

- Tim Stallard - self intro -
 - Alien Species Control, LLC - Environmental consulting, Principal
 - Clients: Anchorage Park Foundation / Muni Parks plus private landowners
 - Chair interagency Anchorage CWMA (*Cooperative Weed Mgt. Area*)
- Wheels of government turn slowly - in balance that may be a good thing - the public, various parties, agencies, etc. get to weigh in.
 - Not good when addressing invasive species - who are likely spreading exponentially while we collectively learn about and dither with what to do.
 - Case in point, haven't we been talking about this bill for ³⁺ ~~five~~ years now?
 - Btw, thank you to Rep. Seaton and several other members of this committee (including Reps Johnson and Tarr) who I know to be proactive on this issue.
 - I see this as a common sense bill that gives the experts with Fish and Game (in partnership with DNR) the statutory authority and imperative to act quickly in the event of harmful new invasive species.
 - Along with robust prevention efforts, Early Detection and Rapid Response is the critical and most effective management action the state needs do to protect our priceless aquatic resources.
 - I urge you to move this bill forward today and follow up to help it pass the Legislature during this session.

I don't see any need for amendments, but the Emergency Response Fund will need to be funded.