

# Swamp Pink (*Hellonias bullata*), federally listed as threatened



- NJ is the rangewide species stronghold, with over 60% of all populations.
- Most NJ populations are declining.
- For 63 extant NJ populations surveyed 2010-2013, invasive species were observed at the majority of sites.
- Invasives were directly impacting some populations.
- The most common invasives impacting swamp pink were:
  - *Phragmites australis* (common reed)
  - *Microstegium vimineum* (Japanese stiltgrass), often associated with drawdown of the water table.
- Other species found impacting swamp pink habitat were:
  - *Rosa multiflora* (multiflora rose)
  - *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle),
  - *Polygonum cuspidatum* (Japanese knotweed)
  - *Wisteria* spp. (wisteria)
  - *Vinca minor* (periwinkle)
  - *Celastrus orbiculatus* (oriental bittersweet )



# Federally Listed Beach Species



- Four federally listed species depend on NJ beaches:
  - Red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)
  - Seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*)
  - Piping plover (*Charadris melodus*)
  - Northeastern beach tiger beetle (*Cicindela dorsalis dorsalis*)
- Numerous others, State-listed or special concern.
- Japanese (or Asiatic) sand sedge (*Carex kobomugi*) is a perennial adapted to beaches and dunes.
- Accidentally introduced, later deliberately planted; now occurs from Massachusetts to North Carolina.
- Spreads mainly by rhizomes and forms dense stands on dunes and beaches, outcompeting native vegetation, decreasing species richness, and degrading habitat for listed species.
- In the 2000s, one study documented exponential growth in the spread of Japanese sand sedge at two NJ sites that are known to support shorebirds.
- Similar large headed sedge (*Carex macrocephala*) documented at 3 NJ sites in 2005.