City of London Environmentally Significant Areas – 2014 / 2015 Projects

Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee
October 23, 2014
City of London ESAs

- Presentation Overview
  - Management of ESAs in London
  - Summary of 2014 Accomplishments
  - Summary of 2015 Projects
    - Master Plans & Other Studies
    - Invasive Species Management
    - Trail / Signage Work
    - Adopt an ESA
  - Questions

Nathaniel Bergman PhD Candidate & EEPAC Member
Buckthorn Busting in Medway ESA - Adopt an ESA Program
City of London ESAs

- Managed ESAs in London
  - Westminster Ponds (204 h)
  - Sifton Bog (40 h)
  - Warbler Woods (29 h)
  - Kains Woods (25 h)
  - Kilally Meadows (132 h)
  - Meadowlily Woods (44 + 14h)
  - Medway VHF (95 + 34h)
  - Coves ESA (46 ha)

UTRCA manages publically owned ESA land
City of London ESAs

- **ESA Team**
  - 7 ESAs are managed by the UTRCA under agreement with the City
  - ESA Team have unique skills:
    - Wildlife management
    - Professional foresters/arborists
    - Tree Risk Assessor Qualification
    - Carpentry
    - Municipal By-law Enforcement
  - Yearly Operating Budget
  - Yearly Capital Budget
Project Planning in ESAs

- Conservation Master Plans
  - Goals, Objectives, Recommendations
  - Phase I and Phase II Process

- Sifton Bog 2009
- Westminster Ponds 2005 & 2014
- Kilally Meadows 1999
- Medway Valley HF 1996
- Meadowlily Woods 1989
- Coves 2014
- Update to Medway VHF 2015 est.
- Update to Meadowlily Woods 2015 est.
Overview of 2014 Capital Projects in ESAs

- **Master Plans & Other Studies**
  - The Coves Phase 2 Conservation Master Plan
  - Meadowlily Woods Phase 1 Conservation Master Plan
  - Medway Valley Heritage Forest Phase 1 Conservation Master Plan
  - Westminster Ponds / Pond Mills Inventory, Management Zones & Hydrology
  - Sifton Bog Hydrology Monitoring Initiated
Overview of 2014 Capital Projects in ESAs

- **Invasive Species Management**
  - EAB Tree Injections in all ESAs
  - Buckthorn Management at Sifton Bog, Killaly, WMP, Warbler & Meadowlily
  - Dog Strangling Vine Management at Kains Woods
  - English Ivy & Goutweed at Warbler
  - Japanese Knotweed Management at Medway, WMP, Kains & Killaly
  - Phragmites Management at Medway
  - Medway SAR / Goutweed Management Project
Overview of 2014 Capital Projects in ESAs

- Trail Improvements & Signage
  - Kains Woods TAG Recommendations
  - Kilally Wakefield Access TAG Solution
  - All ESAs - NEW Green ESA Signage w QR Codes at most ESA access (55+)
  - Bike Racks at ESA accesses
  - Medway (north) Boardwalks, Bridge, Trails, Restoration and Turtle Habitat
  - Warbler Woods Boardwalk Extensions

Killaly ESA Wakefield Access  ESA Signage w QR Codes
TAG Solution
2014 Stewardship Projects in ESAs

- Adopt an ESA
- 7 Adopt an ESA Groups
- 3 in Medway, 1 in WMP, Coves, Meadowlily, and Killaly
- Buckthorn Busting in Medway (south)
- Sweet White Clover Pull in Medway (north)
2015 Proposed Capital Projects in ESAs

- Master Plans and Studies
  - Medway (south) Phase II CMP
  - Meadowlily Phase II CMP
  - Sifton Bog Terrestrial Study

Sifton Bog - *Calopogon tuberosus*
Photo David Wake
2015 Projects in ESAs

- **Invasive Species Management / Restoration**
  - Coves – Buckthorn, Knotweed
  - WMP – Buckthorn Project & Loosestrife Beetle Project
  - Killaly - Dog Strangling Vine
  - Sifton Bog - Buckthorn
  - Medway (north) - Buckthorn & Phragmites
  - Medway (south) - SAR/Goutweed/Knotweed Project & Phragmites
  - Warbler – Buckthorn, English Ivy & Barberry
  - Meadowlily & Kains - Monitor using EDRR approach

- Goutweed Control w Herbicide
- Medway VHF ESA False Rue-anemone (Species at Risk)
2015 Proposed Projects in ESAs

- **Trail Work**
  - Coves – Priority Items as per CMP
  - Westminster Ponds - Trail review based on Management Zones for 2015/2016 implementation
  - Westminster Ponds - Community Connections Project & Recommendation # 62 CN Crossing
  - Kains - re-alignment and Sifton easement
  - Sifton Bog - Trail review based on Management Zones for 2015/2016 implementation
  - All ESAs – Continue un-official trail closures w Warbler as a priority
2014 / 2015 Projects in ESAs

- Anticipated ESA Meetings

  - Coves ESA – Phase II Planning and Env. Committee – **November 4, 2014**
  - Medway VHF CMP Phase I to Planning and Env. Committee - January 2015
  - Medway VHF CMP Phase II Start-up - Winter 2015
  - Medway VHF CMP Phase II Local Advisory Committee (LAC) - Spring 2015
  - Meadowlily Woods CMP Phase II Start-up - Winter 2015
  - Meadowlily Woods CMP Phase II Local Advisory Committee (LAC) - Spring 2015
Kains ESA