

# **Insights Gained from the Development of an Integrated Invasive Plant Management Plan at Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia. (A02-hohmann162040-Oral)**

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## **Abstract:**

Non-native invasive plant species (NIPS) pose a significant conservation and compliance challenge for natural resources management on military lands. Invasive plant species competitively displace native flora and adversely affect ecosystem integrity and function by altering water, energy, nutrient and disturbance cycles, which in turn can cause loss of biodiversity, increased soil erosion, damage to certain culturally significant resources, reduced returns from agricultural out-lease programs, and degradation of threatened and endangered species habitat. Moreover, NIPS can negatively impact military operations, troop deployment, troop safety, military carry capacity, long-term sustainability of training lands, and training land use. The magnitude and cost of these impacts will increase significantly over time without immediate and aggressive action targeted at identifying, mapping, monitoring, and controlling NIPS. Effective and cost efficient NIPS control is dependent upon a sound management plan. This presentation summarizes the development of a non-native invasive plant management plan at Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia.

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