

**Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)
Mid-Winter Aquatic Partner Roundtable
Zoom Meeting Outline
February 10, 2022 | 10:00am-11:30am**

Link to recorded meeting: [February 2022 Aquatic Partner Roundtable - YouTube](#)

Link to meeting presentation: <https://tnc.box.com/s/g5hgn8h7wvfop4k08vez0qg36hak8ww0>

Attendees

APIPP Staff: Brian Greene, Becca Bernacki, Tammara Van Ryn, Zach Simek

Barbara Taylor	Frank Williams	Meg Modley
Bill Widrig and Kathy Welch	Gail Morehouse	Nadine Mayo
Blake Neumann	Graham Cox	Nancy Severns
Bob Colegrove	Guy Middleton	Natasha Karniski-Keglovits
Brett Wimsatt	Jaime Parslow	Paul Repak
Carrie Pershyn	Jenny Allison	Paulette Haws
Catherine McGlynn	John Olm	Peter Tobiessen
Christopher DeGiovine	Kathy Regan	Peter Tobiessen
Christopher DeGiovine	Kiersten DeCanio	Randy Fredlund
Dave Wick	Leonard Schantz	Richard Gentry
David Wilson	Liz Metzger	Robert Bombard
Donna Marie Baribeau	Lorraine Mott	Steve McNally
Elizabeth Lee	Marcus Harazin	Steve Young
Emily Tyner	Mark Denicore	Susan Read
Ezra Schwartzberg	Martin Korn	Tom Parent
	Mary Johnson	Zachary Matson

Welcome and Introductions – 30 minutes

The meeting was opened by Brian Greene, the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program's (APIPP) Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator. Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. Each attendee had an opportunity to introduce themselves and mention something they were looking forward to this year.

Public Partner Updates – 30 minutes

Brian asked the following partner organization to provide a 2-3 minute update on their top aquatic invasive species priorities for 2022. Watch the recorded meeting to see what they talked about. Brian reviewed some of the highlights from APIPP's [2021 Annual Report](#), which can be found on APIPP's website, during his section.

- Adirondack Park Agency
- Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program
- Adirondack Watershed Institute
- Department of Environmental Conservation
- Lake Champlain Basin Program

- Lake George Park Commission

Emailed updates from other partners. Due to time restrictions, in lieu of verbal reports, other partners sent in brief updates via email.

Long Lake Association –Barbara Taylor

- Our major accomplishment for 2021, besides the ongoing Lake Steward program, is the completion of the Long Lake Management Plan. This was accomplished through the patient and thoughtful work of Allison Gaddy from the Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board.

Piseco Lake Association – David Wilson

- With three public boat launch sites (all have inspectors and one has a boat wash), we are involving and encouraging residents to continually use visual observations at their lake-front properties to identify and report possible AIS. In order to assist with plant identification, the PLA persuaded Utica College to initiate a 2-hour course called Biology of Aquatic Invasives (BIO 420) in the fall of 2017. Piseco Lake was the focus of the course, with the objective to identify all the wetland and aquatic plants at Piseco Lake. The result of the course activities was a publication titled "Identification Guide for the Wetland and Aquatic Plants of Piseco Lake," authored by Professor David L. Moore. The PLA printed 400 copies of the guide and have distributed about 300+ copies to Piseco Lake residents, other Adirondack organization representatives, and government environment personnel.
- The PLA also has a small number of residents who conduct annual AIS surveys in lake locations that we have identified as sites with a higher probability of AIS growth.

SUNY ESF Adirondack Ecological Center – Natasha Karniski

- The five lakes on AEC's 15,000 acre property have been mostly invasive-free, including no aquatic invasives found in 2021.
- AEC staff and other researchers have been collecting native plant data from 1940-present.
- AEC's ongoing ecological work in select areas of the Adirondack forest preserve uses invasive species as one indicator of recreation impacts.
- The AEC's mission is to understand the Adirondack ecosystem through research and education. Over eighty years of research have been incorporated into more than 30 ongoing monitoring efforts. See www.esf.edu/aec for more information.

Adirondack Research – Ezra Schwartzberg

- 2021 Accomplishments:
 - 52 waterbodies surveyed for APIPP
 - 9 waterbodies surveyed for Capital Region PRISM
 - Portion of Mohawk River surveyed for DEC

- 6 private Adirondack lakes surveyed (early detection)
- 2 Green Goat Maps produced for private Lake Associations (Cranberry Lake and Rainbow Lake)
- Plans for 2022:
 - Including Clean Drain Dry information on Green Goat Maps in partnership with nonprofits free of charge
 - Capital Region PRISM AIS surveys planned
 - Mohawk River AIS surveys planned
 - Several private lake early detection and ProcellaCOR EC permit surveys planned
 - Hiring 5-6 summer Aquatic Field Assistants for Adirondack and state-wide AIS surveys (adkres.org/employment)

Raquette Lake Preservation Foundation – Len Schantz

- Increasing abundance of inflated bladderwort in 2021. There are questions about the native or invasive status of this plant.
- Raquette Lake is participating in a study with APIPP and NY DEC to test genotypes for variable leaf milfoil from across NY to understand how it spreads and what locations of the state have native populations.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum- Elizabeth Lee

- 2021: The Museum created an exhibit with LCBP funding on Lake Health. The exhibit includes AIS, Microplastics and Cyanobacteria. We hosted a webinar done by Meg Modley, and we've been sharing Clean, Drain and Dry messages with all public visitors, school groups and summer camps (12,000 outdoor-only visitors in 2021).
- 2022: We'll continue to raise awareness using the exhibit and new staff training for our interpreters, and hopefully teach on-water ID to our Lake Ecology school groups. Also excited to share the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid flyer about how to ID and report HWA from the water!

Snowbird Lake Association – Paul Repak

- Snowbird Aquatic Vegetation Environment Investigation Team (SAVE-IT) number one goal: prevent nonnative invasives from entering our lake, plus mitigate extensive expansive choking weed growth and resultant silting. Remove dead logs that restrict current flow.
- 2021: surveyed and identified existing aquatic plants via canoe
- Performed drone overflight to acquire video to map and catalog existing surface weed coverage.

Small Group Discussions – 30 minutes

Participants were asked to join one of three small group discussions. The formal meeting recording ended at this time. After ten minutes of discussion in small groups, participants were asked to join a new group. The full group reconvened for the following reports of highlights from each small group.

Monitoring

- We discussed using software to translate sonar files from boat devices (“fish finders”) to create data about depth, hardness, and biovolume (percent of water column with plants). An example of this is the [BioBase software](#). This tool was helpful for some lake associations to find underwater ridges that supported invasive plants they didn’t know about.
- Boat stewards monitoring boats entering and leaving waterbodies was discussed. While boat stewards cannot be there 24 hours a day, they try to be in place during the most popular hours. If you know of a special event like a fish tournament it is important to work with the organizers and local community to make sure that there is someone to check during the times that boats are putting in. Sometimes volunteers are needed to augment times if the AWI program is not able to provide a full-time steward. There are challenges across the region for hiring staff.
- We discussed that it was important to set a regular monitoring schedule for AIS. This schedule varies depending on what reasons you are monitoring for.
 - Early detection monitoring (like [Lake Protectors](#)) should be done every summer.
 - Tracking the progress of management/removal of invasive species should be done at least once a summer or, best, twice a summer (before and after the management) to assess the effectiveness of the management. Organizations can join the APIPP Lake Management Tracker Program.
 - A sonar-based mapping (like BioBase) is good to do every 3-5 years.
 - A full native plant survey with experts to identify plants is good to do every 5-10 years.

Management

- Locations for management mentioned-Lake George has an application in to the APA for a trial ProcellaCOR herbicide treatment in 2022.
- Species focus
 - Natives that behave invasively – Elodea spp. and Juncus militaris, Utricularia spp. (bladderworts). Increases in native plant growth. Can manage similar to AIS, but need to remember that they are important part of local ecosystem.
 - Invasives- water chestnut, flowering rush (especially the diploid variety), water hyacinth, water lettuce, European frogbit, Eurasian watermilfoil, watercress, round goby, Viral Hemorrhagic septicemia (followed by discussion of impacts of round goby).
- Management methods
 - Handpulling / DASH – It is a struggle for some organizations to be able to hire professional companies or staff to conduct the removal work of AIS.
 - Benthic mats.
 - Chemical.

- Discussion about NYSDEC blanket prohibition on Forest Preserve property/APA guidance document in progress.
- Education and outreach.
- Boat stewards.

Prevention

- "After Hours" Protection

The groups discussed the need for ways to encourage boaters to follow clean, drain, dry and/or to perform decontamination when the boat launches are not staffed with stewards, especially given the new law that will be in place in the Adirondacks this summer.
- New Landowners

The groups discussed ways to educate new landowners about septic systems and why clearing for lawns is not a good strategy near waterbodies. Working with Realtors or the local Chamber of Commerce on welcome packets was one strategy. Samples of septic-system outreach materials were requested.
- Youth Education

Several lake associations would like to start programs for youth education and are looking for activities/curriculum that they can adapt for their lake.
- New Species

It is good to keep track of new species that have been sighted in the Northeast, and that have not yet come into the Adirondacks, so that people can keep their eyes open for them.

Saved chat discussion from Zoom Meeting

10:01:50 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Good morning everyone! Where are you calling in from? It is snowing hard in Saranac Lake right now. It was a sunny spring morning two hours ago!

10:02:40 From Paul Repak to Everyone:

snowing and 35 degrees in Boonville

10:03:24 From Elizabeth Lee to Everyone:

Low 30's in Westport but great ski conditions this morning. A brook was open under the trail--slightly springy vibe.

10:03:42 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Thanks for the Westport ski report!

10:05:06 From Elizabeth Lee to Everyone:

Unfortunately the skating report is not so good...

10:15:19 From Elizabeth Lee to Everyone:

<https://www.lcmm.org/giantmap/>

10:22:35 From Elizabeth Lee to Everyone:

Contact me if you want to talk about how to use the Giant Map for your organization. Great tool for seeing how connected we are and how important to control AIS. elizabethl@lcmm.org

10:35:26 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Here is the link to the order form for the Protect Your Waters | Protect Your Forests posters and brochures. We can provide them free of charge to nonprofits and businesses in the Adirondack Park. <https://www.adkinvasives.com/Order>

10:35:29 From Zachary Matson to Everyone:

zach@adirondackexplorer.org - please reach out with what you are working on

10:38:16 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

For the lake associations that are contemplating lake management plans this summer, it sounds like Upper Saranac Foundation and Long Lake recently completed plans. Let APIPP know if you are going to work on a plan and would like to link up with a group that has recently completed one, and if you have done a plan recently and are willing to help mentor another organization, let us know.

10:38:18 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Here is the link to the order form for the Protect Your Waters | Protect Your Forests posters and brochures. We can provide them free of charge to nonprofits and businesses in the Adirondack Park. <https://www.adkinvasives.com/Order>

10:40:06 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

APIPP's 2021 Annual report -

https://adkinvasives.com/data/files/Documents/APIPP2021AnnualReport_Reduced.pdf

10:40:42 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

All of APIPP's annual reports (including terrestrial and aquatic EDRR and steward): <https://adkinvasives.com/Resources/Resource-Library/APIPP-Annual-Reports>

10:41:15 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

APIPP strategic plan survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/APIPP>

10:41:58 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

APIPP annual report highlights:

<https://adkinvasives.com/data/files/Documents/2021%20Annual%20Report%20Highlights.pdf>

10:56:58 From Catherine McGlynn to Everyone:

Link to aquatic gardener's guide:

https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/waterguide.pdf

10:57:23 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Thanks Cathy! The new guide is very welcome.

10:59:00 From Randy Fredlund to Everyone:

Thank you, Dave Wick, for the visuals.

11:00:49 From Marcus Harazin to Everyone:

any info on cost of such treatment?

11:03:51 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Thanks Dave. There are a lot of Adirondack lake associations interested in knowing what you learn about the effectiveness and impacts of ProcellaCOR. We look forward to helping to share what you learn.

11:04:14 From Meg Modley to Everyone:

Dave I will send you an email with thoughts

11:16:36 From Meg Modley to Everyone:

I was not prompted for break out group but the icon did show up on the bottom of my screen where I could open it up and join

11:30:28 From Elizabeth Lee to Everyone:

LC Maritime Museum is also hiring summer positions for on-water types:

<https://www.lcmm.org/careers/>

11:34:31 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

APIPP strategic plan survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/APIPP>

11:45:57 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

<https://www.lcmm.org/giantmap/>

11:55:23 From Rebecca Bernacki to Everyone:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-appointments-adirondack-road-salt-reduction-task-force>

12:00:31 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Here is a link to NCPR's story on LG road salt from last year.

<https://www.wamc.org/new-york-news/2021-02-10/new-film-documents-lake-george-road-salt-reduction-efforts>

12:02:44 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Check out this page from the Lake George Association about how businesses, communities and others can work locally on reducing road salt.

<https://lakegeorgeassociation.org/act-now/reduce-salt>

12:06:48 From Tammara Van Ryn to Everyone:

Thanks everyone, I need to leave to get to another meeting. I appreciate all you are doing to help control aquatic invasive species in our waters.