

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

SLELO PRISM

C/O The Nature Conservancy

(315) 387-3600 x 7725

www.sleloinvasives.org

Get Involved

Report Invasive Species Observations at

www.imapinvasives.org

Join our invasive species **Volunteer Surveillance Network (VSN)**.

For details, contact

megan.pistolese@tnc.org

Join our **listserv** and get notifications for upcoming trainings and workshops.

To join follow these steps:

- **Email** cce-slelo-1-request@cornell.edu
- **Type** “join” in subject space
- **Send** a blank email body

Photo Credits: Cover photo: Midwest Invasive Species Information Network, <https://www.misin.msu.edu/facts/detail/?project=&id=340&cname=Tench>. Tench ID photo credit: http://www.hlasek.com/tinca_tinca1de.html. **Cited Resources:** (1) Ontario’s Invasive Species Awareness Program, <http://www.invadingspecies.com/tench/>. (2) Great Lakes Connection, <http://ijc.org/greatlakesconnection/en/tag/tench/>.

What you Should Know About Tench (*Tinca tinca*)



SLELO PRISM

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



SLELO PRISM
“Teaming up to stop the
spread of
invasive species”

What are Tench?

Tench (*Tinca tinca*) are an invasive fish native to Europe and Western Asia. They are a member of the minnow/carp family Cyprinidae and were introduced to the U.S. as a food and sport fish.

Tench was illegally introduced to the Richelieu River, a tributary of the St. Lawrence River, by an unlicensed fish farm in the 1980's. It is currently found in the Columbia watershed in British Columbia, and is well established in the U.S. Mississippi River Watershed. There is concern Tench may spread to the St. Lawrence River and eventually to Lake Ontario and other Great Lakes ⁽¹⁾.

Tench inhabit weedy/muddy water bottoms. They have high reproductive rates, long lifespans and can survive in low-oxygen environments. They are generalist predators whose diet includes fish eggs, snails and other benthic invertebrates which puts them in direct competition with many native fish species. Tench have the ability to diminish aquatic food-webs, increase water turbidity, and introduce non-native parasites into the Great Lakes ⁽²⁾. Early detection of Tench is key to preventing their spread into the Great Lakes basin.

Steps you can Take to Stop the Spread of Tench:

You can help stop their spread by learning how to recognize Tench and keeping an eye out for this fish. Search for Tench in the St. Lawrence River between Cape Vincent and Massena, NY. Pay special attention to waterbodies near farming ponds. Golden colored Tench varieties are popular aquarium species.

Do not use Tench as bait. **Never release unwanted pets or dump unused bait** into waterways, ***doing so may spread invasive species.***



If You Think You Have Found Tench:

- Note your location.
- **Don't release the specimen**, put it on ice.
- Take close-up photos of the specimen.
- Notify SLELO PRISM at

315-387-3600 (x 7725)

rwilliams@tnc.org

Tench Identification:

Size: Tench can group up to 18 inches in length and weight up to 10-12 pounds.



Color/Description: Tench have dark rounded fins with olive to pale golden coloring and a white bronzy belly and bright red/orange eyes. They have a terminal mouth with a barbel at



Below is a photo of a Tench in its juvenile stage. **Do not use Tench as bait.**

