

# Picking our battles

Making our Efforts Count and Getting Satisfaction in a Job Well Done

Simple & Sensible Framework for Planning and Implementation

Common sense strategies

PAUSE



# Picking Our Battles

A Guide to Planning  
Successful Invasive Plant  
Management Projects

**Taking a large scale approach and prioritizing shared invasive plant “battles” will allow restoration projects to be more effective in the long-term and maximize the efficient use of resources.**

# Identify

**Where to start work**

**Identifying priority areas based on:**

- **Rare or declining species or habitats;**  
**Climate resiliency**
- **Riparian corridors;**
- **High profile and high value  
conservation areas**
- **Disturbance vectors**



# Priority Areas for Invasive Plant Management MAPS

- Suasco watershed
  - Rare species priority habitats
  - BioMap 2
  - EDDMaps (hot spots? ED?)
- Add town-level priority areas
  - Larger size; better quality; flagship;  
significant habitats; educational/cultural



# Massgis oliver

OLIVER: MassGIS's Online Mapping Tool [OLIVER Updates](#)

Search for a location

Zoom to a town

**Available Data Layers**

Search data layers

- Tiled Layers
- State Facilities
- Census 1990
- Census 2000
- Census 2010
- Coastal and Marine Features
- Conservation / Recreation

**Active Data Layers**

Check all Uncheck all

- ☒ USGS Water Bodies 25k
- ☒ USGS Rivers and Streams
- ☒ Major Streams

**Legend**

USGS Water Bodies 25k

- LAKE, POND, OCEAN
- RESERVOIR
- WETLAND
- SALT WETLAND
- SUBMERGED WETLAND

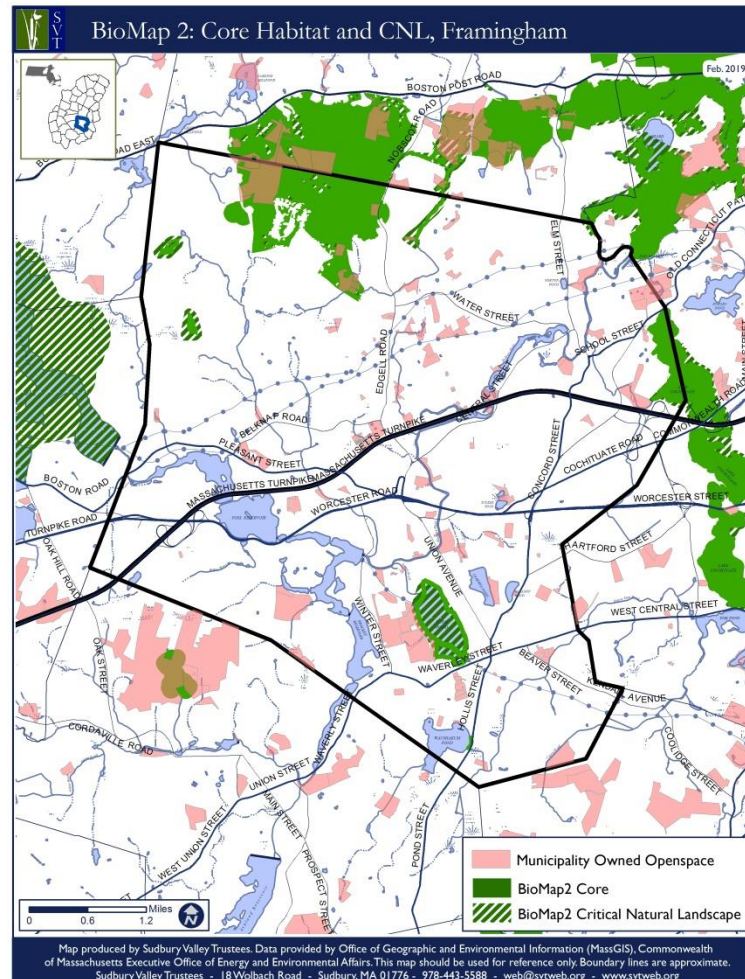
Scale = 1:144,448  
206,449.95m 906,729.93m

Map data ©2018 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Basemaps

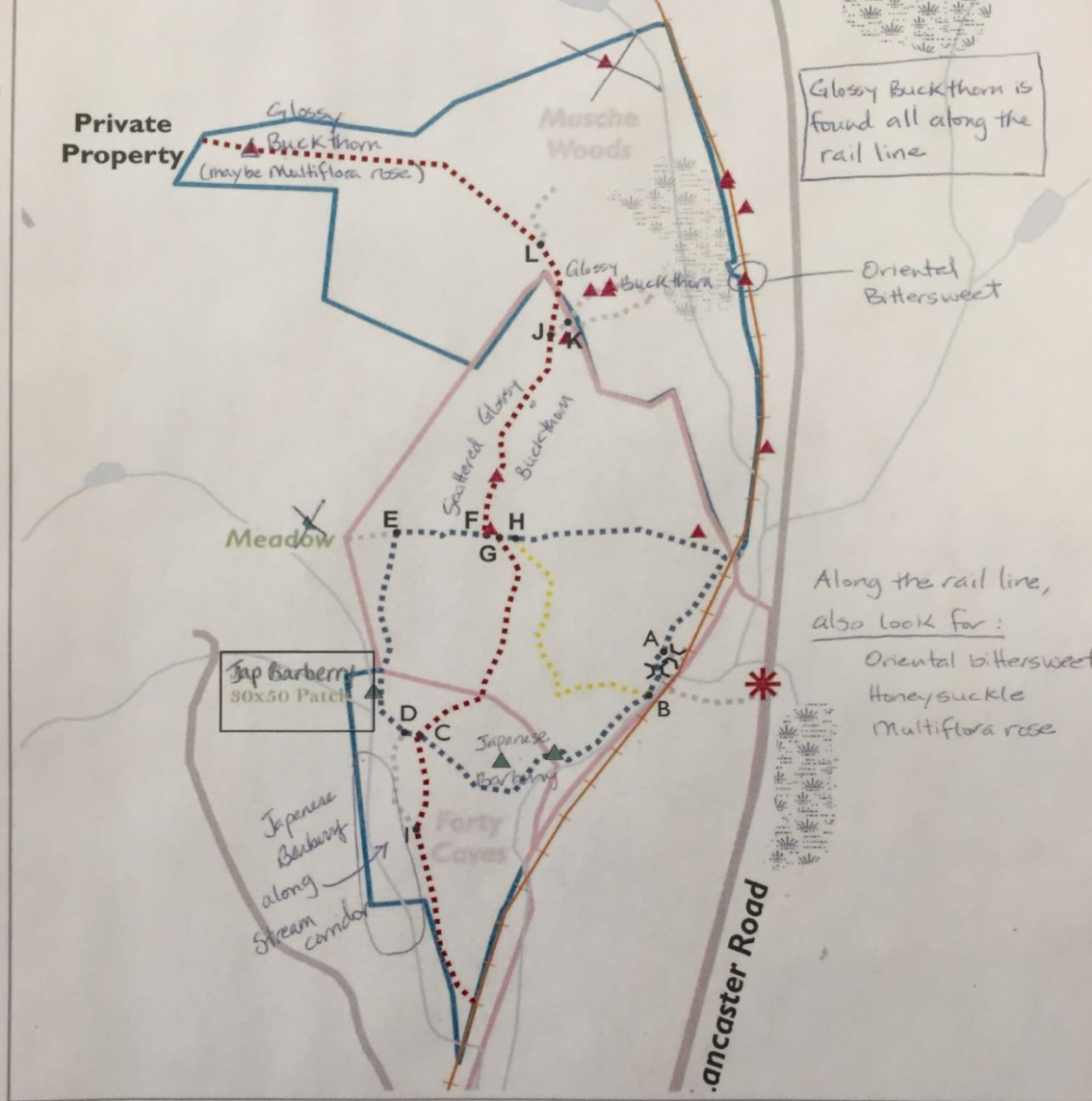


# SVT Will provide your town with set of maps!

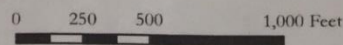


# Site Mapping

- Map and Pencil
  - Rough scale GPS points and polygons
  - Grid
- - - > Management Goal



# **Invasive Plant Map** **Garfield Woods Reservation** **Musche Woods and Forty Caves** **Berlin, MA**



SUDBURY  
VALLEY  
TRUSTEE



# Prioritize

Multiple scale strategies

- ◉ Early detection and rapid response
- ◉ Protect priority habitat first
- ◉ Start at headwaters and work downstream
- ◉ Start with small populations or deal with “spot fires”

# Early detection & rapid response

- EDDMaps – Limited Usefulness but worth checking
- Inconsistent data collection

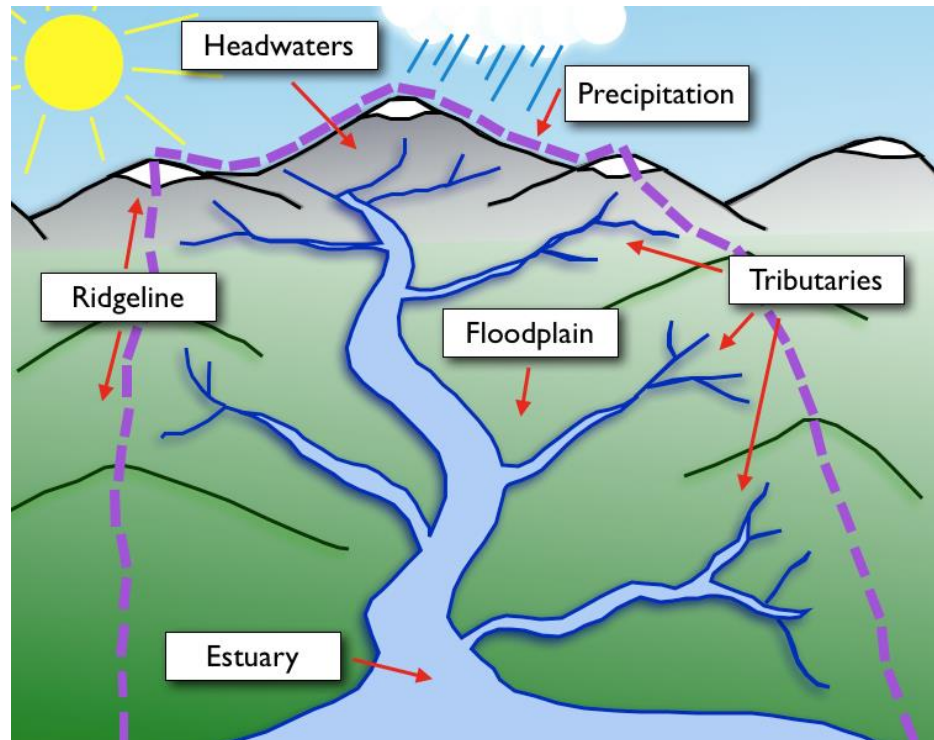


CISMA &



# Priority habitat first

## Start at headwaters and work down stream





# Start with small populations or spot fires

- ◉ Japanese Stilt grass at Centennial Place and Memorial Forest. Small patches
- ◉ Garlic mustard spots throughout the natural area
- ◉ Black Swallowwort at Desert Natural Area – only next to one parking area
- ◉ (Versus – Buckthorn all over the place!)

# Site specific strategies

- Consider proximity to other populations of the same species (Neighbors)
- Prioritize areas of disturbance  
(Area to be harvested or flooding zone)
- Consider plant distribution pattern  
(Clumped vs. Sparse)

# Action

- Choosing the right technique(s) for the job.
  - Plant life history traits will govern species-specific plan of attack
- **Commit to a multiple year effort**
- **Restoration after removal**



# Volunteers



# Pick your battles

