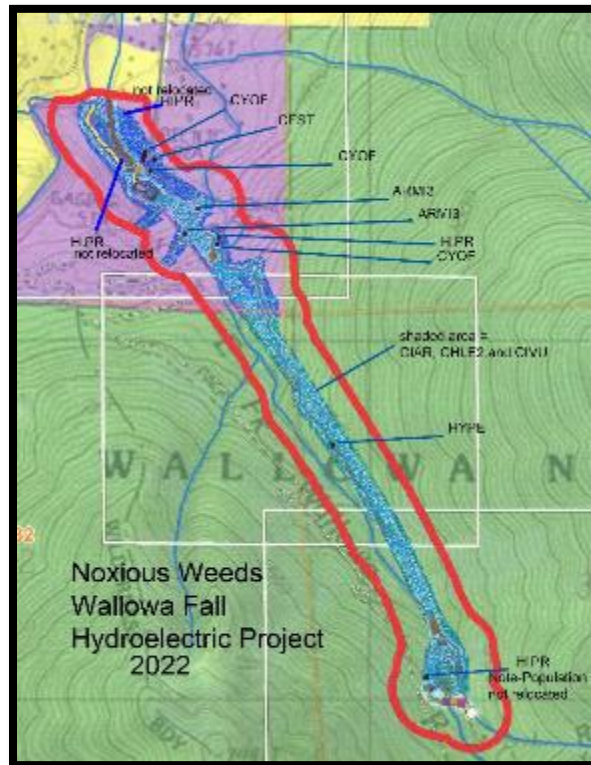
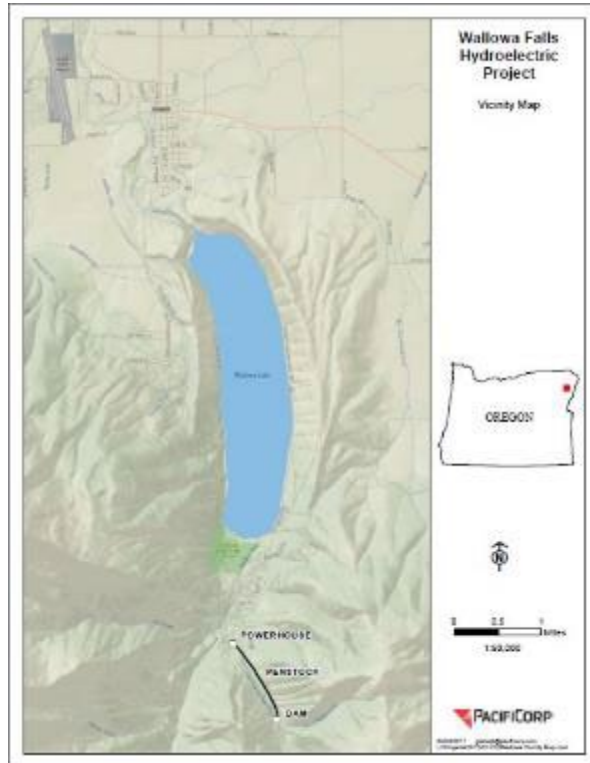
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership/District: USFS, WWNF, Eagle Cap and PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5800'	GPS Coordinates: 0483259 E 5012652N to 0484159E 5011062N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: <u> </u> Y <u> </u> N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road <u> </u> Trail <u>X</u> River <u> </u> Other campground			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>33</u> NW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , SW ¹ / ₄ of NW ¹ / ₄ , NW ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄ , SE ¹ / ₄ of SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>29</u> SW ¹ / ₄			
Township: <u>3</u> S Range: <u>45</u> E Section: <u>32</u> NE ¹ / ₄ of NE ¹ / ₄			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CHLE2	Common Name: Oxeye Daisy		
Scientific Name: <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> (Synonym- <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>)		Phenology: R <u> </u> B <u> </u> FL <u>X</u> S	
Distribution: CLumped <u> </u> Linear <u> </u> SE Scattered even <u> </u> SP Scattered Patchy <u>X</u> Continuous <u> </u>			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~1.0	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~1000		Understory Cover % (all): 40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High <u> </u> Med <u>X</u> Low <u> </u>		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial <u> </u> Ephemeral <u> </u>		System: Lake <u> </u> River <u> </u> Spring <u> </u> Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-20%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Oxeye Daisy
Leucanthemum vulgare

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

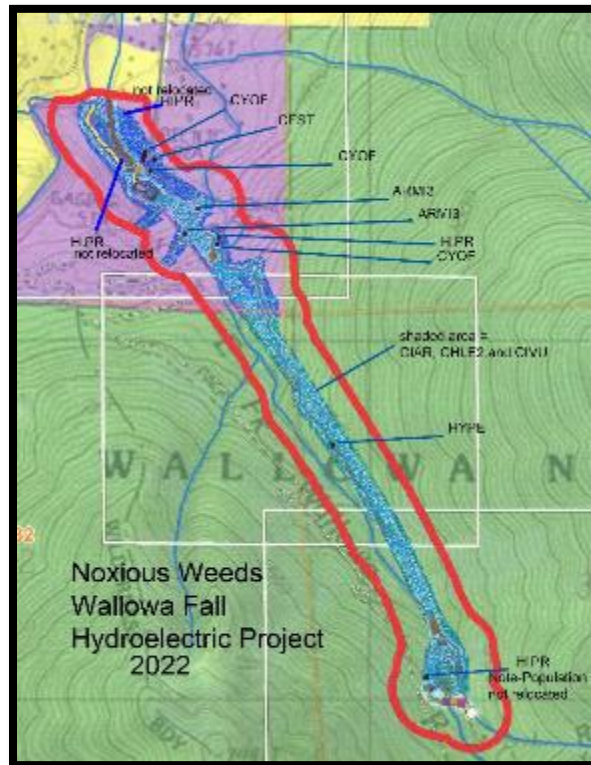
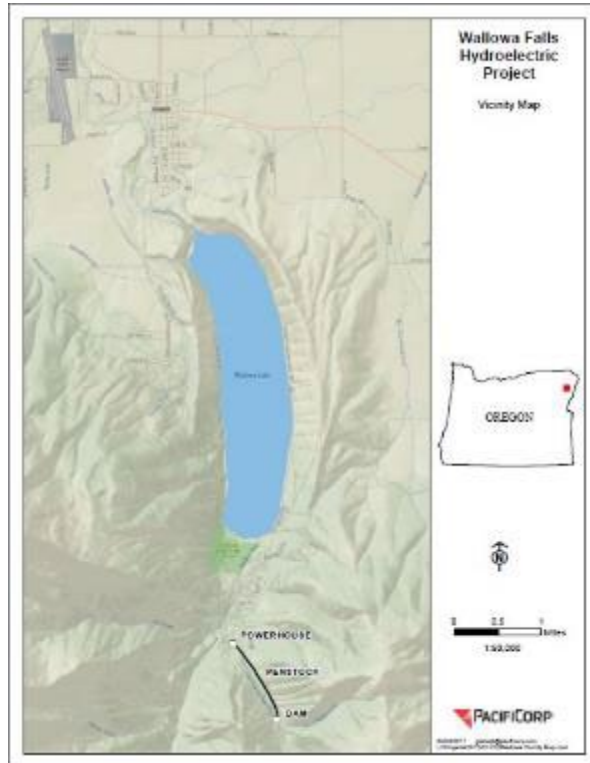
Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership: PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5000'	GPS Coordinates: 0483409E 5012480N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road <u>X</u> Trail <u> </u> River <u> </u> Other Campground			
Township: 3S Range: 45E Section: 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: NW of $\frac{1}{4}$ sec: SE <u> </u>			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CEST	Common Name: Spotted Knapweed		
Scientific Name: <i>Centaurea stoebe</i> Synonym (<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>)		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <u>X</u> S	
Distribution: CLumped <u> </u> Linear <u> </u> SEScattered even <u> </u> SPScattered Patchy <u>X</u> Continuous <u> </u>			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.25	
% Cover or Count (weeds): dozens		Understory Cover % (all): 40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High <u>x</u> Med <u> </u> Low <u> </u>		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial <u> </u> Ephemeral <u> </u>		System: Lake <u> </u> River <u> </u> Spring <u> </u> Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2-10%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Map of Site





Spotted Knapweed (rosette)
Centaurea stoebe

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership: PacifiCorp	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 4700'- 5000'	GPS Coordinates: 0483122E 5012854N	Datum: UTM (NAD 83) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road__ Trail__ River__ Other: <u>Campground</u>			
Township: <u>3S</u> Range: <u>45E</u> Section: <u>29</u> ¼ sec: <u>NW</u> of ¼ sec: <u>SE</u>			

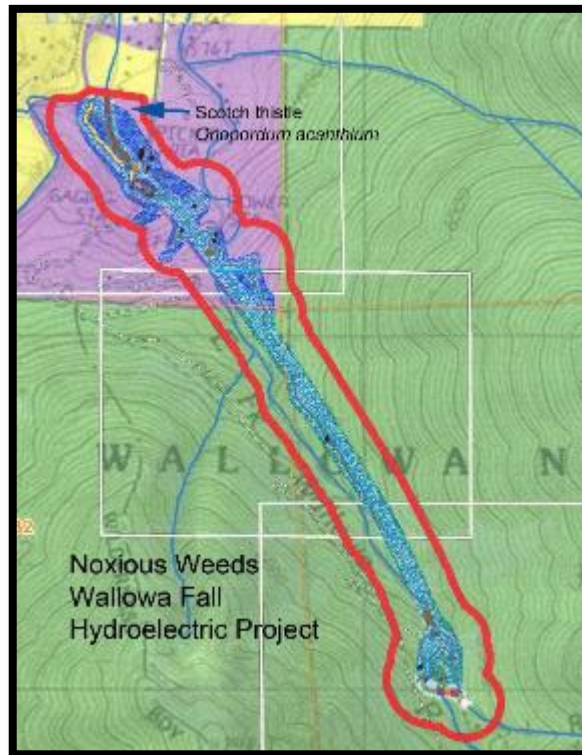
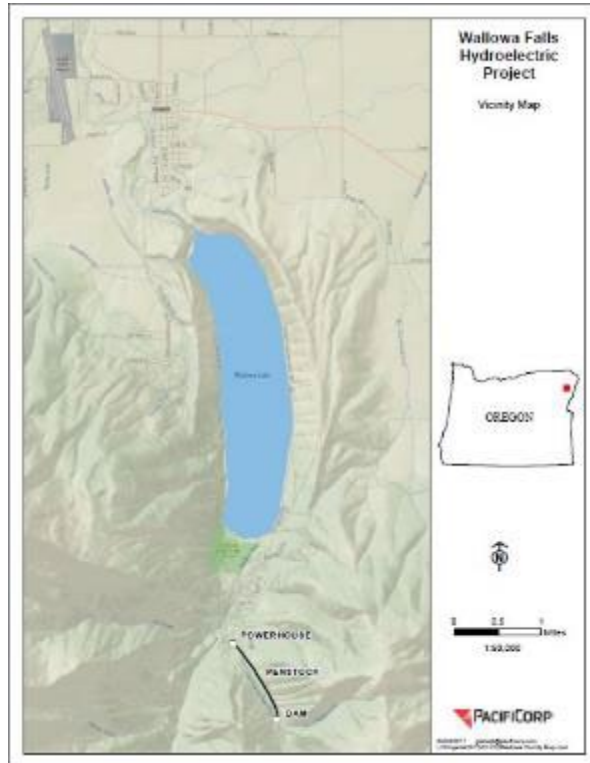
Site Data Information

Target Species Code: CEST	Common Name: Scotch Thistle		
Scientific Name: <i>Onopordum acanthium</i>		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <u>X</u> S	
Distribution: CLumped__ Linear__ SEScattered even____ SPScattered Patchy <u>X</u> Continuous_____			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.01	
% Cover or Count (weeds): One plant		Understory Cover % (all):40-90%	
Potential to Spread: High <u>x</u> Med__ Low____		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial__ Ephemeral____		System: Lake__ River__ Spring__ Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 1%, Aspect variable	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

One blooming plant was found and removed.

Map of Site





Scotch Thistle (rosette)

Onopordum acanthium

Note: THIS SMALL WEED POPULATION WAS NOT SEEN FOR TWO YEARS BUT HAS BEEN RELOCATED

Invasive Plant Inventory Form

General Site Information

Site Name: Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project		Date: 13 July 2022	
Photo Point (GPS):		Ownership/District: USFS, WWNF, Eagle Cap	
Photo Name:		Examiner: Kendrick Moholt, Bio-Resources, Inc.	
Botanist Initial:	Elevation: 5500'	GPS Coordinates: 0484018E 5011521N	Datum: UTM (NAD 27) Zone 11
Wildlife Biologist:			
EDRR: __Y__N	GPS File Name:	Other Observations:	
Access: Road__ Trail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> River__ Other_____#			
Township: 3SR Range: 45E Section: 33 ¼ sec: NW			

Site Data Information

Target Species Code: HIPE	Common Name: St. John's Wort		
Scientific Name: <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>		Phenology: R__ B__ FL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	
Distribution: C Lumped__ Linear__ SE Scattered even____ S P Scattered Patchy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuous_____			
Total Acres: 26	Percent Infested: <1%	Infested Acres: ~0.1	
% Cover or Count (weeds): ~50		Understory Cover % (all): 90%	
Potential to Spread: High__ Med__ Low <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Distance to Water: >30m	
Water Type: Perennial__ Ephemeral____		System: Lake__ River__ Spring__ Stream	
Soil Types: sandy loam		Slope % aspect: 2%, 230°	
Other Species on Site:			

Comments

Approximately 1 mile from trailhead on Wallowa Falls Maintenance Road (NE of the FS1804 trail switchback on the Sec. 32/33 border). \

Map of Site

