

DoD Legacy Program

Key Invasive Species Projects

Legacy Program Overview

In 1990, Congress passed legislation establishing the Legacy Resource Management Program (Legacy) to provide financial assistance to the Department of Defense (DoD) efforts to preserve our nation's natural and cultural heritage. The Legacy Program seeks to protect and enhance resources on DoD lands while supporting military readiness. A Legacy project may involve regional ecosystem management initiatives, habitat conservation efforts, archaeological investigations, invasive species control, Native American consultations, or monitoring and predicting migratory patterns of birds and animals, among its priorities.

The three principles that guide all of DoD's Natural Resources Conservation Programs, including Legacy, are stewardship, leadership, and partnership. **Stewardship** initiatives assist DoD in safeguarding its irreplaceable resources for future generations. By embracing a **leadership** role as part of the program, DoD serves as a model for respectful use of natural and cultural resources. Through **partnerships**, the Program strives to access the knowledge and talents of individuals outside of DoD.

Featured Invasive Species Projects

From FY1991-FY2009, the Legacy Program funded nearly 120 invasive species-related projects totaling approximately \$16.7 million. Four of these projects are highlighted below. The complete list of invasive species-related projects is available at: www.DoDNaturalResources.net. For more information on the DoD Natural Resources Conservation: Legacy Program, please visit www.DoDLegacy.org.

Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas

(Projects 02-1703, 03-1703, 04-1703, 06-334, 07-334, 09-334, 09-437)

These projects created Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas in Arizona, Florida, and North Carolina to address invasive species on military installations in specific regions. The projects built partnerships between federal, state, and local agencies, and facilitated working across boundaries and pooling limited resources. The projects worked to prevent noxious and invasive species from causing ecological and economic damage in their associated region, implemented regional invasive species management strategies, and established control/eradication efforts.

Tools: Development and Revision of the Noxious and Nuisance Plant Management Information System and DoD Invasive Species Outreach Toolkit (Projects 981724, 991724, 04-229, 05-229, 07-229, 08-229, 08-415, 09-229)

These projects developed computer-based tools that provide installation personnel access to information on invasive species; invasive plant biology, ecology, identification, distribution; associated management strategies; and outreach materials. The projects provided personnel with information and outreach materials to educate installation personnel, including commanders, soldiers and their families, and natural resource managers about non-native invasive species. These tools help installations decrease their reliance on herbicides and increase their use of more environmentally sensitive approaches to control pest plants. This approach helps DoD meet its pesticide reduction goals, as well as federal and state noxious weed regulations.

Introduction of Invasive Species from Participation in OCONUS [Outside the Continental U.S.] Exercises (2 Years) *(Projects 01-163, 03-123)*

These projects examined the potential for introducing invasive species to the U.S. during transportation of personnel and equipment for military exercises outside the contiguous 48 states. The projects evaluated how invasive species introduction occurs through the movement of military personnel and equipment, as well as the protocols and procedures in place to prevent the movement of these species. The projects developed a list of recommended changes to protocols and procedures designed to eliminate the movement of invasive species.



Model Invasive Species Control Project: Yellow Star Thistle (3 Years)
(Projects 01-160, 02-160, 03-160)

This project developed scientific and administrative guidelines for natural resources and pest management professionals to design and execute long-term, cost-effective strategies to reduce the impacts from yellow star thistle and other invasive weeds on military installations. The project produced a user's guide to help installation managers design and administer cost-effective programs to manage yellow star thistle and related invasive weed species.



Yellow Star Thistle

Contact Information: L. Peter Boice, Deputy Director, Natural Resources, Department of Defense, peter.boice@osd.mil
