Implementing a State Level Invasive Species Program
NY’s Invasive Species Program Highlights

- $25M in allocated funding
- Established eight regional partnerships
- Creation of State Invasive Species Council
- Invasive Species Research Institute
- “Do Not Sell” Legislation Drafted
- Monthly Invasive Conference Calls
- Firewood Regulation
- Pending Ballast Water Rules
- Scientific Assessments to Rank Invasiveness
- Aquatic Nuisance Species Legislation Drafted
- Launching Invasives Geographic Database
Getting Started
What are invasive species?
Typical Residential Neighborhood
Initial Timeline

2001
   – Approached Governor’s Office to write an Executive Order

2002
   – Work with Legislature to create an Invasive Species Task Force

2003
   – August 5th, Chapter 324 establish ISTF with goal to submit report to Governor by November 2005

2004
   – Formed IS Steering Committee, completed statewide survey, began writing report

2005
   – Drafted report and gathered public comments, final report submitted to Governor ON TIME!
Task Force Recommendations

1. Establish a permanent leadership structure to coordinate invasive species efforts.
2. Prepare and implement a comprehensive invasives species management plan.
3. Allocate appropriate resources to invasive species efforts.
4. Establish a comprehensive education and outreach effort.
5. Integrate databases and clearinghouses.
7. Formalize New York State policy and practices on invasive species.
8. Establish a center for invasive species research.
9. Coordinate and streamline regulatory processes.
10. Encourage non-regulatory approaches to prevention.
11. Influence Federal actions to support invasive species prevention, eradication and control.
12. Recognize and fund demonstration projects.
Legislative Lobby Days
Summary of funding success...
Office of Coordination (4 DEC & 1 DAM staff)
The eight PRISMs in New York are composed of a diverse base of state agencies, resource managers, industry, non-governmental organizations, resource managers, and many others. The PRISMs work to plan regional invasive species management, develop early detection and rapid response capabilities and implement eradication projects. They are also a great way for citizens to get involved!
Core Functions of PRISMs

- **Coordination** (among partners)
- **Volunteers** (recruit & train)
- **Education** (identify & meet needs)
- **Early Detection** (monitoring network)
- **Rapid Response** (pilots)
- **Eradication** (implement projects)
- **Research** (citizen science)
- **Planning** (integrate existing plans)
Challenges...

• Finding your Steve Sanford, Willie Janeway, Kyle Williams, Senator Betty Little...
• Implementing the recommendations
• Funding permanent leadership positions
• Spending the money
• Showing progress
• Engaging multiple partners
• Agreeing on priorities
• Determining leadership roles
Invasive Increase Over Time and Control Potential

Modified from Hobbs & Humphries 1995
Carrying Work Forward?
Excessive Deer Browse

Invasive Interactions – Factors of Invasion

Herbaceous plants

Trees

Saplings
Stewardship – Forest Health

Regeneration Index
- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very Good

Terrestrial Ecoregions

Plot locations from the USDA Forest Service - Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program.
Ecoregions from the USDA Forest Service - ECOPLOT (2006).
What can we do?
Thank You & Questions?

Hey, where’d my car go?

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