

Superior National Forest

2014 Invasive Species Accomplishments

Seasonal crews accomplished 391 acres of non-native invasive plant treatments across the Superior National Forest in 2014 with approximately 85% treatment effectiveness. Partners (Cook County Highway Department and 1854 Treaty Authority) accomplished an additional 48 acres of treatments. 2014 was also the first summer of implementation for the BWCAW Non-native Invasive Plant Management Project – 26 acres of invasive plants in the BWCAW were treated using a combination of herbicides and pulling. We also partnered with MN DNR to treat DNR gravel pits near Superior National Forest lands.

Aquatic Invasive Species: Forest staff participated in several AIS education events for kids including RiverQuest. Forest staff also conducted intensive trapping for rusty crayfish to slow the spread of these species in the upper Kawishiwi watershed in the BWCAW. Other accomplishments by our partners include operation of a boatwashing station and surveys for rusty crayfish conducted by the 1854 Treaty Authority.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative projects: GLRI funding was used to partner with MN SeaGrant for AIS education. GLRI funding was also used to establish a new cooperative weed management area, the Lake County Invasives Team. GLRI funding to the Cook County Invasives Team was used for:

- Weed pulls at Cook County High School, Gunflint Trail, Grand Marais.
- Invasive species education at events in Cook County.
- Over 1400 hours of NNIP control



Working with partner at gravel pit. (Photo: K. Knutson).



Preparing for herbicide application in BWCAW (Photo: J. Greenlee)

Gypsy Moth: In 2014 gypsy moth mating disruption treatments were conducted on an 1,879 acre block as part of the Slow-the-Spread program in St. Louis County. **Earthworms:** Approximately 4000 acres involving 2000 sample points were inventoried for presence/absence of earthworms in 2014.

Fund Code	Funding	Acres	Comments
SPFH	\$28,185	1,879	Gypsy Moth treatments
NFVW	\$146,500	325	Main program; 8 seasons
NFWF	\$5,000	31	Purple loosestrife treatments
NFXF	\$6,000	50	GLRI projects
NFXN	\$20,000	35	MNDNR gravel pits
Partner	\$5,000	48	Cook County mowing, 1854 Treaty Authority

Partners/Cooperators: Cook County, Cook County Soil and Water, MN Dept. of Transportation, Grand Portage National Monument, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, MN Dept. of Natural Resources, Gunflint Trail Scenic Byway Committee, Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association, Ely Naturalists, Cook County Invasives Team, Lake County Soil and Water, Lake County, Wolf Ridge, Friends of the Boundary Waters, 1854 Treaty Authority.



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