



Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)

518.576.2082 x 131 . PO Box 65 . Keene Valley . New York . 12943 . www.adkinvasives.com

Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) 2012 Staff Work Plan *January 2012*

The PRISM Staff Work Plan reflects ongoing activities and special annual projects in which PRISM staff and partners are involved. Though prepared at the onset of the calendar year, the document is adaptive based on the needs in the PRISM throughout the course of the year.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Strategy: Maximize organizational effectiveness, program management, and resources available. This includes broadening APIPP's scope beyond invasive plants to also address aquatic invasive species, terrestrial invaders, and pests and pathogens, and to fulfill its obligations as a state-funded Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM).

General Actions

- Pursue APIPP contract extension and renewal.
- Formalize and engage new principal partner involvement in the Adirondack PRISM.
- Coordinate the development and implementation of the Adirondack PRISM Invasive Species Strategic Plan. Identify strategies and resource needs for a comprehensive region-wide invasive species program (coordination, boat launch stewardship, response teams, invasive species prevention zones, etc.).
- Manage funding for priority prevention and management projects; keep informed about and leverage other funding opportunities.
- Evaluate various committee / coordinating responsibilities and structure.
- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and terrestrial working group meetings and ANS Committee meetings as needed.
- Distribute 2011 Annual Report and 2012 Work Plan.
- Recruit, interview, hire, train and supervise APIPP Education and Outreach Intern.

Aquatic Actions

- Organize electronic and hard data files on all aquatic projects; contribute data to iMap, and Adirondack Regional GIS.
- Develop TNC Safety Plans for aquatic sampling and diving.

Terrestrial Actions

- Organize electronic and hard data files on all terrestrial projects; contribute data to iMap and Adirondack Regional GIS.
- Develop TNC Safety Plan for herbicide use.

II. PRIORITIZATION

Strategy: Prioritize species and sites to focus prevention and management actions.

General Actions

- Maintain current invasive species distribution maps for the region.
- Utilize the Invasive Plant Management Decision Analysis Tool for management projects.
- Continue to work with partners to review criteria and identify Invasive Species Prevention Zones (ISPZ).

Aquatic Actions

- Use GIS to create maps that help prioritize aquatic prevention sites.
- Complete regional assessments for 8 aquatic invasive plant species using the NYS Invasive Plant Ranking Form, http://nyis.info/Resources/IS_Risk_Assessment.aspx.

Terrestrial Actions

- Using GIS, create terrestrial invasive species distribution maps, site specific spread/die back trend maps, and spread potential models.
- Complete the invasive plant management action summary chart.
- Complete regional assessments for 10 terrestrial invasive plant species using the NYS Invasive Plant Ranking Form, http://nyis.info/Resources/IS_Risk_Assessment.aspx.

III. SPREAD PREVENTION AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Strategy: Identify and promote breakthrough approaches for spread prevention and best management practices (BMPs).

General Actions

- Provide guidance as requested on invasive species prevention practices/policies.
- Identify prevention plans for primary invasive species pathways in the region.
- Collaborate with CCE and partners to work with communities to prepare community preparedness plans for IS, specifically Emerald Ash Borer, for local towns and villages.
- Assess risk of invasive species spread during Hurricane Irene and provide recommendations for response.
- Complete Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plans (HACCP plans) for field work and encourage other partners to develop plans.
- Collaborate with industry on best practices.

Aquatic Actions

- Implement year 6 of handharvesting European frog-bit from the Grasse River.
- Work with partners to analyze feasibility of advancing boat launch stewardship program statewide.
- Assist Raquette Lake as needed with the I-LIDS monitoring system. Assess effectiveness and challenges.
- Assist communities with implementation of spread prevention plans for spiny waterflea and other aquatic invasive small-bodied organisms.
- Develop spread prevention protocol for 90-Miler canoe race.

Terrestrial Actions

- Review latest research to stay informed about current best management practices for priority species and update APIPP's terrestrial best management practices guidelines.
- Implement BMP's on priority sites and track progress using GIS-based Weed Information Management System.
- In collaboration with DOT and interested partners, develop outreach and training strategy to local and/or state highway departments.
- Implement post-treatment long-term monitoring protocols developed in 2011 for priority sites receiving treatment.

IV. EARLY DETECTION AND RESPONSE

Strategy: Formalize a PRISM-wide Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) network for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

General Actions

- In cooperation with APIPP team and iMap staff, develop plan to utilize volunteers in ED surveys in summer 2012. Host and participate in training sessions.
- Work with partners to roll-out Year 2 of aquatic response team and terrestrial response team.
- Collaborate with PRISM Leaders on developing standardized process for PRISM level EDRR. Utilize the APIPP PRISM Early Detection Species Check-List to track reports of new species to the region (template prepared by Steve Young). Consider how climate change may affect ED species.
- Complete management plan and conduct EDRR for Five Ponds Wilderness Area ISPZ.

Aquatic Actions

- Continue coordination of the Aquatic Plant Volunteer monitoring program and update training materials as necessary. Organize at least three aquatic invasive plant trainings summer 2012.
- Develop aquatic invasive species animal training program and begin to establish baseline distribution data.
- Collaborate with partners to implement spiny waterflea monitoring protocol in 2012.
- Assist Lake George Asian Clam Rapid Response Task Force.
- Track existing priority eradication projects including Grasse River, Follensby Clear Pond, Paradox Lake, Lake Placid, Fulton Chain of Lakes and Lake George.

Terrestrial Actions

- Train and supervise the Terrestrial Invasive Species Response Team and Student Conservation Association team members.
- Conduct ED surveys and mapping for priority terrestrial invasive plant species in priority areas.
- Monitor previous year's management sites for signs of regrowth in order to address any needs for further management efforts.
- Continue eradication efforts of black swallow-wort infestations along Boquet River in Elizabethtown, along the shores of Lake Champlain, and at the Ticonderoga Paper Mill in

Essex County; yellow iris located within natural areas; giant hogweed populations in the Adirondacks; new, small, isolated infestations of common reed, purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, and Japanese knotweed affecting natural areas.

- Collaborate with partners to release biological controls for large purple loosestrife infestations.
- Orchestrate, submit, and supervise all necessary site workplans and AANR permits for management actions on forest preserve, APA wetland permits, and DOT highway work permits.
- Facilitate elevated forest pest surveillance among partners and landowners. As needed, assist DEC, Ag&Mkts, and USDA with early detection surveillance for emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle, or other priority forest pests.
- As needed, assist DEC, Ag&Mkts, and USDA with early detection surveillance for feral swine.

V. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Strategy: Increase public understanding of the importance of reducing the introduction, spread, and impact of invasive species, and recommend appropriate regional actions.

General Actions

- Develop workplan for 2012 APIPP Education and Outreach summer internship.
- Develop communications strategy. Scope costs of an awareness campaign.
- Work with partners to scope out the process of conducting an IS economic impact analysis for the Adirondack region.
- Collaborate with partners to determine whether to host a 2nd Adirondack Forum on Invasive Species, or similar conference/workshop.
- Offer training in special topic of interest for partners.
- Secure funding to mail a prevention postcard to every year-round landowner in the park and to print the brochure, “Invasive Animals of the Adirondacks”.
- Facilitate the coordination of Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Update APIPP’s comprehensive invasive species PowerPoint presentation.
- Collaborate with partner groups involved in Adirondack Outdoors to submit articles to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise’s outdoor publication “Embark” and Adirondack Almanac.
- Submit bi-weekly invasive species columns during the field season to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and Adirondack Express.
- Utilize the media to feature invasive species success stories.
- Distribute brochures: Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Invasive Plants of the Adirondacks. Distribute poster: “You can make a difference, help stop the spread of invasive species.”
- Distribute two newsletters.
- Upgrade website, and maintain the PRISM list-serve and blog.

- Develop a plan to initiate a “Participating Businesses Program” for the Adirondacks, similar to the one in Lake George but including both aquatic and terrestrial relevant businesses.
- Respond to inquiries from partners or the general public about invasive species identification and/or management practices.

Aquatic Actions

- Attend environmental education activities and programs as they are scheduled throughout the region, eg. Waterfest.
- Participate in Paul Smith’s Adirondack Watershed Institute Trainings: Lake and Volunteer Stewards.
- Collaborate with leaders of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail to create paddler specific AIS signage along route.
- Continue to collaborate with DEC to ensure that signage at boat launches that designates infected waters in the Adirondacks is current, including those waters with variable-leaf milfoil.

Terrestrial Actions

- Offer at least one formal training session to the general public and volunteers on terrestrial invasive species identification and/or best management practices. Train volunteers throughout the course of the field season in terrestrial invasive species identification and best management practices.
- In collaboration with state partners, assist education and outreach efforts for giant hogweed and feral swine.
- As requested/needed, offer presentations or trainings to interested groups.
- Contact the Adirondack Mountain Club to align opportunities to train field crews.
- Distribute invasive plant notice door-hangers to private landowners.
- As requested/needed, identify opportunities for volunteer groups to assist in inventory and management projects.
- Collaborate with the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club on education and outreach opportunities.

VI. PARTNER SUPPORT

Strategy: Ensure that partners receive adequate resources to implement priority actions.

General Actions

- Identify possible funding sources or facilitate the development of grant proposals to fund priority projects.
- Sustain momentum to establish eight PRISMs across NY with base funding support.
- Contribute updated information to Unit Management Plans and submit UMP amendments as needed.
- Collaborate with Department of State, Wildlife Conservation Society, municipalities and local groups to identify ways to integrate invasive species initiatives into local watershed revitalization planning efforts, etc.

- Collaborate with other PRISMs and participate in monthly NYS IS Conference Calls and quarterly PRISM leader calls.
- Serve as the PRISM representative on the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (Chair) and contribute information as requested/needed by the Invasive Species Council

Aquatic Actions

- Work with Paul Smith's College, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Lake George Association, and Ausable River Association and others to bolster the regional Adirondack Watershed Stewardship Program to staff summer stewards at water access sites.
- Continue serving as a resource for partner and community inquiries regarding aquatic invasive species.
- Attend partner meetings and provide comments/expertise as appropriate/able.
- Support spread prevention programs on the Champlain Canal as needed.

Terrestrial Actions

- Provide guidance and lend assistance to DEC's invasive species intern to manage terrestrial invasive species infestations at DEC campgrounds within the park & offer educational programs.
- Contact Brookfield Power staff and National Grid staff to identify opportunities for collaboration.
- Serve as technical and ed/outreach liaison for and lend support to community-based ED/RR efforts including but not limited to the following projects:
 - Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program (Doug Johnson)
 - Tupper Lake Garlic Mustard Eradication Project (Carol Richer)
 - Tupper Lake Purple Loosestrife Project (Raquette River Outfitters)
 - Elizabethtown Swallow-wort Control Project (Julie Martin)
 - Paul Smith's College Watershed Steward Project (Eric Holmlund)
 - Fish Hatchery Japanese Knotweed (Guy Middleton)
 - Moose River Plains Garlic Mustard (Jeff Corbin)
 - Roostercomb Barberry, Buckthorn and Honeysuckle Removal (Tony Goodwin)
 - Noblewood Invasive Plant Inventory and Action Plan

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

January 17-19	Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
Feb 26 –Mar 3	National Invasive Species Awareness Week
March 20-21	Adirondack Local Government Day
April 15-19	Northeast Natural History Conference
May 4-6	NYS Federation of Lakes Association Annual Conference
May 16-17	Adirondack Research Consortium Annual Conference
May 21-25	Watershed Stewardship Training – Paul Smiths
June 21	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – Bolton Landing
June 26	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – Paul Smiths
June 28	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – Inlet
July TBD	Aquatic Invasive Animal Volunteer Training - TBD
July 8-14	Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week
Sept. 6-9	Adirondack Canoe Classic – 90 Miler
Nov TBD	Cornell Cooperative Extension In-service Training Workshop

Other events and activities will be added throughout the season.

The APIPP full partnership meets in the spring and fall. The Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meets on average every other month or as needed.

Monthly PRISM Conference Calls, last Wednesday of every month, 11-12, email Leslie Surprenant [ljsurpre@gw.dec.state.ny.us] to be added to the notification list.
Summer hiatus during July and August.