



**SLELO PRISM**  
**Giant Hogweed Management Report**  
**2026**

## Background

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is a highly aggressive, noxious invasive plant that poses risks to native ecosystems and human health. Plants can produce over **100,000 seeds** per plant and can be **viable for up to nine years**, making long-term management of this plant challenging and resource intensive. Additional information on this species can be found on the SLELO PRISM [website](#).

In 2025, following the dissolution of the NYSDEC Giant Hogweed Program, SLELO PRISM expanded hogweed survey and management efforts across Jefferson, Lewis and Oneida Counties. Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District continues to lead survey and management efforts within Oswego County. Due to capacity limitations, SLELO PRISM was unable to assume all sites previously managed by NYSDEC and instead strategically prioritized sites that posed the greatest ecological or human health risks and offered the highest likelihood of long-term success. Our capacity for Hogweed treatment was further limited this year due to lack of contractor assistance and subsequent inability to conduct herbicide treatments.

**This report summarizes the 2026 Giant Hogweed survey and management efforts across 48 sites conducted by SLELO PRISM.** Data was recorded using NYS DEC's Giant Hogweed Field Map and the iMapInvasives Mobile Advanced (iMMA) application.

## Planning, Landowner Outreach, & Program Administration

While the majority of SLELO PRISM's work takes place on public lands, most hogweed sites are on private land, adding additional layers of pre-field work preparation as contact with the landowner must be made before staff can visit a site.

SLELO PRISM staff worked to contact landowners via email and/or phone. In total, we successfully reached 48 of the 67 landowners we attempted to contact for permission to survey and manage in 2026. Out-of-date contact information made it challenging to connect with certain properties this year. Over the winter we plan to mail postcards asking for updated information to these sites in hopes of getting more permissions to access in future years. Following the surveys and management, control summary forms were shared with landowners where giant hogweed was present. In total, an estimated 30 hours were spent administering the 2026 giant hogweed program.

## Surveys

Surveys were conducted at 48 sites; 37 sites were surveyed by SLELO PRISM and 11 sites were surveyed by private landowners for the 6 and 9 year monitoring periods. Presence of hogweed was detected at 16% of sites.

| 2026 Survey Sites by County |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Jefferson                   | 3  |
| Lewis                       | 17 |
| Oneida                      | 28 |

### Treatment

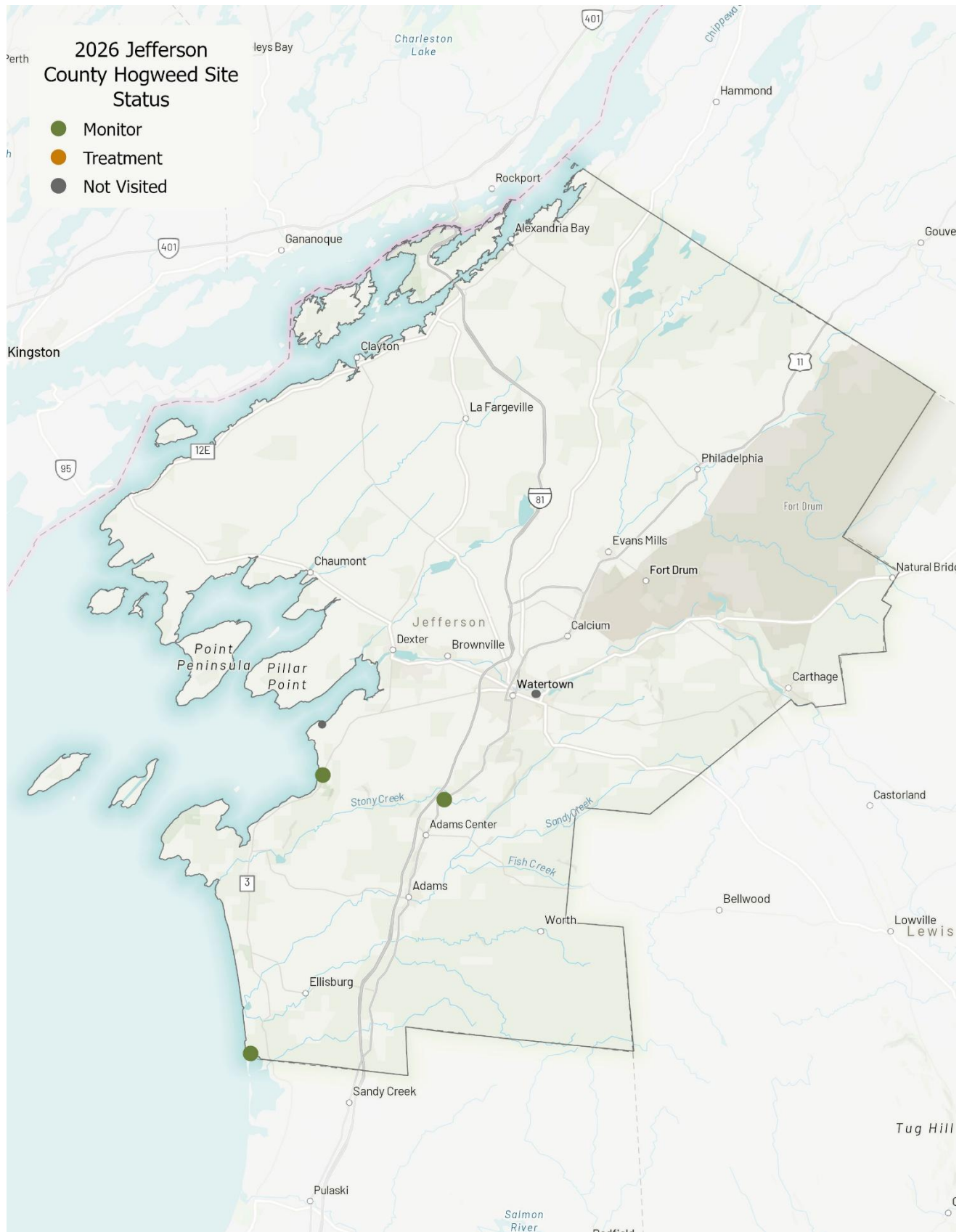
Rootcut treatments were conducted at 8 sites by SLELO PRISM staff. Overall, SLELO PRISM treated 38 hogweed plants across 0.2 acres, spending over 40 hours commuting and on site.

| 2026 Treatment Sites by County |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Jefferson                      | 0 |
| Lewis                          | 4 |
| Oneida                         | 4 |

Thank you to the landowners who helped us with surveys this year!

# 2026 Jefferson County Hogweed Site Status

- Monitor
- Treatment
- Not Visited



## 2026 Lewis County Hogweed Site Status

- Monitor
- Treatment
- Not Visited

