

**Lower Hudson PRISM**  
Partners Meeting  
**September 18, 2019 – 10:00 am-3:30 pm**  
Teatown Lake Reservation, 1600 Spring Valley Rd, Ossining

**DESIRED OUTCOMES**

1. Get to know each other better
2. Learn about progress we've made on 2019 objectives
3. Begin planning 2020 activities
4. Elect 2 new Steering Committee members

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Linda Rohleder, LH PRISM coordinator, began the meeting with a several announcements. Here are those announcements:

- Mike Young's last day October 31. Ryan Goolic will be taking over for him in that role.
- Meredith Taylor out on maternity leave
- Meeting with Tate Bushell
- Spotted Lanternfly found in Westchester Co. – but not established
- **Tomorrow Monitoring and Managing Ash workshop at Minnewaska**
- Upcoming North American Invasive Species Management Conference in Saratoga Springs. **September 30 – October 3**

12 people who are Partners or Participants in our PRISM are speaking Brent Boscarino (LHPRISM), Chris Doyle (SOLitude Lake Mgmt), Gary Lovett (Cary Institute), Jessica Schuler (NYBG), Jonathan Rosenthal (ERI), Linda Rohleder (LHPRISM) Matt Aiello-Lammens (Pace U), Meredith Taylor (NYC DEP), Naja Krauss (NYSDEC Region 3), Nick Marcette & Sarah Travallio (NYS OPRHP), Tom Lewis (Trillium ISM)

→Who else is going?

- Connecticut Native Plants and Pollinators conference **October 3**

→Who is going?

- **October 4** Invasive Species Identification and Management class 9 – 3:00
- Friday **November 15** Lower Hudson PRISM summit at New York Botanical Garden

- Native Plant Center received recognition for service to parks from the Westchester Parks Foundation
- Next meeting **Thursday December 5** at CCE Rockland in Stony Point. We will have presentations from all of our contractors completing PRISM-funded projects. And we'll form our working groups for the winter.

***Goal review--- Powerpoint slides available upon request***

1. Conservation targets – see Powerpoint for main objectives

*Progress:* Proposal was to not use the definition as a change/proposed at last PRISM meeting, but instead to use the definition that other PRISMs use

2. Support management projects- continue to give weight to IS management projects that will benefit conservation targets

*Progress:* selected 6 projects for ISF crew which scored highly in the above objective  
-Other objectives targeted for 2020

3. Strategic management - supports and optimizes regional conservation through strategic invasive species management

*-Rapid response protocol progress:* statewide protocol was adapted with additional details added for PRISM; Steering committee discussed reserving funds and decided not to do it this year

*-Continue to build early detection strategy progress:* No clear progress on Tier 2 survey strategies- will do this fall; offered midweek blockbuster training with good retention rate of survey completions; haven't developed method of prioritizing-coming up;

For aquatics, Michael Tessler awarded eDNA survey project in addition to plant surveying, developed target species list and survey protocol- available on website; Lindsay discussed what the surveys looked like and how they were conducted- will present results in December

*-Continue to fill data gaps progress:* Update on results of Blockbuster surveys- there are some gaps in Orange County so looking to complete whole PRISM range; survey effort results summary + addition of EcoQuest survey to target emerging invaders

*-Continue to work on Tier lists:* Categorization is underway and published on website for what has been accomplished thus far; Linda went on to review the different tier categories—for surveying, Tier 1 and 2 are priorities and 5

*-Conduct management projects according to priority guidelines progress:* created rubric for project evaluation with weighted scores—Linda discussed projects that the ISF crew has done work on for Tier 2 species—various partners discussed projects they have worked on in Tier 2 that will be reported in their annual reports; cutleaf blackberry, beefsteak, Linden viburnum

-Update on hardy kiwi--- done some surveys in Nature Conservancy Parks- nothing found outside of initial properties—36 infestations; 22 properties or so in total- most of them being managed

-Ryan update on ISF Crew—Vassar College- *Castor aralia* – managed about 4 acres of CA, 16 sites; also worked on sapphireberry, 4 acres, 582 plants; chocolate vine in small area; dense infestation- foliar treatment; Linden viburnum 2 sites, basal bark; sticky sage in Wingdale/Dover- 3 weeks of treatment – only other place in NYS is in Pound Ridge- 11 sites treated- stick sage near the AT- worried about hitchhiking- managed 60 acres of land – possible goat treatment?; also focused on Japanese angelica tree- finding reports that sitings are north of Red Hook- treated 15 acres- almost 3600 plants—effective treatments, but large seedbank; Scotch broom—29 sites treated, 2.78 acres- some very heavily infested site—Dia Conservation detection dog trained on this; been also managing Giant Hogweed- managing sites all over NYS—root cut is effective plus foliar spray- dangerous plant

-*Monitor recovery of sites where invasive species are managed progress:* selected 4 sites to work on active restoration (3 scotch broom and 1 silver vine)- work with State Parks crew, but haven't yet developed objective method of selecting those sites -for 2020, need

-*PRISM has coordinated program to prevent species introduction by focusing on pathways progress:* No real progress has been made on section A, B- will need to address in 2020- very important to do write-ups for new species to add to regulated list

-Watercraft Inspection Stewards continued at 9 sites along the Hudson River, 73 days and 5 lake associations that will be trained in species ID – ~~DEP got grant for decontamination station~~ [n.p. this was later determined to be incorrect]; 89% success rate of having boats inspected and talking with stewards; 2% of inspections with aquatic hitchhikers; only 50% take any preventative measures- this is main issue to focus on- varying reasons as to why- survey results can help drive decisions about what to include at stations- need infrastructure

-Monitor for regional forest pests- DEC didn't run forest pest program this year; but conservation dogs to detect SLF- did training in PA- vehicle inspections on vehicles, nursery area and construction sites- can detect live and dead- will be trained on egg masses

-Good sales/promoting native plant sales/outreach- various groups reported on how they encouraging buying/planting natives

**Break to work in strategic groups for Goals 2, 3, 5 – see section below for notes written down on easel pads**

**Vote for Steering Committee took place at 1:00pm**

A quorum was present. Ballots were counted by Lindsay Yoder and Ryan Goolic.  
**Our two new steering committee members will be: Matt Aiello-Lammens and Keri VanKamp.**

*Goal 1: Capacity building*

-Maintain strong internal structure by growing membership, sustaining membership, partner engagement progress: new partner working group, revised welcome packet, Meeting planning working group to help plan meetings and make recommendations; partner spotlights

-Increase partner's capabilities to conduct control work and increase relationships with academic institutions

-building volunteer base; advertising at local colleges, universities, community service

*Goal 4: Education and Outreach*

*Target new audiences education that promotes positive impacts of invasive species management*

-focus areas and working groups formed around participating in ISAW, forest pest education, municipal and commercial interests

-a lot of outreach focused on forest pests- Ash projects (MaMa); Westchester Parks to conduct training for staff; Linda conducted 2 training classes for professionals in March and April, 33 reached

-Jen Lerner presented to Arborist; other partners presented on some invasives outreach initiatives that they engaged in

-Contracted project for SLF, jumping worm, Asian tick education, MaMA protocol presented by ERI still in progress

-Newsletters and Tabling events good way of getting out info.

-Summary of EcoQuest challenge as mechanism for phenological timing/monitoring of emerging invasives and getting citizen science volunteers to help with monitoring

-Update on MaM- looking at resistance breeding- efforts to find resistant trees and monitoring for them- action maps based on monitoring plots of resistant trees so we can breed them- where to look for resistant trees

-Gathering of outreach and education materials for inclusion in central database for NYS

*Goal 6: Information exchange*

Continue working on website to improve usability- not substantial progress

-Invasive Species Summit- call to action – lots of presenters; goal is to get more species listed and promote native biodiversity

## **NOTES FROM BREAKOUT SECTIONS (Verbatim from easel pads from group work)**

*Essentially these are ideas that group members came up with that either represent items partners are currently working on OR ideas for future*

- Phenology/BMP mitigation
- Trail Maintenance Manual
- Advance weekly alerts- to help volunteers and planning of work process
- Develop language for use in contracts/performance bonds- cleaning equipment before and after use
- Get in the pipeline for NEW biological control

For Goal 2: Resource list for rare/special concern natives to know where to prioritize ISPZs /People to call for information

For Goal 3: B.1—Identify data gaps at BRPRC and recruit volunteers to cover

D.2- Incised fumewort, water chestnut Teatown Lake Reservation  
BRPRC- continuing incised fumewort study with Iona  
-Teatown, NYRP long term monitoring of IS managed sites

Goal 5.E.: Taro (Westchester County Parks) attempting to make it part of capital project planning and job description

Goals 2, 3, 5:

Would like to see movement towards restoration plans at removal sites and develop procedures for coordinating restoration response- planting natives/reseeding

- Invite speakers/experts- educate/provide guidelines NYC parks as option
- Organize volunteer events specific for replanting/restoration
- Create native plant working group
- Tie-in messaging with climate change/carbon sequestration
- Focus on vine removal, especially around invasives/roadways
- Keep pathway prioritization on objective list- ranking of vector pathways- requires data analysis- possible internship/focused project; Would need to include consideration for different organism groups- tie-in with management priorities
- utilization of ISF survey database to analyze pathways/distribution analysis---

potential intern project

Goal 2, 3, 5:

- Prioritize creation of digital video web-based Blockbuster training
- create BMPs for plant sales and swaps and disseminate

-BMPs for invasives disposal

Goals 1, 4 and 6:

-Partner Portal

-Useful to have PRISM-branded posters, etc. on new IS info sheets or BMPs

-This Action Plan was a good resource refinement over last year's

-ISAW- just need guidance on what procedures to follow

Suggestion for next meeting: how to use Partner portal or re-orientation to the LH-PRISM website

## **ADJOURN**

**Our Next Meeting is Thursday December 5 at Cornell Cooperative Extension-Rockland County, Stony Point**

## **Attendance**

Ryan Goolic	New York New Jersey Trail Conference
Heather Platt	New York New Jersey Trail Conference
Brent Boscarino	New York New Jersey Trail Conference
Linda Rohleder	New York New Jersey Trail Conference
Steve Ricker	Westmoreland Sanctuary
Andrew Middlebrook	North Salem Open Land Foundation
Beth Ravitt	New York New Jersey Trail Conference
Dan Smith	Scenic Hudson
Walt Daniels	
Tim Wenskus	NYSDEC
John Zeiger	Westchester Land Trust
Chris McArdle	NY Restoration Project
Jowann Zeigler	NY Restoration Project
David Decker	Audubon NY
John Magerlein	NYNJTC
Barry Leibowitz	Putnam Co. Master Gardeners
Guy Pardee	Suburban Native, and The Native Plant Center
Taro Ietaka	Westchester County Parks
Tom Lewis	Trillium ISM
Kristen Ossmann	CCE-Rockland
Andrew Morgan	Pound Ridge Land Conservancy
John Butler	Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
Julia Rogers	Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Claire Davis	Locust Grove
Danielle Begley-Miller	Teatown Lake Reservation
Bob DelTorto	Bronx River Parkway Reservation Conservancy

Jen Lerner	CCE-Putnam
Bart Caterino	NYC DEP
Tim Stanley	The Fresh Air Fund
Barry Kogan	Wave Hill
Thomas Schindelman	Wave Hill
Julie Ruben	Three Arrows Cooperative
Amanda Bayley	Plan it Wild
Carrie Sears	The Invasives Project – Pound Ridge
Chris Duncan	Garden Club of America
Andrea Stewart	Garden Club of America
Jess Schuler	NY Botanical Garden
Diane Alden	Friends of Old Croton Aqueduct
Matt Aiello-Lammens	SUNY-Pace
Radka Wildova	Ecological Research Institute
Keri VanCamp	Vassar College
David Burg	Wild Metro/Earth Tenders
Nicole White	NYSDEC
Joyce Tomaselli	CCE Dutchess County