



SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE NEW YORK INVASIVE SPECIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

With Spring and warm weather just around the corner (we hope), we're excited to share what we've been up to for the past few months. Check out past events, and future conferences, and research updates below.

NYISRI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD APRIL 6, 2018

April marked the first annual meeting of the newly assembled NYISRI Advisory Board. Board Members include:

- **Dr. Bernd Blossey**, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University
- **Dr. Bethany Bradley**, Associate Professor of Spatial Ecology & Biogeography, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- **Dr. Rebecca Epanchin-Niell**, Fellow, Resources for the Future
- **Karen Feldman**, Commissioner, Adirondack Park Agency
- **Dr. Angela Fuller**, Leader, USGS New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit & Associate Professor, Cornell University
- **Dr. Stuart Findlay**, Aquatic Ecologist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
- **Dr. Jennifer Grant**, Director, New York State Integrated Pest Management Program, Cornell University
- **Dr. David Lodge**, The Francis J. DiSalvo Director, David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Cornell University
- **Dr. Gary Lovett**, Forest Ecologist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
- **Dr. Dylan Parry**, Associate Professor, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- **Laura Eaton**, Assistant Regional Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service & Invasives Coordinator, Northeast National Wildlife Refuges
- **Hilary Smith**, Senior Advisor for Invasive Species, U.S. Department of Interior
- **Brendan Quirion**, Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program Manager, The Nature Conservancy – Adirondacks
- **Gregory Parra**, Pest Exclusion Specialist, PPQ Center for Plant Health and Technology, USDA APHIS

After a presentation about the Research Institute's current work, the discussion shifted its focus to identifying a

strategic way forward, and opportunities for future work and development to better serve invasive species managers and policy makers in New York State. NYISRI will use input from this meeting to inform its strategic plan.

SECOND ANNUAL NORTHEAST REGIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM PLANNED JULY 12, 2018

Following up on the success of the First Annual NE RISCC Management Symposium held in 2017, this year's symposium, this year's conference will feature a full day of topical presentations, workshops, and networking. The symposium is free and open to the public, and will be held at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. While it will maintain its Northeastern focus, presentations will represent a global perspective, with accomplished researchers from across the US and Europe.

The objective of the NE RISCC Network is to promote a two-way dialogue to 1) share regional knowledge about current management strategies and scientific insights; and 2) identify and address planning and information needs of managers related to invasive species and climate change. For more information, visit: <http://people.umass.edu/riscc/symposium.html>

RESEARCH PROJECTS

UPDATES ON ONGOING AND UPCOMING INITIATIVES

SWALLOW-WORT BIOCONTROL TO BE RELEASED IN SUMMER 2018

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEW YORK

NYISRI has worked extensively with a team of researchers from the USDA, SUNY Cortland, SUNY ESF, University of Rhode Island, Wells College, and the New York DEC to advance swallow-wort biocontrol within New York State. This summer marks the first time that a leaf-feeding moth, *Hypena opulenta*, will be released in New York. Working with partners, NYISRI has:

- Facilitated calls between researchers and the DEC to discuss needs, strategy, and funding options
- Built a collaborative group of researchers across universities
- Applied for grants to release *Hypena opulenta* and subsequently monitor effectiveness and establishment, as well as conduct outreach

WORKSHOP HELD TO ADVANCE INVASIVE SPECIES PRIORITIZATION MODEL DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 21, 2018

The development of a prioritization/optimization tool also continue to develop. In late March, NYISRI post-doc Jennifer Price-Tack and Dr. Angela Fuller facilitated a meeting to solicit feedback from partners on characteristics of an ideal model. Participants, pictured below, included representatives from many PRISMs, iMapInvasives, and the NYDEC.



SYNTHESIZING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE GUIDES

SUMMER INTERN PROJECT

With so many invasive species in New York, both well established and newly arrived, there is a continual need for up-to-date information on the best approaches for management. This need for species-specific best management practice guides which integrate the most recent research findings was identified by PRISM partners in NYISRI's annual call for research priorities.

This spring, NYISRI received support from Engaged Cornell to forward this project, and is currently in the process of hiring a summer intern who will be identifying species on which information is most needed, conducting interviews with experienced managers, and compiling existing research on selected species. This information will be synthesized into best management practice guides, which will be made available to the public.

PRISM CALL RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

MONTHLY MEETING

NYISRI hosts the monthly All-PRISM call for New York invasive species network. Each call features a guest presentations, and recordings of presentations are made available on the NY Invasives YouTube Channel, youtube.com/user/NYinvasives

Next Month's Call: May 30th

Invasive Crayfish in New York State

Dr. Chris Pennuto
SUNY Buffalo State