



Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Detection & Monitoring Report

Purpose:

The Invasive Species Survey Report will provide an overview and help identify baseline site composition and guide potential invasive species response actions (control/treatment, post-treatment monitoring, adaptive management, restoration, and research) at a specific site over time.

This form can be found online as "Detect & Monitor Survey Report Template" at <https://www.capitalregionprism.org/reports-and-products.html> or with a request. Please consult the Capital Region PRISM if there are any questions at (518)-885-8995. Please capture and collect data using [iMapInvasives](#). The online software platform and associated mobile application are free and open sourced.

Section 1: Survey Summary

This section provides an overview of the site, contact information, etc. Save the report for your records and to guide potential future management decisions.

To determine site value, we recommend using a [Framework of Response](#). Resources the Capital Region PRISM recommends are the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) [Prioritization Model](#), the [New York Protected Area Database \(NYPAD\)](#) and the [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Resource Mapper](#). These models and databases will allow you to assess your site's value based on a few factors. Sites should receive a comprehensive evaluation that includes ecological considerations such as ecosystem health and composition, invasive species present on site, and conservation targets. Other factors to consider are the significance of a site's cultural, social, or recreational value to the public. Although the Capital Region PRISM cannot directly assist with all projects, we can provide consultations to determine how to begin assessing ecosystem health and invasive species present on the property as well as provide best management practices regarding invasive species response.

Section 2: Survey Result Summary

The survey summary section will contain the goals, site description, survey methods, and maps generated from your survey efforts. Please fill out the provided table and insert screen shots of iMapInvasives maps and other relevant maps or documents. This form will serve as a record of your efforts and is intended to guide future management decisions.

Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

The recommendation section contains treatment calendars and post-season summaries. Most sites need to be revisited on a regular basis to document successes/failures, identify any changes needed, and update future treatment calendars.



Section 1: Survey Summary

General Information	
Date Survey Conducted: 06/28/24	Property Owner Name, Title, and Contact: Bryan Ellis, NYS DEC Regional Forester, Region 5 bryan.ellis@dec.ny.gov , (518) 623-1275
Site Name: Eldridge Swamp State Forest	
Site Address (if different): Route 313 Parking Lot	Survey Leader Name, Title, and Contact: Sam Schultz, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator ss986@cornell.edu
Latitude/Longitude: 43.058833°N, 73.338131°W	County: Washington
Total Parcel Size (acres): 515 acres	Team Member Name(s) and Title(s): Terrestrial Invasive Species Technicians: Joe Simonds, Chris Benincasa, Riley Willard, Stephen Root
Worksite Size (acres): 23.9 acres	Permit(s)/Permission(s) Acquired? Yes, Temporary Revocable Permit
Report Author: Sam Schultz	Data Recorder & iMapInvasives ID: Chris Benincasa- 29191

***Remember to obtain proper permissions before completing any detection & monitoring project. Please attach any permits/permissions completed for this project as an appendix.

Conservation Goal:

- Delineate & assess a conservation value To prevent and protect a conservation value
 Local Eradication Post-Treatment Monitoring Containment
 Suppression Exclusion Restoration

Survey Type:

- Detection Delineation Follow-up Monitoring Detection Training eDNA
 Highly Probable Areas Volunteer Engagement Crew Assistance Program Project

Site Description: Provide existing conditions of the site, current land use, landscape elements, historical uses, etc. This section should include information such as habitat composition, dominance of native species, list any known native species on site (both common and scientific names), any protected properties or larger landscape features that include site, etc.

Eldridge Swamp is fantastic for wildlife viewing and hunting. Forests, grassy areas and wetlands, in combination with the adjoining forested and farm landscapes, provide valuable wildlife habitat for this area. Although there are no official trails marked yet on this property, there is a network of old farm paths and logging trails. The property is open to hiking and other non-motorized recreation. The Batten Kill flows along the northern border of the state forest, however, there are no formalized trails to access the river from this property.

Eldridge Swamp contains the southernmost known population of white spruce in NY that may be the third or fourth southernmost population globally. The swamp forest is a rare boreal ecosystem in the Hudson Valley lowlands.

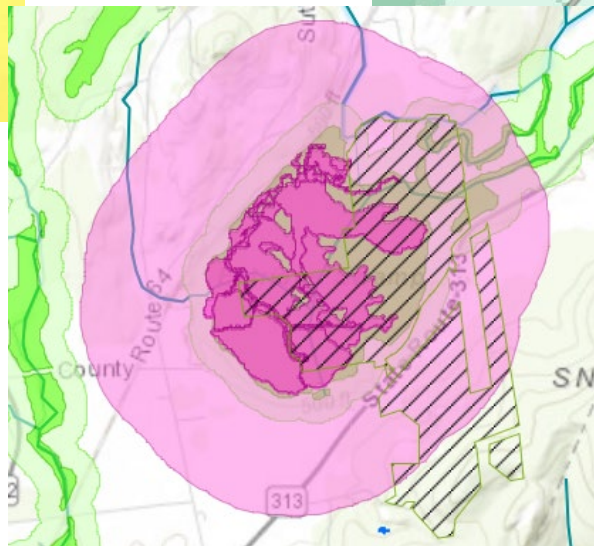
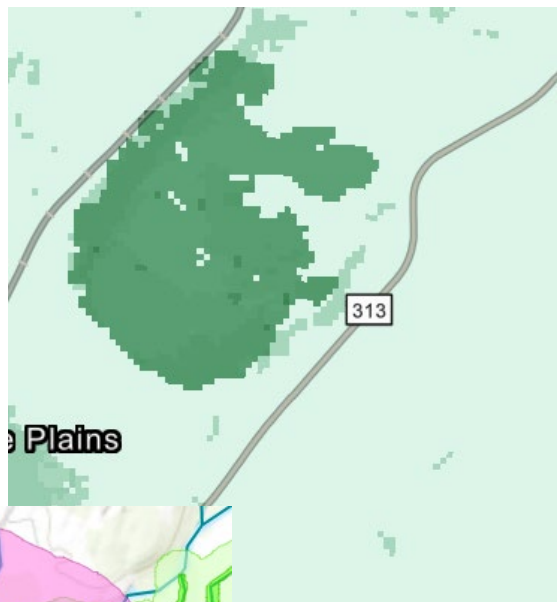
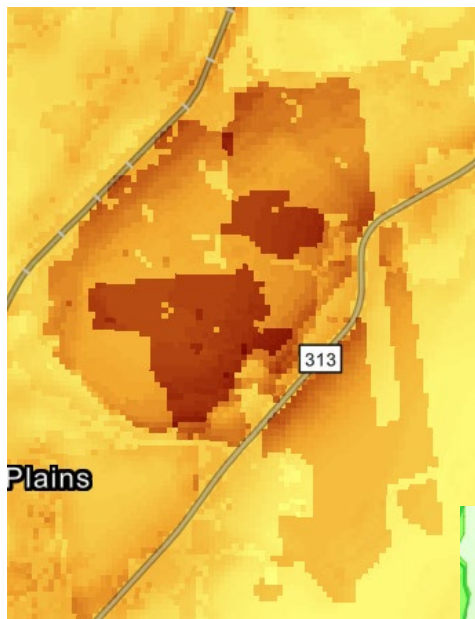
DEC manages these lands in accordance with the management activities described in the Northern Piedmont Unit Management Plan (PDF). In addition to management objectives, the UMP contains detailed information on natural features, recreational infrastructure, geology, natural and human history, habitats, wildlife, fisheries and much more.

Survey Techniques: Provide a clear and concise description of the work to be conducted, target species, and any survey methods used (i.e. Highly probable area search, rake toss, transect, etc.).

The Terrestrial team conducted a forest pest survey within a known hemlock-hardwood swamp within Eldridge Swamp State Forest. Any other invasive species detected during the survey were noted and delineated on Field Maps.

Site Significance: Some recommended resources to identify high priority sites include: the [CR-PRISM Framework of Response](#), the [NYNHP Prioritization Model](#), the [NYS DEC Environmental Resource Mapper](#)? Please provide screenshots of any maps and/or models used to determine the site is a priority and describe why they show the site is a priority. What other reason is present for conducting the survey (rare, threatened, endangered species, partner property, significant habitat present, etc.)?

Eldridge Swamp State Forest is a PRISM Priority Conservation Area. The screenshots below are taken from the NYNHP Prioritization Model and the NYS DEC Environmental Resource Mapper to show the significance of the site. As seen below, in the top two figures, Eldridge Swamp State Forest scores highly on both the comprehensive and ecological score. The figure on the bottom shows the natural resources available at Eldridge Swamp State Forest. The forest features a 496.8-acre freshwater wetland, red maple-hardwood swamp (high quality occurrence of uncommon community type), Shrub swamp (high quality occurrence of uncommon community type), marsh headwater stream (high quality occurrence), spruce-fir swamp (high quality occurrence of uncommon community type), and red maple- shrub swamp (high quality occurrence of uncommon community type). There are very few invasives within the swamp itself, other parts of the state forest are highly invaded but this area has manageable sized invasive populations.



Section 2: Survey Result Summary

Common Name & Scientific Name	Tier Rank	Threat Ranking	Growth Form	Phenology/ Life stage	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/ Abundance	Area Infested (acres/miles if linear)
Japanese barberry (<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>)	4	Very High	Shrub	Vegetative	5-25%	Dense plants/clumps	0.48 acres
Common buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>)	4	Very High	Tree	Vegetative	<5%	Trace	0.02 acres
Multiflora rose (<i>Rosa multiflora</i>)	4	Very High	Shrub	Vegetative	<5%	Trace	0.02 acres
Morrow's honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>)	4	Very High	Shrub	Vegetative	<5%	Trace	0.02 acres
Hemlock woolly adelgid (<i>Aldeges tsugae</i>)	4	Very High	Insect	Not detected	Not detected	Not detected	Not detected

*If a specific species is surveyed for and not detected please state that clearly in the table above.

Growth Form:

Terrestrial: Ground Cover, Herbaceous, Vine, Shrub, Tree, Insect, Animal

Aquatic: Submerged, Floating, Emergent, Riparian, Animal

Phenology/Life stage:

Plants: Vegetative, Flowering, Fruit/In Seed, Dormant, Dead

Insects: Egg, Larvae, Pupae, Crawler, Sisten, Adult, Dormant, Dead

Animals: Egg/Newborn, Fledging, Molting, Mating, Emerging, Feeding, Swarming, Migrating, Dormant, Dead

Percent Cover:

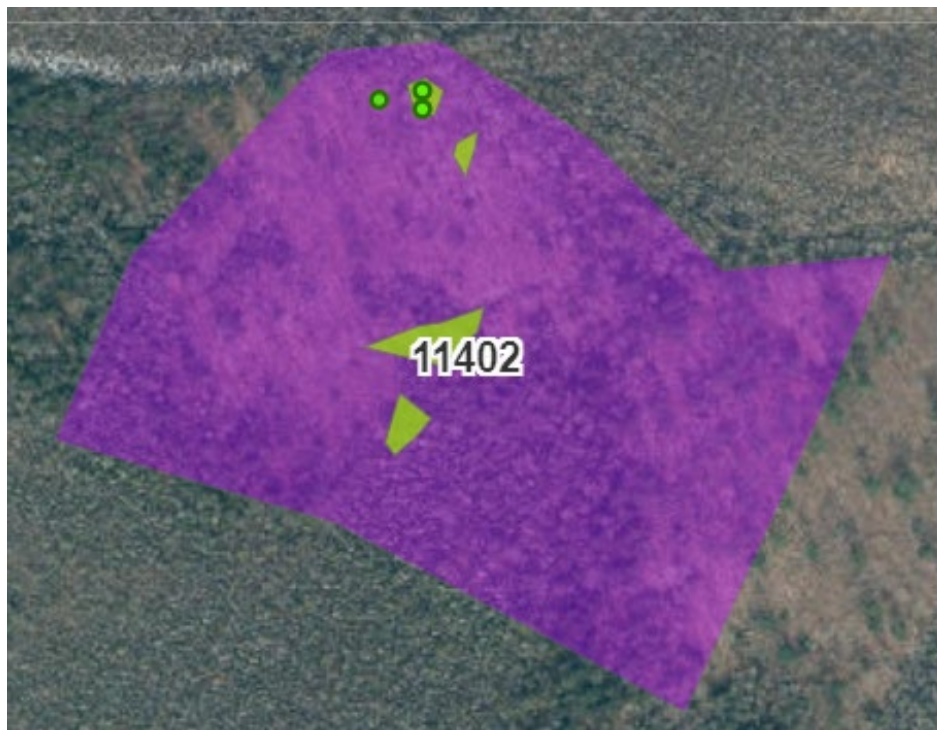
iMapInvasives Percent Cover Ranges: <5%, 5%-25%, 26%-50%, 51%-75%, 76%-100% or use a specific percentage

Distribution/Abundance:

Trace (single plant/clump), sparse (scattered plants/clumps), dense plants/clumps, monoculture, linearly scattered

Map: Develop a map of the survey area that has the searched area, any iMapInvasives points, polygons and/or lines for presence or non-detection. Multiple maps may be added for multiple species or locations. If available, include a property map for a comprehensive view of the property. All searched areas, detection and non-detection data should be uploaded to the CR-PRISM SharePoint Tracker and iMapInvasives.

- Insert Survey Map(s):

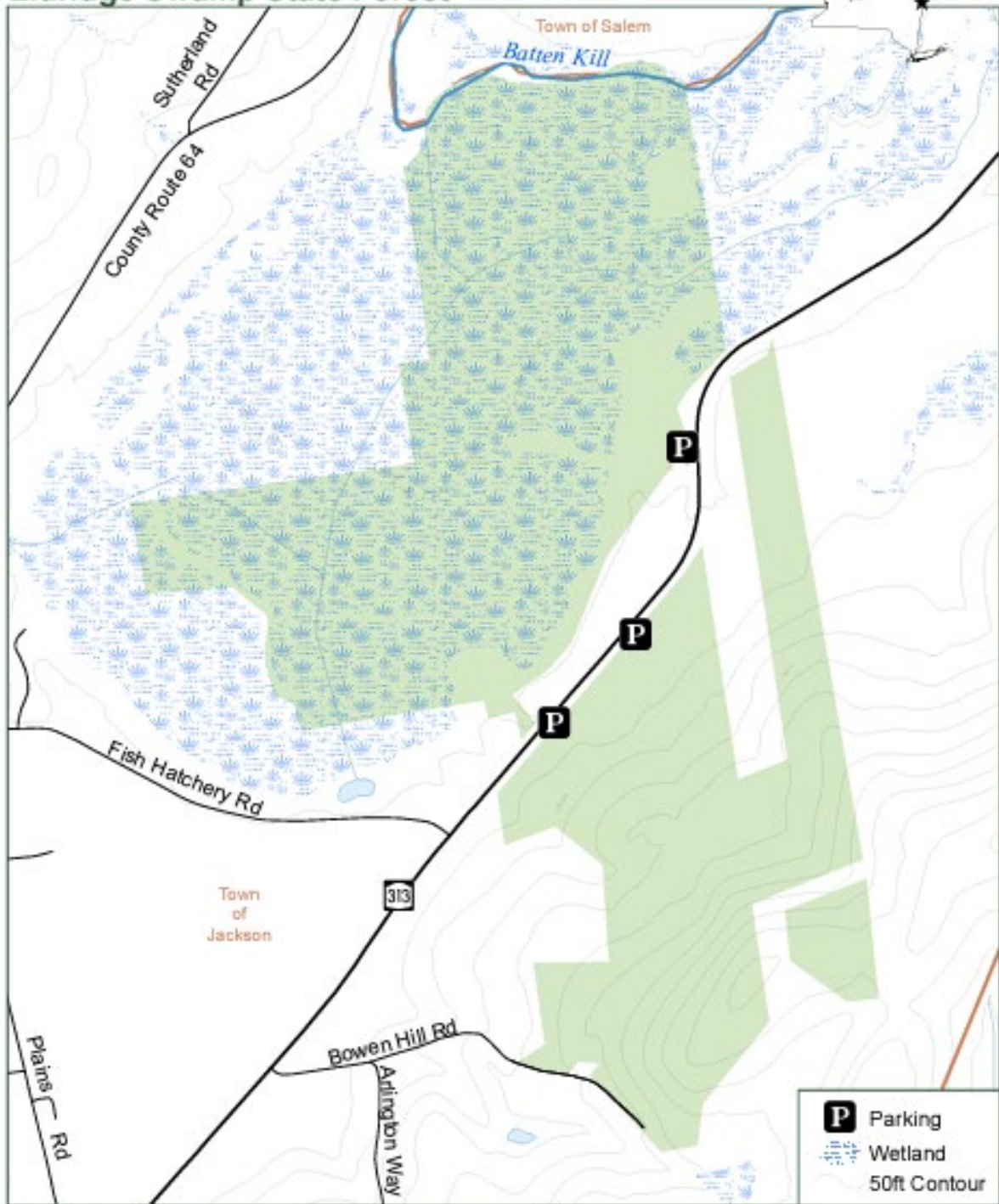


Map 1: Invasive plants detected within Eldridge Swamp State Forest



Map 2: Not detected points and polygons for hemlock woolly adelgid, the green dots in the photos are the same invasive plant populations documented above.

Eldridge Swamp State Forest



NEW YORK
STATE OF
CONSERVATION
Department of
Environmental
Conservation



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles 12/21

Washington County

Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

This section provides recommendations of any response methods, monitoring methods, and restoration efforts based on the survey.

Additional Notes: Provide any additional information that is not included above regarding species surveyed for or about the survey itself. Were there any barriers or issues that arose before or during the survey? Provide any advice that could limit barriers or issues in the future.

Bears do inhabit this area, please take proper precautions and let staff know prior to working on site. Please respect any and all wildlife, PRISM staff are visitors in their home. Keep your distance and be appreciate wildlife from a safe distance.

Response: Briefly describe any recommendations for future response methods, why they are recommended, and any alternatives to consider. Please use abundance and site-specific factors in your recommendation. If conducting a highly probable area survey, please list any response actions taken while on-site. Optional: Attach or reference BMP guidance document. Consider state and local permitting requirements.

Japanese barberry and other invasives should be a priority for treating next year (2025) by the Capital Region PRISM staff while the population is still manageable. Root grubbing and cutting any dense growth prior to seed development is the best management practice for these species. Try to minimize site disturbance if possible.

Post-Survey Monitoring: Briefly describe the monitoring procedure, when it will occur, and who will complete it. Consider the phenology of species when suggesting timelines. If a response goal such as eradication, suppression, containment and/or exclusion is selected, will a management plan be drafted? If a plan is needed, please contact the CR-PRISM office for a template of our Invasive Species Management Plan.

This site is a high priority location for hemlock woolly adelgid surveying due to its high ecological scores. Therefore, should be surveyed either annually or every other year. Any additional invasives detected should be delineated and added to the response plan outlined above.