

# Wild chervil

*Anthriscus sylvestris* L.

Parsley Family

## Key identifying traits

- ❑ White flowers arranged in umbrella like cluster
- ❑ Fernlike compound leaves have a sheathing base
- ❑ Hollow, furrowed stems with lower stem hairy
- ❑ Nodes have a fringe of longer hairs
- ❑ Each  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch white flower produces two seeds
- ❑ Two seeds are joined and have antennae like tips
- ❑ Seeds are dark,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, narrow, smooth, shiny
- ❑ Plant grows 1 to 4 feet tall and has a tap root
- ❑ Foliage is not aromatic

## Biology and ecology

- Biennial or short lived perennial reproduces by seed
- Upright rosette first year; flowers the following May through June or July
- Found in moist pastures, forested areas and roadsides

## Control

*Prevention* - Learn to identify the plant; be careful of British wildflower seed mixes formulated to recreate the flora of hedgerows and meadows of the British Isles.

*Biological* - None available at this time

*Cultural* - Competitive vegetation helps but can invade well managed areas

*Mechanical* - Cultivation generally kills plants although some can regenerate from the crowns; mowing is ineffective; digging is effective if enough of the tap root is removed

*Chemical* - Not much solid information available at this writing. We are experimenting with various herbicides applied in the fall and spring; because it likes moist areas, options are somewhat limited.



**Where found** – Limited acreage primarily in the northeastern portion of Stevens County, but known to be in neighboring Spokane Co and British Columbia