NNIPS Eradication and Native Species Planting, National Forests in Alabama

FY 2012 Accomplishments

In 2012 the National Forests in Alabama treated (in addition to core NFVW NNIS accomplishment of 510 acres) 68 acres of exotic plant infestations (using CWK2 Understory Restoration funding). The majority of these infestations occurred in areas where they currently threaten native plant community diversity and habitats of the endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker and/or Eastern indigo snake. Treatments were completed using a combination of contracted and force-account applications. Species treated include cogongrass, bicolor lespedeza, Japanese climbing fern, tallowtree, kudzu, and Chinese privet. The eradication of these NNIS is important to restore and protect priority native communities.

Alabama ecotype native warm season grass seed was planted on the Conecuh, Oakmulgee, Shoal Creek, and Tuskegee Districts (approx.. 15 acres). Planting sites included old food plots, landing decks and former loblolly pine plantation cutovers. Native plant funds from 2012 were used to collect Georgia Aster seed (Nov., Dec.) from the Talladega District. Those seeds were cleaned at the FS Seed Lab and then propagated by the Auburn University Dept. of Horticulture. We planted approximately 2000 Georgia Aster seedlings (on 6 acres) in August adjacent to the source population.

Native warm season grass seed planting, Shoal Creek RD

Before (2011) and after (2012) Bicolor treatment (in RCW habitat on the Talladega District).

Year Awarded: 2012

Project completion: year 2012

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures:
FY2012 CWK2 $35,000

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Auburn University Horticulture Dept., Forest Service Seed Lab (Dry Branch, GA)

Ryan Shurette, Forest Botanist, 334-241-8143

National Forest in Alabama
2946 Chestnut Street
Montgomery Alabama