

New Hampshire Living Legacy Project News

Conserving the Biological Diversity of the Granite State

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Proposed NH Invasive Plant and Insect Species

From Stefan Seiter, UNH Cooperative Extension, Department of Plant Biology

As directed by the Governor and House Bill 1258-FN, the Invasive Species Committee (ISC) submitted these lists to the NH Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following are the recommendations of the ISC to the Commissioner:

- 1) Plant species on the Prohibited List, including all cultivars and varieties, that are listed without condition should be classified as "Prohibited Species" and banned immediately from deliberate sale, cultivation or transport.
- 2) Plant species on the Prohibited List that the ISC has determined have significant economic value to the commercial and retail plant trade should be phased-out over a three year period, by classifying them as "Prohibited Species with Condition". For three years from the date of formal adoption of the Prohibited List, existing New Hampshire stock of the following species, including their cultivars and varieties, may continue to be sold: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), and Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*). During this three-year period, however, no new propagation or importation of these species, their cultivars or varieties, should be allowed. Upon the completion of the three year period, prohibited species with condition will automatically become Prohibited Species without condition, and the species, their cultivars and varieties will be banned from deliberate sale, cultivation, or transport in New Hampshire. In addition, the ISC intends to work with commercial growers, plant centers and other interested groups and organizations during the phase-out period to promote awareness of the invasive nature of these "Prohibited with Condition" species.
- 3) Species on the Restricted List are those that exhibit invasive tendencies, but do not meet all criteria to be listed as Prohibited species. These species will be reevaluated by the ISC, as more research is conducted or documentation becomes available.

The ISC recommends holding two public informational meetings this summer, and one special session for plant industry professionals at various locations throughout the state, to allow the public to review and comment on the lists prior to their adoption. These meetings will also allow for interested parties

to discuss the information and literature amassed during our investigation of these species. Following are the dates, times and locations for these proposed meetings:

July 25, 2002 in the NH Lakes Region (likely Tuftonboro Center School) from 7-9pm

July 31, 2002 at the NH Plant Growers Summer Meeting in Deerfield from 9-3

August 6, 2002 in the Keene Area (likely NH Fish and Game Headquarters) from 7-9pm

The ISC recommends that the rulemaking process begins this fall to finalize the lists. The ISC proposes an effective date for the lists to be January 1, 2004, at which time all species on the Prohibited List will be banned. The end date for the phase out on the Prohibited with Conditions List shall be January 1, 2007.

The ISC considers the adoption of these lists by the Department of Agriculture as the first phase in a multi-phase process needed to effectively control invasive species in New Hampshire. Future needs include a significant investment in outreach.

For the list of species mentioned above click on the attachment below.

Moose License Plate Funds Biodiversity Conservation Projects

From New Hampshire Fish and Game Department press release:

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Projects

* Common Nighthawk Conservation Project - Work with volunteers and the Audubon Society of New Hampshire to better understand the population of this state-endangered bird; develop plans with building owners to increase nesting and fledgling success.

* Seabird restoration at the Isles of Shoals - Continue conservation efforts with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire to restore common and roseate terns on the shoals. This is a highly successful collaboration with other agencies, foundations, organizations and businesses.

* Grassland bird monitoring - Work with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire to assess status and management needs of upland sandpiper, purple martin and grasshopper sparrow.

* Common Loon Recovery Initiative - Work with the Loon Preservation Committee to complete database and assess information on this state-threatened water bird.

Amphibians as indicators of land and water habitat quality - Provide critically needed information to assess habitat to guide protection and mitigation efforts.

New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory Projects:

* Natural Community Guide and Classification of New Hampshire - Prepare, publish and distribute a book on the state's natural plant communities. Book will help landowners, land managers, developers and the public.

* Guide to Visiting New Hampshire's Natural Heritage - Expand guide to locations where natural communities, such as old-growth forests, can be seen and enjoyed by the general public. To be available on the web, as well as a brochure.

White and Seavey Island Tern Recovery Update

In the 6th year of a recovery effort led by the NH Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program and the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, the number of nesting terns continues to grow beyond the expectations of the biologists. The presence of federally endangered roseate terns, state endangered common terns, and state threatened arctic terns is a tribute to the hard work of the biologists involved in his project.

Dan Hayward, biologist for the tern project sent this report on June 27, 2002:

It has been a very busy week out here on White and Seavey Islands. We started our census last Tuesday and finished it up by the close of the period on Thursday. It has been another incredible showing! Our A wave of nesters consists of 1273 Common Tern nests, 8 Roseate Tern nests and 1 Arctic Tern nest.

The B wave of nesters is in full swing as there are new nests in our plots every day. We have discovered 2 new Roseate nests as the originals are hatching. As of yesterday we had at least 4 chicks that have hatched from the original 11 eggs. There are more Roseates working their way into the edge parts of the colony with a high count 2 days ago of 46. If all goes as planned the Arctic Tern eggs should be hatching within a week.
