

Invasive Plants Report—2015 Annual meeting

Since joining the board in Oct. 2014 I think we have made considerable process in the control of invasive nonnative plants at Kennesaw Mountain BNP.

There have been 28 types of plants identified in the park with several of those being in the most aggressive category. The biggest offenders are privet, wisteria, bush honeysuckle, Japanese honeysuckle bamboo, and kudzu.

Most of the monthly work days we were able to take a group and work specifically on invasive plants. The group's ranged from 5 up to about 60 volunteers. We worked on bamboo near Kolb farm several months and privet in several locations from the visitor center, the mountain road, to Pigeon Hill, and Brumby trail.

In May the Exotic Plant Management Team was able to work on bamboo shoots and Tree of Heaven at the Big K summit.

During June we had 5 great days with the SCA group taking down the huge final section of bamboo and much needed work in the CCC area cutting privet and wisteria.

Throughout the year Harry Carpenter and I along with a few were able to work on a variety of invasive plants. You may see brush piles as evidence of prior infestations.

There's still lots of work to be done, but the plan is to have many of those 28 types of plants gone within the next few years.

Danny Leigh