

**RESTORING INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES (*TANACETUM VULGARE*, *CENTAUREA MACULOSA*)
DOMINATED AREAS BY MEANS OF ASSISTED SUCCESSION**

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Abstract: A thesis project at Camp Ripley Army National Guard Training Site will address the effectiveness of using assisted succession as a means of restoring areas dominated by perennial invasive species: Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) and spotted knapweed, (*Centaurea maculosa*). Restoring these areas into a native plant community is necessary for this federally maintained study site to be in compliance with Executive Order 13112. This restoration will take place in spring 2010 through fall 2012 and will incorporate site manipulation of four seedbed preparations, two cover crop types, and two seed dispersal methods for each of these invasive species. I hypothesize that by introducing a competitive cover crop immediately upon intentional disturbance of these invaded areas, followed by the seeding of native grasses, an increase in the establishment of native grasses will occur. I hypothesize that drill seeding will be the most effective means of establishing these native grasses in the seedbed. I also hypothesize that the most successful establishment of native grasses will occur on sites that are mowed/burned and then sprayed with an herbicide. If successful, these methods may be applied on a larger scale in other restoration endeavors.