

# **Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management**

## **Annual Work Plan**



**2017**

*The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) serves as the Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM), one of eight partnerships across New York State (NYS), whose mission is to protect the Adirondack region from the negative impacts of invasive species. APIPP's 2017 work plan aligns with the [PRISM's Strategic Plan](#) and outlines ongoing activities and special projects in which APIPP staff and partners are involved. Though prepared at the onset of the calendar year, the document may be adapted based on needs/opportunities identified throughout the course of the year.*

## **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

- A. Coordination
- B. Pathway Analysis
- C. Spread Prevention and Vector Management
- D. Enforcement and Legislation
- E. Education and Outreach
- F. Surveillance, Early Detection & Rapid Response
- G. Ongoing Management
- H. Information Management
- I. Restoration
- J. Research
- K. Climate Change Adaptation
- L. Resource Development and Funding

## **Coordination**

### **General Actions**

- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and as needed Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Expert Working Group meetings.
- Organize and facilitate [Adirondack AIS Prevention Program](#) advisory committee meetings.
- Maintain [APIPP's website](#), [PRISM email listserv](#) and [summer blog](#).
- Develop and distribute 2017 [Work Plan](#) and [Annual Report](#).
- Participate in monthly [PRISM conference calls/webinars](#) and quarterly PRISM leader calls, and coordinate PRISM activities with other NYS PRISMs.
- Continue to participate in [NYS Invasive Species Advisory Committee](#) meetings as needed.
- Integrate invasive species priorities and activities into local, watershed, and regional planning initiatives taken on by partner organizations, as needed.
- Participate in efforts to build upon [APIPP's network of partners](#) to raise awareness of invasive species issues and effective solutions, coordinate implementation, and transfer lessons learned.
- Serve as expert liaison and advisor to community based invasive species programs in the PRISM including the [Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program](#), Bolton Terrestrial Invasive Plant Program, [Adirondack Lakes Alliance](#), etc.

## **Pathway Analysis**

- Focus intervention efforts on identified, priority, anthropogenic pathways of invasive species spread including recreational boating, firewood transport, gardening and landscaping practices, and maintenance of transportation corridors.
- As needed assist in intervention efforts surrounding other known anthropogenic pathways affecting the region including canals, pet trade, water gardening, etc.
- As new species arrive to the PRISM reassess pathways for spread and intervention priorities.

## **Spread Prevention and Vector Management**

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Continue working with partners to coordinate and expand the [Adirondack AIS Prevention Program](#) including regionally placed boat launch stewards and boat decontamination infrastructure.
- In collaboration with the [Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute](#), [Lake Champlain Basin Program](#), and the [Lake George Park Commission](#) update the report "[Boat Inspection and Decontamination for AIS Prevention: Recommendations for the Adirondack Region.](#)"
- As needed and requested, participate in [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation \(NYSDEC\)](#) staff trainings to review talking points and guidance on AIS prevention and watercraft inspections/decontaminations at campground boat launches or other facilities.
- As needed and requested, participate in events where AIS spread prevention measures can be employed such as fishing tournaments, canoe races, boat shows, etc.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- In collaboration with the [New York State Department of Transportation \(NYSDOT\)](#), provide trainings to staff on how road maintenance activities can inadvertently spread terrestrial invasive plants, the impacts of these plants on the right of way and surrounding habitats and [invasive plant best prevention and management practices](#). Continue to offer similar outreach and training strategies to other state and local highway departments as needed.
- Provide trainings and resources on [alternatives to ornamental invasive plants](#) and the benefits of using clean mulch/fill to homeowners, landscapers and gardeners.
- As needed and requested, participate in NYSDEC staff trainings to review terrestrial invasive plant identification and prevention/management practices for campgrounds, trailheads and other facilities.
- Supervise the work of NYSDEC's [Invasive Species Campground Specialist](#) to prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive plants from campgrounds and trailheads.

## **Enforcement and Legislation**

- Continue to help raise awareness of NYS invasive species regulations including the [Invasive Species Prevention Act](#), [AIS Transport Law](#), [Firewood Transport Law](#), etc.

## **Education and Outreach**

### **General Actions**

- Recruit, interview, hire, train, set work plan for, and supervise APIPP's [Seasonal Invasive Species Educator](#).
- Implement the year 1 tasks of APIPP's [5-year Communications & Marketing Strategy](#) and begin utilizing/disseminating developed products.
- In collaboration with the [iMapInvasives](#) program, host at least 1 training on how to use iMap to collect data on and report invasive species infestations.
- Offer [presentations](#) and [trainings](#) on invasive species related topics to various audiences.
- Participate in and promote [NYS Invasive Species Awareness Week](#).
- Utilize [summer blog](#) and [PRISM email listserv](#) to feature invasive species related stories.
- Respond to [inquiries from partners and the general public](#) about invasive species prevention, identification, management practices, etc.
- Promote and disseminate a short film on invasive species impacts and what anyone can do to prevent the spread.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- In collaboration with the [Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute](#), promote the [Adirondack AIS Prevention Program](#) through various outreach tools including billboards, signage, radio public service announcements, rack cards, etc.
- Offer at least 2 [aquatic invasive plant identification and survey trainings](#).
- Offer at least 1 [aquatic invasive animal identification and survey training](#).
- In collaboration with the [Adirondack Mountain Club](#), host at least 2 [backcountry water monitoring trainings](#).
- Attend, table, and/or present at environmental education activities and programs focused on water resources as they are scheduled throughout the region such as conservation field days, Waterfest, Paddlefest, etc.
- Participate in and present at the [Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute Stewardship Program](#) training for boat launch stewards.
- Continue to collaborate with NYSDEC to ensure that [AIS prevention signage at boat launches](#) is present, current and consistent.
- Promote and disseminate a short film on AIS surveillance, identification and prevention techniques.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Offer at least 2 training session to the general public on [terrestrial invasive species identification and best management practices](#).
- In collaboration with the Lake George Land Conservancy host at least 1 [backcountry forest pest monitoring training](#).

- In collaboration with state and federal partners, assist education and outreach efforts for [giant hogweed](#) and [feral swine](#), as needed.
- Distribute [invasive plant notice door-hangers](#) and [invasive plant management guidelines](#) to private landowners.
- Attend, table, and/or present at environmental education activities and programs focused on terrestrial resources as they are scheduled throughout the region such as conservation field days, arbor day events, and garden club meetings.
- Finalize two short films on how to effectively manage [knotweed species](#) and [common reed](#).

## **Surveillance, Early Detection and Rapid Response**

### **General Actions**

- Maintain prioritized lists of [target species](#) currently in the PRISM and posing the greatest threats and [watched species](#) not currently present but that have a high likelihood to invade in the future and pose the greatest threats.
- Conduct [invasive species distribution analyses](#) related to vectors, environmental conditions, and the likelihood of spread and survey high invasion risk areas including roadsides, lakes with motorized access, campgrounds, trailheads, etc.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Implement the third year of the regional [AIS rapid response team](#) approach.
- Coordinate the [aquatic invasive plant volunteer surveillance program](#).
- In collaboration with the [Adirondack Mountain Club](#), advance the third year of the [backcountry water monitoring program](#).
- Collaborate with partners and volunteers to improve small-bodied aquatic invasive animal early detection protocols.
- Identify priority waterbodies to survey for AIS utilizing GIS, predictive models and other relevant resources.
- Implement a lake vegetation, depth, and bottom hardness mapping project utilizing [sonar and unmanned aquatic vehicle technologies](#).

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Implement the sixth year of the regional [terrestrial invasive species rapid response team](#) approach.
- In collaboration with the [Lake George Land Conservancy](#), implement the third year of the [backcountry forest pest monitoring program](#).
- Implement a project with the [NASA DEVELOP National Program](#) mapping hemlock resources throughout the north country of NYS to determine future [hemlock woolly adelgid](#) surveillance and management priorities.
- Conduct early detection surveys and mapping for terrestrial invasive species in priority and high risk areas.
- As requested/needed, advance projects with [volunteer groups to survey for and manage terrestrial invasive species](#).

- Implement a remote sensing project for terrestrial invasive species using unmanned aerial vehicle technologies.

## **Ongoing Management**

### **General Actions**

- Review latest research and update APIPP’s invasive species best management practices (BMPs) and the [Inter-Agency Guidelines for Implementing Best Management Practices to Control Invasive Species on DEC Administered Lands of the Adirondack Park](#), as needed
- Orchestrate obtaining all permissions and permits in order for management actions to take place.
- Maintain list of local contractors that perform invasive species management.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Track progress of historic AIS management projects throughout the PRISM.
- [Assess likelihood of success](#) and implement BMPs for [Target AIS](#) infestations. Track progress using monitoring systems and photo documentation.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Train, supervise and set work plans for [Student Conservation Association](#) invasive species management crews and [invasive species campground specialist](#).
- [Assess likelihood of success](#) and implement BMPs for [Target terrestrial invasive species](#) infestations. Track progress using mobile monitoring systems and photo documentation.

## **Information Management**

- Use mobile monitoring systems and geographic information systems to track terrestrial and aquatic [invasive species distribution](#) and management data. Analyze data to develop terrestrial and aquatic invasive species distribution and management trends.
- Use [iMapInvasives](#) as a repository for all invasive species data.
- Maintain [current invasive species distribution maps for the PRISM](#).

## **Restoration**

- Continue to assess restoration needs and native species recovery through [long-term monitoring of historic management sites](#).

## **Research**

- In collaboration with [Ryerson University](#), finalize publication of “*Predicting aquatic invasion in Adirondack Lakes: A spatial analysis of lake and landscape characteristics*” in the journal [Ecosphere](#).

- In collaboration with [Cornell University](#), finalize publication of “*Management of invasive Phragmites australis in the Adirondacks: a cautionary tale about prospects of near-term eradication*” in the journal [Biological Invasions](#).
- Continue to share findings from flagship reports “[The Actual and Potential Economic Impact of Invasive Species on the Adirondack Park: A Preliminary Assessment](#)” and “[Boat Inspection and Decontamination for Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention](#).”
- Provide research priorities to the [NYS Invasive Species Research Institute](#).

## **Climate Change Adaptation**

- Participate in the Northeast [Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change \(RISCC\)](#) working group and attend the Northeast RISCC Management Symposium.

## **Resource Development and Funding**

- Compile costs of plan implementation.
- Develop fundraising plan and seek funding to support priority activities, as needed.

## **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| March 9         | APIPP AIS Expert Working Group Meeting                              |
| March 27-29     | Presenting during TNC’s Northeast Stewardship Conference            |
| March 30        | Presenting during <a href="#">MCLA Green Living Seminar</a>         |
| April 5-6       | Presenting during Adirondack Local Government Day                   |
| April 26        | Presenting during Essex County Highway Association Meeting          |
| April 27        | APIPP Spring Partner Meeting  |
| April 29        | Presenting during Ashokan Watershed Conference                      |
| May 5-6         | NYS Federation of Lake Association Annual Conference                |
| May 30 – June 2 | Presenting during NYS Assoc. of Transportation Engineers Conference |
| June 14         | Black River Watershed Conference                                    |
| July 9-15       | New York Invasive Species Awareness Week                            |
| July 21         | Adirondack Lakes Alliance Symposium                                 |
| Oct. 22-26      | Presenting during International Conference on AIS                   |
| Oct. 26         | APIPP Fall Partner Meeting  |
| Nov. 13 -15     | Annual Invasive Species In-service at Cornell                       |

Other events and activities will be added throughout the season.

Monthly PRISM Conference Calls, last Wednesday of every month, 11-12, email Carrie Jean Brown-Lima ([cjb37@cornell.edu](mailto:cjb37@cornell.edu)) to be added to the notification list.  
Hiatus during July, August, and December.