

- x continue efforts to arrest the spread, using manual methods, of Japanese Knotweed in identified locations in Warren, Waitsfield, and Fayston;
- x initiate limited/targeted work to control selected other terrestrial plant invasive species in the Mad River Valley;
- x use social media, newspaper articles on in-person educational events to educate community members, including young students, about invasive species and how best to manage them;
- x work alongside community volunteers in invasive species management;
- x work with two invasive species ecologists from UVM – Noelia Barrios-Garcia and Mariano Rodriguez-Cabal – to help ensure that the invasives and habitat restoration work in the Valley continues to advance based on the latest scientific research;
- x use the newly created Valley-wide invasive species GIS system and document invasive management efforts, and record data taken from the measurement plots (see below for one of the maps in this system);
- x research on evidence-based management practices for controlling other terrestrial plant invasive species targeted for attention in 2025.

Much of this work will take place outdoors in typical summer weather conditions. When outside conditions are not safe (i.e., during thunderstorms), the interns will move to one of several inside locations in the Valley work on tasks best done indoors. Knotweed removal involves physical work with shovels and picks. In some locations, this will require navigating some steep river and stream banks. Attention to safety is emphasized and is guided by a safety policy.

Overall, we are looking to the Project Coordinator to help the three valley towns advance their work to create a model approach for invasive terrestrial plant management and habitat restoration

Much-1 (rall,)1U4 (oV(t)-M)mea (f

in one of the most beautiful parts of Vermont. Days were spent in beautiful forests, rivers, next to waterfalls, and pastures with scenic backdrops of Vermont's Green Mountains.

One of my favorite parts of this project was connecting with the community members. Volunteer days with the community were spent digging holes and laughing alongside dedicated volunteers. By the end of the internship, we all felt a deep connection to the Mad River ecosystem and the wonderful community there. One of the most rewarding parts of the work was seeing the native plants begin to grow back towards the end of our internships. A memory that sticks out to me was at one of our larger plots we worked at weekly, the Lareau Swim Hole. Here, we completed a complete dig of knotweed crowns along a section of the Mad River. After digging up root crowns, one of my fellow interns spread a conservation seed mix. On the last day of my internship, I noticed a milkweed plant with a tiny monarch caterpillar that had decided to make this plant its new home. In a place that had once been a complete monoculture of Knotweed was now full of native grasses, a view of the river, and a home for a monarch caterpillar.

This work ended up being one of the most rewarding and fun jobs I've had. I learned so much about invasives, as well as growing as a leader and person. I've been able to apply so much of what I learned this summer to my classes and job applications. I am more than happy to speak with any interested applicants and answer any questions you may have. You can reach me at (802)-989-0230.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:

Ability to work well with others and foster teamwork.

Interest in people management and learning to become a leader in the conservation field.

A good organizer.

GIS mapping and invasive species coursework.

Skilled communicator.

Passionate about restoring healthy, functioning ecosystems and dealing with the threat presented by invasive species.

Interested in educating community members about invasive species and how they can best be managed.

Supervision:

The Invasive Species Project Coordinator would be supervised and supported by the Chairs of the three Conservation Commissions – Jito Coleman from Warren, Curt Lindberg from Waitsfield, and Andrea Henderson from Fayston. They all have extensive experience in conservation and an interest in mentoring young people. Andrea is a leader of the Fayston Conservation Commission and especially interested in community engagement. Jito,

5. Please upload all documents as PDFs. The following are the required documents:

- x Resume
- x Cover Letter
- R