

Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership

Thursday March 17, 2011 - 9 am- 11 pm

US Forest Service, Durham, NH

Attendees:

Rachel Stevens (GBNERR),
Kevin Lucey (NHCP),
Florence Peterson (USFS),
Doug Cygan (Dept of Ag),

Lenny Lord (RCCD),
Brook Smart (NRCS),
Sarah Jansen (USFWS),
Steve Eisenhaure (UNH)

Bob Wolff (DMF-DPC)
Chuck Walla (IPOG)

Partner Updates:

Rockingham County Conservation District

- Odiorne Point State Park
 - RCCD is currently implementing two phases of work at Odiorne Point State. Most recently, RCCD was awarded a grant from the NHDES Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund to control invasives on the Maritime Shrubland and Coastal Salt Pond. 2011 will see a flurry of activity at Odiorne including monitoring, hired contractors implementing chemical and mechanical control, and volunteers implementing invasive plant control practices. RCCD will host two volunteer work days: Earth Day- April 22, 2011 and the United Way Day of Caring- May 11, 2011. Volunteers will be used to complete the following work: clear large piece of wood from the ground, cut large privet, cut large standing dead material (honeysuckle buckthorn, bittersweet), chip and pile wood waste, use loppers to cut any invasive resprouts, plant bare root stock, and seed the bunker.
 - NH Surfriders is participating in the new Adopt-A-Park program at Odiorne. NH Coastal Program will assist Surfriders during this first year with technical assistance and materials. Surfriders Adopt-A-Park Program will participate in GBNERR's tool loan program.
- Goss Farm
 - RCCD is assisting in the reclamation of farm land at Goss Farm, which requires invasive species management. This property is adjacent to Awcomin Salt Marsh.

Department of Agriculture

- Doug Cygan has been approved by the Division of Pesticide Control to apply pesticide to State Lands.
- Doug continues to give many presentations to landscape groups and plant growers.

Division of Pesticide

- High number of permit applications.
- Division has currently pending rules that would lessen the requirements to obtain a Commercial-For-Hire license. Essentially, this change would replace a five year requirement working under a supervisors license with education/training credits;
 - Public hearing was held earlier this winter;
 - Rule changes are currently being evaluated by JLCAR (Joint Legislative Committee of Administrative Rules).
- Bob Wolff also mentioned House Bill 439, which exempts invasive species from being claimed as habitats for endangered species. This has ramifications on invasive shrubland/ cottontail rabbit and milfoil/ bridle shiner. This bill was passed by the house and goes to the SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES committee on March 31, 2011 at 9:10.

US Fish and Wildlife

- Great Bay Refuge will undergo a comprehensive mapping of invasive species. Due to density of invasives on the property, assessment methodology will likely utilize a 50 ft² grid system.
- Rachel Carson Refuge received a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation- Pulling Together Initiative grant to support their regional initiative to manage perennial pepperweed.

Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

- Developing a Landscape Scale Prioritization Strategy for Invasive Plants
 - Received 110 responses to survey.
 - Next steps: Closing survey period soon, publish results, co-occurrence mapping to occur in the fall.
- Tool Lending Library
 - GBNERR has a tool lending library of 30 weed wrenches. Tools can be reserved by contacting Rachel.Stevens@wildlife.nh.gov

Workshops and Collaboration

- Steve Eisenhaure presented information about invasive plant treatments that UNH Woodlands has been conducting on several UNH parcels. A stand of poor quality white pines on marine soils have tens of thousands of buckthorn stems. UNH Woodlands have been conducting mechanical controls for a number of years with an experimental design. Steve offered to host a field tour to educate interested parties in methodologies, successes, and lessons learned.
 - As an aside, Steve indicated that there is Glossy buckthorn dieback at the UNH control site. Doug Cygan recalled that in recent years there was a similar pathogen reported by Andy Sheere, a forester in VT. Samples of infected Buckthorn in Westminster West, VT were tested and found positive for Phomopsis, which causes oozing of the bark and sunken cankers, dark gray fruiting bodies were also observed on portions of bark.
- The **State Invasive Species Committee (ISC)** is interested in scheduling a field tour of control projects on the seacoast during the late spring. The event will be open to ISC and CWIPP members. Tentative date is June 7. Doug is currently evaluating various sites to determine logistics. Standby for more information.

Mapping Database:

- UNH graduate student, Amanda Weiss, has the objective of developing a geospatial database for invasive plant mapping.
- Amanda is currently working with relevant parties to investigate various online invasive mapping alternatives such as: iMap Invasives (<http://www.imapinvasives.org>) or EDD Maps (<http://www.eddmaps.org>)
- Amanda has developed a survey to find out needs and mapping parameters. Standby for more information.

Practitioners Guide to Invasive Plant Control in NH.

- A subcommittee will be formed consisting of co-authors of the factsheets. The subcommittee will meet in April to figure out content and format of species specific control factsheets. Subcommittee will consist of Kevin, Sarah, Lenny, Nancy, Doug, Chuck. Subcommittee to report out at next CWIPP meeting.

Next Meeting is May 19, 2011 at the US Forest Service in Durham from 9-11.