

Great Lakes Slender False Brome Working Group 2019 Annual Work Plan

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2019 Annual Work Plan

Abbreviations	
AL	Andrea Locke, Project Director/Principal Investigator
BBS	Boot Brush Station(s)
BH	Brittany Hernon, Project Manager
BRSY	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i> , slender false brome
BSPS	Bergen Swamp Preservation Society
CP	Dr. Christopher Pennuto, Co-Principal Investigator
CREW	WNY PRISM Seasonal Crew
DEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
FL PRISM	Finger Lakes PRISM
FOGVGT	Friends of Genesee Valley Greenway Trail
FOL	Friends of Letchworth/Genesee Valley Greenway Trail
GCPF	Genesee County Park and Forest
GVTG	Genesee Valley Greenway Trail
iMap	iMapInvasives (NYS invasive species database)
LN	Lucy Nuessle, WNY PRISM Terrestrial Programs Manager
NYNHP	New York Natural Heritage Program
Parks	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
RF	The Research Foundation for SUNY Buffalo State
SBS	SUNY Buffalo State
Staff	Slender False Brome Seasonal Project Staff
WG	Great Lakes Slender False Brome Working Group

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1. Working Group Communication and Coordination					
Goal: Facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among members of the Great Lakes Slender False Brome Working Group					
Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Create easily accessible information and updates about the project for Working Group members	Keep web pages up to date on project accomplishments, research and other news	WG, AL, ET	BH	ongoing	up to date Working Group website
	Identify additional resources appropriate for the website and develop resources as needed	WG, AL	BH	as needed	Expanded resources
	Distribute meeting minutes within two weeks of meetings through appropriate means and make them available on the website	WG, AL	BH	quarterly	Outline of updates and future plans for interested parties
	Summarize project accomplishments	WG, AL	BH	9/30/2019	2019 Annual Report
	Develop 2020 Work Plan	AL, LN	BH	12/31/2019	Plan for continuation of Working Group efforts beyond current grant
B) Hold Quarterly Meetings	Schedule Working Group interactions: 2 in-person and 2 remote	WG	BH	1/22/19; 4/12/19; 8/13/19; Nov 2019	Quarterly Working Group meetings
C) Increase communication and collaboration among Working Group members	Advertise meetings, workshops and webinars on the website and listservs	WG, AL	BH	ongoing	Increased attendance and participation
	Stakeholder presentation on the early detection and survey protocol and habitat suitability modeling	WG, AL, LN	BH	1/11/19 - 1/12/19	Stewardship Network Conference presentation
	Discuss Working Group accomplishments and findings using a web-based seminar	WG, AL	BH	4/24/2019	NYS Monthly Webinar series
	Identify opportunities to provide updates on project accomplishments - target priority audiences and areas where BRSY is present (FL-PRISM Mtgs, NIASMA, local stakeholders)	WG, AL, FL PRISM	BH	ongoing	Increased stakeholder awareness and engagement, promote project

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2. Education and Outreach					
Goal: Increase awareness and understanding of BRSY by providing					
Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Develop Education and Outreach materials for BRSY (provide information for varying audiences and present in audience appropriate manner)	Create Best Management Practices fact sheet	WG, Staff, AL	BH	10/31/2019	Printable BMP sheet available online
	Prepare outreach materials for areas near infestations describing BRSY, its threat and opportunities for taking action (letters, postcards, articles in local papers)	WG, LN, ET	BH	6/30/2019	Local awareness of BRSY threat, distribution and identifying characteristics
	Update and expand outreach materials and efforts targeting citizen scientists and the public	Staff, ET	BH	ongoing	Table displays, posters, social media posts
B) Develop and implement educational programs that increase knowledge of BRSY	Identify a target audience that would benefit from learning about BRSY survey efforts and management and organize a workshop	WG, AL, GCPF	BH	8/8/2019	Survey and Management Workshop
	Provide Experiential Learning Opportunity for Genessee County Park and Forest summer camp, using 2018 developed curriculum	BH	BH	7/12/2019	Experiential Learning Opportunity
	Implement programs to describe the impacts of this species and the importance of spread prevention to trail users such as hunters and snowmobile clubs	WG, Staff, AL	BH	10/31/2019	Spread prevention workshop, presentation and/or work day
	Develop factsheet/resource for trail users detailing spread prevention actions, reporting and removal	WG, Staff, AL, ET	BH	10/31/2019	Improved spread prevention efforts, factsheet/resource
	Identify additional educational and outreach needs	WG	BH	3/31/2019	Education and outreach needs described

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3. *Brachypodium sylvaticum* Surveys

Goal: Determine the presence and distribution of BRSY and make all information available

Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Use habitat suitability modeling to prioritize 2019 survey locations and continue to update the model throughout the field season	Use updated habitat suitability model, and input from Working Group members, to identify and prioritize 2019 survey locations	WG, Staff	BH	3/31/2019	2019 survey locations
	Use new occurrence data and additional environmental layers to update and expand the GIS based habitat suitability model	WG, BH	Staff	ongoing; Jun-Aug19	Updated habitat suitability model, add'l survey locations
B) Develop and implement BRSY surveys	Determine staffing needs, create and post job descriptions and hire staff: DEC and RF interns	WG, DEC, SBS, RF	BH, AL	3/31/2019	2019 Slender False Brome Seasonal Project Staff
	Review existing equipment, compile a list of necessary project supplies and submit purchase requisitions	RF, AL	BH	3/31/2019	Survey supply kits for 2019 Staff
	Train project staff and confirm they can carry out surveys correctly prior to independent work	QAPP, AL	BH	6/1/2019	Consistent and accurate collection of 2019 survey data
	Conduct BRSY surveys - new sites	BH, AL, QAPP, Survey 123	Staff	Jun-Aug19	Consistent and accurate collection of 2019 survey data
	Conduct BRSY surveys/site monitoring at and near current known infestations	BH, AL, QAPP, Survey 123	Staff	Jun-Aug19	Collect data on potential spread/expansion of known infestations
	Carry out one surveillance audit with all staff members	QAPP, Staff Survey 123	BH	7/8/2019	Documentation of consistent and accurate data collection
	Work with Eckert Herbarium staff to organize a training on specimen collection and mounting	SBS	BH	7/31/2019	Accurate collection and submission of herbarium specimens
	Supervise and support interns to ensure the project is following the proposed schedule	DEC, RF, AL	BH	May-Aug19	Bi-weekly work plans for interns

3. <i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i> Surveys					
Goal: Determine the presence and distribution of BRSY and make all information available					
Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
C) Organize and manage occurrence data	Enter survey data into a database as it is collected and ensure it is complete	BH, AL, QAPP	Staff	Jun-Aug19	Complete and accurate 2019 survey database
	Review data for completeness, accuracy and compliance to protocol	AL, CP, QAPP	BH	9/30/2019	Complete and accurate 2019 survey database
	Enter survey data into iMapInvasives as it is collected	BH, QAPP, NYNHP, iMap	Staff	Jun-Aug19	Complete and up to date Slender False Brome Working Group iMap project
	Review and confirm 2019 BRSY iMap observations	NYNHP, iMap	BH	11/30/2019	Complete and up to date Slender False Brome Working Group iMap project

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4. <i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i> Management					
Goal: Develop Best Management Practices for BRSY by testing and assessing different removal methods					
Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Identify project responsibilities and develop a timeframe for data collection and removal	Create and submit a BSPS research proposal for field data collection	BSPS, WG, AL	BH	2/28/2019	Permission to conduct research at Bergen Swamp
	Develop a timeframe with target dates for removal methods to ensure they fit within the CREW schedule	AL	BH, LN	3/31/2019	CREW assistance with BRSY removal
	Work with the College at Brockport researchers and BSPS to time our monitoring plans with their removal efforts	BSPS, WG, AL	BH	4/30/2019	Continued monitoring and management at Bergen Swamp
	Work with Parks to develop a schedule for data collection and removal. Set out the responsibilities of the WG and Parks staff members.	Parks, WG, AL	BH	4/30/2019	Continued monitoring and management at Letchworth State Park
	Work with GCPF staff to develop a schedule for data collection and removal. Set out the responsibilities of the WG and GCPF staff members.	GCPF, WG, AL	BH	4/30/2019	Continued monitoring and management at Genesee County Park and Forest
B) Implement monitoring and removal of BRSY	Determine intern need, create and post job descriptions and hire staff	WG, SBS, RF	BH, AL	3/31/2019	2019 Slender False Brome Seasonal Project Staff
	Review existing equipment, compile a list of necessary project supplies and submit purchase requisitions	RF, AL	BH	3/31/2019	Management supply kits for 2019 Staff
	Train project staff and confirm they can carry out monitoring and removal correctly	QAPP, AL	BH	May-Aug19	Consistent and accurate application of management and collection of 2019 data
	Conduct post-management monitoring to determine density and percent cover in the plots. Coordinate timing with partners at the sites.	BSPS, Parks, GCPF, QAPP, Survey 123	BH, Staff	6/30/2019	Post-management species distribution of plots recorded

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4. <i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i> Management					
Goal: Develop Best Management Practices for BRSY by testing and assessing different removal methods					
Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
B) <i>Continued</i>	Implement removal methods at Letchworth and GCPF, and collaborate with BSPS/the College at Brockport about Bergen Swamp removal methods	BSPS, Parks, GCPF, QAPP	BH, Staff, CREW	Jun-Aug19	BRSY management implemented at all three sites
	Conduct post-management seed production data collection	BSPS, Parks, GCPF, QAPP, Survey 123	BH, Staff	9/30/2019	Seed production documented post-management
	Identify additional sites for potential removal efforts and work with appropriate partners to determine needs and capacity	WG, GVGT, FOL, FOGVGT, Brockport, AL	BH	6/30/2019	Leverage Working Group accomplishments to increase # removal projects
	Assist partners with implementation of additional removal efforts through technical or on-the-ground assistance, where either is appropriate	WG, GVGT, FOL, FOGVGT Brockport, AL	BH, Staff, CREW	8/31/2019	increased # of removal projects, improved management
	Supervise and support interns to ensure the project is following the proposed schedule	RF, AL	BH	May-Aug19	Bi-weekly work plans for interns
C) Organize and manage data	Enter post-treatment data (from 2018 treatment) and review for completeness	AL, QAPP	BH	6/30/2019	Complete and accurate management database
	Enter post-treatment data (from 2019 treatment) and review for completeness	AL, QAPP	BH	10/31/2019	Complete and accurate management database
	Review all data for completeness, accuracy and compliance to protocol	AL, CP, QAPP	BH	10/31/2019	Complete and accurate management database
	Carry out statistical analysis to determine marginal changes due to management	WG, AL, CP	BH	11/30/2019	Best Management Practices for BRSY
	Organize data and summarize project findings into rapid response protocol and strategic plan for management	WG, AL	BH	12/31/2019	Rapid Response Protocol; Strategic Plan for Management

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	Ensure all data and reports are appropriately backed up and accessible	QAPP, backup, website	BH	12/31/2019	Complete and accurate management database
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5. Spread Prevention

Goal: To promote practices that decrease the transport of BRSY seeds by human activity

Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Identify spread prevention needs	Identify means of measuring the effectiveness of BBS placed in 2018	WG, Staff	BH	6/30/2019	Measured success of boot brush stations
	Revisit the boot brush stations installed in 2018, ensure they are in working order and evaluate the boot brush stations	WG, Staff	BH	7/31/2019	Measured success of boot brush stations
	Identify potential partners to assist with installation of new BBS in infestated areas - design and purchase BBS	WG, AL	BH	3/31/2019	Increased # BBS

6. Grant Deliverables

in a timely manner to communicate

Objective	Actions Planned	Collaboration or Resource Needs	Lead	Due Date or Frequency	Output or Outcome
A) Complete all necessary project reporting requirements	Track the progress of the project by completing semi-annual reports	RF, EPA, AL	BH	4/30/2019 10/31/2019	Semi-Annual progress reports for EPA
	Complete Final Report	RF, EPA, AL	BH	12/31/2019	Final Report