SLELO PRISM Partners Share These Goals:

PREVENTION
Prevent the introduction of invasive species into the SLELO PRISM region.

EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE
Detect new and recent invaders and rapidly respond to eliminate all individuals within a specific area.

COOPERATION
Share resources, expertise, personnel, equipment and information.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
Collect, utilize, and share information regarding surveys, infestations, control methods, monitoring and research.

CONTROL
Control invasive species infestations by using best management practices, methods and techniques to include:
ERADICATION - Eliminate all individuals and the seed bank from an area.
CONTAINMENT - Reduce the spread of established infestations.
SUPPRESSION - Reduce the density but not necessarily the total infested area.

RESTORATION
Develop and implement effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where suppression or control has taken place.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH
Increase public awareness and understanding of invasive species issues through volunteer monitoring, citizen science and **community** outreach.

SLELO PRISM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

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Or Visit Us Online At
www.sleloinvasives.org

Photo credits: Cover photo, Mary Ripka fishing on Lake Ontario. Japanese Knotweed photo, Caitlin Muller. Didymo photo, (sleloinvasives.org). Rusty Crayfish photo, (http://neblandvm.outdoornebraska.gov/)

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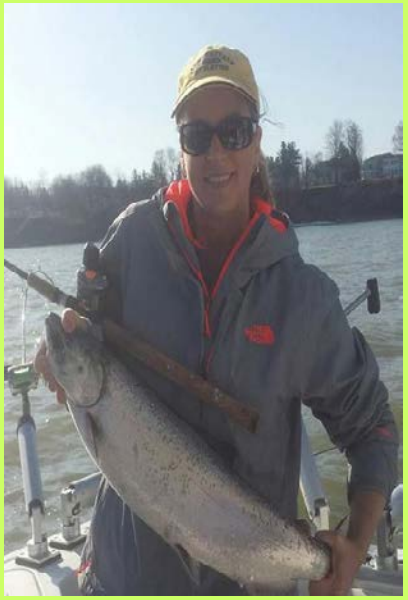
What Anglers Should Know About Invasive Species



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"Teaming up to stop the spread of invasive species"

www.sleloinvasives.org

Trash Unused Live Bait

Are you an angler who uses live bait? You can help to keep invasive species from entering your favorite fishing spots.

If released, bait such as worms, minnows and crayfish obtained from areas outside of the region in which you are fishing can have a negative impact on the environment and damage your favorite fishing spots.

More often than not, non-native minnows, earthworms and crayfish get mixed up with native species and sold for bait, especially when the bait source is from another state. In addition, the packaging material used to transport bait can contain invasive species such as young zebra mussels, crabs, snails, mites, and isopods. Non-native and invasive species can disrupt food webs and displace native species.

You can protect fishing areas by using certified disease free baitfish and by disposing of unused bait, along with bait packing materials in the garbage instead of disposing them in the water or shoreline.

Invasive Species to Watch For While Fishing

JAPANESE KNOTWEED
(*Fallopia japonica*)

Japanese knotweed can grow up to 15 feet tall. It thrives in riparian areas and threatens natural ecosystems by changing the habitat, shading out native vegetation, reducing species diversity and impacting wildlife habitat. It is easily spread by plant fragmentation; anglers can spread it by walking through large stands and breaking off parts of the plant.

Rock Snot or Didymo
(*Didymosphenia geminata*)

Didymo forms large mats on the bottoms of rivers, streams and lakes which destroys critical habitat for fish and their prey species and disrupts spawning areas. Didymo is easily transported by fishing waders and equipment. To help reduce the spread of didymo please clean fishing all gear and refrain from wearing felt bottomed waders.

Rusty Crayfish
(*Orconectes rusticus*)

Rusty crayfish outcompete native crayfish species which are an important food source for fish. Rusty crayfish reduce aquatic plant abundance and diversity which impacts the food web and reduces habitat. To identify rusty crayfish look for a red spot on each side of their carapace (shell). To help reduce the spread of rusty crayfish do not dispose of unused bait in the water.

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

Clean, Drain and Dry Boats and Fishing Equipment

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native plants and animals that threaten native plants, wildlife, and their habitat. AIS degrade boating and fishing areas, and can reduce lakeshore property values and tourism.
Once established, AIS are hard to eradicate. You can **help slow the spread of AIS** by keeping boats and equipment clean and practicing a watercraft inspection before entering and leaving any body of water.