Native Plant Program Development on the Finger Lakes National Forest

2009 Accomplishments

We are in our third year of a multi-year contract with Cornell Plantations to collect and multiply plant materials to use in restoring small sites formerly infested with non-native invasive plants and simultaneously develop skills to carry out at least some aspects of this native plant program independently in the future. Seeds were germinated and grown in Cornell greenhouses over the winter of 2009, and the resulting young plants were placed in the ground at our second restoration site in the summer of 2009.

Staff and volunteers weeded NNIS from a designated site and worked with staff from Cornell Plantations to plant native species in their place. Species planted include Atlantic and zigzag goldenrods; big leaf, white wood, and calico asters; wildrye and deer-tongue grasses; white snakeroot; white turtlehead; scarlet beebalm; great blue lobelia; and tall thimbleweed.

More seeds will be collected this fall, with plans to grow more plants over the winter, and restore an expansion of the current site in the spring of 2010.

Figure 2. Contractor, volunteers, and staff prepare to plant native species in the treated portion of the site (Photo by Rebecca Wright).

Year Awarded: initial award in 2007; supplemental award in 2009

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 3 of 4

Expenditures (through 09/30/2009):
Award : $11,000 ($9,562 contract & $1,438 FL staff)
•FY07 used: $550 contract & $1,024 FL staff
•FY08 used: $3,064 contract & $414 FL staff
•FY09 used: $1,075 contract (FL staff separate fund)
▪Total remaining: $4,873
▪Salary & travel (from separate FY09 award): $5,657.30
Partners/Contractors/Coop: Cornell Plantations; local volunteers

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Figure 1. Site is heavily infested with periwinkle, prior to treatment and restoration with native plants (photo by Rebecca Wright).

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