



Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Detect & Monitor Report

Section 1: Response Project Summary

General Information	
Date Response Action Conducted: 6/27/2024 ; 8/5/24	Property Owner Name, Title, and Contact:
Site Name: Vosburgh Swamp Wildlife Management Area	Mike Clark, NYS DEC Region 4 Wildlife Management Areas Michael.clark@dec.ny.gov , (518)357-2355
Site address: NY-385, Athens, NY 12015	Project Leader Name, and Contact: Sam Schultz ss986@cornell.edu
Latitude/Longitude: 42.308354 N, -73.788505 W	County: Greene
Total Parcel Size (acres): 290 acres	Team Member Name(s): Chris Benincasa, Stephen Root, Riley Willard, Joe Simonds
Worksite Size (acres): 8.76 acres	Permit(s)/Permission(s) Acquired? Yes, Temporary Revocable Permit
Report Author: Joseph Simonds, Riley Willard	Data Recorder & iMapInvasives ID: Joseph Simonds-29191 Stephen Root- 29191

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

Conservation Goal:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delineate & assess a conservation value | <input type="checkbox"/> To prevent and protect a conservation value |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Eradication | <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Treatment Monitoring |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression | <input type="checkbox"/> Containment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exclusion | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration |

Response Type:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew Assistance Program Project |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research Action | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Engagement |

Disposal method(s): [Plants disposed of offsite in landfill.](#)





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

The primary purposes of Vosburgh Swamp Wildlife Management Area (WMA) are for wildlife management, wildlife habitat management, and wildlife-dependent recreation. This WMA consists of 290 acres of forested uplands, tidal forested wetlands, tidal marsh, and small areas of freshwater wetlands. The WMA was acquired from Scenic Hudson in 2012 and 2015.

This property is an important feature of the Hudson River Estuary. The various upland and wetland habitat types found on the WMA support a great variety of fish, wildlife, and plant species. There are several unique ecological communities to explore and a great variety of wildlife species to view. Vosburgh Swamp was formerly directly tidal, but due to human development spanning back over 100 years, it is now tidally influenced and is very shallow. Because it is so shallow, fishing opportunities are limited to carp.

Vosburgh Swamp WMA is managed to provide habitat for resident, migrating, and wintering wildlife and to provide wildlife-related public benefits. A limited amount of mowing occurs to maintain trails. In addition, apple trees have been identified and are gradually being "released" from competing trees to enhance their value for wildlife. Nest boxes have also been established to enhance waterfowl production. Efforts are ongoing to remove the non-native, invasive water chestnut from Vosburgh Swamp to improve waterfowl habitat. Primary management objectives are to provide habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl, to provide waterfowl hunting opportunities, and to provide for a variety of wildlife-related recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, hunting, and trapping.

An accessible waterfowl hunting and wildlife viewing blind is located at the north end of Vosburgh Swamp, along the eastern shore. A trail and short boardwalk to this blind originates from the middle parking lot off of Four Mile Point Road. Featured activities on the property include hunting, trapping, freshwater fishing and wildlife viewing.

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 access road was surveyed, and wineberry populations were delineated using Field Maps.





Project Significance: Some recommended resources to identify high priority sites include: the [CR-PRISM Framework of Response](#), the [NYNHP Prioritization Model](#), the [NYS DEC Environmental Resource Mapper](#)? Please provide screenshots of any maps and/or models used to determine the site is a priority and describe why they show the site is a priority. What other reason is present for conducting the response action (protecting rare, threatened, endangered species, crew assistance project, significant habitat present, high/very high threat species/Tier 2 species present etc.)?

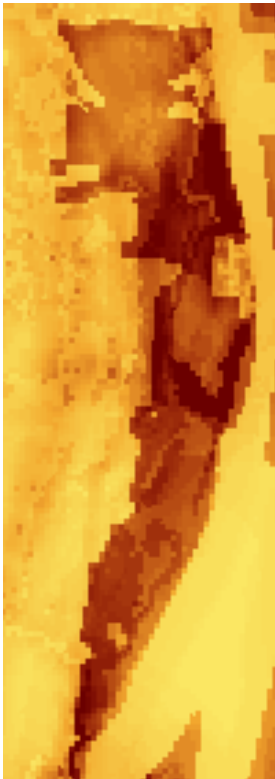


Figure 1: Comprehensive Score

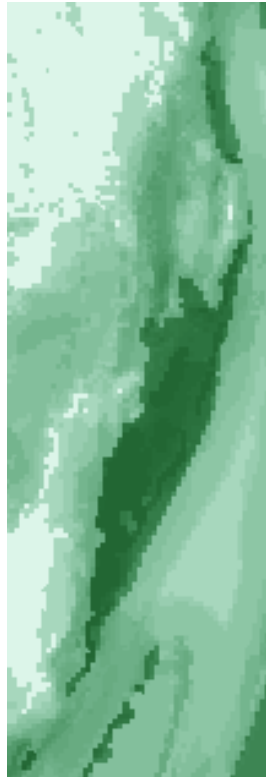


Figure 2: Ecological Score



Figure 3: Environmental Resources

Figures 1 and 2 above are taken from the NYNHP Prioritization Mapper, showing that Vosburgh Swamp WMA scores both highly for the comprehensive score and the ecological score.

Figure 3 is taken from the NYS DEC Resource Mapper and shows the natural resources on the property. Vosburgh Swamp WMA significant natural communities including: a freshwater wetland that is 304.7 acres, Freshwater subtidal aquatic bed (uncommon community type), tidal river (highly quality occurrence of uncommon community type), freshwater intertidal mudflats (highly quality occurrence of rare community type), freshwater tidal swamp (high quality of rare community type), freshwater tidal marsh (high quality occurrence of rare community type). Additionally, there are rare, threatened and endangered species present on or near the property including rare mosses, Atlantic sturgeon, dragonflies and damselflies, shortnose sturgeon and is in the vicinity of a significant anadromous fish concentration area, as well as other plant and animal species.



Section 2: Response Results Summary

Is this the first year of treatment? If not, consider creating an invasive species management plan for your project.

Total # of Participants: 6 people (5 PRISM staff and 1 Scenic Hudson staff) on 6/27/24; 3 people (3 PRISM Technicians) delineated populations on 8/5/24

Time Spent on Removal (hours, minutes): 1 hour, not all biomass was removed.

Is follow-up needed? What time of year and how often during the season? Maybe, PRISM staff will determine by reviewing all delineation data collected this season.

Species Common & Scientific Name	Tier Ranking	Threat Ranking	Response Method	Percent Cover (%)	Distribution/Abundance	Size of Infestation (Acres/ Miles if linear)	Area Treated (Acres/ Miles if linear)
Wineberry <i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	3	Very High	Manual	5-25%	Dense Plants/Clumps	1.744 acres	0.011 acres

Integrated Pest Management Methods Deployed:

- **Manual**- the use of physical means to eliminate or reduce pest populations
Cut, Girdle/Frill, Mow, Dig, Plow, Pull, Smother/Cover, Stump cut, Other (Describe)
- **Mechanical**- the use of mechanical means to eliminate or reduce pest populations
Cut, Girdle/Frill, Mow, Dig, Plow, Pull, Excavate, Brush hog, Controlled burn, Weed torch, Other (Describe)
- **Chemical***- the use of pesticides to eradicate or limit the prevalence of unwanted pests.
*Please include Chemical name(s) below
Foliar spray, Stem injection, Cut-stump treatment, Wiper application, Basal bark application, Frill, Tree injection method, Soil Drench, Other (Describe)
- **Cultural****- the practice of modifying the growing environment to reduce the prevalence of unwanted pests.
Mulching, Solarization, Thermal weed control, Prescribed burning, Water manipulation, Rotational grazing, Prevention programming, Reseeding/cover crop
- **Biological control*****- the use of a natural enemy or predator to control a pest.
***If biological control is released, please see additional information to collect below

Percent Cover:

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

Distribution/Abundance:

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





Section 3: Summary of Recommendations

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

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

No issues emerged as the Terrestrial team removed the wineberry. The original patch of wineberry that was detected was much smaller than the actual infestation on the property (illustrated on second map). Therefore, the PRISM crew will be returning to manage remaining plants. Additional surveys for wineberry were conducted on other nearby public properties to determine if the continuation of these projects is feasible within Four Mile Point Preserve (Scenic Hudson property) and Vosburgh Swamp WMA (NYS DEC prope

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

The PRISM Coordinator and Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator will review all wineberry populations in the surrounding area to determine if future treatments should occur here. This site was believed to be a small population previously detected but was determined to be much larger than initially believed.

Post-Treatment Monitoring: Briefly describe the monitoring procedure, when it will occur, and who will complete it. Consider the phenology of species when suggesting timelines. If this project continues, the CR-PRISM strongly suggests creation of a management plan. If a plan is needed, please contact the CR-PRISM office for a template of our Invasive Species Management Plan.

The Capital Region PRISM crew will return to the site and manage the remaining wineberry as well as delineate and remove any additional patches detected. Ensure monitoring is conducted prior to fruit set to avoid any possible spread during removal.

Map:

Develop a map of the response area that has the searched area, any iMapInvasives points, polygons and/or lines for presence or non-detection. Multiple maps may be added for multiple species or locations. All response actions should be uploaded to the CR-PRISM SharePoint Tracker and iMapInvasives.



Figure 4: Parking lot along 4-Mile Point Rd.



Figure 5: Wineberry along access rd. within Vosburgh Swamp WMA (Madarasz Rd)



Figure 6: Access Rd along Madarasz Rd within Vosburgh Swamp WMA



Figure 7: PRISM Technician, Joe Simonds, and Scenic Hudson SCA, Katie Dickinson bagging wineberry