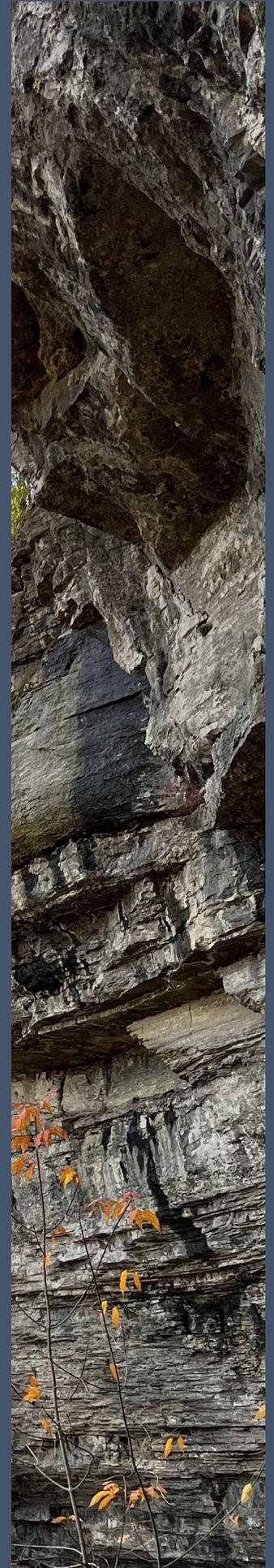


# Capital Region PRISM Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

2022 Annual Report



**INVASIVE SPECIES  
MANAGEMENT**  
CAPITAL REGION



# Acknowledgement

## Capital Region PRISM

Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management  
Contract No. 010340 January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022

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### Funding Acknowledgement

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### A Special Thank You

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Invasive Species Coordination Section; the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets; the New York State Invasive Species Council; Invasive Species Advisory Council; New York State Legislature; the Capital Region PRISM Steering Committee and the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County.

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Saratoga County



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation



Agriculture  
and Markets



The numerous partner organizations and their representatives who contribute their expertise, time and resources to the development and success of the Capital Region PRISM

A copy of this report can be obtained from the Capital Region PRISM website:

[capitalregionprism.org](http://capitalregionprism.org)

# Table of Contents

**Executive Summary**..... **3**

**Introduction**..... **5**

**Goals**

- Education and Outreach..... **7**
- Prevention ..... **10**
- Early Detection..... **14**
- Rapid Response, Management and Restoration..... **19**
- Partners, Coordination and Cooperation..... **23**
- Information Management and Communication ..... **31**

**2022 Work Plan Summary** ..... **34**

**Appendices**

- Appendix A: PRISM Structure ..... **37**
- Appendix B: Events ..... **39**
- Appendix C: Priority Conservation Zones ..... **43**
- Appendix D: Partner List..... **45**
- Appendix E: Meetings ..... **46**

# Executive Summary

## Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management of the Capital Region

The Capital Region PRISM (CR-PRISM) finalized the 2022 year with a Five-Year Strategic Plan review and revision. The five-year strategic plan revision was a year-long process in which several phases of work were completed to produce updated goals and outcomes. A consultant and the staff collaborated on the revision and update. The revision was a validating and learning process that included surveys and interviews from the partnership that resulted in a stakeholder report. The report highlights key findings about program successes, challenges, and opportunities for the future.

CR-PRISM partners are an integral part of our work, and their voices are imperative in the planning process. Stakeholder outreach was used to obtain feedback on the CR-PRISM's work, elicit partner motivations for participating in PRISM programs, assess partner needs, and solicit and test ideas. In June and July of 2022, 93 partners provided input into the plan through interviews and surveys. A total of 20 interviews were conducted by the consultant and CR-PRISM staff. The report was a guiding tool that was used to develop the next CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan.

In the second phase of the revision process, the staff compiled metrics of past successes from the previous five years. The consultant, with this data and prior annual reports, drafted a strategic accomplishment report. The compiled metrics were used to identify what worked well in the past and identified gaps to be addressed in the future. Measures of success surrounded the current goals and objectives of the CR-PRISM's Strategic Plan.

## CR-PRISM Five Year Strategic Accomplishments

The CR-PRISM's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan sets six goals: partners/coordination/cooperation, prevention, early detection/rapid response, education and outreach, control/management/restoration, and information management and communication. The strategic accomplishment report describes progress and major accomplishments for each goal. Since 2018, the CR-PRISM has:

- Increased the number of partners by 19% each year
- Improved capacity of local partners for invasive species work through technical and financial support
- Built CR-PRISM capacity through regional collaboration, such as with other PRISMs and participation in regional and statewide task forces
- Prevented the spread of aquatic invasive species through the Watercraft Inspection Steward Program (WISP). Since 2018, the WISP Program has engaged 80,303 people while inspecting 50,998 watercrafts, intercepting 1,952 aquatic invasive species from entering waterbodies
- Increased early detection capacity, especially for aquatic invasive species
- Held nearly 300 educational events for 10,168 people, including lectures, in-field demonstrations, and hands on training involving more technical instruction

- Prioritized invasive species monitoring and management of 30 high-threat species and in 26 priority conservation areas and 22 priority waterbodies
- Created frameworks to support CR-PRISM and partner responses to new invasive species reports, including tools, templates, and best management practices (BMPs)
- Created systems for documenting standard operating procedures and maintaining records

Findings from the products above were used to formulate a vision and draft goals for the next strategic plan, at a retreat in September. The Partnership provided input and commentary at the retreat which resulted in an updated draft five-year strategic plan. The retreat occurred with strategic partners, CR-PRISM Steering Committee, and staff. On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the **CR-PRISM Strategic Plan for 2023-2027** was shared at the annual partner meeting for commentary before its final release.

## Meet The Staff



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*Figure 1: Map of PRISM boundaries*

# Introduction

## CAPITAL REGION PRISM MISSION STATEMENT

*“Detect, prevent, and control invasive species, through direct action and education, to protect biodiversity, the natural environment, economy, and quality of life.”*

The following annual report for the Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Contract No. 010340 January 1, 2018, to December 31, 2022, is a summary of the outcomes as related to the CR-PRISM 2022 Work Plan and Five-Year Strategic Plan. The report will cumulatively showcase achievements from each goal over the last five years with highlights from the 2022 year.

The Capital Region PRISM is hosted by the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Saratoga County, and we collaborate with our partners to reduce the spread and impact of invasive species. The CR-PRISM proudly serves eleven counties, including Albany, Columbia, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and portions of Fulton, Greene, Herkimer, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington. The Capital Region PRISM is financially supported by the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The office is staffed with a full-time Lead Coordinator, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Manager and a part-time Environmental Educator. The core members that make up the CR-PRISM have strengths in each individual area of expertise. Together the PRISM has a solid foundation to deliver a diverse suite of approaches to help manage invasive species in the Capital Region with PRISM partners.

New York Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) 9-1703 defines invasive species as those that are nonnative to the ecosystem under consideration; whose introduction causes, or is likely to cause, economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. The harm must significantly outweigh any benefits. Invasives come from all around the world and are introduced through international trade. Invasive species of plants, animals, insects, and microorganisms are among the most serious threats to native species, habitats, ecosystems, agriculture, and public health in NYS.

The CR-PRISM uses a framework of response for invasive species prevention and management strategies that include species tier prioritizations and vector management to mitigate the spread of invasive species. Staff utilize the [CR-PRISM Tier List](#) and the [Statewide Tier List](#) managed by the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) when considering projects. In addition, the CR-PRISM’s [Standard Operating Procedures](#) are used to identify where work efforts should be focused, areas with lower invasive counts and densities receive greater attention. Areas where protected, endangered, or species of concern are present receive greater prioritization across all tiers. In summary, early detection systems are conducted by species, impact, and location on both public and private lands and waters. Prevention and outreach strategies focus on high-threat species of concern and emphasize practices that the public

and private industry can adopt to help mitigate invasive species detriments and control the further spread of these harmful organisms.

Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) have been identified for terrestrial early detections and management activities. Detection methods and lakes for aquatic surveys are chosen by utilizing a Priority Waterbody (PWB) Model. PCAs and PWBs are determined by ecologic significance, risk of spread, public access, abundance of invasive species, and other modeled attributes for early detection and management activities. In addition, the CR-PRISM consults with the NYNHP, PRISM Conservation Committee, and members of the Invasive Species Coordination Section in early detection and management efforts.

The CR-PRISM delivered a variety of communication, education, and outreach events in 2022 through various platforms. CR-PRISM hosted both in-person and virtual events with the goal of providing a better understanding of invasive species and their negative impacts. The PRISM collaborated with partners and stakeholders, upheld a social media presence, and helped communities, organizations, and others in reaching their goals of increasing awareness and knowledge of invasive species. The CR-PRISM also participated in the Annual New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week. Messaging has been rolled out to produce behavioral changes to reduce unintentional and intentional releases of non-native invasive species. An engaged and informed public utilizing these strategies is critical to help prevent invasive species from spreading.

In addition, the recruitment and training of volunteers within the PRISM region to aid in early detections of species has been imperative to help slow the spread and manage invasive species. Trainings with the on-the-ground database collection, through programs such as iMapInvasives, has been a valuable tool for the PRISM. Community scientists are a vital cog in the early detection monitoring network for slowing the harmful effects of invasive species.

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Spread Prevention Program utilized watercraft stewards to perform three key functions in protecting waterbodies in the Capital Region and beyond. The program informed boaters about the impacts of AIS while teaching spread prevention measures, helped to reduce the spread of AIS between different bodies of water, and empowered boaters to protect the natural resources they cherish. The program also serves as an early detection measure by intercepting AIS from watercraft during launch and retrieval.

A core function of the CR-PRISM is the development and maintenance of a strong Partnership to help mitigate invasive species and their detrimental effects. Collaborations between partner organizations, guided by the CR-PRISM, are paramount in protecting our environment and way of life. More than three dozen cooperating organizations, partners, and volunteers support the CR-PRISM in its mission. Collaboration with our partners is key to our success and we want to share these efforts and invite you to embrace these initiatives. The strength of the CR-PRISM truly lies within its partners. Please feel free to reach out to the staff at any time to learn more about the possibilities of partnering with future projects.

[capitalregionprism.org](https://capitalregionprism.org)

## Education and Outreach

*Education and outreach strategies are delivered to increase awareness and knowledge of invasive species that can cause significant harm to the environment, economy, and human health. Preventative strategies, like education and outreach, are cost effective in limiting the spread of introductions.*

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan (ISCMP) sets forth a goal to “Engage and Inform the Public” which are critical actions to help prevent invasive species from spreading. Educational programming can result in behavioral changes that reduce releases of invasive species into the environment. Education and outreach programs of the CR-PRISM are designed to provide participants with prevention and management tools to empower them to take action to mitigate the harmful effects of invasive species.

### Five Year Strategic Results

Over the previous five-years, the CR-PRISM worked tirelessly within the region to spread knowledge and empower people and partners. This hard work led to the CR-PRISM demonstrating tremendous success in educating its constituents. The CR-PRISM has held nearly 300 educational events (e.g., lectures, in-field demonstrations, workshops, etc.) and has directly educated over 10,000 individuals throughout the greater Capital Region. Informal education such as tabling events (e.g., regional fairs, garden shows, etc.) are utilized to reach audiences indirectly. The CR-PRISM has reached nearly 100,000 individuals through such means.

Over the previous five years, press releases, email blasts, and quarterly newsletters were some of the tools the CR-PRISM had used to disseminate information throughout its region. For example, during the 2022 New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week (ISAW), an article in the Columbia County Paper was written in conjunction with CR-PRISM staff on emerging invasive species threats to the county and distributed to thousands of readers. Through these methods, over 25,000 individuals have been reached since 2018.

### 2022 Education and Outreach Results

The CR-PRISM delivered a variety of education and outreach events in 2022 through various platforms. CR-PRISM hosted both in-person and virtual events. The PRISM collaborated with partners and stakeholders, upheld a social media presence, and helped communities, organizations, and others in reaching their goals of increasing awareness and knowledge relating to invasive species.

Education and outreach materials, including brand-new trifold brochures, factsheets, resource guides, manuals, and presentations, were developed and promoted throughout the year to the public, partners, and stakeholders. Products from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health, Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYS AGM), and other agencies and organizations were also distributed by the PRISM.

In 2022, the CR-PRISM reached over 4,700 direct contacts across 120 educational events. Additionally, the CR-PRISM was able to reach over 15,000 people via indirect means such as tabling events. Another 25,000 individuals were reached through social media (Facebook and Instagram) and the CR-PRISM website. The CR-PRISM promoted and participated in the New York Invasive Species Awareness Week. For a list of all events organized by type, refer to Appendix B.



## Volunteer Network Program

The CR-PRISM utilizes its volunteer base for early detection and removal events throughout the year. Events have ranged from forest health surveys to water chestnut removals. The hemlock hunters program included dozens of volunteers across two PRISMs. During 2022, the CR-PRISM had 94 individuals sign up to be a part of the PRISM volunteer network, and nine volunteer workday events occurred in 2022. CR-PRISM volunteers worked a cumulative total of 531.5 hours. Master Forest Owner volunteers, within the CR-PRISM, surveyed an additional 1,580 acres over 18 private property sites for forest health issues and methods for stand improvement, including forest resiliency to increase potential timber products. This section does not include iMap trainings.



Figure 2: PRISM staff training volunteers for a water chestnut removal at Fish Creek with our partners at Saratoga PLAN.

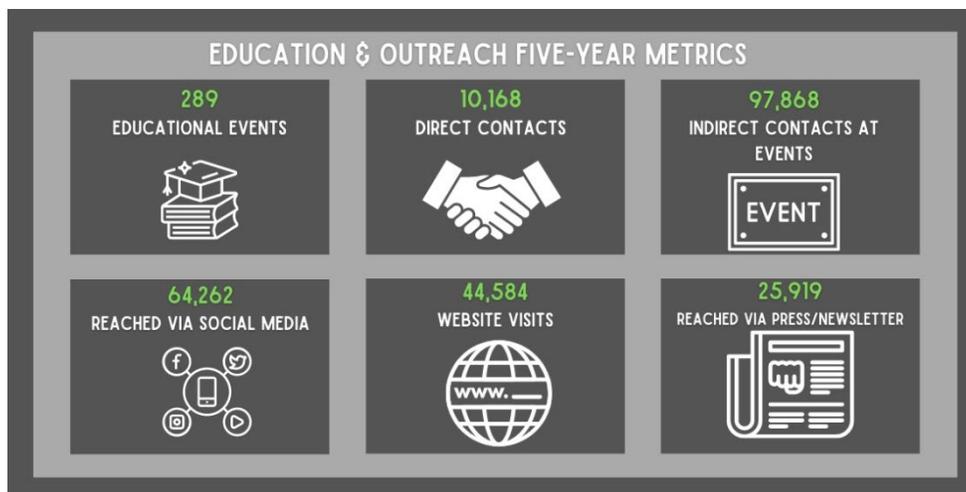
## Invasive Species Awareness Week

New York State’s 9<sup>th</sup> annual Invasive Species Awareness Week (NYISAW) campaign was held from June 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> 2022. NYISAW is an initiative put in place by the Invasive Species Council, Invasive Species Advisory Committee, and the eight PRISM partnership networks across the state. Through this campaign, the groups work to promote education and outreach regarding invasive species and the harm they can cause to the environment, economy, and human health. The CR-PRISM participated in statewide and regional NYISAW planning committees to foster collaboration across PRISM boundaries and create events that involved local partners. In addition to planning, the CR-PRISM was responsible for encouraging new and existing partners to participate in NYISAW and provided them with resources, from social media banners to one-on-one staff assistance for planning, to deliver a successful event to the public.



Figure 3: Sam Schultz and Albany County staff revealing a newly installed boot brush station at Ann Lee Pond during ISAW

The CR-PRISM hosted 13 events during NYISAW, directly reaching 442 individuals. These events ranged from floating classrooms to naturalist walks to virtual events, such as webinars. The PRISM hosted and participated in multiple in-person events with partners including the Wilton Wildlife Preserve, the Capital Region Wild Ones, and Sustainable Saratoga. In addition, two new boot brush stations that were funded in 2020 by the CR-PRISM were installed and unveiled at Ann Lee Pond. Through tabling events and social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram an additional 5,380 indirect contacts were reached. The CR-PRISM also promoted standardized messaging campaigns such as the Pledge to Protect and the Stop AIS Hitchhikers Pledge. Over 150 boaters took the pledge to Clean, Drain, and Dry their watercrafts to prevent the spread of invasive species. The watercraft inspection stewards across the region delivered the program.



# Prevention

*Prevention strategies are needed to help control the introduction of invasive species into a region. Develop public awareness regarding the harm caused by invasive species and strategies to control their spread.*

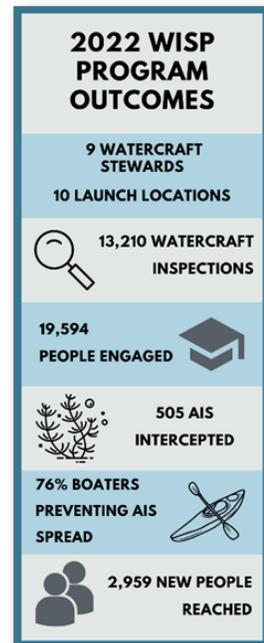
The NYS DEC ISCMP stresses the importance of prevention measures, “prevention is the first line of defense against would-be invaders and is the preferred management strategy”. The goal of prevention is to offset the cost associated with integrated management with well-established invasive species. These measures not only bring attention to decision makers of the potential threats of these species but make the public aware of the impact they have through their actions. The CR-PRISM promotes prevention measures to partners, community members, and businesses that may serve as potential vectors. Prevention measures are best showcased by the CR-PRISM through the delivery of a watercraft inspection steward program and other measures like our Spotted Lantern Fly program.

## Hudson & Mohawk Rivers Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Program

The CCE of Saratoga County with assistance from the CR-PRISM successfully administered the 2022 contract extension year, Hudson and Mohawk Rivers AIS Spread Prevention Program. The program deploys watercraft inspection stewards at high use boat launches to educate boaters and the public on how to Clean, Drain and Dry watercrafts and other recreational equipment to prevent the spread of AIS in NYS waters. Watercraft stewards intercept AIS from launching and retrieving vessels through voluntary watercraft inspections. Clean, Drain, Dry messaging encourages the public to participate in the inspection process, while promoting the practice even when a steward is not present in the future.

The Hudson and Mohawk Rivers are critically important waterbodies for the Capital Region. The two rivers support a multitude of native species and provide numerous recreational opportunities for the general public. The Hudson River boasts of a unique brackish ecosystem as a tidal estuary, making it a vital component for ecosystems throughout eastern NYS. Invasive species have plagued both waterways and have caused numerous issues for native species. Currently, over 120 aquatic non-native and invasive species have been found within the Hudson River estuary, making it a source point for AIS within the CR-PRISM and NYS. Therefore, the implementation of a watercraft steward program that actively engages and educates the public regarding spread prevention measures is imperative to prevent the spread of AIS into uninfected waters.

2022 marked the fourth year the CR-PRISM, through the CCE of Saratoga County has administered a full-scale WISP program across both the Hudson and Mohawk River regions. In 2021 the CR-PRISM employed 15 watercraft stewards at 23 locations. In 2020, 22 full-time watercraft stewards that



covered 28 launch locations; In 2019, 18 full-time watercraft stewards that covered 23 launch locations, and in 2018, three interns who gathered spread metrics of AIS at 5 launch sites throughout the Hudson and Mohawk River regions. Each subsequent year has showed growth in the program and offers a host of new information for both the CR-PRISM and the NYS DEC regarding spread prevention measures used by patrons as well as potential new introductions of AIS to the Hudson River, Mohawk River, and local waterbodies.

In 2022, the CR-PRISM hired 9 watercraft stewards that were placed at 10 launch locations along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers and surrounding waterbodies. Watercraft stewards inspected 13,210 watercrafts and prevented 505 AIS from infesting new waterbodies. The AIS program reached 19,594 individuals with Clean, Drain, Dry messaging, and 2,959 new people that had not interacted with a boat steward before. The program continued to develop in 2022 with a revamped aquatic species identification training that allowed for more accurate data collection. An overview of the season can be found below, and the full report is available online at the link below:

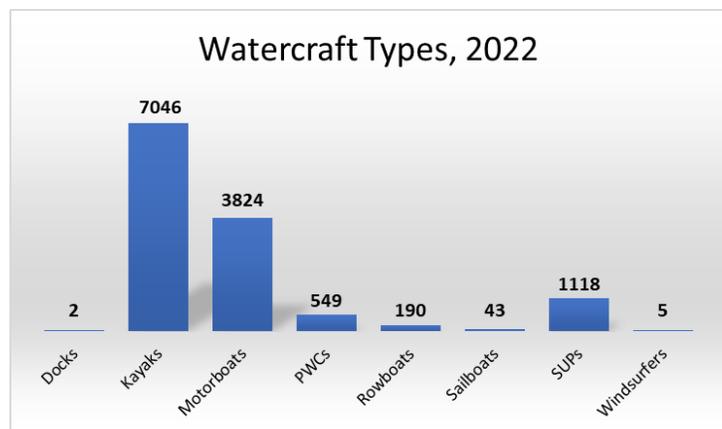
- [Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Spread Prevention Report](#)
- [Watercraft Inspection Steward Program Handbook](#)



Figure 4: Watercraft steward Colin Morse located at Round Lake, Saratoga County.

As noted in graph 1, during the 2022 boating season stewards observed all watercraft types except barges. Kayaks were the most commonly observed, contributing to 53% of all watercraft recorded throughout the season. Motorboats were the second most common watercraft type with a total percentage of 28.8%. Round Lake observed the highest number of kayaks, while Cossayuna Lake observed the highest number of motorboats. Across all launch locations, 13,291 watercrafts were observed along the Hudson River, Mohawk River, and local waterbodies. High use launch locations with motorboats have a higher risk of AIS transport in comparison to kayaks, which have less opportunities for AIS to attach.

Many users surveyed in the program were launching vessels for recreational purposes (67%). To a lesser degree, other program respondents were accessing waterways for fishing (31%). Less than two percent of those surveyed were conducting government (1%), commercial (0%), or research (0%) activities. A large percentage of the species observed by watercraft stewards in 2022 were native species. Out of the 1,810 total species intercepted, 72% were identified as native.



Graph 1: Watercraft types observed, 2022.

Of all species observed, 14% were terrestrial debris, or in a state that was entirely unidentifiable. A total of 3.9% of all watercraft inspected had aquatic invasive species visibly observed on them. In total, 505 AIS were intercepted by 2022 watercraft stewards, with no new species of AIS detected.

During the 2022 WISP season 72% (6,990) of boaters stated that they take spread prevention measures, while 23% (2,219) of boaters that said they do not take prevention measures, and another 3% (206) of boaters refused or were unsure if measures were taken. Of those who said they do take spread prevention measures, 58% stated that they wash their watercraft, 25% drain any standing water, 65% dry their watercraft, 28% have inspected previously, and .4% stated that they utilized a decontamination station prior to arriving at the launch. Many boaters took more than one spread prevention measure. Of those who said they do not take spread prevention measures, a large number can be attributed to boaters first seasonal launch, or that the watercraft is only launched in one waterbody.

The CR-PRISM is proud to have had 10 (including supervisor) outstanding staff in 2022 that helped continue to spread the message of Clean, Drain, Dry. The CR-PRISM strongly supports the AISSP program’s purpose of protecting our aquatic environments from future infestations. Along with protecting our aquatic environments, the CR-PRISM supports the programs capacity to help maintain the viability of local and regional economies and recreational activities that benefit New York State residents and tourists.

### WISP Annual Metrics Summary

2021	2022	2019	2020
15 Watercraft Stewards 22 Locations	9 Watercraft Stewards 10 Locations	18 Watercraft Stewards 23 Locations	22 Watercraft Stewards 28 Locations
16,868 Individuals Educated	19,594 Individuals Educated	13,411 Individuals Educated	27,150 Individuals Educated
11,467 Watercraft Inspections	13,210 Watercraft Inspections	8,475 Watercraft Inspections	15,609 Watercraft Inspections
533 AIS Interceptions	505 AIS Interceptions	346 AIS Interceptions	410 AIS Interceptions
67% Boaters Preventing AIS Spread	76% Boaters Preventing AIS Spread	77% Boaters Preventing AIS Spread	74% Boaters Preventing AIS Spread

## Spotted Lanternfly Programming

The CR-PRISM has put significant effort into its prevention/early detection campaign for the spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma deliculata*). The spotted lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive plant-hopping insect native to Asia that has the potential to cause \$400 million worth of damages to agriculture in New York State. Through partnering with NYS AGM and Cornell IPM, the CR-PRISM has been able to obtain and monitor 14 traps for SLF throughout our eleven-county region. These traps are monitored on a bi-weekly basis by either PRISM staff or staff from one of our partner organizations. CR-PRISM has also collaborated with NYNHP and NYS AGM on the SLF grid adoption program. Throughout the 11-county region PRISM staff, partners, and community members have adopted over 40 grids (one square kilometer each) to survey seasonally for SLF. Throughout the PRISM region, staff and volunteers have monitored an estimated 10,625.3 acres.

Additionally, the CR-PRISM has established several outreach tactics to spread awareness of this pest throughout the region and aid in prevention. Staff has developed a “Species Highlight” gallery on the front page of the PRISM website, that features detailed information on the identification, phenology, and damages of SLF, as well as links to fact sheets from our partner organizations (Cornell IPM, NYS DEC, NYS AGM).

The CR-PRISM has also conducted a door-to-door campaign geared towards targeted businesses and secondary growers, and shared information related to SLF prevention. CR-PRISM delivered additional SLF outreach materials to wineries, breweries, and growers throughout the region. An SLF wine tag created by the Finger Lakes PRISM made applicable to the Capital Region, along with Cornell IPM and NYS AGM materials, were compiled into outreach folders and distributed to wineries, vineyards, and related businesses. More than two dozen businesses were targeted in highly probable areas.

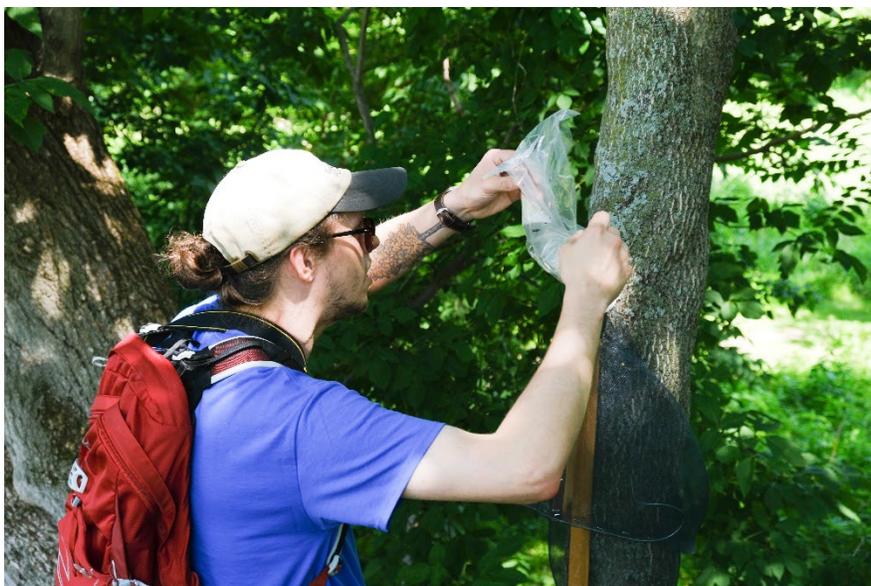


Figure 5: Addison Kubik monitoring a trap for spotted lanternfly at Peebles Island State Park.

## Early Detection

*Early detections are imperative to slowing the spread and harm caused by invasive species. Early identification of new infestations are controlled by prioritizing species, pathways, and highly probable areas.*

As stated in the NYS DEC ISCMP, “though investment in prevention measures at all scales is the first line of defense, even the most robust prevention efforts will not be 100% effective. For this reason, early detection and rapid response of IS infestations is essential.” Early detection is a cost-effective management strategy, providing the best opportunity to address invasive species before they cause considerable damage to the environment. The PRISM had a focused approach to surveying in Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) and Priority Waterbodies (PWBs). In addition, early detection efforts are focused in highly probable areas to target high-threat species before they can spread into uninvaded areas.

In 2022, the CR-PRISM and partners recorded detects and non-detects focusing on high-threat species. Survey efforts are prioritized based on the tier system. Species are prioritized to target populations for management before a population becomes too large for effective eradication.

Tier 1 & 2 species of focus in both the AIS and TIS realms include, hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), European frog-bit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*), starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*), variable-leaf milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*), beech leaf disease (*Litylenchus crenatae mcccannii*), southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*), and spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). High threat Tier 3 & 4 species of focus include, water chestnut (*Trapa natans*), yellow floating-heart (*Nymphoides peltate*), Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*), and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).

The CR-PRISM also researched and surveyed for the potential ecological and social impact of species that lack regional information or data regarding their invasiveness, such as Japanese tree-lilac (*Syringa reticulata*), Japanese butterbur (*Petasites japonicus*), and European Spindletree (*Euonymus europaeus*).

Tier 1 species that have been confirmed near the CR-PRISM boundary are monitored to determine probable locations of encroachment based on proximity. Currently, there are seven Tier 1 species within 20 miles of the CR-PRISM boundary. Note the AIS and TIS species below for example.

Tier 1 Aquatic Species within 20 miles of CR-PRISM Boundary		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Confirmed Count
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fanwort	86*
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth	1
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot Feather	1

\*Reports are only within 3 waterbodies

Tier 1 Terrestrial Species within 20 miles of CR-PRISM Boundary		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Confirmed Count
<i>Akebia quinata</i>	Chocolate Vine	6
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese Virgin's-bower, Sweet Autumn Clematis	1
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom	2
<i>Litylenchus crenatae mccannii</i>	Beech leaf disease nematode	1

## Aquatic Invasive Species Surveys

Since 2020, the CR-PRISM and subcontracted partner Adirondack Research have surveyed 6,848 acres of waterbodies throughout the PRISM region, with an emphasis on locations near the Adirondack blue line. Early detection surveys have focused on Tier 1 & 2 species, including hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), European frog-bit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*), yellow floating-heart (*Nymphoides peltata*), starry stonewort (*Nitelopsis obtusa*) and variable-leaf milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*). Over the past five years, over 77 waterbodies have been surveyed throughout eight of PRISM's eleven county region, with some locations receiving follow-up monitoring on a rotational schedule. Waterbodies surveyed occur on both public and private waterbodies when feasible.

The CR-PRISM has 296 waterbodies throughout the eleven-county region. A Priority Waterbody Model was created in 2021 to help prioritize lake surveys for early detection and response where the greatest attention and efforts are needed with limited resources. In general, waterbodies with no or limited invasive species introductions, that are ecologically significant, and with public access should receive the greatest attention for early detection and response efforts. The prioritization model is based on a point system that assigns a given waterbody a priority ranking. Any given waterbody could be ranked with a priority level between 1-3; priority 1 waterbodies receiving the greatest need for early detection efforts. Note the classification characteristics below to determine priority waterbody rankings. Waterbodies, depending on their designated rank can be surveyed annually or on a rotational basis.

### Factors for Classification as a Priority Waterbody for Surveying

- *Is there public access with a boat launch?*
- *Has the waterbody been surveyed recently?*
- *Is the waterbody within an area with a high comprehensive score? As indicated by the [NY Natural Heritage Program Invasive Species Prioritization Map Models](#).*
- *How close is the waterbody to known Tier 2-4, high or very high threat species infestations?*
- *Is the waterbody under active surveillance or management by a lake association or other entity?*
- *Are any known AIS present in the waterbody?*
- *Is the waterbody used as a drinking water supply?*
- *Is the waterbody a New York Protected Area?*

In 2022, the CR-PRISM continued to advance early detection efforts. Aquatic surveys were completed using visual top-side and meandering rake toss methods. Data was collected and uploaded using iMapInvasives tools such as iMap Mobile Advanced and SAS Pro. Surveys were completed along the littoral zone of waterbodies. New infestations of aquatic invasive species found in dense abundances were delineated as polygons, and trace populations were uploaded as single points.



Figure 6: Kristopher Williams conducting an AIS early detection survey on Featherstonhough Lake, Schenectady County.



Figure 7: An invasive bed of Eurasian watermilfoil located in Round Lake, Saratoga County NY.

In 2022, a total of 26 early identification AIS surveys were completed by the CR-PRISM and subcontracted partner, Adirondack Research. During the field season 1,566.33 total acres of water was surveyed. The CR-PRISM completed 18 of the 26 aquatic surveys covering 779.63 acres. Surveys were completed in six of the PRISM's eleven counties. Adirondack Research, serving as part of the PRISM AIS early detection team completed eight lake surveys using both motorized and non-motorized watercraft. Adirondack Research conducted surveys in five counties, totaling 786.7 acres. The subcontracted partner has a greater capacity and resources, typically larger waterbodies from the Priority Waterbody Model are selected for this work. Adirondack Research additionally collected bioacoustics survey measures showing bottom hardness and bathymetry, alongside invasive plant beds. The most common native plant species were recorded in all surveys.

Survey efforts emphasized early detections for Tier 1 & 2 species in the Capital Region PRISM with a focus on very high threat species. Tier 3 and Tier 4 species were recorded. The most common AIS detected were Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) and water chestnut (*Trapa natans*). Lakes surveyed ranged in size from 29.5 acres (Round Pond) to 247.7 acres (Burden Lake 3). Crystal Lake in Rensselaer county was found to be newly AIS free. The lack of any new AIS infestations resulted in a successful early detection survey season for the CR-PRISM. All PRISM and subcontracted partner surveys with polygons and points are recorded in iMapInvasives.

For a full listing of detailed survey reports, please follow the link to the PRISM reports webpage.

- [CR- PRISM Aquatic Invasive Species Survey Reports](#)
- [Adirondack Research AIS Early Detection Survey Report](#)

## Terrestrial Invasive Species Surveys

Since 2020, the terrestrial invasive species (TIS) team surveyed 13,083.23 acres across both public and private lands. Twenty-four of twenty-eight PCAs have been surveyed since 2020, covering 6,037.5 acres of land. In addition to these PCAs, 92 additional secondary sites have been surveyed accounting for 7,044.73 acres. Over the past five years, ten or more of the eleven counties have been surveyed annually. Since 2018, CR-PRISM surveyed 212 locations with some locations, being revisited multiple times for follow-up monitoring.



Figure 8: Addison Kubik surveying with NYS DEC Region 5 Foresters for forest pests during ISAW

In 2022, ten of the PRISM’s eleven counties were surveyed, with a total of 63 surveys across 3,580.93 acres and 19 miles of trails conducted by PRISM staff for TIS. The PRISM surveyed a total of 2,184.6 acres and 5 miles of trails in 17 PCAs with staff and partner efforts. Additionally, 31 locations outside of the PRISM’s PCA locations were surveyed. These surveys targeted early identification of terrestrial Tier 1 and 2 species, as well as several invasive forest pests of concern, such as hemlock woolly adelgid in the northern edge of the PRISM. At some sites follow-up monitoring was conducted, resulting in 48 sites being surveyed this year.

In 2022, three Tier 1 species were reported in the CR-PRISM: golden-rain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), leafy spurge (*Euphorbia virgata*), and Japanese primrose (*Primula japonica*). However, the golden-rain tree reports are both street plantings, the leafy spurge is currently under treatment in Albany county and is expected to be under treatment next year in Warren County, and the Japanese primrose is currently under treatment. These species will be monitored by the PRISM and partners to ensure they do not spread. Tier 3 and 4 species were recorded and noted in ecologically significant communities.

County	Surveys
Albany	14
Columbia	3
Fulton	2
Greene	1
Montgomery	2
Rensselaer	9
Saratoga	15
Schenectady	8
Warren	3
Washington	6

### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Early detection efforts are critical in slowing the spread of hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). Early detections found by the PRISM result in notifying land managers, who are then encouraged to conduct treatments on impacted trees. When feasible, the PRISM has supported chemical treatments through the annual Request for Proposals. The PRISM encourages chemical treatments on the leading edge of the invasion wave. When appropriate behind the leading edge of HWA, the PRISM seeks HWA sites for biocontrol release assessments in a collaborative effort with the New York State Hemlock Initiative (NYSHI).

This year, two biocontrol releases have taken place as a result of CR-PRISM's work with partners. Moreau Lake State Park, a public state park, and the Huyck Preserve, a private preserve, both received biocontrol agents to slow the spread of HWA. About 900 silver flies (*Leucotaraxis piniperda*) were released at Moreau and 2,000 *Lubricious* beetles (*Lubricious nigrins*) have been released at the Huyck Preserve. Six additional sites were assessed during the field season for future biocontrol releases. Current collaborations are with Nick Dietschler, Research Support Specialist, from the NYSHI. The PRISM also encourages the use of the NYSHI stand prioritization tool to proactively identify hemlock stands for future preservation.

The 2022 year began with winter surveys of PCAs and high priority areas in proximity to the Adirondack Park. Thirty-four of the surveys conducted by the CR-PRISM included hemlock stand surveys, for a total of 2,030 acres surveyed for HWA. In addition, the PRISM conducted lake surveys in priority areas to gain access to remote hemlock stands and provide locally efficient forest health checks.

**For a full listing and detailed survey reports please follow the link to the PRISM reports page.**

- [Terrestrial Invasive Species Survey Reports](#)



Figure 9: CR-PRISM Technician, Andrew Brunner, surveying for HWA at Thacher State Park

## Rapid Response, Management and Restoration

Controls used through rapid response and management are performed to reduce the size of infestations and the impact on the local environment, especially high priority ecological areas. Control efforts may be used to achieve eradication, suppression, or exclusion. Integrated pest management strategies are utilized with post treatment monitoring and restorative efforts.

The NYS DEC ISCMP sets a goal to “Improve the Response to Invasive Species” by using a Framework of Response. For the CR-PRISM, control and management are crucial components for slowing the spread of invasive species. Potential management projects are evaluated on threat and tier rankings, which helps to ensure work actions have the greatest impact. In addition, staff consider exclusion or suppression techniques to protect uninvaded areas or to protect rare, endangered, or special concern species with a specific focus on potential vectors that threaten these areas.

This year, the CR-PRISM staff focused treatment efforts on high threat species such as giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzium*), water chestnut (*Trapa natans*), and mile-a-minute (*Persicaria perfoliata*). In addition, species in ecologically significant areas were treated, such as false spiraea (*Sorbaria sorbifolia*) and common reed (*Phragmites australis*) in Moreau Lake State Park, Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*) in Wilton Wildlife Preserve and European Spindletree (*Euonymus europaeus*) in Indian Kill Preserve.

In 2022, a total of 20 species in both the aquatic and terrestrial realms were reported and managed by CR-PRISM. Post-treatment monitoring with follow-up controls is included in the total acreage managed. Adaptive management strategies and BMPs were used to evaluate monitoring and treatment activities to achieve the greatest amount of success. Partners and CR-PRISM staff together managed 523.66 acres across the Capital Region in 2022.

Total Area of Invasive Species Managed in 2022	
155.56 acres	
Number of Species Managed by Tier	
Tier 2	3
Tier 3	2
Tier 4	12
Tier M	1
Untiered	2

Table 1: CR-PRISM Staff Management Efforts in 2022

## Aquatic Invasive Species Highlights

Beginning in 2019, the Capital Region PRISM began to participate and sponsor water chestnut (WC) pulls. AIS management has primarily focused on the removal of WC, the CR-PRISM began specified reporting in 2021 to pounds of WC removed for more accurate data collection. Since 2020, WC pulls have occurred in eight of the PRISMs eleven counties. A conservative estimate of 11,636lbs of dewatered WC has been removed, with an additional 3.73 acres removed in 2020. Removal was conducted at sites for various reasons that ranged from locations with high ecological significance, to areas with economic and/or public benefits. Typically, these removals require a multi-year management plan. Five out of twenty locations for WC removals from 2020-2022 have received multi-year management activities.

In 2022, the CR-PRISM focused aquatic removal efforts on water chestnut (*Trapa natans*). Removal efforts were completed by CR-PRISM staff and coordinated between partners for larger removals. Removals are selected based on the PRISMs Water Chestnut Prioritization Model, developed in 2021. In total, the PRISM performed water chestnut removal at nine locations, removing approximately 9,365lbs of dewatered WC. Removals were justified by ecological significance (4 removals), community outreach (1), emergency access pathway (2), and public access (2). For more detailed information on AIS management efforts please refer to the CR-PRISMs treatment reports online.

## Mohawk River Water Chestnut Removals

Two water chestnut removal locations were identified and conducted in partnership with the Mohawk River Stakeholder Group (MRSRG). The pulls received justification through the CR-PRISM Water Chestnut Prioritization. The first pull was located at Aqueduct Park in the Town of Niskayuna, which has social and cultural characteristics that justified the activity and served as community outreach. The location received prior treatment in 2021. Aqueduct Park is home to a public boat launch that provides access to the Mohawk River; water chestnut infestations are well entrenched in this part of the river system. The launch site is home to the Aqueduct Boat House, The Aqueduct Rowing Club and is a place where college and high school rowing team's train. Due to the point of access and demand from the public the PRISM has initiated a removal to clear a path to give boaters access to enter the water safely. Evidence of removals in 2021 were apparent in 2022, with much of the previously targeted areas still clear. A total of 3,490lbs of dewatered water chestnut was removed and composted from two removal efforts at Aqueduct Park.



Figure 10: Aqueduct Park WC removal in partnership with the NYS DEC, Aqueduct Park Rowing Club, the Town of Niskayuna, and volunteers.

A second removal efforts identified through the MRSO was located at Camp Road in Saratoga County on the Mohawk River. The location is not accessible to the public and serves as emergency access point for a local fire department. This pull received justification as an emergency access point, to create a defined pathway through dense water chestnut for emergency watercraft. Two removal efforts occurred at the site with 19 volunteer participants. A total of 4,660lbs of biomass was removed and composted at a nearby municipal transfer station. Four partner agencies were represented in the pull.

## Terrestrial Invasive Species Highlights



*Figure 11: Addison Kubik and CR-PRISM Technician, Ben Caligiuri, removes shrubby bushclover at Daketown State Forest*

Since 2020, the TIS team has managed 512.72 acres at an estimated 64 sites. These properties include both public and private lands to ensure high-threat species are treated effectively. In the last two years alone (2021 and 2022), 138.05 acres within 10 PCAs and an additional 124.74 acres within 29 secondary sites have been treated. Some sites received multiple visits for post-treatment monitoring. Seasonal technicians were utilized and increased the capacity of the PRISM to conduct such work. The PRISM has managed 27 species, five of which are Tier 2 species and 19 species that are prohibited in New York.

In 2022, PRISM staff conducted removals and post-treatment monitoring on 126.31 acres at 26 sites across seven counties within the CR-PRISM boundary. Within PCAs, 106.38 acres were treated, with an additional 19.92 acres treated at secondary sites. Treatments occurred

within eight PCAs and 19 secondary sites. Some sites were visited multiple times throughout the season for post-treatment monitoring. This year, the PRISM staff have managed 19 unique species, three of which are Tier 2 species and 13 prohibited species. This year, the PRISM staff specifically focused treatment efforts on post-treatment monitoring, highly probable areas, and engaging partners to assist in these efforts. The focus on these efforts allowed for more effective use of resources and reduced the ability of these invasives to spread into ecologically significant areas.

## Giant Hogweed Treatment

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) remains a high-priority species within New York State due to its human health risk and invasiveness score. Seasonal staff have been essential in the removals of this high-threat species across the CR-PRISM.

Over the last five years, the CR-PRISM has root-cut approximately 1,202 stems of giant hogweed across seven counties. Monitoring and control has occurred at 15 unique sites, covering approximately 28.5 acres.

In 2022, 13 sites across seven counties, totaling 8.5 acres were monitored and managed in the PRISM. Eight sites are currently active with seed germination. A total of 358 plants were removed for the season. No new reports of giant hogweed were reported from the public or field observations in 2022.



*Figure 12: CR-PRISM Technician, Ben Caligiuri, removing giant hogweed in Schenectady County*

## Partners, Coordination and Cooperation

*An essential part to achieving success in preventing the spread of invasive species is to identify partners and stakeholders to improve opportunities for sharing resources. The sharing of such resources includes funding, personnel, equipment, information, and expertise.*

Partners are an integral component of the CR-PRISM in reaching a common goal of slowing and controlling the spread of invasive species. An essential task of the PRISM is to identify and assist stakeholders to improve opportunities for sharing of resources while delivering up-to-date practices for prevention and management. Collaborating with partners on projects, programs, and events while sharing resources, data, and research will save time and effort. Continually increasing partner capacity is one of the keys to the success of the PRISM and slowing the spread of invasive species on a regional scale.

From 2018 to 2022, the PRISM exhibited significant growth in its partnerships. In 2018, the PRISM only had 57 partners, and by 2022 the number of PRISM partners had increased to 168. Over the previous 5-year period, the CR-PRISM was able to increase its partner base by an average of 19% annually.

In 2022, the PRISM was active with 69 of our partners throughout the year to varying degrees. The annual initiative to recruit new partners resulted in 21 new organizations being added to the roster. The CR-PRISM welcomes members from academic institutions, government agencies, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, private preserves and parks, land trusts, conservancies, lake associations, agricultural institutions, local businesses, environmental groups, and citizen scientists from the community at large.

### CR-PRISM Partner Classifications

- 1. Active partners are critical to the delivery of the PRISM Annual Work Plan and engage with the PRISM staff on a regular basis. These are agencies or groups that tend to be under contract with a Request for Proposal or Memorandum of Understanding, involved with work groups, task forces, or projects conducted in the field. Usually, active partners participate in partner meetings and are involved with the PRISM year to year in varying capacities. (Land Trust, Preserves and Like Partners)*
- 2. Strategic Partners are county and statewide stakeholders who perform critical roles in preventing and managing invasive species within their agencies and have been critical to regional cohesiveness. (NYSNHP, iMapInvasives, NYSHI, NYSRI, SWCD, IPM Cornell University, CCE Networks)*
- 3. Passive partners tend to participate in one-time events or in limited actions and may be non-participating for a year but then engaged again the following year.*
- 4. To a far less degree partner agreements are implemented using insurance agreements and memorandums of understanding. These partners are typically municipalities.*

Two PRISM partner meetings were held in 2022. Typically, full partner meetings occur in spring and winter with a smaller workgroup convening as needed mid-to-late season. Meetings were held on April 5 and December 13, 2022. The spring partner meeting featured updates from CR-PRISM staff from the previous field season and focused objectives for the upcoming 2022 field season. Additionally, the CR-PRISM announced the start of its Five-Year Strategic Plan review and revision process with Strong Outcomes, LLC. The year-end meeting focused on partner projects, reports, and unveiling pieces of the upcoming Five-Year Strategic Plan.

The PRISM has an active steering, conservation, and aquatic committee. In addition, all PRISM Coordinators meet actively with other PRISM Coordinators throughout the year. The PRISM participates in ad hoc education committee and local agricultural committee through Cornell Cooperative Extension. The PRISM Coordinators also serve on partner committees and advisory groups within the region. Furthermore, the PRISM participates in three steering committees, two advisory groups at the state level, and one task force. The inclusion and involvement with partners through committee structures allow the CR-PRISM to better assist the region by providing important connections, resources, and expertise. The CR-PRISM collaborated across boundaries with other PRISM coordinators and their partners in 2022. Please note the full partner and committees list(s) in Appendix D.

## **Partner Requests for Proposals**

The Request for Proposals (RFP) offered by the CR-PRISM provides a method to share and leverage limited resources within the Partnership to execute invasive species prevention, detection, and response practices. The RFP process provides an opportunity to execute invasive species actions and supplement the great work that is already being done by our partners. The funding process also helps to leverage work from our partners who otherwise would not be able to complete such tasks. The RFP process allows the CR-PRISM to help deliver additional goals and objectives that further the Five-Year Strategic Plan and annual work plans. The RFP subcontracts are financially supported by the New York State Department of Conservation through the Environmental Protection Fund.

In 2022, the CR-PRISM, with the guidance and support of the Steering Committee, released contract service dollars to fund invasive species partner projects across the Capital Region. All projects received final approval from the NYS Invasive Species Coordination Section. An initial budget of \$133,250.00 was appropriated for six RFPs, two Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) and one contract for strategic planning revision. The MOUs and strategic planning process supported the CR-PRISM annual work plan and accounted for \$29,571.68 dollars. Nine RFP applications were received for a total of \$127,643.00. In total, six projects were awarded and funded, accounting for \$90,618.00. Project requests were prioritized based on alignment with the PRISM priority objectives and work plan. Several requests were not funded; the most feasible and justified projects were accepted. Proposals were also selected based on application to the public in addition to being conducted in ecologically valuable areas.

Request for Projects Awards	
21-001 Adirondack Research LLC	\$ 24,888
21-002 Grassland Bird Trust	\$ 12,469*
21-003 Albany County Office of Natural Resources	\$ 5,500 *
21-004 Cornell Integrated Pest Management	\$17,771
21-005 Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve, Inc	\$24,990
21-006 Tivoli Lake Preserve Grazing Project	\$5,000

Memorandum of Understanding / Contracts	
Saratoga PLAN Restoration Project	\$950
Siena College Paid Internship Seasonal Technicians	\$13,711*
Strong Outcomes Strategic Planning Revision	\$14910.00

\*RFPs/MOUs that came in under budget.

## 2022 Contracted Project Result Summaries

### **RFP 22-001 Adirondack Research (AR) \$24,888.00 “AIS Tier 1 and 2 Lake Surveys”**

Adirondack Research conducted early detection surveys of Tier 1 and Tier 2 AIS waterbodies within the CR-PRISM. Surveys were completed on larger motor accessible lakes. The supplemental surveys increased the CR-PRISM capacity to perform early detections for AIS. Lake selections were based on several guiding parameters from the CR-PRISM Priority Waterbody Model with an emphasis on waterbodies near the Adirondack Blue Line. AR delineated survey data using Field Maps, an ArcGIS app that was developed in coordination with iMapInvasives to move data directly to their database. Lakes were mapped for vegetation (bio-based mapping), bottom hardness, and bathymetry. Results will be shared with the public and private stakeholders, such as lake associations.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Early Detection/Rapid Response, Prevention, Management and Research. The greatest contribution is in Early Detection.*

### **RFP 22-002 Grassland Bird Trust Inc., \$12,469.00 “Alfred Z Solomon Parcels A and B: Research and Local Control Plots for Brown Knapweed, Reed Canary Grass, and Wild Parsnip”**

Grassland Bird Trust (GBT) Inc., a not for profit land trust conserving critical habitat for endangered, threatened, and rapidly declining at-risk grassland birds. The area is critical habitat for 10 at risk and endangered species, including other species of special concern, and species of greatest conservation need. The GBT parcels are of value as confirmed by their inclusion in the 13,000 acre “Important Bird Area” (IBA) and proximity to the Washington County Grasslands Wildlife Management Areas. The RFP funded four research study plots, totaling 9 acres in size, for grassland management of

several high-threat invasive species impacting critical bird habitat. A selective herbicide was utilized for the local control of brown and related hybrid knapweeds (*Centaurea spp.*). In addition, several satellite populations of reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) totaling one acre were treated. Secondary targets include bull (*Cirsium vulgare*) and Canadian thistle (*Cirsium arvense*). The GBT hired a NYS-certified chemical application contractor for this project. GBT's prime invasive plant control tool has historically been rotational mowing and mechanical removal, but this has allowed the above invasive plant species to continue to spread. Annual bird breeding surveys and winter raptor surveys have declined in the parcel, likely as a result of invasive species spread. The treatment should expand food sources for these species, ideally resulting in increased bird counts. Research plots will be evaluated for multiple years and will include photo summaries of restoration. Measures for restoration were implemented which included reseeding of native sedges and grasses. Parcels A and B are 46 acres in size. The project will have future management implications for surrounding properties and not just those of the GBT.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Management (suppression), Research, and Outreach.*

**RFP 22-003 Albany County Office of Natural Resource Conservation \$5500.00 “Ann Lee Pond Lesser Celandine Treatment”**

Ann Lee Pond is a county preserve open to the public that contains a 300-acre DEC regulated class 1 wetland complex (A-10) with open water, wetlands, dense forest and uplands. The project is a post-treatment request for funds to locally eradicate a high-threat invasive species called lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*) using an herbicide treatment. If left unchecked, the plant may alter the composition of the native plant community. The area has a high ecological significance and comprehensive value on the NY Invasive Prioritization Model. An Article 24 Wetland Permit was completed for the project.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Rapid Response, Eradication/Containment of a very high threat invasive species in significant habitat. Prevention of induction in surrounding communities. Lesser celandine is a Tier 3 plant but not locally common in the northern portion of the PRISM.*

**RFP 22-004 Cornell University Asian Longhorned Tick Assessment \$17,771.00 “Early Detection Survey and Outreach”**

The proposal focused on early detection, outreach, and prevention of a Tier 1 Species, Asian longhorned tick (*Haemaphysalis longicornis*) (ALT). In 2017, the invasive ALT was found on a sheep farm in New Jersey. The tick has expanded its range into 17 states and has been found as far north as Rensselaer County (2021). ALT is a health threat to livestock, and possibly some species of wildlife.

Ken Wise along with Joellen Lampman conducted an ALT survey to help identify the distribution of the tick, as well as its phenology, abundance, and habitat preference on livestock farms. The surveys were conducted throughout the greater Capital Region within the Hudson River Valley through the spring, summer, and fall of 2022. BMPs were identified and shared with livestock producers and the public. The

Northeastern Integrated Pest Management Center and Northeastern Regional Center for Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases were also included in the project. The results will be used in future presentations, social media, and the existing Don't Get Ticked NY campaign to alert producers and the general public to the issue.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Early Detection, Education, Outreach and Prevention, Management and Research.*

**RFP 22-005 Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve, Inc. \$24,990.00 “Management and Monitoring of TIS, AIS and Forest Pest”**

The RFP project advanced the Huyck Preserve’s efforts in invasive species management and monitoring. Work was completed to protect its hemlock forests from HWA and to monitor for emerging forest pests. The preserve hired seasonal staff and purchased supplies needed to accomplish its invasive species goals. Work continued managing and monitoring terrestrial and aquatic invasive plants as outlined in the Huyck Preserve’s invasive species management and monitoring plan. Educational lectures and lessons to inform the public about invasive species occurred, including an Invasive Species Summit. The preserve is connected to surrounding ecologically significant state parcels and holds 15 rare communities as identified by the NYNHP within its borders.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Rapid Response, Control & Management, Research, Education and Outreach in both the AIS and TIS realms. Species addressed a targeted in Tiers 1-4.*

**RFP 22-006 Friends of Tivoli Lake Preserve and Farm Inc, (FTLPF) \$5000 “Grazing Project”**

The project raised awareness of invasive species and how grazing efforts can be used to suppress well-established Tier 4 plants. Targeted grazing focuses on common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and will continue to occur along a recently renovated path in Tivoli Lake Preserve. A bio-assessment was completed before and after to measure the progress and provided an opportunity for hands-on community science participation. The bio-based assessments have been completed and the rotational grazing polygons can be observed in iMapInvasives. The value of outreach in the environmental justice area is significant. The Friends group also maintains an active website that discusses the project and its purpose: <https://friendsoftivoli.org/#home-section>. Invasive species works and signage are components of the FTLPF events and can be found in the preserve. The novel program is a suppression effort with passive education. The management of the common reed provided greater visibility along the restored trail in the preserve while increasing safety of visitors.

*2022 CRP Work Plan Priority Objectives Addressed: Management (suppression,) Education and Outreach*

**To view the full reports from the Request for Proposals please follow the link below:**

<https://www.capitalregionprism.org/rfp.html>

## Memorandum of Understanding(s)/Sub-contractual Work

The CR-PRISM collaborated with strategic partners to deliver a series of Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) to expand our capacity from the 2021 CR-PRISM Work Plan. In particular, the MOUs were executed to boost the PRISM's ability to update its strategic plan, increase our restoration efforts and help increase the CR-PRISM field capacity.

A small pilot restoration action was completed with Saratoga PLAN. The Glowegee Creek Trails Preserve, now under active and ongoing management, was cleared of common invasive species in highly probable areas. A meadow is under restoration in which live stakes, native plantings, and reseeding has occurred. The trails of the Glowegee Creek Preserve traverse a geological fault line with limestone outcrops, rare plants are found in the preserve. The CR-PRISM supplied funding for the restoration project and personnel to lead the volunteer removal efforts.

Siena College and the PRISM partnered to provide field experience for two invasive species technicians through an internship program from June 8<sup>th</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The professional development of two interns consisted of training in natural resource practices related to invasive species management in both the aquatic and terrestrial realms. Invasive species technicians were responsible for participating in the planning, management, and delivery of invasive species work. Responsibilities encompassed establishing early detection and monitoring networks along with the implementation of eradication and control efforts. Other job functions included participation in the coordination of partner efforts and programs, development of BMPs, and education and outreach programming at tabling events. The two invasive species technician interns were critical in giant hogweed treatments, post-treatment monitoring at removal sites and AIS early detection surveillance.

The CR-PRISM finalized the 2022 year with a Five-Year Strategic Plan review and revision. The five-year strategic plan revision was a year-long process in which several phases of work were completed to produce updated goals and outcomes. A consultant and the staff collaborated on the revision and update. The contractual process resulted in the following products:

***Stakeholder Report:*** Included a learning process, through surveys and interviews from the partnership, which resulted in a report highlighting key findings about program successes, challenges, and opportunities.

***Strategic Accomplishment Report:*** The revision process resulted in a compiled list of metrics showcasing past success from the previous five years. The compiled metrics were used to identify what worked well in the past and identified gaps to be addressed in the future.

***CR-PRISM Strategic Plan for 2023-2027:*** Findings from the products above were used to formulate a vision and draft goals for the next strategic plan. The Partnership provided input and commentary at a retreat, which resulted in an updated draft five-year strategic plan. The retreat occurred with strategic partners, the CR-PRISM steering committee, and staff.

The CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 can be found here: [capitalregionprism.org](https://capitalregionprism.org)

## 2022 Invasive Species Prevention Zone

*Moreau Lake State Park is designated by the CR-PRISM as an Invasive Species Prevention Zone (ISPZ). An ISPZ is a natural area usually greater than 500 acres which is dominated by native species and contains very limited intrusions from invasive species. An ISPZ is also an area highly susceptible to the introduction of invasive threats from multiple vectors. The presence of significant habitats, rare, threatened, or endangered species found within the designated area merits an additional layer of protection to preserve the existing ecology.*

The CR-PRISM partners with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) to provide a complimentary and exemplary level of services to help protect Moreau Lake State Park from the negative impacts of invasive species. The CR-PRISM has been working closely with the OPRHP over the last five-years through direct response activities and education to protect vast areas of the region with limited resources. In the last three years alone (2020-2022), a total of 1,530.09 acres has been surveyed by PRISM staff and over 37.5 acres treated. In 2022, the PRISM deployed the following early detection, management, and outreach activities.

The CR-PRISM conducted AIS early detection surveys on Moreau Lake and Lake Bonita, and on the Hudson River for aquatic invasive species. In addition, a watercraft inspection steward was stationed at Moreau Lake and Sherman Island boat launches to educate recreating boaters on “Clean, Drain, Dry” practices, to help protect those waters. 976 watercrafts were inspected at these locations over the boating season. Water resources at Moreau Lake State Park are critical to its classification as a Bird Conservation Area by the state and an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Society. As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, no new AIS have been identified or reported within or surrounding the immediate area of the park.



*Figure 13: Watercraft steward, Alexa Howansky conducts an inspection at Moreau Lake*

On the terrestrial side, the PRISM has been active in the surveillance of



*Figure 14: Kris Williams and OPRHP Forest Health Specialist, Becky Sibner releasing HWA biocontrols at Moreau Lake State Park*

invasive forest pests for the purpose of early detection, such as hemlock woolly adelgid, beech leaf disease, and southern pine beetle. “The CR-PRISM partnered with Regional Stewardship Assistant Andy Damon, Biologist Casey Holzworth, along with the Division of Environmental Stewardship & Planning, Invasive Species Biologist Matt Brincka, Forest Health Coordinator Nick Marcet, and Forest Health Specialist, Becky Sibner in delineating a hemlock woolly adelgid infestation, which led to a biocontrol release of about 900 silver flies (*Leucotaraxis piniperda*) predators from the New York State Hemlock Initiative.

The PRISM was also active in training volunteers to survey for forest pests in the park and surrounding area. The terrestrial program conducted vector and tier management throughout the park. Annual removal of invasive species in highly probable areas such as trails and parking lots are conducted along with the removal of high threat species encroaching the area near significant habitats within the park. The CR-PRISM provides the regional park biologist and conservation manager with updates, best management practices, and recommendations on the detection and control of invasive species. In 2022, a total of 351.59 acres and 7.782 miles of shoreline were surveyed and 21 acres were treated across the park. Species surveyed for and/or treated within the park included Eurasian watermilfoil, false spiraea, hemlock woolly adelgid, common reed, and other high-threat invasives.



*Figure 15: CR-PRISM Watercraft Steward, Alexa Howansky, removing false spiraea from Moreau Lake State Park*

The PRISM also participated in outreach activities such as “I Love My Park Day,” “Nature Fest,” and “Conservation Field Days” to educate the public and park users on the impacts that invasive species can have on the natural resources that we all love and enjoy. The PRISM also participated with the Friends of Moreau in social and cultural activities. Of recent, the CR-PRISM collaborated with OPRHP to educate and lead SCA program participants in a Patriots Day of Service activity. Together with OPRHP biologist and DEC Foresters, the CR-PRISM staff helped to coordinate several dozen SCA members to survey over 67 acres of backcountry forest to better delineate HWA in the park.



*Figure 16: Addison Kubik educating community members at Conservation Field Days*



*Figure 17: Student Conservation Association Service Training MLSP Early Detection and Mapping for Forest Pests*

# Information Management and Communication

*Binging together all goals and objectives in order to advance collaboration of the Capital Region PRISM for sharing information involving surveys, monitoring, early detection, management approaches, restoration, and research.*

Information management and communications are used to distribute BMPs relating to behavioral change, prevention, and control strategies. The goal is to empower the public and the partnership to take successful actions toward mitigating the harmful effects of invasive species. The CR-PRISM utilizes targeted communications, including specific messages like “Play, Clean, Go”, “Pledge to Protect,” and “Clean, Drain, Dry” initiatives, along with new and relevant information on high-threat species of concern. Communications are shared through the CR-PRISM website, social media, quarterly newsletters, outreach events, and workgroups. New and emerging content, from related statewide agencies that work with invasive species, is also redistributed as needed. Technical guidance relating to BMPs is delivered through a framework of response to partners. Content shared includes relevant methodologies for early detection, monitoring, management, restoration, and research practices. The sharing of information and communications is a way to keep the public and partners engaged and informed.

Sharing resources helps to slow the spread of invasive species to protect the environment. In addition, shared resources are key components in collaborations. In 2022, the CR-PRISM provided and delivered information through various platforms (listed below) to reach the public and partners alike.

- *CR-PRISM and CCE website, social media accounts, listserv, and partner distribution list*
- *Informal outreach and tabling events*
- *Formal educational workshops*
- *Partner meetings with round table reports, updates, and presentations*
- *Participating in ISAC and other state agency meetings*
- *Partner Agencies’ meetings and steering committees*
- *ISAW in collaboration with the NYS Education and Outreach Committee*
- *NYS DEC Invasive Species Clearinghouse*
- *PRISM statewide monthly webcasts*
- *PRISM and partner field reports*

Over the past five years (2018-2022) the CR-PRISM utilized its website and social media platforms (currently Instagram and Facebook) for outreach.

- *Combined reach on website and social media platforms was approximately 98,000 individuals*
- *CR-PRISM Instagram account reach increased from 3,000 individuals in 2019 to nearly 8,000 in 2022*
- *The [capitalregionprism.org](http://capitalregionprism.org) website annually averages over 10,500 page views with approximately 5,000 unique visits each year. Unique visits are users who are accessing multiple resources within the site.*

The CR-PRISM website is a resource in which invasive species and related content can be shared with a wider audience. Information shared on the website includes PRISM and partner events, methods to report species of concern, survey and management reports, partner project reports, tier lists, and downloadable informational guides and videos. Additional resources such as BMPs, a framework of response for prioritization, early detection priorities, funding opportunities, and land/lake management plan outlines are also posted on the website.

In the third quarter, a brand-new format for the CR-PRISM quarterly newsletter was designed and released. The newsletter features pertinent information on invasive species in the Capital Region, partner organization highlights, press releases from state agencies, as well as job listings in the conservation field, and more. The inaugural newsletter was distributed through the listserv and was viewed by over 90% of the listserv audience. Once released, quarterly newsletters can be found [here on the CR-PRISM website](#).

The listserv is an effective means of communication between partners and like entities for information sharing. Common topics sent through the listserv include press releases, job opportunities, grant programs, volunteer opportunities, invasive species information, and meeting announcements. Funding opportunities and educational events occurring in the region are also sent through the listserv. Members are invited to share content and disseminate information in their network circles.

- *CR-PRISM website had 9,741 views in 2022*
- *The CR-PRISM Facebook Page has 555 followers with a reach of 8,000 individuals*
- *The CR-PRISM Instagram increased its reach by 25% with 923 followers and an estimated audience of 7,509*
- *Quarterly newsletter was opened by 296 subscribers*
- *The CR-PRISM listserv is now maintaining 316 subscribers with 28 announcements in 2022*
- *The CR-PRISM has started a partner distribution list for targeted messaging*
- *New tri-folds for the CR-PRISM were created and distributed*
- *Species Spotlights of Concern were created and featured in gallery presentations on the website*
- *Two boot brushes were unveiled*
- *CR-PRISM identification cards were distributed to more resource managers*

In addition, some of the listed materials and communications were distributed within the Partnership. These communications helped to raise awareness, and stimulate the public and partners to take more action related to invasive species prevention, detection, and response.

- *Spotted lanternfly curriculum emphasizing reporting to the NYS AGM*
- *Spotted lanternfly resources from Cornell Integrated Pest Management*
- *NYSHI Stand Prioritization Tool*
- *New York Invasive Species Research Institute BMPs*
- *Northeast Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change BMPs*
- *NYS DEC factsheets on hydrilla and round goby*

## 2022 iMapInvasives Trainings

The CR-PRISM was also involved with training community scientists on invasive species identification, management, and reporting using the iMapInvasives mobile app and advanced data collection tools. Throughout 2022, the CR-PRISM held 12 iMapInvasives workshops with a total of 133 volunteers who received instruction on the use of iMapInvasives reporting tools.

A highlight of the program was a collaboration with the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program. The annual Hemlock Hunters volunteer program in 2022 had 38 new sign-ups in which 55 trails were adopted and 118 surveys uploaded to iMapInvasives. The iMapInvasives SLF adopt-a-grid program for surveillance was promoted with 36 grids claimed in 2022.

Date	Trainer	2022 Training Class Name	Individuals Trained
2/17/2022	Kris Williams	Forest Health Pest iMap Training	6
2/23/2022	Mitch O'Neill and Kris Williams	iMap: Field Data Tools	42
2/24/2022	Kris Williams	Coles Woods iMap Field Training	6
2/24/2022	Hannah Coppola and Sam Schultz	Lake Bonita iMap Field Training	6
3/9/2022	Sam Schultz	Thacher SP: HWA iMap Training	3
4/20/2022	Kris Williams and Sam Schultz	iMap Advanced: Treatment Tools and Polygons	3
5/25/2022	Addison Kubik and Hannah Coppola	WISP: iMap and Survey123 Training	9
6/8/2022	Kris Williams	Master Gardener Warren County: iMap Training	16
6/10/2022	Kris Williams	Grafton Lake State Park: iMap Training & Woods Walk	4
6/12/2022	Addison Kubik	Capital Region Wild Ones: iMap Training	9
9/14/2022	Addison Kubik	SUNY Albany Applied Ecology: iMap Training Day One	14
9/15/2022	Addison Kubik	SUNY Albany Applied Ecology: iMap Training Day Two	15

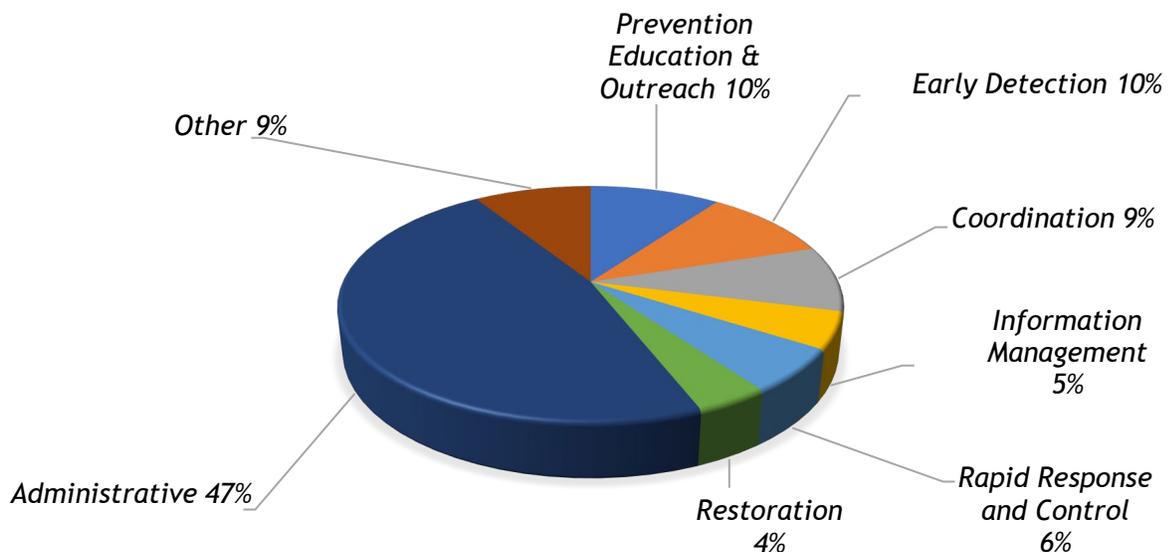
## 2022 Work Plan Summary

The CR-PRISM was purposeful in executing its 2022 work plan with designated goals, objectives and priority actions extracted from the PRISM's 5-year Strategic Plan. The 2022 Work Plan was crafted to deliver a coordinated response to mitigate the harmful effects of invasive species to the public while protecting critical ecological and economic resources of the region.

The NYS Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan (ISCMP) of 2018, as directed by Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Article 9 Title 17, is constructed around eight focal initiatives. The overarching goal of the ISCMP is to "minimize the introduction, establishment, proliferation, and negative impacts caused by invasive species." The objectives and priority actions of the CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan have been aligned to the ISCMP initiatives when appropriate and built into the PRISM's Annual Work Plan.

The CR-PRISM's Strategic Plan is comprehensive with a robust set of objectives and priority actions. The CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan is built on six goals and numerous objectives. When reviewing the 2022 Annual Work Plan 34 of 38 objectives were deployed for an 89% success rate, the same as the previous year. The 2022 Annual Work Plan set of priority actions to deploy a large breadth of work. The overall workload described throughout this report is captured in the graph below with general descriptions of work plan actions and administrative functions.

### *Capital Region 2022 Work Plan Events By Strategic Goal*



### **Prevention, Education, and Outreach: 10%**

Prevention, by awareness, is the first line of defense in invasive species management. The most effective strategy against high threat species is to prevent them from ever being introduced and established. Preventive measures typically offer the most cost-effective means to minimize or eliminate environmental and economic impacts.

### **Early Detection: 10%**

The CR-PRISM has identified and established Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) and Priority Waterbodies (PWBs) which are reviewed annually through the appropriate committees. PCAs and PWBs are designated areas that have a high comprehensive score, are ecologically significant, and have a high risk of invasion. Early detection of emerging species with subsequent rapid response is key in controlling infestations.

### **Coordination: 9%**

Coordination and collaboration occurred across jurisdictions, municipalities, agencies, and partners. The PRISM acted as an information hub and an organizing force in the region to connect like-minded people to achieve common goals regarding invasive species related activities. Coordination facilitates opportunities for sharing resources, including funding, personnel, equipment, technical information, solutions to complex problems, and expertise. Collaboration can occur on-site, through in-person meetings, conference calls, workshops, board meetings, and can sometimes involve multiple agencies coming together and sharing resources for a common goal.

### **Information and Management: 5%**

Involves the collection, utilization, and sharing of data through online resources, social media, listserv announcements and other forms of communication.

### **Rapid Response and Control: 6%**

Rapid response to new threats is imperative to protect our natural ecosystems in a cost-effective way. Rapid response is a follow-up to early detection and is paramount in stopping the spread of new invasive biologic threats to our region before they have a chance to proliferate. The PRISM focuses on Tier 2 invasive species and other tiers threatening critical habitat.

### **Restoration: 4%**

Restoration should consider BMPs for the given climate. Restoration requires the development and implementation of effective methods for areas that were degraded by invasive species where suppression or control has taken place, often involving the replanting of areas with appropriate native species. Rapid response removals should always consider restoration practices with post treatment monitoring.

### **Administrative: 47%**

Administrative duties are core functions to keep the day-to-day operations flowing and short- and long-term projects moving forward. Administrative work includes the following duties:

- *Programming Development: Planning of education and outreach events*
- *Collaborative planning efforts with partners*
- *Management and oversight of subcontracted work*
- *Team meetings and action items delivered through working groups*
- *Manage webpage and social media accounts and create and distribute press releases*
- *Confirmation of iMapInvasives points*
- *Develop site specific management plans for removals and surveying*
- *Report work executed through annual, quarterly, and scouting reports*
- *Communicating with client emails and in-person site visits*

### **Other: 9%**

Other work includes professional development for staff; host-specific training; human resource meetings; interviewing of employees and interns; employee and intern on-boarding and training; time sheet management; community service; and mentoring.

# Appendix A: PRISM Structure

## PRISM Structure

The CR-PRISM is hosted by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County located in Ballston Spa, New York. The PRISM is staffed with four core members, a Team Leader, Terrestrial Coordinator, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Manager, and a part-time Environmental Educator. Seasonal employees are hired to serve as Invasive Species Technicians and Watercraft Stewards. The Partnership network is comprised of organizations that include, land trusts, conservation groups, friends' groups and municipal entities. These organizations have historically been invited to become partners of the PRISM and to take part in a PRISM committee. The PRISM operates through a Steering Committee and four subcommittees (Agriculture, Aquatics, Conservation, and Education).

## Steering Committee

Key partners from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), NYS Agriculture and Markets (AGM), Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), Department of Transportation (DOT), Saratoga Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Albany Pine Bush Commission (former member), National Park Service, and NY Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) make up this committee. The Steering Committee works with PRISM coordinators to follow the five-year strategic plan process, develop, and guide the annual work plan, and connect with each of the subcommittees. Each member of the CR-PRISM Steering Committee is also a representative to one or more of the PRISM subcommittees. The Steering Committee is also responsible for reviewing PRISM contracts, the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, and major changes in PRISM structure. The PRISM Steering Committee generally meets about four to five times a year to assist in the development of the annual work plan and review progress to meet the goals outlined in the plan.

## 2021 Capital Region Steering Committee Members

Robert Cole	<i>NYS DEC Division of Lands and Forest: Forester</i>
Linda White	<i>National Park Service: Biological Technician</i>
Neil Gifford	<i>Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission: Conservation Director (former member)</i>
Thomas Allgaier	<i>NYS AGM: Invasive Species Coordinator</i>
Loretta McNamee	<i>NYS DOT: Region 1: Environmental Specialist</i>
Matthew Brincka	<i>NYS OPRHP: Invasive Species Biologist</i>
Dustin Lewis	<i>Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District: District Manager</i>
Meg Wilkinson	<i>NYNHP: Invasive Species Database Program Coordinator</i>
Capital Region PRISM	<i>Team Leader, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Manager, Education and Outreach Coordinator</i>

## **PRISM Subcommittees:**

**Agriculture Committee:** *This committee focuses on BMPs and recommendations that will be most effective for the agricultural community. Participants from the SWCDs, AGM, and CCEs identify high priority agricultural pests and work to communicate their importance to the farming public.*

**Aquatics Committee:** *Aquatic professionals focus on priority invasive species identified in aquatic ecosystems within the PRISM and to develop an early detection list and protocol for early detection/rapid response species within the PRISM. Additionally, this committee has assisted in prioritizing areas to provide watercraft launch steward coverage.*

**Conservation Committee:** *Partners on this committee work to identify priority species to focus on within the PRISM area that may put conservation areas at a higher risk. Key efforts of this committee include developing a tier system priority list and reviewing the annual terrestrial work plan.*

**Education/Outreach Committee:** *This committee develops, prioritizes, and compiles existing educational/curriculum materials for use within the PRISM region. The committee has an additional focus on event planning for the annual New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week (NYS ISAW).*

## Appendix B: Events

### Direct Contacts Reached

#### Workshops and Lectures

Event Date	Event Name	Direct Contact
3/14/2022	Master Gardener Saratoga County	28
3/15/2022	Siena Lecture/Workshop Invasive Species Prioritization	19
3/24/2022	Master Forest Owner Training Program	52
4/20/2022	iMap Advanced Training Treatment Tools and Polygons	3
5/11/2022	Wilton Wildlife Volunteer Meeting – Forest Pests in the Capital Region	9
5/12/2022	iMMA Data Review Workshop	19
5/19/2022	Moreau Lake Conservation Field Days	69
5/21/2022	Master Forest Owner Field Training	9
5/23-25/2022	WISP Training	9
6/1/2022	Columbia-Greene County Master Gardener Invasive Species Presentation	30
6/6/2022	Siuslaw Model Forest Woods Walk w/ CCE of Columba-Greene County (ISAW)	10
6/7/2022	Ann Lee Pond Boot Brush Unveiling and Woods Walk (ISAW)	4
6/8/2022	CCE Warren County Master Gardeners iMap Training	16
6/9/2022	Daniel's Road State Forest Invasive Species Woods Walk	3
6/10/2022	Forest Pest and Invasive Species Survey and ID Walk	10
6/10/2022	iMap training with Forest Pest Woods Walk: Grafton Lake State Park	4
6/12/2022	Capital Region Wild Ones: iMap Mobile App Training	9
9/12/2022	Hemlock Survey Like There's No To-Moreau	48
9/14-15/2022	SUNY Albany Applied Ecology iMap Training	29
9/23/2022	DEC Community Service Day: Thacher Park Event	9
9/23/2022	DEC Community Service Day: Grafton Lakes Event	9
9/23/2022	Thacher Park Beech Leaf Survey	5
10/2/2022	Grassland Bird Trust: Wildlife Photography & Invasive Species Talks	15
10/5/2022	CR-PRISM: Invasive Species of Clifton Park	38
10/13/2022	Day in the Life of the Hudson River	95
11/7/2022	NY Logger Training: Invasive Forest Pests	9

## Webinars

Event Date	Event Name	Direct Contact
1/5/2022	Master Gardeners Training Part 1 of 2	25
1/16/2022	Wild Ones Intro to Invasive Species and Tier 1&2 Species	24
2/9/2022	Master Gardeners Training Part 2 of 2	18
2/16/2022	HWA Hunters Webinar: NYSHI and APIPP	77
2/17/2022	HWA Hunters Webinar & iMap Training: RLT	6
2/23/2022	iMap Webinar: Field Data Tools	42
3/16/2022	North Chatham Library: Know Before You Grow	20
3/18/2022	2022 NYS Conservation District Employees Association NYS CDEA Virtual Water Quality Symposium	56
4/6/2022	Master Forest Owner Program Training	56

## Round Tables/Workgroups

Event Date	Event Name	Direct Contact
1/26/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
2/14/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	18
2/15/2022	Water Chestnut Action Site Workgroup	17
2/17/2022	Schenectady County Invasive Species Council (SCISC)	10
2/22/2022	Post-Treatment Monitoring Workgroup	13
2/23/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	8
2/23/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	95
3/7/2022	ReLeaf Region 5 Committee	6
3/9/2022	Hudson River Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force	26
3/18/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #1	7
3/17/2022	SCISC	7
3/17/2022	Town of Ballston Conservation Board	6
3/24/2022	CCE Board Meeting	9
3/28/2022	Agriculture Committee	6
3/30/2022	Region 5 ReLeaf Urban and Community Forest Committee	7
3/30/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
3/30/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	104
4/1/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #2	4
4/5/2022	CRP April Partners Meeting	26
4/7/2022	PRISM Leaders Quarterly Meeting	10
4/15/2022	PRISM E&O Committee Meeting	15
4/18/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	8

4/21/2022	SCISC Meeting	7
4/27/2022	Terrestrial Coordinator Meeting	12
4/27/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	103
4/28/2022	AIS Coordinator Meeting	18
4/29/2022	Conservation Committee Meeting	5
5/2/2022	Lake George HWA Partner Roundtable	16
5/4/2022	NYNHP AID Ponds and Lakes Vulnerability Prioritization Meeting	22
5/11/2022	NYNHP & New WISP Managers Meeting	7
5/12/2022	Hudson River AIS Task Force	6
5/13/2022	Region 5 ReLeaf Urban and Community Forestry	5
5/13/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #3	4
5/20/2022	Mohawk River Basin Program Steering Committee	29
5/25/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	100
6/23/2022	ISAC Quarterly Meeting	28
6/27/2022	Agriculture Committee Meeting	6
6/29/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	76
7/7/2022	PRISM Leaders Quarterly Meeting	15
7/9/2022	Huyck Preserve Invasive Species Summit	30
7/21/2022	SCISC Meeting	5
7/27/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	9
9/15/2022	SCISC Meeting	6
9/30/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
10/3 & 11/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	15
10/11/2022	Post-Treatment Monitoring Workgroup	11

## Indirect Contacts Reached

### Tabling Events

Event Date	Event Name	Indirect Contact
3/6/2022	Saratoga Springs Rotary Home and Lifestyles Show	500
5/21/2022	Albany Pine Bush: Lupine Fest	300
6/5/2022	Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park Wildlife Festival	250
6/5/2022	Sustainable Saratoga: Pollinator Palooza	85
6/11/2022	Albany Symphony Orchestra at Hudson Crossing Park	150
6/18/2022	Schodack Island State Park 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	200
7/19-24/2022	Saratoga County Fair	2800
9/17/2022	Five Rivers Fall Festival	500
9/17/2022	Moreau Lake State Park Nature Fest	500

### Newsletters/Press Releases

Event Date	Event Name	Indirect Contact
3/23/2022	DEC Press Release: Middle Grove State Forest	1000
3/30/2022	NYFOA Quarterly Newsletter: Forest Pests and SLF	500
4/14/2022	Podcast: Nature Calls: Conversations from the Hudson Valley	500
6/9/2022	Columbia County Paper: NYISAW Invasive Species Highlight	5000
6/23/2022	Glens Falls Chronicles: Spongy Moth Article	3000
9/16/2022	CR-PRISM Q3 Newsletter	293

### Website/Social Media

Event Date	Event Name	Indirect Contact
11/14/2022	Facebook Followers in 2022	558
11/14/2022	Facebook: Individuals reached in 2022	8,107
11/14/2022	Instagram Followers In 2022	927
11/14/2022	Instagram: Individuals reached in 2022	7,549
11/14/2022	CR-PRISM Website Views	9,413

## Appendix C: Priority Conservation Zones

### Aquatic Priority Waterbodies:

County	PWB Name
Albany	<p><i>Partridge Run Wildlife Management Area:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fawn Lake</i></li> <li>• <i>White Birch Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Tubbs Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Newt Lake</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Basic Creek Reservoir</i> <i>Thompson Lake</i></p>
Columbia	<i>Queechy Lake</i>
Fulton	<i>Rockwood Lake</i>
Greene	<i>North-South Lake</i>
Herkimer	<i>Spruce Lake</i>
Montgomery	N/A
Rensselaer	<p><i>Grafton Lake State Park</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Long Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Shaver Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Second Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Mill Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Black River Pond</i></li> <li>• <i>Dunham Reservoir</i></li> </ul>
Saratoga	<p><i>Moreau Lake State Park</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Moreau Lake</i></li> <li>• <i>Lake Bonita</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Delegan Pond</i> <i>Little Round Lake</i> <i>Round Lake</i> <i>Colonie Reservoir</i></p>
Schenectady	<i>Featherstonhough Lake</i> <i>Collins Lake</i> <i>Mariaville Lake</i>
Warren	<i>Butler Pond</i> <i>Rush Pond</i> <i>Halfway Creek/Ann Pond</i>
Washington	<i>Carters Pond – Carters Pond Wildlife Management Area</i> <i>Battenkill River</i>

## Terrestrial Priority Conservation Areas:

County	PCA Name
Albany	<i>Ann Lee Pond Preserve Ashford Glen Preserve Black Creek Marsh WMA Partridge Run WMA Thacher State Park</i>
Columbia	<i>Nutton Hook Tidal Wetland Stockport Flats WMA</i>
Fulton	<i>Rockwood State Forest Peck Hill State Forest</i>
Greene	<i>Four Mile Point Preserve Vosburgh Swamp</i>
Herkimer	<i>Plantation Island WMA Spruce Creek/Lake Reservoir</i>
Montgomery	<i>Charleston State Forest Rural Grove State Forest</i>
Rensselaer	<i>Capital District WMA Cherry Plain State Park and WMA Grafton Lakes State Park</i>
Saratoga	<i>Moreau Lake State Park (ISPZ) Main Property Saratoga Sand Plains WMA Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park/Saratoga Sand Plains WMA</i>
Schenectady	<i>Indian Kill Preserve Sanders Preserve</i>
Warren	<i>Moreau Lake State Park (ISPZ) West Property Ralph Road State Forest</i>
Washington	<i>Eldridge Swamp SF Ft. Edward Grasslands Goose Egg SF Washington County Grasslands</i>

## Appendix D: Partner List

### PRISM PARTNER

Adirondack Lakes Alliance  
Adirondack Mountain Club - Albany Chapter  
Adirondack Research  
Adirondack Watershed Institute  
Agricultural Stewardship Association  
Albany County Office of Natural Resource Conservation  
Albany County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Albany County Storm Water Program  
Albany Department of Water  
Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission  
Albany Rail Trail  
Altamont Enterprise Albany County Paper  
Ann Lee Pond  
Appalachian Mountain Club - Albany Chapter  
Audubon NY  
Babcock Lake Estates  
Ballston Lake Improvement Association  
Bowman Lake Association  
Buckingham Pond Conservancy  
Burden Lake Association  
Clear Water Trout Unlimited  
Columbia Land Conservancy  
Columbia-Greene Lakes Coalition  
Cornell Cooperative Extension(s) Rensselaer, Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga  
Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association  
Crandall Public Library  
Daketown State Forest  
Darrin Fresh Water Institute  
Davey Resource Group Inc.  
Department of the State Local Government Services  
Dig the Falls  
Duane Lake Association  
ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse  
EMMA Environmental Monitoring and Management Alliance  
Flying Deer Nature Center  
Four Mile Point Preserve  
Friends of Moreau Lake State Park  
Friends of the Mohawk Towpath Byway  
Friends of Tivoli Lake Preserve and Farm, Inc.  
Friends of Woodlawn Preserve  
Garden Club of the Hudson Crossings Park (Schuylerville)  
Grafton Lakes SP  
Grass Land Bird Trust  
Hudson Crossings Park  
Hudson River Estuary Program /Cornell University  
Huyck Preserve  
Kelly Adirondack Center  
Kinderhook Lake Corporation  
Lake George Association  
Lake George Land Conservancy  
Little Troy Park  
Long Lake Homeowners Association  
Mohawk River Watershed Coalition  
Mohawk-Hudson Land Conservancy  
Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Nature Conservancy Albany  
New Baltimore Land Conservancy  
New York Forest Owners Association  
New York Logger Training  
New York State Invasive Species Research Institute  
North Chatham Free Library  
Northeast AIS Plant Management Society  
NY iMapInvasives  
NY Re-Leaf Program  
NYS Canal Cooperation  
NYS Canal Reimagined Advisory Group  
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

- Ecosystems Health
- Invasive Species Coordinate Unit
- Forest Health program
- Hogweed program
- Fisheries
- Tree Nursery

NYS Department of Transportation  
 NYS Federation of Lake Associations  
 NYS Hemlock Initiative  
 NYS Natural Heritage Program  
 NYS Nursery and Landscape Association  
 NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation  
 NYS Thruway Association  
 Otsego County Conservation Association  
 Pine Hollow Arboretum  
 Plantation Island WMA  
 Queechy Lake Club  
 Reichards Lake  
 Rensselaer County Soil and Water Conservation District  
 Rensselaer Land Trust  
 Rensselaer Plateau Alliance  
 Rensselaer Water Quality Coordinating Committee  
 Sanders Preserve  
 Saratoga Community Forest  
 Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District  
 Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District  
 Saratoga National Battlefield (NPS)  
 Saratoga PLAN  
 Saratoga Public Library  
 Scenic Hudson  
 Schenectady Chapter ADK  
 Schenectady County Historical Society  
 Schenectady County Invasive Species Council (SCISC)  
 Schenectady County SWCD

Schodack Island State Park  
 Shaker Historical Museum in New Lebanon  
 Siena College  
 Skidmore College  
 Sleepy Hollow Lake, Association of Property Owners  
 Sterling Environmental Engineering  
 Student Conservation Association  
 SUNY Oneonta  
 Sustainable Saratoga  
 Taconic State Park  
 Thacher State Park  
 The Farm on Peaceable Pastures  
 The Fund for Lake George  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 The Sacandaga Mohawk Flotilla/United States Coast Guard Auxiliary  
 Thompson's Lake Association  
 Town of Ballston Spa  
 Town of Ballston Spa Park and Tree Board  
 Town of Clifton Park  
 Town of Glenville  
 Town of New Lebanon  
 Town of Sand Lake  
 Union College  
 United States Department of Homeland Security  
 University at Albany, SUNY  
 Upper Hudson Watershed Coalition  
 US Army Engineer Research AIS Ecology and Invasive Species Branch Environmental Laboratory  
 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 US Geological Survey  
 Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve  
 Warren County SWCD  
 Wild Ones Native Plant Group  
 Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park

## **Watercraft Inspection Steward Partners**

Town of Bethlehem  
Town of Coeyman's  
City of Albany  
Town of Germantown  
City of Hudson  
Village of Catskill  
City of Rensselaer  
City of Troy  
Village of Waterford  
Village of Round Lake  
Town of Glenville  
Town of Rotterdam  
Office of Parks, Recreation, Historic Preservation

NYS Canal Corporation  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

## **Steering Committees**

NYSDEC Mohawk River Basin Program  
NYSDEC Re-Leaf Urban and Community Forestry Program Region 5

## **Advisory Groups**

NYS Invasive Species Advisory Committee  
NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program/Cornell University

## **Task Force**

Hudson River AIS Task Force

## **Organizations**

Cornell University Master Forest Owner Volunteer Program  
New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) Southeastern Adirondacks and Capital District  
Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society

## Appendix E: Meetings

### 2022 Work Groups and Collaborative Meetings

Event Date	Event Name	Direct Contact
1/26/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
2/14/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	18
2/15/2022	Water Chestnut Action Site Workgroup	17
2/17/2022	Schenectady County Invasive Species Council (SCISC)	10
2/22/2022	Post-Treatment Monitoring Workgroup	13
2/23/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	8
2/23/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	95
3/7/2022	Re-Leaf Region 5 Committee	6
3/9/2022	Hudson River Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force	26
3/18/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #1	7
3/17/2022	SCISC	7
3/17/2022	Town of Ballston Conservation Board	6
3/24/2022	CCE Board Meeting	9
3/28/2022	Agriculture Committee	6
3/30/2022	Region 5 Re-Leaf Urban and Community Forest Committee	7
3/30/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
3/30/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	104
4/1/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #2	4
4/5/2022	CRP April Partners Meeting	26
4/7/2022	PRISM Leaders Quarterly Meeting	10
4/15/2022	PRISM E&O Committee Meeting	15
4/18/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	8
4/21/2022	SCISC Meeting	7
4/27/2022	Terrestrial Coordinator Meeting	12
4/27/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	103
4/28/2022	AIS Coordinator Meeting	18
4/29/2022	Conservation Committee Meeting	5
5/2/2022	Lake George HWA Partner Roundtable	16
5/4/2022	NYNHP AID Ponds and Lakes Vulnerability Prioritization Meeting	22
5/11/2022	NYNHP & New WISP Managers Meeting	7
5/12/2022	Hudson River AIS Task Force	6
5/13/2022	Region 5 Re-Leaf Urban and Community Forestry	5
5/13/2022	NYISAW Promo Video Workgroup Meeting #3	4
5/20/2022	Mohawk River Basin Program Steering Committee	29

5/25/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	100
6/23/2022	ISAC Quarterly Meeting	28
6/27/2022	Agriculture Committee Meeting	6
6/29/2022	Statewide PRISM Call-in	76
7/7/2022	PRISM Leaders Quarterly Meeting	15
7/9/2022	Huyck Preserve Invasive Species Summit	30
7/21/2022	SCISC Meeting	5
7/27/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	9
9/15/2022	SCISC Meeting	6
9/30/2022	TIS Coordinator Meeting	10
10/3 & 11/2022	Water Chestnut Stakeholder Meeting	15
10/11/2022	Post-Treatment Monitoring Workgroup	11

## Citations

- <sup>1</sup> “New York State Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan 2018”  
Prepared for New York State Invasive Species Council: OBG Ecologic LLC.; Aquatic and  
Watershed Science Consultants. (November 2018).