

**Lower Hudson PRISM
Partners Meeting**

March 31, 2016 – 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Teatown Lake Reservation,
1600 Spring Valley Road
Ossining, NY

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Get to know each other better
2. Introduce our funded projects for 2016
3. Work on collaborative plans based on our 2016 Action Plan
4. Learn about Southern Pine Beetle threat to our region

Linda Rohleder took the floor and we began by going around the room with introductions. There were some new faces there, including the new PRISM assistant (See attached attendee list).

Following the introductions, Linda began to announce the funded projects for the 2016 year. In total there were 12 project proposals this year:

1. Hudson River Sloop Clearwater – aquatic invasive species program. Samantha Epstein elaborated that they will continue to improve the aquatic invasive species program, and hire more boat stewards.
2. Hudson Highlands Land Trust – Building a phenological calendar. Matt Decker will be asking folks to help supply information.
3. Trillium Management – Specific focus on the species below. Tom Lewis gave a brief explanation of the projects.
 - Hardy Kiwi in Croton - Follow up, 2nd year of treatment with partners
 - Mile-a-minute – Esopus – expand the management area. Goal of preventing spread.
 - Hardy Kiwi in Bedford – Beginning management of this infestation. Partners will be providing tools for volunteer hand cutting of vines.
4. CCE Rockland – Blockbuster Survey – focus is on recruiting and training. Annie Christian Reuter spoke about the project.
5. Ecological Research Institute – Blockbuster Survey refinement and testing, improving the site sampling collection protocols by making it more user friendly. Jonathan Rosenthal spoke about the effort.
6. SOLitude Lake Management – Additional monitoring of Hydrilla in the Croton River.
7. New York Botanical Garden – incised fumewort *Corydalis Incisa* in Westchester County. Daniel Atha spoke about the project. It is a new invasive plant in the United States with aggressive features. We plan to move forward with Early Detection and Rapid Response. Brenda Bates and Linda Rohleder will be supporting the project by organizing removal efforts.
8. Hudsonia – Education Materials – will be developing Best Management Practices for homeowners focusing on non-chemical methods, including a management presentation.
9. CCE Dutchess is also focused on Education Materials and training in collaboration with other CCE offices.

10. CCE Rockland will be focused on Information Exchange regarding social media and website support. Samantha Wood who was at the meeting will be the contact.

Overall there were 19 applications for RFPs, and Linda thanked everyone who was involved in the selection committee and for the time they devoted to it. She also thanked the applicants who were willing to negotiate on costs to free up additional funds so that more proposals could be funded.

Moving onto the progress of the Focal Species List (see attached). Linda talked about the buckets and where the species should be placed (Widespread, Emerging, etc). She presented the species on the draft focal list put forward by the working group. Those on the working group thought it should be best that we have between 20-30 species on the list, because any more could be difficult to remember. The list excludes species that are hard to identify to species i.e. honeysuckles and species best identified in spring or fall since this list is primarily for BlockBuster surveys in the summer. Also the list should be used for 3 years to see the progress. Linda thanked everyone involved in these efforts. The working group requested feedback on the list by April 8.

Being ahead of schedule we thought it would be a good idea to break into working groups to brainstorm on a tagline for the logo. There were many ideas written on Easels, but overall the majority of the partners wanted to have a logo version noting Partnership of Regional Invasive Species Management on it instead of a tagline or in addition to one with a tagline. (Samantha Wood has the specific notes from the tagline brainstorming)

Lunch Break. People mingled, networked, and discuss more progress and planning on their assigned projects. The Education and Outreach working group met, those involved in BlockBuster Survey planning met, and the Focal Species working group met during the lunch break.

After lunch, Rob Cole from the Department of Environmental Conservation gave a presentation about the Southern Pine Beetle recently detected in our region. He showed us the traps used to capture the insect and talked about this species threat to the Pine Barrens in southern NJ, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley. The beetle is primarily a threat to pitch pines in our area although it has been found on other pines and spruce. It kills trees very quickly but with vigilant surveillance using traps we have a shot of containing it.

After the presentation we went around the room and the partners gave their progress reports.

1. Capacity Building

- a. Designing a partner recruiting brochure. Karalyn said progress is made and almost ready for design layout
- b. Engaging new partners – Central Park Conservancy was brought to their first meeting by NYBG today. Rye Nature Center attending their first meeting as a new partner.
- c. More academic involvement – Pace University recently signed partner agreement and their rep Matt Aiello-Lammens was in attendance.
- d. Sustain our membership – partner handbook almost complete (Joyce Tomaselli is leading effort), and contact info for signed partners to help know each other. Collected info on meeting rooms partners are willing to share with other partners. These will be made available on the

- e. Make things more educational – have been trying to provide an educational program each meeting. we want feedback.
 - f. Increase public visibility – Publicity committee will work on press release about awards for contracted projects
 - g. Encouraging use of PRISM Logo
 - h. Create metrics collection mechanism for the 1st quarter
2. Conservation Targets
 - a. Planning work for summer crew work in candidate ISPZ parks (Storm King, Schunnemunk, East Woods (Pound Ridge))
 - b. Begin to identify candidate ISPZ (need to move forward on this)
 3. Strategic Management
 - a. Protocol for Rapid Response – Tom reported not much progress although they had collected some examples/frameworks. *Corydalis incisa*, Southern Pine Beetle efforts this year may help us test our methods
 - b. Adopt focal species list – continued progress.
 - c. Conducting management projects – Linda reviewed list of summer crew planned projects: giant hogweed treatment in Putnam Co., *Salvia glutinosa* infestation (Dover, Dutchess Co.), Scotch broom (Harriman / Bear Mtn parks), linden viburnum (Harriman, Westchester), Jetbead (Sterling Forest), Silver vine (Sterling Forest), *Arthraxon hispidus* (Yorktown Heights), Japanese angelica tree (multiple sites), black swallowwort (High Tor to protect rare species pop.), *Miscanthus* (Harriman).
 4. Education and Outreach
 - a. Held E&O planning workshop in January
 - b. Invasive Species Awareness Week – start to plan activities
 - c. ID available resources
 - d. Seasonal timed alerts, prepare templates – still needs work
 - e. Create a template for Phenological calendar – issued seasonal timed alerts
 5. Mitigate Pathways of Invasion
 - a. Continued watercraft inspection Steward Program –our program will be doubled from last year
 - b. Pilot boot brush stations –Nate Nardi-Cyrus reported that pilot station will be put up this season, expected it to help raise awareness. Linda mentioned other efforts in Finger Lakes PRISM to erect Boot Brush stations, increased interest by other state agencies.
 - c. “Don’t move firewood Program” – education materials to reach the general public
 - d. Participate in Southern Pine Beetle task force
 6. Information Exchange
 - a. Continued progress on the website – CCE Rockland is contracted to help
 - b. Increase use of Social Media – CCE Rockland is contracted to help
 - c. BMPs – Hudsonia is contracted for this
 - d. Enhance Logo with tagline- some work done at today’s meeting

Conclusion

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 27th at CCE Rockland in Stony Point.

Notes written by: Matt Simonelli

Attendees:

Jessica Schuler	New York Botanical Garden
Tierney Rosenstock	Winnakee Land Trust
Colleen Lutz	NY Natural Heritage Program
Matt Simonelli	New York – New Jersey Trail Conference
Jack Caldwell	Black Rock Forest Consortium, Quassaick Creek Water Alliance
Samantha Epstein	HRS Clearwater
Jen Stengle	CCE Putnam
Mary Johnson	CCE Rockland
David Decker	Audubon NY
Joyce Tomaselli	CCE Dutchess
Amanda Locke	NYC DEP
John-Paul Catusco	Central Park Conservancy
Heather Darley	New York – New Jersey Trail Conference
Samantha Wood	CCE Rockland
Annie C. Reuter	CCE Rockland
Matthew Aiello-Lammens	Pace University
Nate Nardi-Cyrus	Scenic Hudson
Megan Johnson	Scenic Hudson
Krista Munger	Pound Ridge Land Conservancy
Walt Daniels	New York – New Jersey Trail Conference, Yorktown Conservation Board
Alyssa Reid	NYS OPRHP
Taro Ietaka	Rye Nature Center
Carol Capobianco	The Native Plant Center
Karalyn Lamb	Saw Mill River Audubon
Bob O'Brien	NYS OPRHP
Tom Lewis	Trillium Invasive Species Management
Tate Bushell	Westchester Land Trust
Mike Fargione	Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
Diane Alden	Friends of Old Croton Aqueduct
Anne Osborn	Clearwater
Kristen MacFarland	Wave Hill
Matt Decker	Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Carolynn Sears	The Invasives Project – Pound Ridge
Christopher Mangels	Consultant
Liz Garrett	Jay Heritage Center
Erik Kiviat	Hudsonia
Jonathan Rosenthal	Ecological Research Institute
Tait Johansson	Bedford Audubon
Andy Thompson	
Brenda Bates	Westchester County Parks
Bob DeTorto	Bronx River Conservancy
Rob Cole	NYS DEC

2016-2018 Lower Hudson PRISM Focal Species Lists for Surveying – April 8, 2016

The number of species included on these lists is intentionally limited in order to focus our efforts. Reports for other invasive species are still encouraged.

The following lists are directed at surveying which would occur during the summer months, and therefore some species which are better identified in the spring or fall seasons are not included. Some genera for which it may be difficult to identify individuals to species such as *Lonicera*, *Ligustrum*, and *Reynoutria* are omitted from this list and deferred to expert surveyors.

Species are included on this list to help serve several surveying goals: 1) determining PRISM-wide distributions of focal species; 2) identifying sources and corridors for proliferation and spread of these species; 3) detecting and quantifying the presence of these species in natural areas, where their impact would be greatest; 4) documenting the absence of these species in potential invasive species prevention zones (ISPZs); and 5) getting more people involved.

Key: **A** = aquatic, **T**=terrestrial. New York State (NYS) Ranks: **VH**=Very High, **H**=High, **M**=Moderate, **N/A**=not assessed. LH PRISM Category definitions indicate relative number of locations believed to be in the region. **Threat** species are believed to be at the lowest levels, either absent or present in very few locations within the region. **Emerging** species have been noted in multiple locations within the region, and may be locally common but have not been found in many areas of the PRISM. **Established** species are well established within the PRISM in multiple counties but may not be present in certain areas or may not yet have spread significantly into neighboring regions. **Widespread** species are believed to be found throughout the region and in many, if not all, of the neighboring regions.

Terrestrial Invasive Species List

	Scientific Name	Common Name	NYS Rank	LH PRISM Category
T	1. <i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	bishop's goutweed (goutweed, bishop weed)	M	Emerging
T	2. <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	European alder (black alder)	M	Emerging
T	3. <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom	H	Emerging
T	4. <i>Humulus japonicus</i>	Japanese hops	H	Emerging
T	5. <i>Pueraria montana</i>	kudzu	VH	Emerging
T	6. <i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	black jetbead (jetbead)	M	Emerging
T	7. <i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>	linden viburnum	M	Emerging
T	8. <i>Viburnum sieboldii</i>	Siebold's viburnum	M	Emerging
T	9. <i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree-of-heaven	M	Widespread
T	10. <i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese barberry	VH	Widespread
T	11. <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental bittersweet	VH	Widespread
T	12. <i>Euonymus alatus</i>	burning bush	VH	Widespread
A/T	13. <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow iris	H	Widespread
T	14. <i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese stilt grass	VH	Widespread
T	15. <i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	N/A	Widespread
T	16. <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	common buckthorn	VH	Widespread
T	17. <i>Rosa multiflora</i>	multiflora rose	VH	Widespread
T	18. <i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	wineberry	VH	Widespread
T	19. <i>Aralia elata</i>	Japanese angelica tree	VH	Established
T	20. <i>Cynanchum louiseae</i>	black swallowwort	VH	Established
T	21. <i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>	mile-a-minute weed	VH	Established
T	22. <i>Actinidia arguta</i>	hardy kiwi	H	Threat
T	23. <i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	small carpetgrass, hairy jointgrass	H	Threat

T	24. <i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	Chinese Lespedeza	H	Threat
T	25. <i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Chinese silver grass	H	Threat
T	26. <i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur cork tree	H	Threat
T	27. <i>Photinia villosa</i>	Oriental Photinia	H	Threat

Aquatic Invasives Species List

Widespread species are included on this list so that areas where they are absent can be identified.

A	1. <i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	fanwort	H	Emerging
A/T	2. <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow iris	H	Widespread
A/T	3. <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife	VH	Widespread
A	4. <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water milfoil	VH	Widespread
A	5. <i>Najas minor</i>	brittle naiad	M	Widespread
A/T	6. <i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed grass	VH	Widespread
A	7. <i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	curly-leaf pondweed	H	Widespread
A	8. <i>Trapa natans</i>	water chestnut	VH	Widespread
A	9. <i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian waterweed	H	Threat
A	10. <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla, water thyme	VH	Threat
A	11. <i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	frogbit	VH	Threat
A	12. <i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	variable-leaf water milfoil	VH	Threat