



2012 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	Surveying, Monitoring and Combating Invasive Plant Species through Volunteers and Outreach	
Region: Use region number ONLY	1	
Station:	Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge	
Contact Person: Name and Phone Number	Kim Strassburg	
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	The Refuge, through a Cooperative Agreement with our Friends of the Tualatin River Refuge, proposes to build volunteer capacity for combating invasive species on the refuge and to build awareness of and stewardship for managing invasive species issues, both on the Refuge and in the surrounding watershed community. We will work with volunteers to develop comprehensive invasive plant species maps on the refuge. We plan to develop and conduct intensive volunteer training modules for identifying, GPS mapping, and combating invasive species. Emphasis will be placed on the detection and prevention of new infestations to assign highest priority to existing infestations that are the fastest growing, most disruptive, and affect habitat restoration actions the greatest. Difficulty of control will be a priority under this project for identifying infestations the refuge currently has limitations in combating due to lack of resources. The project will incorporate elements of the Early Detection and Rapid Response System for invasive plants. In addition, we will host monthly volunteer activities and/or work parties specifically dedicated to controlling and/or removing invasive species on the refuge.	
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Reed Canary Grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
	Himalayan Blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>
	Canada Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
	Bull Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
	Common Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
Project Status:	Completed	
Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion	04/30/2013	

Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	Volunteers have mapped and analyzed invasive plant infestations on the refuge; assisted with eradication through hand pulling, mowing, and spraying weeds; and conducted outreach about invasive species to refuge visitors.
Total Number of Volunteers:	15
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	471
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	Friends of Tualatin River NWR (volunteers for field and education/outreach) Clean Water Services (interpretive programs)

PROJECT RESULTS

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	Volunteers mapped invasives on 130 acres and completed an analysis of 1,400 acres worth of existing invasives mapping data; 471 hours of volunteer time have been dedicated to date; three trailhead "stop the hitchhikers" boot scrubbers were installed; 5 interpretive programs about invasive species reached 60 people; a native plant sale was held reaching 150 attendees; and a photography exhibit about invasive species was installed in the wildlife center reaching an average of 2,000 people a month since August. Using project funds, the Friends of the Refuge hired an employee (Oct 1 2012) to complete the program. NOTE: All project funds have been obligated to the Friends through a cooperative agreement and captured as "spent" below. However, some the actual work will continue as the Friends work against the agreement between now and April.
Number of Acres Treated:	
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	1400
Number of Acres Restored:	

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	\$ \$7,400
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Breakdown of Expenditures:

Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies		
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel		
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$7,400	100%

Restoration Materials		
Other		
TOTAL		

Recommendations: (OPTIONAL) How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?	As an urban refuge, Tualatin River NWR has an enormous opportunity to conduct outreach and education about invasive species and how the community can help on and off refuge lands. We appreciate that outreach is supported through the invasives with volunteers program. Please consider that outreach can continue to be a high priority.
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