

## Managing Invasive Species

Produced by [National Park Service](#)

Duration

**5:48(cc)**

**STEAM Curriculum Lesson Extension:**

*Invasive Species' Effects on Ecosystems, Grade 8*

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### Goal

Students will learn about the ways the US National Park Service works to curtail the spread of invasive species in the Park System.

### Overview

Invasive plants and animals can disrupt ecosystems even in highly protected National Parks. Learn how parks are taking action with help from Inventory & Monitoring as the first alert to new pests and with Exotic Plant Management Teams that tackle invasive species treatment and removal.

### Connections to EarthX STEAM Curriculum Lesson:

#### *Invasive Species' Effects on Ecosystems*

During the lesson, students will discover how invasive species compete for resources in an ecosystem and threaten its balance. It also notes how many National Parks are reacting to this impact. The video goes more in-depth into the actions the Park Services are developing to stop the spread of endangered species in their parks.

### Guiding Questions

- How are grades and the Inventory and Monitoring System alike?
- Can you think of what could be a “vital sign” of a forest to let you know about the health of its ecosystem?
- Invasive species can upset the balance of an ecosystem. What strategies have you used to bring your life back into balance when it has gotten off center?

### Vocabulary

- Invasive species
- Ecosystems
- Ecologically
- Eradicate
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Invasive species meltdown
- Inventory and Monitoring Team
- Vital signs
- Invasive Species Early Detection
- Exotic Plant Management Team

### Standards

#### Next Generation Science

- MS-LS2-4
- MS-LS2-5
- MS-ESS3-3

#### TEKS Science Objectives

- 7b13
- 8b11A