



Robert Malley <robert.malley@capeelizabeth.org>

Invasive Plant Management in Battery Blair Landscape

1 message

James McCain <james.mccain@fortwilliams.org>

Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 6:02 PM

Reply-To: james.mccain@fortwilliams.org

To: Robert Malley <robert.malley@capeelizabeth.org>

Cc: Suzanne McGinn <spmccginn1@gmail.com>, Lynn Shaffer <lynxshaf@gmail.com>

Hi, Bob – Please find attached a supporting map for Suzanne McGinn's request that the Fort Williams Park Committee allocate space in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for invasive plant control measures in the Park.

I believe that setting aside \$10,000 from the Fort Williams Park Committee would enable us to make great progress towards eradicating invasive plants in the 2-acres of land outlined on the map. This area includes the naturally occurring vegetation that surrounds Battery Blair, extending south and west to form perimeter successional woodlands for several other open areas in the Park that are highly frequented by tourists and locals alike; including the Green, the Multipurpose Field, and the Central Visitor Parking Area. This area is also adjacent to the location of the Foundation's future Fruit Orchard Arboretum project. The southernmost part of the area is just across Merryman Lane from Battery Garesche.

Of particular concern is the large colony of Japanese knotweed spreading through the woodland from near the parking area, as well as a growing population of Garlic Mustard and Reed Canary Grass, among the usual suspects found throughout the Park (such as bittersweet, honeysuckle, and black swallow-wort).

The Fort Williams Park Foundation board has agreed to provide my paid time to plan and co-manage the project, including coordinating volunteer efforts and herbicide treatments by Vegetation Control Services, the latter to be funded by the Fort Williams Park Committee. This would be a true partnership between several stakeholders in the Park in our ongoing efforts to restore the ecological health of the Park.

Thank you,

James

