

FL-PRISM Terrestrial Working Group Minutes

January 21, 2016, 11am-1pm

Finger Lakes Institute, 601 S. Main Street, Geneva, NY

Conference Call: <https://hwscolleges.webex.com/hwscolleges/j.php?MTID=mab0917583d555bf90df332f3f821e840>

Meeting number:

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Meeting password:

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In attendance: Patty Wakefield-Smith (NYS Parks), Betsy Ukeritis (NYS DEC), John Gibbs (NYS DEC Region 8 Director), Mark Gooding (NYS DEC Region 8, Forestry), Michele Wunderlich (Cayuga County Planning), Fred Blom (NYS BASS Nation), Jon Harman- virtual (NYS DOT), Katie Amatangelo-virtual (The College at Brockport), Juliana Quant-virtual (SUNY ESF), Carri Marschner (Cornell University), Emily Staychock (CCE Yates), Steve Lewandowski (Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association. CLWA), Marie MoskaLee-virtual (NYS DEC Forest Health Specialist), Mary Beth Deller-virtual (Finger Lakes National Forest)

MEETING OBJECTIVE: revisit terrestrial priorities/AOCs for use in the 2016 RFP, partner updates/roundtable; discuss terrestrial needs for the region and summer priorities,

1. Welcome and meeting objective: the Chair welcomed the attendees and provided an overview of the meeting and objectives to accomplish
2. Review of minutes from June 15, 2015: Chair asked for any comments regarding the minutes, and as there were none, asked for edits to be submitted via email for the record
3. RFP for 2016 projects for the FL-PRISM (attached to email)
 - a. Revisiting the priority IS for the TWG- a discussion ensued regarding the priority IS for the TWG recognizing that the 2016 RFP will fund projects that are considered priorities for the FL-PRISM based on this working group. Mary Beth Deller (FLNF) requested that a decision tree model for adding or removing IS from the list be developed and/or used to determine TWG moving forward. Hilary Mosher (FL-PRISM) discussed the importance of recognizing that some invasive species may be infestation level in some areas of the 17-counties, while in other areas, it may be early detection. A decision tree may or may not be the best use for adding or removing IS. Hilary Mosher to craft language regarding the addition or removal of IS to the TWG priority list. It was also discussed that there can be two columns: one is the high priority list while the other may be a high priority early detection list. Ideas for the ED list include: Japanese stiltgrass (in a few locations in the PRISM), mile-a-minute vine (recently discovered in Livingston County by FLCC botany student), and slender falsebrome (in Tompkins County). It was also discussed that we should remove wild parsnip from the list of high priority IS. The group agreed with no dissenting view for its removal.

EAB – keep on list

Giant hogweed – keep on list

HWA – keep on list

Japanese knotweed – keep on list

Oriental bittersweet – keep on list

Swallow-wort (pale and black) – keep on list

Wild parsnip -- remove

4. Spring/Summer priorities for TIS work
 - a. Using iMapInvasives in increased TIS outreach- a discussion ensued regarding the updates to iMapInvasives and the newly designed app. Steve Lewandowski (CLWA) said that when he initially was trained that iMap wasn't useful. He now sees the utility in the program and would like a new training. A venue for training could be the CLWA group or FLCC students. Another mentioned bringing the training to Ganondagan or Yates County Master Gardeners. Additionally, there are other venues to train and Hilary Mosher will be doing two trainings at SUNY Morrisville and Ithaca College this winter.
 - b. Where to host a spring iMap training? See above

5. Workshop opportunities/ speaker ideas- the group discussed the potential for future workshops. Carri Marschner discussed holding a hemlock prioritization workshop in the Finger Lakes to determine which stands are the most valuable to save. Other groups that were suggested to bring to the table included the FL wineries, crop research and plant materials, and the Montezuma Audubon Center. The next full partnership meeting will be held on April 8th at the MAC from 1-4pm. More details to come!
6. Roundtable reports- partners provide updates- Patty had no updates to report. Betsy Ukeritis talked about the Trees for Tribes program for Oatka and Black Creeks in Monroe County and that Kim Falbo from Wyoming Co. Soil and Water Conservation runs the program- she also works with CLWA. The Town of Canandaigua is looking to do a habitat restoration for buckthorn on trails and recreation on two test plots: one an open space area and the other is park land. Emily Staychock discussed the first observation of EAB in Yates County. A discussion ensued regarding the opportunity to hold a public forum or educational event for the public to answer questions. Emily is the Regional Director of the Master Forest Owners NW region which is partly in WNY and FL- PRISM. The MFO program will host EAB trainings/workshops this spring. Michele Wunderlich said that they found EAB in Auburn this year and that they also have HWA. Forest pests are a major issue in the Finger Lakes region, currently. Mark Gooding discussed the giant hogweed project that is a collaboration between NRCS, FL-PRISM, NYS DEC, and the hogweed team to bring funding for GH removal and E&O in Monroe, Seneca, and Wayne Counties. He also discussed the EAB taskforce in Monroe County and their next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 27th. The group is looking for outreach activities and regaining momentum. There is EAB in Monroe County and it is a huge infestation. Mark also spoke about the Western NY/FL ReLeaf program which held a joint program for arborists in Regions 8 and 9 and had Chris Lolee. The Equip-NRCS and forest owners want information to manage invasive species- and especially there is a need to update the forest health people so that information can be shared appropriately and correctly regarding infestation and potential impact. There is \$25,000 in terrestrial-urban forestry grants to do available inventories, management plans, tree plantings- need to sign up for ReLeaf for workshop, grant, etc. Maria MoskaLee provided an update regarding the EAB quarantine zone in March. There has been an increase in outreach for the Gypsy Moth. Mary Beth Deller has initiated a FL Invasive Pest Strategy where nearly all 600 acres have undergone an environmental assessment- EAB, HWA, and the Syrex woodwasp are priorities. Katie Amatangelo has three projects having to do with IS- Scott Ward will be conducting a bittersweet manipulation study where he will cut the vines on a tree to see how long it takes the native host to grow back; a swallowwort study to see the interaction with tick populations, and the utility of goats for invasive species control in Northampton Park. Jon Harman is continuing to screen reconstruction projects to treat for invasive species and also looking to have a bootbrush station setup once the pilot project is underway. Juliana Quant left the call before the updates.
7. PRISM updates
 - a. Giant hogweed report (sent via email)
 - b. EAB task forces- attending the CNY and MCEAB TF. There is a lot of concern regarding EAB and how to manage populations of infested trees.
 - c. HWA in the FL- Carri Marschner is part of the HWA Initiative funded from the National Forest Service and working 2/3 time out of Cornell University. Surveys for HWA are being conducted throughout the FL and all mapping will be collated by Carri
 - d. Goat preferences for TIS- work being conducted in connection with The College at Brockport
 - e. Grant funding updates- \$40,000 in funding to do a grassland restoration at Ganondagan State Park in Ontario County. Still working on other forms of funding for the area
 - f. Boot brush update- still in the pilot phase- working with Genesee Land Trust to install station
8. Other items of interest
9. Adjourn

Next MEETING DATE/TIME: January, April, July, October—Will take place on May 18th from 11-1pm at the Finger Lakes Institute.

Update regarding hogweed from Naja Kraus,

Hi Hilary,

We did find a new infestation in Wayne County in Huron Township that was a large site. It took 4 of our staff about 3 hours to control what they estimated was about 1/3 of the site. This landowner was receptive to control and we hope that with the GLRI funds we will be able to completely control the site and visit it at least a few times next field season. The other large site in Wayne County has a resistant landowner whom we hope will allow us to at least control his borders in 2016- he did not allow any control in 2015.

I have attached a couple of tables from our annual report (soon to be released) that show the work that was done by DEC staff and partner agencies (PRISMS and OCSWCD), the number of known giant hogweed sites per size class by county, DEC region and also by PRISM.

The Finger Lakes PRISM had 722 sites with giant hogweed plants present in 2015. However we are making progress- 297 other sites that had plants previously had no giant hogweed found in 2015. 125 of these are considered eradicated (no plants found for 3 consecutive years) and 172 are still in the monitoring phase. Of the sites that have plants, 296 sites have 1-19 plants and another 159 have 20-99 plants. So this means that 74% of the sites in the Finger Lakes PRISM have 0 or less than 100 plants! As the sites are getting smaller and becoming eradicated it will free up some time for us to spend more time on the larger sites- there are currently 79 sites with more than 1000+ plants.

People can help by spreading the word about giant hogweed and helping us to find sites we currently are unaware of. We have many brochures and posters that we can provide. Please let me know what people would like, how many and an address to send them to and we will mail them out. Other areas that still need effort are surveying along stream corridors, especially upstream from known sites.

Hope this helps. If there is anything in particular you would like to know, please let me know.

Naja