

Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

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A 30 cm to 1 metre tall perennial with above ground runners, similar to those of strawberries. Introduced from Europe as a garden ornamental.



Distribution

Fairly common throughout the North Thompson and Cariboo.

Quick ID

Vibrant orange-red flowers.

Milky latex juice when broken.

Hairy leaves mostly found at base of plant.

Stems mostly leafless with black bristly hairs.

“Look-Alike” Species

Indian paintbrush, *Castilleja miniata*, has a flower set in a cluster with long, tube-like, hairless petals that are pale green to red on the ends. Many native hawkweeds exist in this ecosystem as well but all have white or yellow flowers.



Interesting Facts:

Above ground runners create a dense mat that impedes other vegetation.

Grazed by sheep, goats, horses, occasionally by cattle, and native grazing animals.

Manual Treatment: Hand pulling or digging is effective; done best when soil is moist. Wear gloves, avoid skin contact. If any portion of flower is beginning to emerge, or if seed heads are formed, pick, bag, and remove.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Flowers: Cluster of 5 to 30 dandelion-like, showy, red-orange flower heads. Petals have notched tips.

Leaves and Stems: Hairy leaves in a rosette at the base of the plant. Leaves darker green on top than underneath. Few to no leaves on stem.

Seeds: Tiny purplish-black seeds with tawny-white, brittle plumes attached on the flattened end.

Roots: Rhizomatous. Shallow fibrous roots with a woody stem base.

Reproduction and Dispersal: By above ground runner, seeds and roots.

Habitat Preference: Low to mid-elevations. Disturbed areas, meadows, roadsides, grasslands, forest openings and lawns. Will not tolerate heavy shade.

