Shawnee National Forest

2014 Invasive Species Accomplishments

The Shawnee National Forest treated over 700 acres of three invasive plant species over the 2014 fiscal year: garlic mustard, autumn olive, and Nepalese browntop. Most of the acres were infested with garlic mustard and were treated by a combination of prescribed burning, hand pulling, and limited herbicide application. Autumn olive was treated by bulldozing, while Nepalese browntop was treated by hand pulling.

Almost half of the infestations were located in Natural Areas and Wilderness sites on the Forest. About 300 acres of garlic mustard were treated by prescribed fire in two Natural Areas. About 6 acres of garlic mustard and 8 acres of Nepalese browntop were hand pulled by volunteers and staff at three Wilderness areas.



Fig. 1. Volunteers pulling garlic mustard at Garden of the Gods Wilderness along Indian Point Trail



Shawnee National Forest 50 Highway 145 South Harrisburg, IL, 62946 http://fs.usda.gov/shawnee



Fig. 2. Partial view of garlic mustard infestation along Indian Point Trail

The Shawnee National Forest's Invasive Species Management Environmental Assessment was signed during the latter half of the fiscal year. This document enabled the Forest to herbicide treat four priority invasive species: garlic mustard, Chinese yam, kudzu, and Amur honeysuckle across the Forest. It also will allow the treatment of the known invasive plants at 23 Natural Areas. Since the document was signed relatively late in the season, only a few garlic mustard sites were herbicide treated.

Fund Code	Activity Code	Activity	Acres
NFVW	2510	Invasive Pesticide Application	11.7
NFVW	2530	Invasive Mechanical/ Physical	101.7
NFVW	2540	Invasive Cultural Fire	605
Total			718.4

Partners/Cooperators: River to River Cooperative Weed Management Association and numerous volunteer groups