

N.H. Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership

Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2009 9:00 am- 11:00am

US Forest Service- Durham Field Office

Attendees: Florence Peterson (usfs), Christine Perron (nhdot), Carrie Schuman (nhcp), Kevin Lucey (nhcp), Tracy Degnan (rccd), Sarah Jansen (usfws), Joanne Glode (tnc).

Regional Distribution of Perennial Pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)-

Presentation by Sarah Jansen, Parker River Wildlife Refuge, Newburyport, MA

- Introduction – Montana/California in 1935, but earlier mentions of introductions in MA as early as 1920's, somehow initial introduction contained. Different genetic strains?
- Distribution throughout the Great Marsh, Boston Harbor Islands, and South Shore. Pepperweed is growing along roads (I-495, Mass Pike, I-93 near Rockingham mall. I-85 into CT). Populations have also been documented on Long Island. Cape Cod and RI are still clear of pepperweed.
- In the Great Marsh, control methods have focused on mostly hand-pulling and herbicide treatment
- Parker River Wildlife Refuge staff uses Escort© in low doses though Rodeo© is generally suggested, spray when plant is in flower as herbicide generally not effective on rosettes, non-flowering growth, 90% control, revisiting treatment is necessary.
- USFWS-Parker River Refuge: treated 150 out of 250 sites and recruited 270 volunteer hours in 2009.
- **Please see the attached map below showing the abundance of pepperweed at NH's border with MA. This figure is alarming! 2009 assessments in New Hampshire still only show a singular population in Hampton at the transfer station on Tide Mill Drive.**

Japanese Knotweed Control Options- discussion

- NH Fish and Game recently implemented a Japanese knotweed control project at the Winnicut River Dam Removal. Project partners looked into excavation of rhizomes and top soil; however, trucking and disposal costs to Turnkey in Rochester proved too expensive. NHF&G received necessary permits and implemented a cut stem application on the knotweed with Aquamaster©. Follow-up treatment in 2010 at the Winnicut is, at this time, undecided.
- Christine Perron indicated that the cut stem method was also used at a site in Jefferson. Re-growth in successive years produced deformed and miniscule plants that were not conducive to a repeat cut stem treatment. This finding was confirmed by Sarah Jansen. Perhaps recommend a cut stem application in Year 1 followed by a foliar application in Year 2. Total treatment time appears to be somewhere in range of 3-4 years.
- Final word on knotweed BMP – no mowing, contain (if cut, let fall there), no transport, brush off mower.

Grant Sources

- Forest Service recruiting for 2010 grants from northeast CWMA's (Cooperative Weed Management Areas). These grants range from 10-30 K. 50/50 non-federal match. Control is prime-focus.

Coastal Program Report out

- *Perennial Pepperweed*: Following a hand pulling exercise in June, a population of pepperweed was sprayed with Aquamaster© near the Hampton transfer station. The pepperweed site at Odiorne Point State Park was pulled twice during 2009 growing season. Herbicide application is warranted at both sites next year.
- *Odiorne Point State Park*: Through a contract with the Seacoast Science Center, FB Environmental completed the invasive plant inventory at Odiorne. Initially, FB attempted an inventory method modeled to incorporate data elements from The Nature Conservancy's Weed Information Management System; however, the abundance of invasives at the Park required a different approach. The revised approach delineates management units within the Park, which are further delineated into vegetation community types. Within each community type, a 10 m² plot was selected to provide a general representation of the area. FB will develop an invasive plant control plan for the Park which will be available for review in Winter 2009. Through a contract with the Rockingham County Conservation District, FB Environmental will implement a control plan for a 2.8 acre parcel near the Seacoast Science Center. Project partners will review the control plan, facilitate the permitting process, and assist in community supported invasive control efforts associated with the project.

NHDO- report out

- NHDOT will be at the Deerfield Fair presenting on invasives with some new outreach tools: an Invasive Plant Kit procured from <http://www.weedcenter.org/store/index.html> which has i.d. cards and plastic models of invasive plants.
- NHDOT is leading an invasives workshop for Rhodes Scholars on Invasive Species Management on Oct. 13th, 2009
- NHDOT Best Management Practices for Roadside Invasives
 - <http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/environment/units/technicalservices/documents/BMPsforRoadsideInvasivePlants.pdf>
 - Vermont will be adopting these BMPs
 - NHDOT will be updating the BMP manual at some point, however, the guide is intended to be limited to five major species. – bittersweet, knotweed, knapweed, loosestrife, phragmites.

The Nature Conservancy –report out

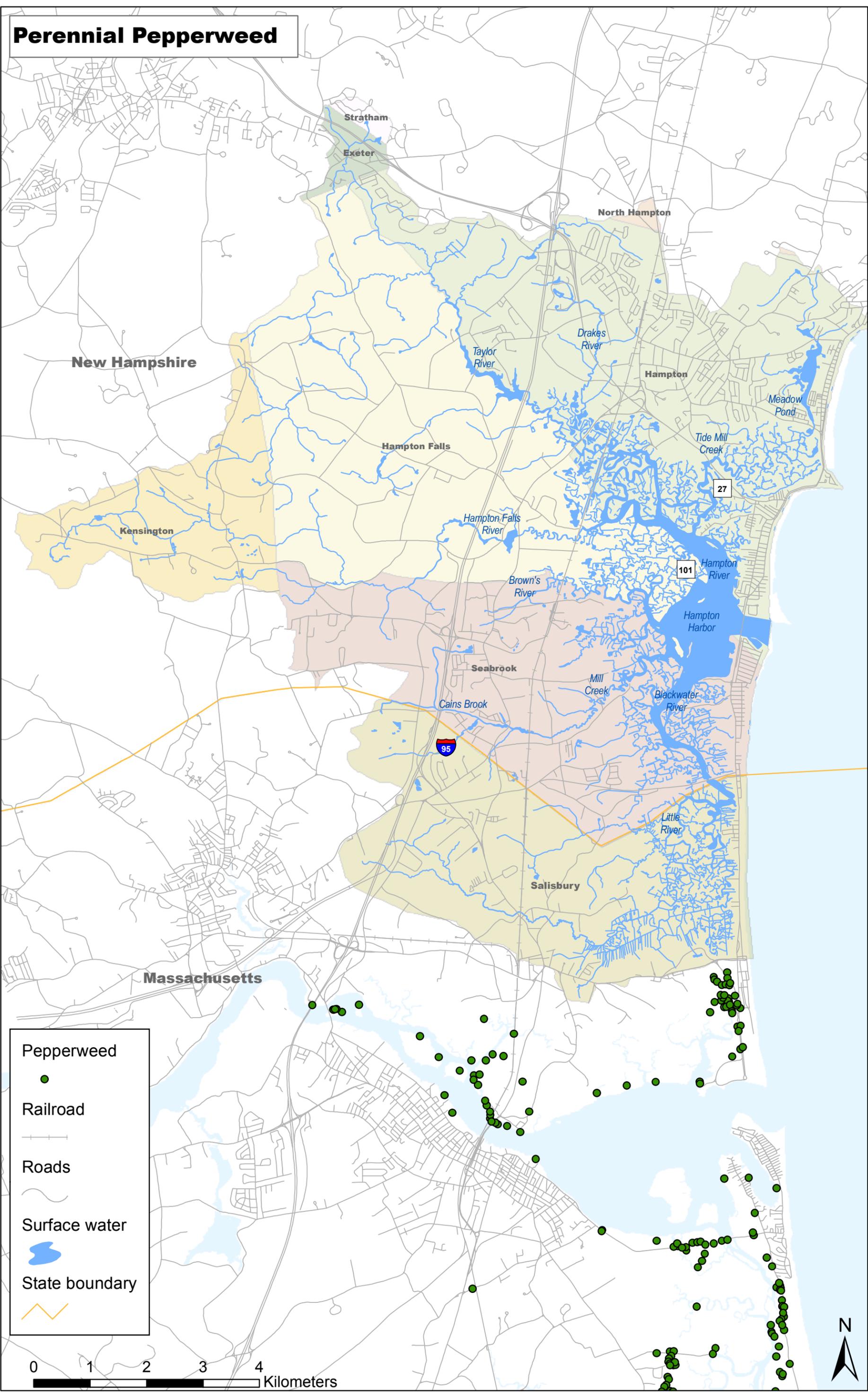
- TNC is implementing an invasive plant control project at Lubberland Creek on Bay Road in New Market/Durham area. TNC identified conservation targets including: rare plants, wetlands, vernal pools, early successional habitats, which enabled them to identify four project areas for control. Work starts 10/2/09. TNC will also implement an early detection rapid response initiative using volunteer weed watchers to walk transects in spring and fall.

Herbicide Permitting Discussion

- New rules will likely be in place by next growing season, need to confirm with the Division of Pesticide Control.
- The rule change procedure likely has a comment period, need to confirm when the comment period is expected.
- It would be good to get the Division of Pesticide Control to provide an update this winter; possibly at the January meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 3, 2009

Perennial Pepperweed



Pepperweed
●
Railroad
—+—+—
Roads
—
Surface water
■
State boundary
- - -

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

