

# White Mountain National Forest

## Non-native Invasive Species Accomplishments 2013



The 2013 field season was challenging for White Mountain National Forest staff, trying to manage NNIS treatment without our long-time Forest Botanist. Nonetheless, we successfully finished the 2013 field season with a total of 72.5 acres of NNIS treatment on the Forest, just slightly less than last year's accomplishment. Of particular note was approximately 30 acres of NNIS work done through the Fishpole stewardship contract. This project included NNIS treatment of Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) on private lands in the upper reaches of Oliverian Brook, which drains into a very large, recently acquired wetland. Suppressing the spread of knotweed into this important habitat feature was a high priority.



Beaver dam at Oliverian wetland (with Japanese knotweed)



Black swallowwort (*Cynanchum louiseae*) infesting fields at New Boston Air Station

Defense paid for permanent staff from the White Mountain and Green Mountain National Forests to help with eradication projects. This experience has proven useful for our staff, as they are exposed to much different NNIS infestations than what we see on the WMNF. Not only are infestations much more extensive, but a number of species occur at New Boston that are not yet present on the Forest. This has allowed our employees to develop an 'eye' for these species, both close-up and at a distance, which has proven beneficial in our early detection efforts.

Monitoring of treated sites on the WMNF continues to demonstrate the effectiveness of past treatments. Most treatment sites in 2013 were easily completed by small teams. Anticipated stretched budgets and reduced staffing levels, in conjunction with other high priority work, means other employees may have less flexibility to help with NNIS treatment in the future. This makes it imperative that we stay on top of infestations while they're small and more easily managed. The good news is that, after several years of treatment, a number of sites were noted that we believe are now eradicated.

Control efforts also continued at the New Boston Air Station via an inter-departmental agreement with the Department of Defense. Although a much smaller land base than the Forest, New Boston is heavily infested with a variety of NNIS. Funding from the Department of

Fund Code	Funding	Acres	Comments
NFVW	\$71,893	72.5	
NFXF	\$20,800	44.2	-- does not count towards target
Total		116.7	

Partners/Cooperators: New Boston Air Force Station, Timberwolf Logging, Vegetation Control Service

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