



Capital Region PRISM Survey Report

Purpose:

The Invasive Species Survey Report will provide an overview and help guide invasive species treatments, baseline site composition, post-monitoring, and restoration at a specific site over time.

To be submitted to Capital Region PRISM following the completion of partner, individual, or PRISM-led survey for review. This form can be found online as "FieldSurveyReportTemplate" at <https://www.capitalregionprism.org> or with a request. Please consult the Capital Region PRISM if there are any questions at (518)-885-8995. Please capture and collect data using [iMap Invasives](#). The online software platform and associated mobile application are free and open sourced.

Section 1: Survey Summary

This section provides an overview of the site, contact information, etc. Once complete, save your report and submit the form via email to a member of the Capital Region PRISM team. Feel free to include supporting documents in your submission.

To determine site value, we recommend using the iMap Invasives Prioritization Model which can be found on the [PRISM Prioritization webpage](#). The prioritization model will allow you to assess your site's ecological value based on a few factors. Evaluate the comprehensive score or the ecological score to determine if your site is a high priority site that will help us determine if the location and infestation falls into our priority objectives for future management. If it is not a high priority site, we still encourage you to complete invasive species surveying as the site may be culturally and socially of value to the public.

Section 2: Survey Result Summary

The survey summary section will contain the tables and maps generated from your survey efforts. The biological surveys will assist the Capital Region PRISM in our efforts to identify emerging species to be able to more effectively manage infestations and the spread of populations. Please fill out the provided table and insert screen shots of iMap Invasives maps.

Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

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



Section 1: Survey Summary

Date: 7/17/2023	Property Owner Name: NYS DEC Region 4
Site Name: Pittstown State Forest	Property Owner Contact: (518) 357-2155 r4.ump@dec.ny.gov
Site Address (if different): Pittstown SMBA Trail Head, Ward Hollow Rd, Johnsonville, NY 12094	Survey Leader Name and Title: Samantha Schultz, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator
County: Rensselaer	Survey Leader Contact: ss986@cornell.edu
Latitude/Longitude: 42.81664422107005, -73.46766626713125	Team Member Name(s): Angelina Sawicki, Lauren Costello, Jessica Stewart
Site Size: 1,167 acres	Team Member Contact(s): ars436@cornell.edu , lc2227@cornell.edu , jrs629@cornell.edu

Site Description: Provide existing conditions of the site, current land use, landscape elements, etc.

The 1,167-acre Pittstown State Forest is located on the northern edge of the Rensselaer Plateau. The forest features several miles of trails maintained for mountain biking. There are 9.5 miles of multiple use trails. The trails on the south side of the road (State Fire Lane) are wide, steep, and rocky. The trails on the north side are more moderate, but narrow and winding. The property is managed for multiple uses, including timber production, watershed protection, wildlife habitat and recreation. Other uses include: hiking, biking, primitive camping, snowmobiling, hunting and trapping.

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

The CR-PRISM team surveyed along marked trails. Beech trees along the trail were surveyed for beech leaf disease. Hemlocks were abundant at this location, so hemlock woolly adelgid surveying was prioritized. Several transects were formed while surveying for HWA.

Did you identify this site through the iMap Invasives Prioritization Model? If yes- Did it score high in either ecological or comprehensive value? What other reason is present for conducting the survey?

Yes, this site scores moderate-high for comprehensive score and moderate for ecological score. This site was selected due to the proximity to Grafton Lakes State Park, one of the Capital Region PRISM's Priority Conservation Areas as well as one of the PRISM's Invasive Species Prevention Zones. This site should be considered for an elevation to a Priority Conservation area or a high priority secondary site for surveying and treatments.

Section 2: Survey Result Summary

Common Name	Scientific Name	GPS Location	Growth Form	Phenology	Distribution/ Abundance	Area Infested (acres/miles if linear)
Japanese stiltgrass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	42.816855N, 73.469027W	Herbaceous	Vegetative	Sparse	0.00327 acres
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera spp.</i>	N/A	Shrub	Fruit	Linearly scattered	3 miles
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	N/A	Shrub	Vegetative	Linearly scattered	3 miles

Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	42.819644N, 73.465750W	Shrub	Fruit	Linearly scattered	4 miles
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	42.819644N, 73.465750W	Vine	Fruit	Linearly scattered	4 miles
Hemlock wooly adelgid	<i>Adelges tsugae</i>	42.82204N, -73.45575W	Insect	aestivation	Sparse	10 acres

Growth Form:

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

Aquatic: Submerged, Floating, Emergent, Riparian, Animal

Phenology:

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

Insects: Emergence, Swarming, Spawning

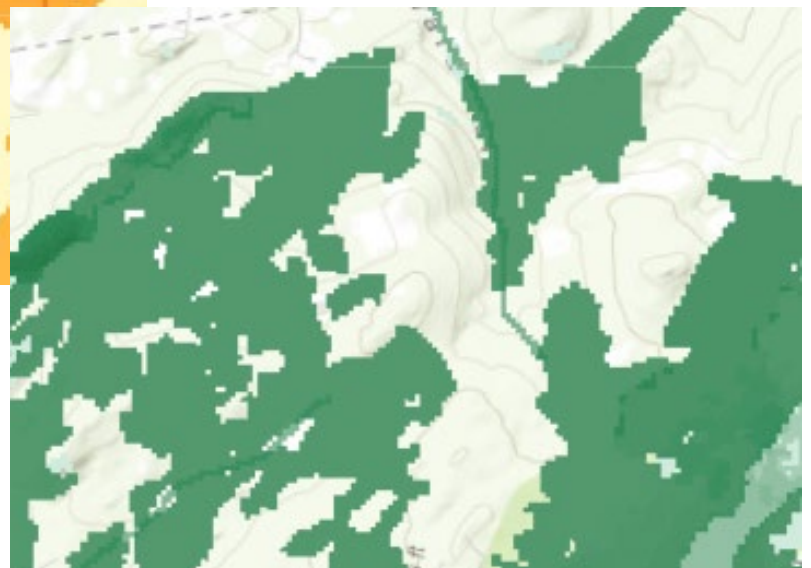
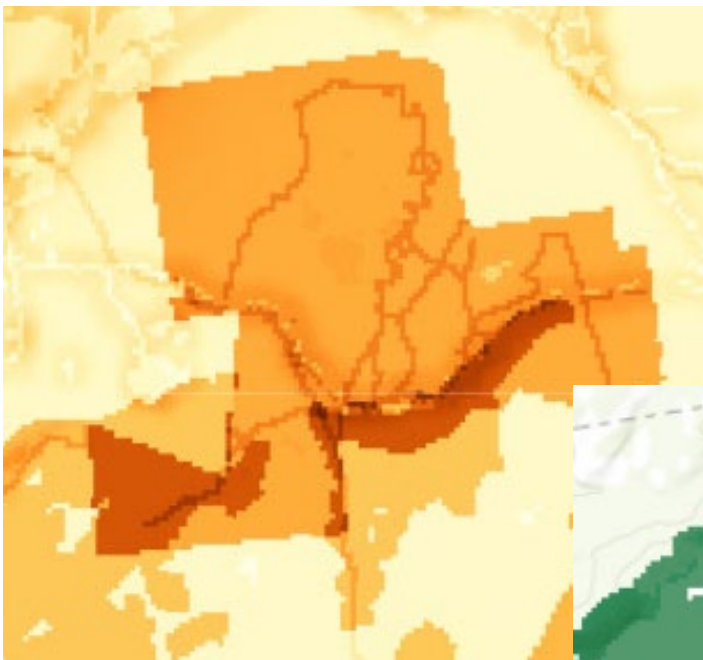
Animals: Spawning, Swarming, Migrating

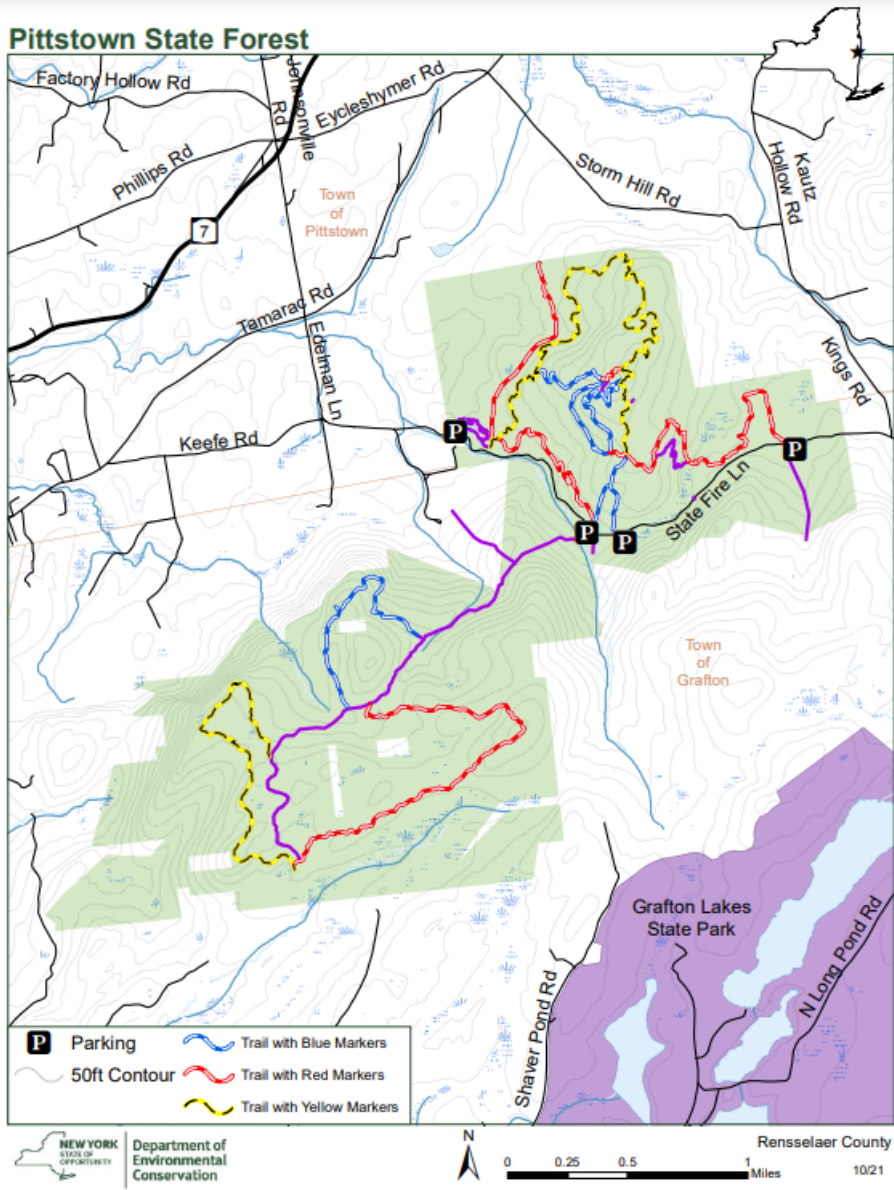
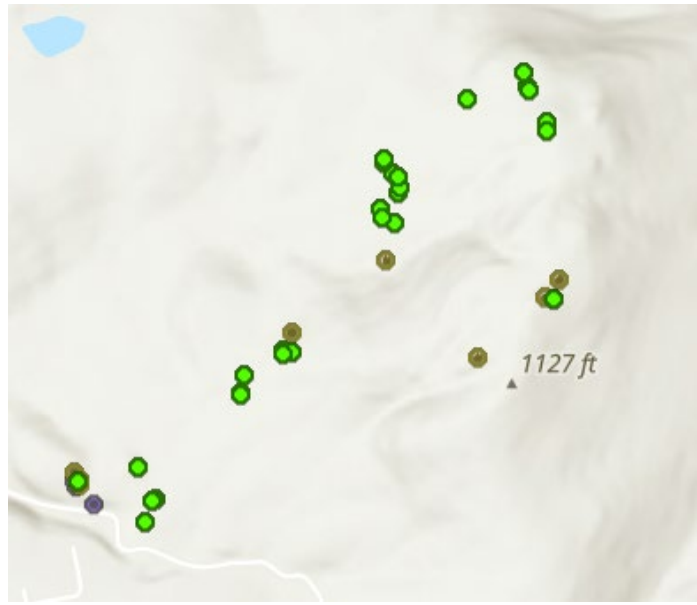
Distribution/Abundance:

Trace (single plant/clump), Sparse (scattered plants/clumps), Dense plants/clumps, Monoculture, Linearly scattered

Map: Develop a map of the survey area that has any iMap Invasives points and/or searched, polygons to delineate infestation extent. Multiple maps may be added for multiple species or locations. Different mapping formats are welcome but iMap Invasive delineations are preferred.

- Insert Survey Map(s):





Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

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

Additional Notes: Describe any barriers or issues that arose before or during the survey. Issues arising before completing the survey could include: trouble contacting owner, extended time to obtain permission, trouble accessing the property, etc. Barriers arising during the survey could include: downed trees, trail is closed off, hazards on site, unforeseen injury, inclement weather, etc. Provide any advice that could limit barriers or issues in the future.

No barriers or issues arose.

Treatment: Describe briefly any recommendations for future treatment methods, why they are recommended, and any alternatives to consider. Please use abundance and site-specific factors in your treatment recommendation. Optional: Attach or reference BMP guidance document. Consider state and local permitting requirements.

Treatment is recommended for Japanese stiltgrass to prevent further spread into the state forest. Due to the presence of bikers that could potentially spread Japanese stiltgrass deeper into the forest it is recommended a bike brush or wash station be installed at all trailheads along with signage to make bikers aware of the potential invasive species they could be spreading through the areas they like to recreate.

Post-Survey Monitoring: Briefly explain the monitoring procedure, when it will occur, and who will complete it. Consider the phenology of species when suggesting time-lines. If a control such as eradication, suppression, and exclusion is selected, will a management plan be drafted? If a plan is needed, please contact the CR-PRISM Office for a template of our Invasive Species Management Plan.

Further surveying should be conducted in this forest to determine if it should be elevated to a Priority Conservation Area. The forest has a low number of invasive species that could be removed by the Capital Region PRISM TIS Team. Delineation of the Japanese stiltgrass at this site would be the highest priority for this site to determine if treatment can feasibly be conducted.