

Meeting Minutes

New York State joint I.S. Advisory Committee and I.S. Council
WebEx Conference Call October 1st, 2020 10:00 am 12:00 pm
Joint Meeting # 40

Recorded Link of the Meeting

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/plant-industry/invasive-species>

Agenda:

- Welcome & Introductions
- Announcements & Updates
- Review and Approve Minutes
- PRISM Update
- National Invasive Species Council
- Discussion
- Review Action Items and/or Recommendations
- Wrap Up

Tentative Next ISAC Meeting Dates:

-Wednesday, December 16th, 2020 10 am- 12 pm

ISAC Members Present: (quorum present)

Richard Powell, American Society of Landscape Architects, NY Upstate Chapter
Todd Forrest, Vice President for Horticulture, NY Botanical Garden
Dr. George Robinson, Biodiversity Research Institute
Carrie Brown-Lima, Director, Invasive Species Research Institute
John Bartow, Executive Director, Empire State Forest Products Association
Karl Schoeberl, Environmental Energy Alliance of New York
Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program
Renée St. Jacques, NY Farm Bureau
D.J. Evans, NY Natural Heritage Program
David White New York Sea Grant
Michael Mitchell, NYS Flower Industries Inc.
Hugh O. Canham, New York Forest Owners Association
Elizabeth Seme, Executive Director, NYS Turfgrass Association/ Council of Agricultural Organizations
Kristopher Williams, Capital Region PRISM Coordinator
Caitlin Stewart, Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Dr. Dylan Parry, SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
Rob Williams, Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy
Allen Gosser, CWB State Director USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (NY)

ISC Members Present (quorum not present)

Justin Perry, Bureau of ISEH, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Chris Logue, Director Plant Industry NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
*Leigh Walrath NYS Adirondack Park Agency in for Kathy Regan Natural Resource Planner NYS APA
*Mark Miller in for James Candiloro Director of the Environment, Health and Safety NYS Canal Corporation
Peter Dunleavy Office of the Environment NYS Department of Transportation
Elizabeth Novak Transportation Planning and Environmental Services NYS Thruway Authority

Present from Partner Organizations:

Josh Thiel, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Invasive Species Coordination Unit Chief
Dave Adams, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Invasive Species Coordination Unit Biologist

McGlynn, Catherine, NYS DEC AIS Coordinator, Bureau of Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health
Molly Hassett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Response & Coordinator ISCU
Thomas Allgaier, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Invasive Species Coordinator
Jennifer Dean, NYS Natural Heritage Program Invasive Species Biologist
Meg Wilkinson, NYS Natural Heritage Program
Tammara Van Ryn, APIPP PRISM Invasive Species Coordinator
John Thompson, CRISP PRISM Invasive Species Coordinator
Hilary Mosher, Finger Lakes PRISM Invasive Species Coordinator
Andrea Locke, Western NY PRISM Invasive Species Coordinator
Bill Jacobs, LIISMA Invasive Species Coordinator
Matthew Brincka, NYS OPRHP Invasive Species Biologist

Guests:

Lindsay Charlop, LIISMA Coordinator
Christine Colley, NYS DOT
Christopher Shiyam, NYS DOT
Shelly Tresspass, NYSTA
John Calahan, Hudson River Black River Program
Jessica Newbern, National Park Service
Heather Lorusso
Mazy Baronian
Meredith Taylor

Welcome:

- Renee St. Jacques welcomed everyone to the meeting reviewed the agenda with introductions.

Announcements and Updates:

- Hugh O. Canham, New York Forest Owners Association, remark was made to remove Black Locust to be removed from regulation and discussed the merits of taking such an action.
- Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program has stated the separation between the Lake Champlain Watershed and the south has reduced the number of viable choices from six to three possible feasible solutions.
- Dr. George Robinson, Biodiversity Research Institute, will eventually retire from the post and will need a replacement.
- No other announcements or updates.

Review and Approval of June 22nd, 2020 ISAC Minutes:

- Motion by: Meg Modley,
Second by: Rob Williams
All in Favor: *June 22nd 2020 Meeting Minutes of the Invasive Species Advisory Council - Approved.*

Invasive Species Council

- Four of Nine members present, quorum was not filled. ISC minutes for approval will be tabled to the next meeting. Justin Perry

PRISM Update:

Kristopher Williams of the Capital Region PRISM shared a PDF virtually highlighting PRISM work across the state and noted several activities from each PRISM.

ADK PRISM (Tammara Van Ryn)

- APIPP's 2020 early-detection and rapid-response teams surveyed approximately 2,200 sites this summer and found 750 former treatment sites that had no target plants present. Nearly 500 sites were treated, including 100 sites on private property through a new partnership with the former Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program.
- APIPP surveyed over 45 Adirondack lakes and ponds. No newly invaded waterbodies were found; 75% of all Adirondack waters remain free of aquatic invasive species. APIPP successfully continued its efforts to control Water Chestnut and European Frog-bit. 4
- APIPP offered ten diverse summer education programs geared to audiences as varied as families with young children to transportation professionals. Programs ranged from a regional summit on milfoil management, to jumping worms, to spread-prevention strategies for hikers and mountain bikers.
- APIPP, in partnership with NYSDEC and regional partners, is actively addressing the newly-found infestation of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid on Lake George. APIPP staff are aiding in control efforts, coordinating a regional early-detection survey project, and helping to lead a remote sensing pilot project.

SLELO's (Rob Williams)

- SLELO's Early Detection Team has discovered what seems to be a natural population of twin leaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), a 'threatened' plant in the region. According to Steve Young, Chief Botanist, New York Natural Heritage Program this is one of the northern most populations in the country. Team SLELO will be discussing ways to protect this find from Encroaching swallow-wort plants.
- A very successful release of the biological control known as *Hypena opulenta*, occurred in the SLELO region in July of this summer. Insect pupae were released at three locations in the Thousand Islands Region with successful adult emergence, substantial larvae development and nearly 100% defoliation of swallowwort within 4 weeks. SLELO PRISM collaborated with the NYS Invasive Species Research Institute, the Thousand Islands Land Trust, SUNY ESF, University of Rhode Island, The USDA Agricultural Research Service and local volunteers on this effort.
- SLELO's Watercraft Inspection and Survey Program (WISP) has resulted in 9,785 inspections this season reaching nearly 26,633 individuals. Over 955 'interceptions' of aquatic invasive species has occurred preventing their spread into and out of numerous waterbodies across North America.

Finger Lakes PRISM (Hilary Mosher)

- Finger Lakes Institute received a \$59,841 grant extension (through 6/21) by USDA NRCS to address giant hogweed in the Finger Lakes. Recent Educational training have included "Gypsy moth eggmass surveying for land/homeowners and professionals" in collaboration with the NYS DEC.
- Hydrilla- attached is one of the posters created by our marketing contractor to help spread the word about Hydrilla. A video was also produced and is available on the Fingerlakesinvasives.org website. <https://youtu.be/AAI7KyMxNSU>.
- The Hydrilla field crew has performed over 5500 rake tosses this season looking for Hydrilla and other high priority invasive species. As part of this project, we are surveying five lakes using

Biobase to determine lake hardness and biomass of plants

- Starry Stonewort Collaborative continues to host webinars and trainings. They have 50 people participating in the SSW sampling program, have thrown 360 rake tosses across 36 waterbodies in the US and Canada.
- This season the Finger Lakes PRISM and volunteers managed 4 sites for water chestnut. Nearly 24,000 pounds of water chestnut was removed across 11 days at one site. Watercraft steward inspection program has had 39,824 inspections and 10,027 records reported

Catskill PRISM (John Thompson)

- CRISP, coordinating with the Catskills Strike Team, has 47 sites under management. We removed 4,000 mile-a-minute stems across 7 sites. Eight sites were surveyed for giant hogweed and 192 hogweed stems were removed. Removals of Tier 2 species were performed over 4 acres. The Strike Team surveyed 822 acres of DEC Campgrounds, and other public sites, and performed control over 15 acres. Over 2 acres of restoration plantings were maintained.
- CRISP collaborated with partners to form the Woodstock Pollinator Pathway, a network that has now grown to 108 pollinator-friendly properties. The Pollinator Pathway has sponsored events throughout the summer and will be hosting Dr. Doug Tallamy to present “Nature’s Best Hope” October 7th.

Capital Region PRISM (Kristopher Williams)

- The Capital Region PRISM (CRP) has been investing a healthy amount of concerted efforts with early detection and rapid response projects. Surveys and removals are occurring in both realms of the aquatic and terrestrial fields. In addition to field surveys in priority conservation areas and priority water bodies the team has been monitoring and conducting post treatment actions at previous site locations. Over 20 priority conservation areas and priority waterbodies have been surveyed in the 2020 field season. The CRP has also been targeting outreach through different modalities with online webinars and in-person but socially distance field trainings. Outreach has included a range of programming from iMap Invasive introductory trainings to terrestrial woods walks with invasive plant identifications.
- The aquatics program has a working draft of prioritization protocol for surveying priority water bodies in the eleven-county region. The lake prioritization protocol will be refined and redeployed in the Spring of 2021. AIS removal projects have included Water Chestnut and European Frogbit.
- The watercraft inspection program has compiled a few unofficial metrics for the end of the 2020 season. Over 13,000 surveys were completed educating 26,500 individuals in those surveys. A total of 380 AIS were intercepted during those inspections. The top three AIS intercepted: Eurasian watermilfoil (171), Water chestnut (121), and Zebra mussel (45).
- The PRISM has recently collaborated with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in conducting delimitation surveys for HWA in the Lake George Area. The CRP team will continue to assist the APIPP and Lake George Land Conservancy in future surveys and outreach.
- Post-treatment monitoring and removals have been prioritized. Second year treatments such as Japanese Stiltgrass, Wineberry, Japanese Hops, and Black Swallow-wort were executed. Previously treated sites have seen a significant reduction in re-growth. One new Giant Hogweed site was identified in in July. The infestation was identified along the New York State Thruway by a PRISM partner. NYSTA maintainer vehicles were prevented from spreading seeds and were a critical in assisting with treatment. The infestation was found on three adjacent properties in which 400 stems/stalks where removed.

Western NY PRISM (Andrea Locke)

- WNY PRISM's Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program ran the full season, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The season was very successful with 21,661 inspections, an increase of 5,830 from the previous year. In addition we had 53,257 non-inspection based interactions with the public, an increase of 13,920, and 1,307 interceptions.
- WNY PRISM surveyed over 43 sites and 64 miles of trail for terrestrial early detection species, primarily slender false brome and Japanese stiltgrass. Slender false brome was found along a new section of the Groveland Secondary Trail and WNY PRISM's team worked with DEC to survey and treat this infestation. Seven new Japanese stiltgrass sites were found along Cazenovia Creek and Eighteen Mile Creek, which had been prioritized for surveys based on our habitat suitability model. Early detection species removal efforts continued with treatment of slender false brome at established sites.
- Site monitoring for water hyacinth and water lettuce revealed the re-emergence of water hyacinth at a site that has not had plants in three years – the half dozen plants were removed. Water lettuce was reported at Hyde Park Lake in Niagara County. WNY PRISM confirmed this infestation, completed a survey of the lake and removed over 300 plants.

Long Island PRISM (Bill Jacobs)

- Surveyed emerging invasive species using reports from iMapInvasives, iNaturalist, and other sources, including hardy kiwi (*Actinidia arguta*), plume poppy (*Macleaya cordata*), five-leaf aralia (*Eleutherococcus sieboldianus*), arthraxon (*Arthraxon hispidus*), rock sea-lavender (*Limonium binervosum*), Beale's barberry (*Mahonia bealei*), and southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*).
- Developed management recommendations for arthraxon control at the Montauk Invasive Species (IS) Management Complex.
- Monitored and/or managed high-priority invasive species and sites, including bark and ambrosia beetles at Edgewood Oak Brush Plains; perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*); water chestnut (*Trapa natans*); swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum* spp.), floating water primrose (*Ludwigia peploides*), and glossy buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) in the Central Pine Barrens IS Management Complex; and phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) and other invasive plants at coastal plain ponds in the Central Pine Barrens and Long Pond Greenbelt (ISPZs and IS Management Complex).
- Mapped invasive species at Sayville National Wildlife Refuge (Sayville Grassland) and Quogue Wildlife Refuge.

Lower Hudson PRISM (Linda Rohleder)

- LHPRISM's social media outreach and volunteer training and engagement activities have seen banner years this year. We had 3 times as many volunteers attend workshops as in any previous year of the program. We had a larger number of volunteers take assignments, and currently nearly 70% have completed their surveys resulting in over 230 miles of trail surveyed. Posted 37 posts on Facebook and 61 on Instagram leading to more engagement and followers. Our AIS crew was featured in 2 live Facebook sessions with combined 22,000 views.
- Even though the field season started late this year, LHPRISM's team was very productive treating nearly 160 acres of mostly Tier 2 invasive species. Treated ED/RR sites of cut-leaf blackberry and pale swallowwort. Visited all of our giant hogweed sites and found only 2 plants in flower.

Enhanced scouting of slender false brome sites revealed extensive infestations upstream totaling over 30 acres. Monitoring Beech leaf disease in the region.

- LHPRISM's aquatic team conducted 37 surveys for invasive plants, zooplankton and shelled invertebrates in more than 2,600 acres adding 1,800 invasive species observations. ED/RR observations of European frogbit, Eurasian watermilfoil, eastern mosquitofish and Brazilian elodia were recorded. Removed 91,000 water chestnut plants from 12 sites, 106 pounds of Eurasian watermilfoil and one infestation of water hyacinth. Inspected over 500 boats and educated over 800 boaters.
- New York – New Jersey Trail Conference's Conservation Dog team searched for spotted lanternfly, oak wilt, scotch broom, slender false brome, and sticky sage. They will also be working on a study with Cornell University, NYS DEC, NYS DAM, and Working Dogs for Conservation to study spotted lanternfly search efficacy in vineyards. LHPRISM partners have collectively completed more than 40% of planned tasks from the 2020 action plan.

Presentation:

Carrie Brown-Lima the Director of NYSISRI presented the programs' "Survey Results from Research Priorities Identified by NYS IS Network"

The full report can be found here: http://www.nyisri.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2019-NYSISRI-Annual-Report_Final-Reduced.pdf Audrey Bowe, Sam Talbot, and Carrie Brown-Lima.

- Please note the excerpt of the report from Carrie's presentation.

Identifying Research Priorities Understanding the needs of invasive species managers is a critical requirement to establishing programs that meet these needs. Thus, an important and unique role that the New York Invasive Species Research Institute plays is that of collecting research needs from state partners. In previous years, our call for research priorities took the form of conversations at meetings as well as administering an annual survey to PRISM leaders and DEC staff. While many ideas collected through these avenues were helpful and drove a large portion of the work that we have pursued throughout the years, various drawbacks and limitations led us to seek out alternative methods. In 2019, we engaged in a new approach known as Group Concept Mapping (GCM) with the hope of: 1) reaching a broader and more diverse audience in our call for research needs, 2) increasing transparency and standardization of the research needs solicitation process, and 3) introducing the opportunity for individuals to not only suggest ideas, but also give feedback as far as the importance and feasibility of these ideas. From November to December, we invited a diverse group of stakeholders, including: members of the PRISM list-serves, NYISRI Advisory Board, New York Invasive Species Council, New York Invasive Species Research Institute Advisory Board, New York Department of Conservation Invasive Species Coordination Unit, iMapInvasives, and other key partners to participate in our 3-step process of 1) brainstorming, 2) sorting, and 3) rating research-related needs for New York State.
- The results of the work yielded some great results between research tenants that are feasible and important form the invited stakeholders. In general understanding climate influences on invasive species inductions and interactions and developing metrics and tools for understanding invasive species management practices. Carrie showed some of the other top ten results.
- Results from the group concept mapping project will be distributed and shared with researchers.
- Other: Carrie reviewed the NYSISRI Annual Report. Funding was received for Identification of vulnerable ecosystems and detection dogs for SLF identification. A JUMPING Worm Outreach Research Management (JWORM) will be putting together their results and findings in report/webinars.

Questions: Meg Modley Would lie to see more emphasis on Aquatic Invasive Species Research
Rob Williams Would like to see research on carbon released and sequestered by IS

Rob Williams and Thomas Allgaier presented on the possibility of a pilot Weed Free Aggregate Initiative

program.

- Standards for the program North American Invasive Species Management Association Weed Free Forage & Gravel Program <https://naisma.org/programs/weed-free-standards/>
- Gravel, Mulch, Forage, Hay are know sources for induction of invasive species. The idea of the program is to work with aggregate distributors to adopt and utilize protocol to provide weed free materials through a certification process with known standard practices. The current pilot program is under review in a grant application and waiting approval.
- Caitlin Stewart a regional representative for soil and water conservation districts stated that there are 14 districts tentatively signed up to participate in the program.

Question from Peter Dunleavy “Can topsoil be considered in the program and suppliers?”

Partner Updates

iMAP Invasive Annual Metrics in Brief Meg Wilkinson, NYS Natural Heritage Program

- Species
 - HWA report – Lake George infestation was an iMap email alert
 - SLF reports with DEC & A&M in iMap is set to confidential
 - iNaturalist data, imported regularly
- Available Apps
 - iMap Mobile / iMap Mobile Advanced (“iMMA”) / Simple Aquatic Survey (“SAS-Pro”)
 - NatureServe iMap Survey123 (“NS-iMap”) **Reminder: Upload data by October 30th**
- Other
 - Wednesday Webinar Series is up and running. The Species Tier List work with PRISM and State will be advancing in a workgroup along with an Aquatic Prioritization working group. Pesticide Applicator Report in iMAP is being piloted. The 2020 User Feedback meeting(s) will occur October 21st and 22nd. The web page will be updated soon. <https://www.nyimapinvasives.org/>

Metrics Shared

iMap Presence Data

Data Entry Method	Confirmed	Unconfirmed	TOTALs
Online	1,707	3,921	5,628
Mobile App	1,886	7,142	9,028
Bulk Upload	4,260	52	4,312
iMap Survey 123	0	47	47
Totals	7,853	11,162	19,015

WISPA

TOTAL records	341,370
“Organisms” Detected <small>Organism = native, invasive, debris, etc.</small>	37,448
“Interceptions”	18,856
Inspections, <i>launching</i>	211,579
Inspections, <i>retrieving</i>	127,090
Inspections, <i>roadside</i>	2,701

Most encountered invasive species (11,253): Eurasian watermilfoil

Types of watercraft inspected:

- motorboats (65%)
- kayaks (20%)
- personal watercraft (9.7%)

Question Rob Williams: Can a metric for hand harvesting totals across the state be developed?

From Carrie and NYSISRI

Cornell Inservice Conference November 4-6, 2020

- <https://aginservice.cce.cornell.edu/>

NAISMA Conference October 6-8th Biocontrol Summit October 28th

- <https://naisma.org/conferences/>

Agency Updates

Justin Perry NYS DEC ISEH

- HWA treatment in Lake George October 5th
- Thank you to all of the agencies participating in the collaborative effort.

Chris Logue, Director Plant Industry NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

- Strong Spotted Lantern Fly Survey Efforts with recent infestations and associated stakeholders
- Locations in Staten Island, Some Burroughs of NYS, Lower Hudson
- Delineation surveys still being established
- Moving forward Treatment and Management Plan

Leigh Walrath NYS Adirondack Park Agency

- Amended permit for use of pesticides near waterbodies relating to the treatment of HWA in Lake George.

James Candiloro Director of the Environment, Health and Safety NYS Canal Corporation

- Reports increased of AIS in the Mohawk with the water fluctuations
Will train Canal Corp staff on IS identification?
- Earthen Embankment Program and Inclusion of IS

Matthew Brincka, NYS OPRHP Invasive Species Biologist

- Regional Invasive Species Technicians and teams are working well and better able to respond to IS.
- Interested in using weed free aggregate vendors

Peter Dunleavy NYS DOT "Concerned with providing clean materials in construction sites.

McGlynn, Catherine, NYS DEC AIS Coordinator, Bureau of Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health

- Reintroduction of Hydrilla at previously known sites. Croton retreatment
- 2 Intercepts one in Lake George.
- Research on EDNA and Hydrilla detections with distance
- June 25th to July 5th Great Lakes Collaborative Outreach

Public Comments

- NONE

Action Items and/or Recommendations

- NONE

Next Meeting

- **ISAC- Wednesday October 16th, 2020 10 am-12 pm, format to be announced by Renee St. Jacques**

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn meeting by Rob Williams Second by Caitlan Steward

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm Respectfully Submitted,

Kristopher Williams, Secretary