



## **Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership**

### **Partners Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**22 February 2023**

### **Meeting Minutes/Summary**

**Present:** Ian Dunn (DEC), Nick Dietschler (NYSHI), Catherine Skalda (DCSWCD), Paul Lord (SUNY Oneonta), Donna Vogler (SUNY Oneonta), Michelle Stevens (NPS), Kris Gilbert (NYSDOT), Don Hamilton (NPS), Jack Tessier (SUNY Delhi), Carolyn Summers (Flying Trillium Gardens and Preserve), Marc Wolf (Mountain Top Arboretum), Meredith Taylor (NYC DEP), Colleen Lutz (NYNHP), Caroline Marschner (NYSHI), Thom Allgaier (AGM), Steve Young (Botanist), Sarah Coney (CRISP), Kate Cooper (CRISP), Dan Snider-Nerp (CRISP) and John Thompson (CRISP).

The meeting began at 2:10 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to create a collaborative 2023 workplan that highlights what each Partner organization is working on and highlights projects that organizations could better collaborate on. John reviewed the CRISP workplan and Partners contributed their own plans for the season.

Tasks are organized by category and then by Partner:

## **TASKS ORGANIZED BY CATEGORY**

### **Volunteers & Community Science**

- **CRISP**
  - **Recruit Community Scientists/Volunteers**
    - Promote trainings through website, listserv and FB
    - Promote field learning/volunteering opportunities for college students
    - Offer and promote iMapInvasives Certified Trainers Network and trainings through CRISP listserv
  - **Implement curricula for progressive learning to retain community scientists/volunteers**
    - Identification of established species (Tier 3 and/or 4) & iMapInvasives
    - Identification of Early Detection (Tier 2) species

- Hemlock monitoring
  - Old Growth Surveys w/ volunteers
  - BMP demo programs for established IS
- **5 iMapInvasive Trainings**
  - CRISP - Work w/ Hemlock Initiative and citizen scientists training and monitoring HWA phenology
- **Implement Invasives Management with Volunteers at Ashokan Rail Trail (ART)**
  - Recruit volunteers and hold orientation
  - Train volunteers to use iMapInvasives
  - Train ART Trail Stewards
  - BMP Trainings
  - Install boot brush stations
  - Volunteer Recognition
- **Implement Invasives Management with Volunteers at Callicoon Riverside Park (CRP)**
  - Survey CRP
  - Recruit volunteers
  - 5 volunteer trainings in identification and BMP's
  - Train volunteers to use iMapInvasives
  - Write IS Management Plan for CRP
- **Mountain Top Arboritum**
  - Bioblitz collaboration with GCSWCD on weekend of May 13 @ Mountain Top Arboretum
    - Includes iNaturalist Training for the public
- **DEC Lands & Forests**
  - **Facilitation through Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP), Volunteer Stewardship Agreements (VSA).**
    - Temporary Revocable Permits
      - Observational Research
      - Contact Research

- Vegetation Management
  - Research permit applications must be submitted by February 1st of each year.
  - Examples:
    - Catskill Park Invasive Species Strike Team – Giant Hogweed Control
    - CRISP Hemlock Survey
    - CRISP Campground Survey
    - NYSHI – Bio-control release (Silverfly)
    - Solitude - Application of herbicide
- **Volunteer Stewardship Agreements**
  - Can be issued to groups or individuals who wish to assist the Department.
  - Can include management of invasive species.
  - Examples:
    - Lower Birch creek Black Swallow Wort Management
    - Esopus & Rondout Creek knotweed projects
- **DCSWCD**
  - Knotweed control on riparian project sites - typically contract herbicide but have used volunteers & interns
  - Mechanical IS control on project sites via summer interns.
  - Work with landowners on ID and control
- **OCCA**
  - HWA Trainings w/ Clark Foundation & Mohican Farm

## Education & Outreach

- **CRISP**
  - **Education & Outreach surrounding priority (Tier 1 & Tier 2) species**
    - Master Gardener Trainings & Invasive Species Hotline
    - Update website and tiered IS - include comments from EDRR & Aquatic Working Groups
    - Target trainings to border locations for approaching species
  - **Increase Spread Prevention Outreach**
    - Determine best locations for boot brush stations
    - 2 boot brushes constructed in CRISP
    - Promote PlayCleanGo

- **DCSWCD**
    - Cauliflower festival stream table with native & invasive info.
    - DC Fair: Stream table with info.
    - Instagram & facebook-Native plant of the month posts.
  - **Flying Trillium**
    - Our Open Garden Days will be happening during the invasive species week, showing our native plant gardens as alternatives to invasive exotic garden plants. We don't have any plans right now for invasive species education, per se. [flyingtrillium.com](http://flyingtrillium.com)
  - **NYNHP**
    - iMapInvasives is hiring a summer education and outreach assistant
      - For more information: [www.nynhp.org/employment/#ica](http://www.nynhp.org/employment/#ica)
  - **SUNY Delhi**
    - Working with students on a powerline right-of-way management project for the DCEC, including detection of invasive species.
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## EDRR

- **CRISP**
  - **Terrestrial EDRR**
    - Monitor 10 SLF traps
    - Removal and monitoring of Mile-A-Minute at Wardwell Lane, Maverick Rd, Fiber Flame, Skinners Falls, Davenport
    - Black Jetbead, Giant Hogweed, JAT, Japanese Tree Lilac, Japanese Hop, Beautybush, Hardy Kiwi, Japanese Virgin's Bower, Chinese Silvergrass
    - Survey high-likelihood-of-spread areas based on habitat suitability mapping
    - Update with other Tier 2 Species
    - Participate in BLD surveys
    - ID locations of nurseries, arboretums and formal gardens
    - Do IPMDAT for new EDRR sites
  - **AIS EDRR**

- Coordinate with CLIA and OCCA for Canadarago Plans
  - Coordinate with OCCA for Otsego County Frog-bit
  - Floating plant control in CRISP
  - Quagga mussel surveys
  - Coordinate with SUNY Cobleskill on Snakehead Surveys
  - Susquehanna River Tributary surveys
  - Other baseline surveys
- **Terrestrial Strike Team**
  - Develop plans for Removals on 17 sites
  - Meet Permitting Requirements of DEC Region 3 & 4
  - Monitor (Control if needed) *Oliverea* Knotweed Site
  - Continue management of Japanese barberry and Oriental bittersweet at state campgrounds, knotweed at Beaverkill, Mud Pond/Trout Pond, Kenneth Wilson if opportunity for collaboration
- **Work w/ NYSHI to ID HWA biocontrol release sites**
- **Restoration Sites**
  - Maintain current restoration sites (Thorn & CVC)
  - ID worksites where restoration is necessary/effective
- **Mountain Top Arboretum**
  - Controlling marsh thistle w/ staff
  - Monitoring *Ficaria verna* w/ staff
  - continuing treating for EAB on 150 white ash in Woodland Walk
    - in conjunction with Cornell study.
- **DCSWCD**
  - IS Control on planting project sites.
  - Work with Landowners to create management plans for IS control and habitat improvement and protection.
  - Typically knotweed/honeysuckle/MFrose
    - all of these are typically tier 3
- **NYSDOT**
  - RFPs for phragmites biocontrol + detection of SLF.
- **OCCA**
  - AIS removal Goodyear Lake & Silver Lake Mtng on Clark Pond March 9th
- **NYCDEP**
  - is continuing to work on Tier 2 species at Ashokan Reservoir

- close to eradication levels on Princess Tree
- o Installing SLF traps throughout West of Hudson
  - Already at Ashokan and Neversink
- o Working to buff up HWA management
  - Working with Cornell for biocontrol
  - Meeting with NYS Parks about moving forward with HWA control
- o Finalizing contractual services for herbicide control of invasive plants

## Research

- NYSHI

Working with CRISP, NYS DEC, NYC DEP and others to identify release sites and release HWA predators

- o Releases

- o 2021:
  - 1,891 *L. nigrinus* at 3 sites
  - 1,025 *Leucotaraxis* at 1 site
- o 2022:
  - 2,632 *L. nigrinus* at 2 sites
  - 570 *Leucotaraxis* at 1 site
- Establishment of *L. nigrinus* has been confirmed just over the PRISM boarder in the LH PRISM
- Field insectaries:
  - o Working with partners in the region to develop field insectaries for redistribution of HWA predators. We have developed a promising field insectary in the Lower Hudson as a proof of concept in NYS. In CRISP NYSHI has been working with NYSDEC to establish a field insectary at a WMA in the southern portion of the PRISM
- Working with partners to identify sites for spring 2023 releases.
- Collecting overwintering mortality data

NYSHI has been advancing research looking at biological control establishment in the NE and throughout the introduced range of HWA.

- Laricobius spp. establishment in the NE: Collaboration with UMASS Amherst (In review)
  - Take home message: *L. nigrinus* is widely established in locations in the NE in plant hardiness zones >6a.
- *L. osakensis* is established in PA and NY (1 location)
- Indication that *L. nigrinus* is able to establish in zones <6a. Was found to be dispersing into colder areas from established populations.
- Overwintering potential and diapause of *Leucotaraxis argenticollis* (silver fly) in the eastern US (In review)
  - *Le. argenticollis* was found to successfully overwinter throughout the eastern US. Sites in NC, TN, VA, MD, MA, NY (ADK and FL)
  - Warm temperatures and high humidity were a higher predictor of mortality than winter conditions.
  - Indicates *Le. argenticollis* is suitable for the CRISP PRISM
  - *Leucotaraxis* establishment monitoring 2023
    - Large scale establishment monitoring effort throughout the east coast.
    - 30+ sites will be monitored on the east coast
    - 3 sites in the CRISP PRISM will be monitored in collaboration with NYS DEC and NYC DEP
  - Using eDNA for *Leucotaraxis* establishment monitoring and detection of HWA
  - Promising results from 2021 suggesting establishment
  - partnering with APIPP on early detection of HWA using eDNA

## General

Native Planting Working Group - **CRISP, DOT, SUNY Oneonta, Mtn Top Arboretum, DCSWCD**

- Create native plant lists for appropriate species for different environmental conditions
- Adding Plant Native page to CRISP website with resources for the public

**NYS ISAW**

**6/5-6/11**

- CRISP Host 8 virtual & in-person events
- Flying Trillium Open Garden Days

**NYS Invasive Species Expo**

**9/24-9/26**



## TASKS EACH PARTNER ORGANIZATION IS WORKING ON

### CRISP

- **Recruit Community Scientists/Volunteers**
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## Mountain Top Arboretum

- Volunteers & Community Science
    - Bioblitz collaboration with GCSWCD on weekend of May 13 @ Mountain Top Arboretum
      - Includes iNaturalist Training for the public
  - EDRR
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## DEC Lands & Forests

- Facilitation through Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP), Volunteer Stewardship Agreements (VSA).
  - **Temporary Revocable Permits**
    - Observational Research
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    - Vegetation Management
  - **Research permit applications must be submitted by February 1st of each year.**
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    - Examples:
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      - Esopus & Rondout Creek knotweed projects
  - **Education through interaction.**
    - **Examples:**
    - **General Inquiries –**
    - **Field Contact**
  - **Education and Action through assistance, projects, and events.**
    - **Examples:**
      - I Love My Park Day
      - First Day Hikes
      - State Fair
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## DCSWCD

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