

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2001-2002 8672

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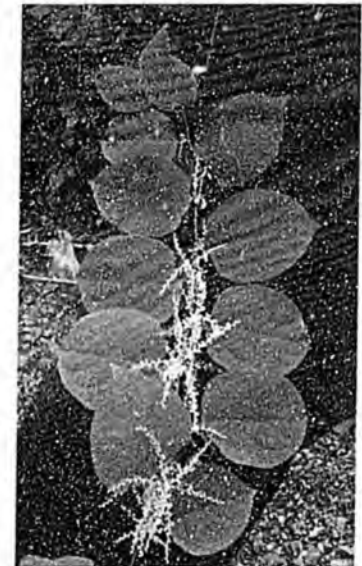
Table of Contents



| | |
|---|----------------|
| Acknowledgments | Page 2 |
| Statement of Endorsement and Support and Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) for the Establishment of the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM) | Page 3 |
| Agencies and Organizations Supporting the MOU | Page 3 |
| Introduction | Page 5 |
| Background | Page 7 |
| The Problem | Page 8 |
| The 2001 Strategic Plan | Page 10 |
| I. Coordination: Leadership, Partnerships and Cooperation | Page 10 |
| II. Education: Awareness, Understanding and Participation | Page 12 |
| III. Inventory and Monitor: Databases Management and Mapping | Page 14 |
| IV. Research: Biological Impacts, Economic Impacts and Management Options | Page 16 |
| V. Management: Least Cost, Most Effective and Acceptable Management | Page 18 |
| Appendices: | Page 22 |
| Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment, Endorsement and Support of the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM) | |
| Agency Overview and Involvement | Page 24 |
| Alaska Statutes on Noxious Weeds | Page 28 |
| Websites | Page 34 |
| Directory of Individuals Interested in Noxious and Invasive Plants Management in Alaska | |

This document has been developed with the cooperation and assistance of many individuals, organizations and agencies. We would like to thank all who donated their time and expertise in reviewing and contributing to the document. We would especially like to thank the following individuals from the Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management in Alaska: Philip Kaspari and Marta Mueller of the Cooperative Extension Service (CES), Ruth Gronquist and Jeanie Cole of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Elaine Gross of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Steve Sparrow of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Glen Franklin, Ed Arobia and Charles Knight of the Alaska Division of Agriculture, Christy Everitt of the US Army Corp of Engineers, Ann Rippy of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Mary Gleason and Joni Scharfenberg of the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Jeff Durham of the Salcha-Delta SWCD, Beth Schulz, Michael Shephard and Bradley Kriekhaus of the USDA Forest Service, Christina Jewitt of the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Fred Sorensen of CES. We would also especially like to thank Debbie Tindell and Deborah Koons of the CES for their assistance with typing, layout and editing.

Acknowledgments



Japanese Knotweed is reported to have been in Sitka in the early 1940's, and quite likely well before that time.

*—Photo by Bradley J. Kriekhaus
USDA/AFSJ*

Large stand of Japanese knotweed intermixed with salmonberries next to small alluvial fan near the old herring reduction plant in Deep Cove on southern Baranof.

*—Photo by Michael Shephard
USDA/FS*

Statement of Endorsement and Support for the Establishment of the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management

On June 15, 2000, a group of individuals from agencies and private groups were invited by the Cooperative Extension Service to meet and look for solutions in controlling noxious weeds in the interior of Alaska. After sharing what had been done in the past, the group agreed that a statewide effort was needed. The group decided to establish the statewide Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM). A memorandum of agreement was developed (see appendix for MOU). CNIPM is an informal group made up of individuals representing agencies and organizations statewide. Committee membership is based on interest, availability for meetings and willingness to work towards the goal of the committee. There are no formal membership requirements; anyone statewide may participate. The goal of this committee is to launch and coordinate a process for the development of a strategic plan to manage noxious and invasive plants in Alaska. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was developed to establish CNIPM and to secure agency and organizational support. Representatives of both private and public sectors have submitted letters of endorsement and MOU signatures.



As of January 2002 the following MOU signatures or letters of support for the establishment of the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management had been received. There is still the opportunity to sign the MOU, which is included in the appendix. Please call Michele Hébert at 907-474-2423 if you would like additional information on becoming a signatory.

Federal Agencies

US Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Christina Jewett, Plant Health Director, Alaska
US Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, Anthony Nakazawa, Director
US Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, Chad B. Padgett, State Executive Director
US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Jacqueline Myers, Acting Regional Forester
US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Clark Bell, State Conservationist
US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Francis Cherry, State Director
US Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife, David Allen, Regional Director
US Department of Interior, National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, Page Spencer, Environmental Specialist, Exotic Plant Coordinator
US Department of Interior, U.S.G.S., Alaska Biological Science Center, William Seitz, Director

State Agencies

Alaska Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Doug Witte, Executive Director
Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District, Larry Traw, Chair
Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District, Maribeth Crick, Chair
Homer Soil and Water Conservation District, Shirley Schollenberg, District Representative
Kenny Lake Soil and Water Conservation District, John Wenger, Chair
Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District, Wayne Bouwen, Chair
Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District, Cl. Carlson, Chair
Upper Susitna Soil and Water Conservation District, Pat Wilson, Secretary
Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District, Meg Burgett, Chair
Natural Resources Conservation District Board, Art Weiner, Natural Resources Manager
Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture, Robert Wells, Director
Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Jeff Jahnke, State Forester
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Joseph L. Perkins, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Dick Barrett, Pesticide Program Manager
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, DEH, Janice Adair, Director
Alaska Railroad Corporation, Ernie Piper, Vice President Environmental Health and Safety
University of Alaska Fairbanks, Marshall Lind, Chancellor
University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Rural Alaska, Ralph Gabrielli, Executive Dean
University of Alaska Fairbanks, Cooperative Extension Service, Anthony Nakazawa, Director
University of Alaska Fairbanks, Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, Allen Mitchell, Acting Director

Private Entities

Alaska Farm Bureau, Robert Franklin, President
The Nature Conservancy in Alaska, David Banks, Acting State Director
Alaska Dog Musers Association, Lloyd Lowry, President

Local Entities

Fairbanks North Star Borough, Ronda Boyles, Mayor
Kenai Peninsula Borough, Robert L. Bright, Director
Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Jill Parson, Land Management Officer
Sitka City and Borough, A. E. Zimmer, Administrator

Introduction



"Yellow toadflax (Linaria) spreads by seeds and creeping roots. Some noxious weeds with beautiful flowers are spread by gardeners that do not understand the hazards."

— Photo by Marta Mueller

The goal of the Strategic Plan is twofold: (1) to heighten the awareness among all citizens of the degradation that can be brought to Alaska lands and waters by the spread of non-native invasive plants; and (2) to bring about greater statewide coordination, cooperation and action that will halt the introduction and spread of such plants and restore infested lands and waters to a healthy and productive condition.

The goals and actions outlined in this plan provide a structure that, if supported and advanced through individual or cooperative efforts, will further the effective management of noxious and invasive plant species across all lands and jurisdictions of the state of Alaska. The participants in this strategic plan recognize that through the development of a statewide coordinated and cooperative approach to noxious and invasive plants management, they can more effectively advance the actions necessary to achieve both the strategic goals and actions and organizational responsibilities.

The Alaska Strategic Plan addresses five broad issues critical to building a strong and successful statewide management program. These issues were identified and discussed at the February 1, 2001 Strategic Planning Workshop in Fairbanks.

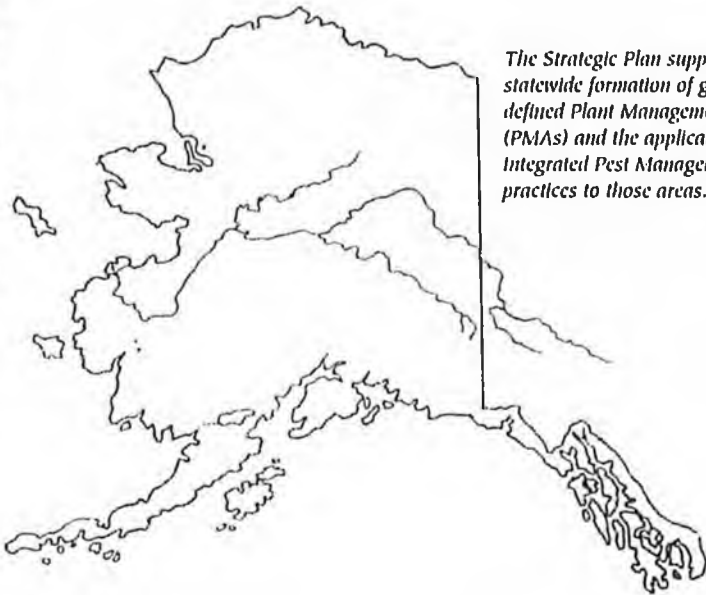
- I. Coordination: Leadership, Partnerships and Cooperation
- II. Education: Awareness, Understanding and Participation
- III. Inventory and Monitor: Database Management and Mapping
- IV. Research: Biological Impacts, Economic Impacts and Management Options
- V. Management: Least Cost, Most Effective and Acceptable Management Options

Action items have been described for each issue. These provide guidelines for developing an implementation plan. A short implementation plan will be developed annually taking into consideration available resources and identified priorities. CNIPM is made up of individuals representing agencies and organizations statewide. The Cooperative Extension Service is chairing this committee. Committee membership is based on interest, availability for meetings and willingness to work towards the goal of the committee. There are no formal membership requirements. The goal of this committee is to launch and coordinate a process for the development of a strategic plan and to manage noxious and invasive plants in Alaska.



Alaska statutes prohibit the sale of feeds that contain noxious weeds.

—Photo by Kavelina Torres



The Strategic Plan supports the statewide formation of geographically defined Plant Management Areas (PMAs) and the application of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to those areas.

CNIPM will seek funding to implement and keep track of the implementation process. Some of the action items in this plan are in the process or have already been implemented. How quickly all desired activities will commence will be determined by the level of participation and financial support.

The Strategic Plan supports the statewide formation of geographically defined *Plant Management Areas* (PMAs) and the application of *Integrated Pest Management* (IPM) practices to those areas. IPM is a holistic systems approach to pest management. It involves the use of management techniques to limit the impact and spread of the pest. IPM steps include identification of the pest, disruptions of the pest lifecycle and looking for the least toxic to the environment solution. This is a proven method for reducing the ecological, economic and social impacts of noxious invasive plants on the state's human and natural resources.



The Federal Protection Act prohibits the movement of noxious weeds into the state.

—Photo by Michele Hebert

Background



Nationally, BLM considers weed management an emergency.

—Photo by Sue Steinacher, BLM



Alaska encompasses approximately 365.5 million surface acres. Nearly 64 percent or 234 million acres is federally managed, primarily by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and by the Forest Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The State of Alaska manages approximately 90.1 million acres, primarily state parks and state forest areas.

Alaska Land Management, 2000

(In Million of Acres ¹)

| | |
|---|--------|
| Total Federal Managed Lands | 242.00 |
| Public Domain ² | 61.00 |
| National Parks, Refuges, and Forests | 150.50 |
| National Wildlife Refuges | 76.50 |
| National Parks Preserves, Monuments | 52.00 |
| National Forests and Monuments | 22.00 |
| National Conservation and Recreation Areas | 2.20 |
| National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska | 23.00 |
| Military Reserves | 1.80 |
| Native Reserves | 0.08 |
| Other Withdrawals | 2.60 |
| Total State Managed Lands ³ | 89.50 |
| General State Lands ⁴ | 77.90 |
| Legislatively Designated Areas | 11.30 |
| Parks | 3.30 |
| Game Refuges, Sanctuaries, Critical Habitat Areas | 3.20 |
| Forests | 2.20 |
| Other Special Categories | 2.60 |
| Mental Health Trust Land | 1.00 |
| University of Alaska Lands | 0.17 |
| Municipal Lands | 0.66 |
| Total Private Managed Lands | 40.09 |
| Alaska Native Corporation Lands | 37.40 |
| Other Private Lands | 2.69 |
| Federal Land Programs | 1.80 |
| State Land Programs | 0.75 |
| Municipal Land Sales | 0.14 |

1. Acreage figures are not entirely consistent. One difference is that some agencies count submerged lands and others do not. The amounts cited in individual categories don't total exactly 375 million acres, the figure most commonly cited for Alaska.
2. Federal lands managed by BLM. The figure does not include lands selected and approved for transfer to state government and Native corporations.
3. This includes both lands that have been to the state and land that has been tentatively approved for patent. The state has received about 91 million acres so far and will ultimately receive about 104 million.
4. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources oversees these lands.

Noxious and invasive plants are not just weeds or undesirable plants. These are aggressive, introduced plants that compete with native plants for light, water and nutrients. They reduce the biodiversity of plant communities and potentially causing endangerment of native plants. In agricultural settings, they interfere with crop and livestock production, sometimes leading to abandonment of these lands for agricultural purposes. Thriving invaders cause negative economic, aesthetic, recreational and environmental impacts and harm human and animal health. "Invasives are one of the most serious environmental threats of the 21st century." (Mooney and Hobbs 2000). They have been given many names: noxious, invasive, exotic, alien, non-indigenous and harmful weeds. Essentially, these non-natives cause harm and do not provide equivalent benefits to society.

Not all non-natives are invasive. At least 4,500 plant species have been introduced to the U.S., but only 15% of these are causing severe harm. Each year that harm totals more than 20 billion dollars worldwide in economic impacts.

Invasive plants have many characteristics that allow them to compete with and often dominate native vegetation. They grow rapidly, mature early and effectively spread seeds that can survive a long time in the soil. Their profuse vegetative reproduction produces dense shade, which along with toxins suppresses the growth of their competitors. Invasive plants often lack predators and can hybridize or cross-pollinate with local plants, compromising the genetic makeup of native species. They easily create monocultures in the under story, preventing the establishment and growth of seedling trees. Some invasive plants even change ecosystems by utilizing large amounts of water and nutrients, altering soil and water resources and increasing fire frequency. Through these and other ways, invasive plants reduce the value of pasture and rangeland for livestock production.

Impacts are not limited to terrestrial systems. Wetlands and waterways are particularly sensitive areas. Aquatic invasive plants can alter water pH, turbidity and light availability, thus damaging fish habitat and impeding fish migration. Aquatic invasives can choke waterways, restricting recreational and transportation corridors.

The magnitude of the problem was brought to the attention of the federal government in 1997 when 500 scientists and resource managers wrote to the Vice President of the United States and requested action on invasive species. Their letter stated, "We are losing the war against invasive exotic species, and their economic impacts are soaring. We simply cannot allow this unacceptable degradation of our Nation's public and agricultural lands to continue."

The Problem



Aquatic invasive plants can alter water pH, turbidity and light availability, thus damaging fish habitat and impeding fish migration.

—Photo by Carrie Supik, NRCS

On February 3, 1999 President Clinton issued Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species. This Order established the National Invasive Species Council, which is directed to provide national leadership and oversight on invasive species. The executive order directs all affected federal agencies to develop action plans to deal with this issue.

This is a big step for the federal government, which in the past inadvertently contributed to the problem by importing and encouraging the use of exotic plants for erosion control and agricultural purposes. Many of these plants were initially prized for their ornamental and conservation properties. Now that the growth potential and consequences of some invasive plants are understood, measures must be taken to undo what was first thought to be beneficial.



Locally produced straw can help to reduce the introduction of new noxious weeds. —CES staff photo

The process of managing noxious plants has already begun in Alaska. Alaska Statutes AS 03.05.010 and AS 44.37 (see appendix) authorize the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture to prevent the importation and spread of pests that are injurious to public interest and for the protection of the agricultural industry. Currently the Department has not been given specific funding for this program and its ability to respond to problems is limited. However the agency has developed a Noxious Weed List (see appendix), which is described in UAF, Cooperative Extension Service Publication FGV-00144.

The Alaska Administrative Code defines noxious weeds as "any species of plant, either annual, biennial, or perennial, reproduced by seed, root, underground stem, or bulblet, which when established is or may become destructive and difficult to control by ordinary means of cultivation or other farm practices."

Alaska is in a unique position to prevent a severe problem with invasive plants. Prevention is much cheaper than control. The time for action is now. Identifying outbreaks early and responding to them quickly can reduce management costs. This takes coordinated efforts among many groups. That is the focus of this strategic plan.

Canada thistle (right) produces toxic substances that are released in the soil and inhibit plant growth.

—Photo by Corlene Rose, CES

Canada thistle leaves (far right) have thorns that make removal by pulling a challenge.

—Photo by Marta Mueller, CES



The 2001 Strategic Plan

I Coordination: Leadership, Partnerships and Cooperation

Problem

The impacts from noxious and invasive plants affect many agencies, organizations and private citizens. Alaska is geographically large with a limited communication network. A limited exchange of information within and between groups can result in a duplication of management efforts. A collaborative effort is needed to effectively manage invasive species and deal with the economic, aesthetic, recreational, environmental and health-related impacts.

Actions

Continue to provide the leadership for the implementation of the strategic plan. The strategic plan is a document which list all the ideas presented in a public workshop. It is broad and provides statewide goals. An implementation plan will be developed from this document. CNIPM will oversee the development of the implementation plan. CNIPM consists of representatives from federal, state and public groups. The committee will facilitate and encourage the development of cooperative agreements for sharing skills and resources between agencies and organizations. This could include the sharing of personnel, equipment, computer technology, herbicides, bio-control agents, inventory and monitoring data, educational materials, skills of available experts and technicians, jointly sponsored trainings and informational meetings.

Develop an implementation plan annually based on resources and identified priorities. The annual plan should be developed from the strategic plan with input from working committees and CNIPM.

Develop and review a charter of responsibilities and roles of CNIPM. CNIPM will continue to promote effective coordination with state and federal agency officials and will ensure the effective coordination of a statewide program. The charter, which will be reviewed and adjusted as needed, will establish the responsibilities and role of the committee. Effective and well-coordinated statewide weed management programs will be a primary goal of the committee.



The first invasive plants workshop was held 2001 in Fairbanks. Over 60 individuals were involved in strategic plan development.

—Photo by Ann Rippy, NRCS

Seek funding to hire a statewide position to implement the priority items from the plan. This individual will work under the direction of CNIPM and recommendations of the executive council. Participants at the February 2001 workshop suggested that the position be placed within the UAF, Cooperative Extension Service. Duties will be identified from the implementation plan and CNIPM.

Review the strategic plan biennially through a public process. The supporters of this plan agree to the continued support of CNIPM.

Organize an annual public workshop and encourage support and partnerships between agencies and organizations. This will provide a forum for public input, strategic planning and educational exchange.

Define Geographically Plant Management Areas (PMAs). Noxious and invasive plants exhibit no respect for land ownership or jurisdictional boundaries. PMAs facilitate work across administrative boundaries through program cooperation and integration. A PMA does not diminish or supersede functions of any government entity such as national forests, weed districts or soil and water conservation districts. Rather, it integrates these entities into a viable weed program. These areas can be used for management, databases, research and predictive purposes.

CNIPM will assist with defining the plant management areas. PMA boundaries could be established by eco-regions, watershed or hydrographic divides, vegetation zones, topography, common plant weed species and land uses. One suggested model is using the boundaries of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Similar units have been widely recognized as citizen-driven models for organizing effective weed management programs at the local level. A local weed control organization brings together all interested and concerned parties in a watershed or geographic area for the purpose of combining expertise, energy and resources to deal with common weed problems. It provides an open forum for the concerns of area citizens, landowners and managers to be considered and dealt with effectively.

Establish formal PMA steering committees representing the land managers for each PMA. After the boundaries of a PMA have been tentatively established, public meetings will be held to help local citizens understand the goals of the PMA. The planning process requires an inventory of plant infestations and development prevention practices, treatment priorities and control strategies.

Develop a contact directory that lists individuals from government agencies, consultants, universities, agricultural organizations, and conservation organizations with particular noxious and invasive plants management expertise and skill. The directory will be made available to individuals and groups as a resource. The first edition of this directory was printed in May 2001 and lists over 75 individuals from across the state.

II Education: Awareness, Understanding and Participation

Problem

Noxious and invasive plants are more than an agricultural problem. There is a need to expand public involvement in the management of invasive plants. Increasing the awareness of the problems associated with noxious and invasive plants can best do this. Invasive plants move beyond disturbed sites into natural settings. The impacted areas include both aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Most issues have both a public and private landowner component. Economic impacts concern all commercial interests especially resource development. It is essential that Alaska's lawmakers be informed of the issues associated with noxious and invasive plants to ensure the availability of resources needed for effective management.

Actions

Develop an Alaska statewide noxious and invasive plants management website to centralize and coordinate efforts and share information. This site will be linked to participating groups and sources of information. This is a high priority item and very important tool for communication within and between groups.

Identify target audiences. Target audiences include such groups as Master Gardeners, government agencies, tourists, youth, 4-H, Future Farmers of America, commercial growers, hay importers, livestock owners, mushers, construction industry, homeowners, horticultural retail sales, mining, elected officials, universities, military, garden clubs, native plant societies, conservation groups, realtors, hunters, anglers, recreationists, foundation groups and Native corporations and villages. Participation in the process will increase by developing meaningful educational programs specific to the needs of various groups.

Develop or adapt relevant educational materials and programs. Information about related issues, such as threatened and endangered species, water quality and wildfire will be incorporated.

Focus educational programs on IPM practices. This will help garner public support for vegetation-control projects on public lands.

Develop an easy-to-use/carry field identification guide that includes species identification and IPM control options.



"Responsible back country users can help keep Alaska's remote wilderness areas free of invasive plants by utilizing weed free hay."

—Photo by S & K Farm, Alaska



Dog building can be a source of invasive plants.

—Photo by Sue Steinacher, BLM

Develop or identify a video to show the potential damage of invasive plants. The video would be available for distribution to interested educators as a resource tool during workshops, conferences, etc. There are existing tools already that can be made available.

Develop and disseminate briefing packages and presentations for educating national, state and local elected officials. This will be an ongoing process to keep lawmakers updated on current invasive plant status and funding needs. The goal is to encourage congressional representatives and state legislators to support increased budgets for university and agency noxious weed research and technology development.

The statewide coordinator can serve as contact for educational resources and media programs. The Cooperative Extension Service is a likely place for this person because of its statewide network of offices and mission to educate the general public on quality of life issues.

III Inventory and Monitor: ◆ Database Management and Mapping

Problem

Knowing where noxious and invasive plants are located is important to (1) assess the economic and social impacts; (2) develop effective integrated management plans with specific control actions; (3) generate support and funds for quality programs; and (4) raise public awareness. Invasive species have the potential to decrease biodiversity by out-competing native plants, replacing wildlife forages, changing wildfire patterns, and hybridizing with native plants. Monitoring these processes will be crucial for invasive plant management. There has been little work on identifying and mapping the locations of invasive plants in Alaska. The work that has been done lacks consistency of sampling, recording and database management. Inventory and monitoring methods, as well as data management systems, have varied resulting in questionable comparability or usefulness.

Actions

Identify or develop a compatible database entry and management protocol. Agencies, industry and others will be encouraged to use this protocol. Existing technology such as Global Positioning Systems (GPS), remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) will be used to locate and display noxious and invasive plant data. Currently there is a national drive to develop a compatible and standardized database. Every attempt will be made to use a national model.

Identify or develop an Alaska noxious and invasive plant website to house inventory and monitoring information so it can be shared easily. The website could be managed by the statewide coordinator or a state agency that specializes in data management. Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse, <http://agdc.usgs.gov> currently houses many federal and state datasets. This site is a central location for providing a geospatial framework for monitoring in Alaska.

Collect and compile existing and historical information. Some inventories have already been done in the state. This information needs to be brought together in a central location.

Coordinate information with Canada with which Alaska shares a long common boundary. Share inventory list, restricted list and information on management.



Perennial sowthistle is a prohibited noxious weed in the state of Alaska.

—Photo by Marta Mueller, CES



Victoria cracca is still green and producing flowers and seeds while native plants are dormant.

—Photo by Michael Rasy, CES

Encourage agencies to enter inventory and monitoring data into the website. This information will allow us to calculate the total number of acres infested with each invasive plant on the state list and determine the rate of spread for each plant by comparing inventories from year to year. Locations can include natural land, disturbed sites, agricultural settings, transportation corridors and the horticultural facilities.



Close up of Tufted Vetch on Mugo planting.

—Photo by Beth Shultz, USDAFS

Identify the most critical species for monitoring. Scientists, agricultural producers and land managers will be asked to identify the most critical species or locations so that limited inventory dollars can target those species with the highest potential for spread and habitat degradation.

Develop a reward system to encourage private citizens to report invasive plant infestations. The information provided will be investigated for accuracy and included in the inventory database. The herbarium and photos on the UAF Web are good in assisting with this process.

Develop and publish a list of resource professionals who can assist with the identification of species for accuracy of information. This should also include a system for housing specimens of identified and collected noxious and invasive plants.

Develop a monitoring protocol for evaluating effectiveness of the strategy to include control treatments, educational programs, and research projects. Evaluation tools need to be developed for accountability and effectiveness.

White sweet clover often lines roads and blocks view of oncoming traffic on road bends.

—Photo by Janet Jorgeson, USFWS



IV. Research: Biological Impacts, Economic Impacts and Management Options

Problem

Research is needed in many areas including risk and impact assessment, control options and effectiveness and ecosystem restoration. Control methods that work in other parts of North America may be less effective in Alaska or may have undesirable results because of environmental factors specific to Alaska. Also, Alaskans are resistant to the use of chemical control methods. There is a need to identify which species have the greatest potential for establishment and spread in Alaska. The relationship of invasive plants to wildfire is not completely understood. Lastly the cost and impact of invasive plants within Alaska's unique conditions need to be determined. Understanding the fundamental principles governing plant population dynamics is essential to manage plant populations effectively. Application of these principals will contribute to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Actions

Identify and prioritize research needs for funding. Agencies, universities and scientific, agricultural, horticultural, and recreational groups will be involved in identifying research needs. CNIPM will take the lead in developing the process for getting input. Research focus areas could include restoration, enhancement and protection of fish and wildlife habitats, native salmonoid populations, or watershed functions. Research institutions will be encouraged to initiate studies that are applicable to best management practices.

Research studies should address plant ecological, physiological, or genetic processes that affect population success, population sustainability, ability to compete and/or invasiveness. These studies should aim to characterize and understand plant population dynamics between populations in agricultural settings (including crop lands, forests, and rangelands), wild lands or lands of conservation significance. For instance, understanding the reproductive potential of individuals and populations, and understanding genetic characteristics associated with range expansion and adaptation to novel environments that are found here in Alaska.

Develop a technical reference manual for Alaska on noxious and invasive plant management options. Known and potential invaders should be included in this manual. Identification, management practices and eradication methods for each species will be included. Local statewide conditions will be considered.



"There is a great need for Alaska specific herbicide research."
—CES staff photo



"Noxious and invasive plants often cover large areas and require mechanized herbicide control measures."
—CES staff photo

Adapt and develop predictive models such as the Montana INVADERS database (see appendix, websites) and other tools that can be used at the local level to: (1) assess the vulnerability of specific habitats and areas to approaching invasive plants; and (2) assess general population trends and potential expansion for invasive species.

Develop tools and recommendations for assessing the invasiveness of incoming plant materials. Research should be conducted on new-plant material brought in by plant hunters, gardeners and the horticultural industry.



"Disturbed soils, such as gravel pits and construction areas, provide excellent opportunities for noxious weeds and invasive plants to establish and flourish."

—CES staff photo

Conduct a statewide economic assessment to identify the costs associated with noxious and invasive plants. The economic assessment will evaluate agricultural, recreational, aesthetic, environmental and health related costs. The economic assessment can then be used to inform and help persuade the public and legislature to support and fund noxious and invasive plant management and statewide educational programs. It will help all Alaska citizens and lawmakers understand the threats posed by noxious and invasive plants and the need for sufficient resources to slow and stop their spread.

Management: Least Cost, Most Effective and Acceptable Management

Problem

The vastness of Alaska makes a single management system impractical. Alaska imports agricultural products such as hay, reclamation plants and seeds. These materials can be a potential source for invasive and noxious plant introduction. Recreational animals and vehicles transport seeds to backcountry wilderness areas. Alaska statutes regarding importation of agricultural products and weed control are in place, but enforcement is limited due to budgetary and personnel constraints. A large segment of the public is unaware of the impact of noxious and invasive plants, and there are few local plans in place for invasive plant management. Consequently, there is little public interest and pressure on land managers and control authorities to enforce weed laws.

Alaska's size and its multiple land managers and owners create a challenge for coordinated management. Weed management requires an integrated approach, which adds an additional element. Many Alaskans have a negative attitude regarding chemical weed control. This reduces management options. Alaska is in a unique situation where many invasive plants have yet to be introduced or are just starting to show up. Preventing the introduction and eradication of newly arrived noxious weeds is always cheaper and are critical elements of noxious and invasive plant management. Advanced planning is critical for permitting but can slow the process for weed management.



*"Well-managed Alaska-grown forage crops lessen the need for imported feed, which is potentially contaminated with new noxious weed seeds."
—CES staff photo*

Actions

Review and if needed revise the prohibited and restricted species list in Alaska. This needs to be done continually with input from professionals. Currently there are two state statutes (law) and one regulation (implementation rule) that pertain to the management of noxious and invasive plants. Regulation and control of plant pests is authorized under Title 3 of the Alaska State Statutes. Regulations relating to noxious weed control are found in Title 11 Chapter 34 of the Alaska Administrative Code. (See appendix concerning State Law and Regulations.) Methods need to be defined for adding invasive plants to the prohibited and restricted species list. Methods could include the development of risk assessment guidelines and the petitioning process.



*"Farmers have traditionally been on the frontline of controlling noxious and invasive plants to minimize their negative economic impacts."
—CES staff photo*

Develop a species priority list. Noxious and invasive plants are threats to agricultural and ecological systems. Prioritizing these can help managers make decisions on spending funds. There are also new pest that have a high potential for introduction. Professionals and the public need educational materials to help them identify new pests entering the state.

Review and streamline the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation permitting process for pesticide usage on public lands by public agencies. The process of permitting pesticides for state use needs to be looked at and revised as needed. There may be examples within other western states. The establishment of general permitting for different geographic zones may be one tool to streamline the process.

Identify existing or develop guidelines for revegetation. This is a complex decision, which could include not replanting a site and allowing native vegetation to become established naturally.



"Birds can be an important vector in the spread of noxious and invasive plants."

—Photo by Marta Mueller

Another guideline could encourage the use of native species and certified weed-free seed if available for reclamation and revegetation projects. The biggest developers and users of seed in the State is the Department of Transportation. The quantity of native seed for all projects is not currently available. Alternative and noninvasive species must be known. There may be a need for consistency within and between agencies in the contract specifications. Issues related to revegetation in Alaska can be found in "Native Plant Revegetation Manual for Denali National Park and Preserve" by Densmore, R.V., M.E. Vander Meer and N.G. Dunkle. USGS/BRD/ITR-2000-0006. 42pgs.

Develop recommendations for the movement of potentially contaminated equipment into and across the state. Weeds are often brought in on vehicles, and used farm and construction equipment. There may be a need for equipment-cleaning stations at borders and centers of distribution. (See appendix on statute 11 ACC 34.180. TREATMENT OF APPLIANCES.)



"Invasive plants are commonly found along roadsides and transportation corridors."

—Photo by S&K Farms, Alaska

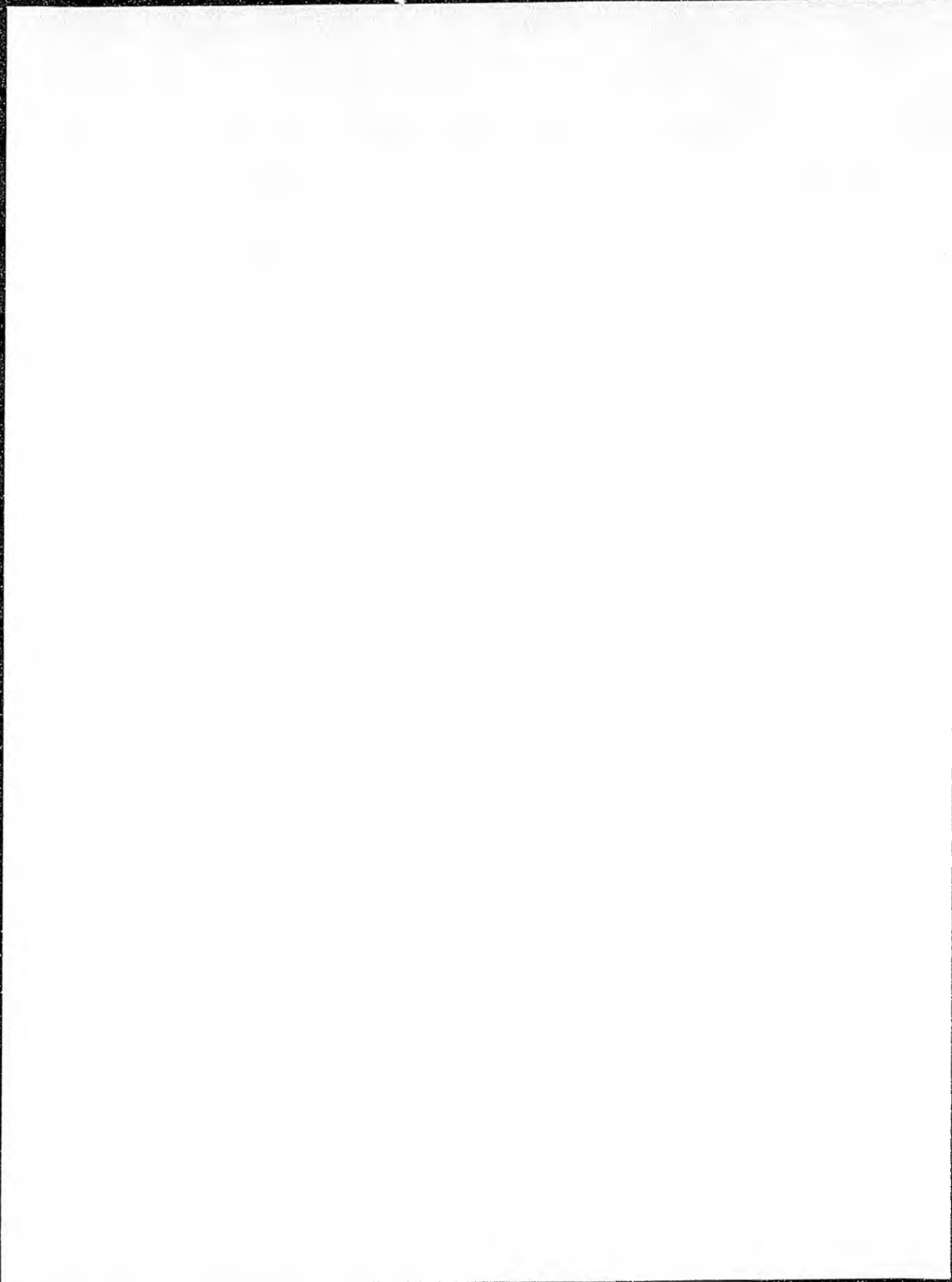
Develop guidelines for the certification of hay, feed and bedding being imported to or transported within Alaska to prevent the introduction of weeds, particularly into park or public lands. Guidelines exist within the Bureau of Land Management. These are currently not being implemented in the state.

Develop comprehensive cost-share programs to encourage landowners, local officials, and weed managers to develop and implement quality programs. IPM methods will be used to treat noxious and invasive plants. It will be important to document successes and failures of control efforts and share this information widely so that cost-effective treatments can be developed for each species.

PMA steering committees will provide awards and recognition for weed professionals, non-profit groups, industries, and landowners as incentives to build and maintain effective weed management programs.

Make available guidelines for controlling the 10 least wanted plants in Alaska. Guidelines need to be in a language easily understood and useful to the general public as well as professionals.

Develop an early detection and rapid response system for Alaska. It will focus on cooperative management and communication processes that will facilitate the early detection and quick eradication of new outbreaks of weeds. An early rapid response system will make interagency resources available for treating and eradicating newly discovered weeds within one year of detection. Regular communication with other states and countries will identify newly discovered or expanding weed species that pose the greatest risk for expansion into Alaska.



Appendices

Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment, Endorsement and Support of the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), developed in 2000, is made and entered into by and among the signatory parties including but not limited to federal, state, and private agencies and organizations.

I. Purpose

The purpose of this committee, the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management, (hereafter known as the CNIPM) is to work for the statewide management of noxious, weeds and invasive plant species in Alaska.

The signatory parties propose to work together within the scope of their respective authorities toward achieving sustainable, healthy ecosystems that meet the needs of society, including but not limited to agriculture, recreation and wildlife habitat conservation.

Additionally, all agencies seek to supply the public with knowledge and skills, good land stewardship practices, awareness of noxious and invasive plant issues and adaptive management programs.

II. Charter for CNIPM

CNIPM will coordinate the identification of noxious and invasive plant species and the mapping of those species for use by supporting parties.

The committee will make available yearly progress reports on the status of the noxious and invasive plant problem to committee signatories.

III. Duties of CNIPM

1. Share the scientific and technical expertise of participating agencies related to noxious and invasive plant management.
2. Encourage agency employees to work collaboratively to enhance their resource management capabilities and advance the state of knowledge of noxious and invasive plant species.
3. Coordinate and execute the drafting of a statewide strategic plan for the management of noxious and invasive plant species.

IV. It Is Mutually Agreed And Understood by Signatory Agencies That:

1. Specific work projects or activities which involve the transfer of funds, services, or property between the parties to this MOU will require the execution of separate agreements or contracts, contingent upon the availability of funds as appropri-

ated by the Alaska State Legislature, United States Congress, or applicable units. Each subsequent agreement or arrangement involving the transfer of funds, services, or property among the parties to this MOU must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations, including those statutes and regulations applicable to procurement activities, and must be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority.

2. This MOU in no way restricts signatory parties from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.

3. Nothing in this MOU shall obligate signatory parties to expend appropriations or to enter into any contracts or other obligations.

4. The committee coordinator and principal contact for this agreement is:

Michele Hébert, Land Resources Agent
Cooperative Extension Service, University of Alaska Fairbanks
P.O. Box 758155
Fairbanks AK 99775-8155
Telephone (907) 474-2423, Fax (907) 474-6885,
E-mail ffmah@uaf.edu

5. Unless terminated under the terms of paragraph 6 below, this MOU will remain in full force and in effect; the MOU will be subject to review annually.

6. This MOU may be modified or amended upon written request of any party and the concurrence of the others. Any party may be removed from this MOU upon written notice to the other parties.

Signature _____

Title _____

Date _____

Agency Overview and Involvement

In Alaska, as elsewhere in the United States, land managers have been working on weed issues for many years. Unfortunately, most groups were working alone while the problems were getting worse. This is a problem where cooperation, collaboration and coordination can make the difference. Many federal and state agencies have legal responsibilities for the management of noxious and invasive plants. Understanding who is responsible for what helps us all do a better job in utilizing resources statewide.

Alaska Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)

Soil and Water Conservation Districts cover 100% of all privately owned land in Alaska. Their locally led planning efforts, with input from landowners and resource user groups, provide direction for numerous State and Federal programs. SWCDs focus on agricultural producers and the associated natural resource concerns, including noxious and invasive plants. The Salcha-Delta SWCD worked with the DNR Division of Agriculture and the USDA Farm Service Agency during a recent land sale auction to make potential buyers aware of the noxious weed problems and the responsibility of the landowner to control them. The Fairbanks SWCD has a broad category weed control cost-share program for residents in its district. SWCD also work with private landowners, through the USDA NRCS, on conservation farm plans, cost-share pest management programs, field research trials, EQIP educational grants and habitat improvement.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Invasive species pose a major threat to Alaska's native flora and fauna. Invasive species can harm native species of fish, wildlife, and plants resulting in ecosystem disruptions that could cause severe economic impacts to the people of Alaska. It is in the best interest of Alaska and Alaskans that both purposeful and unintentional introduction of invasive species not be tolerated. Accordingly, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will take actions to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species. A department invasive species prevention and response pilot program has already begun. ADF&G is in the process of developing an invasive species plan. Specific invasive species program responsibilities would include strategic planning, prevention, monitoring, screening, incident response and information/education.

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture

Within Alaska, the responsibility for the management of noxious and invasive plants resides within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Commissioner of DNR has delegated this responsibility to the Division of Agriculture. While the authorities provided to the Commissioner of DNR to control noxious and invasive plants are broad, restricted funding and staff have limited Division of Agriculture control activities to specific and critical agricultural concerns. Examples include working with farmers to control wild oats in grain crops, assisting farmers and farm groups in the control of on-farm infestations of Canadian and Sow Thistle, requiring certified seed, and ad hoc inspections of agricultural commodities entering Alaska to prevent weed importation. The Division of Agriculture is seeking additional funding so that its efforts can meet the needs of the growing problem of noxious and invasive plants in Alaska.

US Army Corps of Engineers

The Corps of Engineers has a number of research programs focused on Invasive species. The Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) has provided effective, economical, and environmentally compatible technologies for identifying, assessing and managing aquatic plant problems for more than 30 years. The Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station is producing a set of CD-ROMs. The first CD provides detailed information on the identification, geographic distribution, and recommended control methods relating to 61 invasive terrestrial plants occurring on Defense lands. The second CD, subject to the availability of funding, will provide similar management information for the worst 100 noxious plant species on Defense's lands.

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) APHIS is responsible for keeping foreign agricultural pests and diseases from entering the United States. More specifically, under the provisions of the Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program is responsible for preventing the entry of federally listed noxious weeds from foreign countries. To protect US agriculture from pests, PPQ has officers stationed at international airport terminals, seaports, and border stations across the country. PPQ officers serve as the first line of defense. Where noxious weed species become established, PPQ works cooperatively with other agencies to detect and limit the weed infestations and when feasible, initiate control or herbicide eradication programs. One new approach that PPQ is pursuing is regulating noxious weeds not only in agricultural areas but in natural areas as well. A list of the federal noxious weeds is on the APHIS website ([.usda.gov/ppq/weeds/weedhome.html](http://www.usda.gov/ppq/weeds/weedhome.html) <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/weeds/weedhome.html>). Any person may petition the Secretary of Agriculture to add or remove a plant species from this list.

USDA Cooperative Extension Service (CES)

CES is the public service outreach arm of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Its mission is to interpret and extend relevant research-based knowledge and to solve the problems and meet the challenges that face the people of Alaska. It has a 20-year Integrated Pest Management program. IPM provides education and consultation to Alaskans on alternative, least toxic pest control. Over the last 10 years CES has had a noxious weed program. Personnel have been working on identification, mapping, providing control information, publications, information booths, television programs, information articles, statewide meeting and educational classes.

USDA Forest Service (FS)

Three branches of the Forest Service (FS) have responsibilities for different aspects of noxious weeds: Research, State and Private Forestry (S&PF), and the National Forest System (NFS). Research develops biological controls and conducts inventories and monitoring on all forested lands in the nation. The Forest Health Protection unit within S&PF provides technical support and assistance through Integrated Pest Management programs. In the near future, there may be more opportunities to fund weed control projects on non-Forest Service lands. NFS has the responsibility to prevent, control and eradicate noxious weeds in National Forests and Grasslands.

In Alaska, FS weed inventory and control programs are young. The first formal weed surveys were conducted in 1997 and continued through 1998 and 1999. Efforts were initiated in 1999 to control tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobea*) in the

Ketchikan area and eradicate white sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*) along the Stikine River. In southeast Alaska, rivers are major conduits for invasive weeds. Thus far, all efforts have been non-chemical.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

NRCS is a federal agency with primary responsibility to provide technical resource management assistance on private land. NRCS will provide assistance through education and outreach and direct on-site visits with landowners and managers. Funding for pest management may be available through cost-share programs. NRCS field offices staff are qualified to develop pest management plans with individual clients. The focus of these plans will be to help landowners make pest management decisions that have the least potential for negative environmental impacts. Information on invasive plants provided through the PLANTS website (<http://plants.usda.gov>) includes plant identification and control. NRCS Plant Material Centers play a role in research through plant screening for potential invasiveness and usefulness for conservation. Plant Materials Centers are involved in state certified seed programs. Locally, NRCS works cooperatively with the state operated Alaska Plant Materials Center. NRCS works closely with Soil and Water Conservation Districts to provide services tailored to the needs of individual communities. In Alaska there has been a strong educational program developed jointly with the Cooperative Extension Service and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. State fair educational displays, pamphlets and educational workshops have been funded since 1989.

US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

In Alaska BLM manages 86,400,000 acres of land for multiple uses including mining and recreation. The potential for weed introduction through these land uses includes the contamination of seed used in reclamation of mining and other disturbances, transfer by vehicles, and feed and straw infested with weed seed. Alaska Statewide Land Management Standards for BLM include guidelines for the prevention of introduction and spread of noxious weeds and specifically stipulate that only certified weed-free hay will be permitted on BLM land in Alaska. Floristic Inventories on BLM lands have targeted rare and sensitive plants, though not specifically invasive plants. BLM will begin noxious and invasive plant surveys in 2002.

Nationally, BLM considers weed management an emergency. BLM recognizes that invasive plants are one of the greatest obstacles to maintaining healthy ecosystems. Two plans help BLM direct weed management at the national level: "Pulling Together: a National Strategy for Invasive Plant Management" and "Partners Against Weeds: An action plan for the Bureau of Land Management." The plans emphasize prevention, control and education. Partnerships are key in both plans. BLM's National Weed Team is working on standardizing its national database and protocols for inventory and monitoring weeds. Protocols will probably follow those developed by the North American Weed Association. Weed management is a funding priority for BLM.

US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

Activities to prevent and control invasive plant and animal species that severely impact the lands and waters of the United States, including resources managed within the National Wildlife Refuge System, have become a priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as we expand our efforts to conserve and protect our nation's native fish and wildlife habitats. The term INVASIVE SPECIES is defined by the Presidential Executive order 13112. Sometimes known as "exotic-invasive" or "alien-invasive" species, these invasive plants and animals cause vast ecological

and economic damage, and sometimes impact human health. They have gained a foothold on public and private lands throughout the nation and in other parts of the world. These species range across almost every ecosystem of the country from the mountains to the sea...including islands in the Atlantic, Pacific and Caribbean. The national program on invasive plants can be viewed at <http://Invasives.fws.gov/>.

US National Park Service (NPS)

The National Park Service is required by law to keep the parks as unaltered by human activities as possible. As early as 1933, National Park Service policy recognized the harmful effects of nonnative plants and animals. Today, the National Park Service has a strong and clear policy on managing nonnative species in the park. The concepts of integrated pest management and adaptive management underlie National Park Service nonnative plant management policies and this strategy. Integrated pest management is a proven approach to managing pest problems, including invasive nonnative plants. Inside park boundaries, park managers are instituting integrated pest management techniques to control the spread of nonnative plant species while causing minimal impact on the environment. As part of that program, the National Park Service is testing mechanical, chemical, and cultural management methods and biological control techniques. NPS strategic plan can be viewed at http://www.nature.nps.gov/wv/strat_pl.htm.

In Alaska, NPS is conducting a system-wide survey for non-native plant populations. These surveys are focusing on areas of human ground disturbance where non-native plants are most likely to occur and spread. The greatest risks of non-native plant invasion in NPS park units are due to historic human disturbance, ongoing development, and global climate changes. The documentation of results includes ecological characteristics of each species, likelihood of spread and recommended management actions for control.

US Department of Transportation (DOT)

Transportation systems facilitate the spread of species outside their natural range, both domestically and internationally. DOT strives to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species in keeping with the National Strategic Plan by participating on interagency committees, increasing research, training personnel and encouraging innovative designs. In Alaska DOT has certified seed and hay requirements and is developing standards for seeding with native plants.

Alaska Statutes on Noxious Weeds

Title 03. AGRICULTURE AND ANIMALS

Chapter 03.05. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSIONERS OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Sec. 03.05.010. Powers and duties of commissioner of natural resources.

- (a) the commissioner of natural resources shall
 - (5) regulate and control the entry into the state and the transportation, sale, or use inside the state of plants, seeds, vegetables, shell eggs, fruits and berries, nursery stock, animal feeds, remedies and mineral supplements, fertilizers, and agricultural chemicals in order to prevent the spread of pests, diseases, or toxic substances injurious to the public interest, and to protect the agricultural industry against fraud, deception, and misrepresentation; In this connection the commissioner may require registration, inspection, and testing, and establish procedures and fees; and
- (b) To carry out the requirements of this title, the commissioner of natural resources may issue orders, regulations, quarantines, and embargoes relating to
 - (1) examination and inspection of premises containing products, articles, and commodities carrying pests;
 - (2) establishment of quarantines for eradication of pests;

11 AAC 34.045. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR

Statute text

- (a) The duty of enforcing this chapter and of carrying out its provisions and requirements is vested in the director. The duties and authority of the director include the following:
 - (1) to sample, inspect, make analyses of, and test any agricultural or vegetable seed held, transported, sold, offered, or exposed for sale within the state for planting purposes, at the time, place, and to the extent the director finds necessary to determine whether the seed is in compliance with this chapter;
 - (2) to sample, inspect, make analyses of any tree, shrub, or flower seed held, transported, sold, offered, or exposed for sale within the state for planting purposes, at the time, place, and the extent as the director may find necessary to determine whether the seed is in compliance with this chapter;
 - (3) to issue and enforce a written stop sale order or to issue a violation notice, whichever the director determines applicable, to the possessor or owner of any lot of agricultural, vegetable, tree, shrub, or flower seed which is found to be in violation of this chapter; and
 - (4) to prohibit the further sale, processing, or movement of seed, except on approval of the director, until evidence is obtained that shows that the requirements of this chapter have been

complied with and a release from the stop sale order has been issued for the seed.

- (b) When seed is denied further sale, processing, or movement under (a)(3) and (a)(4) of this section, the owner or processor of the seed has the right to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction in the locality in which the seeds were found in violation, asking for a judgment as to the justification of the order and for the discharge of the seed from the order prohibiting the sale, processing, or movement, in accordance with the finding of the court.
- (c) The provisions of (a)(3) and (a)(4) of this section do not limit the right of the director to proceed as authorized by other sections of this chapter.
- (d) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the director of his authorized agents

11 AAC 34.075. PROHIBITED ACTS

Statute text

- (a) No person may sell, offer for sale, expose for sale, or transport for use in planting in the state any agricultural or vegetable seed that
 - (3) contains any prohibited noxious weed seed, except as allowed in (g) of this section;
 - (4) contains any restricted noxious weed seed in excess of the permissible tolerance per pound established in 11 AAC 34.020(b), except as allowed in (g) of this section;
- (f) No person may plant in this state any agricultural, vegetable, tree, shrub, or flower seed containing any prohibited noxious weeds listed in 11 AAC 34.020(a) or any restricted noxious weeds in excess of the maximum allowable tolerances listed in 11 AAC 34.020(b), except as provided in 11 AAC 34.030, without express written approval of the director, or as provided in (g) of this section.
- (g) No person may use, sell, offer, expose for sale, give away, or transport for feeding, seeding, or mulching purposes any seed or grain screenings containing any prohibited noxious weed seed listed in 11 AAC 34.020(a) or any restricted noxious weeds in excess of the maximum allowable tolerances listed in 11 AAC 34.020(b), except as provided in 11 AAC 34.030, and except that the director may allow sale or transport of screenings

11 AAC 34.077. WEED SEEDS IN SHIPMENT

Statute text

Whenever anything brought into a part of the state from another part of the state or from any other state or foreign country is found to be infested with the seed of any prohibited noxious weed, the director will notify the owner or bailee of the shipment to return it to the point of shipment within 48 hours, and the owner or bailee of the shipment shall return it. If the director determines that the seeds can be destroyed by treatment, the shipment may, at the option and expense of the owner or bailee, be treated under the supervision of the director, and may be released after treatment.

11 ACC 34.105. QUARANTINE OFFICERS

Statute text

- (a) The director is an enforcing officer of all laws, rules and regulations relative to the prevention of the introduction into, or the spread within the state of pests.

11 ACC 34.125. INSPECTION STATIONS

Statute text

To prevent the introduction into, or the spread within this state, of pests, the director may maintain at such places within this state as he deems necessary quarantine inspection stations for the purposes of inspecting all conveyances, which might carry plants or other things, which are or are liable to be infested or infected with pests.

11 ACC 34.140. NEW PESTS

Statute text

Upon information received by the director of the existence of any pest not generally distributed within this state he shall thoroughly investigate the existence and probability of the spread thereof. He may also establish, maintain and enforce quarantine and such other regulations as are in his opinion necessary to circumscribe and exterminate or prevent the spread of such pest. The director may disinfect, or take such other action with reference to, any plants or things infested or infected with, or which in his opinion may have been discretion shall seem necessary.

11 ACC 34.170. DESTRUCTION OR TREATMENT OF PESTS

Statute text

When any shipment of plants brought into this state is found infested or infected or there is reasonable cause to presume that it may be so infested or infected with any pest, the shipment shall be immediately destroyed by, or the such pest may be exterminated by treatment or processing prescribed by the director, and if it is determined by the inspecting officer that the nature of the pest is such that no damage can be caused to agriculture in this state through such treatment or processing, or procedure incidental thereto. In such case, the shipment may be so treated or processed at the expense of the owner or bailee in the manner, and within the time specified by the inspecting officer, under his supervision, and if so treated or processed, upon determination by the enforcing officer that the pest has been exterminated, the shipment may be released.

11 ACC 34.180. TREATMENT OF APPLIANCES

Statute text

- (a) To prevent the dissemination of pests through the agency of appliances, the director will, in his discretion, publish a list of pests that can be carried that way and designating the appropriate treatment for appliances.

- (b) No person may ship or move any used appliances until he furnishes to the director proof satisfactory to the director that the appliances have not been exposed to infestation or infection by any pests, or that the appliances have been treated immediately before shipment or movement in the manner designated by the director.

11 AAC 34.020. PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED NOXIOUS WEEDS

Statute text

- (a) The following are prohibited noxious weeds:
- Bindweed, field (*Convolvulus arvensis*);
 - Fieldcress, Austrian (*Rorippa austriaca*);
 - Galensoga (*Galensoga parviflora*);
 - Hempnettle (*Galeopsis tetrahif*);
 - Horsenettle (*Solanum carolinense*);
 - Knapweed, Russian (*Centaurea repens*);
 - Lettuce, blue-flowering (*Lactuca pulchella*);
 - Quackgrass (*Agropyron repens*);
 - Sowthistle, perennial (*Sonchus arvensis*);
 - Spurge, leafy (*Euphorbia esula*);
 - Thistle, Canada (*Cirsium arvense*);
 - Whitetops and its varieties (*Cardaria drabe*, *C. pubescens*, *Lepidium latifolium*).
- (b) The following are restricted noxious weeds, with their maximum allowable tolerances:
- Annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*), 90 seeds per pound;
 - Blue burr (*Lappula echinata*), 18 seeds per pound;
 - Mustard (*Brassica kaber, juncea*), 36 seeds per pound;
 - Oats, wild (*Avena fatua*), 7 seeds per pound;
 - Plantain, buckhorn (*Plantago sp.*), 90 seeds per pound;
 - Radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), 27 seeds per pound;

 - Toadflax, yellow (*Linaria vulgaris*), 1 seed per pound;
 - Vetch, tufted (*Vicia cracca*), 2 seeds per pound;
 - Wild Buckwheat (*Polygonum convolvulus*), 2 seeds per pound

11 AAC 34.030 WEED SEED AS AGRICULTURAL SEED

The following seeds, when occurring incidentally in agricultural and vegetable seeds, are classed as weed seeds, except when sold alone or as a specific constituent of a definite seed mixture:

- Black Medic (*Medicago lupulina*);
- Cardoon (*Cynara cardunculus*);
- Dandelion (*Taraxacum species*);
- Lupine (*Lupinus species*);
- Pigweed (*Amaranthus species*);
- Radish (*Raphanus sativus*);
- Rape (*Brassica campestris and napus*);
- Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*);
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*);
- Tufted Vetch (*Vicia cracca*)

Article 4 General Provisions

Sec. 400. Definitions.

11 AAC 34.400. DEFINITIONS

Statute text

The terms used in this chapter are construed to conform insofar as possible with the terms used in the Federal Seed Act (1 U.S.C. 1551 et seq.) and the regulations issued under that Act. Unless the context indicates otherwise, in this chapter.

- (1) "advertisement" means representation other than on labels, disseminated in any manner or by any means relating to seed within the scope of these regulations;
- (2) "agricultural seeds" means the seeds of all domesticated grasses and cereals, and of all legumes and other plants grown as turf, cover crops, forage crops, fiber crops or field crops and mixtures of the seeds;
- (3) "appliance" means box, tray, container, ladder, tent, vehicle, implement, or any other article which is or may be used in connection with the planting, growing, harvesting, handling, or transportation of an agricultural commodity;
- (4) "bailee" means a person who, by warehouse receipt, bill of lading, or other document of title, acknowledges possession of goods and contracts to deliver them;
- (5) "certified", as applied to bulblets, tubers, or horticultural plants or to agricultural, vegetable, tree, shrub, flower, or cereal grain seed, means inspected and labeled by and in accordance with the standards and rules and regulations of the official certification agency or in accordance with similar standards established by a similar authority in another state, country, or territory;
- (6) "certified seed potatoes" means potatoes used for planting a crop, that have been officially certified as "foundation seed" or "certified seed" by an authorized inspector, in a manner approved by the director, or, in the case of seed imported into the state, meets the certification standards of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies;
- (8) "director" means the director of the division of agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, or the director's authorized agent;
- (13) "noxious weed" means any species of plants, either annual, biennial, or perennial, reproduced by seed, root, underground stem, or bulblet, which when established is or may become destructive and difficult to control by ordinary means of cultivation or other farm practices; or seed of such weeds that is considered commercially inseparable from agricultural or vegetable seed;
- (18) "pest" means a form of animal life, plant life, or infectious, transmissible, or contagious disease of plants, that is or is liable to be dangerous or detrimental to the agricultural industry of the state;

(21) "restricted noxious weed seed" means the seed of weeds which are very objectionable in fields, lawns, and gardens of this state, but which can be controlled by good cultural practices;

(25) "weed seed" means a restricted noxious weed seed and any seed not included in the definition of agricultural seed when it occurs incidentally in agricultural or vegetable seeds.

Websites

APHIS noxious weed site

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppa/weeds/weedhome.html>

Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

LINK "http://www.apms.org" <http://www.apms.org>

ARS USDA Invader Database system

http://Invader.dbs.umd.edu/Noxious_Weeds/state_query.asp

Biology and Management of Noxious Range land Weeds Oregon State

<http://www.osu.orst.edu/dept/press/BioManagementWeed.html>

BLM Weed management website

<http://www-a.blm.gov/weeds/>

<http://www.blm.gov/education/weed/weed.html>

Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants University of Florida

<http://plcnr.ifas.ufl.edu/welcome.html>

EPA Office of Water Invasive Species Program

http://www.epa.gov/owow/invasive_species/

http://www.epa.gov/owow/invasive_species/

Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network

<http://www.cciw.ca/eman-temp/>

Federal Highway Administration DOT Roadside Vegetation Management

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/veg_mat.htm

Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds s/FICMNEWHomePage.html

<http://refuges.fws.gov/FICMNEWFiles/FICMNEWHomePage.html>

Federal Noxious Weed Act

<http://refuges.fws.gov/FICMNEWFiles/FederalNoxiousWeedAct.html>

Harmful Non-indigenous Species in the United States, publication

http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~ota/disk1/1993/9325_n.html

Invasive Plants and the Nursery Industry

[rown.edu/Research/EnvStudies_Theses/full9900/mhall/IPlants/IPlants_Frames.html](http://www.brown.edu/Research/EnvStudies_Theses/full9900/mhall/IPlants/IPlants_Frames.html)

[http://www.brown.edu/Research/EnvStudies_Theses/full9900/mhall/](http://www.brown.edu/Research/EnvStudies_Theses/full9900/mhall/IPlants/IPlants_Frames.html)

[IPlants/IPlants_Frames.html](http://www.brown.edu/Research/EnvStudies_Theses/full9900/mhall/IPlants/IPlants_Frames.html)

Invasive Alien Plant Species of Virginia

[nh/invinfo.htm http://www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/invinfo.htm](http://www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/invinfo.htm)

Native Plant Conservation Initiative's Web Site
<http://www.nps.gov/plants/>

National Invasive Species Council
<http://invasivespecies.gov/>

National Parks Strategic Plan for Managing Invasive Nonnatives
http://www.nature.nps.gov/wv/strat_pl.htm

National Strategic for the Management of Invasive Plants Publication
<http://blueoase.arw.r9.fws.gov/FICMNEWFiles/NatWeedStrategyTOC.html>

North American Weed Management Association
<http://www.nawma.org/>

NRCS Plants Database
<http://plants.usda.gov/>

The Nature Conservancy
<http://nature.org/>
<http://www.tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/news/051899.html>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Invasive Species Program
<http://invasives.fws.gov/>

University of Montana Invaders database system
<http://invader.dbs.umt.edu/>

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
<http://www.wa.gov/agr/weedboard/>

Weeds Gone Wild - Plant Conservation Alliance
<http://www.nps.gov/plants/allen/>

Weed Science Society of America
www.wssa.net" <http://www.wssa.net>

Weed Science University of Illinois
RLINK <http://ext.agn.uiuc.edu/extension/wsp.html>
<http://ext.agn.uiuc.edu/extension/wsp.html>

Western Society of Weed Science
<http://www.wsweedscience.org>

Contact Directory of Individuals
Interested in Noxious
and Invasive Plants
Management in Alaska

2nd Edition

Sponsored by

The Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM)
A Local, State and Federal Cooperative Effort

January 2002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Listing of individuals by organizations

Introduction and acknowledgements

Listing of individuals alphabetically

Comments – Oversights – Corrections – Deletions

LISTING OF INDIVIDUALS BY ORGANIZATIONS

ALASKA STATE AGENCIES

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Department of Fish and Game

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Brownlee, Kevin

Jacobs, Laura

Klein, Joe

Mouw, Jason, G.

Piorkowski, Robert, Ph.D.

Schempf, Janet Hall

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Agriculture

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Franklin, Glen, D.

Knight, Charles, Ph.D.

Warner, Doug

Wells, Robert

Division of Mining

Ireys, Justin.

Division of Forestry

Grøham, Jeff

Sec, John, W

Plant Material Center

Moore, Nancy

Wright, Stoney

Department of Transportation

Adler, Clint P.E.

Corrigan, Missy

Gerke, Eric

Mazzitello, John, R.

Alaska Railroad Corporation

Kemonosh, Karolann

Department of Environmental Health

Lombardi, Rosemarie

Soil and Water Cons. Districts

Ala, Abby

Crawford, Julie

Durham, Jeffrey

Kingsbury, Alan

McClure, Michele

Poindexter, Al

Scharfenberg, Joni

Schollenberg, Shirley

Wilson, Pat

Witte, Doug

Alaska State Parks

Lee, Mike

Municipality of Anchorage

Robb, William, R.

Fairbanks North Star Borough

Leone, David N.

University of Alaska

Begna, Sultan, Ph.D.

Boggs, Keith

Gay, Peter, Ph.D.

Holloway, Pat, Ph.D.

Leary, Patricia M.

Leiner, Roseann, Ph.D.

Lipkin, Rob

McBeath, Jenifer Huang, Ph.D.

Sparrow, Stephen

Tande, Jerry

Viereck, Les

Herbarium

Batten, Alan

Cooperative Extension Service

Gorman, Bob

Hébert, Michele

Jahns, Tom, Ph.D.

Kaspari, Phil
Michelbrink, Hunter
Mueller, Marta
Riley, Julie
Rose, Corlene
Sorensen, Fred
Wheeler, Bob, Ph.D.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

US Department of the Interior

BLM

Billingsley, Linda
Blank, Debbie
Cole, Jeanie
Gronquist, Ruth
Jandt, Randi
Meyers, Randy

US FWS

Gross, Elaine
DeLapp, John
Jorgenson, Janet
Roy, Michael
Sonnevil, Gary
Wertz, Tara

US NPS

Spencer, Page

US Geological Survey

Densmore, Roseann, Ph.D.

US Department of Agriculture

APHS

Jewett, Christina

ARS

Ianson, David

NRCS

Gleason, Mary
Leonetti, Crystal
Michaud, Mitch
Rippy, Ann

US Forest Service

Boughton, Jerry
DeVelice, Robert, L.
Kriekhaus, Brad
Schulz, Beth
Shephard, Michael
Stensvold, Mary

US Department of Defense

Lipyanic, Deb
Mason, Jeff
Walsh, Kerry

US Army Corps of Engineers

Everett, Christy

NONGOVERNMENTAL

ORGANIZATIONS /INDIVIDUALS

Baldwin, Dick
Brasier, Lyall
Bundy, Lynn
Clay, Jerry
DePriest, Tiny
Miller, Susan
Purviance, Michael, C.
Scorup, Peter, C.
Turner, Keith
Ward, Bill & Marcia

Alaska Biological Research Inc.

Jorgenson, Torre
Schlentner, Sharon

Alveska Pipeline

Girard, Cathy
Schaefer, Hillary

The Nature Conservancy

Keys, Sandra

CANADA

Bennet, Bruce

INTRODUCTIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This directory was put together as a resource, listing individuals from government agencies, universities, agricultural organizations, farmers and other private citizens and organizations with particular noxious and invasive plants management interest, expertise and skill. The directory will be made available to individuals and groups as a resource for organizing technical and assistance in solving management issues. It is also a way to keeping interested parties and individuals informed of the activities and issues in Management of Noxious and Invasive Plants in Alaska.

Included is everyone who took time to complete a form, so the directory represents a self-selected group, rather than a comprehensive list of all interested individuals. If you would like to be added to this directory, please fill out the form at the back of this directory and mail or fax it to Michele Hébert, Land Resources Agent for the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service.

The goals of the directory are to heighten the awareness among all citizens of the degradation that can be brought to Alaska lands and waters by the explosive spread of non-native invasive plants and to bring about greater statewide coordination, cooperation and action that will successfully halt the introduction and spread of such plants and restore infested lands and waters to a healthy and productive condition.

Many of the individuals listed, participated in the Alaska Strategic Planning Workshop on February 2, 2001, for the Management of Noxious and Invasive Plants. The outcome of that workshop was a draft strategic management plan for Alaska. The goals and actions outlined in the plan provide a structure that, if supported and advanced through individual or cooperative efforts, will further the effective management of noxious and invasive plant species across all lands and jurisdictions of the state of Alaska. The participants in this strategic plan recognize that through the development of a statewide coordinated and cooperative approach to noxious and invasive plants management, they can more effectively advance the actions necessary to achieve both the strategic goals and actions and respective individual and organizational responsibilities.

The directory is a project of the Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM). The main goal of this committee is to launch and coordinate a process for the development of a strategic plan to manage noxious and invasive plants in Alaska. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been developed to establish CNIPM and to secure agency and organizational support.

CNIPM wishes to thank all those who assisted in compiling this directory.

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applied-highway research.

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Batten, Alan

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Begna, Sultan H., Ph.D.

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USDA ARS SALRM UAF
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Fairbanks, AK 99775
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Expertise/Experience: Agronomy; crop physiology; weed science and entomology; agricultural crops and forages response to biotic/abiotic factors.

Bennet, Bruce

Wildlife Viewing Biologist
Yukon Dept. of Renewable Resources
#33 Chinook
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Inventorying of noxious and invasive plants at disturbed sites along the Dalton Highway.

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AK Natural Heritage Program, ENRI, UAA
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Expertise/Experience: Worked on biological weed control for seven years in Montana. I currently do vegetation classification, develop plant range maps, and study rare plants in Alaska.

Boughton, Jerry

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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Expertise/Experience: Life history and ecology of
salmonids.

Clay, Jerry

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Golden Grains Company
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Expertise/Experience: BS Metallurgical
Engineering; familiarity with soil and rock types all
across Alaska, including trace elements by area; have
a listing of various forbs and trace elements they
need to grow and tend to concentrate; soil and plant
material trace mineral analysis.

Cole, Jeanie

Wildlife Biologist
US Interior Dept. BLM
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Fairbanks, AK 99709
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Expertise/Experience: Wildlife biology; noxious weed
eradication projects in Nevada.

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Expertise/Experience: Resource management degree;
revegetation of riparian areas; botanical surveys for
baseline data and monitoring projects for fish and
wildlife habitat; teach basic botany and forestry to
middle school kids.

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operated a dairy farm for 29 years. Am now a hay
producer.

DeVelice, Robert L.

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Expertise/Experience: Ph.D., Biology, New Mexico State Univ., 1983; Masters of Science, Agronomy, New Mexico State Univ. 1979; B.S. Forestry, Univ. of Montana, 1976. Over 20 years of experience in Alaska, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, and New Zealand in community ecology, conservation biology, statistical analysis, and vegetation dynamics modeling.

Densmore, Roseann, Ph.D.

Research Ecologist
US Interior Dept. Geological Survey
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US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch
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Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: 907-474-2166 Fax: 907-474-2164
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Gay, Peter, Ph.D

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Expertise/Experience: B.S. in microbiology, M.S. in Agronomy, Ph.D. in Plant Pathology. Research in biological control of plant pests.

Franklin, Glen D.

Natural Resources Officer
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Gerke, Eric

Environmental Analyst II
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Expertise/Experience: Natural resource management; elementary education; soil and water conservation; water quality; conservation planning.

Gorman, Bob

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Phone: 907-786-6323 Fax: 907-786-6312
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Forest Stewardship Coordinator
AK DNR Division of Forestry
101 Airport Road
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Expertise/Experience: BS, MS and Ph.D. in Forest Science specializing in reforestation; research in herbicide science in Alaska; 10 years w/Division of Forestry; private forest landowner consulting; public and professional workshops for Forestry.

Gronquist, Ruth

Wildlife Biologist
US Interior Dept. BLM
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Hébert, Michele A.

Land Resources Agent
Cooperation Extension Service UAF
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Holloway, Pat, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Horticulture
SALRM UAF
Box 757200
Fairbanks, AK 99775
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Expertise/Experience: MS and Ph.D. in Horticulture; 16 years experience Georgeson Botanical Garden; weed problems and control in horticultural crops.

Ianson, David C.

Curator, National Arctic Plant Genetic Resources Unit
USDA-ARS
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Palmer, AK 99645
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Expertise/Experience: Curator for the USDA-ARS National Plant Germplasm System, National Arctic Plant Genetic Resources Unit.

Ireys, Justin

Geologist I
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Jandt, Randi

Fire Ecologist
BLM Alaska Fire Service
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Jorgenson, Torre

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Expertise/Experience: Plant ecology; soil science; geomorphology; permafrost studies; GIS and mapping; ecological land surveys; TES surveys; land rehabilitation; wetland survey and restoration; response of ecosystems to climatic change.

Jorgenson, Janet

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Kaspari, Phil

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Cooperative Extension Service UAF
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Website: <http://www.uaf.edu/coop-ext>
Expertise/Experience: Committee member of Alaska Farm Bureau; Delta Chapter's Noxious Weed Program; agricultural producer with experience applying agricultural chemicals; makes herbicide or alternative weed control recommendations as CES agent.

Kemenosh, Karolann

Environmental Specialist
Alaska Railroad Corporation
PO Box 220375
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Keys, Sandra

Public Lands Specialist
The Nature Conservancy
421 West 1st Ave., Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
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Expertise/Experience: Ecologist by training; federal manager of national parks and forests; 31 years weed experience.

Kingsbury, Alan

Member, Upper Susitna SWCD
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Expertise/Experience: Farmer (greenhouse); 15 years ADF&G; former supervisor/chair SWCD; volunteer for invasive plant control.

Klein, Joe

Hydrologist
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Expertise/Experience: Instream flow.

Knight, Charles, Ph.D.

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Expertise/Experience: Agronomist

Kriekhaus, Brad

Biological Technician - Botany
USDA Forest Service
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Expertise/Experience: Plant identification; working on Japanese knotweed eradication in Southeast AK

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Lee, Mike

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Expertise/Experience: Biology minor; retired park ranger and superintendent for AK State Parks.

Leiner, Roseann, Ph.D.

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Lipyani, Deb. M.

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Expertise/Experience: BS in Forestry; ITAM/NR manager at FWA; Vegetation sampling, inventory and monitoring; TES and leafy spurge work; revegetation military lands.

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Pesticide Program
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Mason, Jeff

Natural Resource Personnel
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Phone: 907-451-2238
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Email: John_Mazzitello@dot.state.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering; 12 credits toward MS in Environmental Engineering; 6 years Air Force in Environmental and Construction Management; 1 year w/ADEC.

McBeath, Jenifer Huang, Ph.D.

Plant Pathologist
AFES UAF
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7200
Phone: 907-474-7431
Fax: 907-474-6099
Email: ffjhm@uaf.edu
Expertise/Experience: BS in Plant Pathology and Entomology; MS and Ph.D. in plant pathology; plant pathology and biological control; plant diseases survey and detection; teaching and research.

McClure, Michele

District Coordinator
Wasilla Soil and Water Cons. District
1700 E. Bogard Rd. Suite 200
Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: 907-373-6495 Ext. 112
Fax: 907-373-7192
Email: district@pobox.alaska.net

Meyers, Randy Ms.

Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Box 1049
Kotzebue, AK 99752
Phone: 907-442-3430
Fax: 907-442-2720
Email: Randy_Meyers@ak.blm.gov
Expertise/Experience: B.S. in environmental science; M.S. in botany; vegetation inventory and monitoring.

Michaud, Mitch

Forester
USDA/NRCS
PO Box 800
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 907-283-8732 ext. 105
Fax: 907-283-9667
Email: mitch.michaud@ak.usda.gov
Expertise/Experience: Forest management; 1-1/2 years w/ADOT.. Background on East Coast where invasive plants are everywhere; restoration/herbicide use.

Michelbrink, Hunter

Land Resource Agent
Cooperative Extension Service
809 S. Chugach
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-3360
Fax: 907-745-5479
Email: nnhjm@uaf.edu
Expertise/Experience: Background on East Coast where invasive plants are everywhere; restoration/herbicide use.

Miller, Susan

18722 Guillemot Circle
Anchorage, AK
Phone: 907-345-4444
Fax: 907-345-4444
Email: The Garden Gate
Expertise/Experience: BS in Horticulture; 21 years greenhouse industry and gardening in Anchorage.

Moore, Nancy

Agronomist II
Plant Material Center
PO Box 399
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-4469
Fax: 907-746-1568
Email: nancy_moore@dnr.ak.state.us
Expertise/Experience: Botanist; revegetation specialist.

Mouw, Jason

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
333 Raspberry Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99518
Phone: 907-267-2100
Fax: 907-267-2422
Email: Jason_mouw@fishgame.state.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: Floodplain plant ecology

Mueller, Marta

Integrated Pest Management Technician
Cooperative Extension Service UAF
PO Box 758155
Fairbanks, AK 99775
Phone: 907-474-2428
Fax: 907-474-6885
Email: ftmrm@uaf.edu
Expertise/Experience: BS in Biology; 3 years as pest scout in interior Alaska; graduate student in UAF Dept. of Biology and Wildlife.

Piorkowski, Robert, Ph.D.

Scientific Program Manager
Alaska Dept. Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25226
Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907-456-6107
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Email: Bob_Piorkowski@fishgame.state.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: Department lead on invasive aquatic plants.

Poindexter, Al

Supervisor on Board
Homer Soil and Water Conservation District
Box 400 Lake Street
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 907-235-8177 ext. 5 Fax: 907-235-2364
Email: hswcd@xyz.net

Purviance, Michael C.

PO Box 1656
Delta Junction, AK 99737
Phone: 907-895-2076 Fax: 907-895-2076
Email: mikepurv@wildak.net
Expertise/Experience: Farm manager;
pesticide applicator license.

Riley, Julie

Horticulture Agent
Cooperative Extension Service UAF
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd., #118
Anchorage, AK 99508-4143
Phone: 907-786-6300 Fax: 907-786-6312
Email: aljar@uaa.alaska.edu
Expertise/Experience: Weed identification and control
recommendations; teach weed control practices to
gardeners and homeowners.

Rippy, Ann

Conservation Agronomist
USDA/NRCS
590 University Ave., Suite B
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: 907-479-2657 ext. 106 Fax: 907-479-6998
Email: arippy@nrsc.usda.gov
Expertise/Experience: BS in Agronomy; MS in Natural
Resources Management/ Agronomy; 15 years as soil
conservationist/ conservation agronomist; technical
support for field office staff on agronomy concerns
including nutrient and pest management.

Robb, William R.

Horticulturist
Municipality of Anchorage
Parks & Recreation Division
PO Box 196650
Anchorage, AK
Phone: 907-343-4716
Fax: 907-249-7640
Email: robbwr@ci.anchorage.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: BS in Horticulture plus grad work;
research and extension in horticulture using nutrient
culture and radioactive isotope tracing; controlled
environmental growth using nutrient culture and grasses
to remove toxins; 20 years as Anchorage's municipal
horticulturist; registered consulting arborist; certified
arborist.

Rose, Corlene

IPM Program Manager
Cooperative Extension Service UAF
2221 E Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 118
Anchorage, AK 99508-4140
Phone: 907-786-6316
Fax: 907-786-6312
Email: alaska.edu ancr@uaa.alaska.edu
Website: <http://www.uaa.edu/coop.ext>
Expertise/Experience: Integrated pest management,
educational outreach, multimedia production.

Roy, Michael

Invasive Species Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: 907-786-3925 Fax: 907-786-3350
Email: Michael_roy@fws.gov
Expertise/Experience: Access to FWS subject matter
experts.

Schaefer, Hillary

Field Environment Generalist
Alyeska Pipeline
615 Bidwell Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: 907-450-7682 Fax: 907-450-5534
Email: SchaeferH@alyeska-pipeline.com
Expertise/Experience: BS in Environmental Health-
epidemiology, toxicology, industrial hygiene; work for
Alyeska ensuring environmental compliance; leading
revegetation/stream channel restoration projects along
TAP.

Scharfenberg, Joni

Project Coordinator
Fairbanks Soil & Water Conservation Dst.
590 University Ave., Ste B
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: 907-479-1213
Fax: 907-479-6998
Email: fswcd@mosquionet.com
Expertise/Experience: Farmer

Schempf, Janet Hall

Alaska Coastal Management Coordinator
AK Dept. of Fish & Game
Habitat & Restoration Division
PO Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526
Phone: 907-465-6160 Fax: 907-465-4759
Email: janet_schempf@fishgame.state.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: Fish & wildlife life history and
habitat research; land and water permitting; land manage-
ment planning; wetlands delineation and restoration.

Schlentner, Sharon

Biologist
Alaska Biological Research Inc.
PO Box 80410
Fairbanks, AK 99708
Phone: 907-455-6777 Fax: 907-455-6781
Email: sschlentner@abrinc.com
Expertise/Experience: 5 years in environmental research working primarily on plants and soils studies including ecological land surveys and land rehabilitation; 10 years research in agriculture studies of tillage, weed control, plant pathology and nitrogen cycling in Fairbanks and Delta area.

Schollenberg, Shirley

District Manager
Homer Soil & Water Conservation District
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Homer, AK 99603
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Schulz, Beth

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US Forest Service
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Expertise/Experience: BS in Botany; MS in Natural Resource Management; Vegetation inventory and monitoring; IMP consultation.

Scorup, Peter C.

Senior Environmental Scientist
Northern Native Seeds
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See, John W.

Alaska Urban & Community Forestry Program Coord.
DNR - Division of Forestry
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Shephard, Michael

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USDA Forest Service
3301 C Street, Ste 200, Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: 907-743-9454 Fax: 907-747-9479
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Expertise/Experience: Weed surveys in SE AK, working on Japanese knotweed eradication project.

Sonnevil, Gary M

Project Leader
US Interior Dept. Fish & Wildlife Service
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AK Regional Aquatic Nuisance Species Coord.
Expertise/Experience: Fisheries biologist

Sorensen, Fred

IPM Coordinator
Cooperative Extension Service UAF
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd., #118
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Phone: 907-786-6311
Fax: 907-786-6312
Email: dffes@uaa.alaska.edu
Expertise/Experience: IPM; teach master gardening; train IPM technicians.

Sparrow, Stephen

Professor of Agronomy
SALRM UAF
PO Box 757200
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7200
Phone: 907-474-7620
Fax: 907-474-6184
Email: stephen.sparrow@uaf.edu
Expertise/Experience: Soil science; agronomy.

Spencer, Page

Ecologist
US Interior Dept. National Park Service
2525 Gambell Street
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: 907-257-2625
Fax: 907-257-2448
Email: Page_Spencer@nps.gov
Expertise/Experience: Ecology; lots of AK field time with good understanding of native communities.

Stensvold, Mary

Regional Botanist, Alaska Region
USDA Forest Service
204 Siginaka Way
Sitka, Alaska 99835
Phone: 907-747-6671
Fax: 907-747-4331
Email: mstensvold@fs.fed.us or stensvol@iastate.edu
Expertise/Experience: MS in Botany, current emphasis on rare plants, ferns, weed issues, revegetation with native plants, and gardening with native vascular plants and bryophytes.

Tande, Jerry

Vegetation Ecologist
Alaska Natural Heritage Program, UAA
707 "A" Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-257-2787 Fax: 907-257-2789
Email: angft@uaa.alaska.edu
Expertise/Experience: Vegetation mapping, classification and description; vegetation monitoring; plant taxonomy and inventory; landscape ecology; vegetation history.

Turner, Keith

Landscaper
1536 Valarian Street
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-274-6917
Expertise/Experience: 3 years experience landscaping; master gardener.

Viereck, Les

Affiliate Professor of Forest Ecology
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Boreal Ecology Coop. Research Unit
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Walsh, Kerry

LCTA Coordinator
Center for Ecological Mgt. of Military Lands
PO Box 35090
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703-0090
Phone: 907-353-1174 Fax: 907-353-1253
Email: walshke@wainwright.army.mil
Expertise/Experience: BS in Biology; Natural Resources Management; MS in progress; currently working with large database to assess land condition of Fort Wainwright lands.

Ward, Bill & Marcia

Owners, Ward Farms
PO Box 1987
Delta Junction, AK 99737
Phone: 907-895-5415 Fax: 907-895-5416
Expertise/Experience: Private landowner and user; hay and livestock production.

Warner, Doug

AK DNR Division of Agriculture
1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 12
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-761-3861 Fax: 907-745-7112
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Expertise/Experience: State plant regulatory official.

Wells, Robert

Director
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Phone: 907-761-3867 Fax: 907-745-7112
Email: Robert_Wells@dnr.state.ak.us
Website: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/ag>
Expertise/Experience: BA in Economics; Director, Division of Agriculture 10/97-present; Owner, L&R Greenhouses.

Wertz, Tara

US Fish and Wildlife Service, NAES
101 12th Ave., Rm 110
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: 907-456-0444
Email: Tara_Wertz@fws.gov
Expertise/Experience: Big game habitat improvement, noxious weed management, upland habitat restoration.

Wheeler, Bob Ph.D.

Forestry Specialist
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Wilson, Pat

Board Member, Upper Susitna SWCD
PO Box 866
Talkeetna, AK 99676
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Expertise/Experience: Gardener since 1972.

Witte, Doug

Executive Director
Alaska Association of Conservation Districts
1700 East Bogard Road, Suite 203
Wasilla, AK 99654
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Wright, Stoney

Manager
Plant Material Center
HC 04 Box 7440
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: 907-745-4469 Fax: 907-746-1568
Email: Stoney_Wright@dnr.state.ak.us
Expertise/Experience: BS in Range Sciences; MED in Adult Education; revegetation and land reclamation.

COMMENTS • OVERSIGHTS • CORRECTIONS • DELETIONS

We realize that in some cases, there may be oversights in this edition of the Contact Directory for the Management of Noxious and Invasive Plants. We hope to correct any errors in subsequent editions. Additions, deletions, or corrections would be appreciated. Please use this sheet for your comments and mail or fax form to:

Michele Hébert, Land Resources Agent
Cooperative Extension Service
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
PO BOX 756180
FAIRBANKS, AK 99775-6180
Fax 907-474-6885
Email ffmah@uaf.edu

Check one: ADDITION DELETIONS CORRECTIONS

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____



LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

PO Box 1189
Room 210, Jarvis Office Center
Delta Jct., AK 99737
Phone: 895-4236 Fax: 895-5017

MEMORANDUM

APR 03 2002

DATE: April 3, 2002
TO: House Resources Committee
FROM: Jackie W. Becker, ^{qwb}
Assistant Legislative Information Officer

SUBJECT: Written Testimony for House Finance Committee hearing.

Please accept the enclosed original(s) of written testimony for the House Resources Committee hearing that was scheduled for 04/03/02.

Copies of this testimony were transmitted by fax on 04/03/02.

Thank you.

Enclosures: ^{qwb} 9



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resource

committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02
bill/subject committee name

April 3, 2002

Alaska State Legislators
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representatives,

I urge you to support Bills HB432 and SB353 which will establish a position to help prevent wide spread habitat destruction from noxious and invasive plants. The funding of this is vital to Alaska's future.

As a Delta farmer we have spent thousands of dollars on chemicals, time and equipment to try and control and eradicate this problem in our area. It is impossible for a few of us in the area to control this problem without the assistance of the legislators. The plants are aggressive and highly competitive and left unattended they can destroy state and public lands.

The current infestations in Alaska are still at a manageable level where immediate eradication and prevention efforts can dramatically reduce the future financial burden of controlling widespread infestations. Prevention is much cheaper than control. The funding of this position is vital to Alaska's future. Identifying outbreaks early and responding to them quickly will greatly reduce the substantial economic loss and ecological damage that puts our agricultural lands at risk and also detrimental to our forests, wilderness areas, parks and recreational sites.

Recreational vehicles, horseback riding can spread this noxious weed at a very high rate.

Signed:

E. L. Hillert

Testifier

A DELTA FARMER

Representing (Optional)

Address

H.C 60 BOX 4210 DELTA JUNCTION AK 99797

Phone No.

907-895-4338

FAX 907-895-5481

gipaw@wildak.net



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02.
bill/subject committee name

I support HB 432

Rep Wrigley

Signed:

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

HC 62 Box 5790 Delta Jct

Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02
committee name
bill/subject

I support HB 432

Signed:

Scott Schultz (Scott Schultz)

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

HC 62 Box 5440 Delta Jct

Address

Phone No.




Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name
committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02
bill/subject

I support HB 432. Alaska
needs to address its
maximus weed problem before it
gets out of hand.

Signed:

 (Randy Peterson)
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 1572 Delta Jct
Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB432, dated 4/3/02
bill/subject committee name

I support HB 432

CL Carlson

Signed: CL CARLSON
Testifier

PO Box 953 Delta Jct 99737
Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02.
bill/subject committee name

I support HB 432. Alaska needs
to eradicate the noxious weed
problem.

Signed: Becky Peterson
Testifier

Self
Representing (Optional)
PO Box 1572 Delta Jct, AK 99737
Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB432, dated 4/3/02
bill/subject committee name

I Support HB432

Signed:

Tom Larsen
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
Box 861

Address
D.J. AK 99737
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HB432, dated 4/3/02
bill/subject committee name

I support HB432. Alaska
needs to address its noxious weed
problem before it gets out of hand.

Signed: Jeff Durham
Testifier
self
Representing (Optional)
PO Box 815 Delta Jet, AK
Address
895-2075
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee on HR 432, dated 4-3-02
bill/subject committee name

I support HB 432
Douglas

Signed:

Douglas

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

PO Box 4554-99702

Address

4880980

Phone No.

To: Beverly L. Masek

FINAL ADVISORY: Space Is Running Out! Reserve Your Spot Today!

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Invasive Species

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Wildland Fire Management

April 24-25, 2002

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- Yes! I want to register for the Wildland Fire Management Conference for \$495
- Yes! I want to register for both Conferences for a combined total of \$950

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Organization _____ Dept. _____

Address _____ Mail Stop _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

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Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ Name on Card _____

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22-LS1428J
Cook
4/4/02

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 432()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the labeling of animal and poultry feeds and to the agriculture
2 program coordinator; relating to the sale, offer for sale, representation, and labeling of
3 food or other agricultural products as organic; relating to the state organic certification
4 program; and providing for an effective date."

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

6 * Section 1. AS 03.05.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:
7 (7) adopt regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act)
8 establishing requirements for the labeling of animal and poultry feeds that are
9 compatible with federal law.

10 * Sec. 2. AS 03.58.010 is repealed and reenacted to read:
11 Sec. 03.58.010. Prohibition. A person may not sell, offer for sale, represent,
12 or label a raw or processed agricultural product, including ingredients, as "organic"
13 unless the product has been produced, handled, and certified under 7 U.S.C. 6501 -
14 6522, as amended, or under the state organic certification program established under

1 AS 03.58.015.

2 * Sec. 3. AS 03.58 is amended by adding a new section to read:

3 Sec. 03.58.015. State organic certification program. (a) The department
4 may establish a state organic certification program for producers and handlers of
5 agricultural products within the state that meets the requirements for approval under 7
6 U.S.C. 6501 - 6522, as amended.

7 (b) The department may apply under 7 U.S.C. 6514, as amended, for
8 accreditation as a certifying agent under 7 U.S.C. 6501 - 6522, as amended.

9 * Sec. 4. AS 03.58.050 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 03.58.050. Regulations. The department may adopt regulations under
11 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) to carry out this chapter, including
12 regulations to establish reasonable fees for services provided by the department
13 [A REGULATION THAT LISTS AND PERIODICALLY UPDATES
14 SUBSTANCES UNDER AS 03.58.010(a)].

15 * Sec. 5. AS 03.58.060(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) If a person violates this chapter or [,] a regulation adopted under this
17 chapter, [OR AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER (a) OF THIS SECTION,] the person is
18 liable to the state for

19 (1) [LIABLE TO THE STATE FOR] a civil fine established by the
20 department by regulation [THAT DOES NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL OF \$1,000]
21 plus the state's estimated costs of investigating and taking appropriate administrative
22 and enforcement actions for the violation, including attorney fees;

23 (2) [LIABLE TO THE STATE FOR] an additional civil penalty of
24 three times the value of the product knowingly sold in violation of this chapter.

25 * Sec. 6. AS 03.58.060(c) is amended to read:

26 (c) The provisions of this section are in addition to the remedies available
27 under AS 45.50.471 - 45.50.561 and federal statute and regulation.

28 * Sec. 7. AS 03.58 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 Sec. 03.58.065. Applicability. This chapter does not apply to meat, fish, or
30 poultry.

31 * Sec. 8. AS 03.60 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1 **Sec. 03.60.006. Agriculture program coordinator.** The commissioner shall
2 appoint an agriculture program coordinator. The agriculture program coordinator is in
3 the classified service. The coordinator has the following responsibilities:

4 (1) to carry out the provisions of AS 03.58 (organic foods);

5 (2) to facilitate and monitor the production and sale of organic foods in
6 the state;

7 (3) to seek funding through grants and cooperative efforts with other
8 agencies for organic foods programs and weed management programs in the state;

9 (4) to control and eradicate the spread of obnoxious weeds as required
10 under AS 44.37.030(5);

11 (5) to exercise the powers under AS 03.05.010 that relate to the
12 management of noxious or invasive plant species;

13 (6) to develop and distribute educational materials focused on
14 increasing public awareness of problems associated with noxious or invasive plant
15 species and to help control those species;

16 (7) to collect and maintain data on noxious and invasive plant species
17 and to coordinate state, federal, local, and private management efforts;

18 (8) to assist in developing and supporting plant management areas and
19 chemical and integrated pest management programs to control noxious and invasive
20 plant species; and

21 (9) to enforce the requirements for labeling animal and poultry feeds
22 adopted under AS 03.05.010(a)(7).

23 * Sec. 9. AS 03.58.030(b) and AS 03.58.070 are repealed.

24 * Sec. 10. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
25 read:

26 **TRANSITION: REGULATIONS.** The Department of Natural Resources may
27 proceed to adopt regulations to implement the changes made by secs. 2 - 7 and 9 of this Act.
28 The regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the
29 effective date of secs. 2 - 7 and 9 of this Act.

30 * Sec. 11. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
31 read:

1 REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION. The revisor of statutes is instructed to change the
2 heading of AS 03.58 from "Sale of Organic Foods" to "Organic Food and Agricultural
3 Products."

4 * Sec. 12. Section 10 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

5 * Sec. 13. Sections 1 and 8 of this Act take effect July 1, 2002.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB432
 () Publish Date: _____
 Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 BRU: Agriculture Development
 Component: Agriculture Development
 Component Number: 455

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____
 Title: Agriculture Program Coordinator/Animal Feed
 Sponsor: Rep. Harris
 Requester: (H) RES

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Personal Services | 61.5 | 62.4 | 63.3 | 64.2 | 65.1 | 66.0 |
| Travel | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | 2.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 65.0 | 65.0 | 65.9 | 66.8 | 67.7 | 68.6 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | 65.0 | 65.0 | 65.9 | 66.8 | 67.7 | 68.6 |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 65.0 | 65.0 | 65.9 | 66.8 | 67.7 | 68.6 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: none
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Full-time | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

One permanent full time Agronomist II program manager position and incidental operating costs will be necessary to implement a program to prevent the importation and spread of plant pests. This position would also establish regulations, implement and continue the organic certification program. Residents statewide will benefit from a successful weed control program in Alaska. The organic certification act recognizes products that have been produced, handled and certified organic under 7U.S.C. 6501 6522 as amended.

Prepared by: Robert Wells Phone 907-761-3867
 Division: Agriculture Date/Time 4-Apr-02
 Approved by: Pat Pourchot Date 2-Apr-02
 Agency: Natural Resources

Personal Services New Position Detail

DRAFT

Department of Natural Resources

Scenario: DNR FY2003 Fiscal Notes - for Positions (2481)
 Component: Agricultural Development (455)
 BRU Name: Agricultural Development (139)

| PCN | Job Class Title | Time Status | Retire Code | Barg Unit | Location | Salary Sched | Range & Steps | Budgeted Months | Split / Annual Count | Annual Salary | COLA | Premium Pay | Annual Benefits | Total Costs |
|---------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 10-#073 | Agronomist II | FT | A | GG | Palmer | 2A | 18 A | 12.0 | | 43,908 | 926 | 0 | 16,671 | 61,505 |

Justification:

Fiscal Note position for proposed "Organic Food and Agricultural Products" legislation.

Funding Detail:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1004 | General Fund Receipts | 100.00% | 61,505 |
| Total Funding: | | 100.00% | 61,505 |

Component Summary:

Total New Positions: 1

| Fund Description | Fund Percent | Fund Amount |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1004 General Fund Receipts | 100.00% | 61,505 |
| Total Funding: | 100.00% | 61,505 |

Note: If a position is split, an asterisk (*) will appear in the Split/Count column. If the split position is also counted in the component, two asterisks (**) will appear in this column.

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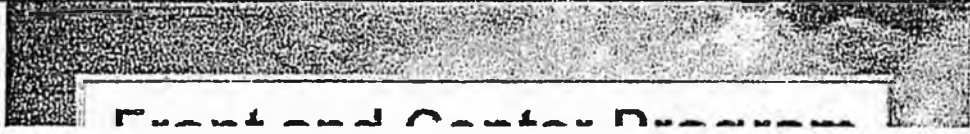
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Article Last Updated:
Wednesday, April 03, 2002 - 5:00:20 AM MST

Bill addresses thorny problem of invasive weeds

By VICTORIA NAEGELE
For the News-Miner

Insidious invaders are making inroads in Alaska while many Alaskans remain ignorant of the dangers posed by the aliens.

That may sound like the plot from a B movie, but University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service officials say it is a lot closer to truth than fiction.

In Fairbanks, some of the "invaders" wear yellow and pop up along South Cushman Street. While passersby may see the 3-foot-tall dandelion-like perennial sow thistle as a nice splash of color along the byway, those who recognize the plant as a noxious weed know there truly is an invader in their midst.

Michele Hebert, land resources agent for the extension service, put together the "Strategic Plan for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management in Alaska" in December. Hebert and others see the sow thistle flourishing in Fairbanks as a snapshot of a growing problem across Alaska.

"Thriving invaders cause negative economic, aesthetic, recreational and environmental impacts and harm human and animal health," Hebert writes in the report.

The problem and a potential attack against it are the subjects of a teleconference 1 p.m. today on House Bill 432.

The bill, introduced by Rep. John Harris, a Valdez Republican whose district includes Delta Junction, would appoint an agriculture program coordinator whose responsibilities would include identification and control of invasive and noxious weeds. It would also regulate labeling of animal and poultry feed, and organic products.

Alaska has largely been isolated from invasive

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species that plague most other areas of the world, according to Phil Kaspari, the extension service district agent for Delta Junction. "But that's changing," Kaspari said.

Importation of feeds, hay and seed, and increased tourism have broken Alaska's isolation, bringing continental U.S. problems to Alaskans' doorsteps.

"Noxious plants worldwide are becoming a huge issue," Kaspari said.

In 1999, President Clinton started the National Invasive Species Council and directed federal agencies to develop plans to deal with the issue. While invasive animal species generally get more notice, plants are dangerously insidious, experts say.

Disturbed lands, like those around road construction, gravel pits and other construction sites, are especially vulnerable. Kaspari said that because state law restricts chemical spraying on public land, weed populations can establish themselves and are difficult to eradicate.

"It's difficult to control these weeds through basic mowing," he said.

When allowed to establish, invasive plants compete with and often dominate native vegetation. Some cross-pollinate with local plants, compromising the genetic makeup of native species. The result is an altered land or water habitat, which can affect the animal populations.

Fairbanks isn't the only area under attack. There are reports of purple loosestrife beginning to choke lakes in Southcentral Alaska. Yellow toadflax, a snapdragon-like invasive, is running amok around Anchorage, Seward, Palmer and Fairbanks. Vicia cracca or tufted vetch is another aggressive invasive plaguing the Interior, Anchorage and areas along the Canadian border.

Perennial sow thistle and Canadian thistle became established in Delta Junction in the early 1980s when animal feed was used as planting seed. Dellana Community Corp. recently spent \$10,000 fighting the problem. Kaspari said the Canada thistle seems to be gone but that perennial sow thistle remains.

"We want to believe we are keeping the perennial sow thistle infestation at bay, but satellite infestations keep cropping up," he said.

Other areas of infestation include Quartz Lake, especially in those areas frequented by recreationalists.

Officials don't always know how an invader arrives.

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Kaspari said the seemingly innocent act of pitching a wilted bouquet purchased in the Lower 48 states or Canada out an RV window in Alaska could introduce a species that will some day choke out the native vegetation.

"They don't have the natural pests to keep them at bay, and some of them have the physical characteristics to be extremely aggressive," Kaspari said. "They can alter the natural habitat and displace the wildlife species."

Part of the problem, Kaspari said, is Alaska's vastness allows an invader to flourish undetected.

The proposed legislation would require the program manager to collect and maintain data on noxious and invasive plant species. But the source of funding remains in question.

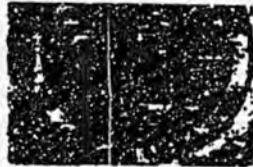


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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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| TO: | FROM: |
| House Resources Committee | Jackie W Becker <i>JWB</i> Delta Junction LIO |
| COMPANY: | DATE: |
| Delta Junction LIO | April 3, 2002 |
| FAX NUMBER: | TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: |
| 907-465-4822 | 2 |
| PHONE NUMBER: | SENDER'S PHONE NUMBER: |
| 907-465-2679 | 907-895-4236 |
| RE: | SENDER'S FAX NUMBER: |
| Written Testimony | 907-895-5017 |



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resource
 committee on HB 432, dated 4/3/02
 bill/subject committee name

April 3, 2002

Alaska State Legislators
 State Capitol (MS 3100)
 Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representatives,

I urge you to support Bills HB432 and SB353 which will establish a position to help prevent wide spread habitat destruction from noxious and invasive plants. The funding of this is vital to Alaska's future.

As a Delta farmer we have spent thousands of dollars on chemicals, time and equipment to try and control and eradicate this problem in our area. It is impossible for a few of us in the area to control this problem without the assistance of the legislators. The plants are aggressive and highly competitive and left unattended they can destroy state and public lands.

The current infestations in Alaska are still at a manageable level where immediate eradication and prevention efforts can dramatically reduce the future financial burden of controlling widespread infestations. Prevention is much cheaper than control. The funding of this position is vital to Alaska's future. Identifying outbreaks early and responding to them quickly will greatly reduce the substantial economic loss and ecological damage that puts our agricultural lands at risk and also detrimental to our forests, wilderness areas, parks and recreational sites.

Recreational vehicles, horseback riding can spread this noxious weed at a very high rate.

Signed: E. L. Gilbert
 Testifier
A DELTA FARMER
 Representing (Optional)
 Address H.C 60 BOX 4210 Delta Junction AK 99797
 Phone No. 907-895-4338 FAX 907-895-5481
gilbert@alaska.net

HB

439

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 439
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Office of the Governor
 Title "An Act removing provisions under the BRU Governmental Coordination
Alaska coastal zone management program." Component Governmental Coordination
 Sponsor House Special Committee on Oil & Gas
 Requester House Special Committee on Oil & Gas Component No. 18

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () () | | | | | | |

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Patrick Galvin, Director
 Division: Governmental Coordination
 Approved by: David Ramseur, Chief of Staff
 Agency: Office of the Governor

Phone 465-3562
 Date/Time 2/20/02 3:37 PM
 Date 02/20/2002

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MEMORANDUM

February 22, 2002

SUBJECT: Consistency Determinations Under the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program, House Bill 439 (Work Order No. 22-LS1464\C)

TO: Representative Scott Ogan
Attn: Linda Hay

FROM: Kathryn L. Kurtz *KK*
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1. Removes a reference to AS 46.40.096(e), repealed in section 7 of the bill.

Section 2. Prohibits filing a petition for review of a consistency determination under AS 46.40.100(b). Removes post-hearing procedures relating to AS 46.40.096(e), repealed in section 7 of the bill.

Section 3. Removes a reference to AS 46.40.096(e), repealed in section 7 of the bill.

Section 4. Removes a reference to AS 46.40.096(e), repealed in section 7 of the bill.

Section 5. Changes a reference to AS 26.40.100(b)(2), deleted in section 2 of the bill, to AS 26.40.100(b).

Section 6. Removes a reference to AS 26.40.100(b)(2), deleted in section 2 of the bill, to AS 26.40.100(b).

Section 7. Repeals AS 46.40.096(e), providing for an opportunity to petition for review of a consistency determination; and AS 46.40.096(f), limiting the opportunity created in (e).

KLK:med
02-192.med

SECTIONAL

Alaska Support Industry Alliance
In support of HB 439

February 26, 2002

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Larry Houle and I am the General Manager of the Alaska Support Industry Alliance. The Alliance is a statewide, non-profit trade association. Our membership consists of 419 businesses, contractors, suppliers and individuals that provide products and services in support of the Alaska Oil and Gas industry. Our membership collectively represents over 35,000 Alaska residents that derive their livelihood in Alaska's Oil and Gas industry.

The purpose of my testimony today is to voice our support for House Bill 439; an act that removes an unnecessary and duplicative administrative petition process from the consistency determination procedure under the Alaska coastal zone management program.

Contrary to an Associated Press article published in Saturday's Anchorage Daily News this bill does not eliminate the citizen appeal process. What this bill does do is eliminate an additional administrative layer in the petition process that, in our opinion, could be used by individuals as an avenue for delay of permits.

SUPPORT

The Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program is an extremely open and public process for both local governments and individuals. For years the Coastal Zone Policy Council has attempted to fix this particular "loop-hole" in the Act and we commend Committee for finally addressing this petition process.

HE 439 in its current form will amend the Coastal Zone Management Act in a manner that is consistent with the original intent of law, without taking away the rights of the individual for public comment and input. At minimum three specific avenues for individual comment remain untouched in the Act:

- (1) Individual citizens have the opportunity for public comments in the very early stages when the Districts are first developing their overall plans.
- (2) Individual citizens also have petition and comment opportunities when the Districts and the Dept. of Governmental Coordination's public comment periods are noticed.
- (3) An individual citizen can also comment during each individual Agency's public comment period, unique to a specific project. The greater number of Agencies involved in a project the greater number of opportunities the general public has to comment.

Most people, reasonable or otherwise, understand that delays of 30 to 55 days in a 120-day construction window can be devastating to a project. Speaking for the Contracting community this lack of timeline certainty,

the risk of the "mischievous petition," injects uncertainty into a process that may mean the difference between bidding and not bidding the job.

The Alaska Support Industry Alliance supports responsible oil and gas development in Alaska. Mr. Chairman, we understand and believe there are three main components necessary for oil and gas development:

First, fiscal certainty and a stable, predictable tax regime, something we have had for the last decade or more,

Secondly; access to the land, again, Alaska has enjoyed a predictable lease program; and

Thirdly, a regulatory environment that provides for a fair, consistent and predictable permit process.

Unfortunately, the weakest link in our Alaska exploration and development program is our "regulatory uncertainty." Essentially, the permit process is broken. The long-term ramifications are only starting to surface as some Producing oil companies reduce exploration budgets and potential new entrants for the Oil Patch hold back.

We see HB 439 as a significant step in the right direction, a positive direction toward regulatory reform. We are encouraged by the Committee's efforts here and applaud HB 439's passing.

Thank you for allowing me to testify today.

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Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.

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Tadd Owens, Executive Director
Resource Development Council
HB439 Testimony
House Oil & Gas Committee
February 26, 2002

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record my name is Tadd Owens, executive director of the Resource Development Council. RDC is a private, non-profit, trade association representing individuals and companies from Alaska's mining, timber, tourism, fisheries and oil and gas industries. Our mission is to grow Alaska's economy through the responsible development of our state's natural resources.

RDC strongly supports HB439 and urges the House Oil and Gas Committee to move the bill forward. This legislation eliminates a redundant petition process from the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) without compromising the ability of Alaska's citizens or communities to provide meaningful input and comments regarding development projects within the coastal zone. The petition process targeted by HB439 has been used as a means to delay projects, adding uncertainty and increased costs to doing business in Alaska, while providing no measurable benefit to the environment.

If the Legislature sees fit to remove this particular process from the ACMP, rest assured that Alaskans retain a multitude of opportunities to participate in the evaluation of projects in the coastal zone. Alaskan citizens will continue to have opportunities to participate in and comment on ACMP consistency determinations, as well as the individual state and federal permits associated with any given project. In other words, HB439 provides the kind of permit streamlining that makes sense.

Mr. Chairman, you have RDC's full support on this issue and I appreciate the opportunity to testify this morning.

Alaska Oil and Gas Association



121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 207
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2035
Phone: (907)272-1481 Fax: (907)279-8114
Email: brady@aoga.org
Judith Brady, Executive Director

Testimony of the Alaska Oil & Gas Association House Special Committee on Oil & Gas

February 21, 2002

Re: HB 439: "An Act removing provisions providing an opportunity to petition for review of proposed consistency determinations under the Alaska coastal zone management program."

Chairman Ogan:

For the record, my name is Judy Brady. I am the executive director of the Alaska Oil and Gas Association (AOGA). As you now, AOGA is a private, non-profit trade association. Its member companies represent the majority of oil and gas exploration, production, transportation, refining and marketing activities in Alaska.

AOGA supports the goals of HB 439 to once and for all close off the opportunity to use the petition process in the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP to delay projects).

The costal zone management program provides coastal communities with oversight of their local development and we are supportive of this purpose. This legislation will not diminish this authority.

What this legislation does do is eliminate the ability of a citizen of a coastal district to file a petition, after a proposed consistency determination, asking that the Coastal Policy Council (CPC) determine whether or not their comments opposing the project had been "fairly considered".

The ability of an individual citizen to file a petition on a consistency determination is a holdover from the beginning days of the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)—when the public comments process was not yet developed. Through the years, with the development of a lengthy and multi-tiered public comment process, the individual petition is no longer important or necessary as an opportunity to be heard.

Today, individual citizens have several opportunities to provide comments on a project. Any citizen can comment to his or her own coastal district about a project. Any member of the public can comment to a coastal district, or to any agency or to the Division of Governmental Coordination (DGC) about a project. Finally, any citizen can go to court. This legislation does not decrease any of these rights. HB 439 does remove the now extraneous right of petition that is being used for delay purposes rather than the original purpose of public comment.