

NNIPS Eradication and Native Species Program, National Forests in Alabama

FY 2013 Accomplishments

In 2013 the National Forests in Alabama treated over 560 acres of exotic plant infestations (using NFWF and CWKV). The majority of these infestations occurred in areas where they threatened native plant community diversity and/or habitats of the endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker or Eastern indigo snake. Treatments were completed using a combination of contracted and force-account herbicide applications. Species treated include cogongrass, bicolor lespedeza, Japanese climbing fern, tallowtree, kudzu, and Chinese privet. The eradication of these NNIS is important to restore and protect priority native communities.

We entered into a CCS Agreement (\$3000 of NFWF) with Auburn University to propagate rare plants in early FY13. NFWF funds from 2013 were also used to collect Georgia Aster seed (December) from the Talladega District. Those seeds are now being cleaned at the FS Seed Lab and will be propagated by the Auburn University Dept. of Horticulture. We have planted over 2500 Georgia aster seedlings to date via this ongoing project. AU also propagated bog flameflower which is ready to be out-planted this spring (2014).

The Forest Botanist also re-collected turkeybeard (Sensitive sp.) seeds in fall of 2013 from a xeric montane longleaf ridge, for partners to propagate in hopes of future out-planting onto the district.



Bog flameflower (Sensitive sp.) growing on the Conecuh District. Seeds were collected from site in 2012 and were propagated in 2013.



Out-planted Georgia aster (Federal Candidate) with bumblebee pollinator, Talladega RD

Year Awarded: 2013

Project completion: year 2013

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures:

FY2013 NFWF \$4500

NFWV \$86,000

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Auburn University Horticulture Dept., Forest Service Seed Lab (Dry Branch, GA)

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