

OUR FIRST YEAR



SLELO-PRISM

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



GOAL # 1 PREVENTION

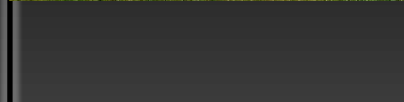


Prevent the introduction of
invasive species into the SLELO
PRISM including target
conservation and priority areas.



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established an I.S.P.Z. on the Tug Hill core forest protecting 150,000 acres of forests lands..
- Conducted 3 forest pest prevention activities, i.e.. *“Don’t Move Firewood”* & *tree tagging*.
- Conducted surveillance on 9-priority conservation areas.
- Called out 2-priority pathways: Ports of Entry & Fisheries Bait.
- Included a “prevention” component in our education & outreach materials.



GOAL # 2

EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESPONSE

Rapidly detect new and recent invaders and eliminate all individuals within a specific area. ED/RR is the next highest priority after prevention.



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed early detection assessments on 9-priority conservation areas and developed “**HPA**” protocol.
- Completed early detection assessments on the Tug Hill I.S.P.Z.
- Completed 3 (level-1) rapid responses.
- Completed 1 (level-2) rapid responses.

*All Field Reports are posted to
www.sleloinvasives.org*



SLELO – PRISM

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

Identifying Highly Probable Areas (HPAs)

Efficient methods for invasive species
early detection on a large scale

Timing is critical when responding to the initial detection of an emerging invasive species in an area. Early Detection and Rapid Response – spotting and responding to the invasion of an unwanted plant, animal or other organism before it can gain a foothold – is often the key first step in effectively managing and possibly eradicating a newly-arriving invasive species.

However, the amount of time we can realistically spend monitoring our vulnerable waterbodies, wetlands and upland areas is often limited. When the sheer size of a land area or body of water makes it unfeasible to conduct a full survey of an area, it makes sense to focus investigative efforts on those areas where invasions are most likely to occur.

In order to quickly, consistently and effectively monitor large areas for the emergence of invasive species, SLELO-PRISM has developed protocols for identifying **Highly Probable Areas (HPAs)** – locations where invasive species are most likely to arrive and/or establish themselves.

About SLELO – PRISM

The St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management is one of eight partnerships in New York State, encompassing St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Oneida, Lewis and Oswego counties outside of the Adirondack Park.

Our mission is to protect native habitats, biodiversity, natural areas, parks and refuges, freshwater resources, farmland and open space by using a collaborative and integrated approach to invasive species management. The emphasis of these activities will be on prevention, early detection, rapid response and education.



GOAL # 3 CONTROL OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Control invasives using three basic levels of control; **ERADICATION** – to eliminate all individuals and the seed bank; **CONTAINMENT** – contain established infestations to prevent spreading; **SUPPRESSION** – reduce the density of invasives to promote & restore native growth.



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Treated 136 Giant Hogweed sites using 3-different methods.
- Treated 53 Swallow-wort sites in 9-priority conservation areas.
- Assisted with a volunteer Water Chestnut hand-harvest in the Salmon River Estuary.
- Removed 1.5 cubic yards of Japanese Stilt grass from 2-sites (Selkirk State Park & Deer Creek WMA).
- Assisted with the control of 209 acres of Water Chestnuts on the Oswego River via SLELO Special Projects.
- Assisted with the control of Glossy Buckthorn on two priority sites including the Silver Lake Fen and forested land near the Happy Valley WMA via SLELO Special Projects.



GOAL # 4

EDUCATION OUTREACH

Increase public awareness and
understanding of invasive species
issues.



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Sponsored five Public Information Sessions, 1 per SLELO county reaching appx. 180 people and 4 organizations.
- Sponsored 3-Citizen Science events targeted at Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Long horned Beetle and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.
- Distributed over 700 brochures & info flyers.
- Supported Sea Grant's Boat Launch Steward Program.
- Exhibited at conferences and events (Local Gvnt. Conf., S.R.Fish Hatchery, Cons. Field Days, partner events).



GOAL # 5 COOPERATION

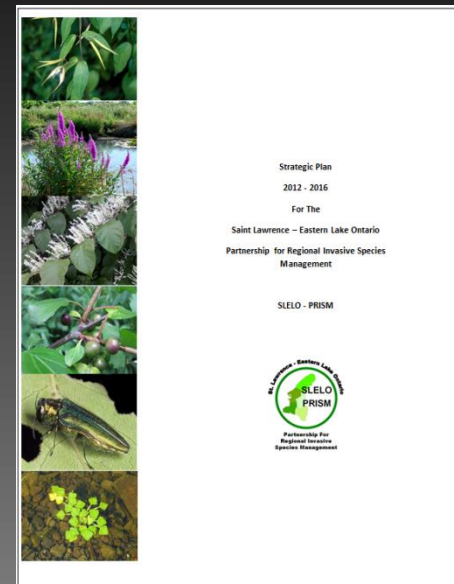


Facilitate opportunities for sharing resources, including funding, personnel, equipment, information, and expertise.



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established a cooperative forum at monthly meetings.
- Established a collaborative approach to strategic planning and work-plan development.
- Established a “Special Projects” RFP process open to partners.
- Established a “calendar of events” on our website.
- Invite partners to participate - volunteer at events/exhibits...
- Created an interactive website for partners.



GOAL # 6

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



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



FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Recorded invasive species observations into iMapinvasives for data sharing.
- Posted all Field Reports on our website for easy access. Includes surveys, responses and detailed information. Website includes downloads, presentations, etc.
- Created an interactive SLELO Resource Directory on our website.
- Provided iMap and ISMDAT training to partners and guests.



St Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes D-3 Assessment

SLELO-PRISM Buckthorn and Swallow-wort Surveillance/Dune Willow Monitoring

July 13 & 17 - 20, 2012



Figure 1: Westward panoramic view of sand dunes at Lakeview WMA, July 20, 2012. Photo by Mike McHale.

Report drafted by Greg Chapman and Mike McHale, 8/2/12.

Introduction and Background

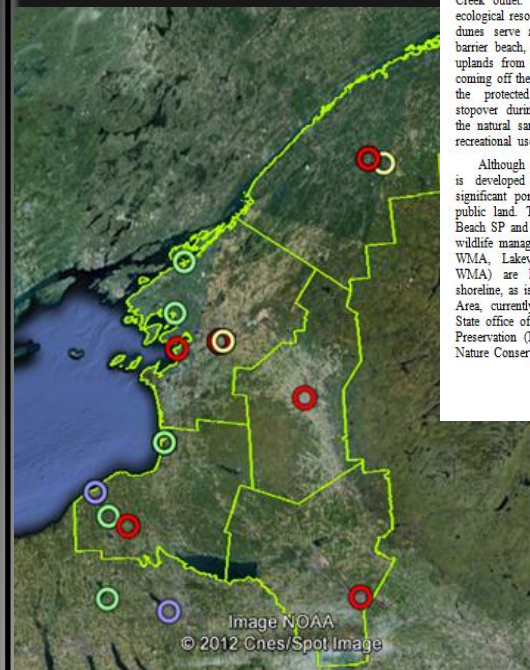
The Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes are located along a 17 mile stretch of Lake Ontario's eastern shoreline, north of the Salmon River outlet and south of the Stony Creek outlet. In addition to being a unique ecological resource within New York State, the dunes serve an important role as a natural barrier beach, protecting inland wetlands and uplands from storm surges and strong winds coming off the lake. Birds utilize the dunes and the protected wetlands as an important stopover during their annual migrations, and the natural sandy beaches attract tourism and recreational use by humans as well.

Although a large portion of the shoreline is developed with camps and cottages, a significant portion of the dunes are held as public land. Two state parks (Sandy Island Beach SP and Southwick Beach SP) and three wildlife management areas (Deer Creek Marsh WMA, Lakeview WMA and Black Pond WMA) are located along this stretch of shoreline, as is the Sandy Pond Beach Natural Area, currently managed by the New York State office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP). In addition, The Nature Conservancy owns and maintains the El



Figure 2: Overview map of New York's Eastern Lake Ontario shoreline and Wildlife Management Areas.

SLELO-PRISM
c/o The Nature Conservancy
289 Oudersink Road, Palisades, NY 13143
Rob Williams, Coordinator

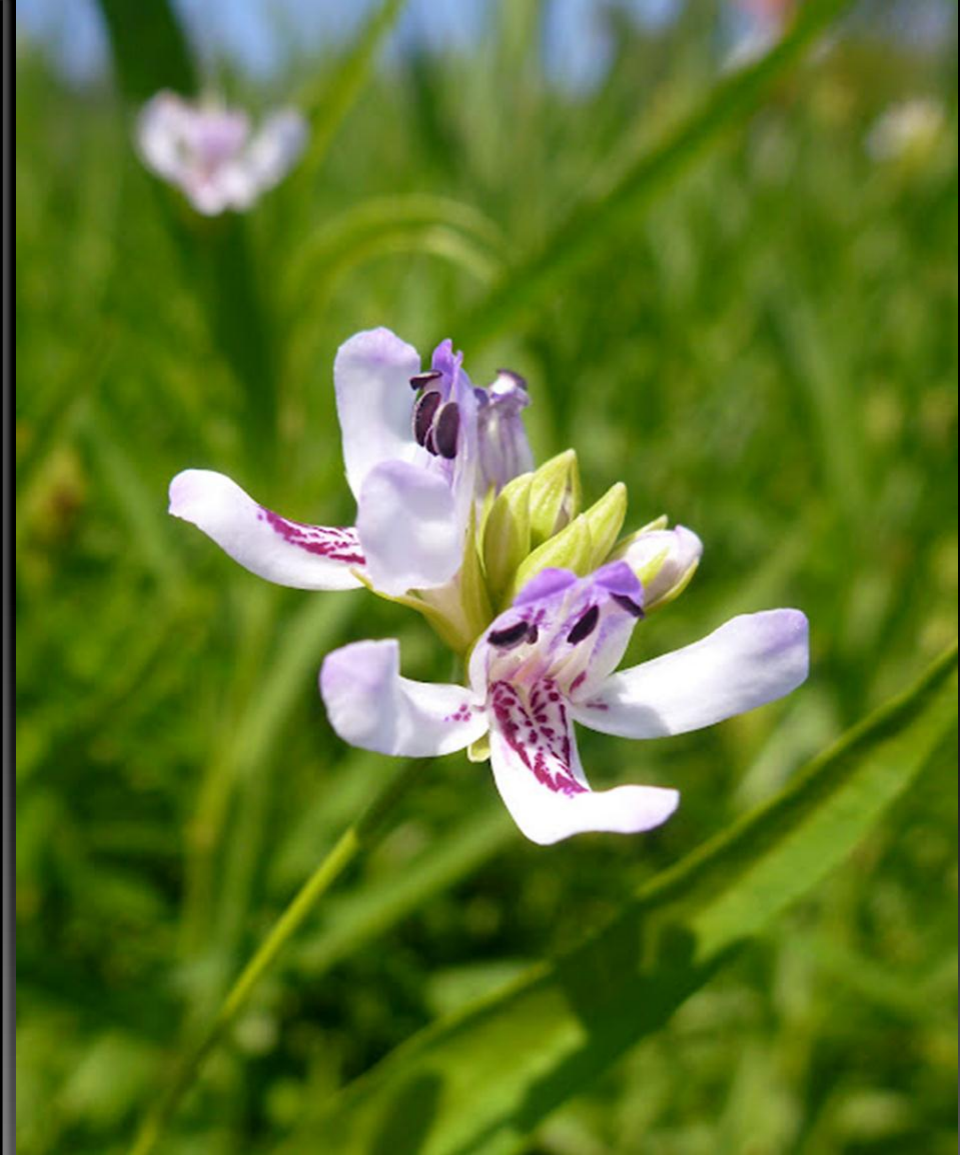


GOAL # 7 SITE RESTORATION

a.k.a. **Strategic Measurable(s)**



Develop and implement effective restoration methods by reducing the impact of invasive species on ecosystem processes and in areas that have been degraded by invasive species.



Water Willow
Justicia americana

FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Strategic Measurable (s)

- ❖ We have helped to restore 50.02 acres of globally rare Alvar Communities in the eastern Lake Ontario coastline (both inland and coastal).
- ❖ We have restored 19.52 acres of rare “Fen” habitat.
- ❖ Worked towards restoring 3.6 acres of freshwater dune barrier system within the Eastern Lake Ontario Coastline.
- ❖ Helped to protect 150,000 acres of core forest on Tug Hill via I.S.P.Z.



Chaumont Alvar



Silver Lake Fen



Dunes at Black
Pond Coastline

FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

a.k.a. Strategic Measurable(s)
Continued

- ❖ Restored 0.39 acres of wetland habitats.
- ❖ Restored 5.8 acres of important habitats found in WMA's.
- ❖ We have significantly reduced the potential human health threats posed by Giant Hogweed by treating 136 sites.
- ❖ Worked towards restoring over 230 acres of freshwater resources.



LOOKING AHEAD

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- ❖ Pathway Mitigation & Prevention
- ❖ Implement Salmon River Initiative
- ❖ Establishing additional I.S.P.Z.s
- ❖ North Coast PRISM Initiative!



OUR PARTNERS

MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

I can't speak highly enough about our partners. They are interested in the subject matter, there is a tremendous amount of expertise within the partnership, they are engaged, motivated and work extremely well together. I am impressed by what our partners have accomplished".

Rob Williams - 2012



SLELO – PRISM

*Protecting The Ecological Integrity
of The Eastern Lake Ontario
Basin and Northern New York's
Natural & Cultural Resources
From The Threat of Invasive
Species.*



End



Freshwater Resources



Wildlife Habitats



Alvars, Fens & Wetlands