

# Superior National Forest

## 2013 Invasive Species Accomplishments

Seasonal crews accomplished 381 acres of non-native invasive plant treatments across the Superior NF in 2013 with approximately 88% treatment effectiveness. Priority treatment areas included the Pagami Creek Fire burned area, where 29 acres of invasive plants were hand pulled, and Artist Point, a highly visited spot on the Lake Superior shoreline where 2 acres of tansy were sprayed in conjunction with the Cook County Invasives Team.

Additionally, the Superior NF completed the Final EIS for the BWCAW Non-native Invasive Plant Management Project, which provides for treating invasive plants in the BWCAW using a combination of herbicides and pulling.

**Aquatic Invasive Species:** Forest staff participated in several AIS education events for kids including RiverQuest and Lake Superior Day. Forest staff, Lake County SWCD, and the 1854 Treaty Authority conducted a minimum tool analysis for rusty crayfish trapping in the BWCAW and tested these methods for removing rusty crayfish to slow the spread in the upper Kawishiwi watershed at natural “pinch points” in the wilderness. 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 used to partner with MN SeaGrant for AIS education. 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



Volunteers removing spotted knapweed in Grand Marais. (Photo: A. Edgerton).



NNIP treatment in Pagami Creek Fire burned area (Photo: J. Greenlee)

**Gypsy Moth:** 2013 was the last year for implementation of the Slow-the-Spread program in Lake and Cook Counties. Two blocks totaling over 26,000 acres were treated with mating disruption pheromones on the Superior NF.

**Earthworms:** Approximately 4000 acres involving 2000 sample points were inventoried for presence/absence of earthworms in 2013.

Fund Code	Funding	Acres	Comments
SPFH	\$390,750	26,050	Gypsy Moth treatments
NFVW	\$146,000	365	Main program; 7 seasonals
NFWF	\$5,000	16	Purple loosestrife treatments
NFXF	\$31,000	56	GLRI projects
Partner	\$5,000	23	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, Friends of the Boundary Waters, 1854 Treaty Authority.



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