

Meeting Minutes

New York State Invasive Species Advisory Committee

March 3, 2023, 10:00- 1:00

ISAC Meeting # 51

Farm Bureau



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Review/Approve Minutes
- Announcements and Updates
 - Expo and ISAW Update w/ISAC Participation
 - Update in Part 575 and Assessment and Compliance
- Agency Updates
 - iMapINvasives
- PRISM highlights
- Cornell Climate Smart Invasive Species Project
- DEC Climate Office Presentation
- Discussion on ISAC's next steps and climate change and Invasive Species Recommendations
- Review of Action Items and Recommendations

ISAC Members Present

Member	#47	#48	#49	#50	#51
Bartow, John – Empire State Forest Products Association***	P	P	P	A	P
Bernacki, Rebecca – The Nature Conservancy**	-	-	-	P	P
Brown-Lima, Carrie – Cornell Invasive Species Research Institute*	P	P	P	P	P
Canham, Hugh – New York Forest Owners Association***	P	P	P	A	P
Decker, David – Audubon New York***	P	P	P	P	P
Evans, DJ – New York Natural Heritage Program*	A	P	Virtual	P	P
Fry, Beth – New York State Nursery & Landscape Association**	-	-	-	A	P
Furgal, Stacy – New York Sea Grant at Cornell*	-	-	-	A	P
Gosser, Allen – USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services***	P	P	A	P	A
Harman, Bill – New York State Federation of Lake Associations**	A	P	A	P	A
McKnight, Rachelle – American Soc. of Landscape Architects***	-	-	-	P	P
Mitchell, Mike – NYS Flower Industries Inc.***	P	P	P	P	P
Mithen-DeMasi, Lori – New York State Association of Towns**	P	A	P	A	P
Modley, Meg – Lake Champlain Basin Program***	P	A	A	A	P
Nagele, Eliot – NY Botanical Garden***	P	A	A	A	P
Parry, Dylan – SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry**	P	A	Virtual	A	P
Phinney, Roger – Empire State Marine Trades Association**	A	A	A	A	A
Relyea, Rick – Darrin Fresh Water Institute*	A	A	A	A	A
Robinson, George – Biodiversity Research Institute*	P	P	P	P	P
Schoeberl, Karl – Environmental Energy Alliance of New York***	P	A	P	P	P
Seme, Beth – NYS Turfgrass Assoc./Council of Agriculture***	P	P	A	P	P
St. Jacques, Renee – NY Farm Bureau**	P	A	P	A	P
Stewart, Caitlin – Soil and Water Conservation Districts*	P	P	A	A	A
Taylor, Meredith – NYC DEP and NYS Water Suppliers*	P	P	A	P	P
Williams, Kristopher – Capital Region PRISM**	P	P	P	P	P

*named in statute, ** described, ***discretionary

ISC Members Present:

Allgaier, Thomas – Department of Agriculture and Markets
Brincka, Matthew – Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Thiel Josh – Department of Environmental Conservation

Guests

Steve Young - Botany Visable
Jennifer Dean - New York State Natural History Program

Welcome and Introductions

Brown-Lima welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees gave self-introductions.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes #50 Feb 2023 Approved
Motion: St. Jacques, Renee Second: Mitchell, Mike All In Favor

Announcements

Modley, Meg – Lake Champlain Basin Program

- Phase 1 Completed and Phase 2 Scope of Work in Process
- *The purpose of the Lake Champlain Canal Study is to design a hydrologic separation barrier that would prevent the inter-basin transfer of aquatic invasive species between the Hudson and Champlain drainages within the Champlain Canal, including identifying a recommended location for a barrier.*

Thiel, Josh and Allgaier, Thomas

- NYS Invasive Species Expo (Summit) Sept 24-26th Described Three Day Event w Free Attendance
 - o Sunday Public Facing, Monday a Blend with Practitioners and Tuesday al Professional
 - o Save the Date and Call for Abstracts /Content
 - o Woods Walk Sunday Canham, Hugh / Consider Native Species Venders on Sunday Robinson, George
 - o ISAC consider hosting a table, Meredith Taylor
 - o **Action Item: Send Notifications to ISAC Members**
- ISAW June 5th to the 11th
 - o Posted events in the statewide calendar
 - o **Action Item: Encourage ISAC host agencies to participate and distribute within their circles for a call to action**
- NYIS Info is under development with a potential scope of work to update the site
 - o Three quotes are out for review
 - o Furgal, Stacy New York Sea Grant at Cornell* leads the steering committee for the process
- Update in Part 575 and Assessment: Thiel, Josh NYS DEC
 - o Rule making process with joint regulation between NYS DEC and AGM.
 - o Two parts: Includes an assessment and a rulemaking process.
 - o Assessments are completed - Finalizing updated species list
 - o Rulemaking process is on pause with capacity issues to make Part 575 updates legal. Absence of state attorneys to review at this moment. Exploration of how ISC can interact with the rule making process.
 - o Fall would be the earliest movement on the part 575 rulemaking process to move forward.
 - o Supporting assessment documents may or may not be available but exist in large quantities.
 - o Discretionary process, public review and comment and legislative action left to be done.
- **Action Item: ISAC requested to be included in comments for assessments, why has the process changed? ISAC would like clarification on their role for processing part 575 listings. Will the list be presented to the ISC before or after attorney input and rule making process and then forwarded to ISAC for recommendations?**

- Part 575 Compliance: Allgaier, Thomas: NYS AGM
 - o 4655 Growers and Dealers Inspected out of the 9711 registered entities
 - o 98% compliancy rate
 - o 230 had part 575 plants
 - 115 regulatory issues: 95 regulated and 20 prohibited ex missing or incorrect tags
 - 20 prohibited plants accounting for 11% of inspections (mostly miscanthus and barberry)
 - There has been an increase in dealers selling regulated plants

Agency Updates

- Allgaier, Thomas: NYS AGM
 - o AGM SLF is emerging from egg masses, traps have been shipped out with the greatest volume installed by the NYS PRISM's and partner networks.
 - o Use iMap Invasives SLF Grid Sign Up
 - o Urban and Community Forest Inventories and Tree Keeper maybe a good way to identify Tree of Heaven Locations.
- Thiel, Josh; NYS DEC
 - o WISP programming is ramping up across the state for the 2023 season
 - o AWI with Paul Smith College is under a new contract
 - o AIS regional coordinators increase the capacity to execute work in specific areas of the state.
 - o Round goby expansion continues
 - o Northern Snake Head established in the Basha Kill River
 - o HWA response actions ongoing in the Adirondacks
 - o Beech Leaf Disease is continuing its rapid spread
 - o NYS IS Grants will occur
- Jennifer Dean; iMapInvasives
 - o Mobile tools are available for use
 - o Post treatment field data tools are now available
 - o Sign ups for SLF Grids
 - o Data Tiers will be updated in the PRISM
 - o Data Tiers Paper Published

PRISM highlights

- o Bernacki, Rebecca – The Nature Conservancy** Shared APIPP Highlights
- o Williams, Kristopher – Shared CR-PRISM Highlights
- o Please note summaries at the end of these minutes for all NYS PRISMs

Presentations

Cornell Climate Smart Invasive Species Project; Colberg Eva

- o Post Doc with NYSISRI with research on how practitioners are incorporating climate smart initiatives into invasive species management.
- o Research will include surveys and interviews
- o Discussion and commentary were fruitful

DEC Climate Office Presentation; Breen Rob

- o Climate change will reshape life on earth through changes with multiple systems like compounding impacts, uncertainty, assisted migration etc.
- o Climate office is working on a system of tools to help mitigate impacts of which Rob summarized and

- described several such as climate change policies, plans, grants etc.
- Use of concept mapping to stimulate systems thinking to come to the best practices and solutions.
- Rob touched on several comprehensive strategies.
- Discussion occurred with lots of information to unpack.
- Discussion was followed with ISAC's next steps regarding climate change and invasive species recommendations.
- Sub-committee should be formed to give recommendations to the ISC.
 - Subcommittee should
 - Review Climate Office Action Plans
 - Defined a goal and set of tasks that translate into recommendations
 - Prioritize Climate Office plans and how they relate to the ISC for specific recommendations.

Potential Committee Members

Brown-Lima, Carrie
 Williams Kristopher
 McKnight, Rachelle
 Bernacki, Rebecca
 Robinson, George
 Schoeberl, Karl
 Taylor, Meredith

- **Action Item:** Set a meeting date and define priority actions for Climate Office Subcommittee

Review of Action Items and Recommendations

- **Action Item:** Send Notifications to ISAC Members/Expo
- **Action Item:** Encourage ISAC host agencies to participate and distribute within their circles for a call to action with ISAW
- **Action Item:** ISAC requested to be included in comments for assessments, why has the process changed? ISAC would like clarification on their role for processing part 575 listings. Will the list be presented to the ISC before or after attorney input and rule making process and then forwarded to ISAC for recommendations?
- **Action Item:** Set a meeting date and define priority actions for Climate Office Subcommittee

Wrap Up 1:59 pm

Next ISAC Meeting Dates

- Sept 26 TBA Joint Meeting ISAC/ISC in **Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs NY 12020** following expo (afternoon likely 12-3) (Room to be confirmed).
- Nov 30 from 10-2:00 DEC 5 Rivers **56 Game Farm Road, Delmar NY 12054 .**

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Modley, Meg, Second: Evans, DJ All in favor.
- Respectfully submitted by Kristopher Williams, Vice Chair and acting Secretary

Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program APIPP PRISM (Tammara Van Ryn)

Adirondack Forest Pest Hunters Complete Impressive Winter Survey Season

The Forest Pest Hunter winter survey season for hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) ended on April 9. This was the strongest year ever of this three-year old program. Volunteers adopted 73 trails, and entered more than 880 observations into iMapInvasives – including over 200 positive finds. This information will help NYSDEC and the PRISM develop strategies to mitigate the impact of HWA on the region’s forests and their potential to sequester carbon.

Winter Webinar Series a Resounding Success

APIPP’s winter webinar series drew 86 people for “Climate Change and Invasive Species,” with scientist Curt Stager discussing research on the impact of declining winter ice in the Adirondacks. More than 70 people tuned in for “Pollinators, Plants, and Pests” featuring Sateiokwen Bucktooth, a native plant expert from the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. The summer series begins on May 24 with a “Backyard Invasives” program aimed at helping homeowners learn how to manage invasive species on their properties.

APIPP Provides Technical Expertise

When the NY legislature was debating a new law this spring aimed at protecting pollinators by banning the use of certain agricultural pesticides, one of APIPP’s licensed pesticide applicators met with some of the bill’s nonprofit proponents to explain how the use of these chemicals in targeted forest applications limits harm to pollinators. By understanding how the chemicals are used to reduce the harm caused by invasive species, the bill can ensure that pollinators are protected, and that essential tools for managing forest pests in order to keep standing forest carbon standing remain available for forest health managers.

Capital Region PRISM CR-PRISM (Kristopher Williams)

CR-PRISM 2023-2027 The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County the host of the CR-PRISM with sincere gratitude would like to acknowledge the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the NYS Invasive Species Council for awarding a contract to administer the Partnership for another five years. The thoughtful consideration and processes permitting us to administer the partnership is beneficial to our environment and communities of New York State. Thank You.

Products

- Final formatting of the CR-PRISM Five Year Strategic Plan 2023-2027 completed
- CR-PRISM 2023 Work Plan In Place
- Standard Operating Procedures for the CR-PRISM and Programs Updated
- Re-define our partners and their classifications
- Best Management Practice/Guidelines for handling contaminated materials with Invasive species is under development for targeted outreach and programing workshops.

Forest Health Collaborating with two partners two secure and release *Hypena opulenta*, the CR-PRISM has a source for the biocontrol and will use the NYSISRI guidelines for release and assessment. Collaborated with multiple partners for HWA biocontrol predator releases. Trees in Peril collection sites for an Ash tree genome study have been determined and permitting in place.

Partnership: A Request for proposals was released by the CR-PRISM and netted five requests totaling 83,600 dollars in detection, response, and outreach requests. All proposal projects have been reviewed by the CR-Steering.

(12) Watercraft Inspection Stewards and (3) Invasive Species Technicians hiring goals are almost filled

CRISP PRISM Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (John Thompson)

Strike Team The CRISP Strike Team will start mid-May. Staff is working on a list of target sites and are looking forward to doing aquatic and terrestrial surveys, rapid response and control throughout the CRISP region.

Invasive Species Prevention Zones At the next CRISP Partners Meeting, on May 16, we will discuss criteria for Invasive species prevention zones (ISPZ). Staff is assembling data layers on conservation value, rare species, protected areas, invasive species populations, etc. to lead the discussion.

2023 CRISP Funded Projects CRISP will subcontract with the following organizations to expand CRISP management by supporting each of these projects:

Buck Environmental Solutions, “Rapid Response for Japanese Angelica Tree and Black Jetbead”

Canadarago Lake Improvement Association, “Canadarago Lake AIS Prevention Boat Inspection Program”

Cornell Cooperative Extension Columbia & Greene Counties, “CRISP Outreach and Education”

Otsego County Conservation Association, “Otsego County Aquatic Invasives Rapid Responders”

Let’s Talk About Ticks! Panel hosted by Senator Michelle Hinchey on 5/11 at 6pm via Zoom to discuss ticks, tick safety, and tick borne illnesses.

Finger Lakes PRISM FL-PRISM (Sam Beck-Andersen)

Recruitment for Summer Field Staff – 12 watercraft stewards, 2 TIS technicians, and 4 AIS technicians have been hired to staff our summer field programs. Training for these staff are planned for May 22 to June 2 with in person and virtual elements.

Strike Teams – Two AIS Strike Teams focused on EDRR and Hydrilla monitoring on Cayuga Lake and surrounding Finger Lakes will launch at the beginning of June. Both teams will collect data on macrophyte surveys, water quality, and hydroacoustic measurements of bottom hardness and biovolume. Our TIS strike team will be deployed to conduct EDRR surveys of Tier 1 and 2 species, and will support partner-submitted programs focused on removal and survey of IS at high priority locations.

Watercraft Steward Program – Currently recruiting for 20+ stewards regionally, with a Memorial Day weekend start date.

Two GLRI Awards – We were awarded two individual GLRI awards for IS work between 2023-2025. The CWMA award will fund aquatic surveys on 87 ponds within the Finger Lakes National Forest, and the development of a citizen-based monitoring program to continue monitoring those ponds in future years. The Forest Restoration award will fund HWA treatment in four State Park Properties in Schuyler, Tompkins, and Cayuga Counties.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Survey – Wrapped up public events and data collection for regional HWA survey citizen science program. 227 volunteers were trained over the course of 15 events. 80 observations were submitted with 32 confirmed HWA observations.

Citizen Science Programs– We are currently recruiting volunteers for two citizen science programs focused on collecting IS observation data in under-reported areas throughout the region. The Macrophyte Survey Program focuses on rake toss surveys on the Finger Lakes and other regional waterbodies, and the Trail Survey Program focuses on volunteers ‘adopting’ a trail and surveying for a number of species.

Western New York WNY PRISM: (Andrea Locke)

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Hunters – WNY PRISM’s Community Science efforts centered on our HWA Hunters program. Three trainings were held in January and February and volunteers were given a list 40 prioritized survey areas from which to select for their surveys.

- 45 new volunteers were trained and 15 actively surveyed for HWA.
- Volunteers submitted 190 reports.
- 27 sites were surveyed and only 1 new infestation was found.

Priority Lists – WNY PRISM staff and the Steering Committee conducted a comprehensive review of our priority species lists including the approaching region, early detection and data gap lists, and released the updated lists in January – available on our website!

- Spotted lanternfly and goatsrue were moved from the approaching region list to the early detection list as both were confirmed within the region last year. Red swamp crayfish was also added to the early detection list.
- Northern snakehead and silver and bighead carp were removed from the approaching region list and hardy kiwi, parrot feather, primrose-willow, and kudzu were added.
- Data gap species include HWA, TOH, callery pear, lesser celandine and burning bush.

Seasonal Staff - WNY PRISM has hired 24 seasonal staff members this year including 3 Invasive Species Management Assistants, 2 Survey and Monitoring Technicians, 1 Education and Outreach Assistant, 2 Lead Stewards and 16 Boat Stewards.

Crew Assistance Program – WNY PRISM received 18 applications from 14 unique partners in 2023. Project proposals included general invasive species inventories, HWA surveys, early detection priority species removal and several removal projects involving Tier 3 and Tier 4 species such as knotweed, giant hogweed and wild parsnip.

Released 2022 Annual Report and 2023 Annual Work Plan – available on our website!

Long Island Invasive Species Management Area LIISMA (Bill Jacobs)

- LIISMA completed its 2023 annual action plan, a summary of which will be on our website soon. LIISMA has commenced this season's EDRR work, confirming observations of orange candleflower (formerly known as Italian arum), Juliana's barberry, and slender leafy spurge. LIISMA has reached out to landowners about having these infestations controlled, whenever possible.
- LIISMA continues to survey for small, manageable infestations of phragmites that threaten high priority waterbodies. LIISMA has plans and permits in place for the manual control of phragmites at several sites using spading and underwater cutting.
- LIISMA has reached out to about 40 schools for this year's poster contest with the theme of invasive species prevention. Posters are due May 19th. LIISMA is participating in a variety of tabling events and workshops, and is assisting partner agencies with the training of seasonal staff.
- LIISMA's upcoming hybrid (zoom and in-person) partners meeting and workshop will be held on May 26.

Lower Hudson LH-PRISM (Brent Boscarino)

Contract Update: The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference entered into a new 5-year contract with NYS DEC to administer the Lower Hudson PRISM. This new contract is now fully executed and the 2023 Action Plan has been approved.

Spotted Lanternfly Update: LH PRISM staff, partners, volunteers and collaborators will use a multi-faceted approach to SLF management this season. This work includes community science surveys near popular trailheads and transportation centers, vacuum treatment/removal at infestation sites, chemical treatment, early detection trapping and monitoring, and conservation dog surveying. This work is among other SLF management and education/outreach initiatives done in collaboration with NYS DEC and Department of Agriculture and Markets.

LH PRISM Subcontract Focuses: Subcontract projects have been selected and approved for 2023 following an RFP process. This year's subcontract work will focus on/support beech leaf disease mitigation and restoration in Westchester County, invasive species management internships that support community members underrepresented in

the environmental field, water chestnut removals and aquatic surveys, and the development and implementation of a new early detection survey protocol in forest preserves.

New Rare-Invasives Intersection Mapping Tool: LH PRISM is excited to leverage a new rare species-Invasive species intersection mapping tool to help inform management decisions in 2023 and beyond. The development of this tool was born out of conversations with PRISM leaders and agency collaborators, led by the New York Natural Heritage Program and will help those with access to this protected data to develop smarter and more targeted management approaches to invasive species in areas of overlap with rare species.

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario SLELO PRISM (Rob Williams)

6,000 Native Plants to be Situated In 2022, SLELO PRISM began suppression and ecological restoration efforts on riparian areas along sections of South Sandy Creek. These riparian corridors represent important **micro-climates** that support wildlife range shifts during climate change. Combined approximately 3.24 total acres of knotweed, phragmites and goutweed are being suppressed. Re-seeding with 25 native species began in 2022 with 6,000+ additional plantings scheduled for 2023.

Early Detection and Highly Probable Areas

Team SLELO is gearing up for another round of early detection searches for Tier 1 and Tier 2 species. Hundreds of Highly Probable Areas (HPAs) will be searched within multiple Priority Conservation Areas or (PCA's). This approach allows our team to prioritize and focus on sensitive areas and to inform our rapid response efforts. Over 233 HPAs were searched in 2022.

A Focus on Connectivity and Climate

Using land and water connectivity resources developed by The Nature Conservancy, partners of the SLELO PRISM are looking for ways to better incorporate our invasive work into a more meaningful approach to conservation. By focusing (*some*) of our invasives management and restoration work on these connected systems (namely forests and freshwater) we can, for example, better support wildlife needs as they undergo range-shifts resulting from a changing climate. Reducing invasive species along these connected systems (corridors) and implementing ecological restoration creates healthier, more resilient native plant assemblages that support potentially stressed wildlife.

Thank you

Invasive Species Advisory Committee
Invasive Species Council

New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation

New York State Department of
Agriculture and Markets

**For supporting your statewide
PRISM Network**

