

Lower Hudson PRISM (2015)

These guidelines for prioritizing species removal and survey efforts were approved for use during 2015 by the partners at the November 5, 2014 meeting.

These guidelines may be used by partners for developing plans within their own properties, for prioritizing the work of regional teams, and by applicants who are proposing projects to be funded as one mechanism for justifying the importance of the project.

Definitions

Widespread – these are species that are abundant throughout the Lower Hudson valley and also in most or all of the surrounding regions.

Established – these species are common or abundant through most of the Lower Hudson valley but not in most of the surrounding regions.

Emerging – these species are just starting to become established in localized parts of the Lower Hudson region.

Threat – these are species that occur in very few locations or not at all within the Lower Hudson region.

Abundance information was drawn from records of species in iMapInvasives (<http://http://nyimainvasives.org/>) and in EDDMaps (<http://eddmmaps.org>)

Personal knowledge has led us to note that certain species are under-reported and this lack of reporting would lead to that species being placed in a different category when it should be placed in a category for more abundant distribution. Therefore, we started marking species Underreported

Watch – these are non-native species that are not known to be invasive, or there is a lack of information available to evaluate their invasiveness, but may be exhibiting the potential to become invasive at locations within the PRISM.

Refer to <http://lhprism.org/document/lower-hudson-prism-species-spreadsheet> for detailed numbers.

These categories can facilitate selection of management strategies. For example,

- Widespread – lower priority for management *unless* it is to protect conservation targets or to contain spread to areas where it does not currently exist.
- Established – Focus on containment and spread prevention with special attention to borders with areas uninvaded by this species and threatened conservation targets. Surveys should detect this species to help prevent spread.
- Emerging – Eradication, or Containment and spread prevention along with restricting the area of invasion by focusing on removing outlying and border populations. These species should be a high priority for surveys, prevention, and education and outreach.
- Threat – Focus on surveys in likely introduction areas. Prioritize prevention, education and outreach. Eradication of all detected populations where practical.
- Under-Reported, and Watch – Focus on survey and reporting

Prioritization Guidelines

1. For those species that are on the Lower Hudson PRISM **Widespread** species list, prioritize according to threat posed to conservation target or invasive species prevention zones.
2. For species that are not on the Lower Hudson PRISM Widespread list,
 - a. First look at those with **VH or H invasive rank** by NYS,
 - i. **Threat** gets highest attention
 - ii. Next **Emerging**
 - iii. Next **Established**

For established species, treat those populations closer to a neighboring region that has low levels of that species
 - b. Then look at Species that have a **High** invasiveness rank in a neighboring region, or which is on the **Early Detection** list of a neighboring region
 - i. First deal with those where the Geographic region in question is near that neighboring region
 - ii. Then for those in a Geographic region that is not near that neighbor

For those not near a neighboring region, treat those which are at Low levels of populations in LH PRISM (**Threat, Emerging**)
 - c. Then look at Species that are not in either of the above categories (Not VH or H Invasive rank in NYS, or High or ED status in neighboring region)
 - i. Treat species with **Moderate** invasive rank with low population numbers (**Threat, Emerging**)
3. All others record and monitor