

Lower Hudson PRISM 2019 Action Plan

Capacity Building - Goal 1: *The Lower Hudson PRISM has a robust public identity, strong internal structure and a sustainable resource base to continue its mission.*

The strategies for achieving this goal should include coordinating partners, volunteer recruitment and training, and public and local government engagement.

2019 Objectives

- A. Increase our public visibility to have the LHPRISM be known as the go-to place for regional invasive species information
- B. Maintain our strong internal structure by growing our active membership, sustaining membership and enabling partners to be more fully engaged
- C. Increase partner’s capabilities to conduct invasive species management
- D. Foster strong academic relationships

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1. Hold an invasive species awareness push in early spring with primary message spotted lanternfly awareness (See also Goal 4-B.1.)	Jen Lerner Joyce Tomaselli
A.2. Issue a press releases about RFP availability, awards, and accomplishments.	Publicity working group
A.3. Require beneficiaries of ISF crew to provide write-up for web, press, social media.	
B.1. Develop a welcome packet and questionnaire for new partners and new representatives	New Partners working group
B.2. Continue to make meetings valuable for attendees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule partner presentations for January & March mtg • Have a talk at March mtg focused on a topic aimed at potential partners • Continue to schedule adequate time for networking. Allow more opportunity for partners to share what they’re doing especially informally • Continue to have an outdoor component to meetings, when appropriate • Continue to rotate meeting locations 	Linda Rohleder
C.1. Build a volunteer base	Volunteers Working Group
C.2. Conduct train-the-trainer workshop for running volunteer workdays	Linda Rohleder
C.3. Offer partners expert consulting on management projects and identification	Linda Rohleder
C.4. Update “partner resources to share” list and collect procedures for property access for	New Partners working group

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management projects from partners.	
C.5 Have a workshop on developing an IS management plan for land managers.	Linda Rohleder
D.1. Investigate school community service requirements	Barry Kogan
D.2. Compile a list of potential intern projects	Barry Kogan
D.3. Sponsor student internships	

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Conservation Targets - Goal 2: *The Lower Hudson PRISM protects the rich, native biodiversity of the Lower Hudson Valley by focusing on priority targets for conservation.*

The strategies for achieving this goal should involve coordinating partners, managing invasive species strategically, assessment and monitoring network, and public and local government engagement.

2019 Objectives

- A. Identify candidate Invasive Species Prevention Zones (ISPZ)
- B. Support management projects which protect rare and endangered species populations.

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1. Develop an application and selection process for ISPZs.	ISPZ Working Group
A.2. Solicit nominations for ISPZs	
A.3. Use BlockBuster data to guide regional ISPZ selection	
B.1. Continue to give weight to IS management projects that will benefit conservation targets in the management project and RFP proposal selection ranking processes	LHPRISM Steering Committee

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Strategic Management - Goal 3: *The Lower Hudson PRISM supports and optimizes regional conservation through strategic invasive species management.*

The strategies for achieving this goal should include managing invasive species strategically, early detection monitoring network, rapid response capacity, and eradication/control efforts.

2019 Objectives

- A. Develop a protocol for **rapid response** to a new introduction
- B. Continue to build **early detection** capacity (terrestrial and aquatic)
- C. Continue to build and refine **survey** program(s) to fill data gaps and detect new introductions
- D. Continue to work on Lower Hudson PRISM species Tier categorizations to support **prioritization** efforts
- E. Conduct **management** projects according to our prioritization guidelines
- F. Monitor **recovery** of sites where invasive species are managed

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1. Write PRISM-specific plan for rapid response based on NYSDEC framework.	
A.2. Develop a rapid response reserve fund for response to Tier 1 species.	LHPRISM Steering Committee
B.1. Have clear survey strategies for Tier 2 species	LHPRISM staff
B.2. Offer mid-week BlockBuster or Tier 2 species training. Also. Refer to capacity building goal and education goal for training actions	Jen Lerner Joyce Tomaselli
B.3. Develop a method of prioritizing where to survey for early detection species based on results of state-wide prioritization effort.	LHPRISM staff
B.4. Engage a skilled person to conduct early detection surveys in the prioritized areas.	
B.5. Evaluate whether to use eDNA for aquatic invasives surveys in our region.	AIS Working Group
B.6. Select a list of target aquatic invasive species to survey for.	AIS Working Group
B.7. Develop prioritization for which water bodies to survey	AIS Working Group
C.1. Continue to build BlockBuster program volunteer corps to fill data gaps.	Jen Lerner Joyce Tomaselli
C.2. Plan how to analyze 5-year BBS data set and integrate all years of data.	
D.1. Refine Tier list for terrestrial plants.	Species Categorization

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	Working Group
D.2. Publish Tier list for forest pests	Forest Pests Working Group
D.3. Publish Tier list for aquatic organisms.	AIS Working Group
E.1. Refine management project ranking criteria and use it to select management projects	Linda Rohleder Mike Young
E.2. Conduct management projects	ISF Conservation Corps crew
E.3. Coordinate between different agencies for control project selection.	Linda Rohleder Mike Young
F.1. Develop method of selecting which control sites we conduct pre-treatment vegetation surveys on.	LHPRISM staff
F.2. Answer the question of what we want to happen in each management site with the ultimate goal of helping to identify in which sites active restoration should be conducted	

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Education and Outreach - Goal 4: *The Lower Hudson PRISM reaches out to new audiences and delivers education that communicates the positive impacts of invasive species management on ecosystems. The Lower Hudson PRISM offers clear steps for action on personal and community levels.*

The strategies for achieving this goal should include coordinating the PRISM education and outreach message, public education and outreach, (noting early detection and rapid response outreach message), volunteer training, local government engagement and reporting (incorporated throughout).

2019 Objectives

- A. Conduct outreach and education for target audiences (specify target audiences for 2019).
- B. Disseminate educational materials for forest pests (esp. spotted lanternfly).
- C. Work to coordinate with and promote other existing agency and citizen science projects (e.g. ALB swimming pool survey, CAPs)
- D. Plan, prepare for and participate in NY’s Invasive Species Awareness Week
- E. Collect to local invasives phenological information and issue seasonal, timed alerts (e.g. lesser celandine) for underreported and early detection species
- F. Support early detection / rapid response efforts with outreach materials

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1. Conduct training for industry professionals for invasive species identification and management and offer professional continuing education credits.	E&O working group
A.2. Work with municipal planners, DOT, highway to ensure they understand IS which impact them and what they can do.	E&O working group
A.3. Develop training for using iNaturalist, or other platforms as appropriate, to encourage crowd-sourced surveys	E&O working group
A.4. Develop webinar version of BlockBuster survey training	E&O working group
B.1. Focus spring awareness activities on raising awareness of spotted lanternfly.	E&O working group
C.1. Promote existing programs by linking on web site and posting events.	E&O working group
D.1. Offer events or disseminate outreach messages that focus on reaching new individuals during NY ISAW.	E&O working group
E.1. Plan monthly seasonal alert for underreported and early detection species	Lauri Taylor
F.1. Create a template for a LHPRISM-branded basic fact sheet.	E&O working group

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Mitigate Pathways of Invasion - Goal 5: *PRISM has a coordinated program to prevent species introduction by focusing on pathways.*

The strategies for achieving this goal should involve public and local government engagement/coordinating partners, education and outreach, and managing priority species strategically.

2019 Objectives

- A. Identify top priority pathways for the Lower Hudson
- B. Advocate for listing additional prohibited/regulated species in Part 575
- C. Mitigate the spread of aquatic invasive species by boaters
- D. Monitor for regional forest pests (e.g. southern pine beetle, spotted lanternfly)
- E. Mitigate pathway associated with movement of heavy equipment.
- F. Mitigate pathway of spread from commercial sales

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1. Review pathways of introduction in the Lower Hudson.	Pathway Prioritization Working Group
A.2. Identify knowledge gaps in information needed to inform our prioritization of pathways	Pathway Prioritization Working Group
A.3. Select top priority pathways for terrestrial plants, forest pests, and aquatic invasives.	Pathway Prioritization Working Group
B.1. Select 5 species to advocate for listing and write up submissions.	Part 575 Advocacy Working Group
C.1. Continue watercraft inspection steward program	Lindsay Yoder
C.2. Educate groups that manage private waterbodies	Lindsay Yoder
C.3. Distribute information on decontamination	Lindsay Yoder
C.4. Identify where a Lower Hudson decontamination station would provide most benefit and plan implementation steps and costs.	AIS Working Group
D.1. Monitor traps for spotted lanternfly	Volunteer program organized by LHPRISM staff
D.2. Monitor traps for southern pine beetle	Volunteer program organized by LHPRISM staff
E.1. Collect and make available BMPs on cleaning equipment (e.g. ROW, forestry, construction, landscaping)	
F.1. Continue working with nurseries to discourage sale of non-listed invasive plants and encourage sale of native alternatives	
F.2. Educate consumers on native alternatives to reduce demand for invasive plants	Julie Ruben
F.3. Work with pet stores to discourage sale of	

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invasive animals	
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Information Exchange - Goal 6: *The establishment of an information exchange allows Lower Hudson PRISM partners and other professionals to strategically manage and integrate information relevant to the management of invasive species and offer that information to any person, group, agency (partner and non-partner alike).*

The strategies for achieving this goal should involve coordinating partners and education and outreach.

2019 Objectives

- A. Continue work on our website improving usability and design
- B. Hold an Invasive Species summit
- C. Encourage strong presence at the National Invasive Species conference
- D. Continue to increase information available on our web site
- E. Increase use of social media to disseminate information
- F. Share more information between partners on experiences managing invasive species.
- G. Make existing education and outreach resources available on web site

Action Plan

Tasks	Assigned To
A.1 Develop species search capability	Website Working Group
A.2 Have a rotating partner spotlight section on the main page	Website Working Group
B.1 Select a topic for the summit	Summit Planning Working Group
B.2. Host the summit	
C.1 Provide conference information and facilitate proposals for talks from PRISM partners	Linda Rohleder
D.1 Make available BMP information on web site	LHPRISM staff
D.2 Post avenues for people to report and obtain identifications	LHPRISM staff
E.1 Have each partner take responsibility for providing content for one Facebook post	Social Media Working Group
E.2. Draft and schedule Facebook posts	LHPRISM staff
F.1 Reopen the partner area of the web site to provide forums and sandbox areas for collecting and developing public content for the web site.	Website Working Group
F.2. Publish a newsletter with links to news items and a partner feature	Jen Lerner – help w/ content
G.1. Collect and organize information resources for web site.	Website Working Group
G.2. Investigate existing videos that can be linked to on our web site.	Education and Outreach Working Group & Website Working Group