



#### **Potentilla recta** invasion of rangelands in East Kootenay, British Columbia: Examining best management practices

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## Sulphur Cinquefoil (Potentilla recta)

- Perennial forb native to Eurasia
- Introduced to North America prior to 1900
- Lives up to 10 yrs
- Prolific seed producer
- Forms dense and continuous stands





## **Management of Invasive Plants in Rangeland**

- Target Grazing:
  - The application of livestock at a specific season, duration, and intensity to control invasive plants
- Herbicide Application
- Native Seeding





# **Project Goal:**

Identify mechanisms driving sulphur cinquefoil invasion in rangelands in East Kootenay, British Columbia and best management practices to control sulphur cinquefoil



## Field Sites: East Kootenay, BC



Tobacco Plains Indian Reserve



### **Treatments**

- 1. Targeted goat grazing once per season
- 2. Targeted goat grazing twice per season
- 3. Targeted goat grazing once per season with herbicide application
- 4. Targeted goat grazing twice per season with herbicide application
- 5. Herbicide application only

#### ╋

Seeding of native rangeland species with and without fertilizer





## **Field Design**

#### **Measurements:**

- Percent cover
- Aboveground biomass
- Density, height, number of flowers/flower buds/seed heads of sulphur cinquefoil
- Soil chemical properties (e.g., carbon, nitrogen)





## **Treatment Effects on Number of Sulphur Cinquefoil**

**Tobacco Plains** Wycliffe 15 15 0 Number of Sulphur Cinquefoil Number of Sulphur Cinquefoil 10 10 0 S S. 0 0 C G1 G1H G2 G2H С G1 G2 Н Treatment Treatment



## **Treatment Effects on Sulphur Cinquefoil Biomass**





## **Herbicide Effects on Sulphur Cinquefoil**





## Treatment Effects on Number of Sulphur Cinquefoil Seed Heads

**Tobacco Plains** 

Wycliffe



## **Next Steps**

- Greenhouse study
  - Examining competition (sulphur cinquefoil vs native forbs and grasses)
- Year 2 of treatment implementation
- Plant community analysis





