The body of scientific literature surrounding invasive species and their impacts and management has increased substantially in recent decades. However, despite expanding knowledge and technological advances in the research sphere, a disconnect persists between research and management that can hinder the understanding and application of new solutions to on-the-ground invasive species challenges. In an effort to bridge this gap, New York State has established the New York Invasive Species Research Institute (NYISRI), which serves to communicate and coordinate invasive species research to help prevent and manage the impact of invasive species in New York State. Through extensive interactions with researchers and managers working with invasive species, NYISRI has identified strategic areas and developed initiatives to promote communication and research that addresses research-management gaps. This presentation will provide an overview of some of NYISRI’s initiatives ranging from advancing classical biological programs for difficult to manage species, to collaborating with computer scientists to develop an invasive species management optimization tool, to integrating information on emerging issues such as climate change and invasive species and others. Additionally, the talk will examine ways to promote the co-creation of knowledge to improve the scientific basis of invasive species management and policy development.