New York State Watercraft Inspection Steward Program Handbook



SECTION #4

AIS Activities Coordination in New York State



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Aquatic invasive species control and management efforts have been ongoing in New York State on the local and regional levels for decades (Timeline: Section 4:3).

In 2003, New York State undertook a leadership role to identify all the individualized efforts and to bring them together for a coordinated approach to AIS management. That effort now includes efforts by the state organizations identified in the timeline, as well as:

- Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- New York iMapInvasives.org
- New York Heritage Program
- New York Invasive Species Clearinghouse at Cornell University
- New York Sea Grant
- Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM)
- watercraft inspection steward programs statewide
- program partners
- funders, and
- others, including citizen action groups.

Task Force Report Prompts Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management Among the recommendations listed in the 2005 NYS Invasive Species Task Force Report was the formation of eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs) to help prevent or minimize the harm caused by invasive species on New York's environment, economy and the health and well-being of the State's citizens.

PRISMs coordinate invasive species management functions including coordinating partner efforts, recruiting and training citizen volunteers, identifying and delivering education and outreach, establishing early detection monitoring networks, and implementing direct eradication and control efforts.

See Appendix C. for links to New York's PRISMs.



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Timeline of Invasive Species Activities in New York State

Prior to 2003	Invasive species management was being initiated and conducted at local and regional levels. These local and regional partnerships continue to be essential to the current invasive species coordination and management.
2003	New York State creates NYS Invasive Species Task Force.
2005	NYS Invasive Species Task Force presents a comprehensive report on the status of AIS and localized efforts to address AIS statewide with 12 recommendations to the Governor and State Legislature. The complete report is online at www.nyis.info/pdf/NYS_ISTF_Final_Report.pdf.
Aug. 2007	New York State establishes NYS Invasive Species Council & Invasive Species Advisory Committee under Title 17 of state Environmental Conservation Law to assess "the nature, scope and magnitude of the environmental, ecological, environmental, ecological, agricultural, economic, recreational, and social impacts caused by invasive species in the state" and to identify and coordinate actions to prevent, control, and manage invasive species. The Invasive Species Council webpage is www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6989.html.
Dec. 2007	 NYSDEC forms an Office of Invasive Species Coordination to serve as a single point of contact and ensures coordination for New York State on all invasive species matters, in statewide, inter-state, national and international settings. The mission of the OISC is to prevent or minimize the harm caused by invasive species on New York's environment by collaborating and coordinating efforts with all stakeholders, including biologists, foresters, universities, other state agencies, and non-profit organizations to support research and raise public awareness of the AIS issue. Specific tasks have included: creation of a New York Invasive Species Research Institute at Cornell University, creation of an integrated map that pinpoints invasives in and near New York (<i>i</i>MapInvasives.org), and support of Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs).
2010	NYS Invasive Species Council presents "A Regulatory System for Non-Native Species" report with rankings and processes for invasive species assessment.
Ongoing	AIS management efforts statewide by PRISMS and diverse partners.



The diverse agencies and organizations interested in invasive issues produce a variety of resources which are willingly shared across program and state lines. For example, various Sea Grant programs have produced species Watch Cards for distribution.

Asian Carp: Bighead & Silver



You can help!

- Report new sightings use identification tips inside this card; note exact location, take a photo if possible, freeze specimen in a sealed plastic bag and call 1-877-STOP ANS (1-877-786-7267).
- Harvest bait only from uninfested waters.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- Know the rules many states prohibit release of live Asian carp.
- Catch and eat these tasty fish to help reduce their numbers.

For information on catching, cleaning and cooking Asian carp, visit iiseagrant.org/asiancarp. For general information visit asiancarp.org.



invasive species watch Asian Carp: Bighead & Silver