

MEMBER'S ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

March 6-8, 2023 Virtual Meeting

MEMBER'S NAME

Carrie Brown-Lima

ORGANIZATION

New York Invasive Species Research Institute at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY

CONTACT E-MAIL / ORGANIZATION URL

cjb37@cornell.edu/nyisri.org

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Housed within the Department of Natural Resources & the Environment at Cornell University and established in 2008, the New York Invasive Species Research Institute (NYISRI) serves as a bridging organization between the invasive species science and management realms. With funding provided through the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and organizational support from Cornell University

PRIORITIES / ACTIVITIES FOR FY2023

NYISRI works to advance invasive species knowledge and improve management decisions in the following ways:

- Identify on-the-ground research needs of invasive species managers
- Coordinate research to address current priorities and needs
- Promote innovation and the application of new technologies for the prevention, early detection and management of invasive species
- Organize and participate in conferences, networks, workshops, and working groups
- Foster new collaborations among universities, agencies, and organizations
- Seek and secure funding opportunities as well as advocate for policies to support initiatives

See additional page for areas that NYISRI will be focusing on in 2023.

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PRIORITIES / ACTIVITIES FOR FY2023 *(continued)*

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

A core role of NYISRI is to promote communication and collaboration between scientists, land managers, and policy makers to bridge the gap between research and implementation. NYISRI works closely with the eight Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs), the NYSDEC, iMap Invasives, and many other organizations, agencies, and universities.

ADVANCING INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES

NYISRI brings together professionals of varying disciplines. These include, but are not limited to, computer scientists, DNA researchers, conservation dog programs, decision scientists, and economists, to explore innovative ways of preventing, detecting, and managing invasive species across New York State.

-In 2023, NYISRI will be working specifically with aquatic and terrestrial eDNA researchers to help NYS agencies integrate eDNA into invasive species detection and response efforts.

LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

Biological control is one of the only long-term sustainable solutions to address widespread invasive species. NYISRI works closely with researchers, extension staff, and managers to support the development and implementation of biocontrol programs.

-In 2023, NYISRI will continue to work with biocontrol researchers and managers to advance biocontrol efforts for multiple species (phragmites, swallow wort, water chestnut, purple loosestrife, japanese knotweed)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND INVASIVE SPECIES

Climate change and invasive species profoundly influence Northeast ecosystems. How will we manage these complex and compounding threats today and into the future? NYISRI, together with faculty at UMass Amherst and the Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, founded the Northeast Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change Management Network to address this pressing question. The RISCC leadership team regularly meets to share research and provide resources to over 500 members engaged in management challenges.

INFORMING MANAGEMENT

Across New York State, decisions are being made about what, where, and how to manage invasive species. To improve the consistency and efficacy of these decisions, in 2023 NYISRI will continue working with partners to develop and utilize:

- An interactive online decision tool for management in New York
- Protocols and metrics to measure effectiveness and success of management in natural areas
- A standardized and repeatable methodology to gather research needs based on stakeholder input

PROMOTING SCIENCE BASED POLICY

NYISRI provides updates and recommendations on recent research findings to the New York Invasive Species Council, helping promote and support scientifically sound decisions on current and emerging issues.