



2024 Crew Assistance Program Frequently Asked Questions Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (CR-PRISM)

How do we know if a project is within CR-PRISM's capacity?

CR-PRISM has many tools at our disposal, and we train our seasonal staff for a broad array of invasive species management projects from detection and monitoring to response and restoration. However, regarding response efforts we are primarily restricted to hand tools and equipment such as brushcutters. We do not have access to heavy machinery, mowers, or off-road vehicles (other than a couple kayaks!).

Our capacity may also be limited by project cost and/or the seasonal timing or amount of time it would take the crew to complete a project (we only have them May-August and have lots of work to get done!). But the best way to find out if a project is within our capacity is to reach out and ask, prior to submitting a proposal.

Is CR-PRISM able to use pesticides?

No. The Capital Region PRISM only conducts manual, mechanical, cultural, biological, and restorative controls.

Does CR-PRISM take care of securing permits?

No, CR-PRISM does not take care of securing necessary permits for Crew Assistance Program projects. It is expected that the partner seeking assistance already has/is working to obtain the necessary permits and/or permissions in place prior to the start of work.

CR-PRISM is happy to help partners with invasive species management related permits by reviewing language and proposed management strategies, methods, and tools. However, all questions regarding permit needs and regulations should be directed to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Can I apply on behalf of another organization?

CR-PRISM strongly encourages proposals to be submitted by the owner or agent representing the property in question – the person applying must have the authority to approve the work they are requesting. If you are applying on behalf of an organization, you must include written approval of the work and proposal from the owner as part of your proposal for the Crew Assistance Program. We will also require written approval for the agreed upon scope of work from the owner of the property, should the project be selected.

Does CR-PRISM work on private land?

Yes, CR-PRISM does work on private lands. However, private lands (natural areas, preserves, parks, wildlife refuges, sanctuaries, conservation areas, etc.) are subject to the same requirements and selection criteria as all other projects. The CR-PRISM does not conduct work on residential properties unless there is a high threat invasive species that directly impacts human health. The CR-PRISM prefers to conduct local eradications of high threat invasive species found in small populations throughout the region. Work actions that include exclusion or suppression actions of common and widespread invasive species will also be considered, especially to protect high conservation values of native flora and fauna. Projects that are subject to high invasive species pressure (high



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likelihood of re-establishment) from adjacent properties may not be selected. We can still help with those types of projects by providing the information and technical assistance needed to tackle them yourself, but they aren't likely to be selected for the Crew Assistance Program.

Is there a fee for the Crew Assistance Program?

No, there is no fee charged for the Crew Assistance Program.



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation provides financial support to The Capital Region PRISM via the Environmental Protection Fund