

SLELO PRISM REQUEST FOR QUOTES: 2026 INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Objective: The Nature Conservancy has entered into an agreement with the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation to host the SLELO PRISM to deliver core functions of an invasive species management program including establishing an early detection invasive species monitoring network and rapid response capacity, conducting management projects at varying population levels, and developing a PRISM invasive species management strategy and plans.

SLELO PRISM focuses its invasive species management in areas of high ecological value known as Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs). These PCAs may be NYS DEC Wildlife Management Areas, NYS DEC State Forests, Preserves, or Privately Owned Lands located in the five counties of SLELO PRISM (Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Oswego, St. Lawrence). Invasive species managed on the PCAs include, but are not limited to, giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), swallowwort (*Cynanchum* spp.), bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), knotweed (*Reynoutria* spp.), and common reed (*Phragmites australis*).

Assistance by a licensed applicator (contractor) is sought to help manage target species in various locations on the PCAs. Management typically involves foliar applications, but may also require cut stem treatments, stem injections, basal bark applications, or mechanical treatments where applicable. Invasive species in the PCAs are located in varied habitats and may require walking through non-trailed, rough terrain to reach.

Assessments performed by The Nature Conservancy staff have determined the following:

- Estimated 100 sites on 14 PCAs and 25 giant hogweed sites on private lands.
- Estimated site size ranges from .01 to 18.04 acres (average size: 3.0 acres)
- Estimated Up to 48.7 acres to be treated, varying from less than 5% to over 76% cover density.

Term & Payment:

This agreement is to begin on March 16, 2026, and conclude on November 30, 2026.

The total quote for this contract shall not exceed \$25,000.

Submissions:

Quotes shall include the following:

- Detailed quote for services (see following pages for tasks)
- Information on similar projects (if any) contractor has worked on that will demonstrate the contractor's ability to perform the tasks outlined in this RFQ
- Names, qualifications (insured with minimum NYSDEC Pesticide Application Category 3A certification (both 3A and 5A preferred)), and experience of specific members of the project team (when feasible)

Please complete in full and submit as a PDF document on [Google forms](#). More information on our Invasive Species Management program can be found below and on our website. Please review supporting information before proceeding with your submission.

The deadline for quotes is **January 6th, 2026, at 11:59PM**

Projects will be reviewed and selected by the PRISM staff. Notice of contract awards will be announced by **January 16th, 2026**. Formal agreements will be subject to approval by TNC and the NYSDEC ISCS.

Email questions to Brittney Rogers, brittney.rogers@TNC.ORG, Invasive Species Program Director



Tasks to be completed by contractor:

1. Initial Contract Kickoff meeting held within 45 days of contract execution to discuss 2026 work. Method of management for each invasive species at each priority conservation area will be discussed and agreed to at this meeting.
2. Work with TNC to obtain written landowner permission on new sites that may lack landowner permission. Provide your own “indemnity” agreement with landowners if/as required by your license.
3. Conduct manual and/or herbicide management of giant hogweed sites. List of locations to be provided by the Terrestrial Restoration and Resiliency Coordinator.
4. Implement herbicide applications and/or best management practices on annual sites. List of locations to be provided by the Terrestrial Restoration and Resiliency Coordinator. This list maybe revised just prior to the onset of work. All wetland/aquatic permits need to be on site during herbicide application or manual removal.
 - a. Estimated total acres of each invasive species and density of invasive species (%)
 - i. Pale Swallowwort: 31.2 acres (13.2% has less than 5% density, 60% has 5-25% density, 26.7% has 26-50% density, and 0.1% has 76-100% cover density)
 - ii. Phragmites: 5.8 acres (4.3% has less than 5% density, 2.3% has 5-25% density, 2.2% has 26-50% density, 49.9% has 51-75% density, 41.3% has 76-100% density)
 - iii. Knotweed: 7.2 acres (6.9% has less than 5% density, 1.8% has 5-25%, density, 60.9% has 26-50% density, 7.8% has 51-75% density, 22.6% has 76-100% density)
 - iv. Bittersweet: 4.4 acres (66.5% has 5-25% density, 33.5% has 26-50% density)
5. Accurate, precise information about invasive species presence and treatment will be recorded in the field using the iMap Mobile Advanced (iMMA) App. Online and field training by Terrestrial Restoration and Resiliency Coordinator can occur as requested.
6. Contractor will contact TNC about any treatment areas that they can't complete, explaining the reason, and will agree to treat an alternative site of similar dimensions.
7. Meet with TNC a minimum of 3 times during treatment season; after completing each species treatment phase (typically late spring, mid-summer and early fall), to review iMMA data submitted and track maps, and to discuss next phases of work and to ensure all permits and permissions are in place.
8. Prepare and submit a usage report as required by NYS DEC and upload all treatment data into iMMA at the time of or no later than the end of each treatment day.
9. Prepare and submit a year-end “Use of Glyphosate Report” using the preestablished format. No glyphosate is permitted for use on state owned lands without written exemption.
10. Applicator shall provide own safety equipment.

Tasks to be completed by The Nature Conservancy:

1. The Conservancy shall coordinate with the contractor regarding approval of task deliverables.
2. The Conservancy shall assist the contractor in securing access to the property for the activities specified within the final Scope of Work.
3. The Conservancy shall coordinate with the contractor scheduling of the initial kickoff meeting and subsequent meetings between each species treatment phase.