

# Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

## *Mile High Youth Corps-Invasive Weed Removal Recovery Act Report:*

The Mile High Youth Corps Invasive Weed Removal Crew surveyed 161.7 acres of habitat suspected of containing houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*). During this process they removed invasive weeds including Scotch thistle, musk thistle, mullein and houndstongue by using sharpshooter shovels, hand pulling and spraying. These weeds outcompete natives for sunlight, nutrients, water, and space and in turn reduce the amount of foraging habitat for wildlife.



MHYC invasive weed removal crew removing houndstongue using sharpshooter shovels.

<u>Equipment Supplied</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Tyvec Suits	8 suits	\$58.40
Rubber Gloves	8 pairs	\$20.32
Respirators	8	\$20.00
Herbicide	34 oz.	<u>\$259.76</u>
		\$358.48



Report prepared and photos taken by: William Kutosky and Lindsey Messinger

**Before:**



Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), SE ¼ of SW ¼ , Section 2. Photo taken 07/28/2009, prior to MHYC work.

**After:**



Common mullein (*V. Thapsus*), SE ¼ of SW ¼ , Section 2. Photo taken 09/01/2009, after MHYC work.