STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

July 24, 2025

Parterre Ecological
Shana Hostetter
14 Braintree St.
Portland, ME 04103

RE: Variance permit for CMR 01-026 Chapter 29, Parterre Ecological/Parterre Garden Services

Greetings,

The Board of Pesticides Control considered your application for a variance from Chapter 29 for Staple Street Park in Biddeford. The variance is approved, provided that all products to be used are currently registered in the State of Maine or were registered at the time of purchase and that any application is made above the high-water line.

The Board authorizes the issuance of two-year permits for Chapter 29, therefore this permit is valid until December 31, 2026, as long as applications are consistent with the information provided on the variance request. Please notify the Board in advance of changes, particularly if you plan to use a different product from those listed.

Please bear in mind that your permit is based upon your company adhering to the precautions listed in Section X of your Chapter 29 variance request.

I will alert the Board at its next meeting that the variance permit has been issued. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me at 287-2731.

Sincerely,

Alexander Peacock

Alexander Peacock
Director

ALEXANDER PEACOCK, DIRECTOR
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING

DEPARTMENT OF Agriculture Conservation & Forestry

PHONE: (207) 287-2731
THINKFIRSTSPRAYLAST.ORG

BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE PERMIT
(Pursuant to Chapter 29, Section 6 of the Board's Regulations)

I. Shana Hostetter — (717) 587-5355
Name — Telephone Number

Parterre Ecological
Company Name

525 Riverside Street — Portland — ME — 04103
Address — City — State — Zip

II. Shana Hostetter — CMA-6371
Master Applicator (if applicable) — License Number

14 Braintree Street — Portland — ME — 04103
Address — City — State — Zip

III. **As part of your application, please send a revegetation plan and digital photos showing the target site and/or plants and the surrounding area, particularly showing proximity to wetlands and water bodies, to pesticides@maine.gov**

IV. Area(s) where pesticide will be applied:

Staple Street Park at the end of Staple Street in Biddeford Pool.

V. Pesticide(s) to be applied:(Including EPA Registration Number)

Round Up Custom, 524- 343

VI. Purpose of pesticide application:
Eradicate Japanese Knotweed on Site

VII. Approximate dates of spray application:

Late Summer 2025 and 2026.

VIII. Application Equipment:

Backpack Sprayer, Hand-held Foamer

IX. Standard(s) to be varied from:

Chapter 29, Section 6, Section A

X. Method to ensure equivalent protection:

When using backpack sprayer we will be using large droplet sizes to minimize drift. We will only apply herbicide when the wind is less than 15mph. Spray only when ground is dry and not saturated with water. Avoid spraying when forecasts show a threat of heavy rains. Do not spray on rainy days and cease spray operations if rain is in the immediate forecast.

XI. Revegetation Plan (attach separately if necessary)

Reseed with a coastal maine grass seed mix.

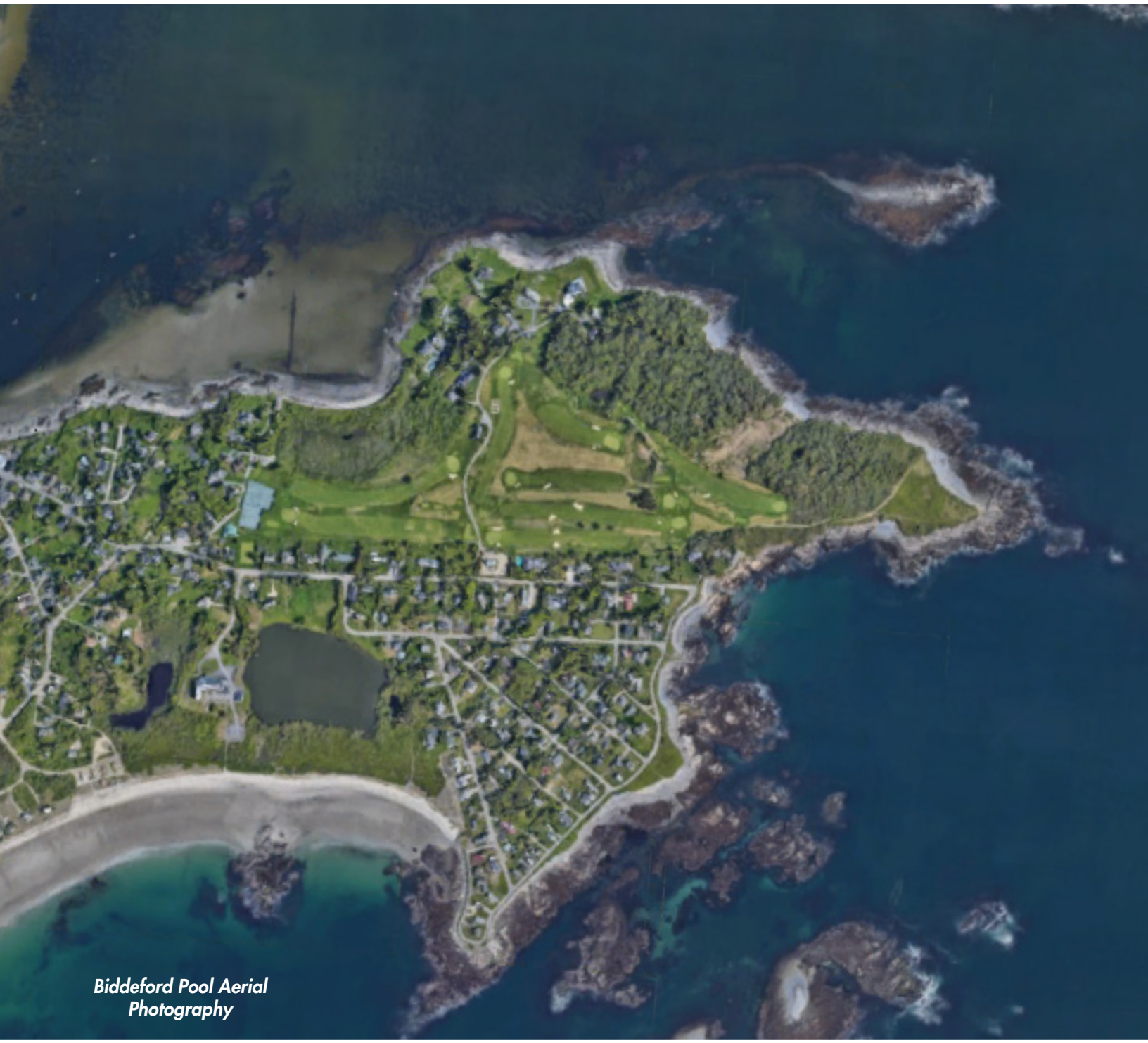
Signed: _____ Date: 06/20/2025

Return completed form to: **Board of Pesticides Control, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0028**
OR E-mail to: pesticides@maine.gov

Rev. 8/2013

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

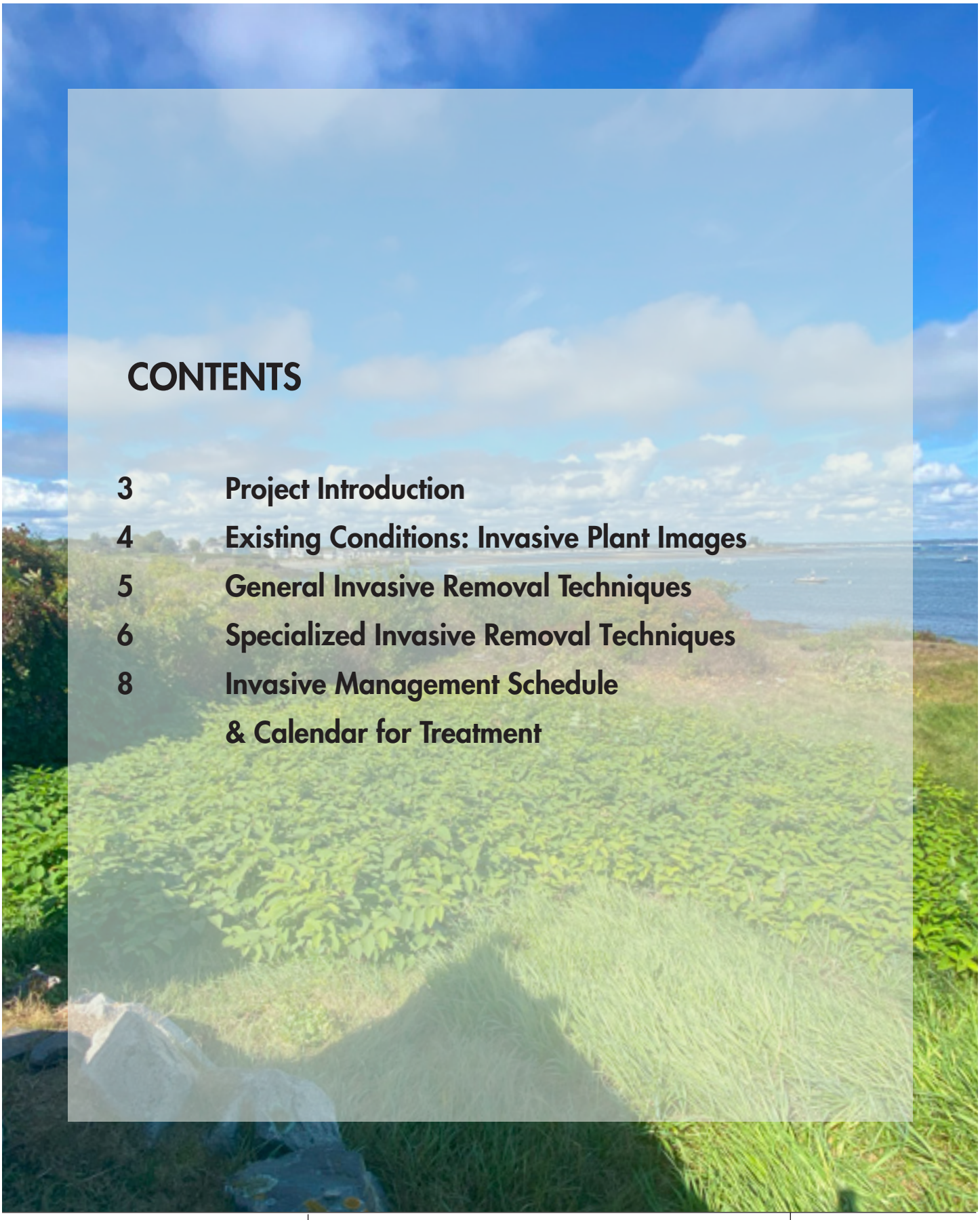
A NARRATIVE FOR INVASIVE MANAGEMENT & NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION



Biddeford Pool Aerial Photography

STAPLE STREET CONSERVATION AREA • BIDDEFORD POOL, MAINE

PARTERRE
ECOLOGICAL



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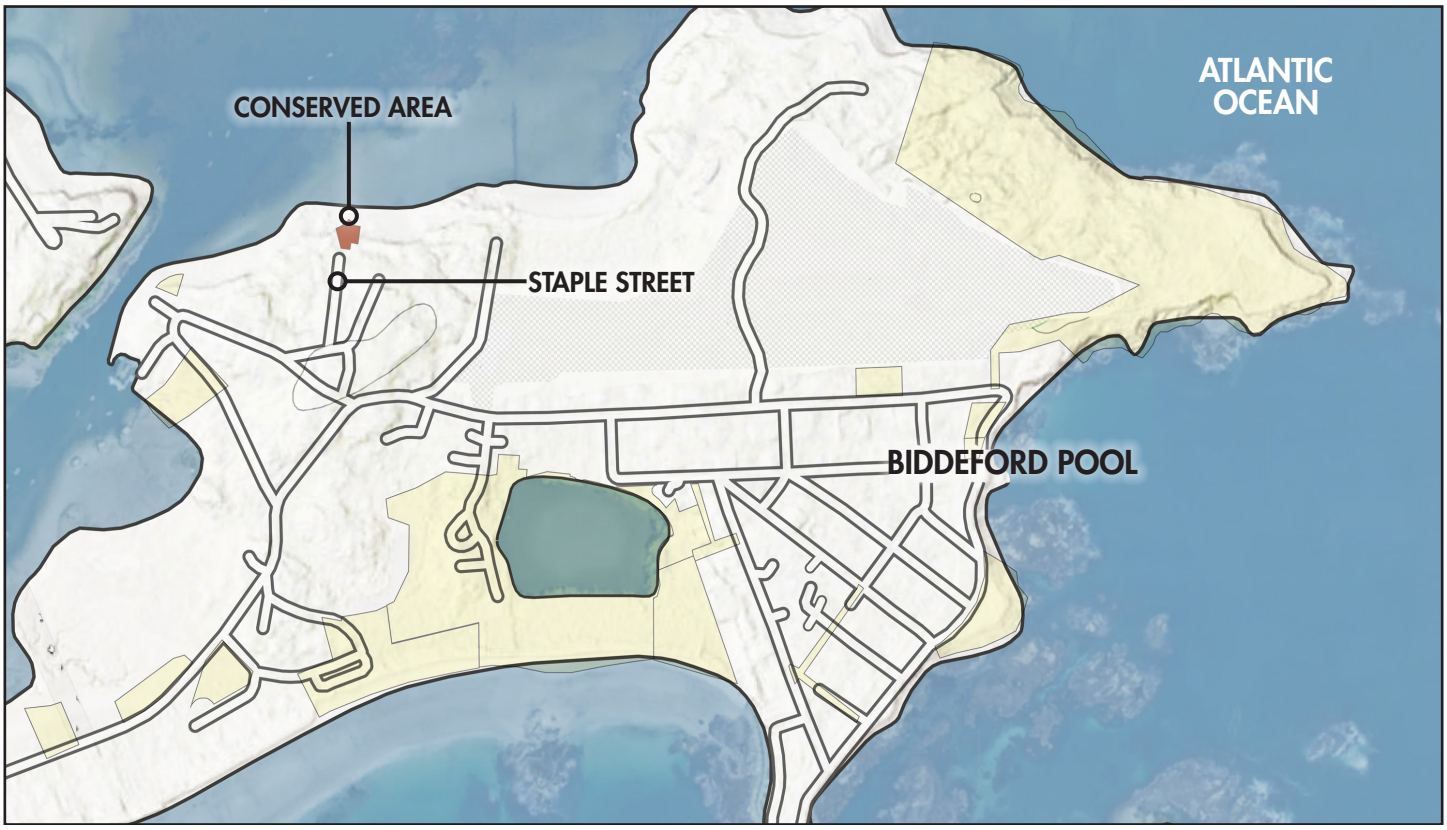
PROJECT INTRODUCTION

At the edge of Staple Street in Biddeford, Maine, lies a small but ecologically valuable parcel of conserved land. Nestled within a residential neighborhood, this area serves as a natural buffer, preserving open space and providing a quiet refuge for both people and wildlife. Though modest in size, the site plays an important role in supporting local biodiversity, contributing to regional habitat connectivity, and enhancing the visual and ecological character of the community.

The parcel features a diverse mix of native grasses, shrubs, and early successional tree species, which collectively offer food and shelter for a variety of birds, pollinators, and small mammals. Its proximity to the coastline and location within Biddeford's broader conservation framework further elevates its ecological value. Stewarded by the Biddeford Pool Land Trust, this landscape reflects both natural coastal processes and the challenges of long-term habitat management.

Among these challenges is the presence of invasive plant species, which threaten to undermine the ecological integrity of the site. In particular, mature populations of Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica) have become established along portions of the parcel. This aggressive, self-perpetuating species is known for its ability to outcompete native plants, disrupt soil structure, and rapidly dominate disturbed areas—making early intervention critical.

This management plan outlines a targeted approach to invasive species control on the Staple Street parcel. It identifies priority invasive plants for removal, provides species descriptions, and details best management practices tailored to the site's specific conditions. To support long-term success, the plan includes a seasonal maintenance calendar designed to guide treatment and monitoring efforts over multiple years, ensuring that ecological restoration efforts are sustained and effective.

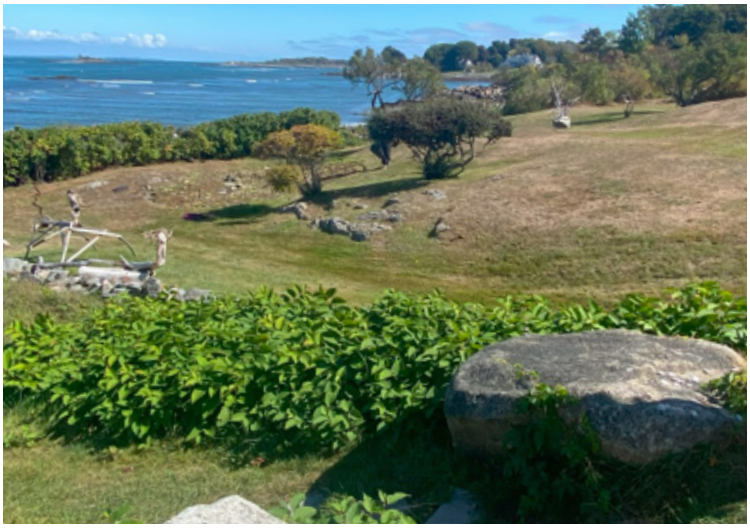


MAINE CONSERVED LAND

PROJECT LIMIT OF WORK

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 mi
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 km

EXISTING CONDITIONS: INVASIVE PLANT IMAGES

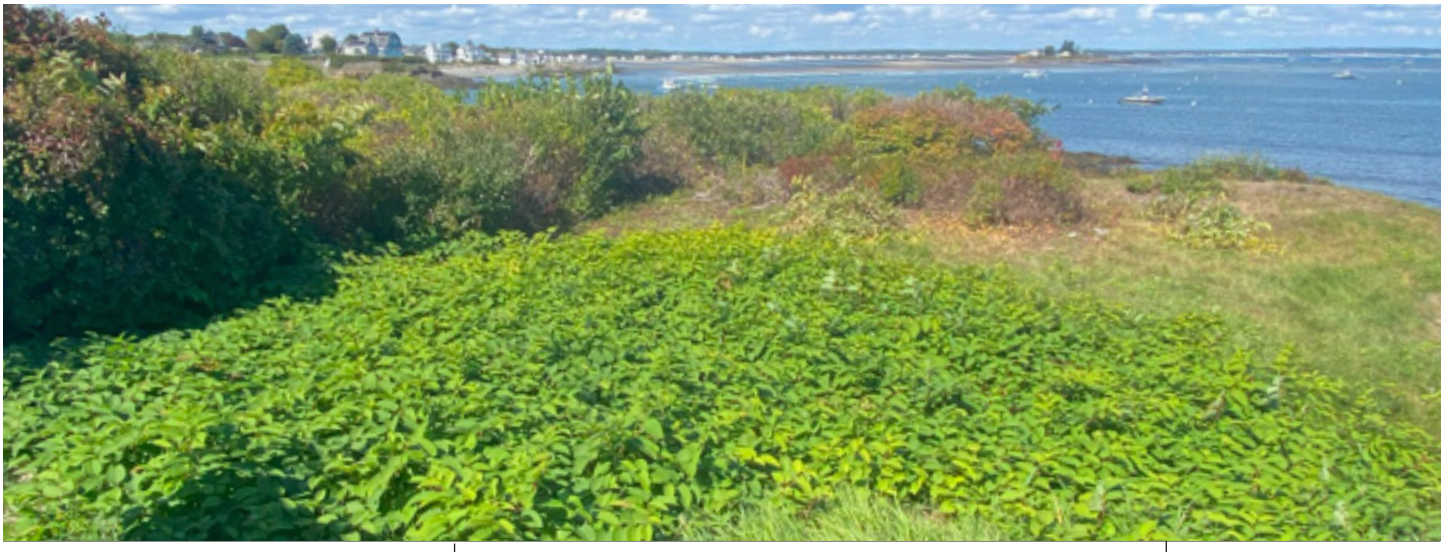


A mix of native vegetation and invasive Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica) is intermingled on the conserved parcel at the end of Staple Street. This small but significant area provides important green space within the surrounding neighborhood and supports a variety of coastal plant communities. However, the presence of knotweed threatens the long-term ecological value of the site.

Japanese knotweed is a highly aggressive invasive species known for forming dense thickets that outcompete native plants. Its fast-growing underground rhizome network allows it to spread quickly and regenerate even after cutting or physical removal, making it particularly difficult to manage once established.

If left unchecked, knotweed is likely to expand and gradually displace native grasses, shrubs, and early successional trees. This degradation reduces plant diversity and habitat quality for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife. The visual and ecological character of the landscape—valued by both the community and local conservation efforts—would be significantly diminished.

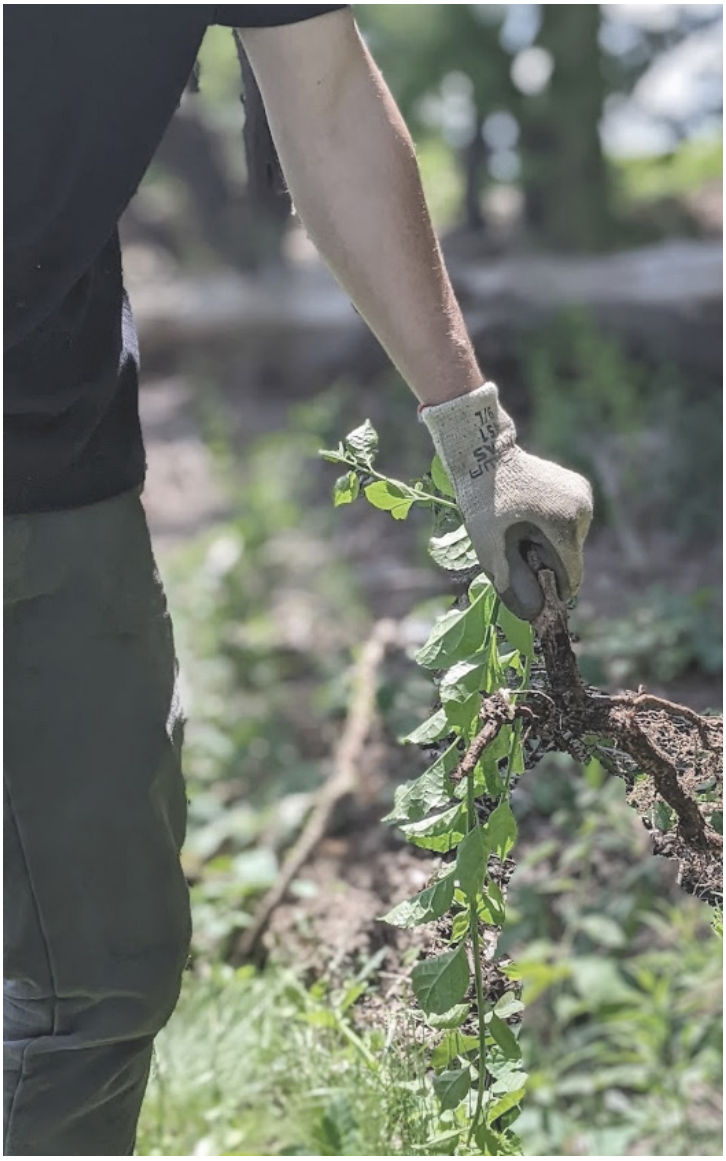
Timely, strategic management is essential to control the spread of knotweed and preserve the ecological integrity of the site.



GENERAL INVASIVE REMOVAL TECHNIQUES

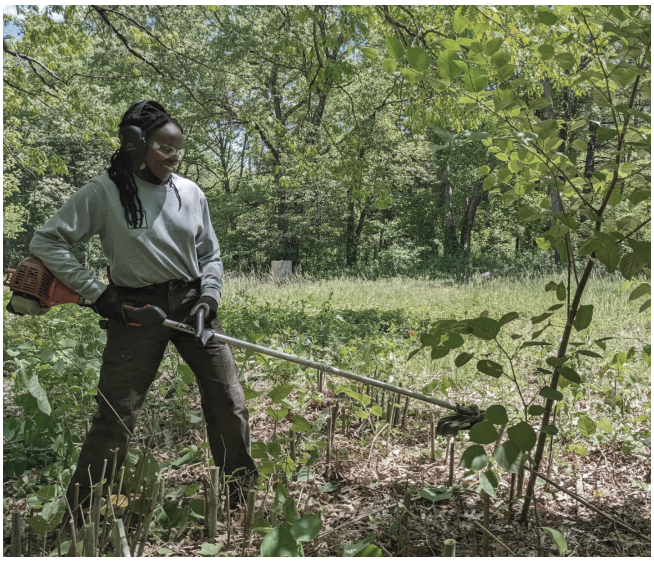
MANUAL HAND REMOVAL METHODS:

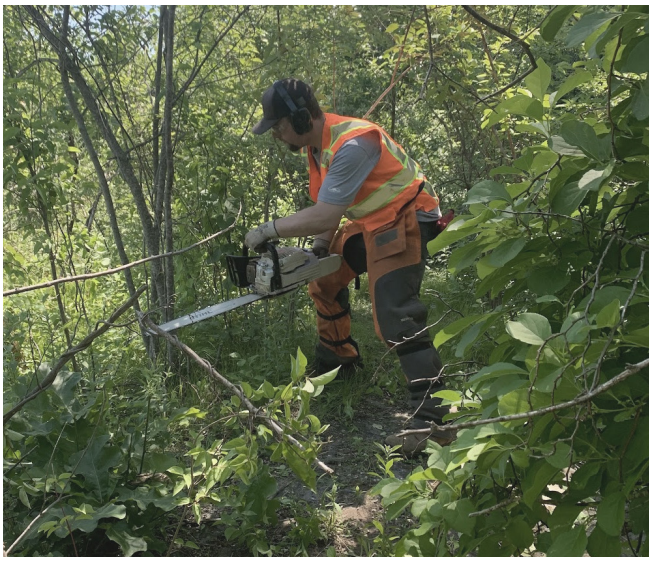
Manual methods of invasive plant management - including hand pulling and cutting - will be prioritized whenever possible. For tenacious woody plants, use of a weed-wrench is recommended. To minimize soil disturbance (which can activate invasive seed banks), only shallow-rooted invasive plants less than 1" in caliper should be hand pulled from the soil. Invasive plant species greater than 1" caliper are best cut and treated.



MECHANICAL MANAGEMENT:

Mechanical methods of invasive control include mowing, string-trimming, and sawing down of single large specimens or extensive stands of a particular plant. In a few cases repeated mowing or cutting is all that is needed to weaken a plant's resources to the point of die-off. With most aggressive invasives however, mowing and cutting are only the first step in a more intensive program plan that involves selective herbicidal treatments.





SPECIALIZED INVASIVE REMOVAL TECHNIQUES: *FALLOPIA JAPONICA* 'JAPANESE KNOTWEED'

DESCRIPTION:

Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica) is a tall-growing, hollow-stemmed, herbaceous perennial that can reach over 10 feet in height. The stems are smooth, stout, and noticeably swollen at the nodes where the leaves attach—giving it a bamboo-like appearance. Leaves are broadly oval to triangular, pointed at the tip, and typically measure about 6 inches long by 3 to 4 inches wide on mature plants. In late summer, the plant produces branched sprays of small, greenish-white flowers, followed by tiny, winged, triangular seeds roughly 1/10 inch long. Though it can reproduce by seed, its primary method of spread is through an extensive and resilient underground rhizome system.

HABITAT:

Knotweed forms dense monocultures on various site conditions, from roadsides to stream banks. Knotweed is a relative of buckwheat, smartweed, and the Noxious Weed mile-a-minute vine. Japanese knotweed was introduced to the U.S. as ornamentals during the late 1800s. However, it has become an invasive plant in our natural areas due to its imposing height, dense growth habit, aggressive spread, and seeming indifference to control methods.

MANAGEMENT:

Control typically involves a combination of foliar spray and cut-and-fill herbicide treatments over 2–5 consecutive seasons. Strategically timed cutting can extend the treatment window.

KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES:

IMPORTANT NOTE ON HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS BY COASTLINE AREA

Herbicide applications near the coastline will be conducted with caution. Manual removal will be prioritized where feasible, foliar spray and foliar foam methods used in sensitive areas. All treatments will occur during dry, calm weather to minimize drift, using only wetland-safe herbicides (Garlon 3A and Roundup Custom).

FOLIAR FOAM

Cutting alone is not sufficient to control Japanese knotweed, but it plays a critical role when combined with targeted herbicide application. For mature stands, we recommend an initial cut in May or early June. This encourages regrowth to a manageable height, which can then be treated with a 6% Aquaneat (glyphosate) solution in late summer—timed to align with the plant's downward movement of nutrients to its rhizomes.

This approach maximizes herbicide uptake and effectiveness. Late-season cuts limit regrowth and narrow the treatment window, reducing control success. Foliar applications during late summer are essential to suppress the extensive underground rhizome system and achieve long-term control.

FOLIAR SPRAY

Directed foliar sprays are herbicide/water mixes targeting invasive plant foliage. A certified herbicide technician will apply using a backpack sprayer—with low pressure and away from the coastline, drift inhibitors, and a spray shield—to enhance precision and cover all leaves to the point of runoff. Ideally, a water-soluble dye should be incorporated into the solution to track application and alert the technician to any unwanted spray drift.

Herbicide application by licensed technician

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE & CALENDAR FOR TREATMENT

EARLY SUMMER 2025

» Systematically remove invasive plants according to priority. Cut down Knotweed stalks & remove invasive vines.

LATE SUMMER 2025

» Treat plant reprouts with foliar herbicide in early summer and mid-summer.

TASK	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Hand removal woody seedlings < 1" caliper	■	■	■	■	■						▫	▫
Hand pulling herbaceous species			■	■	■			▫	■	■	▫	
Mechanical management of woody invasives	■	■	■	■	■	▫	▫	▫	▫	▫	▫	▫
Cut and fill herbicide on woody invasives	▫	▫	▫	▫	▫	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

■ Optimal timing and efficiency ■ Not optimal but mostly effective ▫ Possible, but not ideal

The timing of various containment and restoration strategies is critical to their success. Fortunately, the calender provides ample opportunity for action at any time of the year. Tasks should be performed by trained ecological technicians and licensed herbicide applicators. These recommendations for restoration take into consideration the long term health of the East Point Audubon Sanctuary. Once invasive plants have been managed in a particular area, the restoration of native species should begin.