

Draft Capital/Mohawk PRISM Minutes

May 15, 2009

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, 10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY

Attendance

Name	Affiliation
John V. Anderson	Crooked Lake CLIA
Ethan Angell	NYS Dept of Ag and Markets
Jerry Carlson	NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation
Ken Carnes	NYS Dept of Ag and Markets
Diane Goetke	NYS Dept of Ag and Markets
Casey Holzworth	Off of Parks, Recreation and Hist Preserv
Brent Kinal	NY Natural Heritage Program
Melissa Plemons	Off of Parks, Recreation and Hist Preserv
Bob Rivers	Warner Lake Association
Susan Rivers	Warner Lake Association
Peg Sauer	American Wildlife Conservation Foundation
Leslie Surprenant	NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation

Invasive Forest Insects

The meeting began with presentations on invasive forest insects by Jerry Carlson (DEC), Ken Carnes (Ag and Markets), and Melissa Plemmins (Parks and Historical Preservation). Casey Holzworth (Parks and Historical Preservation) summarized needs for invasive plant control on the area's state parks.

Jerry Carlson reviewed Asian longhorned beetle control in Worcester, MA. The infestation is a few years old. Hundreds of trees have had to be chipped and burned leaving many city streets stripped of shade trees. Jerry reinforced the necessity of not moving firewood to control both Asian longhorned beetles and emerald ash borers.

Ken Carnes reported that by 2010, the Department of Ag and Markets will be focused on agricultural pests, leaving forest pest control to other agencies. Forest pests of current concern include the emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle and Asian gypsy moth. Ag and Markets offered training in February to State parks employees, who surveyed for Asian longhorned beetles in State parks before leaves came out this year. In May, emerald ash borer traps are deployed throughout the State by APHIS and monitored through June. Emerald ash borer traps were also deployed at State Parks.

Melissa Plemmins and Casey Holzworth summarized needs for invasive insect and plant control in State parks that are presented in the attached table.

## Opportunities for Volunteer Participation in Invasive Control

The group summarized opportunities for participation at various locations throughout the PRISM and they are presented in the attached table. Peg Sauer is willing to serve as the contact for any groups that would like to assist. Many control efforts are seasonal in nature, but note that some opportunities for controlling invasive plants continue throughout the fall.

## Current Invasive Species Issues/Needs

Diane Goetke—Ag and Markets has issued a request for bids for a comprehensive management plan for all taxa of invasive species in New York including status, gaps in knowledge, management approaches and existing plans. Four bidders attended the pre-bid conference—DOT, EPA, Parks and Ag and Markets. Bids will be scored by July.

Jerry Carlson—Potential sighting of hogweed near Athens in Greene County was reported by Eric Kiviat and passed on to Jerry Carlson. All new locations of hogweed should be reported to DEC. Mile a minute has reached the southern part of the PRISM.

Robert and Susan Rivers stressed the need for both aquatic and terrestrial networks for invasive species management.

Ethan Angell reported that Sirex infested trees cannot be quarantined to prevent economic and ecological harm. Research on control is a better alternative. He also reported that the federal government is leaving control of confirmed problems to the states, i.e. once a species is confirmed the State is responsible for cleanup, control, etc.

Brent Kinal provides GIS support for invasive species. He is the preserve steward at Albany Pine Bush.

Melissa Plemmins would appreciate any volunteer support at State parks.

Leslie Surprenant reported that the Chinese mitten crab is crawling up the Hudson River.

Peg Sauer reported that development of a training DVD for public detection of Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer and Sirex wood wasp is continuing.

## Next Meeting

Schodack Island State Park will be the subject of a mid-September meeting. The island is completely overrun with invasive species. The meeting will be held on Schodack Island (in the Hudson River between Albany and Hudson) with a field trip.