**HWA Survey**

**Date:** June 4th, 2019

**Survey Team:** Kristopher Williams and Lauren Mercier

**Project Description:** As a part of supporting the Cornell Hemlock Initiative, Capital-Mohawk PRISM surveyed Butler Pond Reservoir, near Lake George, NY. This survey is a part of the HWA Lake Survey Program that Carrie Marchner from the initiative that has coordinated with several other agencies.

* <https://blogs.cornell.edu/nyshemlockinitiative/>
* [Hemlock Initiative Boat Survey Protocol](https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/f/7151/files/2016/12/Hemlock-and-HWA-Hunters_Boat_Protocol-1ayhgai.pdf)

**Location:**

**Van Dusen Preserve**

West Mountain Rd

Queensbury, NY 12804

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**Point of Contact:**

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**Introduction:** The Hemlock Initiative has designed a program to survey for HWA surrounding the southern portion of the Adirondack Blue Line in upstate New York. The program is in its pilot year and is seeking to slow the spread of HWA with early identification. The Capital Mohawk PRISM conducted this survey at Butler Pond Reservoir on the Van Dusen Preserve, in Queensbury, NY. This pond is in close proximity to Prospect Mountain where HWA was found in 2017. Butler pond itself was inaccessible and requires permission to access the paths through the City of Glens Falls Water & Sewer Department.

**Invasive Species Survey: Butler Pond Reservoir**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Common Name | Scientific Name | Locations (GPS) | Survey Type | Status |
| Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) | Adelges tsugae | 43.350688,  -73.725802 | Early Detection  HWA Boat Survey | No Detection |

**Findings and Recommendations: No detection as of June 4th, 2019**

**The Van Dusen Preserve** contains 1.8 mi of trails that lead to the Butler Pond Reservoir and continue up to Butler Pond. The preserve is considered an eastern Adirondack Forest with a mix of forest types. The north-east corner was oak-pine forest with interspersed stands of hemlock with a species composition ranging around 40% in the lower stand of trees. Around the reservoir, to the southwest corner of the preserve, the forest was classified as maple-beech with a heavy presence of young hemlock trees, between 40-80% making up the understory.

The preserve and the areas surrounding the ponds should be monitored in the future due to the proximity to Prospect Mountain with in the Adirondack State Park. Due to timing and restricted access, we were unable to reach Butler Pond, however it should be considered for monitoring in the near future due to the strong presence of young hemlocks surrounding the reservoir. For future visits, the City of Glens Falls Water and Sewer Department should be contacted to gain access to viewing areas surrounding the actual pond. Their number is (518) 761-3857. The trees surveyed were in very good health, containing lots of new growth, but it is important to continue surveying areas such as this for early detection and prevention measures. There is a large volume of hemlock trees to give a great segment for point sampling.







