

ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT IN BRIDGETOWN AND HOLLINGSWORTH PONDS

Tuckahoe State Park Wetlands



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Wetlands

Tuckahoe State Park

- The Delmarva Bays of Tuckahoe State Park are incredibly unique and home to many rare plants and animals.
- The park is home to two seasonal wetlands: Bridgetown and Hollingsworth Ponds.
- Management in these areas are challenging



Wetlands: Major Invasive Species



Common Reed
Phragmites australis



Japanese Stiltgrass
Microstegium vimineum



Sweet Gum*
Liquidambar styraciflua



Persimmons Tree*
Diospyros virginiana



Periwinkle
Vinca minor



Reed Canary Grass
Phalaris arundinacea



Red Maple*
Acer rubrum

Nuisance species*

Wetlands: Invasive Species Negative and Positive Impacts

- Negative impacts
 - Outcompete rare and native plants
 - Shading
 - Overgrowing
 - Decrease species richness
 - Allelotoxins
 - Shading
- Positive impacts
 - Creates more detritus
 - Traps more sediments
 - Provides habitat



Wetlands: Management Challenges

- Unique habitat
 - seasonal wetlands
 - rare and/or endangered plants and animals
 - sensitive area
 - trampling
 - heavy equipment



Wetlands: Possible Management Alternatives

- Plausible methods for invasive species management in Bridgetown and Hollingsworth Ponds:
 - Roundup Biactive®
 - Prescribed burns
 - Coupled management



Management Solutions: Roundup Biactive®

Roundup Biactive®

- was formulated for use in aquatic habitats (Taman, Moore, Becktin, and Shotter 2001).
- NOT available in North America yet (Relyea 2011).
- Found to be 100 times safer for frogs than the original Roundup formulation (Taman, Moore, Becktin, and Shotter 2001).



Management Solutions: Prescribed Burning

Pros:	Cons:
Reduce seed banks that are susceptible to burnings (Keeley 2006)	Can cause offsite smoke problems for traffic on roads and air quality. (Knapp et al. 2009)
lead to the increase of amphibian species richness over time (Schurbon and Fauth 2003; Flores et al. 2011).	Time consuming and labor intensive

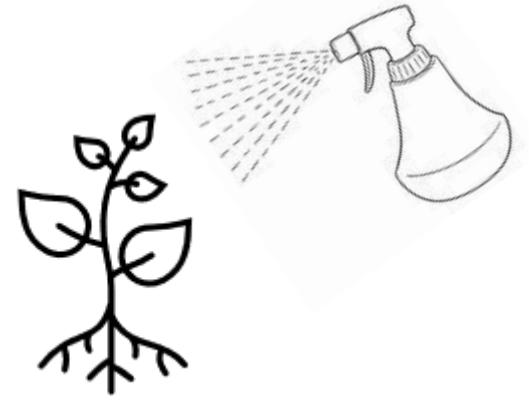


Management Solutions: Coupled Management

Pros:	Cons:
Decreased Phragmites 3-fold (Ailstock et al. 2001)	Differs from species to species
Successful in high-nutrient wetlands (Elgersma 2017)	Detrimental in low-nutrient wetlands
Increase native plant species cover (Plentovich 2008)	More expensive; Same managing constraints



3-5 years



Summary

