



# Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)

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## **2010 PRISM Staff Action Plan**

*Prepared January 2010*

### **SPREAD PREVENTION**

#### ***Aquatic***

Collaborate with members of the Great Sacandaga and Peck Lake communities to implement **spiny waterflea** spread prevention measures. Utilize aquatic invasive species spread prevention template developed for Great Sacandaga Lake to guide activities as needed.

#### ***Terrestrial***

No specific projects are identified under this category at this time.

### **EARLY DETECTION AND MONITORING**

#### ***General***

Conduct EDRR at Invasive Species Prevention Zones (ISPZ), to be determined.

Develop an all-taxa list of high priority invasive species that threaten the Adirondack region and use this list to expand APIPP's early detection and monitoring program.

#### ***Aquatic***

Coordinate volunteer monitoring for aquatic invasive plants. Enhance where feasible. Integrate **brittle naiad** into aquatic invasive plant volunteer monitoring program materials.

Use the aquatic GIS project to prioritize lakes for surveys.

Survey to verify reports of **curlyleaf pondweed** in Pack Forest.

Continue to work with DEC-R6 to verify no regrowth of **water hyacinth** in the Raquette River near Potsdam.

Survey the following water bodies: Santa Clara Flow, Forestport Reservoir, Bog River Flow, Cedar River Flow, Carry Falls Reservoir, Portaferry Lake, and Moshier Reservoir.

Survey Fourth Lake (Warren County) and Forked Lake (Hamilton County) for **variable-leaf watermilfoil**.

Work with the Long Lake Association to organize a comprehensive aquatic plant survey specifically to characterize **variable leaf-milfoil** infestations around the lake.

Using input from partners, develop a volunteer **spiny waterflea** sampling protocol for APIPP volunteers.

Collaborate with partners of the All-Taxa-Biodiversity-Inventory to assist aquatic plant sampling for the 2010 bioblitz.

#### ***Terrestrial***

As needed, assist DEC, Ag&Mkts, and USDA with early detection surveillance for **emerald ash borer** and **Asian longhorn beetle**.

Collaborate with Fort Drum/DOD and rooftop groups in northern Franklin and Clinton counties to implement peripheral ED surveys for **swallow-worts**.

Have SCA team members inventory Forest Preserve Units where no data has been collected to-date.

## **RAPID RESPONSE**

### ***Aquatic***

Track rapid response eradication efforts in Paradox Lake for **Eurasian watermilfoil** and **curlyleaf pondweed**.

Help with additional surveys for and management of **variable leaf-milfoil** on Lake Placid.

Track eradication efforts of **brittle naiad** in Lake George.

### ***Terrestrial***

Eradicate **black swallow-wort** infestations along Boquet River, within the Town of Elizabethtown and along the shores of Lake Champlain.

Eradicate small infestations of **yellow iris** located within natural areas.

Track eradication of **giant hogweed** populations in the southwestern Adirondacks.

## **CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT**

### ***Aquatic***

Conduct post-treatment monitoring for **European frog-bit** at the three known locations in the Grasse River in the Town of Clare, St. Lawrence County. Handharvest regrowth.

Assist Paul Smith's College with implementation of year 3 of the eradication project for **Eurasian watermilfoil** in Follensby Clear Pond in the Town of Santa Clara, Franklin County. Identify partners/volunteers to assist.

Review Hadlock Lake Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan for Eurasian watermilfoil, water chestnut, and brittle naiad and facilitate the setup of volunteer handharvesting efforts.

### ***Terrestrial***

Coordinate management and monitoring of terrestrial invasive plant sites documented on Forest Preserve lands and right-of-ways.

Assist with management of **swallow-wort** within Salmon River main stem.

Conduct post-treatment monitoring of **Japanese knotweed** on Finch Lands; Gooley Pond Tract. Treat regrowth.

Evaluate with DEC and APA the likelihood of effective **phragmites** management at Wickham Marsh.

Control terrestrial infestations at all existing APA wetland permit sites.

Control and monitor all Forest Preserve terrestrial herbicide treatment pilot sites.

Continue planning with partners to release biological controls in Tupper Lake for **purple loosestrife**.

Lend assistance to the Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program to control **Japanese knotweed**.

Facilitate Tupper Lake's community based approach to **garlic mustard** management.

Work with partners to assist the Lake George Association to manage and restore native plants on an island in Lake George.

## **TRAINING SESSIONS**

### ***General***

Train the Student Conservation Association team members and the seasonal AIPPP Invasive Species Steward.

Participate in the iMAP invasives train-the-trainer session for inventorying/recording occurrence data.

Explore offering training in special topic of interest for partners/volunteers (eg. Early Detection Species).

Offer additional training sessions of interest, as needed.

**Aquatic**

Offer at least three aquatic plant training sessions for volunteers. Utilize a diverse array of media outlets for recruitment of new volunteers.

Offer additional aquatic training sessions at individual lakes, as requested.

Offer one or more aquatic invasive plant id sessions for general public and/or past volunteers.

Coordinate training efforts with volunteers of the Protect the Adirondacks!/Paul Smith's Adirondack Lake Assessment Program.

Participate in training for Paul Smith's College Watershed Stewardship Program.

Participate in training for Paul Smith's College Volunteer Lake Steward Program.

Participate in the All-Taxa-Biodiversity-Inventory aquatic plant training for the 2010 Bioblitz.

Develop a volunteer spiny waterflea training program for APIPP volunteers.

Offer training program for volunteer divers and handharvesting efforts.

**Terrestrial**

Offer terrestrial invasive plant identification and management training for private sector landscaping businesses during mid-field season, and, as needed, to the Town of Indian Lake's Invasive Species Specialist, DEC Unit Planners, others.

**EDUCATION (specific activities to raise awareness among target audiences)****General**

Continue to inform landowners about invasive species; consider doing a mailing to every landowner in the park.

As requested, participate in county Soil & Water conservation districts local conservation field day events.

Update APIPP's comprehensive invasive species powerpoint presentation.

Assist the coordination of Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week (consider planning "weed walks and invasive plant paddles").

Collaborate with partner groups involved in Adirondack Outdoors to submit articles to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise's outdoor publication "Embark."

Submit bi-weekly invasive species columns during the field season to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and other local papers.

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*

Produce and distribute two newsletters.

Track number of audiences reached through APIPP principal partner presentations.

**Aquatic**

Collaborate with watershed steward (boat launch steward) partners to develop an aquatic invasive species spread prevention "rack card" that can be distributed at launches and campgrounds and is applicable to boaters, marinas, outfitters, guides, and other relevant business and tourism centers. Create a list of these stakeholders for our region. Consider designing a terrestrial invasive species rack card as well.

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.

As needed, collaborate with partners and PBS to produce an AIS documentary in Lake George.

**Terrestrial**

Update and expand APIPP's terrestrial invasive plant best management practices.

**OUTREACH (forming new partnerships with specific organizations)****General**

Facilitate legislative office field visits to invasive species sites.

Build or enhance partnerships with new groups, eg. Adirondack Landowners Association, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages, and faculty at SUNY Plattsburgh, among others.

Continue to reach out to rooftop communities in Franklin and Clinton counties about invasive species issues (eg. contact lake associations, OPRHP, town and county gov'ts, outdoor and garden clubs).

Continue to reach out to Cornell Cooperative Extension and Soil and Water District offices.

Identify public service announcement opportunities (NCPR, other radio, etc) and media outreach opportunities (Press Republication, Adirondack Daily Enterprise, WBNZ, Lake Placid Essex Tourism Bureau, Chambers of Commerce)

Provide invasive species educational materials to Adirondack Council interns, Adirondack Cooperative Loon Project, and others as requested.

Participate in community events, meetings, and conferences, as needed.

Track number of cold call inquiries to APIPP.

**Aquatic**

Complete outreach survey to anglers to assess aquatic invasive species knowledge and promote prevention. Work with Lake Champlain Sea Grant to analyze results and develop a summary report.

Work with NYS BASS Conservation Director to reach BASS clubs in the Adirondacks.

Build communication and outreach network with anglers, outfitters, guides, marina owners, and hospitality professionals.

**Terrestrial**

Work with CCE and SWCD to phase out use of invasive plants during plant swaps and tree/shrub sales.

**COORDINATION – PARTNERSHIP BUILDING****General**

Invite new principal partners and cooperators to join the Adirondack PRISM.

Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings, biannual terrestrial working group meetings, and monthly ANS Committee meetings. Schedule additional meetings as needed.

Collaborate with partners to organize an Adirondack PRISM Invasive Species Forum August 10-11 to showcase community-led projects and inspire cross-boundary information sharing.

Collaborate with Department of State, Wildlife Conservation Society, and local watershed revitalization planning efforts, etc.

Collaborate with other PRISMs and participate in monthly NYS IS Conference Calls and quarterly PRISM leaders calls.

Contribute information as requested/needed by the Invasive Species Council and Advisory Committee.

**Aquatic**

Participate in the Lake Champlain Basin Program Aquatic Nuisance Species Subcommittee, and its Rapid Response and Spread Prevention workgroups.

Collaborate with Paul Smith's College Watershed Stewardship Program to coordinate outreach activities among stakeholders.

Participate in the Adirondack Lake Alliance meetings.

Participate in New York State Federation of Lakes Association.

Stay informed about priorities of the Lake George Invasive Species Task Force.

Communicate with other programs conducting lake monitoring (DEC, CSLAP, ALAP, ALSC, ATBI etc).

### ***Terrestrial***

Work with Towns of Inlet, Blue Mountain, and Indian Lake and assist the formation and expansion of their multi-town terrestrial invasive plant partnership.

## **PLANNING AND PERMITTING**

### ***General***

Distribute 2009 Annual Report and 2010 Workplan.

Assist the coordination, development, and implementation of the Adirondack PRISM Invasive Species Strategic Plan. Identify staffing, resource needs, and strategies for a comprehensive region-wide invasive species program (boat launch stewardship, response teams, invasive species prevention zones, etc.).

Recruit, interview, and hire SCA team members & APIPP Intern. Develop work plans.

Work with partners to develop criteria to identify Invasive Species Prevention Zones (ISPZ) within the Adirondack region. Use GIS to create maps that help prioritize aquatic and terrestrial prevention and management sites. Use GIS information layers of DEC campgrounds, public and private boat launches, motorized/nonmotorized waters, proximity to roads, etc., as variables. Other considerations may include areas of ecological, economic, or societal concern.

Continue to develop a decision making framework for determining when management activities are cost-effective and should be pursued.

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.

Contribute updated information to Unit Management Plans; submit UMP amendments as needed.

Determine consistent survey, monitoring, and assessment protocols.

Complete Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plans (HACCP plans) for field work and encourage other partners to develop plans.

Develop TNC Safety Plans for herbicide use, aquatic sampling, and diving.

Investigate applicability of remote sensing for early detection / mapping inventories.

### ***Aquatic***

Assist the APA, as needed, in the development of a general permit for aquatic invasive species rapid response activities.

Analyze feasibility/pros/cons of advancing boat launch stewardship program statewide.

Conduct study and/or a literature review of underlying causes of invasion to freshwater systems and work with partners to develop plan to address these underlying water quality issues.

Complete regional assessments for 5 aquatic invasive plant species using the NYS Invasive Plant Ranking Form, [http://nyis.info/Resources/IS\\_Risk\\_Assessment.aspx](http://nyis.info/Resources/IS_Risk_Assessment.aspx).

### ***Terrestrial***

Orchestrate, submit, and supervise all necessary APA wetland permits.

Replicate, and expand where appropriate, the 1998/99 terrestrial invasive plant roadside inventory.

Complete regional assessments for 10 terrestrial invasive plant species using the NYS Invasive Plant Ranking Form, [http://nyis.info/Resources/IS\\_Risk\\_Assessment.aspx](http://nyis.info/Resources/IS_Risk_Assessment.aspx).

## **FUNDING**

### **General**

Implement workplans for previously awarded grants: DEC Environmental Protection Funding for Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management and FHWA Scenic Byways Community Outreach Program.

Work with DEC, partners, and PRISMs to plan the process and secure the funding to implement aquatic and terrestrial response teams.

Review community proposals for the NYS DEC Eradication Grant Program, as available.

Identify PRISM funding needs and possible sources. Identify and prepare additional grants for programs and projects.

### **Aquatic**

Facilitate receipt of USFWS funds to implement the Adirondack ANS Management Plan.

Work with Paul Smiths College, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Lake George Association and others to fund a regional Adirondack Watershed Stewardship Program to staff summer stewards at water access sites.

Support funding for spread prevention programs on the Champlain Canal.

### **Terrestrial**

Support funding the Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program to control Japanese knotweed in various locations in Herkimer and Hamilton counties.

## **POLICY**

### **General**

Provide information, as requested, to the 4-tier Do not Sell initiative.

### **Aquatic**

Provide information, as requested, to the Invasive Species Council and local governments for an aquatic invasive species spread prevention law.

### **Terrestrial**

Track the progress of, and implement when approved, the *Inter-Agency Guidelines for Implementing Best Management Practices for the Control of Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species on Forest Preserve Lands in the Adirondack Park*

## **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

### **General**

Update invasive plant databases. Use TNC's Weed Information Management System; coordinate database upgrades with iMap Invasives. Using the GIS work completed in 2009 create two dynamic projects, the aquatic and terrestrial projects. Work with the GIS technician and iMap invasives to update and quality control both projects.

Coordinate website upgrades with Cornell, other PRISMs, and the NYS Office of Invasive Species Coordination. Include aquatic and terrestrial monitoring protocols and datasheets on our website.

Submit voucher specimens to NY Flora Atlas to populate their database.

Maintain annual invasive plant distribution maps.

Maintain website and PRISM list-serve.

***Aquatic***

Create lake maps showing where volunteers surveyed that can be uploaded to the APIPP website.

***Terrestrial***

No additional activities identified at this time.

**RESEARCH (current or potential projects)**

***General***

SUNY ESF: Assessing Private Landowner Knowledge of and Attitudes towards Invasive Species in the Adirondack State Park (graduate student Suzanne Conrad, SUNY ESF)

Adirondack Research Consortium: Facilitate sharing of invasive species research underway in the PRISM at the annual conference.

NY Invasive Species Research Institute: Share research priorities with ISRI.

***Aquatic***

Lake Champlain Sea Grant: Continue partnership with LCSG and BASS to measure AIS awareness among anglers. Report findings.

Great Sacandaga Lake: Assist partners with any spiny waterflea research projects.

***Terrestrial***

SUNY ESF: Nonnative earthworm impacts on woodland salamanders: Implications for Adirondack forests and communities. (Stacy McNulty, AEC and graduate student Caitlin Marie Snyder)

**SEASONAL STEWARDSHIP**

***General***

Additional seasonal stewardship will be provided by NYS DEC Invasive Species Specialist Wayne Blanchard; Town of Inlet's Regional Invasive Plant Program; volunteers, and the various positions listed below:

APIPP Invasive Species Intern - 1

Student Conservation Association invasive species team members (to be determined) - 2

DOT Student Intern Stewards (to be determined)

**PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

January 10-14	National Invasive Species Awareness Week
January 18-20	Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
March 23-24	Adirondack Local Government Day
April 12-13	Northeast Natural History Conference
April 28	Invited Presentation – SUNY Plattsburgh
April 30-May 2	NYS Federation of Lakes Association Annual Conference
May 19-20	Adirondack Research Consortium Annual Conference
June 1	Invited Presentation – Adirondack Mountain Garden Club
June TBD	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – Bolton Landing
June TBD	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – Blue Mountain Lake
June TBD	Aquatic Invasive Plant Volunteer Training – TBD
July 11-17	Adirondack Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 17	Invited Presentation – ADK Loj
August 10-11	Adirondack PRISM Invasive Species Forum
Sept. 10-12	Adirondack Canoe Classic - 90 Miler
Fall TBD	Cornell Cooperative Extension In-service Training Workshop

*Other events and activities will be added throughout the season.*

*Monthly Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 1-3 at the DEC in Ray Brook. Call ahead to confirm. Hilary Smith, 518-576-2082. ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE*

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