



**Adirondack  
Park Agency**

# **Inter-Agency Guidelines: Best Mgmt. Practices to Control Invasive Species**

**on DEC-Administered Lands of the  
Adirondack Park**

June 8, 2022

# Presentation Outline

- Purpose for the updated guidelines
- 2018 version vs. 2022 – what's new?
- Scope and applicability
- Substance of the updated guidelines
- Questions?
- Soliciting public comments

# Purpose

- The negative impacts of all taxa of invasive species on natural communities are well documented – they include the loss of biodiversity, interruption of hydrological processes, suppression of native vegetation, threat to human health and safety, and deleterious economic impacts.
- Surveys show the continued introduction and expansion of invasive species into and throughout the Park. Control and/or eradication of these species becomes more difficult, more expensive, and less effective the longer an infestation is able to persist without treatment.
- The purpose of the guidelines is to establish a process for reviewing invasive species management activities that aim to protect and restore ecological integrity within the Park. The guidelines seek to achieve this through early detection and rapid response efforts that address newly identified infestations, and to manage established infestations to reduce the likelihood of spread.

## 2018 vs. Current Draft (2022)

2018 Guidelines	Current Draft Guidelines (2022)
Included list of species that could be managed	Allows for DEC in consultation with APA to determine which species can be managed (includes Part 575 prohibited/regulated species)
Lists species-specific control methods for terrestrial and aquatic plants and forest pests	Allows DEC or its agents to propose BMPs through the work plan and permitting process
Does not include aquatic herbicide as a mgmt. tool – only benthic matting and hand harvesting is allowed	Allows for DEC or its agents to propose aquatic herbicide as a BMP
Requires updates to the guidelines as new species of concern are found across the Park or new mgmt. technologies evolve	Enables flexible and timely response to new species of concern and utilization of the best available science and treatment methodologies

# Scope & Applicability

- Where do the guidelines apply?
  - The guidelines apply to DEC-administered lands and underwater lands within the Adirondack Park – comprised primarily of Forest Preserve lands
- Who do the guidelines apply to?
  - Dept. of Environmental Conservation land managers
  - Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program
  - Any other “agent” seeking to manage invasive species on DEC-administered lands within the Park through a partnership agreement with DEC
- Which species are covered?
  - Per the updated guidelines, an invasive species is defined as a species that is non-native to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health.

# Invasive Species & the Master Plan

The State Land Master Plan (SLMP) references invasive species in the 2016 update:

*Efforts should be made to restore and protect the native ecological communities through early detection and rapid response efforts to eradicate or control existing or newly identified invasive species populations. Subject to existing policy and guidelines, the Department will use the basic tools needed to preserve, protect and restore the natural native ecosystems of the Forest Preserve.*

# Procedures for Implementation

- Invasive species are documented on the landscape through routine surveys
- Proposed invasive species mgmt requires a work plan:

## Work Plan Check List:

- ✓ SEQR review
- ✓ Brief site description
- ✓ GPS coordinates and locational information
- ✓ Estimated size of infestation and last survey year
- ✓ Target and non-target species impacts and concerns
- ✓ Natural Heritage Program review for RTE species
- ✓ Timeframe for management
- ✓ Proposed BMPs and alternatives
- ✓ Monitoring plan and reporting to iMap
- ✓ Any other info required by APA or DEC

# Standard Work Plan vs. Rapid Response

- Rapid response work plan good for 1 year, after which a standard work plan must be prepared
  - Intended for swift action to manage a new site (new species, new location, or new BMP)
  - Can be implemented *immediately* after being noticed in the ENB
  - APA has 14 days to review for SLMP conformance
- Standard work plan is good for 5 years
  - Covers routine management
  - APA has 30 days to review for SLMP conformance
- Prior to implementation, approved work plans must be noticed in the ENB

# Procedures for Implementation

- If APA determines that a proposed mgmt. activity may potentially have a material effect on the character or use of land, water, or desirable vegetation thereon or within, DEC and APA will consult to determine if the activity must be addressed through a UMP or UMP amendment
- Additional permits may be required by either the DEC and/or APA depending on the BMP(s) selected and site information

# Questions?



# Questions?

This presentation is posted on the APA website at:

<https://www.apa.ny.gov/Mailing/2022/06/stateLand.htm>

The Agency will be accepting public comments until July 11, 2022 regarding the proposed amendment to the Inter-Agency Guidelines for Implementing BMPs to Control Invasive Species on DEC-Administered Lands of the Adirondack Park.

Comments may be relayed to:

Megan Phillips, Deputy Director for Planning  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
Phone: (518) 891-4050

Email: [SLMP\\_UMP\\_Comments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:SLMP_UMP_Comments@apa.ny.gov)  
(underscores between the words)