

Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) 2019 Mid-Summer Partnership Meeting Minutes

The Nature Conservancy, Keene Valley, NY

July 22nd, 2019, 9:30am-3:00pm

Attendees:

Caitlin Stewart, Alex Bielli (Hamilton County SWCD); Peg Olsen, Dave Conlan (TNC-Adirondacks); Bob Stegeman, Fred Dunlap (NYSDEC); Leigh Walrath (APA); Bill McGhee, Ev McNeill (East Shore Schroon Lake Association); Sue O'Reilly, Eric Paul, Eric Holmlund (Adirondack Watershed Institute); Meg Modley (Lake Champlain Basin Program); Tom Alguire (NYSDAM); John Marino, Meg Wilkinson (iMapInvasives); Jane Smith (Adirondack Lakes Alliance); Glenn Repko, Mark Granger (Schroon Lake Association); Jackie Bowen, Rocci Aguirre, Julia Randall (Adirondack Council); Ezra Schwartzberg (Adirondack Research); Eric Siy (The Fund for Lake George), Sue Smith, Marty Illick (Charlotte Invasives Collaborative); Mary McLean Johnson (Chateaugay Lake Foundation); Emily Tyner (Lake Clear Association); Kristen Wilde (Lake George Association); Julie Fogden, Brendan Quirion, Zack Simek, and Erin Vennie-Vollrath (APIPP)

Adirondack PRISM Renewed Contract – Summary and Programmatic Expansions (APIPP Team)

- APIPP received a new five-year contract. Thank you to all the partners who have made all this work a success!
- Brendan gave an overview of the contract deliverables:
 - Coordinate PRISM partner invasive species management activities
 - Recruit & Train Volunteers
 - Identify & Meet PRISM Education & Outreach Needs
 - Maintain monitoring network for early detection of invasive species & track survey & control efforts conducted by PRISM staff
 - Support Academic Research, as needed, through citizen science
 - Implement Invasive Species Elimination & Control Projects
 - Develop Annual Work Plan Based on APIPP's 5-year Strategic Plan
 - Develop Annual Reports
 - Coordinate Access to Private & public Lands
 - Coordinate with other PRISMs & DEC Invasive Species Coordination Section
 - Support NYS Annual Invasive Species Conference

- Submit Quarterly Payment Requests
- Hire & Coordinate all-taxa invasive species response teams
- APIPP's progress to date:
 - Reached over 18,300 + people through formal presentations
 - Is all this outreach changing behavior? APIPP/SLELO had the highest IS awareness in a 2015 study, but additional polling is needed.
 - Over the past 20 years, APIPP has surveyed over 400 lakes for AIS and just under 75% of those lakes are still free of aquatic invasives. Of the ones that do have an AIS, the vast majority only have 1 or 2. This is why AIS spread prevention is so important for us in the Adirondacks.
 - We graphed the annual number of newly reported invaded and uninvaded lakes, as well as the annual number of boat stewards. Brendan highlighted the reduction in the number of newly reported invaded lakes that seems to correlate with the increasing numbers boat stewards. This relationship is not yet statistically significant but is close.
 - Brendan provided an overview on the management progress of terrestrial invasives. We have 2,611 priority infestations. 992 are under active management, 760 have no invasives observed for at least 1 year and 245 are deemed locally eradicated (no invasives observed for at least 3 consecutive years).
- Looking Ahead for APIPP:
 - Increased Coordination Capacity
 - Historically, APIPP has been 3 full-time staff (Program Director, AIS Project Coordinator, and TIS Project Coordinator) and 1 seasonal staff. Under the new contract, there will be an additional 2 full-time positions – Education and Communications Coordinator (Volunteer Programs and E&O) and Information Management Coordinator (SLELO/APIPP and Liaison to iMap).
 - Education and Communication Coordinator Roles and Responsibilities – Coordinating ISAW, biannual summit, volunteer trainings & programs, building relationships with private property owners, APIPP's website & social media.
 - Information Management Coordinator Roles and Responsibilities – data quality and analysis expert, promoting consistency in data collection between APIPP & SLELO, preparing data for visualization and publication, remote sensing.
 - Awareness Building - We will be expanding our different training opportunities
 - Surveillance - We will have increased citizen science programming
 - APIPP has a new priority setting framework for which projects we'll engage on for invasive species management, the Unified Theory. The culmination of this is the [Web-map for Priority Management Projects](#).

- To filter the map, select a species from the top-right toolbar. All management projects for that species will be displayed. You can select a specific project that you're interested in to view its project-specific management statistics.
 - Static statistics are listed in the upper left corner of the dashboard.
- Pathway Analysis
 - Key pathways have been identified for aquatic and terrestrial species. APIPP will be looking into predictive analysis for aquatic and terrestrial projects.
 - Aquatic Predictive Analysis:
 - The AIS predictive analysis will use landscape and lake-specific data collected by APIPP, partners, and volunteers to assess the vulnerability of different lakes to AIS. This will aid in targeting early detection surveys and staging spread prevention resources.
 - Terrestrial Predictive Analysis:
 - There are two major data gaps that can influence abundance and distribution of invasive species – Deer and earthworms. APIPP will be rolling out citizen science projects to fill these data gaps.
- Spread Prevention & Vector Management:
 - Historically, APIPP has partnered on 3 main projects for invasive spread prevention: 1) the Campground/Trailhead Management Steward has managed terrestrial invasives throughout the region. 2) DOT Residency/Facility Inspection & Management. 3) AIS Spread Prevention by supporting the work of AWI.
 - APIPP will be rolling out 2 new terrestrial spread prevention programs:
 - Certified Clean Fill Program – Goals:
 - 1) Identify existing sources of fill/material for construction and landscaping projects in the Adirondack PRISM.
 - 2) Identify which, if any, are invasive-free upon routine inspection.
 - 3) Perform preventative management actions on those that are not invasive-free upon inspection in order to reduce the likelihood of invasive species spread.
 - 4) Certify suppliers as invasive-free either upon inspection or after preventative management.
 - 5) Promote the use of invasive-free suppliers within the professional landscaping and highway department communities.

- 6) Work to require the use of certified suppliers for all state and local work orders for planned construction projects within the Adirondack PRISM.
- There was a lot of interest from the partners about this project. Group discussion and comments included:
 - How can it be incentivized? Many large projects have permits that could potentially be modified to require clean fill. However, a program would need to be well established before such requirements could be included. We would also need some guidelines in place for small projects and would need incentive for implementation.
 - Could ALA reach out to members to begin asking for clean fill for projects?
 - Start with education of local government about this issue.
- Boot Brush Stations – Goals:
 - APIPP will pilot boot brush stations on TNC preserves. The program could eventually be built out to priority DEC trailheads with state support.
- Enforcement and Legislation
 - Part 575 – permanent regulation but will need to update the list on occasion. Will need to update list and need to do a horizon scan to see what is coming, especially with climate change.
 - Part 576 – Extended for one year (June 1st, 2020) – hope was to make it permanent and want to make sure it will continue. There is a coalition of partners working on this.
- Early Detection Teams
 - APIPP hires an aquatic and a terrestrial team each summer.
 - We will be looking to extend the season due to the extending growing season with climate change.
- Control & Management
 - APIPP engages in management through a variety of techniques depending the location and species being managed.
 - Under the new contract, APIPP will be expanding management activities to include two new efforts:
 - Terrestrial Source Populations – There are just over 600 untreated priority infestations located on private and public lands. Of these, approximately 60 are >0.1 acres in size. APIPP will be expanding management efforts to address these larger and untreated -sites.
 - Aquatic Source Populations – There are multiple locations that have AIS at or near boat launches. APIPP will be

working to manage these infestations to reduce the amount of AIS that could get caught up on boat or trailers and moved to a new location. Erin is currently working on a list of locations that may qualify for this management project.

- Outcome Monitoring
 - APIPP has been doing outcome monitoring at terrestrial invasive species management sites to make sure that areas that have been treated are being restored to native species. Brendan showed an example of the expansion of a phragmites infestations, treatment, and results. Following management, APIPP monitors for the re-establishment of native flora and fauna.
 - APIPP has been working with APA, ALA and Loon Lake Park District Association to develop a survey program for lake associations to measure and track the success of their AIS management, called the Lake Management Tracker Program. The program was piloted last summer by Loon Lake and Lake Hadlock, and they expanded to four additional lakes this summer.
- Restoration
 - Brendan showed two examples of infestations that have been successfully controlled by APIPP's management efforts, resulting in great benefits for both the environment and people.
 - Typically, restoration of native species occurs passively post-treatment. However, when we start to address larger infestations, we'll need to do more active restoration.
 - Native Seed Collection and Propagation – a new APIPP program that will include native and local genotype collection and use for restoration projects.
 - There was a lot of interest from the partners for this project. Some of their comments and ideas:
 - Sign that would advertise the restoration is done with local seed.
 - Reaching out to seed distributors to see if they're interested in collaboration, good will locally.
- Climate Adaptation
 - Zack showed his management map overlaid with TNC's connected and resilient lands. Approximately, 87% of management sites fall on TNC's resilient and connected lands network.
- Innovation and Adaptive Change
 - Zack completed a pilot project using UAS for *Phragmites* detection and mapping for last summer. Using UAS, he successfully confirmed presence/absence at 70% of surveyed sites and mapped patches as small as 0.02 acres. On average, using a UAS saved 80 min/site compared to traditional survey techniques. APIPP is

hoping to build this project out with a more advanced UAS which will include multispectral analysis.

- Remote sensing for forest pests – Zack used the example of hemlock wooly adelgid in the region. We have limited information on the hemlock resources in the park (most vulnerable or highest priority). We will be using remote sensing to identify hemlock stands and begin the process of prioritizing areas to search for hemlock wooly adelgid.
- APIPP's Implementation Timeline (see slide)

Recognition of Eric Holmlund and Brendan Quirion over lunch. Thank you both for all the work you did as stewards for the Adirondacks!

Guest Presentation – Introducing iMapInvasives 3.0! (Meg Wilkinson and John Marino)

- iMap first went live in 2010 and redesigned with release of 3.0 in 2019.
- Goal – centralized database for invasive species in NYS.
- If you are developing a Survey 123 or Collector App, contact iMap first to see how your data can be cross-walked to iMap
- iMap 3.0 can be found at www.nyimainvasives.org
- Meg and John provided an online overview of the new interface:
 - They have an online [user manual](#)
 - [Guidance](#) for users that had an old iMap account
 - Search bar will zoom into location by address, GPS coordinates, lakes, etc.
 - Users can filter records by species, record dates, jurisdiction, habitat type, etc. In the future, there will be a filter option by watershed.
 - There is a lasso tool, under identity/measure, click area that you're interested in and select "See what's here"
 - For web-map services, contact John (john.marino@dec.ny.gov)
 - APIPP data is included in iMap as a layer and is in the process of being incorporated into iMap.
 - Question from audience: Can iMap help with posting a map on a lake association's website that pulls from iMap and shows exactly what the lake association wants? Answer: Yes, iMap can explore options with individual interested lake associations.
 - Question/Discussion point from audience: Lake Association could request that their contractor enter their hand harvesting management data into iMap. Maybe a specialized Survey 123 app for this purpose?
 - Another useful tool is the email alerts. These can be set under the hamburger in the iMap logo. See custom alert options.
- Beyond Online Map:

- iMap is making individual dashboards for organizations. They provide data in a quick reference form. It gives quick numbers and you can dig into data for details as well.
- John showed the dashboard for WISPA – State-wide live map of the boat steward program.
 - Dashboard view is approachable and digestible. See AWI and LCBP reports for overview data for 2018.
- John is working on a few different tools:
 - Simple Aquatic Survey
 - More advanced Esri collector app that PARKS is currently using.
- Make sure to check out the iMap trainings available through the [New York iMapInvasives](#) page.
 - See the trainings available - <https://www.nyimapinvasives.org/training>
 - There is also the [Certified Trainer Network](#) – looking for additional trainers in Adirondacks.

Notes prepared by E. Vennie-Vollrath