

# Hemlock and HWA Hunters

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Survey Protocol

### Survey Protocol for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid:

- Look at multiple branches/twigs on all sides of a hemlock tree
- Look for hemlocks in poor health: with weakened or declining crown; defoliation; pale, greyish foliage, lack of new buds
- Look on ground for infested hemlock branches that have fallen from the canopy

#### HWA Identification: November—April

- HWA actively growing and developing
- White, waxy wool masses on hemlock twigs at base of needles on new growth
- Best seen looking at underside of twig



#### HWA Identification: May—October

- HWA in period of dormancy called aestivation
- Black nymphs surrounded by white halo of wool
- Easiest to see using magnification (hand lens or magnifying glass)



### Other Clues of Potential HWA Infestation (These do not guarantee an infestation is present, further surveying needed)



Weakened tree crown, loss of needles in canopy; absence of new green shoots in June



Pale, greyish cast to foliage, easily spotted when boating/from a distance



Woodpecker damage from infestation of hemlock borer (native pest)



Elongate Hemlock Scale infestation (INVASIVE-REPORT IF SEEN)

### Reporting Protocol: Use one of the following methods to report a known HWA infestation

#### Use NYiMapInvasives mobile app:

- Download NYiMapInvasives app on your smartphone (App Store or Google Play); create username/password online at [www.nyimainvasives.org](http://www.nyimainvasives.org)
- Report **HWA** (for infestation presence) or **X-HWA** (for infestation absence)
- Visit [www.nyimainvasives.org](http://www.nyimainvasives.org) for training dates and resources
- Data uploaded into statewide invasive species map

#### Call DEC's Forest Pest Information Line:

(1-866-640-0652)

#### Email location details/photo/GPS coordinates to NYS Hemlock Initiative:

[nyhemlockinitiative@cornell.edu](mailto:nyhemlockinitiative@cornell.edu)

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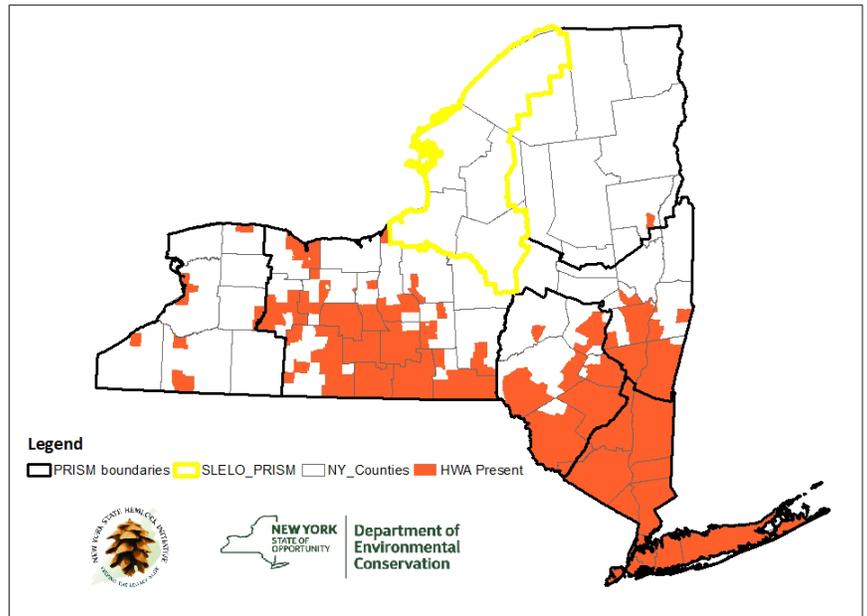
## HWA Survey Protocol: St. Lawrence-Eastern Lake Ontario (SLELO) PRISM

**PRISM** stands for **Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management**. New York has eight PRISM regions, each made up of conservation organizations concerned with invasive species detection and management at the local, regional, and state level. Additionally, each PRISM has specific goals regarding hemlock conservation and HWA management in its region.

### SLELO PRISM HWA Outlook:

The **St. Lawrence-Eastern Lake Ontario (SLELO)** partnership encompasses a range of habitats that rely on hemlocks, including the dense stands in the Tug Hill region. This is an area of high hemlock concentration, so there is a high risk from the threat of HWA in this region.

Since HWA has not been detected in the area, **SLELO-PRISM is currently focused on surveillance and early detection of potential HWA infestations**. Early detection of HWA will result in a rapid response to any emerging infestations.



### Get Involved:

- **Survey for HWA** and, if found, use one of the above methods to **report your finding**. Early detection of HWA in this region will lead to a rapid response for eradicating emerging infestations.
- **Work with local groups and partners to identify priority hemlock stands** for future management planning.
- **Monitor your property for HWA** if you have hemlock stands and consider treatment if HWA is found.

### Additionally, in this region:

- **Report any findings of pine bark adelgid (PBA)** in the area (characterized by white, woolly fluff similar to HWA wool on the trunk, branches, or twigs of white pine trees). Findings help us improve our biocontrol research program.

### Resources for HWA Management in SLELO PRISM

SLELO PRISM website:  
[www.sleloinvasives.org](http://www.sleloinvasives.org)

New York State Hemlock Initiative website:  
[www.nyshemlockinitiative.info](http://www.nyshemlockinitiative.info)

NYS Hemlock Initiative Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/NYSHemlockInitiative](https://www.facebook.com/NYSHemlockInitiative)

For questions about HWA management in your area, or for more information on getting involved with our Citizen Scientist volunteer programs please email us at [nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu](mailto:nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu)