

Meeting Minutes

New York Invasive Species Advisory Committee

Zoom Conference Call June 22nd, 2020 10:00 am 12:00 noon

Recorded Link of the Meeting

- https://cornell.zoom.us/rec/share/5fNqLrrV-2xIa9bk-hn5AqgBMYHeaaa80SEc-6EMzQ32_HskLQejkmO_rFhdfhw?startTime=1592834035000

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 Meeting Dates:

-Thursday, October 1st

-Wednesday, December 16th

ISAC Members Present: (quorum present)

Renee St. Jacques, NY Farm Bureau
Carrie Brown-Lima, Director Invasive Species Research Institute
Rob Williams, The Nature Conservancy
Kristopher Williams, Capital Region PRISM Coordinator
Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program
Jesse Lepak, New York Sea Grant
George Robinson, Biodiversity Research Institute
Richard Powell, NY Assoc. Of Landscape Architects
D.J. Evans, NY Natural Heritage Program
Michael Mitchell, NYS Flower Industries Inc.
Karl Schoeberl, Environmental Energy Alliance of NY
Caitlin Stewart, Soil and Water Conservation Districts
John Bartow, Executive Director Empire State Forest Products Association
Hugh O. Canham New York Forest Owners Association
Elizabeth Seme, Executive Director New York State Turfgrass Association
Allen Gosser, CWB State Director USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (NY)

Present from Partner Organizations:

Dave Adams, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Justin Perry, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Molly Hassett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Thomas Allgaier, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
Jennifer Dean, NYS Natural Heritage Program
Kristopher Abel, Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council

Guests:

Stanley Burgiel, Executive Director National Invasive Species Council
Jeff Morissette, Chief Scientist National Invasive Species Council

Welcome:

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

Announcements and Updates:

- Molly Hassett, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation gave an update on the 7th Annual Invasive Species Awareness Week. New York State and the eight PRISM with partners held mostly virtual events that were fewer in number but observed more participants. Results from ISAW are still being collected and summarized.
- Beth Seme NYS Turfgrass Association noted that the agency would be posting Pesticide Recertification Credits for Licenses through an online/webinar format. The final product may be delivered in an online store in which participants can select course work. Notifications of when the recertification classes are ready, will be posted in the future.
- No other announcements or updates.

Review and Approval of March 11, 2020 ISAC Minutes:

- One remark, made in error, was deleted as requested by Karl Schoeberl, Environmental Energy Alliance of NY

Motion by: Caitlin Stewart, Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Second by: Michael Mitchell, NYS Flower Industries Inc.

All in Favor: *March 11th 2020 Meeting Minutes of the Invasive Species Advisory Council - Approved.*

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 is now fully staffed headed by the new manager, Tammara Van Ryn. She has assembled a team comprised of a new education and communications coordinator, Emily-Bell Dinan, a new terrestrial invasive species project coordinator, Becca Bernacki. Erin Vennie-Vollrath recently celebrated six years as the aquatic invasives species project coordinator. APIPP four-person early detection and rapid response crew for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species are now up and running. The annual DEC Campground and priority trails invasive species technician is conducting early detection and rapid response activities.

SLELO's rapid response team has successfully controlled 394 giant hogweed plants at 21 individual sites protecting human health. A potential 65% eradication rate is being considered after three years of no germination. SLELO representatives are collaborating with the NYS Invasive Species Research Institute, SUNY ESF and USDA to release *Hypena opulenta* as a swallow-wort biological control next month. Watercraft Inspection and Survey Program stewards are on-site at priority boat launches across the SLELO region. To date 1,975 inspections with 403 AIS interceptions.

Finger Lakes PRISM currently have two field crew members working to control giant hogweed working out of Syracuse and Avon region. The Finger Lakes PRISM is also piloting a terrestrial trail survey (24 people) program, and is in the fourth year of a AIS macrophyte survey (43 people). Both programs were launched during NYISAW. During ISAW the Finger lakes PRISM held 21 events across the region! The FLP also launched a series of Lake Fact Sheets containing useful facts and invasive species outreach for all the Finger Lakes.

Catskill PRISM surveyed over 90 acres for Lesser Celandine, a Tier 2 Early Detection Species, and mapped over 4 acres of Lesser Celandine. The Catskills Strike Team is removing giant hogweed and mile-a-minute and is treating Japanese barberry, oriental bittersweet and Japanese knotweed at 14 sites including 8 DEC Campgrounds. In addition the CRISP PRISM produced a PlayCleanGo video for ISAW reaching 2,700 views.

The Capital Region PRISM has recently collaborated on a survey project for early detection with the NYS Office of Park Recreation and Historic Preservation. The 880 acre parcel will eventually be converted into butterfly habitat and provide recreational access to the public. The parcel will be added to Moreau Lake State Park and is part of our Invasive Species Prevention Zone (ISPZ). The PRISM is collaborating with the Wilton Wildlife Preserve to delineate Hemlock Stands for a citizen scientist monitoring project of HWA. We are also identifying infestations for future management within the preserve. A lesser celandine removal project has been initiated with Albany County Office of Natural Resource Conservation at Ann Lee Pond one of our priority conservation areas. The PRISM hosted two virtual field trip webinars showcasing invasive species in local parks and preserves for NYS ISAW. The Watercraft Inspection Steward Program is underway with 22 active locations hosted by 20 boat inspection stewards an estimated 5000 surveys as of July 19th 2020.

Western NY PRISM hired 25 summer staff members including 18 Boat Stewards, 3 Invasive Species Management Assistants, 2 Survey and Monitoring Technicians, 1 GIS Technician and 1 Education and Outreach Assistant. The WNY PRISM Field Crew has completed invasive species surveys and removal projects. Over the past couple weeks, the Crew has completed slender false brome removal at Genesee County Park and Forest and buckthorn removal at Fredonia's College Lodge. Slender false brome removal is underway at Letchworth State Park. The Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program has conducted 4,673 inspections. WNY PRISM is currently staffing 19 launches. WNY PRISM's Spring Partner Meeting was held online and had 42 participants. Presentations included early detection management updates and WNY PRISM's new early detection site assessment data collection protocol.

Long Island PRISM is continuing to develop an enhanced prioritization planning framework focused on early detection and rapid response (EDRR) of emerging species at management sites within invasive species prevention zones (ISPZs).

Lower Hudson PRISM has recently trained and onboarded seasonal trail crew staff and is in week one of deploying new hires. A few upcoming events: June 24, 2020 New York Statewide Invasive Species Speaker Series: Addressing Invasives in British Columbia—Successes & Challenges. June 27, 2020 Invasive Strike Force Standard Surveyor Training Workshop Webinar

Presentation:

Status of National Invasive Species Council (NISC)

Stanley Burgiel, Executive Director and Jeff Morissette, Chief Scientist

In 2019-2020 the NISC was disbanded and gave a report on how the National Invasive Species Council is currently operating.

Overall, the NISC;

Stanley Burgiel Operations and Management

- Streamlined Capacity and Staffing
 - Now working out of a 3-year management plan with a one-year (annual) work plan.
More flexible and nimble in taking on initiatives.
The three-year work plan had holdover in later years
- Coordinating with other Interagency Committees. (Stakeholder engagement strategies)
 - Large potential for coordinating across federal and state agencies.
- Protecting what matters.
 - Reduction in priorities down from 30 to 6 core objectives
 - Drafting priority activities for 2021

Jeff Morisette Science and Priority Deliverables

- Connecting science to action between the science, policy, and management.
- Focus on special issues as delivered in research and technology portfolio
- Identified Thematic Priority Activities
- Rapid Response / eDNA / Advance Biotechnology Applications / Wildfire Restoration / Budget Inventories on a National Scale

Discussion Followed with Question and Answers

- Will emergency funding be available for local and/or state governments?
-Rather bleak and vague answer was given
- How do state and regional priorities get to discussions at the federal level?
-Sharing of annual reports from the local and state level to the committee (NYSIRI New York State Invasive Species Research Institute) (Northeast RISCC Management: Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change)
- Can the (Pimental et al. 2005) paper on invasive species cost in the United States be updated?
-Noted that such a task would be beneficial

Action Items and/or Recommendations

- *Follow up with eDNA at the state level and bring to the national level with contacts in the NISC.*
- *Share the New York Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan with the National Invasive Species Council. Additionally, share the ISAC Annual Report and Work Plan with NISC annually.*
- *Share National Invasive Species Advisory Committee white paper on strengthening federal-state coordination with ISAC.*

Next Meeting

- Thursday, October 1st 2020 location and format to be announced by Renee St. Jacques
(Talking points and action items from NISC Presentation)

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm Respectfully Submitted,
Kristopher Williams, Secretary