Please read the FAQs in their entirety before filling this form. Do not leave any section blank, fill to the best of your ability, use N/A if not applicable. Reach out to Ryan McClean (RMcClean@nynjtc.org) with questions or for assistance.

**Invasives Strike Force Crew**

The Invasives Strike Force (ISF), as part of the NY-NJ Trail Conference and funded through the Lower Hudson PRISM, is a boots-on-the ground crew that endeavors to eradicate emerging invasive species and to protect high value native species and habitats as well as areas of high cultural or recreational value from the threats of invasives encroachment.

**FAQ**

**Project Narrative**
Big picture project information, why this infestation should be managed. Include history of the infestation, impact of the invasive, project goals, and planned management.

**Map Attachment**
Include a map of the target population with context to the surrounding landscape. This can be as simple as an aerial screenshot marked with pencil or as detailed as an ArcGIS map.

**Permissions**
Please submit a signed copy of the [Landowner Permission Form](https://www.lhprism.org/document/landowner-permission-form) or an equivalent form used by your organization.

**Target Species**
The species which are the highest priority. The ISF prioritizes management of Tier 2 Emerging Invasive Species for the best chance of regional eradication.
Species Tiers can be found at:
[New York State Invasive Species Tiers - New York Natural Heritage Program (nynhp.org)](https://www.nynhp.org/invasives/species-tiers-table/)

**Area of Infestation**
Report in square feet or acres. Population sizes will be used to determine treatment methods and resources required.

**Density**
Report as trace (single individual or clump), sparse (scattered), dense clumps, or monoculture. Or estimate percent cover (<5%, 6-25%, 26-50%, 51-75%, 76-100%).

**Latitude / Longitude**
Use decimal degrees. Coordinates should be at the center of the target infestation.

**Nearby Populations**
Helps determine what the “parent population” is; in many cases, the managed populations should be the ones with the greatest capacity to spread to other locations.

**Vector Pathways**
Identify known entry points for invasion to help determine the likelihood of target species moving to other locations.

**Site Logistics**
Helps determine methods and time required for treatment.

**Rare/Endangered Species + Unique Habitat**
Projects where conservation targets are being threatened by invasives are prioritized. The presence of conservation targets may alter workplan. Use the DEC’s Environmental Resource Mapper (instructions on next page) to determine.

**Planned Restoration**
Sites where restoration is planned will be prioritized.

**Site Monitoring**
The ISF does not commit to post management monitoring nor follow up management. Project with follow up management plans to take on monitoring/management will be prioritized.

**On-going Projects**
If project is already started, describe previous control methods, timing, starting and current population size, and number of years of control.

**Social Landscapes**
Places that provide significant value for public access, connectivity, and recreation.

**Resource Contributions**
ISF control projects are free to landowners, funded by the Environmental Protection Fund, however proposals that dedicate staff/volunteer time will be prioritized. Funding to cover supplies or a donation to the ISF increases our capacity and is appreciated but does not impact proposal acceptance.

**Note**: proposals may be accepted in full or in part. Accepted proposals will develop workplans with Ryan McClean, but are not guaranteed to take place if weather, scheduling, etc. conflicts arise.

**Submit PDF to**: RMcClean@nynjtc.org
**Submission Deadline**: 5pm February 9, 2024
**Project Notification**: 5pm March 1, 2024

Instructions for using the DEC Environmental Resource Mapper to determine if project is in a DEC Regulated Wetland or if the project overlaps with conservation targets:

* Visit the DEC Environmental Resource Mapper (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/38801.html>) or (<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/erm/>)
* Your popup blocker must be disabled to use this interactive resource.
* On the left, under “Search by Location,” type in the project address or GPS coordinates (long, lat) and adjust zoom to encapsulate project site.
* If helpful or necessary, the basemap may be changed in the top right next to “Base Map”
* On the left, under “Layers and Legend,” select “All Layers”
* On the left, under “Tools,” click the “Identify” tool (which is an italicized ‘I’).
* There may be overlapping colors/shapes/map features. Click on the map within your project area where there is the most overlap/ where the color is darkest. This will produce the results of the highest number of conservation targets within the project site.
* Once map is clicked, a new tab will open. Scroll down to view relevant information: “State Regulated Freshwater Wetlands,” “Significant Natural Communities,” and “Rare Plants and Rare Animals.”
* Save a copy of this page as a PDF (Ctrl + p or “print” in browser “...” menu).
* If you are unable to encapsulate all relevant information within the project area with one click using the “Identify” tool, please repeat previous steps and save multiple PDFs with all relevant information.
* Attach this/these PDF(s) in email when submitting proposal.

**Evaluation Rubric**

**Target Species** 25 points max

The ISF prioritizes management of Tier 2 species with low regional abundance and high or very high ecological or socio-economic invasiveness ranking.

**Conservation Targets/Cultural & Recreational Resource Protection** 25 points max

The ISF prioritizes management of invasive species that are threatening rare/endangered habitat/species as determined by the DEC Environmental Resource Mapper and local knowledge, as well as trail corridors with significant value for public access, connectivity, and recreation.

**Control Effectiveness** 23 points max

The ISF prioritizes managing species that has a known and effective Best Management Practice.

**On-Going Project** 12 points max

The ISF prioritizes managing projects that are on-going pre- or post-ISF management by ISF Crew or others.

**Site Logistics** 5 points max

The ISF prioritizes managing projects management will not be impeded by terrain, difficult access, or lack of permissions.

**Resource Contribution** 10 points max

The ISF prioritizes managing projects where the partner provides funding, time, or other resources, and commits to post-ISF management.

100 points total +5 for PRISM Partners

Organization/Individual Requesting Service:

Contact Name:
Phone:
Email:
Mailing Address:

Project Narrative: (Big picture, why should the infestation(s) be managed)

Map attached? [ ] Yes [ ] No
Will a certificate of insurance be required? [ ] Yes [ ] No
Permissions acquired and attached? [ ] Yes [ ] No
Are pesticides permitted to be used? [ ] Yes [ ] No
If permissions are not yet obtained, what are the next steps to obtain permissions? (contact information for land manager, plan for obtaining permissions, are additional permits other than landowner permissions required?)

**Target Species:** (The ISF is best equipped to manage terrestrial plants and prioritizes managing Tier 2 species, supporting restoration efforts, and protecting conservation targets and cultural resources)

* Tiers change yearly, please refer to [New York State Invasive Species Tiers - New York Natural Heritage Program (nynhp.org)](https://www.nynhp.org/invasives/species-tiers-table/) for most current Tiers. Use common names, rather than scientific names, listed on this site.
* The ISF is a terrestrial based team and does not do aquatic management. Use the DEC Environmental Resource Mapper to determine if populations are in DEC Regulated Wetlands. If the project is in a wetland, it is up to the project proposer/land manager to obtain necessary permits.
* Proposed populations for management should be listed in decreasing order based on your priorities.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Population 1 (highest priority) | Population 2 | Population 3 | Population 4 (lowest priority) |
| Species |  |  |  |  |
| LHPRISM Tier |  |  |  |  |
| Area of Infestation (sq ft or acre) |  |  |  |  |
| Density |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated # individuals |  |  |  |  |
| Latitude/Longitude (decimal degrees) |  |  |  |  |
| Near standing water? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |
| In wetland? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |
| In DEC Regulated Wetland? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |

**Nearby Populations:**
Are there nearby populations of the target species separated by more than 100 ft or a geological feature within the landowner parcel jurisdiction or a 1 mile radius (whichever is smaller)? If yes, fill the below metrics if available.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Secondary Location 1 | Secondary Location 2 | Secondary Location 3 | Secondary Location 4 |
| Species |  |  |  |  |
| Area of Infestation (sq ft or acre) |  |  |  |  |
| Density |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated # individuals |  |  |  |  |
| Latitude/Longitude (decimal degrees) |  |  |  |  |
| Near standing water? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |
| In wetland? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |
| In DEC Regulated Wetland? (yes/no) |  |  |  |  |

**Vector Pathways:**
How close is the primary target population (Population 1) from the following in feet:

Trails:
Water Bodies:
Streams:
Roads:
Trailhead:
Campgrounds:
Parking Area:

**Site Logistics:**
Check all that apply

[ ] Steep slopes
[ ] Very Rocky Terrain
[ ] Iconic Landscape
[ ] Plants along trail/road
[ ] State or local permit required and not obtained by requestor
[ ] Other:

List dominant native species nearby threatened by target species:

List other known invasives at proposed project site:

Please describe site address/coordinates, parking address/coordinates, and general description to access project site from parking area:

**Conservation Targets:**

* Use the DEC’s Environmental Resource Mapper – screenshot(s) attached? [ ] Yes [ ] No
* If you know of conservation targets that are not listed on the Environmental Resource Mapper, please list them. Lists of rare/threatened species can be found at [www.nynhp.org](http://www.nynhp.org) under “New York’s Biodiversity”

Are target species encroaching on rare/endangered species or unique habitat? [ ] Yes [ ] No

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Species/Habitat Type | Proximity (in feet) to invasives infestation |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Project Goals:**
What is the goal for the target populations?
[ ] Regional eradication [ ] Local eradication [ ] Regional containment [ ] Local suppression

Is restoration planned? Describe timeframe, who is responsible, and resources available or needed. Support may be available for forest understory restoration projects. If passive restoration, provide justification.

**On-going Projects:**
Is this proposal part of an on-going project (by ISF or otherwise)? If so describe previous control methods, timing, starting and current population size, and number of years of control.
**Social Landscapes:**
Does this project protect a landscape of social value? (Can include historic landmarks, trail corridors with significant value for public access, connectivity, and recreation, etc.)

**Resource Contributions:**
The ISF is an AmeriCorps crew focused on personal and professional development. A project partner must commit to meeting with the ISF on the scheduled date and time to direct to the infestation as well as converse with the ISF about the partner’s career path, organization, role, and the significance of the project. Who will this be? Will volunteers or staff take part in the control work? Will funding be provided for materials supplies? (ISF work is provided free of charge. Funding helps increase our capacity but has no impact on proposal acceptance).

Because projects are evaluated on a yearly basis, the ISF cannot ensure follow up management nor post management monitoring. Is there a plan for continued management if the ISF does not return in subsequent years?

**Space for additional information:**