Background to project

2005  Exmoor Knotweed Control Project

2014  River Barle Signal Crayfish Control Project

2019 – 2022  ENNIS project funded through Water Environment Grant

2022 – 2024  ENNIS project funded through Farming in Protected Landscapes and partners
Exmoor Skunk Cabbage Control Programme

Percentage of original number of plants showing (first visit of 2021)
• An alternative to glyphosate for invasive species management on organically certified land.

• Rootwave Pro machine uses an electric current (up to 5000v) to raise the temperature of the plant.

• Trialled treatments for Japanese and Himalayan knotweed, skunk cabbage, montbretia, giant hogweed and fringecups.

• Limitations include transporting machine and weather dependency.
Rootwave Trials – Knotweed

Sept 2017 pre Rootwave trial

Sept pre treatment in 2021

Nov two months after first treatment of 2021
Rootwave Trials – Knotweed

October treatment 2022

November one month after treatment in 2022
Rootwave Trials – Knotweed

September 2017 Pre Rootwave Trial

October pre treatment in 2022
Rootwave Trials – Skunk Cabbage

June 2020 pre treatment

September after two treatments in 2020

June pre treatments in 2021

Oct after one treatment in July 2021
Rootwave Trials – Montbretia

1 month after treatment
River Barle Signal Crayfish Project

• Multi-method, long term approach using baited & artificial refuge traps, sterilisation & return of dominant males

• Weekly trapping of a 1.5km reach from April to October, 2015 - 2022, led by citizen scientists

• Results:
  • Artificial refuge traps more effective than baited traps
  • Consistent decrease in catch rates since 2017

• Current focus is to contain the upstream expansion on the River Barle and River Exe

Green, N. et al. (2022) “Mechanical male sterilisation in invasive signal crayfish pacifastacus leniusculus: Persistence and functionality in captive and wild conditions,” Knowledge & Management of Aquatic Ecosystems, (423), p. 20. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1051/kmae/2022014.
• Low priority
  • Never found again
  • Coastal areas

• Medium priority
  • Trial area has very little left
  • Coming under control

• High priority
  • River Barle around Dulverton
  • River Exe
Plans and Ambitions for 2023

- Continue our knotweed and skunk cabbage treatments
- Continue the Rootwave trial and evaluate the success of the treatments
- Large scale Himalayan balsam pulling and crayfish catching days
- Spreading awareness about biosecurity, targeting different audiences
Visit Our Website http://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/Whats-Special/exmoor-non-native-invasive-species-ennis

Or search online for ‘ENNIS Exmoor’

Thank you to our project partners: