



# Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)

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## **Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) 2013 Staff Work Plan**

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 addressing aquatic invasive species, terrestrial invaders, and pests and pathogens, and fulfilling obligations as a state-funded Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM).

#### **General Actions**

- Pursue APIPP contract extension and renewal.
- Finalize the Adirondack PRISM Invasive Species Strategic Plan.
- Manage funding for priority prevention and management projects; keep informed about and leverage other funding opportunities.
- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and bi-monthly Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meetings.
- Distribute 2012 Annual Report and 2013 Work Plan.
- Distribute two newsletters.
- Upgrade website, and maintain the PRISM list-serve and blog.
- Recruit, interview, hire, train and supervise APIPP Education and Outreach Intern.

#### **Aquatic Actions**

- Develop TNC Safety Plans for aquatic sampling and diving.

#### **Terrestrial Actions**

- 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).
- Identify members to comprise a team to review PRISM-level Non-Native Plant Invasiveness Ranking Forms completed by APIPP staff.
- Explore the possibility of forming a Scientific Advisory Committee.

### Aquatic Actions

- Use GIS to help prioritize sites to implement aquatic invasive species prevention measures.
- Complete regional assessments for 3 additional aquatic invasive plant species using the PRISM-level Non-Native Plant Invasiveness Ranking Form, [http://nyis.info/Resources/IS\\_Risk\\_Assessment.aspx](http://nyis.info/Resources/IS_Risk_Assessment.aspx).

### Terrestrial Actions

- Use GIS to 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 additional terrestrial invasive plant species using the using the PRISM-level Non-Native Plant Invasiveness Ranking Form, [http://nyis.info/Resources/IS\\_Risk\\_Assessment.aspx](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 to partners, citizens, local governments, agencies etc. on invasive species prevention practices/policies, as opportunities arise and as requested.
- Identify prevention plans for primary invasive species pathways in the region.
- Complete Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plans (HACCP plans) for field work and encourage other partners to develop plans.
- Collaborate with business / industry / corporate sector on best practices.
- 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.

### Aquatic Actions

- Collaborate with partners to develop a strategy for implementing a statewide boat launch stewardship program, including participating in the Advisory Group developing a NYS guide to conducting watercraft inspections.

- Collaborate with partners to develop a white paper describing the role of recreational watercraft decontamination and inspection in an integrated aquatic invasive species prevention strategy in the region.
- 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, Asian clam and other aquatic invasives.
- As requested, provide information to local governments regarding local transport laws.
- Participate in events where spread prevention measures can be employed, eg. 90-Miler Canoe Race.
- Implement year 7 of hand-harvesting European frog-bit from the Grasse River.
- Conduct literature review to better understand the causes of invasions in freshwater systems and integrated methods to minimize their impact.

### **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 and photo documentation.
- In collaboration with DOT and interested partners, develop outreach and training strategy to state and local highway departments.
- Implement post-treatment long-term monitoring protocols for priority sites receiving treatment.
- Participate in efforts to build a network of partners that will identify opportunities to promote forest pest issues and effective solutions, coordinate implementation, research and monitoring and transfer lessons learned.

## **IV. EARLY DETECTION AND RESPONSE**

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

### **General Actions**

- Contribute data to iMap and Adirondack Regional GIS Consortium.
- Host iMap training sessions and encourage its use in the region.
- Implement Year 3 of the aquatic response team and terrestrial response team.
- Utilize the APIPP PRISM Early Detection Species Check-List to track reports of new species to the region (template prepared by Steve Young, LIISMA).
- Collaborate with PRISM Leaders on developing standardized process for PRISM level EDRR.
- Consider how climate change may affect ED species.
- Implement EDRR for Five Ponds Wilderness Area ISPZ.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Coordinate the Aquatic Plant Volunteer monitoring program and update training materials as necessary. Organize at least three aquatic invasive plant identification and survey trainings.
- Offer at least one aquatic invasive animal identification and survey training and continue to establish baseline distribution data via new volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Collaborate with partners and volunteers to implement spiny waterflea and Asian clam volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Assist Lake George Asian Clam Rapid Response Task Force in planning and implementation, as needed.
- Identify priority waterbodies to survey utilizing GIS and other relevant resources.
- Collaborate with the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program for opportunities to incorporate AIS training and/or monitoring.
- 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, Student Conservation Association team members, and NYSDEC's invasive species campground specialist (if funded).
- 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 further management needs.
- Continue site-specific elimination 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; and, new, small, isolated infestations of common reed, purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, and Japanese knotweed affecting natural areas.
- 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 by partners and landowners. As needed, assist DEC, Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA with early detection surveillance for emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle, or other priority forest pests.
- As needed, assist DEC, Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA with surveillance and trapping of feral swine.
- Prepare an "Assessment of Efficacy" report upon completion of Year 3 of the Terrestrial Regional Response Team.

## **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 APIPP Education and Outreach summer internship workplan.
- Continue efforts to collaborate with state and private summer camps in the region.
- Complete communications strategy. Scope costs of an awareness campaign.
- Coordinate Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Submit bi-weekly invasive species columns to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and Adirondack Express during the field season.
- Scope process of conducting an IS economic impact analysis for the Adirondack region.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with SUNY Plattsburgh faculty and students.
- Offer training in special topic of interest for partners, if desired.
- Secure funding to mail a prevention postcard to every year-round landowner in the park.
- Utilize the media to feature invasive species success stories.
- Explore opportunities for multi-media public service announcements.
- Distribute brochures: Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Invasive Plants of the Adirondacks, Invasive Animals of the Adirondacks. Distribute poster: “You can make a difference, help stop the spread of invasive species.”
- 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 Watershed Stewardship Program trainings for Lake and Volunteer Stewards.
- Continue to collaborate with DEC to ensure that signage at boat launches that designates infected waters in the Adirondacks is current.
- Offer presentations / trainings to lake associations, as requested.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Collaborate with partners to organize a Japanese Knotweed Management Summit.
- Offer one to three training sessions to the general public on terrestrial invasive species identification and best management practices.
- As requested/needed, identify opportunities for volunteer groups to assist in inventory and management projects.
- 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.
- Collaborate with the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club on education and outreach opportunities to gardeners and nurseries.
- Identify opportunities in the Malone area to raise awareness about swallow-wort.

- Collaborate with CAP-21 to organize an Invasives Day in Old Forge.
- Explore opportunities to integrate the Invasive Earthworm Rapid Assessment Tool created by Great Lakes Worm Watch.
- As requested, assist DEC efforts to reach out to landowners to assist with Asian long-horned beetle pool surveys.
- Facilitate local participation in emerald ash borer awareness week/forest pest awareness month.
- Collaborate with Essex County Cornell Cooperative Extension and USDA on their forest pest outreach project.

## **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.
- Continue serving as a resource for partner and community inquiries regarding invasive species.
- Collaborate with new PRISMs across NY.
- Collaborate with ADK Futures, Cleaner Greener Initiatives, Economic Development Councils, Department of State, municipalities, river/watershed associations, and local groups to identify ways to integrate invasive species initiatives into regional and local planning efforts, etc.
- 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**

- Collaborate with Paul Smith's College, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Lake George Association, Ausable River Association and others to bolster the regional Adirondack Watershed Stewardship Program to staff summer stewards at water access sites.
- 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 campground specialist, if funded, to manage terrestrial invasive species infestations at DEC campgrounds within the park and offer educational programs.
- 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)
  - Elizabethtown Swallow-wort Control Project (Julie Martin)
  - Paul Smith's College Watershed Steward Project (Eric Holmlund)
  - Fish Hatchery Japanese Knotweed (Guy Middleton)

## **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

January 10	Adirondack Park Agency
January 22-24	Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting
January 31	Northeast Forest Pest Council Annual Conference
March 3-8	National Invasive Species Awareness Week
March 12-13	International Didymo Conference
March 14	Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel Spring Meeting
March 20-22	New England Association of Environmental Biologists Annual Meeting
April 11	Northern Forest Canoe Trail Film Fest
April 23-24	NYS Wetlands Forum
April 24-25	Adirondack Local Government Days
May 3-5	NYS Federation of Lake Association Annual Conference
May 15-16	Adirondack Research Consortium Annual Conference
May 17-19	Paddlefest
May 20-24	Watershed Stewardship Training – Paul Smiths
June 20	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Bolton Landing
June 25	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Paul Smiths
June 27	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Raquette Lake
July 7-13	Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 12	Adirondack Waterfest
July 20	Adirondack Museum – Water Celebration
July 20	Paradox Lake Floating Classroom Presentation
August 1	Aquatic Invasive Animal Identification Volunteer Training – Paul Smiths
August TBD	Japanese Knotweed Management Summit
Sept. 6-8	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.  
Hiatus during July, August, and December.