

NYBG/125

INVASIVE SPECIES SUMMIT:
CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES,
AND PERSPECTIVES

FRI, NOV 6, 2015

Co-presented with Lower Hudson
Partnership for Regional Invasive
Species Management



NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



Lower Hudson PRISM Overview

Linda Rohleder, Ph.D.

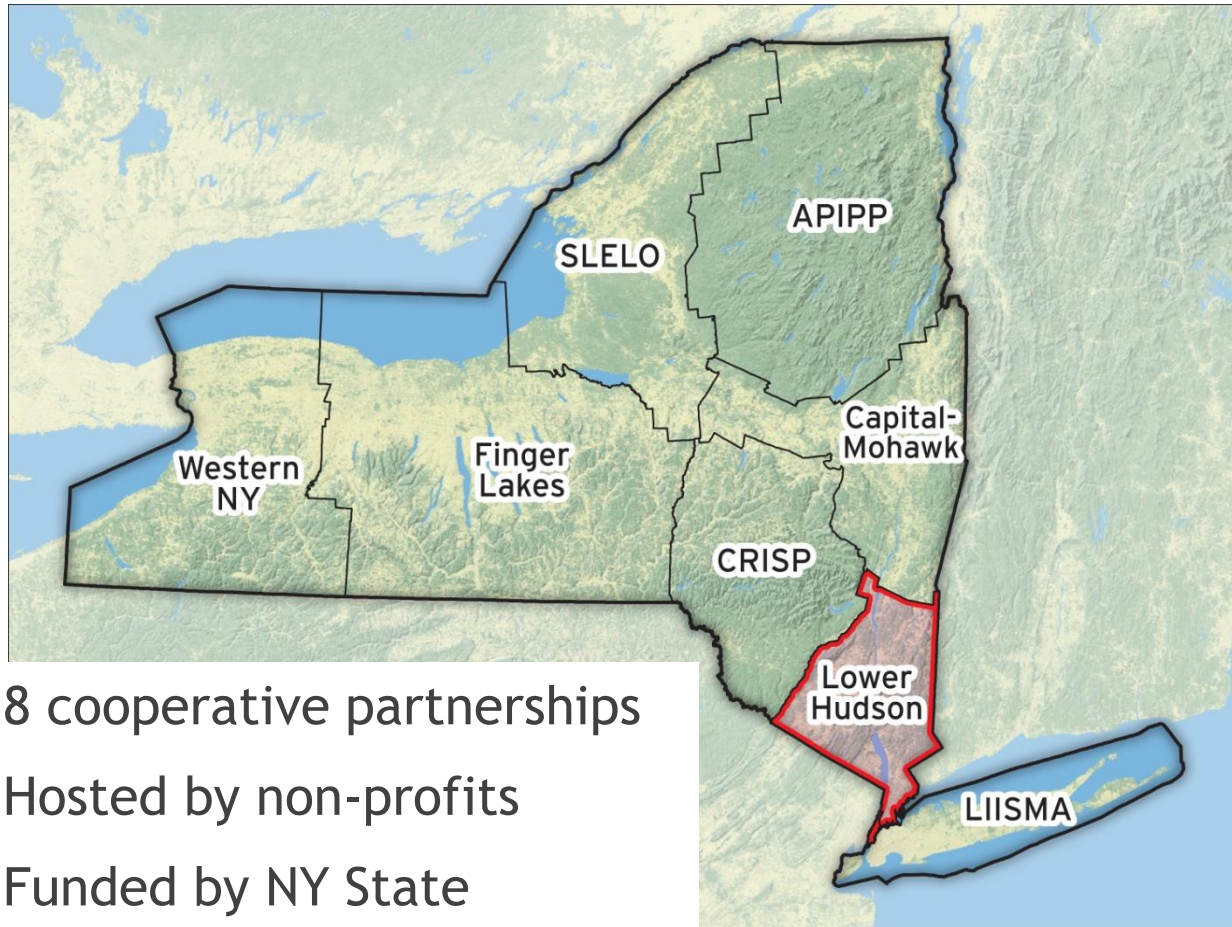
Coordinator, Lower Hudson PRISM

November 6, 2015



What is a PRISM?

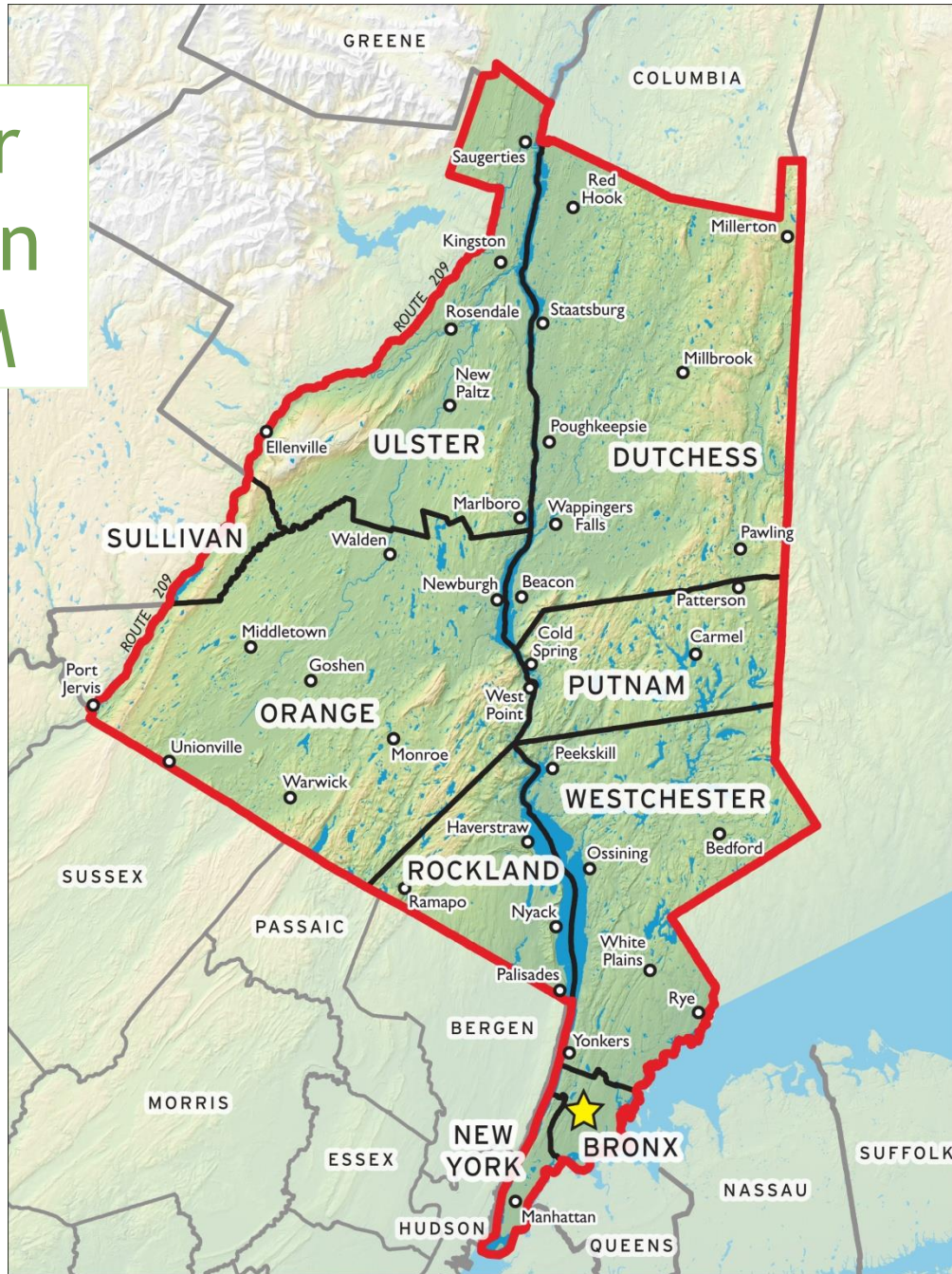
- ▶ Partnership for **R**egional **I**nvasive **S**pecies **M**anagement



- ▶ 8 cooperative partnerships
- ▶ Hosted by non-profits
- ▶ Funded by NY State



Lower Hudson PRISM



LOWER HUDSON
PRISM

Partners

- ▶ 41 regional partners
- ▶ 6 steering committee members
- ▶ Dozens of additional participants



Funding

- ▶ Via the NYS Environmental Protection Fund
- ▶ Projects selected yearly to fund



Removing and Controlling



Surveying and Mapping



Prioritizing and Coordinating



Teaching and Informing



<http://lhprism.org>



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Protecting Native Species and Habitats



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Accomplishments

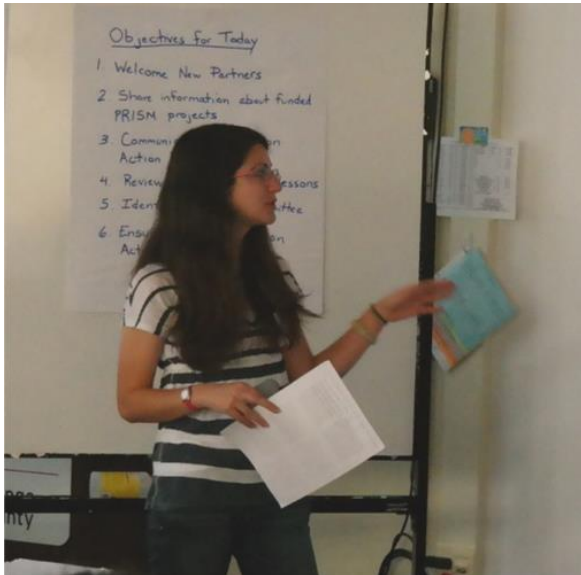
- ▶ Mobilized over 2,500 volunteers who dedicated over 17,000 hours (~\$450K)
- ▶ Conducted over 200 training sessions for over 8,000 attendees
- ▶ Managed invasive species on over 1,000 acres of land through more than 300 projects
- ▶ Mapped more than 50,000 invasive species occurrences



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PRISM**

Accomplishments

- ▶ Identified and began controlling several new invaders to our region such as *Corydalis incisa* and hardy kiwi
- ▶ Supported over a dozen summer interns
- ▶ Boat stewards inspected 800 watercraft at 2 launches
- ▶ Hosted our first Summit



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Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species



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Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species
- ▶ Identifying the areas and species we want to protect (Conservation Targets)



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PRISM**

Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species
- ▶ Identifying the areas and species we want to protect (Conservation Targets)
- ▶ Prioritizing and producing a strategy for effective management (Strategic Invasive Species Management)



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PRISM**

Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species
- ▶ Identifying the areas and species we want to protect (Conservation Targets)
- ▶ Prioritizing and producing a strategy for effective management (Strategic Invasive Species Management)
- ▶ Educating about invasive species and coordinating our messages (Education and Outreach)



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PRISM**

Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species
- ▶ Identifying the areas and species we want to protect (Conservation Targets)
- ▶ Prioritizing and producing a strategy for effective management (Strategic Invasive Species Management)
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- ▶ Helping to prevent new invaders by focusing on pathways (Mitigating Pathways of Invasion)



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Key Goals

- ▶ Increasing our collective capacity to address invasive species
- ▶ Identifying the areas and species we want to protect (Conservation Targets)
- ▶ Prioritizing and producing a strategy for effective management (Strategic Invasive Species Management)
- ▶ Educating about invasive species and coordinating our messages (Education and Outreach)
- ▶ Helping to prevent new invaders by focusing on pathways (Mitigating Pathways of Invasion)
- ▶ Facilitating the exchange of information



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PRISM**

Join Us

- ▶ Find out more on our Web Site:



<http://lhprism.org>

- ▶ Join our Mailing List
- ▶ Attend our Next Meeting
November 12
Beacon, NY



All are welcome to participate.

- ▶ Follow us on Facebook



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NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



Biological Invasions: What do they do, what can we do about them, and why are they controversial?

Dan Simberloff
University of Tennessee



Man kills his wife then himself as he was so frightened of **JAPANESE KNOTWEED**

A MAN "driven mad" by Japanese knotweed murdered his wife before taking his own life.



Kenneth McRae beat his wife to death before killing himself

18th century



A picture commonly believed to portray Pehr Kalm, although some modern-day historians have claimed it might well portray Kalm's colleague **Pehr Gadd**.^[1]

En
Resa
Til
Storra AMERICA,
Pa
Kongl. Svenska Wetenskaps
Academiens befallning,
Och
Publici kostnad,
Förättad
Af
PEHR KALM,
Oeconomix Professor i Åbo, samt Ledamot af
Kongl. Svenska Wetenskaps-Academien.

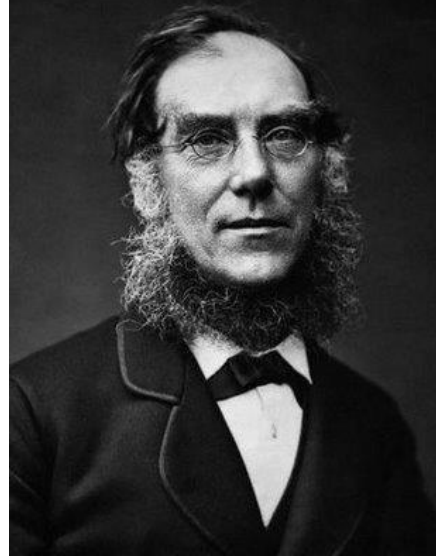
Tom. I.

Med Kongl. Maj:ts Allernådigtste Privilegio.

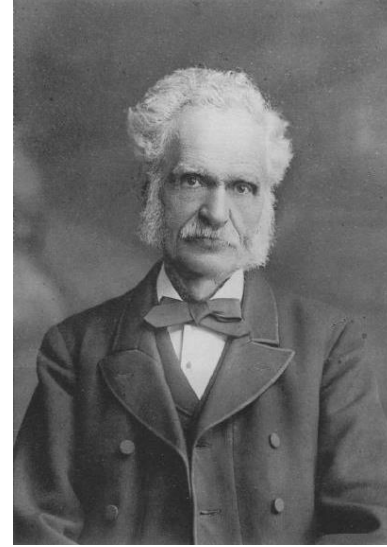
STOCKHOLM,
Tryckt på LARS SALVII kostnad 1753.



Charles Darwin



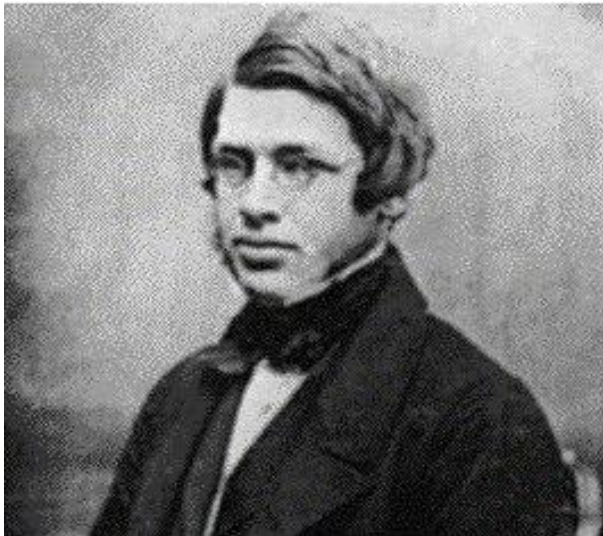
Joseph Hooker



Henry Bates



Charles Wyville
Thomson



Alfred Russel Wallace

The “Victorian
naturalist-explorers”



Charles Darwin in Patagonia, 1832:

“The whole country may be called one great bed of these plants. The cardoon [Europe and North Africa] is as high as a horse’s back, but the Pampas thistle [southern Europe and Asia] is often higher than the crown of the rider’s head. The road itself is partly, and in some cases entirely, closed.”

1958

Richardson and P. Pyšek



Figure 1 Charles Sutherland Elton (1900–1991). His book *The ecology of invasions by animals and plants* is widely acknowledged as launching the systematic study of biological invasions. Photo courtesy of the Department of Zoology, University of Oxford.

IN RETROSPECT

The book that began invasion ecology

Charles Elton's 50-year-old text founded a field and is now cited more than ever.

The Ecology of Invasions by Animals and Plants

by Charles S. Elton
Methuen: 1958. 181 pp.

Anthony Ricciardi and Hugh J. MacIsaac

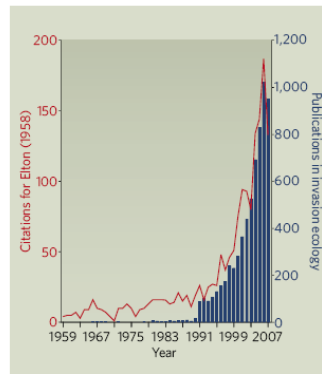
Human activities have introduced alien animals and microbes to all but the remotest regions of Earth. These biological invasions threaten ecosystems, economies and human health, and are the focus of a highly productive subdiscipline of ecology, the origin of which can be traced to a book that was published 50 years ago.

The Ecology of Invasions by Animals and Plants by British ecologist Charles S. Elton is remarkably not a scientific treatise or an academic text, but an expansion of a short series of BBC radio broadcasts aimed at the public. At the time, Elton was the most influential figure in animal ecology, having led studies on population dynamics and food chains. He was particularly interested in what he called "ecological explosions"—enormous, uncontrolled increases in population.

At the time, ecologists had treated invasions as a stochastic process that could be understood in terms of the geographical landscape of the planet. Elton argued that invasions were one of the great historical events that shaped the world's fauna and flora, and he made an effort to move the study of invasions from natural historical accounts to a more testable generalization. He drew on separate disciplines, including epidemiology and human geography, to identify large-scale patterns in the number of invaders that arrived in an area compared with tropical versus mainland areas—a pattern recently verified by

Elton demonstrated that human activities in the 19th century had begun to focus attention on aquatic species, and the transport of organisms in ships' ballast tanks, the intercontinental movement of oysters and their associated flora and fauna, and the role of canals in linking regions formerly isolated from each other for millions of years.

Many of the concepts raised in *The Ecology of Invasions by Animals and Plants* have flourished into important research themes that continue to be vigorously debated. Most notable of these is the 'biotic resistance' hypothesis: that species-rich communities



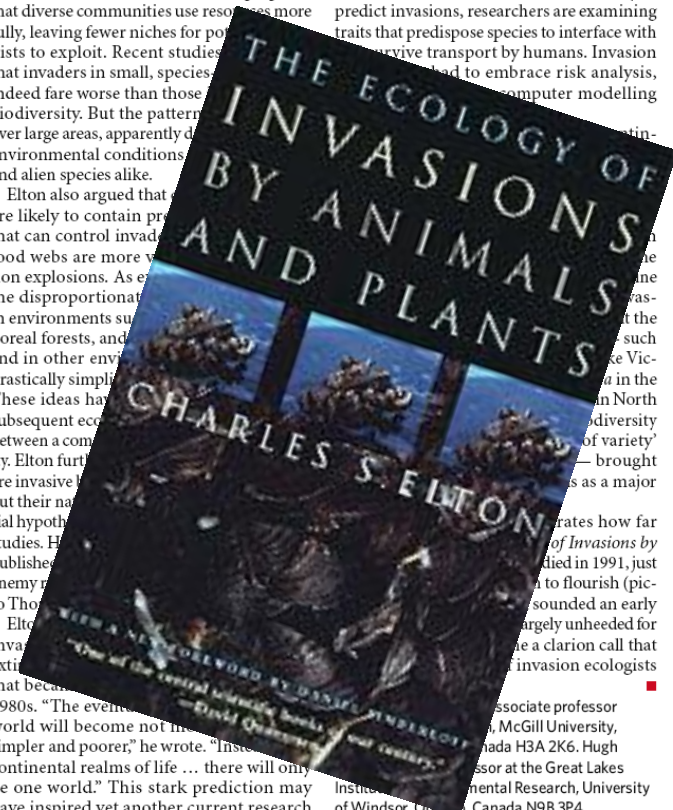
are more resistant to invasion. Elton proposed that diverse communities use resources more fully, leaving fewer niches for potential invaders to exploit. Recent studies have shown that invaders in small, species-poor communities indeed fare worse than those in species-rich communities. But the pattern holds over large areas, apparently despite differences in environmental conditions and alien species alike.

Elton also argued that islands are likely to contain predators that can control invading species. Food webs are more complex on islands, and this may explain the disproportionate number of invasions in environments such as boreal forests, and in other environments that have been drastically simplified. These ideas have been supported by subsequent ecological studies between a community's biodiversity and its resistance to invasion. Elton further argued that islands are more resistant to invasion because they lack their natural predators. He published his ideas in an enemy-free island model, which was later used by Elton to explain the success of the invasive starling in North America.

Elton's ideas have been widely cited and have influenced the field of invasion ecology. His work has been particularly influential in the study of island biogeography and the theory of island biogeography. Elton's work has also been influential in the study of the spread of invasive species and the impact of human activities on the environment.

theme: the consequences of the replacement of unique assemblages of plants and animals by widespread alien species that coexist with humans, such as rats, starlings and carp.

Half a century on, invasion ecology has progressed well beyond the scope of Elton's book. Several topics that are now crucial to our current understanding were overlooked or only touched on by Elton. These include: the number of introductions or individuals a population requires to become established; the evolutionary effects of invasions; and interactions among alien species that enhance each other's success. Commerce in agriculture, aquaculture, ornamental plants and pets has opened up the world to thousands of potential invaders, often aided by rapid unregulated trade through the Internet. The release of genetically modified organisms has added another dimension. To try to predict invasions, researchers are examining traits that predispose species to interface with humans. Invasion biology has moved to embrace risk analysis, and computer modelling

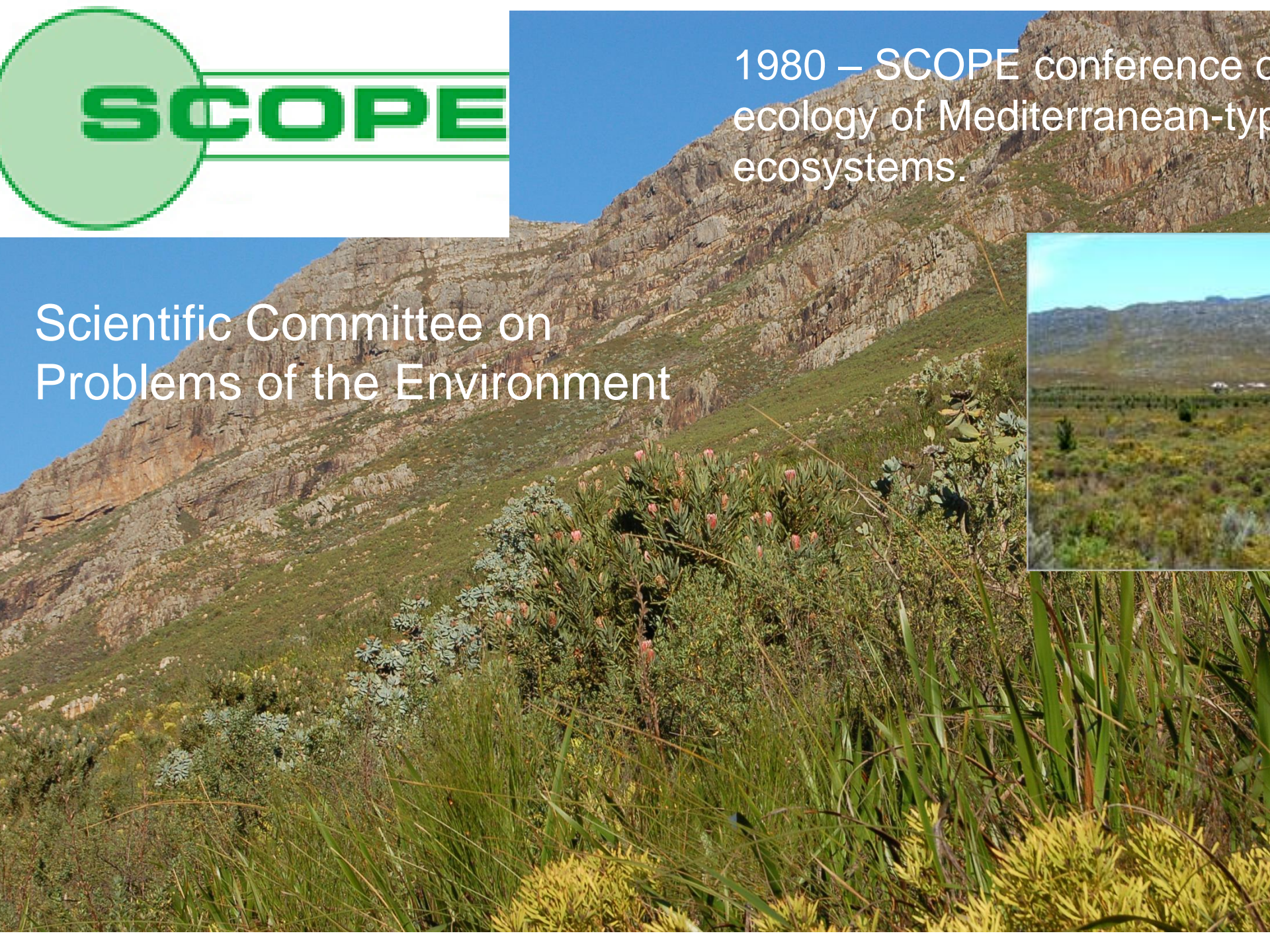


DATA FROM THOMSON SCIENTIFIC WEB OF SCIENCE

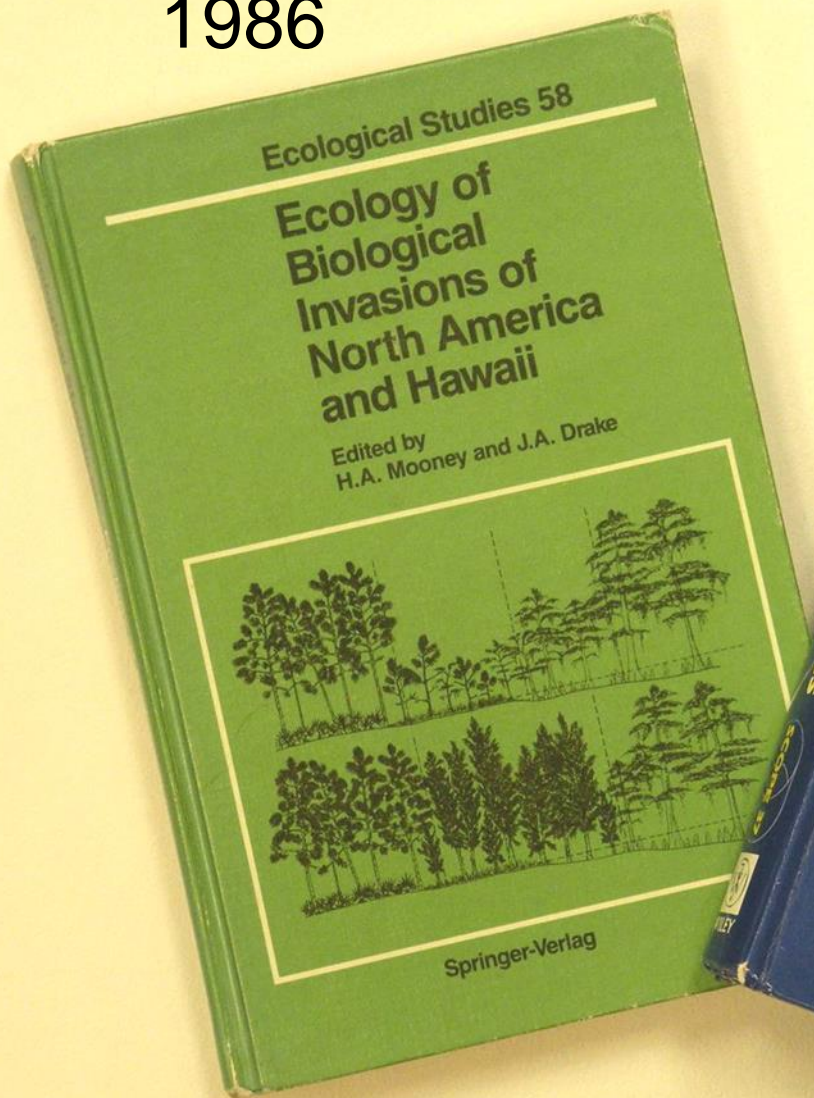


1980 – SCOPE conference on
ecology of Mediterranean-type
ecosystems.

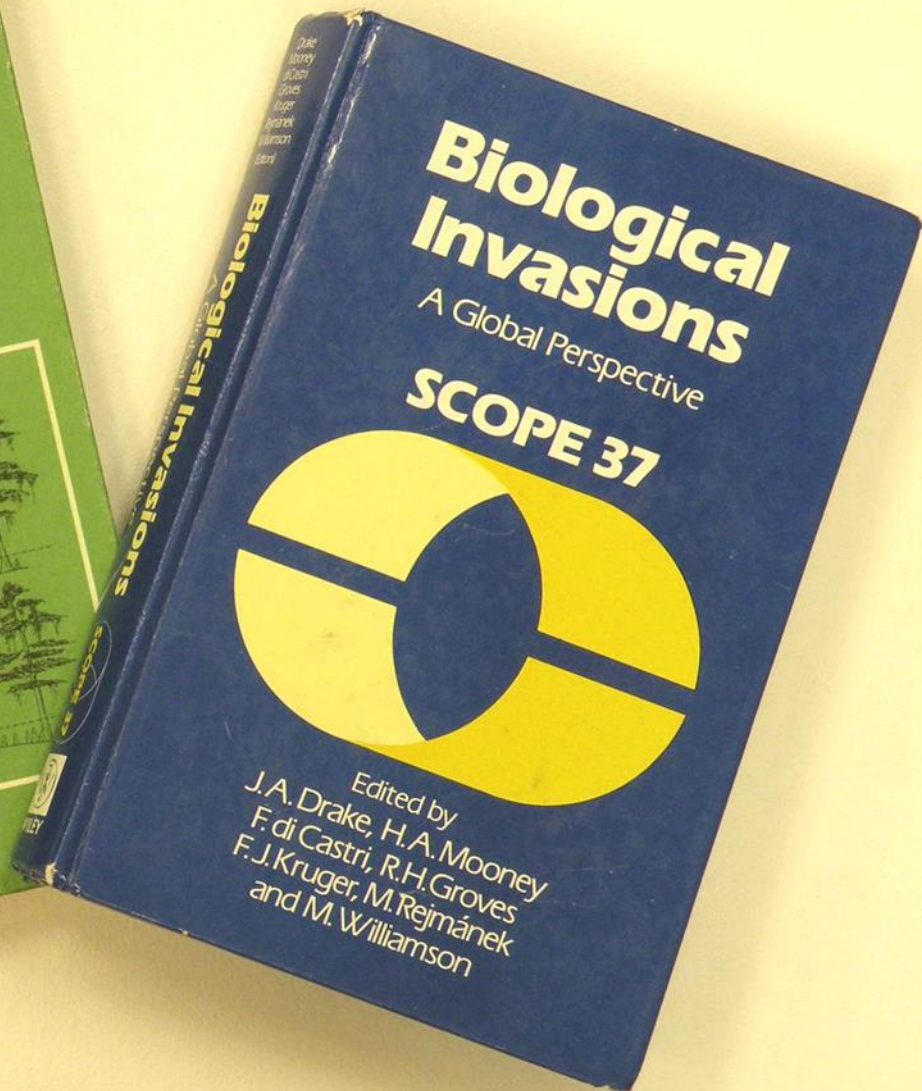
Scientific Committee on
Problems of the Environment



1986



1989



Northern Snakehead
Distinguishing Features
Long dorsal fin • small head • large mouth • big teeth •
length up to 40 inches • weight up to 15 pounds

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS FISH?

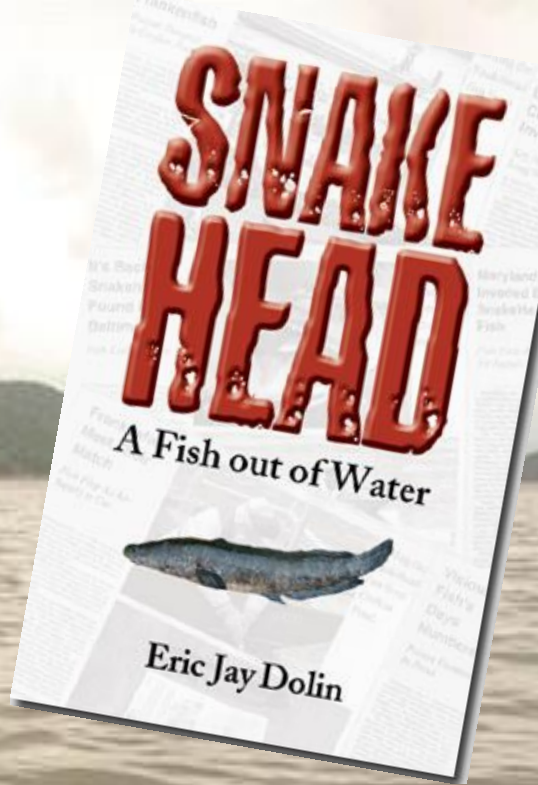


The northern snakehead from China is not native to Maryland waters and could cause serious problems if introduced into our ecosystem.

If you come across this fish,
PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE.
Please **KILL** this fish by cutting/bleeding
as it can survive out
of water for several days and **REPORT** all catches to
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fisheries Service. Thank you.



Phone: 410 260 8320
TTY: 410 260 8835
Toll Free: 1 877 620 8DNR (8367) Ext 8320
E-mail: customerservice@dnr.state.md.us



Boiga irregularis, the brown tree snake on Guam



Plate 5 A brown tree snake *Boiga irregularis* on Los Negros Island, a small island in the Northern Mariana Islands. This population is ancestral to those imported to Guam. A fully grown snake is about 2 m long. (Photo by H. Rodda, National Biological Service, U.S.)

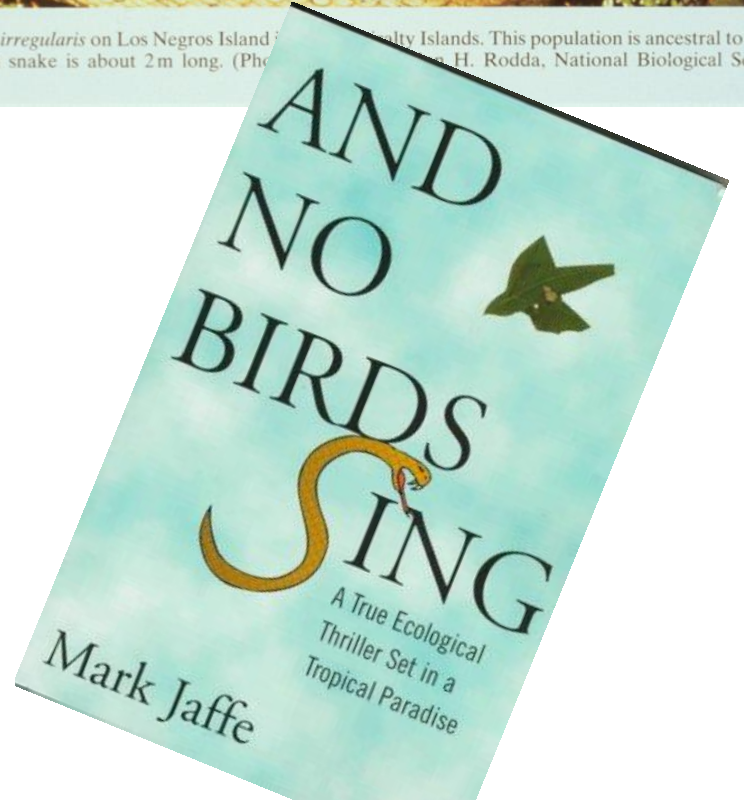


The New York Times Magazine

NOVEMBER 13, 1984 / SECTION 6

INVASION OF THE
NATURE SNATCHERS

Will the brown tree snake, having infested Guam, ravage Hawaii? How alien species are flattening the world. BY ALAN BURDICK





Burmese python, Florida



Caulerpa taxifolia

Mediterranean





CHEATGRASS

FIRE AND FORAGE
ON THE RANGE

JAMES A.
YOUNG

CHARLES D.
CLEMENTS

And introduced species also:

Compete with native species

Parasitize or infect native species

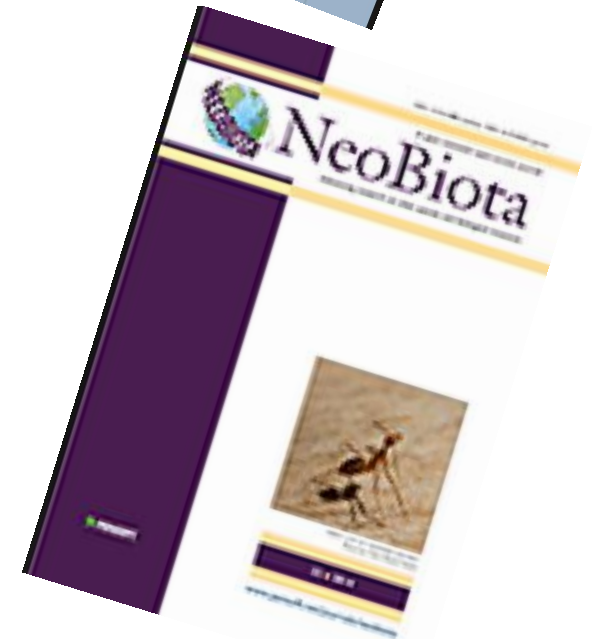
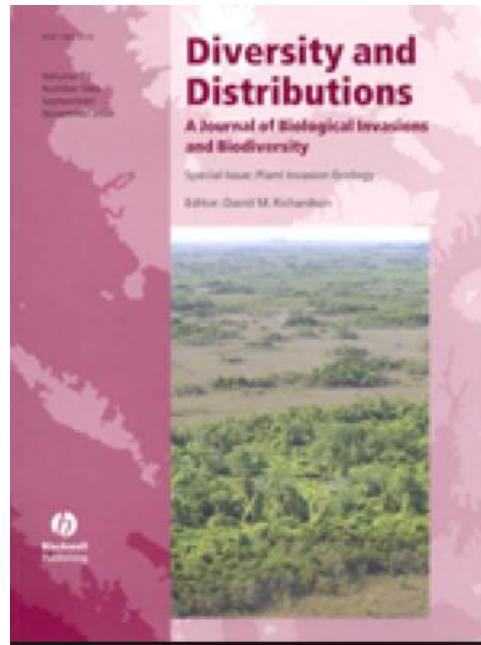
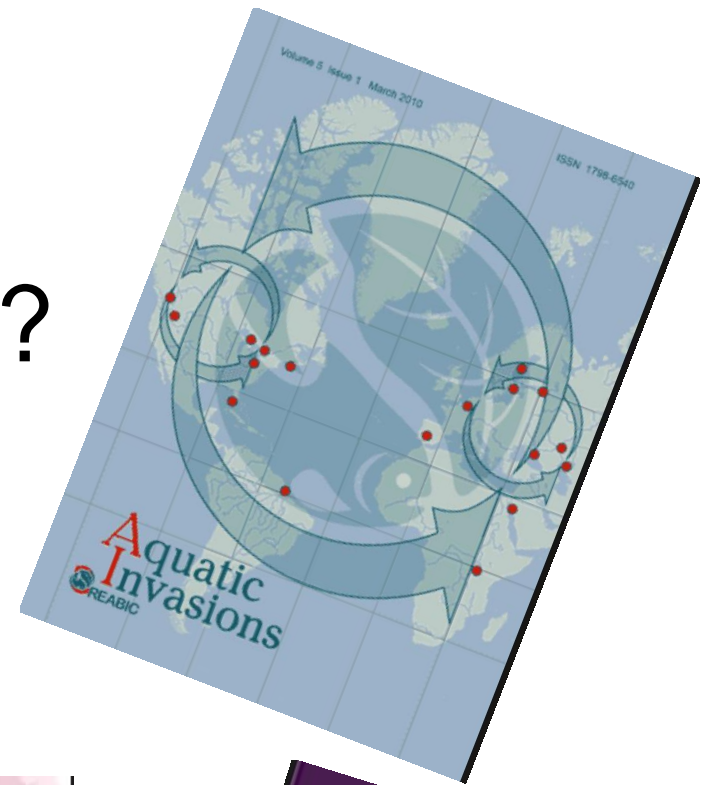
Vector diseases to native species

Hybridize with native species

Etc., etc., etc.



What's new?



**BIOLOGICAL INVASION BY *MYRICA FAYA* IN HAWAII:
PLANT DEMOGRAPHY, NITROGEN FIXATION,
ECOSYSTEM EFFECTS¹**

PETER M. VITOUSEK AND LAWRENCE R. WALKER²

Department of Biological Sciences, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305 USA



1989. Ecol. Monogr.
59: 247-259



(a)



(c)



(b)

Figure 1 Study system. (a) Aorangaia (5.6 ha), a typical island used in this study. (b) Forest floor on Tawhiti Rahi, a rat-free island. (c) Forest floor on Aiguilles, a rat-invaded island. Rat-free islands are characterized by dense seabird burrows on forest floor (such as those of Buller's shearwater, *Puffinus bulleri*, shown in b). Burrow entrances are about 20–50 cm wide, some of which are indicated by arrows in (b). Rat-free islands are in sharp contrast to rat-invaded islands, where seabird burrows are virtually non-existent owing to rat predation of seabirds (c).

T Fukami et al. 2006

“Above- and below-ground impacts of introduced predators in seabird-dominated island ecosystems”

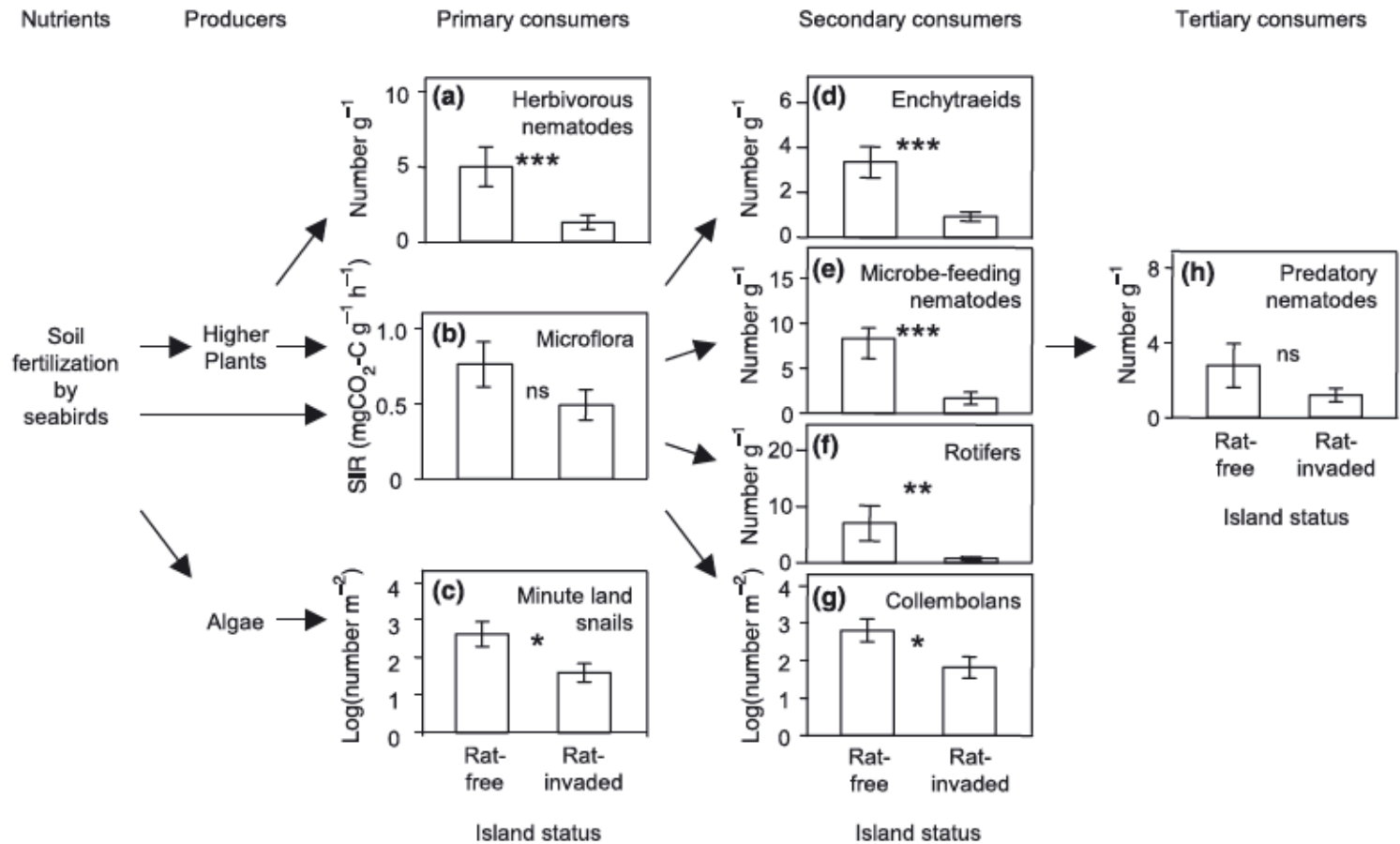
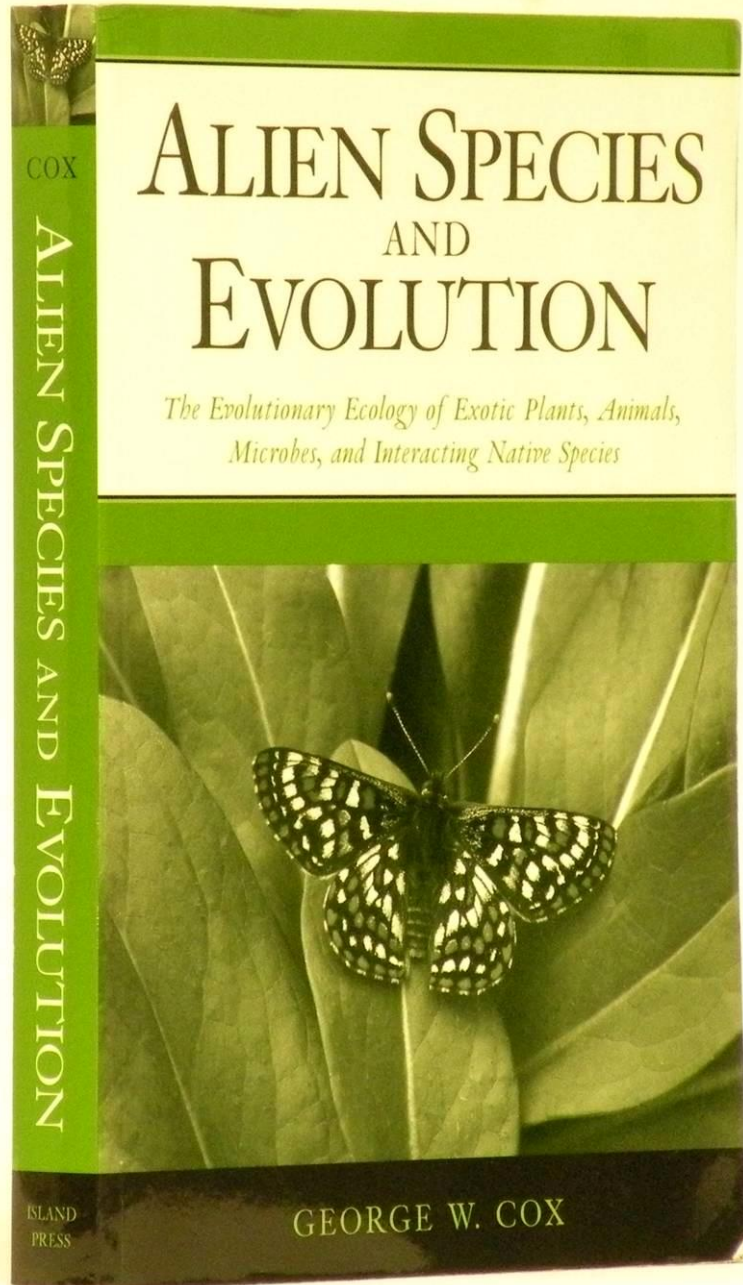


Figure 2 Response of belowground trophic groups to rat invasion of islands. Arrows indicate directions of nutrient flow (note that only a subset of the soil food web is shown). Results are shown as means \pm SEM ($n = 9$ rat-free and 9 rat-invaded islands). * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.01$; *** $P < 0.001$; ns, non-significant; SIR, substrate-induced respiration in litter and soil.

Above- and below-ground impacts of introduced predators in seabird-dominated island ecosystems

2004



Increased genetic variation and evolutionary potential drive the success of an invasive grass

Sébastien Lavergne* and Jane Molofsky

Department of Plant Biology, University of Vermont, Marsh Life Sciences Building, 109 Carrigan Drive, Burlington, VT 05405

2007. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 104:
3883-3888

HYBRIDIZATION



reed canary grass
Phalaris arundinacea

Phytophthora alni, new pathogen on *Alnus* first seen in 1939.





A forester engages in efforts to eradicate the velvet tree *Miconia calvescens* in Hawaii.

Don't judge species on their origins

Conservationists should assess organisms on environmental impact rather than on whether they are natives, argue Mark Davis and 18 other ecologists

Over the past few decades, 'non-native' species have been vilified for driving beloved 'native' species to extinction and generally polluting 'natural' environments. Intentionally or not, such characterizations have helped to create a pervasive bias against alien species that has been embraced by the public, conservationists, land managers and policy-makers, as well by as many scientists, throughout the world.

approaches to the conservation of species — approach to our fast-changing planet.

The concept of native species was first introduced by the English botanist William Hooker. By the late 1840s, his terms native and introduced help them distinguish between species that posed a 'true' British threat.

Over the next century, we do not

exaggerated claims of impending harm to help convey the message that introduced species are the enemies of man and nature.

Certainly, some species introduced by humans have driven extinctions and undermined important ecological services such as clean water and timber resources. In Hawaii, for instance, avian malaria — probably introduced in the early 1900s when European settlers brought in song and game birds — has killed off more than half of the islands' native bird species. Zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*), originally native to the lakes of southeast Russia and accidentally introduced to North America in the late 1980s, have cost the US power industry and water utilities hundreds of millions (some say billions) of dollars in damage by clogging pipes.

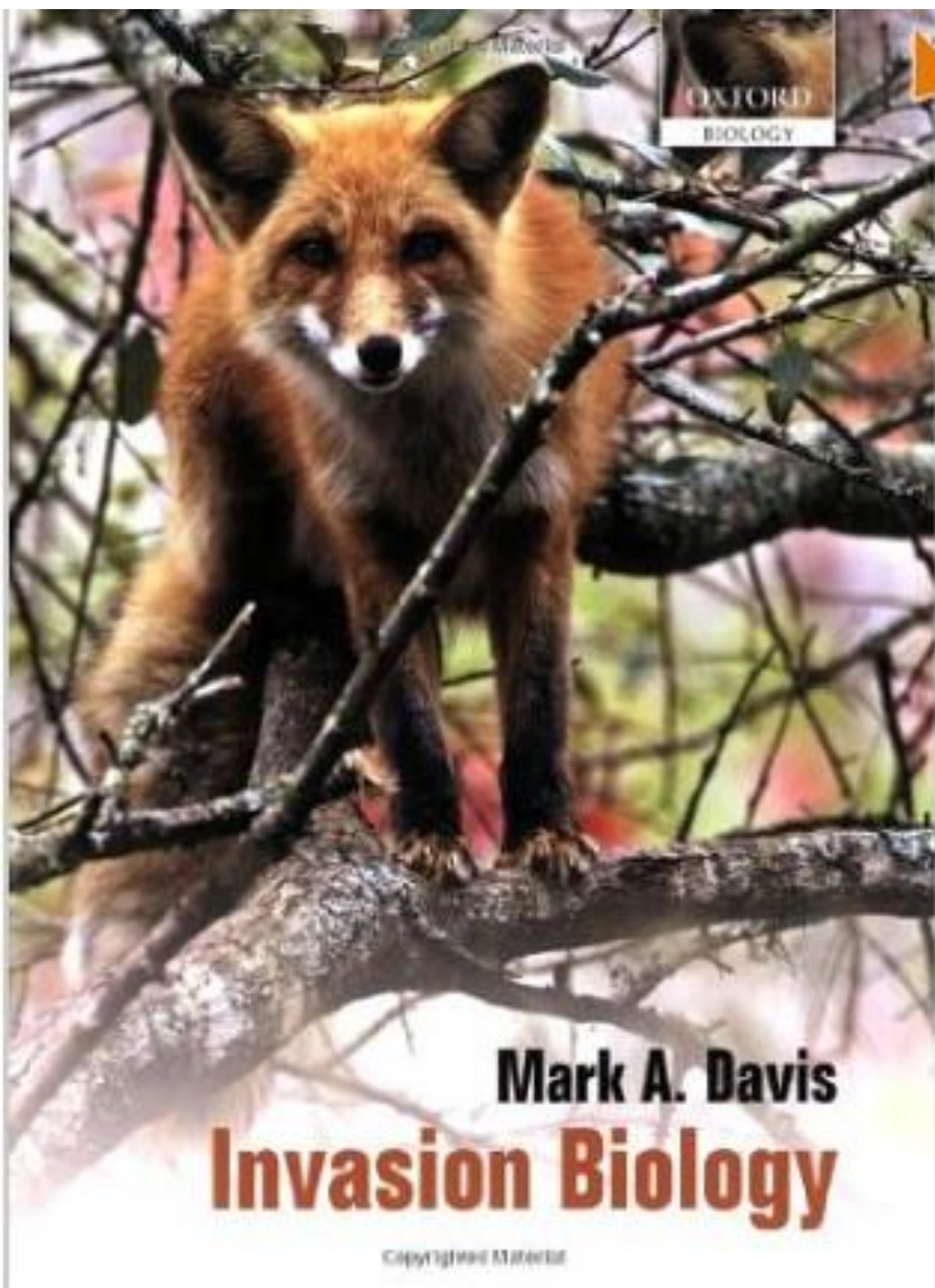
But many of the claims are based on the perception that introduced species pose an apocalyptic threat to native biodiversity, backed by data. Take, for example, a 1998 paper⁴ that identified introduced species as the greatest threat to native biodiversity or endangered species extinction. Little evidence supports this claim. The author, Mark Davis, received a letter from a reader who

Non-natives: 141 scientists object

We the undersigned feel that there is a need for a change in the way we approach the management of introduced species (*Nature* 474, 153–154; 2011), Mark Davis and colleagues argue. First, most conservation biologists are not ecologists.

Nature
2011

CORRESPONDENCE



2009

Another call for the end of invasion biology

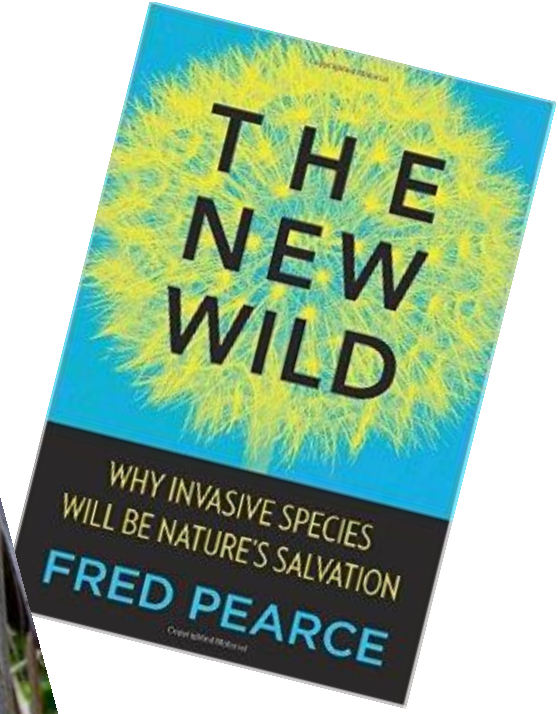
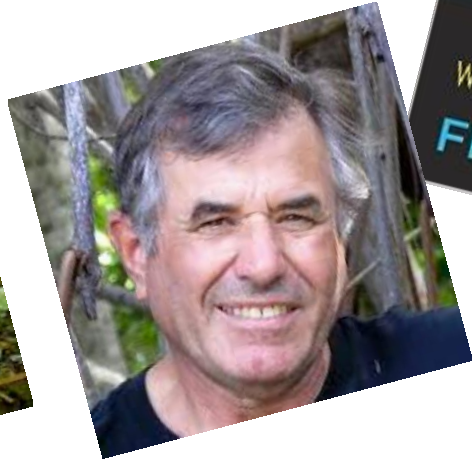
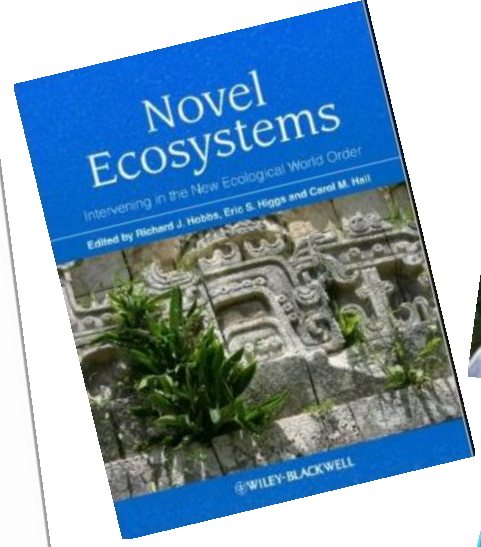
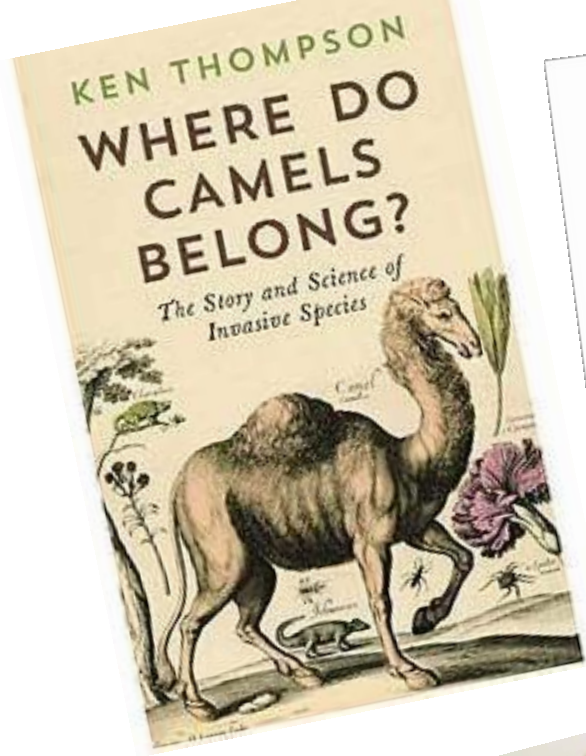
Loïc Valéry, Hervé Fritz and Jean-Claude Lefeuvre

L. Valéry (lvalery@mnhm.fr) and J.-C. Lefeuvre, Dépt d'Ecologie et de Gestion de la Biodiversité, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, and URU Biodiversité et Gestion des Territoires, Univ. de Rennes 1, Bât 25 – Avenue du Général Leclerc, FR-35042 Rennes cedex, France – H. Fritz, Laboratoire de Biométrie et Biologie Evolutive, Univ. Lyon 1; CNRS; UMR 5558, 43 boulevard du 11 Novembre 1918, FR-69622 Villeurbanne, France.

A call for an end to calls for the end of invasion biology

Daniel Simberloff and Jean R. S. Vitule

*D. Simberloff (dsimberloff@utk.edu), Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA.
– J. R. S. Vitule, Laboratório de Ecologia e Conservação, Depto de Engenharia Ambiental, Setor de Tecnologia, Univ. Federal do Paraná, 81531, 980, Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil.*



1) How many introduced species are harmful?

1) How many introduced species are harmful?

a) Some native species become “invasive.”

Simberloff et al. 2012, Ecology 93:598-607 –

- a) introduced plants 40X more likely to become damaging
- b) when native plants become invasive, almost always induced by some anthropogenic change, like grazing or changed fire regime

Cf. Paolucci et al. 2013 Diversity and Distributions
Hassan and Ricciardi 2014 Frontiers in Ecology and
the Environment

Encroachment by *Juniperus occidentalis*

1) How many introduced species are harmful?

2) Introduced species often increase local biodiversity.



114 native species
At least 55 extinct

Hawaiian birds

VS

53 established
Introduced species



- 1) How many introduced species are harmful?
- 2) Introduced species often increase local biodiversity.
- 3) Are actions against introduced species xenophobic?

“...to cleanse the German landscape of unharmonious foreign substance.” – R. Tuexen, 1939

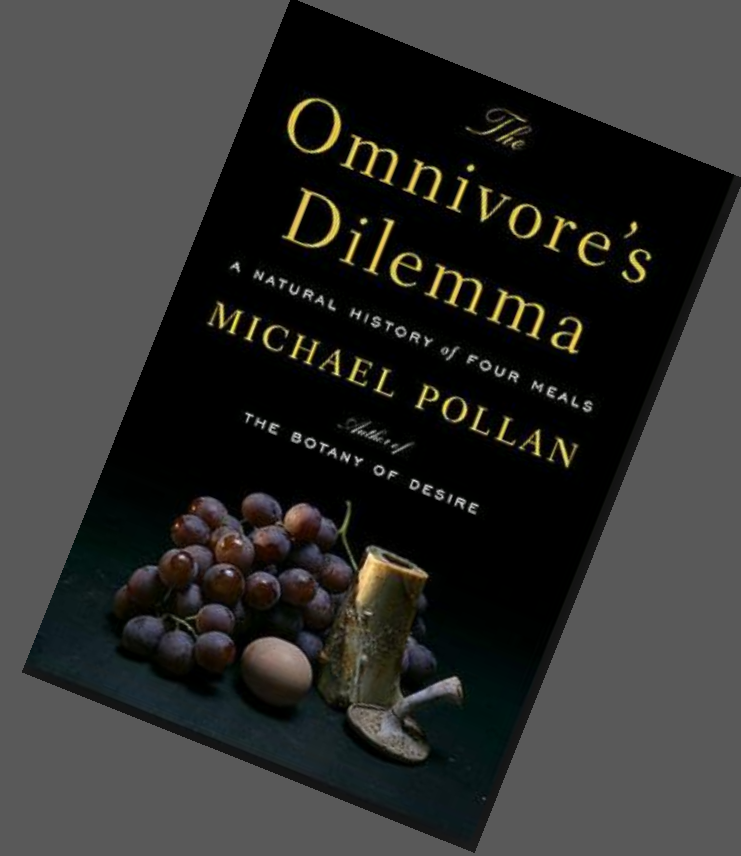
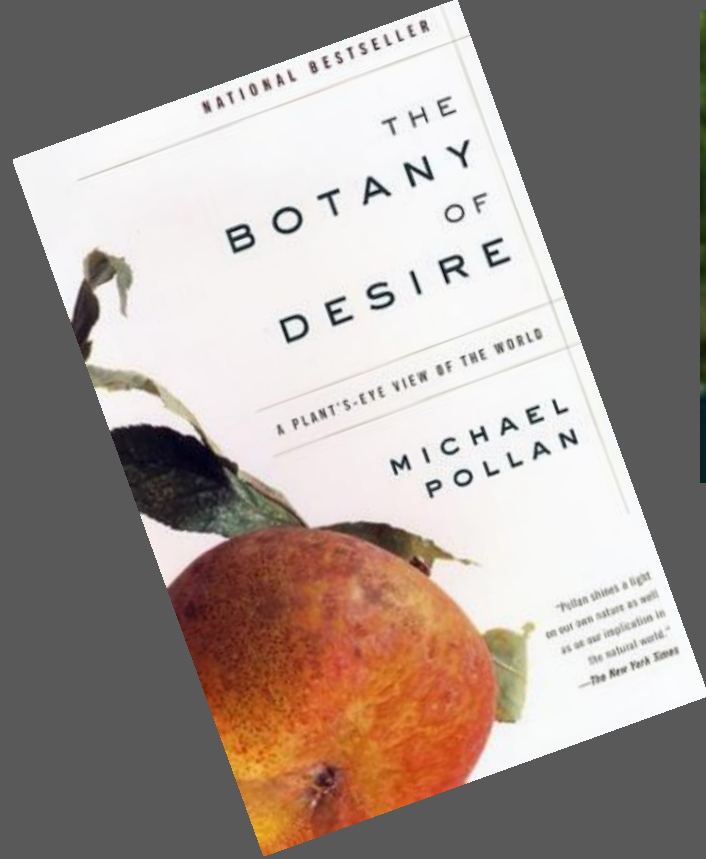
Reinhold
Tuexen



“As with the fight against Bolshevism, our entire occidental culture is at stake, so with the fight against this Mongolian invader, an essential element of this culture, namely the beauty of our forest [is at stake].” – R Tuexen, 1942



Impatiens parviflora



“The ‘natural garden’ movement has all but seized control of official garden taste in this country. [It] is decreed that the ‘new American garden’ is henceforth a place that ...grants citizenship exclusively to native plants (any immigrant to be treated as ‘flora non grata’ with ‘invasive aliens’ subject to deportation).” – M Pollan, 1994

“Am I implying that natural gardening in America is a **crypto-Fascist movement**? I hope not. I mention the historical precedent partly to suggest that the ‘new American garden’ is neither as new nor as American as its proponents would have us think.” – M Pollan, 1994

“The German example also suggests we would do well to beware of ideology in the garden masquerading as science. It’s **hard to believe that there is nothing more than scientific concern about invasive species** behind the current fashion for natural gardening and native plants in America – not when our national politics are rife with anxieties about immigration and isolationist sentiment.” – M Pollan, 1994

SIDED WITH HITLER



This does **not** mean that anyone who wants the trains to run on time is a Fascist!

**BUT HEY THE TRAINS
RUN ON TIME**

- 1) How many introduced species are harmful?
- 1) Introduced species often increase local biodiversity.
- 2) Are actions against introduced species xenophobic?
- 3) Efforts to contain invasions are futile.

Mark Gardener, Director, Charles Darwin
Research Station, Galapagos, 2011:

“It’s time to embrace the aliens. Blackberries
now cover more than 30,000 ha here, and our
studies show that island biodiversity is reduced
by at least 50% when it’s present. But as far as
I’m concerned, it’s now a Galapagos native,
and it’s time we accepted it as such.”

Rubus niveus



Mytilopsis sallei



Black Striped Mussel



Courtesy CSIRO Marine Research Division



Cullen Bay



Kochia scoparia in Western Australia

1990 – introduced

1992 – eradication
campaign begun

1993 – 3,200 ha over 900
km

1995 – 139 ha

1999 – 5 ha

2000 - eradicated



Rinderpest, Scourge of Cattle, Is Vanquished

2011



F. Paladini

BEGONE Dr. William P. Taylor, in 1987 in Sudan, examined a cow for rinderpest. The United Nations is announcing this week that the disease has been wiped off the face of the earth.

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

physical and mechanical control

chemical control

biological control

sterile male, mating disruption, etc.

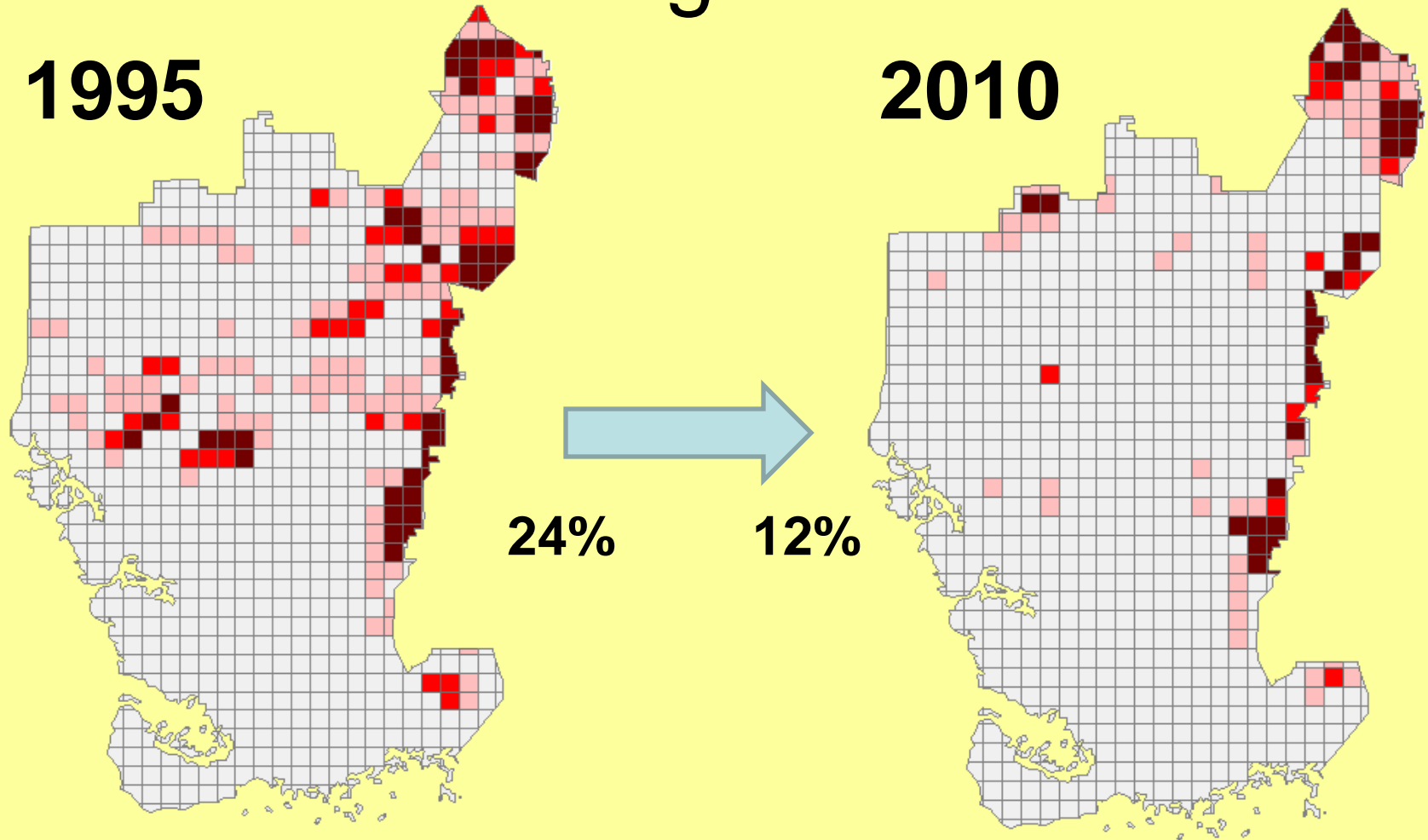
Australian paperbark,
Melaleuca quinquenervia



UGA4723012



15 Years of Melaleuca Management



Control Methods “Toolbox”

- Mechanical
- Manual
- Chemical
- Biological
- Prescribed Fire



Microencapsulated BioBullets for the Control of Biofouling Zebra Mussels

DAVID C. ALDRIDGE,*†
PAUL ELLIOTT,† AND
GEOFF D. MOGGRIDGE†

Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge,
Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, U.K., and
Department of Chemical Engineering, University of
Cambridge, Pembroke Street, Cambridge CB2 3RA, U.K.

The widespread invasion of freshwaters by the zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*, during the last 2 decades has made it one of the world's most economically and ecologically important pests. Since arriving in the North American Great Lakes in the 1980s, zebra mussels have become a major biofouler, blocking the raw water cooling systems of power stations and water treatment works and costing U.S. \$1–5 billion per year. Despite the development of numerous control methods, chlorination remains the only widespread and licensed technique. Zebra mussels are able to sense chlorine and other toxins in their surrounding environment and respond by closing their valves, thus enabling them to avoid toxic effects for up to 3 weeks. Furthermore, prolonged dosing of chlorine in raw water produces ecotoxic trihalomethanes (THMs) by reaction with organic material in the water. We have developed a novel, environmentally safe, and effective method for controlling the zebra mussel: the BioBullet. Our method uses the encapsulation of an active ingredient (KCI) in microscopic particles of edible material. The mussels' natural filtering ability then removes and concentrates the particles from the water, without stimulating the valve-closing response. By using the mussels' filtering behavior to concentrate BioBullets the absolute quantity of active ingredient added to the water can be reduced substantially. Our approach allows us to engineer the particles to break up and dissolve completely within a few hours, thus eliminating the risk of polluting the wider ecosystem. We demonstrate that the effectiveness of a toxin in the control of biofouling filter-feeders can be enhanced greatly by using our technique. This paves the way for a new approach to the control of some of the world's most important economic pests.

Introduction

The introduction of nonnative taxa into novel localities represents one of the greatest threats to the world's ecosystems and economies (1–3). One of the most well-known examples comes from the invasion of the zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*, into the Laurentian Great Lakes of

North America during the 1980s (4). Zebra mussels are unusual among freshwater bivalves in possessing byssus which enables them to attach to hard substrates and form encrustations many individuals deep (5). Rapid population growth and invasion is assisted by high fecundities and the possession of planktonic veliger larvae that can disperse passively in the water column for up to 4 weeks before settling (6).

Zebra mussels can lead to system-level changes in invaded ecosystems and have led to local extirpation of some species of North American unionid mussels (7, 8). For industry, zebra mussel biofouling of pipelines that carry raw water can be devastating. In North America, numerous power plants have experienced fouling and blockage of the heat exchange pipes, screenhouses, steam condensers, and trash bars (9). In Britain, the recent spread of zebra mussels (10) has resulted in many water treatment works experiencing blockage of microstrainers and pumps, the occlusion of pipes, and the compromising of filter bed efficiency (11). In Spain, where zebra mussels were discovered in the Ebro River in 2001 (12), many thousands of kilometers of irrigation pipeline are threatened by zebra mussel fouling (J. Insausti, Government of Aragon, Spain, 2003, personal communication). In North America alone, zebra mussels are estimated to cost industry ca. U.S. \$1–5 billion (10⁹) each year (1, 13).

Considering the immense economic cost of zebra mussels, it is unsurprising that much effort has been put into developing control strategies (6). Physical removal, generally using high-pressure water jets, is only feasible within sections of industrial facilities where ready access is possible. Anti-foulant coatings (e.g., copper-based) may offer practical preventative measures for new facilities or retrofitted screens but are difficult to apply to existing pipelines. Biological control using natural enemies offers an attractive option, and while fish and crayfish can regulate zebra mussel populations under some circumstances (14, 15), there appear to be no grounds for expecting the development of a practicable biological control method in the foreseeable future. Chemical control options are favored by industry because treatment can be applied throughout the entire facility from a single dosing point. Many chemicals will kill zebra mussels given sufficient concentration and contact time, but the suitability of a particular chemical is determined by considerations of water quality (e.g., residual concentrations, byproducts), cost, and practicality. Chemicals which have been tested to some success include chloramines, chlorine dioxide, ozone, hydrogen peroxide, potassium permanganate, pH adjustment, and inorganic salts, such as KCl (6).

While numerous physical and chemical techniques have been proposed and tested, chlorination remains the only widespread and licensed option (6). However, chlorination poses a number of problems for industry and regulators. First, chlorine reacts with organic material in the water to produce trihalomethanes (THMs) which are toxic to humans and other animals. This restricts greatly the chlorine doses that can be applied to water in infested water treatment works. Second, zebra mussels respond to unfavorable environmental conditions by closing their valves for prolonged periods (6). This means that control agents, such as chlorine in the form of sodium hypochlorite, must be dosed continuously for up to 3 weeks to have their desired effects. Third, hypochlorite is rather expensive and hazardous to transport, store, and handle. Fourth, chlorine dosed into pipelines that exit into open ecosystems can impact deleteriously on nontarget biota in the recipient waters. Indeed, many of the chemicals used

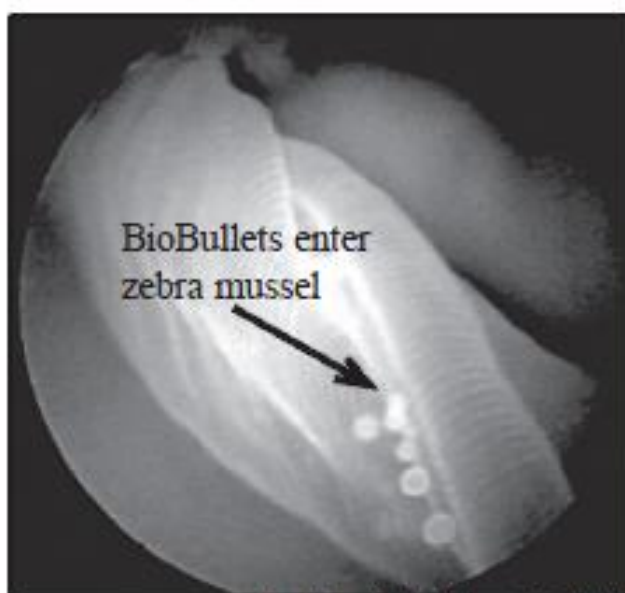


Photo by David Aldridge, University of Cambridge
BioBullets being transported along the gill of a live zebra mussel. The mussel has been fooled into treating the bullets as food, and will ingest their toxic payload.



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Invasive Ornamental Plants: Problems, Challenges, and Molecular Tools to Neutralize Their Invasiveness

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Concerns Are Raised About Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes

By **ANDREW POLLACK**

These mosquitoes are genetically engineered to kill — their own children.

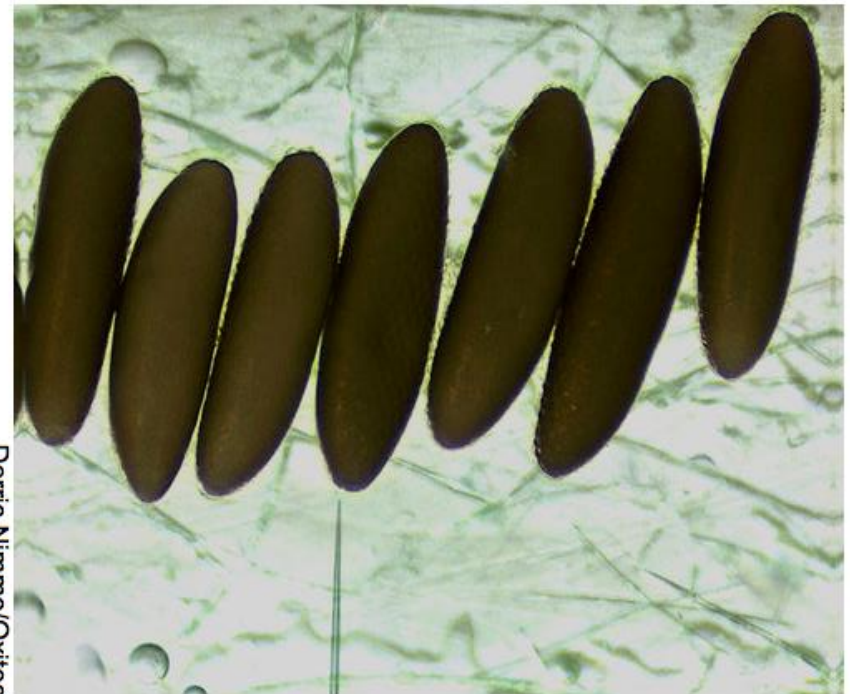
Researchers on Sunday reported initial signs of success from the first release into the environment of mosquitoes engineered to pass a lethal gene to their offspring, killing them before they reach adulthood.

The results, and other work elsewhere, could herald an age in which genetically modified insects will be used to help control agricultural pests and insect-borne diseases like dengue fever and malaria.

But the research is arousing concern about possible unintended effects on public health and the environment, because once genetically modified insects are released, they cannot be recalled.

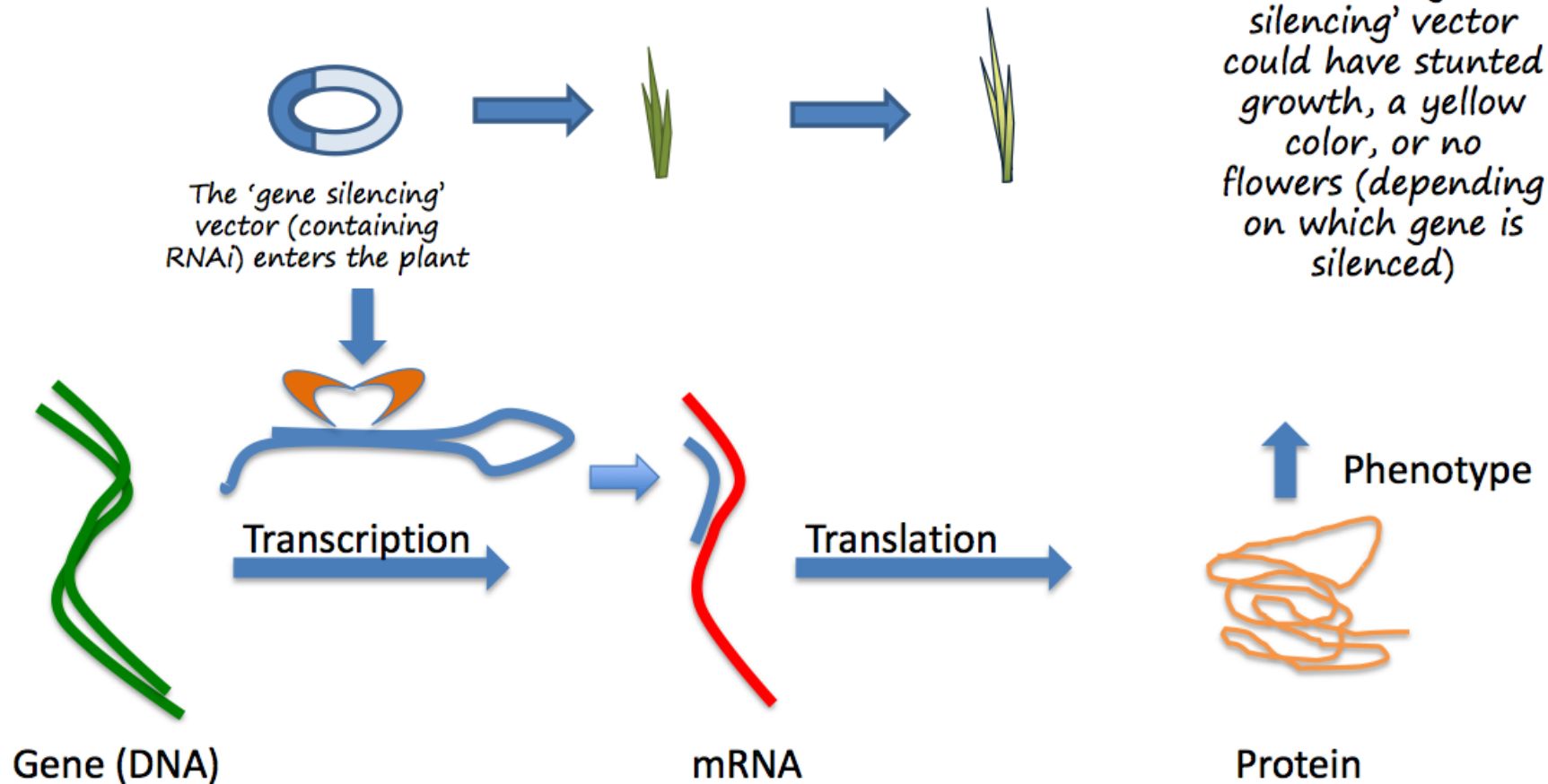
Authorities in the Florida Keys, which in 2009 experienced its first cases of dengue fever in decades, hope to conduct an open-air test of the modified mosquitoes as early as December, pending approval from the Agriculture Department.

Oxitec injected DNA into mosquito eggs to modify the species.



Derric Nimmo/Oxitec

Gene Silencing inhibits these intracellular processes resulting in muted trait expression



Plants infected with the 'gene silencing' vector could have stunted growth, a yellow color, or no flowers (depending on which gene is silenced)

from E.M. Golenberg -

<http://greatlakesphragmites.net/files/GLC-Webinar.pdf>



EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

Concerning RNA-guided gene drives for the alteration of wild populations

KEVIN M ESVELT*, ANDREA L SMIDLER, FLAMINIA CATTERUCCIA* AND GEORGE M CHURCH*

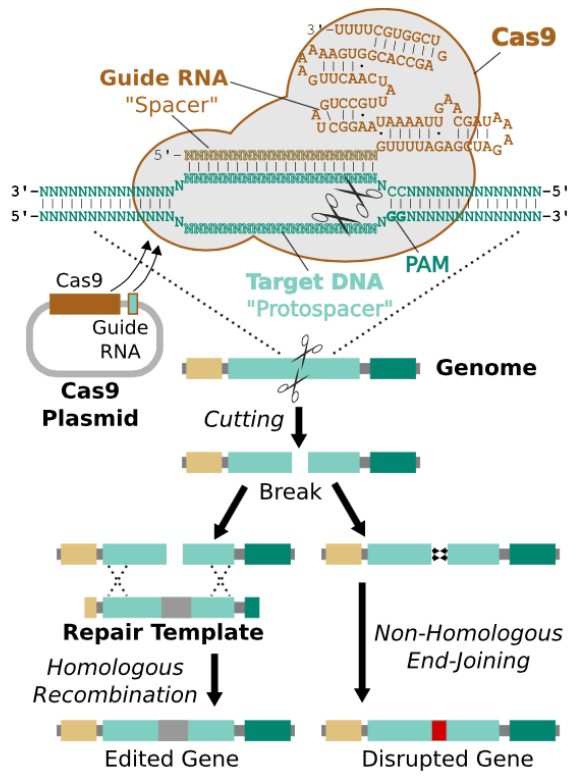


Figure 3. RNA-guided genome editing via Cas9. 1

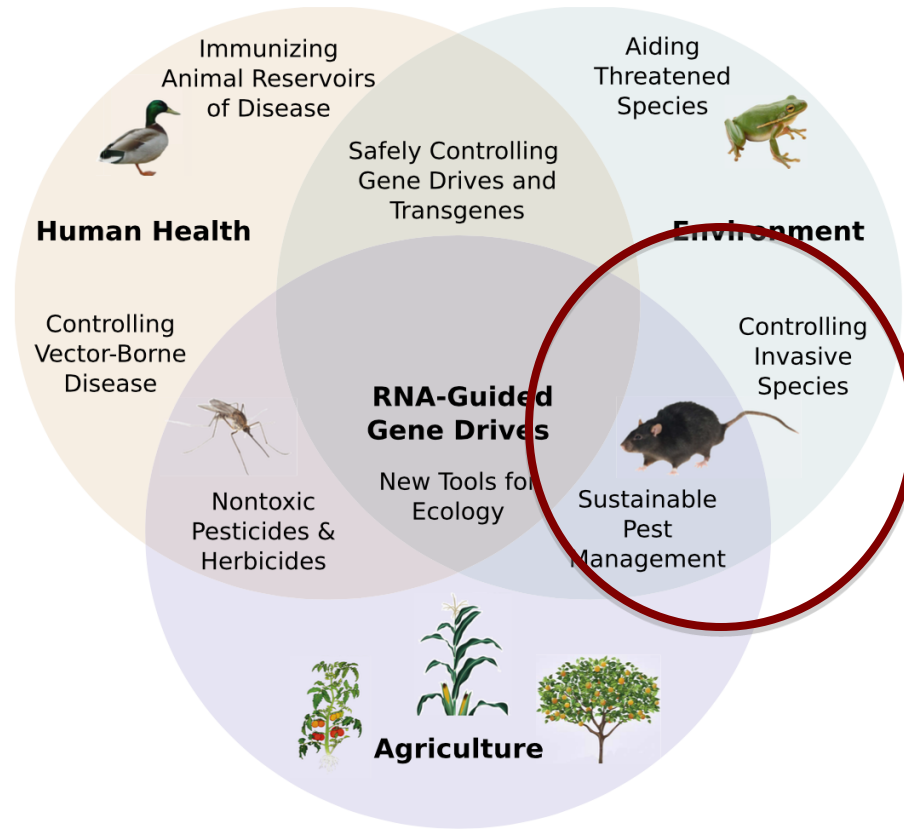


Figure 7. Potential applications of RNA-guided gene drives. Clockwise from left. Disease vectors such as

- 1) How many introduced species are harmful?
- 2) Introduced species often increase local biodiversity.
- 3) Are actions against introduced species xenophobic?
- 4) Efforts to contain invasions are futile.
- 5) Animal rights objections to eradication and management of (some) invasive vertebrates.

North American gray squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*



rights of species to exist
vs.
rights of individual animals to exist



- 1) How many introduced species are harmful?
- 2) Introduced species often increase local biodiversity.
- 3) Are actions against introduced species xenophobic?
- 4) Efforts to contain invasions are futile.
- 5) Animal rights objections to eradication and management of (some) invasive vertebrates.

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INVASIVE SPECIES SUMMIT:
CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES,
AND PERSPECTIVES

FRI, NOV 6, 2015

Co-presented with Lower Hudson
Partnership for Regional Invasive
Species Management



NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



Developing Effective Strategies to Mitigate Invasive Species Impacts in Eastern New York Forests



Executive Summary

Challenge

Invasive species are increasing and management is complex

Solution

Decision Analysis Tool

Benefit

Higher rate of project success

New York's Forest



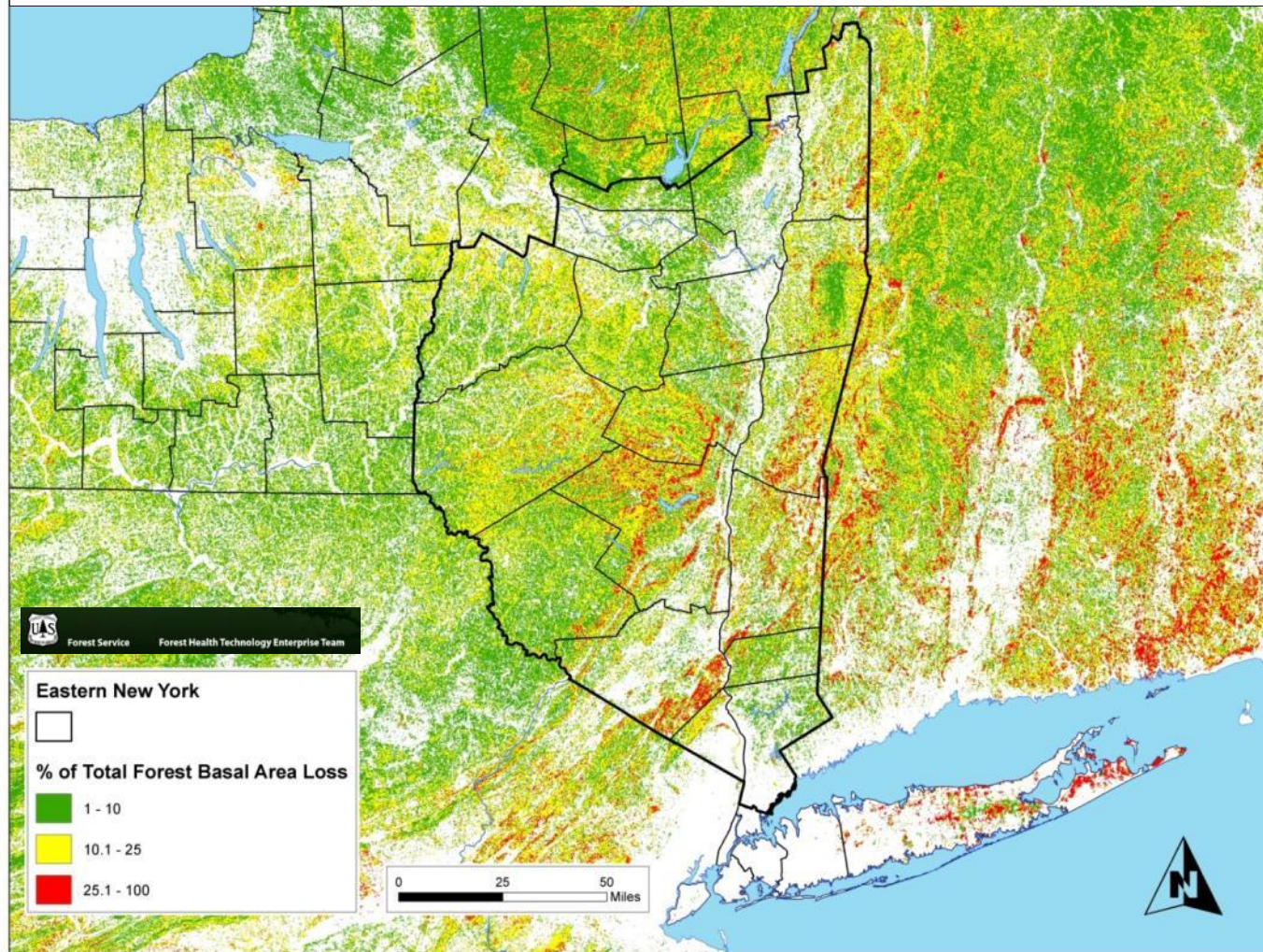
- 63% forest cover (~ 19 million ac.)
- 24% public forest
- 76% private forest

Healthy Forest, Healthy Communities



Challenge – Invasive Pests and Pathogens

2013 – 2027 National Insect and Disease Risk Map

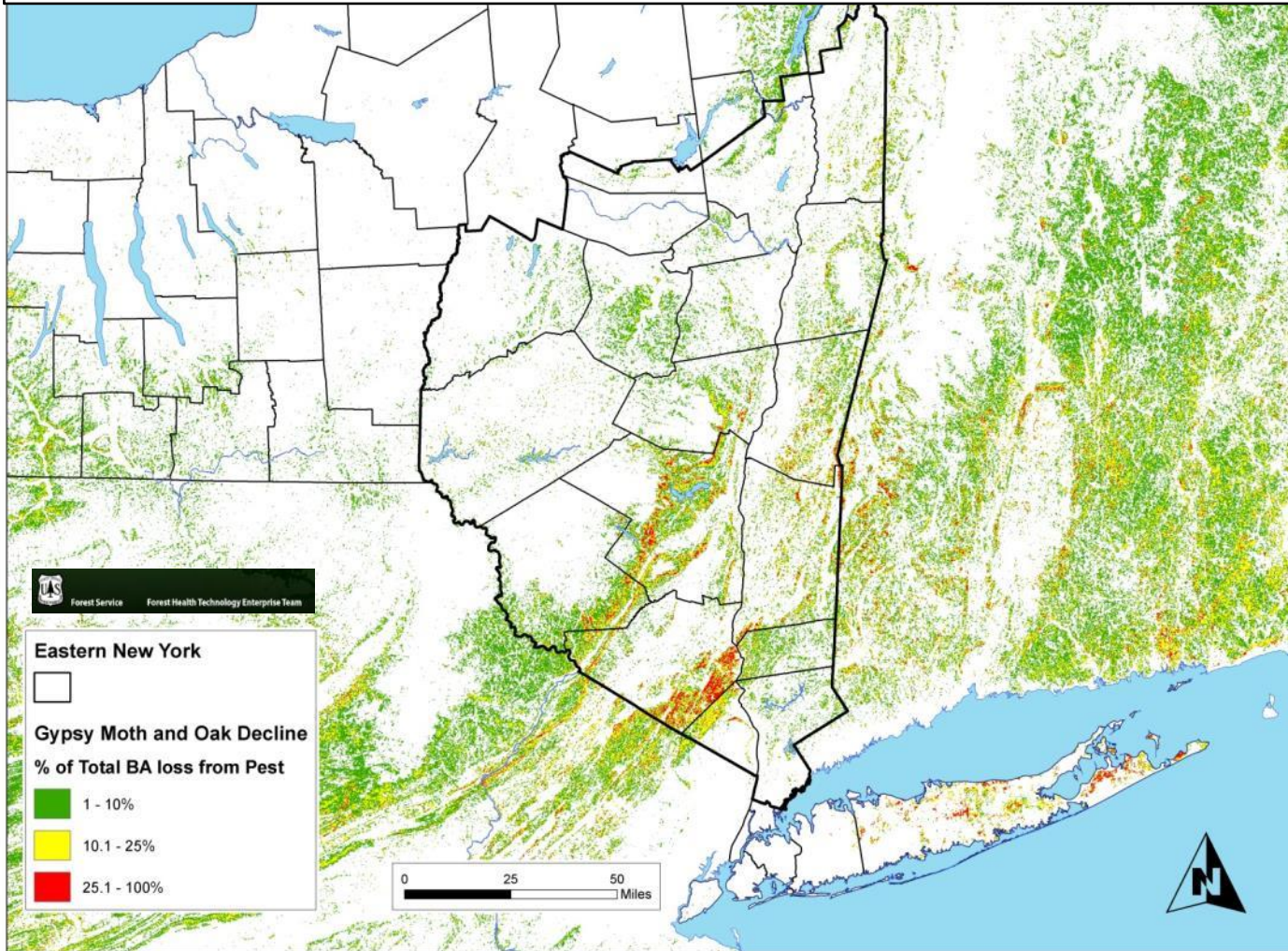


Chestnut blight
Dutch elm disease
Balsam woolly adelgid
Dogwood anthracnose
Emerald ash borer
Gypsy moth
Beech bark disease
Hemlock woolly adelgid
To name a few...



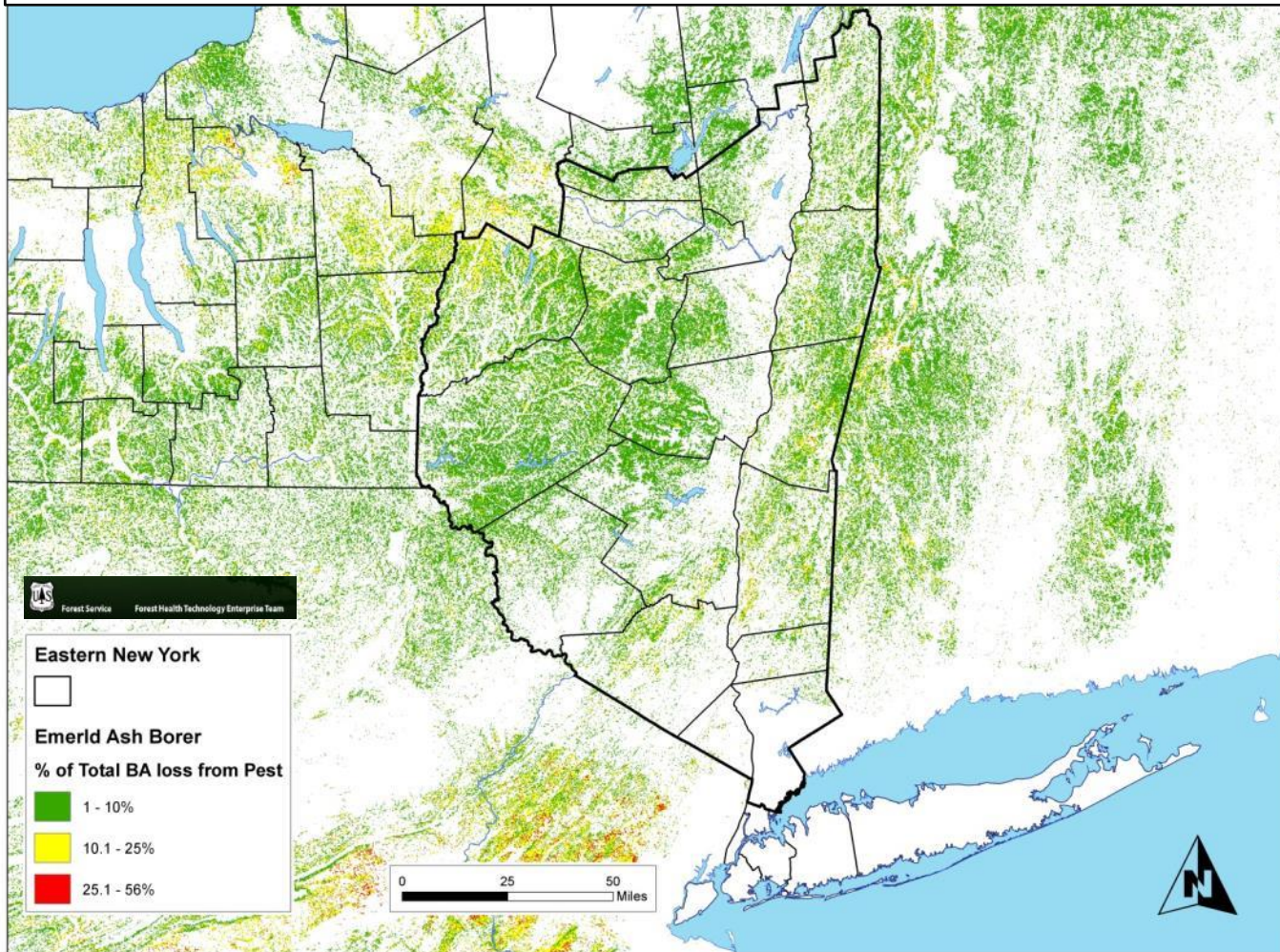
Gypsy Moth and Oak Decline

2013 – 2027 National Insect and Disease Risk Map



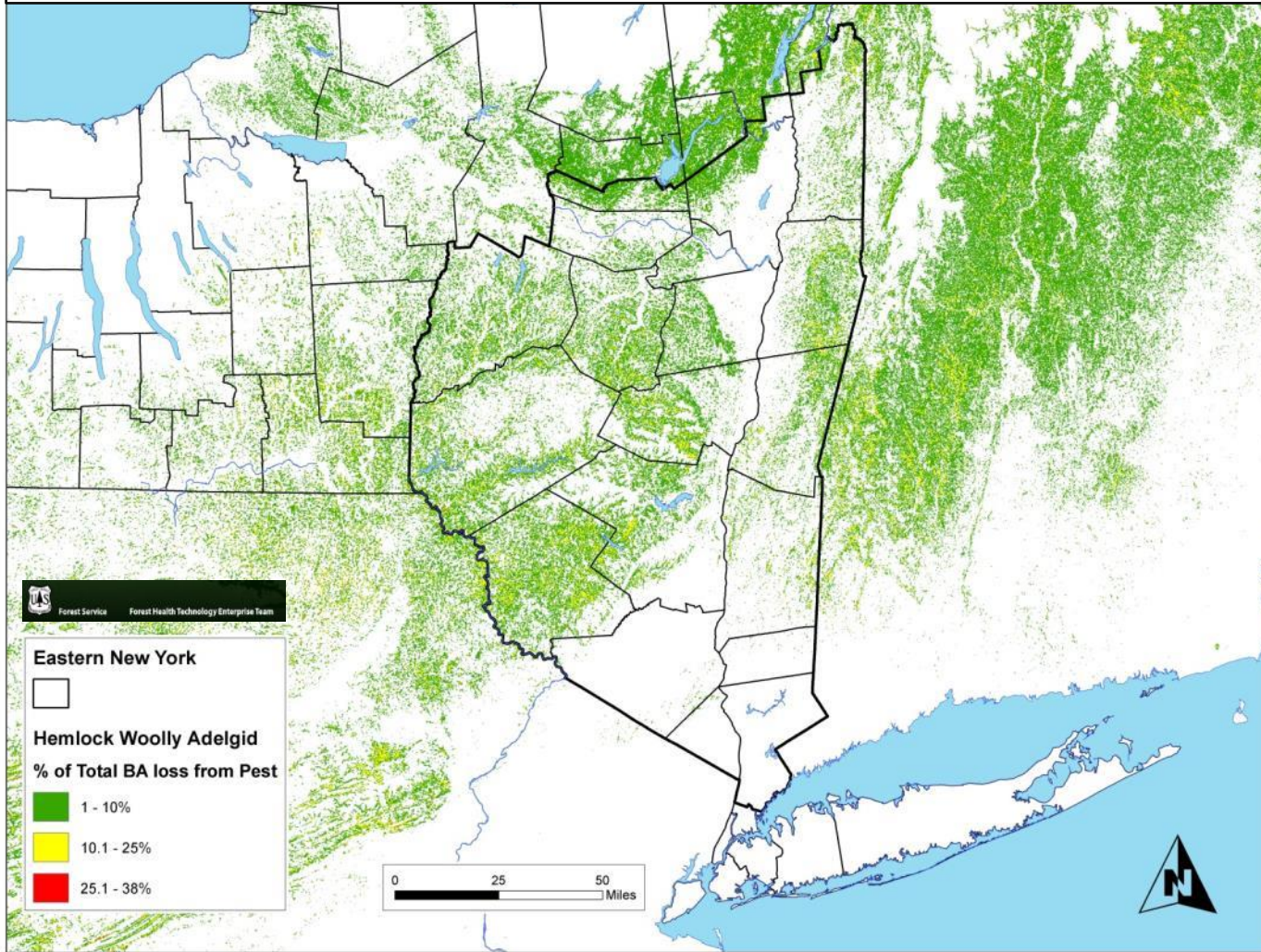
Emerald Ash Borer

2013 – 2027 National Insect and Disease Risk Map



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

2013 – 2027 National Insect and Disease Risk Map

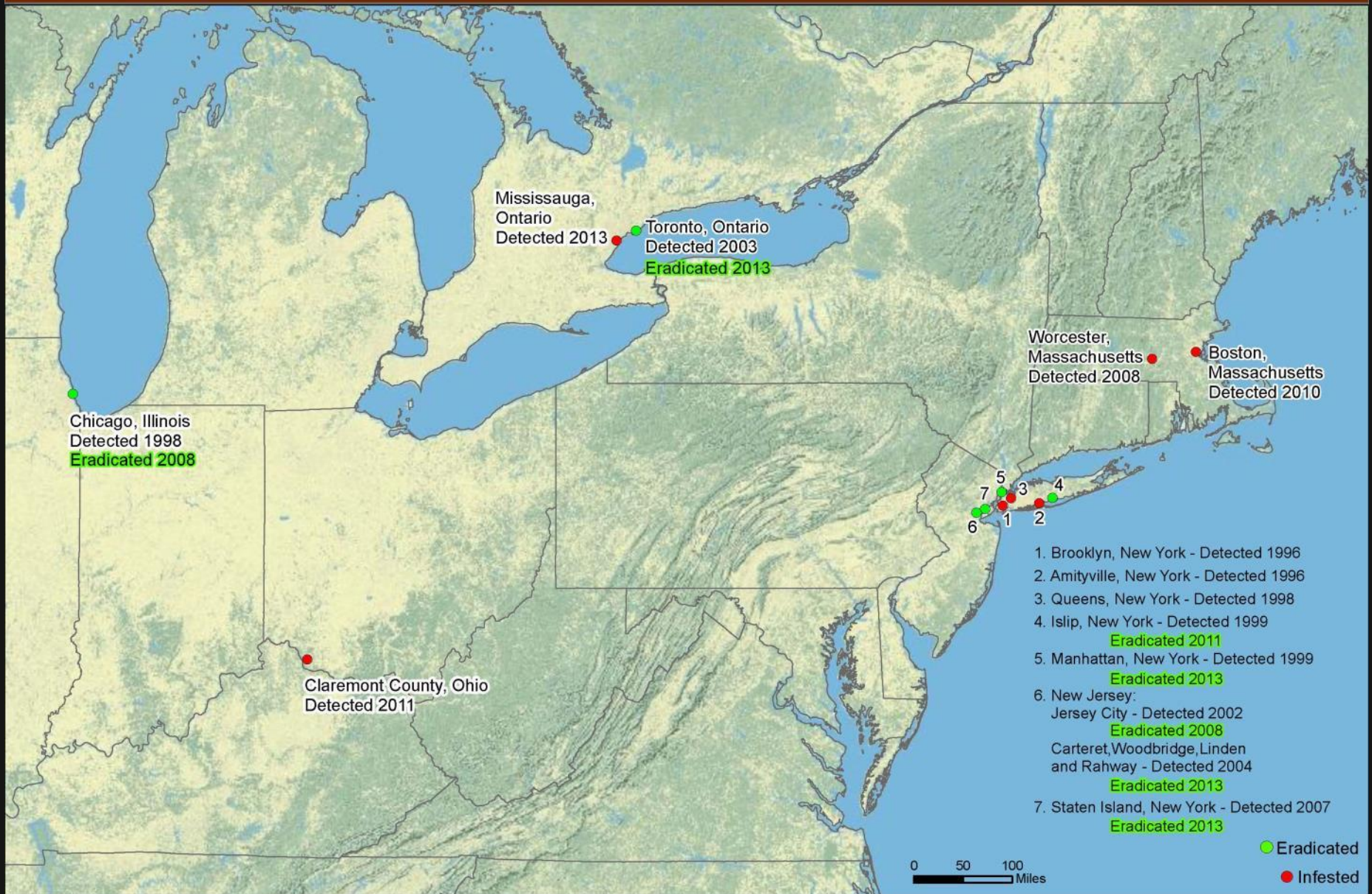


Asian Longhorn Beetle

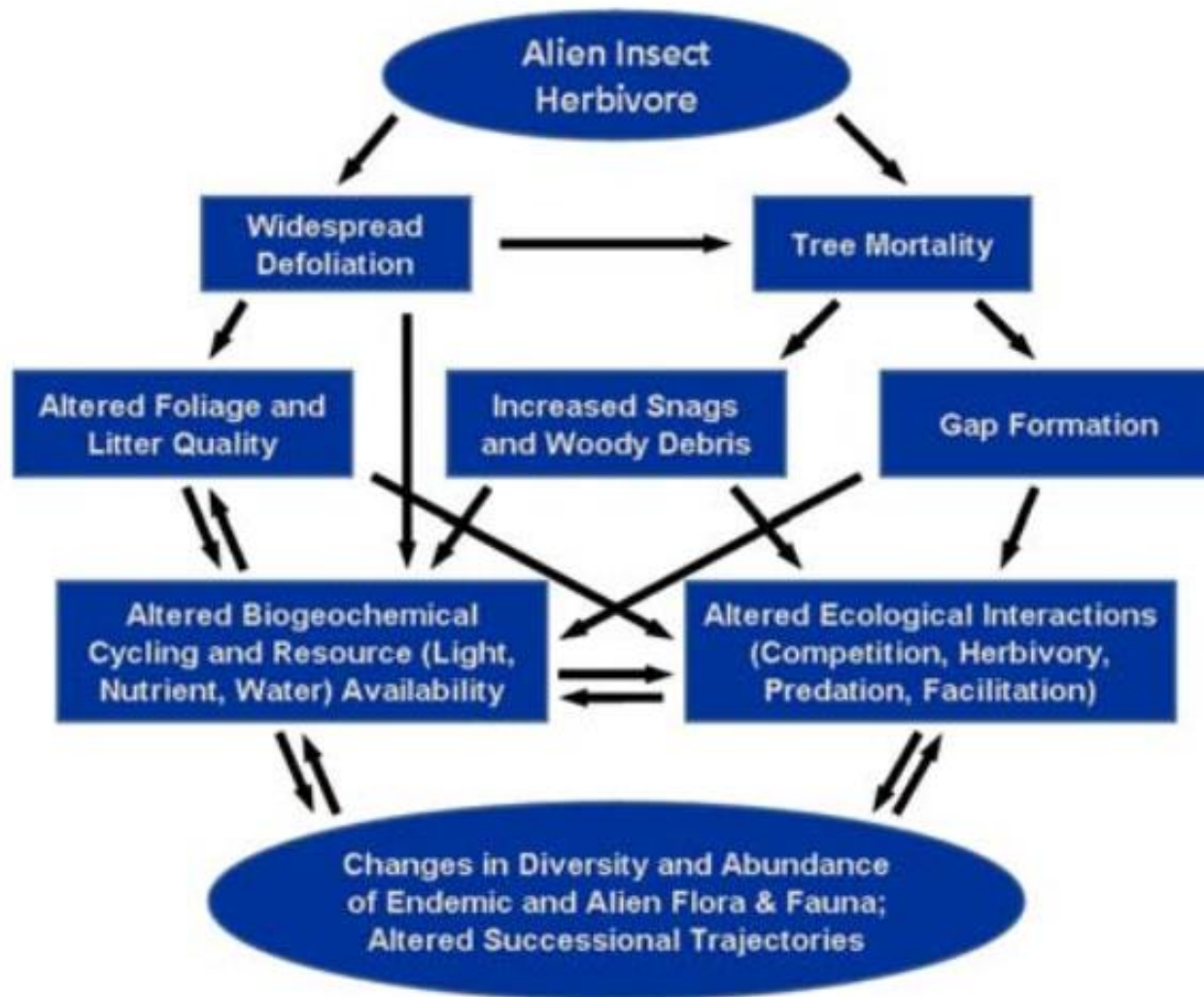


Asian Longhorned Beetle Infestations in North America

Created: October 27th, 2013



Direct and Indirect Effects

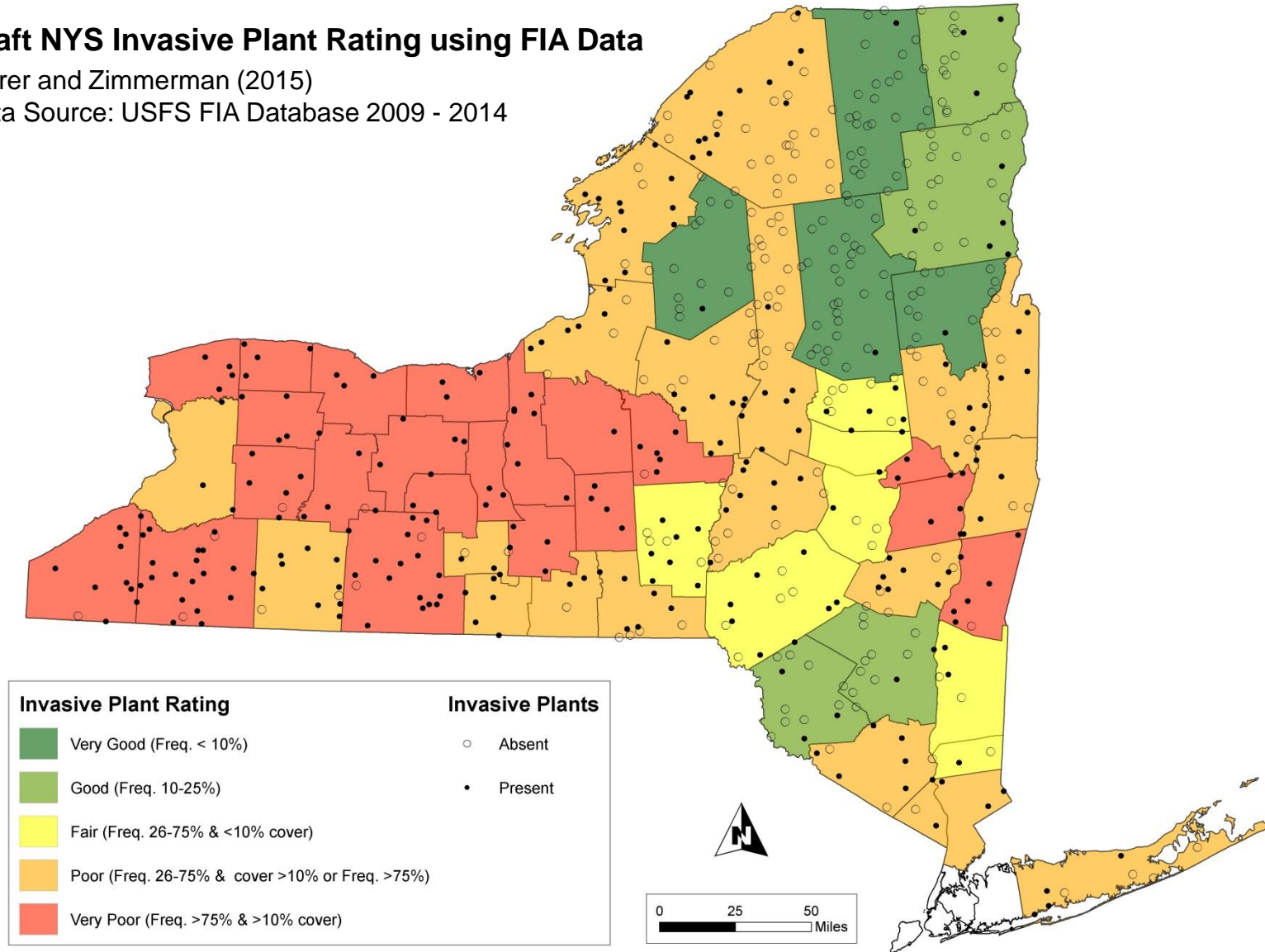


Challenge – Widespread Invasive Plants

Draft NYS Invasive Plant Rating using FIA Data

Shirer and Zimmerman (2015)

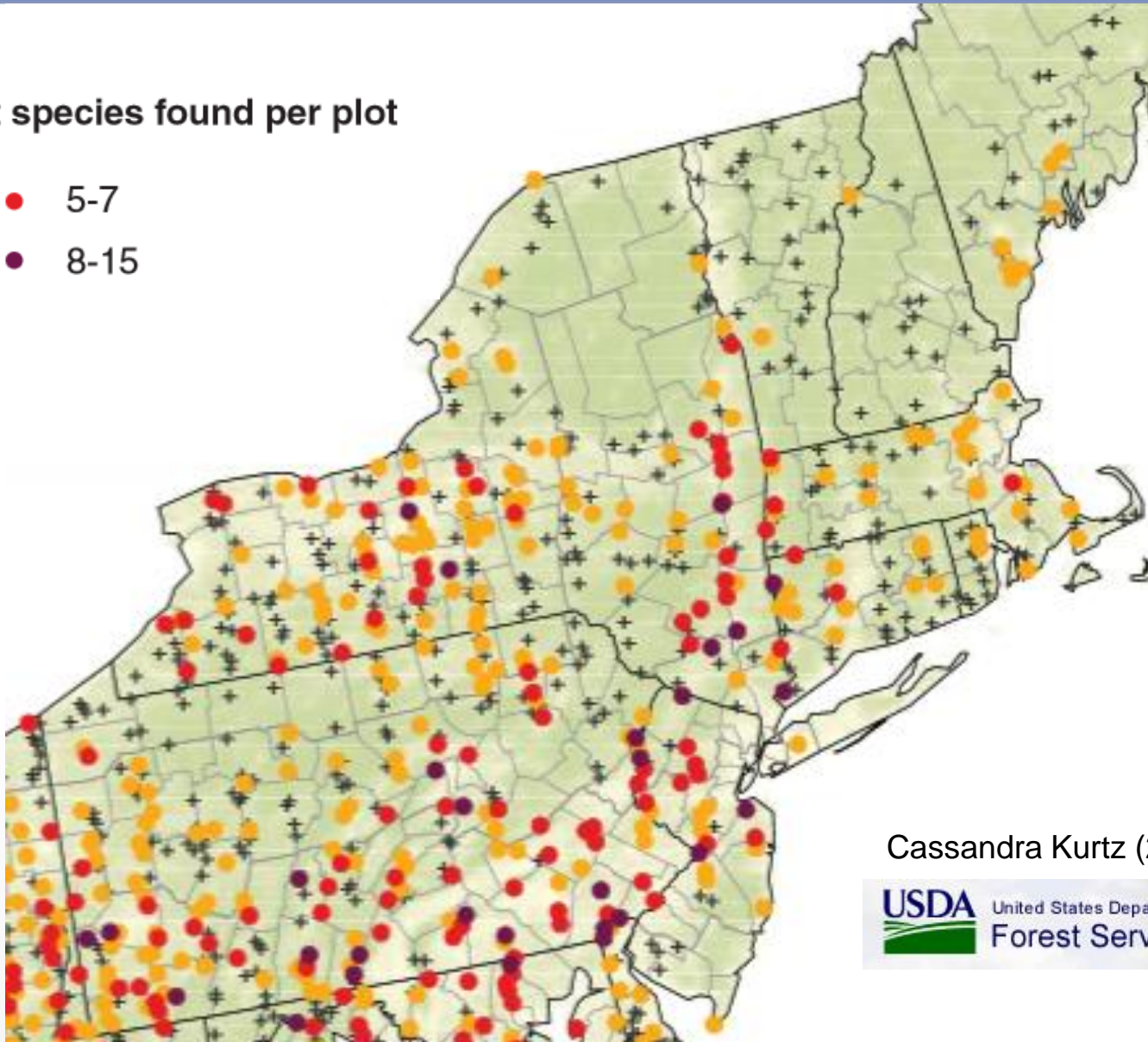
Data Source: USFS FIA Database 2009 - 2014



Number of Invasive Plant Species

Invasive plant species found per plot

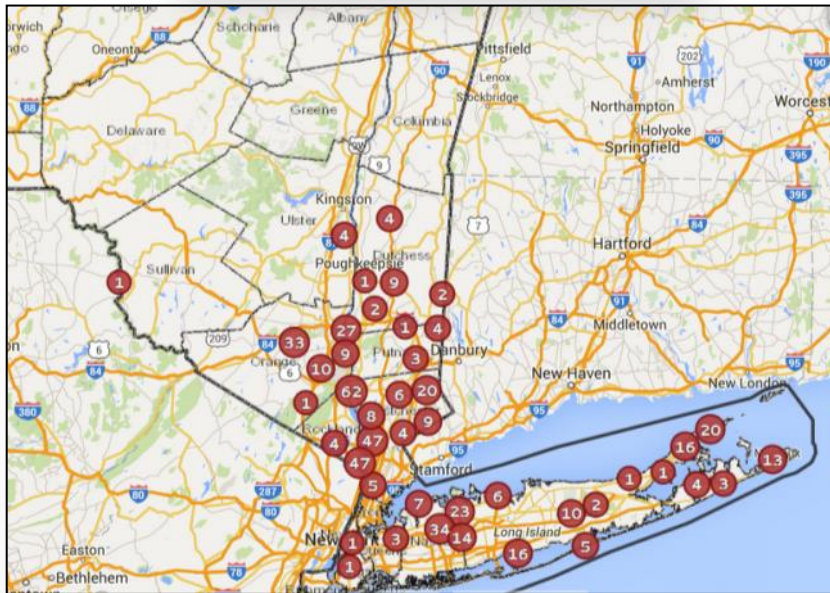
- + 1-2
- 3-4
- 5-7
- 8-15



Cassandra Kurtz (2013)

Invasive Plants with Moderate Distribution

Mile-A-Minute Weed (*Persicaria perfoliata*)

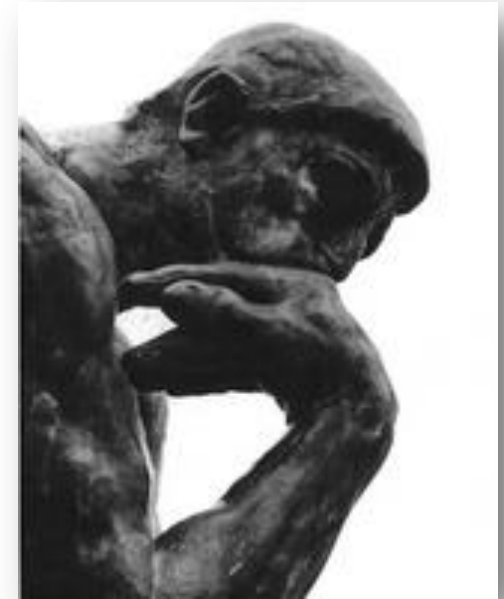


Princesstree (*Paulownia tomentosa*)



Invasive Plant Control is Complex

1. Ecological Impact or harm?
2. Effective control technique?
3. Long-term feasibility of invasive plant control given limited funding?
4. Cost/benefit assessed?



Solution - Decision Analysis Tool



Home

Instructions

About/Contact

Terms of Use

Get Started!

To Control or Not to Control? It's a Difficult Question.

The **Invasive Plant Management Decision Analysis Tool** (IPMDAT) helps natural resource managers to determine if an invasive plant control project is likely to be successful and if it warrants an investment of their agency's or organizations resources.

To justify spending resources on an invasive plant control project:

- The invasive species must cause serious environmental or economic harm or harm to human health.
- The project should be feasible.
- The project should give a good return on the investment of resources.

In practice, it is often difficult to decide if all these criteria are met. The IPMDAT helps guide the decision to control or not to control. Using this tool makes decisions on invasive plant control more transparent, understandable, and fully documented and ensures that resources will be used effectively.



Is the project feasible? Is there a good return on investment?

IPMDAT Steps

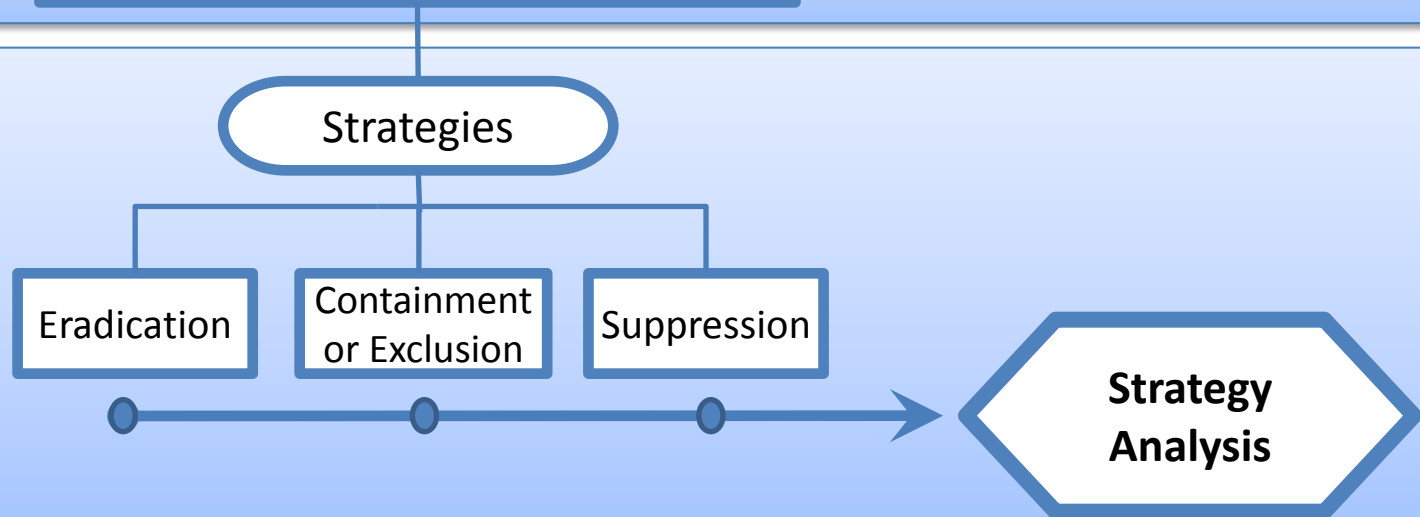
Step 1

Project Summary

Step 2

Sign. Harm/Impact and Select Strategy

Step 3



Step 4

Financial Analysis

Step 5 (if recommended)

Peer Review

Step 1 – Project Summary

PROJECT
BACKGROUND

STRATEGY
SELECTION

STRATEGY
ANALYSIS

FINANCIAL
ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

[View Help File](#)

Your Name & Organization:

Chris Zimmerman, The Nature Conservancy, Eastern New York

Today's Date:

7-15-2014

Scientific Name:

Polygonum cuspidatum; Fallopia japonica var. japonica

Common Name:

(Click to lookup after the scientific name is chosen)

Japanese Knotweed

Project Scale:

Local (< 2,000 Acres)

CISMA/CWMA/PRISM:

Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership

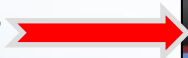
Project Area (site) Name:

Neversink Preserve

Step 2 - Ecological Impact?

NYS Invasive Plant Rankings - www.nyis.info

Resources
Tab



NEW YORK INVASIVE SPECIES
The New York Invasive Species Clearinghouse
Cornell cooperative extension invasive species program

Cornell University Cooperative Extension
Sea Grant New York

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Resources PRISMs & Partners News & Events State & Federal Activities

Home > Resources > Invasive Species Risk Assessments

Priority Species

- ▶ Aquatic Plants
- ▶ Terrestrial Plants
- ▶ Aquatic Animals
- ▶ Terrestrial Animals
- ▶ Insects
- ▶ Pathogens & Parasites
- ▶ Agricultural Invaders

Emerald Ash Borer
Find out more now >>

Non-Native Plant Species Invasiveness Assessment

In 2008, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in New York and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG) developed a system and protocol designed to assess the invasive nature of non-native plant species. The New York State Invasive Species Council, in consultation with the Invasive Species Advisory Committee, adopted the ranking system for use statewide. In addition, results of this work have informed invasive species legislation in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Consequences to the native species and natural ecosystems of New York are the focus of the ranking system. The ranking system is designed to be repeatable, based on the best available science, clearly explained, and fully documented. The system can be used to assess non-native plant species that are established in New York State, species that are new arrivals, as well as species that are not yet present. Additional information about the system can be found in "New York State Plant Ranking System for Evaluating Non-Native Plant Species for Invasiveness".

Species are assessed at a statewide level using the [New York State assessment form](#). Questions are organized into four broad categories:

1. ecological impact
2. biological characteristic and dispersal ability
3. ecological amplitude and distribution
4. difficulty of control

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

iMapInvasives

Step 2 - Strategy Selection

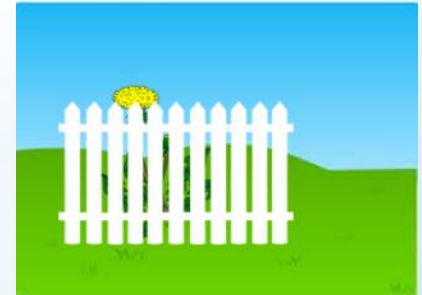
Eradication

- **Goal** – Eliminate all individuals and seeds.
- Low likelihood of species returning (10 year timeframe).
- Greatest success for small infestations (< 2.5 acres).



Exclusion or Containment

- **Goal** – Prevent infestation from spreading to uninfested areas.
- Best for slow spreading species and when effective barriers exist.
- May require long term management.



Suppression

- **Goal** – reduce cover or density to a level that maintains native species or ecosystem processes.
- May require long term management.



Step 3 – Strategy Analysis

PROJECT
BACKGROUND

STRATEGY
SELECTION

STRATEGY
ANALYSIS

FINANCIAL
ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

[View Help File](#)

Containment - Effective Control Method

Select One: **Is there a method available to eliminate small patches (e.g. 0.25 hectare, 0.62 acres) of the invasive and the seed bank within a sufficient timeframe to maintain a successful rapid response program?**

Satellite occurrences must be eliminated at a rate faster than they occur. Consider the number of treatments required to kill the largest plants and longevity of seed or vegetative propagules in the soil.

Yes

No

Uncertain

1. Social Political Environment Suitable?

- A. Is social resistance to control expected (i.e. use of herbicides)?
- B. Within the invaded area, do all key agencies, organizations and/or landowners agree to participate?



2. Is the Species Difficult to Detect?

- A. Is the species always inconspicuous within the matrix vegetation?
- B. Detectability and search- time main factor influencing cost.



3. Can Reinvasion be Prevented?

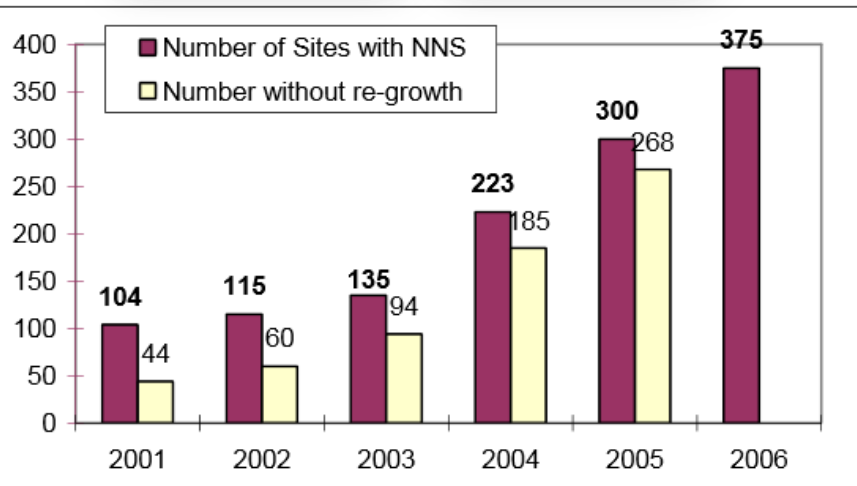
Are spread prevention measures and EDRR underway and funded for 2 years?



4. Effective Control Method?

Knotweed - Sandy River Oregon

Can small infestations be eliminated?



Soll et al. 2008

Japanese Barberry - CT



Second treatment	Mortality ¹
None	14% a
Propane torch	39% b
Glyphosate	90% c
Triclopyr	96% c

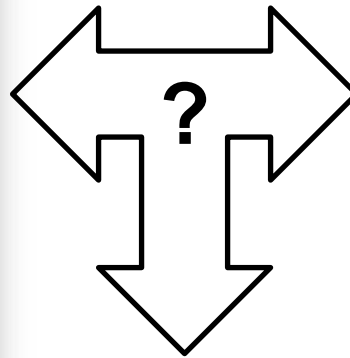
Ward et al. (2009) Forest Ecology and Mgt.

5. Non-target impacts or Unintended Consequences?

Bush Honeysuckle



Barberry



Garlic Mustard



Stiltgrass



Step 4 - Resources Available?

PROJECT
BACKGROUND

STRATEGY
SELECTION

STRATEGY
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ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

[View Help File](#)

Assessing Resource Availability

Is funding for core operations secure for at least two years, and the project has undertaken the necessary financial planning and achieved partial success in developing sources of long-term funding to sustain core costs for the next 5 years?

Yes

No

Uncertain



Return on Investment?

Cost	High Cost and Low Benefit (Do not proceed)	High Cost and High Benefit (Peer Review)
	Low/Moderate Cost and Low Benefit (Peer Review)	Low/Moderate Cost and High Benefit (Proceed)
	Benefit	

PROJECT
BACKGROUND

STRATEGY
SELECTION

STRATEGY ANALYSIS

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

[View Help File](#)

[Peer Review Instructions](#)

[Save / Print Summary](#)

[Submit Data to iMapInvasives](#)

Strategy: Containment (Project Scale)

[Proceed](#)

Project Background

Assessor(s): Chris Zimmerman, The Nature Conservancy, Eastern New York

Date: 7-15-2014

Scientific Name: Polygonum cuspidatum; Fallopia japonica var. japonica

Common Name: Japanese Knotweed

Project Scale: Local (< 2,000 Acres)

CISMA/CWMA/PRISM: Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership

Project/Site Name: Neversink Preserve and adjacent Nowak parcel

Size: 710
Acres

Project Area Description: The project area encompasses the Neversink Preserve and Norwak parcel. A small Japanese knotweed patch (0.06ac, 50ft x 50ft) was observed on the border of the Neversink Preserve and Norwak parcel in 2012 after a major flooding event (see attached map). Knotweed had not been previously seen within the 625 acre preserve.

Recommendations and Benefits

Adopt tool as common standard for invasive plant control project review.

1. Minor time commitment.
2. Increase probability of successful projects.
3. Method to document decisions.

Adapt and Learn





Questions?

NYBG/125

INVASIVE SPECIES SUMMIT:
CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES,
AND PERSPECTIVES

FRI, NOV 6, 2015

Co-presented with Lower Hudson
Partnership for Regional Invasive
Species Management



NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



Restoration Targets in a Changing Biotic Landscape

*Steven N. Handel
Rutgers University
handel@aesop.rutgers.edu*







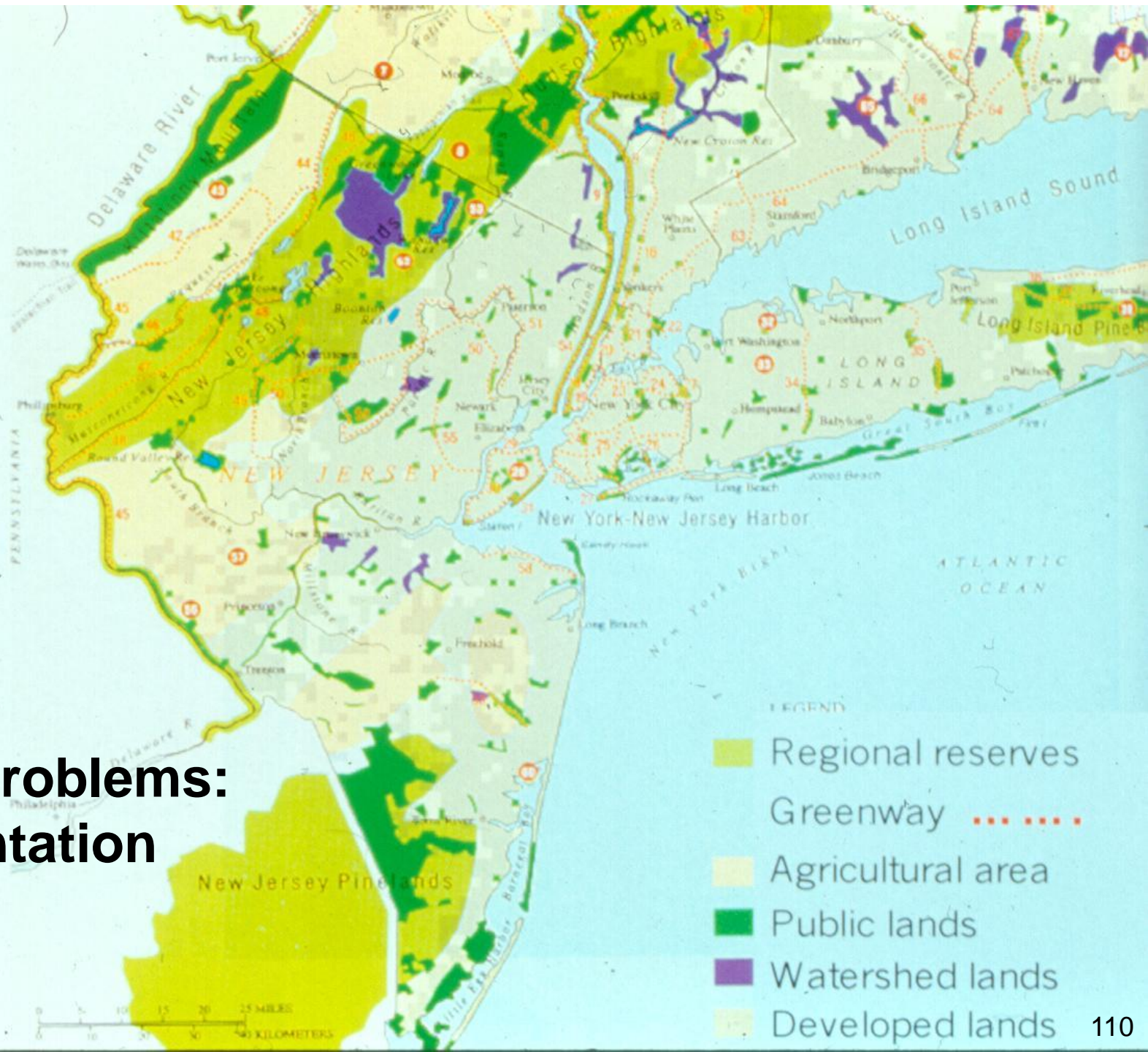


Ecosystem Services:

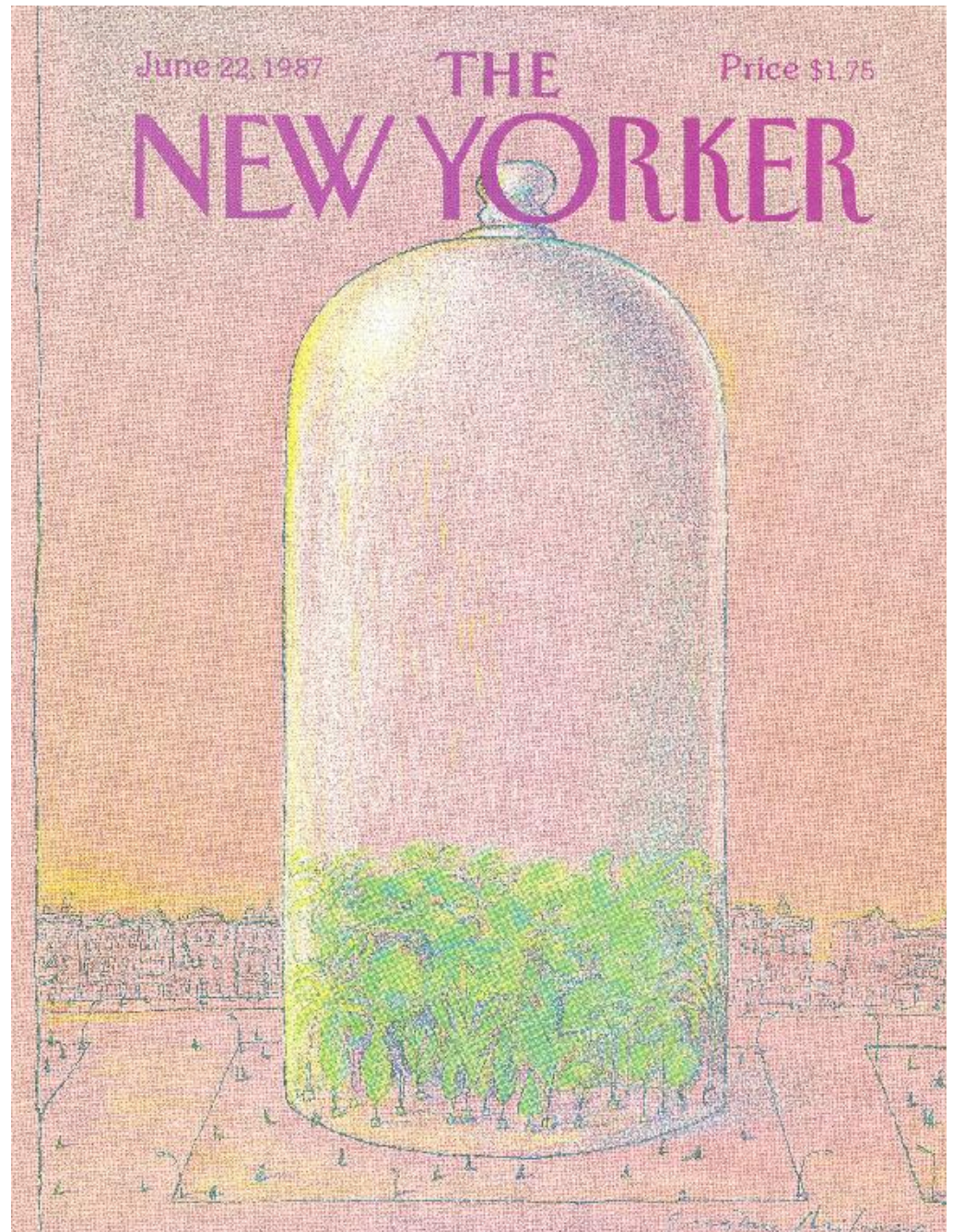
Benefits Supplied by Natural Ecosystems

- Purification of air and water
- Mitigation of droughts and floods
- Generation and preservation of soils
- Cycling and movement of nutrients
- Partial stabilization of climate
- Support of agriculture, fisheries.....

Urban problems: fragmentation



**Urban problems:
Heat island effect
& climate change**



**Urban problems:
Degraded landscapes**



Urban Soils

- Variable
- Compaction
- Hydrophobic crust
- Elevated pH
- Restricted aeration and water drainage
- Nutrient cycling and soil organisms
- Pollution
- Higher soil temperature

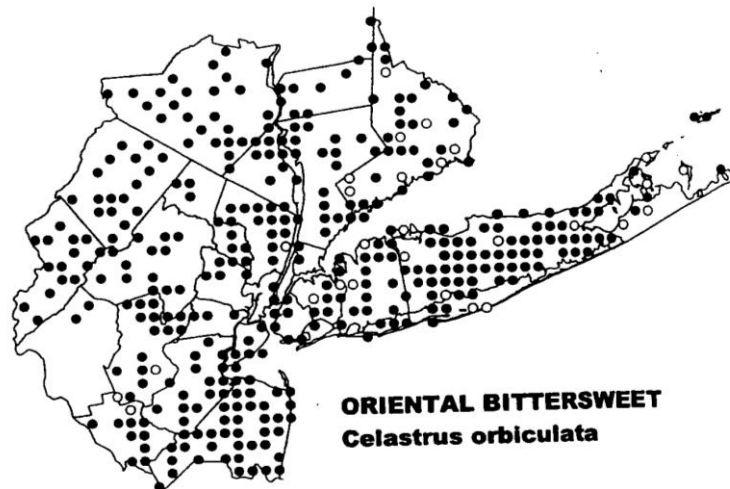
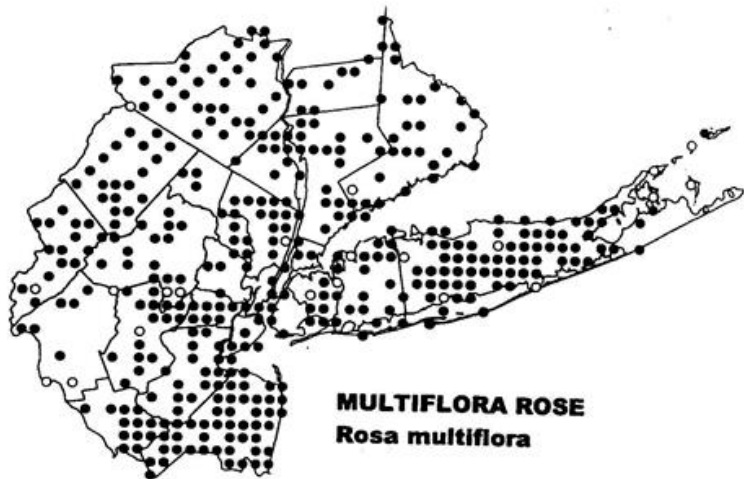
**Urban problems:
troublesome
new species**

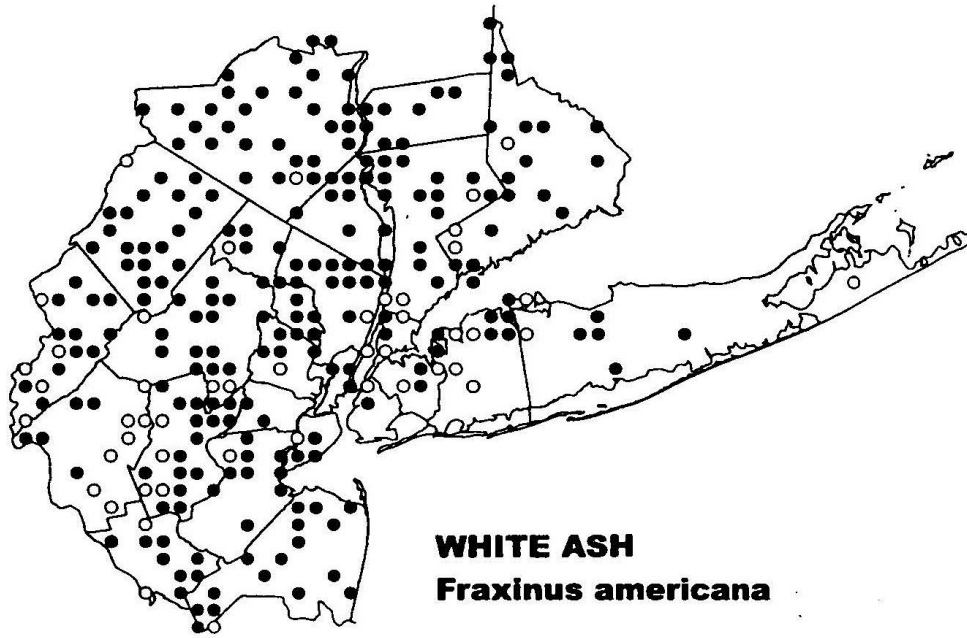


Celastrus orbiculatus



***Microstegium vimineum* – Japanese stiltgrass**





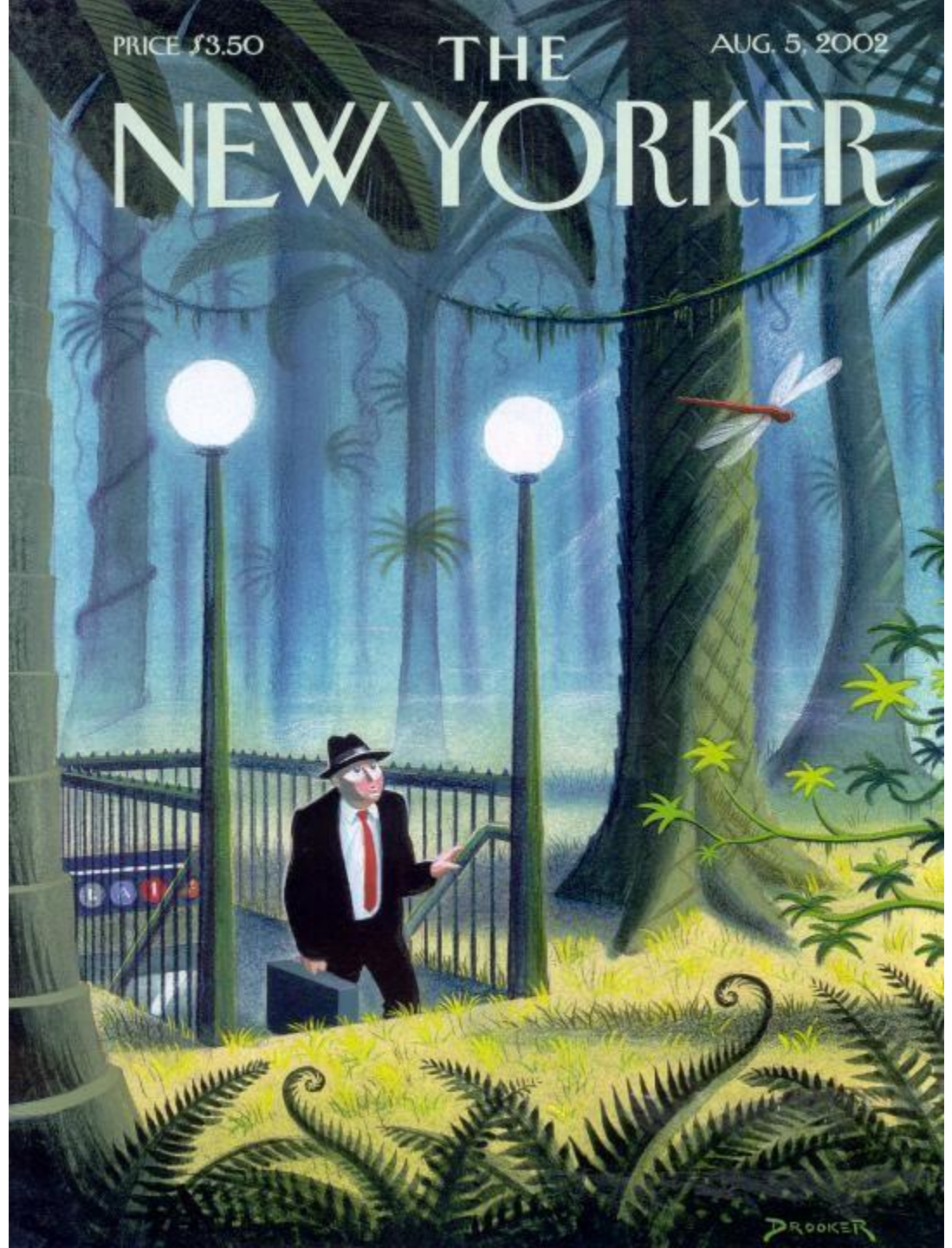
Green, lush, dying



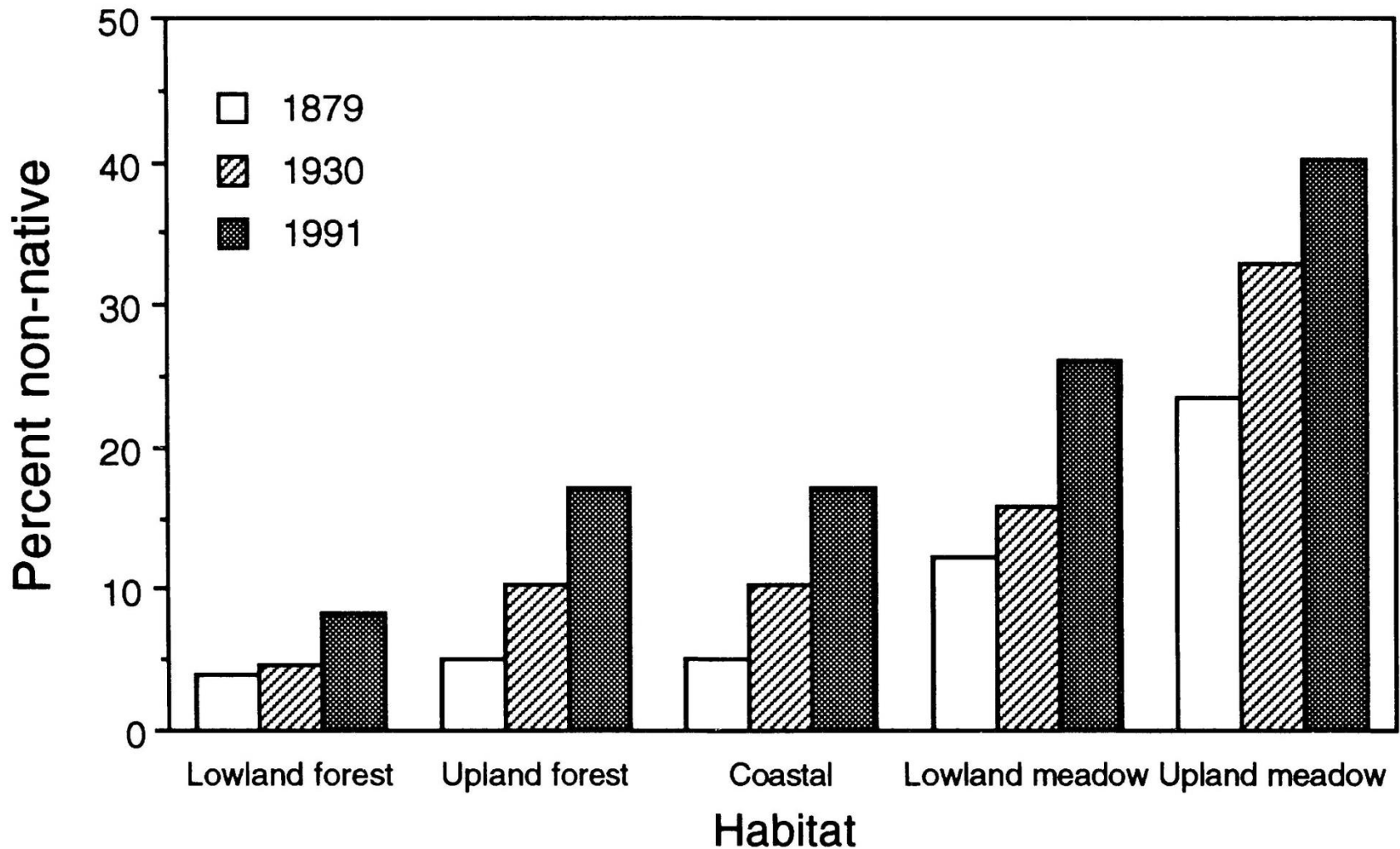
PRICE \$3.50

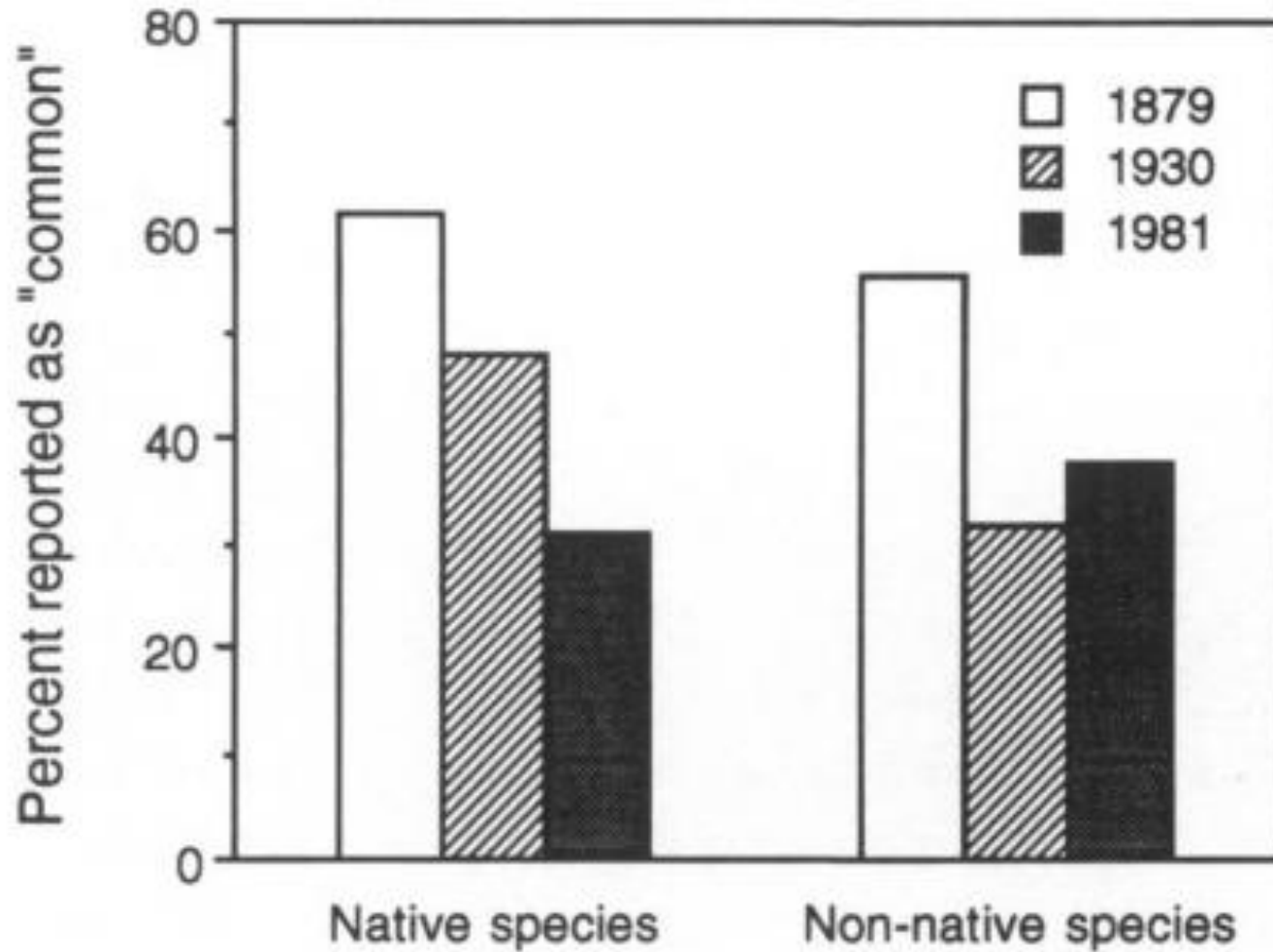
THE NEW YORKER

AUG. 5, 2002



**Urban problems:
what is the
ecological target?**





Fresh Kills Landfill, NYC



**New ecological links:
Will seed dispersers
come?**





Fresh Kills Landfill Demonstration Plantings

Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Sumac	<i>Rhus copallina</i>
Shadblow	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>
Beach plum	<i>Prunus maritima</i>
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>
Wild rose	<i>Rosa nitida</i>





Number of woody plant seeds collected by species from all of the seed traps at the NSF site from August - November 1994

Virginia Creeper	7,581
Arrowwood	3,113
Black Gum	1,440
Winged Sumac	957
Bayberry	457
Sassafras	205
+14 others	730
TOTAL	14,483
Outside Plots	14

Seeds deposited in traps

PLANTED

Blackberry
Hackberry
Shadblow
Sumac
Wild rose

NATIVE

Black cherry
Catbriar
Dogwood
Elderberry
Grape
Grey birch
Holly
Mulberry
Nightshade

Poison ivy
Red Cedar
Red maple
Red Oak
Sassafras
Spicebush
Tulip tree
Tupelo
Viburnum

INVASIVE

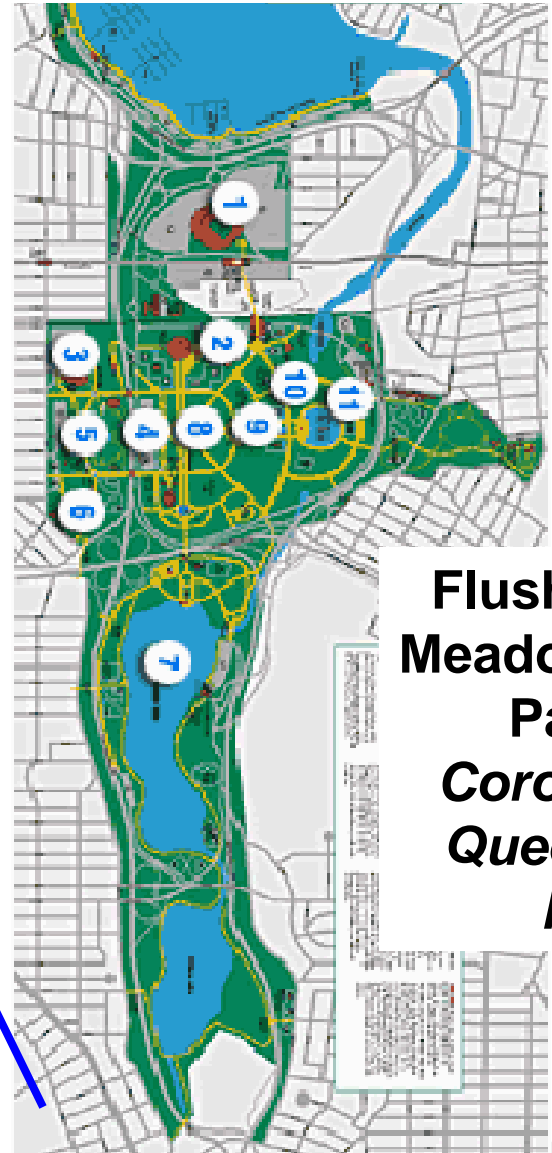
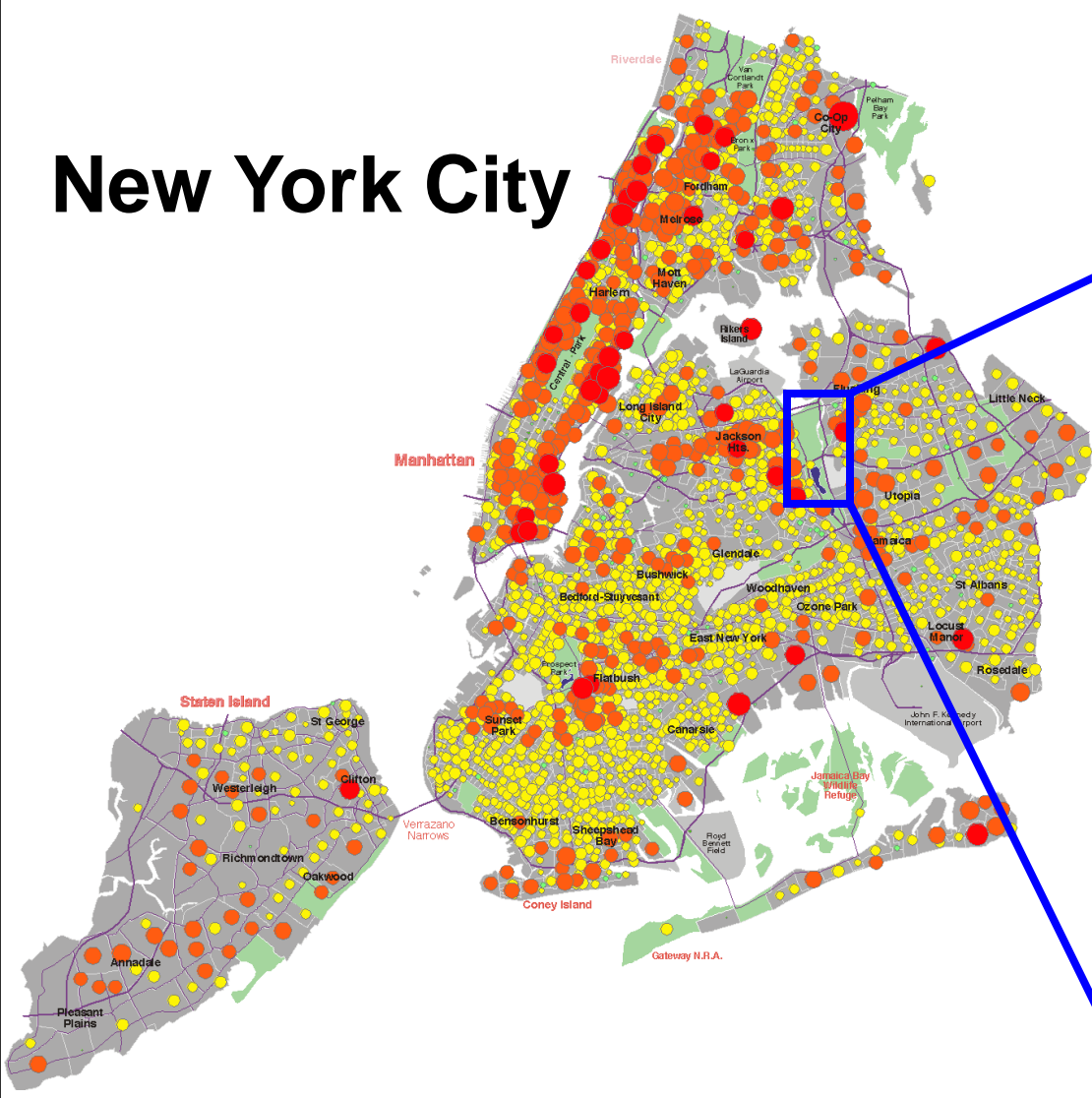
Bittersweet
Hercules club
Honeysuckle
Porcelainberry
Russian Olive
Tree of heaven

NON-NATIVE

Crab apple
Yew



New York City



Flushing Meadows Park, Corona, Queens NYC



California Geographical Survey, <http://geogdata.csun.edu/NYpage1.html>

New York City Parks, <http://www.nycgovparks.org>

Installing the sewer pipeline across the Park (West to East)







The Story: *Problems*

GENERAL

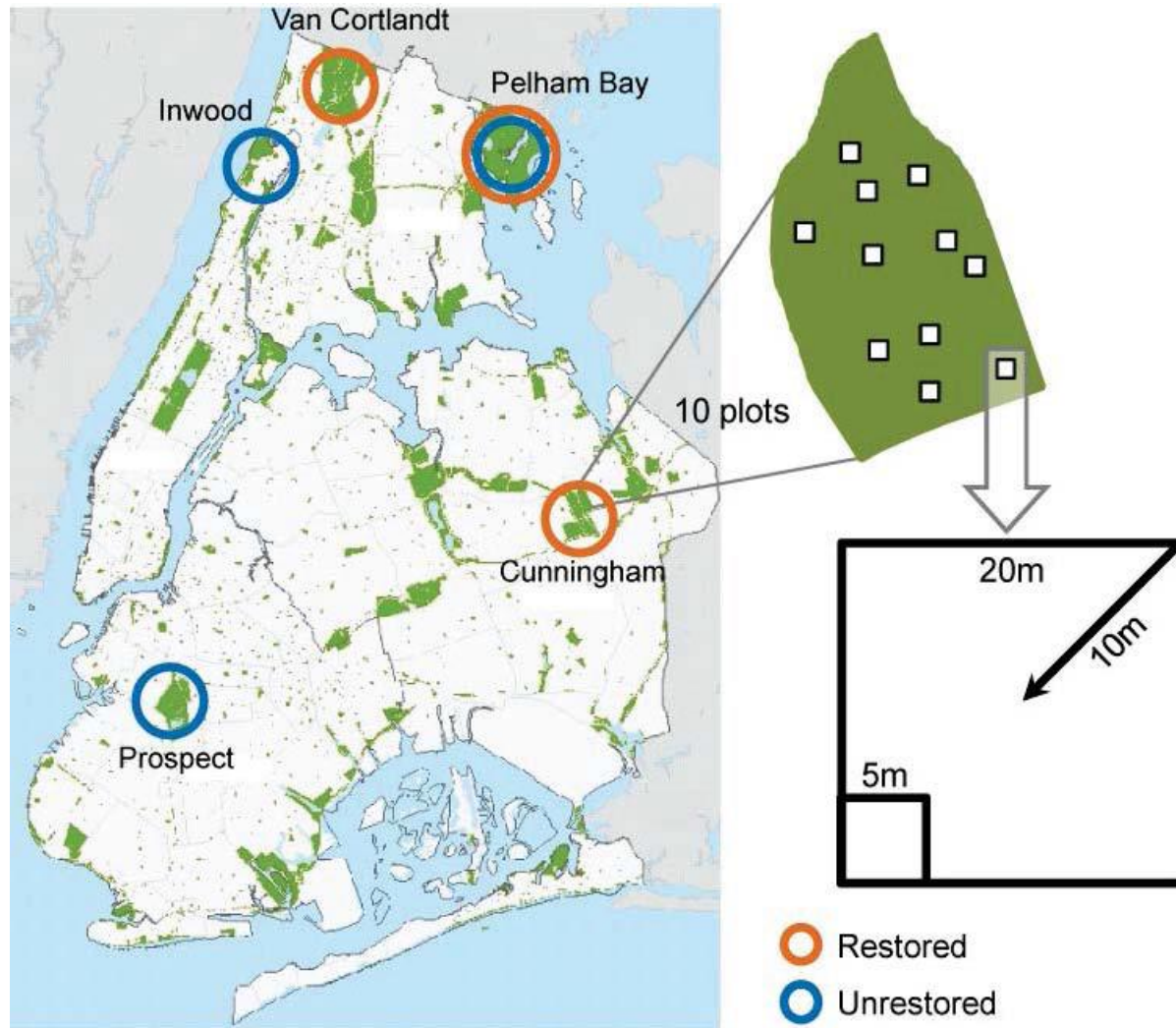
- Physical properties of site were poorly characterized
- Removal of *Phragmites* was not permitted
- Stolen plants; arson
- Invasion of purple loosestrife
- No vegetation management or monitoring
 - lack of funds after 3-yr period
- No public access or education plan
 - Public access now impossible
 - No community interest or support group exists

(Galbraith–Kent and Handel *Ecological Restoration* 25:123)

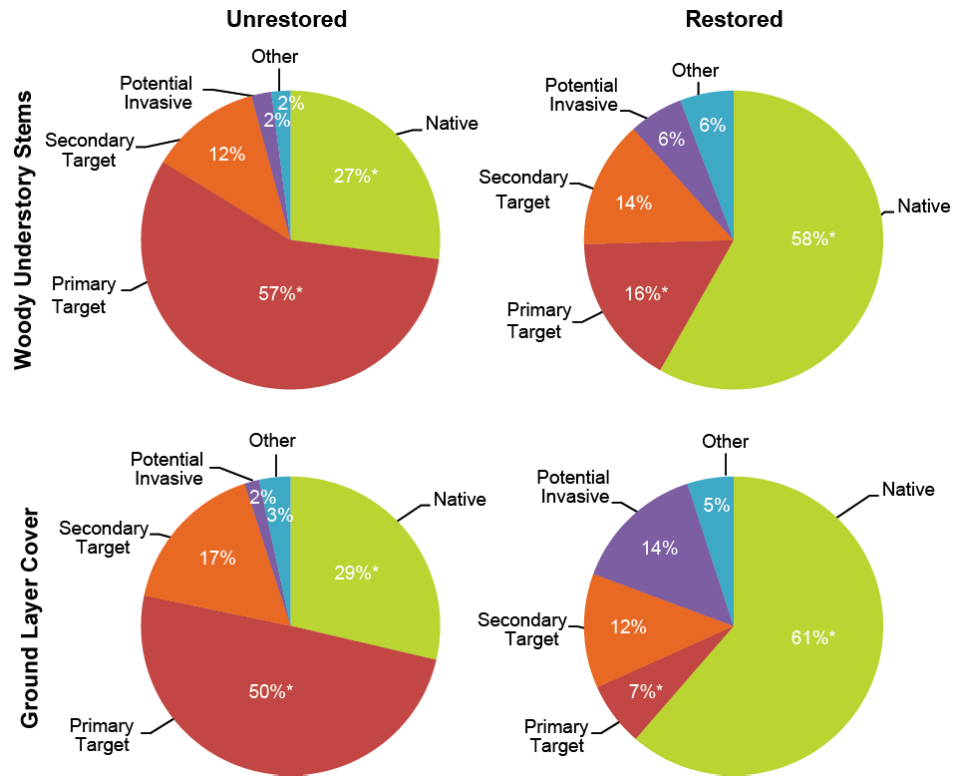
The Story: *Successes*

GENERAL

- Biodiversity increased from initial survey
- Increased understanding for future urban restorations
- Habitat complexity is greater
 - from *Phragmites* to a mosaic of uplands, wetlands, herbs
- Site closure has eliminated vandalism (*i.e.*, arson, dumping, theft)
 - a trade-off in urban environmental management may be necessary?



Johnson and Handel, *Ecological Applications*, in press.



Johnson and Handel, *Ecological Applications*, in press.





Brooklyn waterfront, before restoration

Promenade, Brooklyn Bridge Park







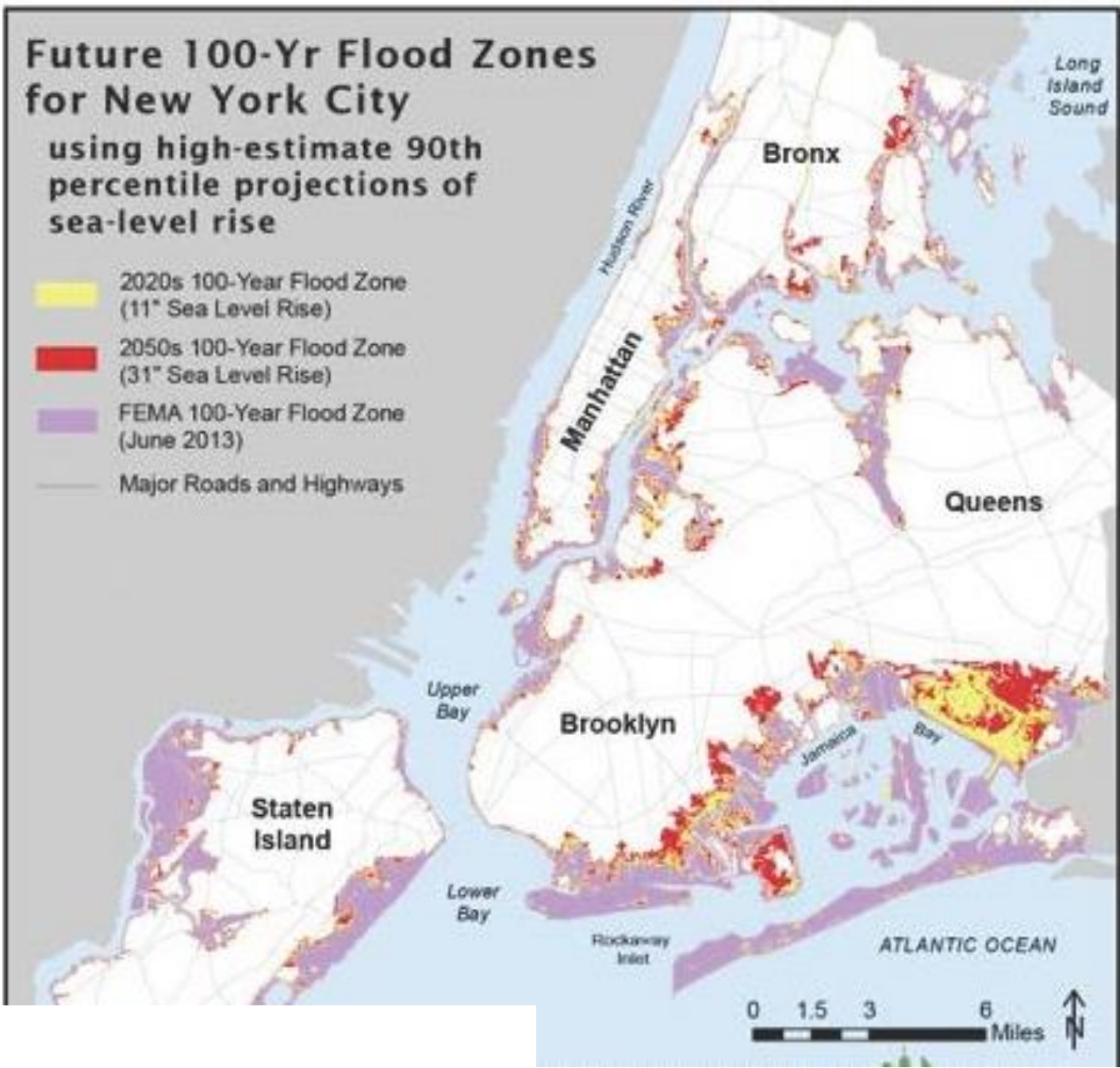
2013 Climate Risk Info: NYC

- Sea level rise: 2020s + 11 inches
2050s + 31 inches
- Air temperature: 2020s + 3.0 F
2050s + 6.5 F
- Annual chance of today's 100-yr flood:
5.0% (= now a 20-yr flood)
- Flood heights with a 100-yr flood:
now, 15.0 feet; 2050s, 17.6 feet

Future 100-Yr Flood Zones for New York City

using high-estimate 90th percentile projections of sea-level rise

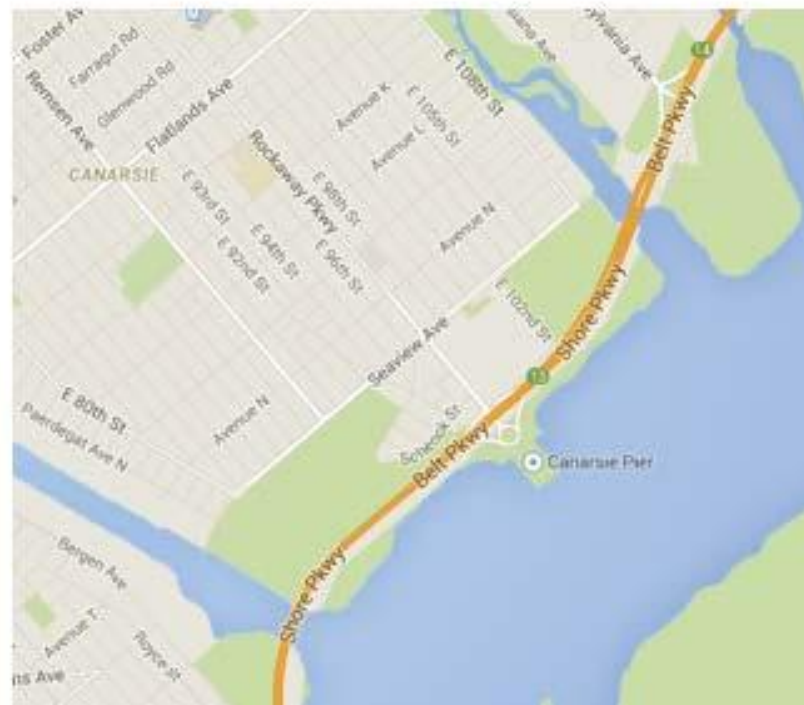
-  2020s 100-Year Flood Zone (11" Sea Level Rise)
-  2050s 100-Year Flood Zone (31" Sea Level Rise)
-  FEMA 100-Year Flood Zone (June 2013)
-  Major Roads and Highways

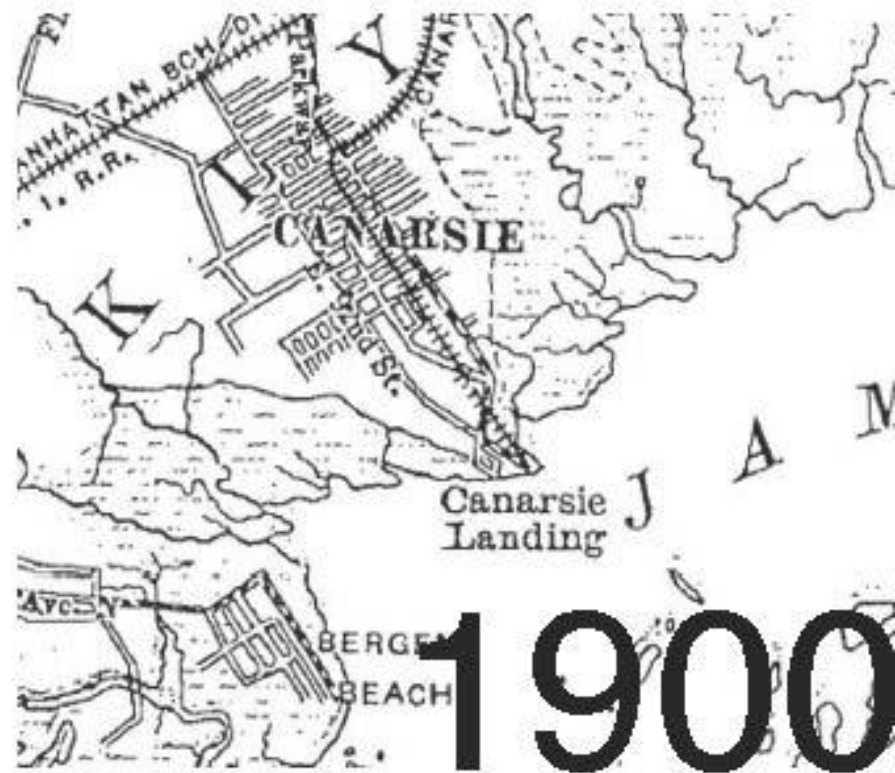


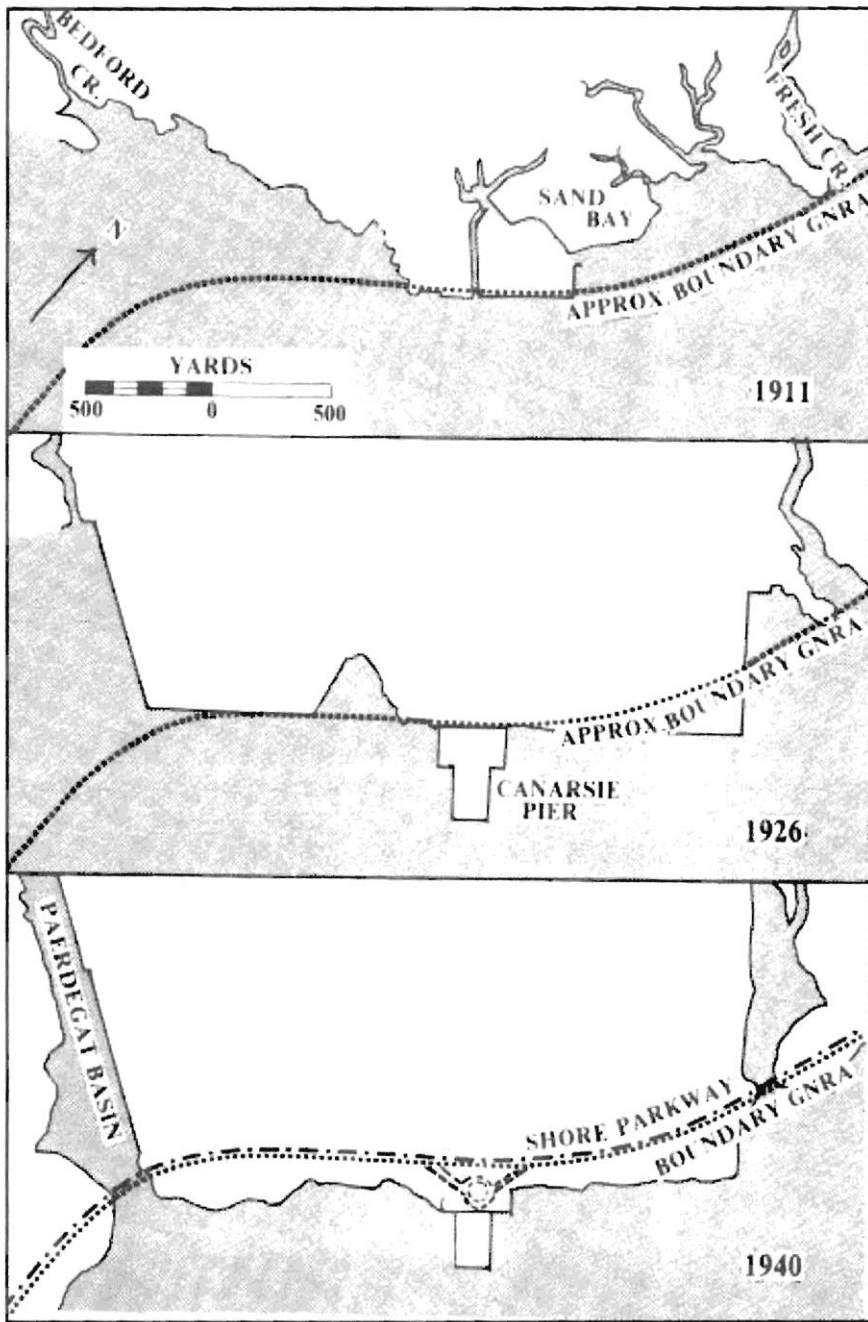


JAMAICA BAY

Canarsie PIER
NYC





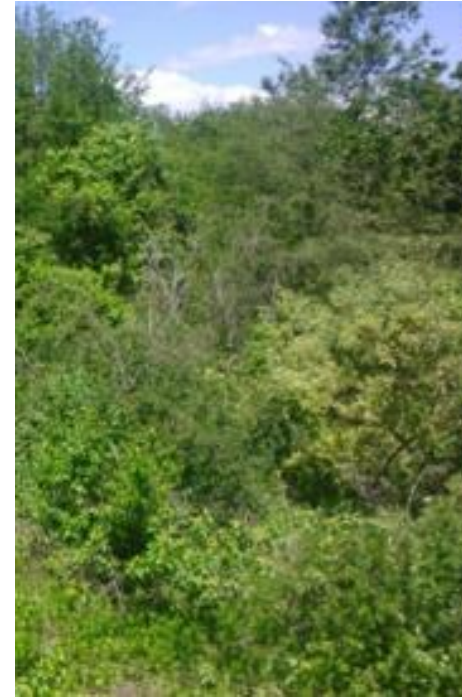


1911

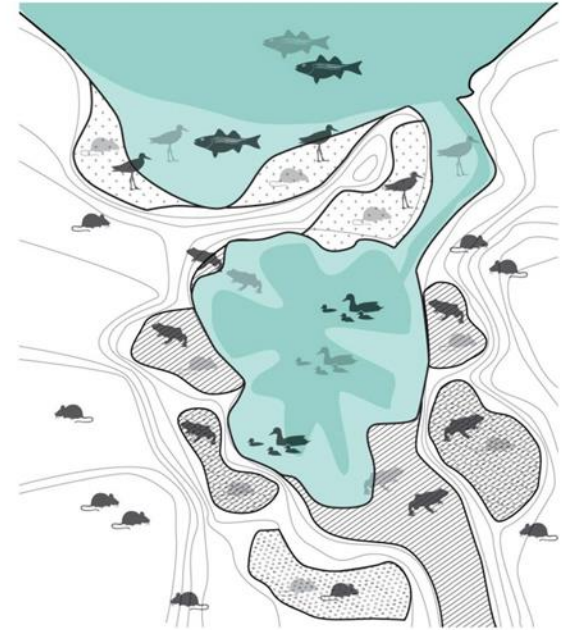
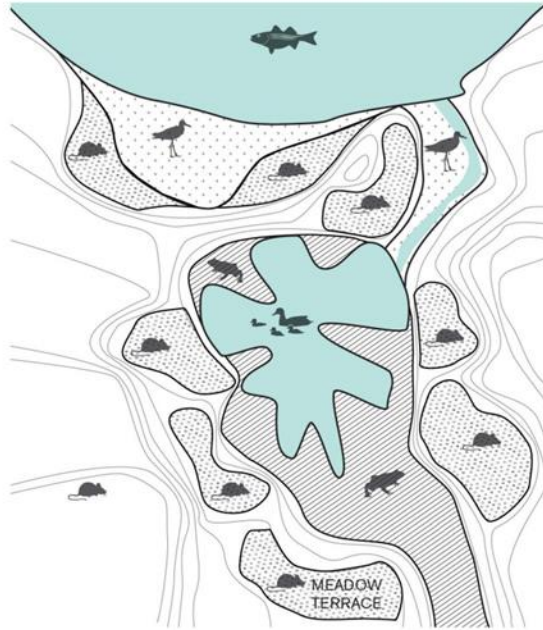
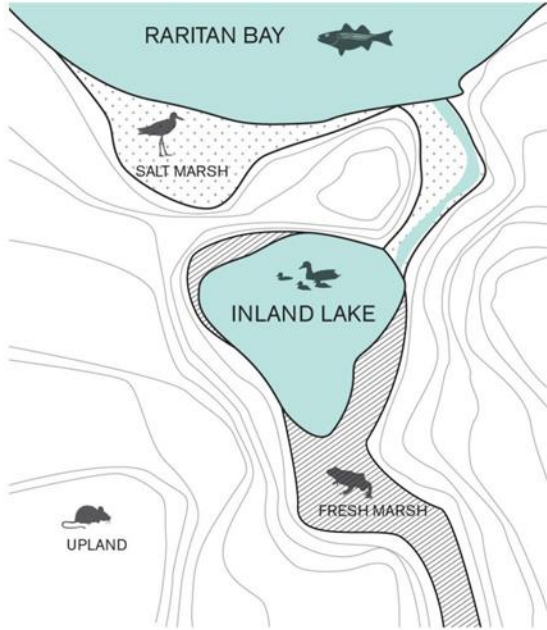
1926

1940

Fringing marsh to maritime forest



The Habitat Engine



Ecological Constraints

- Dispersal
- Degraded plant and animal communities
- Soil quality and biota
- Successional processes (natural disturbance)
- Invasive species are lurking
- Lack of migration corridors
- Fragmentation & hardscape

Social Constraints

- Beauty and the eye of the beholder
- Different strokes for different folks
- The numbers game
- “I want to be alone”
- Here comes the sun

Targets for Restoration

- Historical approach
- Status quo approach
- Functional approach
- Design approach

Ecological Opportunities

- Restore ecological functions
- Improve resiliency
- Restore natural heritage
- Reduce management needs
- Improve regional biodiversity
- Advance environmental education

NYBG/125

INVASIVE SPECIES SUMMIT:
CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES,
AND PERSPECTIVES

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Partnership for Regional Invasive
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