

Smith, Spence

From: Marcia_Lyons@nps.gov
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2005 7:51 AM
To: Smith, Spence
Cc: Otto, Dana; "Marcia_Lyons%nps.gov."@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Seabeach Amaranth question

Beach vitex has yet to be found in the park - but we should be on the lookout for it. Webworms have been bad in some years and absent in others. East Carolina University also found a grasshopper spp that munched down on it too. I think it is worth including. Suitable habitat protection is still the prime factor.

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Subject: Seabeach Amaranth question
10/06/2005 04:25
PM AST

Hi Marcia,

A couple of things that were mentioned in the Recovery Plan and in the USGS Protocols were protection of SBA against webworm predation (SC and NC mentioned specifically in the recovery plan) and competition from beach vitex (*Vitex rotundifolia*) (mentioned in the USGS Protocols). For small populations of SBA the recovery plan notes that webworm caterpillars can be handpicked before they metamorphose. The Protocols say to locate and eliminate the beach vitex because it grows in similar habitats to the SBA and out competes it.

Do these two species exist within the park, have they been a problem in the past, and do you think they are worth keeping in the management alternative? - as of now I have included them.

Cheers,
Spence

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