



Matt Blakeley-Smith Institute for Applied Ecology

False-brome Workshop March 11, 2011

# Overwhelmed by Weeds?



# Humans have always managed the landscape



# What is **Your Objective?**





#### Overview

- Tilling
- 2) 3) Hand pulling
- Mowing
- 4) Burning
- 5) Top Kill Techniques
- 6) **Smothering**
- Herbicides
- 8) **Competitive Plantings**

### Tilling

- Road decommissioning
- Severe soil disturbance
- Great botanical surprises



# Hand-Pulling

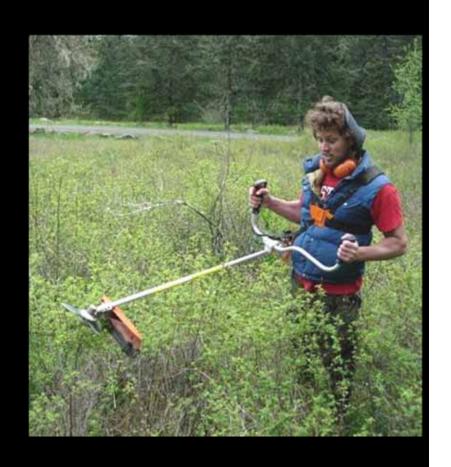
- Requires:
  - Wet soils
  - Small areas
  - Time and Tenacity





### Mowing

- It will grow back
- Mow to stop seed spread
- Mid-June is best
- Too early & it re-sprouts
- Too late & it spreads



# Top Killing

- Burning
- Hot-foam
- Grazing

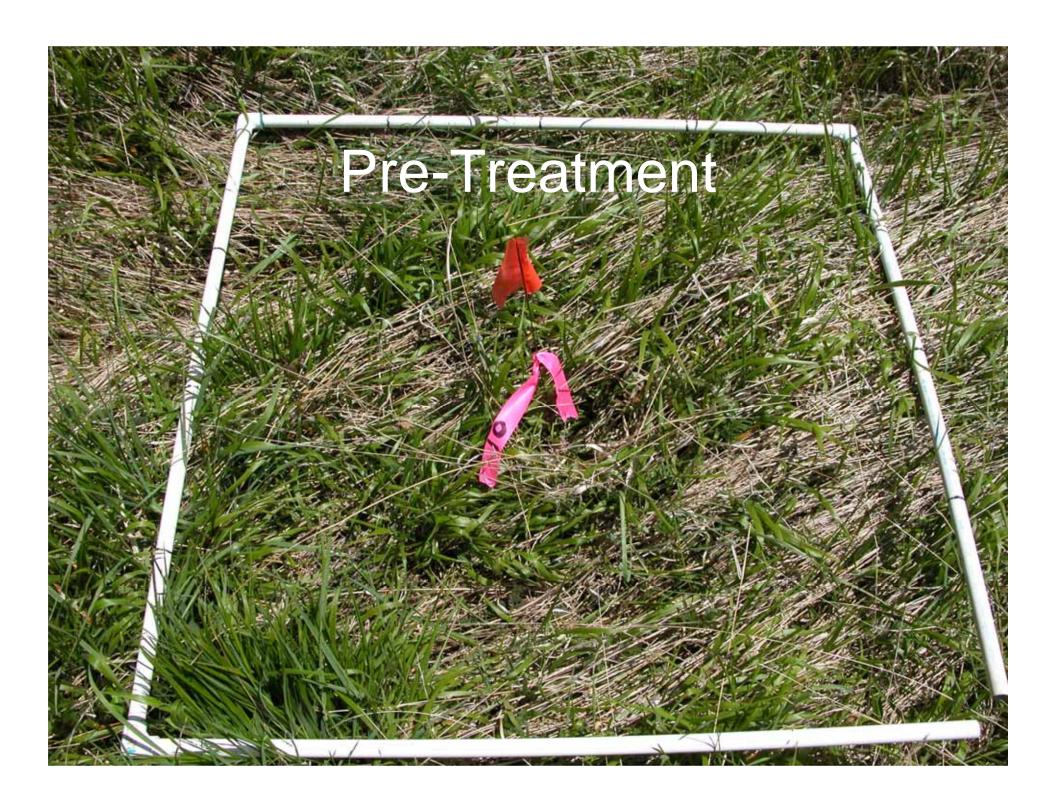


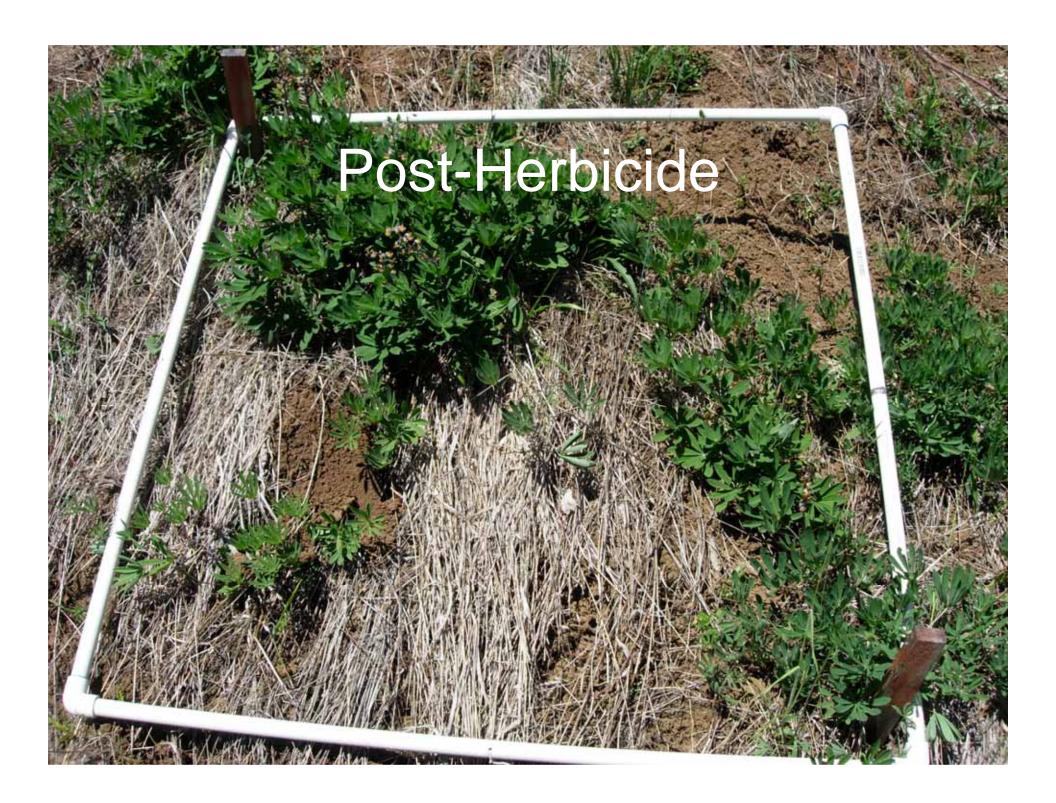




#### Herbicides as a Restoration Tool







#### Herbicides

Broad spectrum – timing is everything

Grass specific – best on seedlings

Pre-emergent – soil active, kills seedlings

Acetic acid – still considered an herbicide

#### Herbicides

- If no natives are present, treat in spring
- If natives are present, treat in fall
- Need to address seedbank



#### Competitive Plantings

- Revegetation
  - Wildflowers by seed or plug
  - Ferns & shrubs
  - Target specific wildlife





#### Summary

- Controlling false-brome is possible
- You must address the seed source
- Use a variety of methods
- Have realistic expectations, but don't give

up!



