HOW TO USE

AN INTRODUCTION TO USING GOATS FOR BRUSH CONTROL

with Briana Murphy, Goat Power LLC 360-690-6940
Let’s Be Realistic

Management vs Eradication
Designing A Management Strategy

What are your goals?

What tools are available?

What is your budget?
Goals

Why does it need to be cleared?

Do you want to reintroduce native species?

What's your timeline?

Develop a multi year plan.

Sites require multiple treatments.
What to Expect

Site Evaluation

- brush density
- terrain
- hazards
What to Expect

Keeping the Goats Contained

fencing
energizers
shepherd responsibilities
What to expect

Herd and Project Maintenance
daily management
insurance
Goats in the Toolbox

Difficult access
Thick heavy brush
Steep hillsides
Rocky areas
Hidden hazards
Sensitive areas
WHAT’S HIDING IN THE BUSHES?

Stumps
Boulders
Retaining Walls
Ground Wasps
Creekbeds
Downed Trees
Holes
Equipment/Buildings
Old Fences
A Herd of Benefits

- Reduce or eliminate herbicides
- Prevent seed production
- Reduce risk to hand crews
- Reduce or eliminate disposal fees
What Do Goats Eat?

- Black mustard
- Blackberry
- Bull thistle
- Canada goldenrod
- Canada thistle
- Cheat Grass
- Coyote Bush
- Diffuse knapweed
- English Ivy
- Field bindweed
- Gorse
- Italian thistle
- Kudzu
- Leafy Spurge
- Milk thistle
- Locust Trees
- Multiflora rose
- Musk thistle
- Purple Starthistle
- Poison Oak
- Rabbit brush
- Russian knapweed
- Russian Thistle
- Sow thistle
- Spotted knapweed
- Wild Rose
- Willow
- Wormwood sage
- Yarrow
- Yellow mustard
Wallowa Valley Invasives

Blackberry  Scotch Broom
English Ivy  Thistles
*Tansy       Poison Oak/Ivy
High-intensity–short-duration goat browsing applied in the summer for 1 or 2 yr reduced English ivy percent cover. Samples treated for 1 yr were reduced to 23% cover and those treated for two years were reduced to 4% cover.

-English Ivy (Hedera spp., Araliaceae) Response to Goat Browsing
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Service Providers

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