



II. Release on Personal Recognizance

A. Violations covered

1. Any violation subject to the provisions of a "Penalty Assessment", which allows a violator to comply with a citation by mailing a fine payment to the issuing agency or a court, thereby admitting guilt without a formal appearance.
2. Any violation written as a summons requiring a violator to deal directly with the court, either in person, by mail or through an attorney. Unless there are other restrictions in this document or in the laws, policies or procedures of the issuing state or the court of jurisdiction.
3. In order for a violation to be subject to these provisions the person to whom the citation is issued must be a resident of a Compact state, other than the issuing state, at the time the citation is issued.

B. Types of Violations Not Covered

1. Any violations that mandate a personal appearance.
2. Any petty offense or misdemeanor violation that has a jail term as a mandatory penalty.
3. Any felony violation.
4. Any violation that the issuing officer deems serious enough to arrest a resident violator.
5. Any violation or situation which the laws, policies or procedures of the issuing state dictate shall be handled otherwise.

III. Compliance With a Citation

A. Methods of Compliance

1. Payment by mail where provided for.
2. Responding to the citation in person.

3. Submission of a plea by mail where allowed.
4. Responding through an attorney where allowed.

P. Evidence of Compliance (in response to a notice of suspension for non-compliance).

1. Certificate from the court.
2. Copy of the court judgment.

NOTE: personal representations, check stubs, money order receipts, etc. are not acceptable.

3. The violator copy of a Notice of Compliance sent by the issuing state.

SECTION IV COMPACT PROCESS

The following are the general procedures to be followed by enforcement agencies and courts in States which are participants in the Wildlife Violator Compact (WVC). Specific procedures which are developed to comply with the legal and administrative requirements of the various States shall be acceptable so long as they comply with the intent of this manual.

The following procedures make the assumption that the violation in question meets the general requirements of Paragraph II A. of Section III of this Manual.

I. Procedures for the Issuing State

- A. The officer issues a citation to the violator on the standard form used in that state.
 - 1. When a non-resident is issued a citation and released on personal recognizance under the provisions of this compact, it is advisable that the signature of the recipient is contained on the citation, regardless of specific requirements on that issue.
 - 2. The citation is returnable to the court at a future date specified on the document, in accordance with the laws, regulations, policies, or procedures of the Agency and/or the Court of jurisdiction
- B. If the violator pays the fine or resolves the case with the court, as appropriate, the matter is closed and no further action is taken under the provisions of Paragraphs I and II of this section of the WVC.
- C. If the violator does not resolve the case by payment of the fine or with the court, action under the provisions of the WVC will be initiated.
 - 1. The "Notice of Failure to Comply" form will be completed and the original delivered to the violator by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in person. The remaining copies are held in a suspense file pending a response from the violator.

Any "Notice of Failure to Comply" shall be processed by the issuing state and reported to the home state within six months of issuance of the citation.

- a. Sufficient time will be allowed for the defendant to respond to the Notice of Failure to Comply Form prior to initiating further action under the WVC. This will normally be not less than 14 days and not more than 28 days.

- b. If the defendant complies with the terms of the citation within the grace period allowed, no further action is taken under the provisions of this section of the WVC. Final action in a court case is not a prerequisite.
2. If the defendant fails to respond within the time allowed, copy 2 of the Notice of Failure to Comply will be sent to the home state of the defendant. The home state will proceed as outlined in Section II.

Procedures for Home State

- a. If at any time beyond this point in the WVC process the defendant resolves the case with the court, it is imperative that copies 3 and 4 of the Notice of failure to comply (Defendant's and Home State Acknowledgment of Compliance) be mailed immediately so that any pending or ongoing suspension of license privileges which are the result of the action at hand may be canceled.
- b. At any time subsequent to the mailing of the Notice of Failure to Comply that the violator complies with the citation as specified in Section B or Section C.1.b, above, no further actions under this section of the WVC will take place.

II. Procedures for the Home State

- A. Upon receipt of the "Notice of Failure to Comply" from the issuing state, the licensing authority of the home state of the violator will review the form for the following:
 1. Is it legible?
 2. Is it complete?
 3. Is it timely, within the six month limit of the compact?
 4. Is the violation covered under the compact?
 5. Are all other aspects of the case proper under applicable state laws, policies, and procedures?
- B. If for any reason the case cannot be acted on, it will be returned to the issuing state within 14 days with an explanation of the problem. If all

problems are resolved and the case is returned to the home state it will be reinstated.

C. If the case is accepted, it will be entered into the suspension process of the home state.

D. A Notice of Suspension will be prepared and sent to the violator. If it is a provision of the laws, policies or procedures of the home state, an advance warning letter to the violator is acceptable.

1. The Notice of Suspension should have a delayed effective date to permit the violator to contact the court in the issuing state and resolve the case. The length of this delay is subject to the laws, policies or procedures of the home state, but should be at least 14 days in length.

2. The Notice of Suspension must inform the violator of the facts behind the suspension with special emphasis on the procedures to be followed in resolving the matter with the court in the issuing state. Accurate information on the court (name, address, phone number) must be provided in the Notice of Suspension. This will help eliminate inquiries of the home state which are costly, time consuming and nonproductive as the home state can do nothing to resolve the case.

E. Should the defendant request a hearing on the suspension, it will follow the form appropriate to the laws, policies or procedures of the home state.

1. Such hearings will normally be restricted to challenging the right of the home state to suspend under the provisions of the WVC; to deny receiving the original citation (thus the importance of the violator's signature on the citation); or to claim that the case has been resolved.

2. The question of guilt or innocence regarding the original charge will not be a subject of hearings held under the provisions of this section.

3. If needed, assistance can be requested from the issuing state. This is normally limited to obtaining certified documentation.

4. **NOTE: Suspensions levied for failure to comply with the terms of a citation are enforced in the home state of the violator and honored by all compact states.** These administrative suspensions are not to be confused with suspensions which are the result of convictions of wildlife violations in one or

more states which are participants in the WVC.

- F. If the suspension is upheld, the defendant must then proceed to resolve the court case with the suspension remaining in effect.
- G. If the suspension is denied for any reason, the case is terminated and the suspension order vacated. In such cases the issuing state will be informed of the reason for denial.
- H. Appeals from suspension orders will be handled in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.
 - I. Should a suspension order be overturned on appeal, the issuing state shall be notified.
- I. When a violator resolves a case with the court in the issuing state, an acknowledgement of compliance will be issued directly to that person. It is the responsibility of the violator to present this document to the licensing authority in the home state in order to terminate the suspension. The acknowledgement of compliance may take any form acceptable to the home state and the Court.
 - 1. If the acknowledgement of compliance is presented prior to the effective date of the suspension, the suspension is cleared immediately.
 - 2. If the acknowledgement of compliance is presented after the effective date of the suspension, reinstatement will be handled in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.
- J. Any reinstatement or restoration fees shall be established and assessed in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.

III. Reciprocal Recognition of Suspensions

- A. States participating in the WVC shall recognize the suspension for cause of the license privileges of any person by any other participating state under the following circumstances:
 - I. The suspension is the result a conviction for one or more of the following violations types or a failure to appear on a wildlife citation:
 - a) Priority will be placed on the following violation types:

VIOLATION	WVC CODE FOR IWVC Database
Illegal take or possession of big game	BGV
Illegal take or possession of threatened or endangered species	TEV
Felony wildlife violations	FEV
License violations, fraud, false statement	LIV
Waste of wildlife	WAV
Accumulated wildlife violations	ACV
Violations while on revocation	REV
Sale/purchase of wildlife	SPV
Failure to Appear	FTA

- b) The following violation types will also be subject to reciprocal revocation by member states depending on member state laws:

VIOLATION	WVC CODE FOR IWVC Database
Illegal take or possession of small game or migratory birds	SGV
Illegal take or possession of fish	FIV
Illegal take or possession of other wildlife	OWV
Tag/permit/license transfer	TRV
Federal Wildlife Violations	FDV
Other criminal violations	OTV
Guide/outfitter violations	GUV
Safety Violations	SAV
Trespass Violations	TPV
Littering Violations	LPV
Interfering With an Officer	IWO

2. And, such recognition of suspension is not contrary to the laws of that state.

B. Recognition of suspensions which do not meet the criteria of section III. A. 1 and 2 above will be up to the laws, policies and procedures of that state.

C. Each state participating in the WVC shall communicate suspension information to other participating states, using the secure Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact database. Participating states will use the guidelines prescribed by the board of compact administrators. The following information will be included but not limited to:

1. Positive identification of the subject of the suspension. Including:

- a. Name
- b. Date of birth
- c. Physical description
- d. Last known address

2. The basis of the suspension including:

- a. Violation(s) and convictions upon which the suspension is based.
- b. The scope of the suspension (ie. fishing, hunting, trapping, all privileges).
- c. Effective dates of the suspension.

D. In the event documentation of a violation and subsequent license suspension is needed by a member state for license suspension hearings or other purposes, the issuing state shall provide certified copies of the citation or other charging instrument, any arrest or investigation reports, suspension orders and the disposition of the matter.

IV. Transmittal of Conviction Information to the Home State of the Violator

A. Upon a conviction, the issuing state shall forward to the home state of the violator the following information:

1. Personal Information

- a. Name

- b. Date of birth
- c. Sex
- d. Physical description (height, weight, hair, eyes)
- e. Last known address

2. Violation Information

- a. Citation number
- b. Violation description
- c. Revocation begin & end date
- d. Fine assessed

- B. For the purpose of consideration for license suspension, the home state shall treat such convictions in other participating states as if they had occurred in the home state.
- C. In the event detailed information on a violation is needed by the home state, for license suspension hearings or other purposes, the issuing state shall provide certified copies of the citation or other charging instrument, any arrest or investigation reports and the disposition of the matter.

**SECTION V
ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

I. Entry into the Compact

- A. Entry into the WVC may be accomplished by the following methods.
 - 1. A state legislature may accomplish WVC joinder by adopting the full compact as a statute.
 - 2. A state legislature may authorize and direct that state's wildlife agency to enter into the compact.
- B. Upon legislative action as specified above, entry into the WVC shall be finalized by the submission of a resolution of ratification and an informational application submitted to the chairman of the board of compact administrators. The resolution of ratification shall be signed by the chief administrator of the wildlife agency or

licensing authority and shall include the items found in section (b),2 of Article VIII of the WVC.

- C. The effective date of entry shall be specified by the applying state but shall be at least sixty days after notice has been given to each member state by the chairman of the board of compact administrators.
- D. Only violations which are committed on or after the effective date of entry, and resulting suspensions, shall be subject to the provisions of the Compact

II. Withdrawal from the Compact

- A. A member state may withdraw from the WVC by submitting official written notice to the other member states. Such withdrawal shall not be effective until ninety (90) days after such notice is mailed.
- B. Such notice must be directed to the compact administrator of each member state.
- C. The withdrawal of one or more member states shall have no effect on the validity of the WVC as to the remaining member states.

Sec. 16.05.410. Revocation of license. (a) Upon conviction of a person of a first violation of AS 16.05.330 — 16.05.430 or of a federal or state law or regulation for the protection of the sport fish and game of the state, the court may, in addition to the penalty imposed by law, revoke the person's license.

(b) Upon subsequent conviction of a person for a violation of AS 16.05.330 — 16.05.430 or of a federal or state law or regulation for the protection of the sport fish and game of the state, the court shall revoke the person's license.

(c) A person whose license has been revoked as provided in (b) of this section may not purchase another license of the same type for a period of not less than two years nor more than three years from the date of revocation as determined by the court.

(d) *[Repealed, § 2 ch 32 SLA 1968.]*

(e) *[Repealed, § 2 ch 32 SLA 1968.]*

(f) Except as provided in (g) of this section, the provisions of (a) — (c) of this section do not apply when the offense for which the person is convicted is a misdemeanor for which a forfeitable bail amount has been set under AS 16.05.165.

(g) When a person has been convicted during a two year period of two or more misdemeanor offenses for which a forfeitable bail amount has been set under AS 16.05.165, a peace officer may file a civil action in the district court to revoke the person's license. Once an action has been filed, the court shall set a time and date for a hearing on the proposed license revocation, and shall send notice of the hearing to the person. The hearing shall be before the court without a jury. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence regarding the nature and seriousness of the offenses for which the person was convicted, the time period involved, the potential effect of the person's actions upon the preservation of the resource, and other relevant circumstances. If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the person's actions demonstrate a disregard for the preservation of the state's fish or wildlife resources, the court may revoke the person's license for a period of not less than one year nor more than three years from the date of revocation. (§ 8 art II ch 94 SLA 1959; am § 17 ch 131 SLA 1960; am § 1 ch 56 SLA 1962; am §§ 4, 5 ch 75 SLA 1964; am § 2 ch 32 SLA 1968; am § 15 ch 132 SLA 1984)

NOTES TO DECISIONS

Stated in *Baum v. State*, 24 P.3d 577 (Alaska Ct. App. 2001).

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME BOARD OF GAME

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January 30, 2008

Representative Craig Johnson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room # 126
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Johnson:

The Alaska Board of Game supports House Bill 267, Wildlife Violator Compact. The board appreciates your efforts to make it possible for Alaska to join the 26 participating states of the Wildlife Violators Compact.

The Board of Game supports the main premise of the Compact which provides for a convicted wildlife violator whose license has been revoked in one member state, to be revoked in all member states. The Board feels strongly that passage of this bill by the legislature will provide a strong deterrence to violators, knowing that their activities in one state can affect their privilege to recreate in all participating states. Without this bill and the sanctions that it provides through the Wildlife Violators Compact, "non Alaska residents" have no incentive to comply with the sanctions levied by the criminal justice system.

Law enforcement efforts directed at compliance with wildlife regulations remains a high priority with the Board of Game. Joining the interstate Wildlife Violator Compact will send a strong message that the State of Alaska does not tolerate serious wildlife violations.

Thank you for your work on this important piece of legislation. Please let us know how we can assist you with this effort.

Sincerely,



Cliff Judkins, Chairman
Board of Game

Subject: Wildlife Violator Compact opinion letter from 1-21-08 Fairbanks News-Miner

A helpful compact: It's time Alaska joined wildlife violator network

Staff Report
Published January 21, 2008

Upon learning about the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact, most Alaskans likely would be surprised that Alaska — with such a large annual influx of non-resident hunters and anglers — is not already a member state.

At its most basic, the compact extends penalties against people who violate wildlife regulations to all member states. Lose hunting, trapping or fishing privileges in Alaska and you've lost those privileges in all the other compact states as well.

House Bill 267, currently before the House Resources Committee, would add Alaska to the list of 27 member states that have joined the compact since Colorado, Nevada and Oregon formed the first agreement in 1989. Ohio was the most recent to join, just this month.

The compact adds teeth to wildlife violation penalties. Even more than fines and surrendering equipment, revocation of licenses and losing the privilege to hunt, fish or trap is a penalty that really hurts — and one that serves as a strong deterrent.

Pulling a person's privileges in Alaska may not matter so much to someone who lives 3,000 miles away and may not plan to hunt or fish here again anyway. They could just take up their activities elsewhere. But if Alaska joins the compact, then hunting and fishing in more than half the United States becomes off-limits, including most of the fish- and game-rich western states.

Some states in the compact also have tapped into an IWVC database that assists enforcement. The compact also serves as leverage to force violators to comply with tickets issued in a member state. The issuing state can request a violator's home state to suspend the violator's hunting, fishing and trapping privileges until they comply. Compact cooperation also can save participating states — and respective violators — the need to assign large cash bonds or to take people to jail. That is an administrative time- and cost-saver for law enforcement. Not that those measures can't be taken in cases of the most serious violations.

Legislators will need to take care with passage of HB 267. Few things are as important to Alaskans as wildlife regulations and enforcement, but the state has plenty of examples to follow across the U.S. This is one example of a bill that should expeditiously find its way through the 90-day session and into law.

HB

295

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
House Resources Committee

Carl Gatto, Co-Chair

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative John Harris, Speaker
Alaska State House

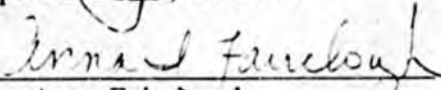
FROM: Rep. Carl Gatto and Rep. Craig Johnson
Co-Chairs, House Resources Committee

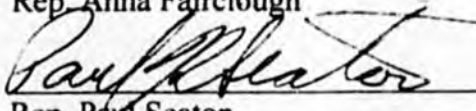
DATE: February 19, 2008

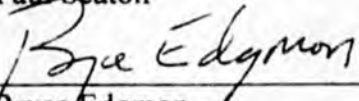
SUBJECT: Waiver of HB 295 from Committee

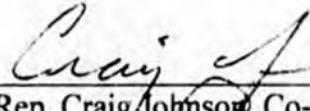
The undersigned members of the House Resources Committee request that HB 295, RECORDED OR FILED DOCUMENTS, be waived from committee. The bill was heard in Labor and Commerce committee action on February 15th and passed out without objection.



Rep. Carl Gatto, Co-Chair

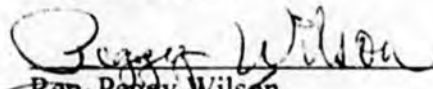

Rep. Anna Fairclough

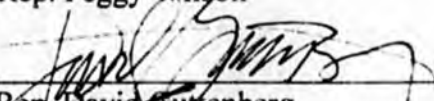

Rep. Paul Seaton


Rep. Bryce Edgmon


Rep. Craig Johnson, Co-Chair


Rep. Bob Roses


Rep. Peggy Wilson


Rep. David Guttenberg


Rep. Scott Kawasaki

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member
Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Corrections
Labor and Workforce Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
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District 31 Anchorage

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February 19, 2008

To: Representative Johnson, Co-Chair
Representative Gatto, Co-Chair
House Resource Committee

Fr: Representative Bob Lynn *BL*

Re: HB 295 "Recorded or Filed Documents"

Please schedule HB 295 to be heard in the House Resource Committee at your earliest convenience. Advancing technological improvements in the Recorder's office are reaching the point to allow "instant recordation" and this bill cleans up the statute to allow this to happen. The bill passed out of Labor and Commerce today with no changes. Attached is a copy of the Bill and supporting documents. Thank you.

Attached Documents

Bill History/Action
House Bill 295 (25-LS1251\C)
Sponsor Statement
Sectional Analysis
Zero Fiscal Note (Natural Resources)

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

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Sponsor Statement **HB 295** *Recorded or Filed Documents*

Advancing technological improvements in the Recorder's office are reaching the point to allow "instant recordation." This Recorder's Office 'clean-up' bill amends three areas in statute to:

- Enable the return of original documents to the presenter at the time of recording
- Ensure all required recording information is located on the document
- Delete reference to providing facilities for outside entities to film or scan daily recordings
- Remove references to court authority over the Recorder's Office
- Update UCC forms referenced in statute to conform with national standards

The bill would also require that documents presented for recording contain the name of the recording district in which the document is to be recorded. Currently this information may be provided verbally or in a cover letter. The proposed change would reduce paperwork and simplify document retention because there would no longer be a need to convert verbal instructions into written instructions or to film and retain a cover letter or additional instructions concerning the recording district.

Alaska State Legislature

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Sectional Analysis

HB 295

Recorded of Filed Documents

Section 1: Amends AS 40.17, so that the original documents may be immediately returned to the presenter after recording. In addition, the change allows the Recorder's office to electronically return a document that was electronically submitted, rather than having to return the original document to the person designated on the document. This section also requires that the document contain the name of the recording district in which the document is to be recorded, rather than allowing the recording district to be stated verbally or in a cover letter.

Section 2: Updates AS 40.25.120 (c) by removing a requirement that the recorder furnish facilities for the purpose of photocopying public records for title plant purposes. This requirement was needed at one time due to extreme backlogs in processing documents, which is no longer needed because the recorder's office is able to meet the current demand for information. Updating this section will also remove reference to direction by the court as the recorder's office is no longer under its oversight.

Section 3: Authorizes the department to adopt regulations that specify which forms to be used for certain UCC filings.

Section 4: Allows the department to reject documents submitted for filing that are not on an approved form.

Section 5: Eliminates the use of outdated UCC forms currently pre-printed in their entirety in statute. These older forms require the disclosure of social security numbers which is not a requirement for filing the forms.

Section 6: Allows the department to proceed, prior to the effective date of the remaining sections of the bill, to promulgate regulations that could be in place by the bill's effective date.

Section 7: Allows the preceding Section 6, to occur immediately.

Section 8: Effective date is July 1, 2008.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
Bill Version: HB295
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): HB295-DNR-Rec-02-14-08 Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
Title: Recorders/UCC Statute Clean Up RDU: Resource Development
Sponsor: Representative Lynn Component: Recorder's Office/UCC
Requester: HL&C Component Number: 802

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	Appropriation Required	Information					
	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
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	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()							
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS. (Attach a separate page if necessary)

There is no fiscal impact for the Recorder's Office associated with implementation of this legislation.

Prepared by: Vicky Backus, State Recorder Phone: 907-269-8882
Division: Support Services - Recorder's Office/UCC Section Date/Time: 2/14/2008
Approved by: Thomas Irwin, Commissioner Date: 2/14/2008
Natural Resources

HB

330

Changes from HB 330 to CS for HB 330

Original HB 330 formed Article 2 in AS 41.10. This would be in Chapter 10, Soil and Water Conservation of Title 41, Public Resources.

The original bill formed a board and identified the powers and the duties of the board. It delineated advisory groups of the board, agency cooperation and joint operations. The original HB 330 also formed a noxious weed and invasive plant management fund.

The CS for HB 330 reincarnates as a state coordinator employed or appoint by the Commissioner of Natural Resources. It is now in Title 3, Agriculture and Animals, Chapter 5, Powers and Duties of Commissioners of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. It forms a new section, 027.

This bill will allow the Commissioner of Natural Resources to employ or appoint a state coordinator for noxious weed, invasive plant, and agricultural pest management and education. This coordinator will work through the Division of Agriculture along with state departments, agencies and institutions. This person will bring together the afore mentioned entities in addition to the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service and the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts. Through this coordination the State of Alaska will develop a strategic plan. More importantly, a start toward limiting economic loss and adverse effects to the state's agricultural, natural, and human resources because of the presence and spread of noxious weeds, agricultural pests, invasive terrestrial and aquatic plants in the state.

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

February 4, 2008

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary (HB 330) (Work Order No. 25-LS1062\E)

TO: Representative Craig Johnson
Attn: Jeanne Ostnes

FROM: Alpheus Bullard *AB*
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. Adds a new article to AS 41.10 (Soil and water conservation) entitled: "Article 2. Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants."

41.10.200. States that it is the purpose of the article to limit economic loss and adverse effects to the state resulting from noxious weeds and invasive plants.

41.10.210. Establishes a Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board.

41.10.220. Provides for board membership.

41.10.230. Establishes that board members are not entitled to compensation other than per diem and travel expenses.

41.10.240. Provides for board meetings.

41.10.250. Provides that the board will choose a presiding officer from its members.

41.10.260. Allows the board to employ staff and contract for services relating to matters within its authority.

41.10.270. Establishes the powers and duties of the board.

Representative Craig Johnson
February 4, 2008
Page 2

41.10.280. Provides that the board may establish advisory groups.

41.10.290. Provides that state efforts shall be in cooperation with federal noxious weed and invasive plant laws and initiatives.

41.10.300. Establishes that state departments, agencies, and institutions shall cooperate with the board.

41.10.310. Provides that the board may engage in joint operations related to noxious weeds and invasive plants with other persons, political subdivisions of the state, Native villages or regional corporations, the federal government, or Canada.

41.10.320. Creates a noxious weed and invasive plant management fund as an account within the general fund.

41.10.330. Directs the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of fish and game, the commissioner of environmental conservation, and the commissioner of transportation and public facilities to adopt regulations to implement the article.

41.10.399. Defines terms.

Section 2. Provides for the initial terms of board members.

Section 3. Establishes a deadline for the board's first meeting.

Section 4. Instructs the Revisor to amend AS 41.10 to conform with the Act's creation of a new article.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TLAB:med
08-079.med

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 330(RES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/21/08

Identifier (file name): HB330-DEC-SW-1-28-08 Dept. Affected: DEC
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants RDU: Environmental Health
 Component: Solid Waste Management
 Sponsor: House Resources Committee
 Requester: House Resources Committee Component Number: 2344

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The bill will have no fiscal impact on the Division of Environmental Health, DEC.

Prepared by: Kristin Ryan, Director
 Division: Environmental Health
 Approved by: Larry Hartig
Department of Environmental Conservation

Phone: 907-269-7645
 Date/Time: 1/28/08 12:00 AM
 Date: 1/31/2008

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: CSHB 330(RES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/21/08

Identifier (file name): HB330-DFG-SF-02-07-08 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants RDU: Sport Fisheries
 Component: Sport Fisheries
 Sponsor: House Resources Committee
 Requester: House Resources Committee Component Number: 464

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Passage of this bill will not have any fiscal impact on the Department of Fish and Game.

Prepared by: Charlie Swanton, Director
 Division: Sport Fisheries
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director
Division of Administrative Services, Department of Fish and Game

Phone 465-6184
 Date/Time 2/7/08 11:00 AM
 Date 2/7/2008

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 3
 Bill Version: CSHB 330(RES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/21/08

Identifier (file name): HB330-DOT-TMS-02-07-08 Dept. Affected: DOT&PF
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants RDU: Admin & Support DOT&PF
 Sponsor: Rep. Johnson Component: Transportation Mangement & Security
 Requester: House Resouces Component Number: 2607

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

There will be no fiscal impact to the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Prepared by: Mary Siroky
 Division: Commissioner's Office, DOT&PF
 Approved by: Nancy Slagle
Director, Administrative Service, DOT&PF

Phone 465-4772
 Date/Time 2/7/08 8:30 AM
 Date 2/7/2008

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: CS HB 330 (RES)
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): HB330CSRES-DNR-AgPMC-02-21-08 Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants RDU: Agriculture Development
 Component: Plant Materials Center
 Sponsor: House Resources
 Requester: House Finance Component Number: 2204

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	75.1		75.1	75.1				
Travel								
Contractual	3.9		3.9	3.9				
Supplies	1.0		1.0	1.0				
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	80.0	0.0	80.0	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF	80.0		80.0	80.0				
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	80.0	0.0	80.0	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time	1		1	1				
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

One new position, a Research Analyst II (range 16) will be established to serve as the statewide coordinator for noxious weeds as identified in the bill. This will be a state employee performing the duties as prescribed by the board, including providing information to the public on topics of weed and pest control, doing limited applied research on weed and pest control and representing the Division of Agriculture/ DNR in the area of invasive species issues.

This legislation sunsets on June 30, 2011.

Prepared by: Franci Havemeister, Director
 Division: Agriculture
 Approved by: Tom Irvin, Commissioner
Natural Resources

Phone 761-3867
 Date/Time February 21, 2008
 Date February 21, 2008

FISCAL NOTE

REPLACED W/2-21-08
NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 4
 Bill Version: CSHB 330(RES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/21/08

Identifier (file name): HB330-DNR-AgPMC-02-07-08 Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants RDU: Agriculture Development
 Component: Plant Materials Center
 Sponsor: House Resources
 Requester: House Resources Component Number: 2204

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	100.6		100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6	100.6
Travel	5.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Contractual	30.0		30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
Supplies	8.0		8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Equipment	6.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	149.6	0.0	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF	149.6		146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	149.6	0.0	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6	146.6

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

One new position, a Natural Resource Specialist III (range 18) will be established to serve as the statewide coordinator for noxious weeds as identified in the bill. This will be a state employee performing the duties as prescribed by the board, including providing information to the public on topics of weed and pest control, doing limited applied research on weed and pest control and representing the Division of Agriculture/ DNR in the area of invasive species issues. This position will cost \$79.9. In addition, the Plant Material Center will add four staff months to a seasonal laborer position (PCN 10-3078) to provide the new position with technical and labor support. This will cost \$20.7.

Prepared by: Stoney Wright, Manager Plant Material Center
 Division: Agriculture
 Approved by: Tom Irwin, Commissioner
Natural Resources

Phone 745-4469
 Date/Time February 7, 2008
 Date February 7, 2008

FISCAL NOTE #4

**STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. CSHB 330(RES)

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

Travel estimates are for meetings throughout the state and for weed research project travel.

Contractual costs reflect costs of a new position for basic operations such as phones, core service charges to DOA for accounting, mail, human resources, telecommunications-ETS, computer services-ETS, and a share of facility operating expenses. In addition this will be a new program, in a sometimes controversial role, and working with new regulations. We expect a portion of the budgeted contractual funding will be dedicated to the Department of Law for regulation review and support.

Supplies, tools, and equipment are required for research and include weed killing tillers and chemicals.

FISCAL NOTE

VOID

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 5
 Bill Version: CSHB 330(RES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/21/08

Identifier (file name): HB330-DNR-NRCDB-02-04-08
 Title: Noxious Weeds and Invasive Plants

Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 RDU: Resource Development
 Component: Natural Resource Conservation & Development Board
 Component Number: 2633

Sponsor: House Resources
 Requester: House Resources

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	44.0		44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0	44.0
Travel	27.0		27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0
Contractual	15.0		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Supplies	1.2		1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	87.2	0.0	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF	87.2		87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	87.2	0.0	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation establishes a Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board in Alaska. The costs associated with implementation of this legislation are added to the existing budget component for the Natural Resource Conservation & Development Board.

This fiscal note addresses the cost for the department to support the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Management Board, including travel/per diem for board meetings/hearings, and providing for a full-time shared director located in Anchorage.

Prepared by: Shana Joy, Executive Secretary
 Division: Office of the Commissioner
 Approved by: Tom Irwin, Commissioner
Natural Resources

Phone 269-8432
 Date/Time February 4, 2008
 Date February 4, 2008

FISCAL NOTE #5

**STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. CSHB 330(RES)

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

It is anticipated that the existing support position for the Natural Resources Conservation and Development Board (NRCDB) will also serve the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board (NWIPB) in the same capacity. The additional cost of \$44.0 under personal services reflects the increase in salary and benefits of the existing (currently vacant) Project Assistant position (Range 16) to an Executive Director (Range 23).

Travel up to \$27.0 annually is anticipated at \$3.0 per board member (9 members). Travel to meet with municipal, state, and federal agencies as well as for training is anticipated.

Supplies are costs associated with producing meeting packets, reports, management plans and other related materials utilized for board business. The costs are estimated at \$1.2 per year.

Services include initial development and implementation of a statewide noxious weed and invasive plant management Internet website to centralize and coordinate efforts to share information. An initial cost of \$15.0 is expected followed by annual maintenance and updating of \$2.0 to \$5.0.

Section 41.10.320 reflects creation of a noxious weed and invasive plant management fund. We can't determine the actual fund source to be used or the amount of grants that may be made under this section at this time, therefore the fiscal note reflects general funds for the estimated cost to DNR of supporting this new board. The amount of any grant funding necessary beyond the expenses described in this and accompanying fiscal notes are indeterminate at this time.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

House Resources Committee

Carl Gatto, Co-Chair

State Capitol Building, Room 108

Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone (907) 465-3743

Fax (907) 465-2381

Rep. Carl_Gatto@legis.state.ak.us



Craig Johnson, Co-Chair

State Capitol Building, Room 126

Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone (907) 465-4993

Fax (907) 465-3872

Rep. Craig_Johnson@legis.state.ak.us

Sponsor Statement

An Act relating to Noxious Weed, Invasive Plant and Agricultural Pest Management and Education CS for HB 330

In recent years, well established and expanding populations of highly invasive plants have been documented in Alaska. These species pose a serious threat to Alaska's agriculture, tourism, wildlife, fisheries, land values, and subsistence resources. Alaska is in a unique position to avoid the scope of problems now impacting all 48 contiguous states and Hawaii.

Many of the invasive plants in Alaska are not yet widespread and can be controlled relatively quickly and more cheaply by taking action now. Alaska needs an updated state noxious weed list, updated state regulations, and a designated state agency with the resources to adequately address this emerging issue. A need exists to build upon the strength of existing programs, to improve areas that are weaker, and integrate efforts into an efficient unified state response to the threat.

Private, local, state, and federal organizations and citizens' groups are working together to raise awareness about invasive plants and keep our communities invasive weeds-free. Representatives of public and private organizations with an interest in controlling and preventing the spread of noxious weeds and invasive plant continue to need a mechanism for cooperation, collaboration, and development of statewide plans of action to meet this threat.

This bill will allow the Commissioner of Natural Resources to employ or appoint a state coordinator for noxious weed, invasive plant, and agricultural pest management and education. This coordinator will work through the Division of Agriculture state departments, agency and institutions. This person will bring together the afore mentioned entities with the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service and the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts. Through this coordination the State of Alaska will develop a strategic plan. More importantly, a start toward limiting economic loss and adverse effects to the state's agricultural, natural, and human resources because of the presence and spread of noxious weeds, invasive terrestrial and aquatic plants in the state.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim:
716 West 4th Avenue, Suite 640
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone (907) 269-0200
Fax (907) 269-0204
Rep_Craig_Johnson@legis.state.ak.us



Session:
State Capitol, Room 126
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-4993
Fax (907) 465-3872

REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG JOHNSON
HOUSE DISTRICT 28

Sponsor Statement **Establishing the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board** **and a Management Fund** **HB 330**

In recent years, well established and expanding populations of highly invasive plants have been documented in Alaska. These species pose a serious threat to Alaska's agriculture, tourism, wildlife, fisheries, land values, and subsistence resources. Alaska is in a unique position to avoid the scope of problems now impacting all 48 contiguous states and Hawaii.

Many of the invasive plants in Alaska are not yet widespread and can be controlled relatively quickly and more cheaply by taking action now. Alaska needs an updated state noxious weed list, updated state regulations, and a designated state agency with the resources to adequately address this emerging issue. A need exists to build upon the strength of existing programs, to improve areas that are weaker, and integrate efforts into an efficient unified state response to the threat.

Private, local, state, and federal organizations and citizens' groups are working together to raise awareness about invasive plants and keep our communities invasive weeds-free. Representatives of public and private organizations with an interest in controlling and preventing the spread of noxious weeds and invasive plant continue to need a mechanism for cooperation, collaboration, and development of statewide plans of action to meet this threat.

This legislation provides for a nine member Board. The purpose of the Board is to provide policy direction and planning for combating harmful infestations throughout the state and for preventing the introduction of others that may be potentially harmful. A coordinator would be tasked to write a statewide action plan and pursue grants from Federal landowner Agencies. The Board would also make recommendations to the governor and legislature to limit economic loss and other adverse effects to Alaska's agricultural, and human resources

Further the Board would:

- conduct surveys and investigations relating to noxious weeds and invasive plants, including surveys and investigations relating to necessary preventative and control measures, that consider the views, research, and reports of advisory groups, as may be established by the board under AS 41.10.280, and the views, research, and reports of individuals and other groups active in the state;

- annually review and make recommendations to state departments and agencies concerning revisions of state regulations and statutes, including revisions to state noxious weed lists, addressing noxious weed and invasive plant species;
- develop and annually review a comprehensive state strategic plan for the management of noxious weeds and invasive plants based on resources and priorities identified by the board in consultation with federal, state, municipal, and public groups, including the conceptual design for a national Early Detection and Rapid Response System for Invasive Plants;
- develop and maintain a statewide noxious weed and invasive plant management Internet website to centralize and coordinate efforts to share information;
- define geographic areas of the state to be used for noxious weed and invasive plant management, databases, research, and predictive purposes;
- consider federal law and congressional intent relating to noxious weed and invasive plant management;
- cooperate and coordinate with, furnish assistance to, and enter into agreements with users of the land or water, public groups, state agencies, and federal agencies operating within the state as is necessary and practical for carrying out the purposes of AS 41.10.200 - 41.10.399;
- identify and recommend responses to outbreaks of noxious weeds and invasive plants to land and water users, organizations, or agencies that have jurisdiction of the affected land or water;
- designate a person to serve as a statewide coordinator for noxious weed and invasive plant management and education and perform additional duties prescribed by the board;
- assist in the establishment of local weed management programs within the geographic areas defined under (5) of this subsection; and
- recommend to the commissioner objectives, criteria, and allocation guidelines for grants made from the fund established under AS 41.10.320.
- follow proceedings with the administration's sub-cabinet for climate change.



The Alaska Committee for
Noxious & Invasive Plants
Management

Jamie Nielsen, UAF Cooperative Extension Service

Telephone: (907) 786-6315

Email: ffimn@uaf.edu

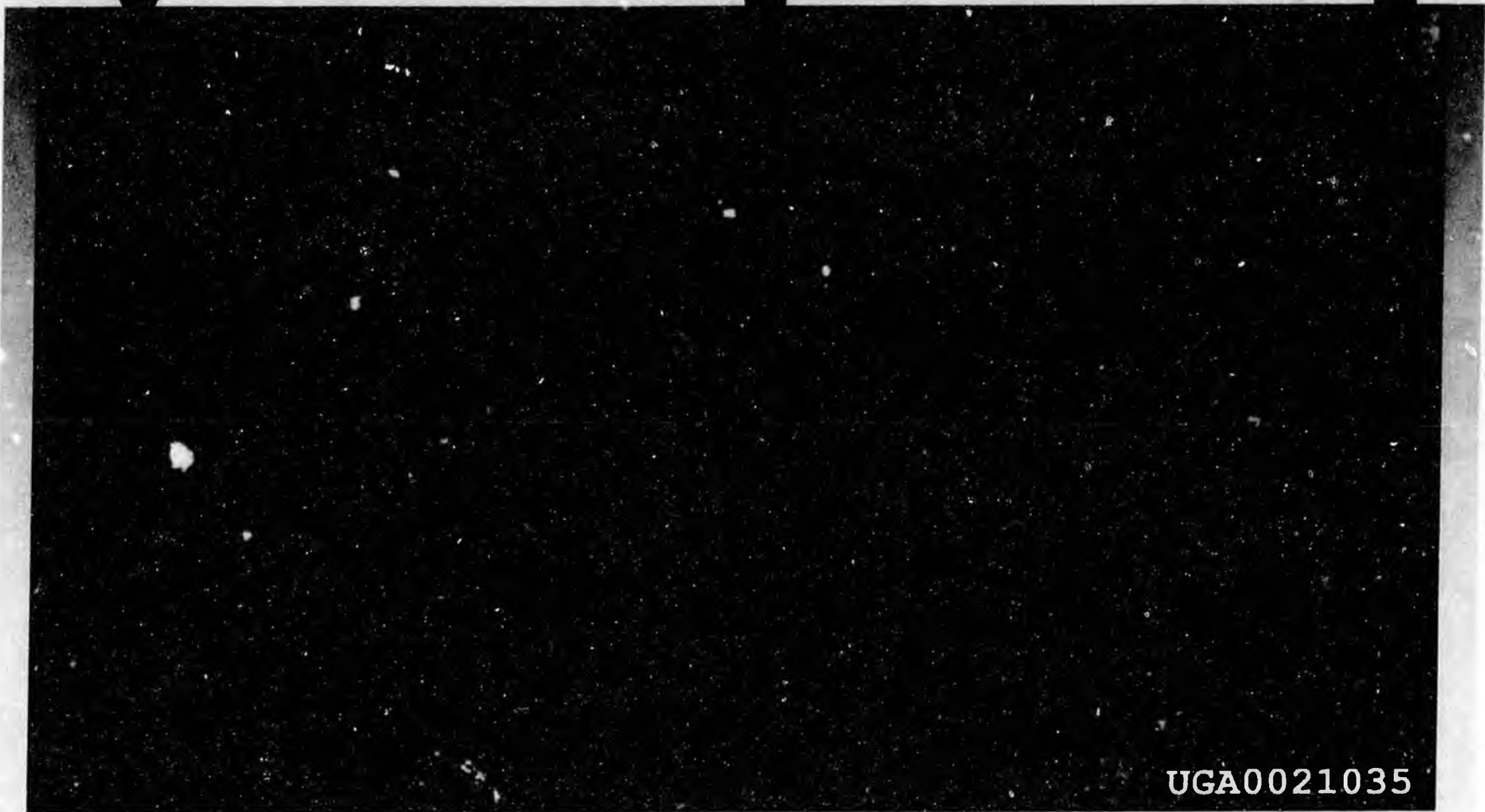
Gino Graziano, Alaska Association of Conservation Districts

Telephone: (907) 354-1227

Email: gino graziano@alaskaswcds.org

Invasive Plants IMPACTS

- Agriculture
- Tourism
- Wildlife
- Fisheries
- Subsistence Resources
- Land Values
- “...economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.” (Executive Order 13112)



UGA0021035

Norman E. Rees, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Spotted knapweed

- Costs the state of Montana 14 million per year in direct economic impacts. Now spread over nearly 6 million acres.

WETLAND LOSS

- Control efforts cost US economy \$45 million per year
- Clogs wetlands, blocks fish passage

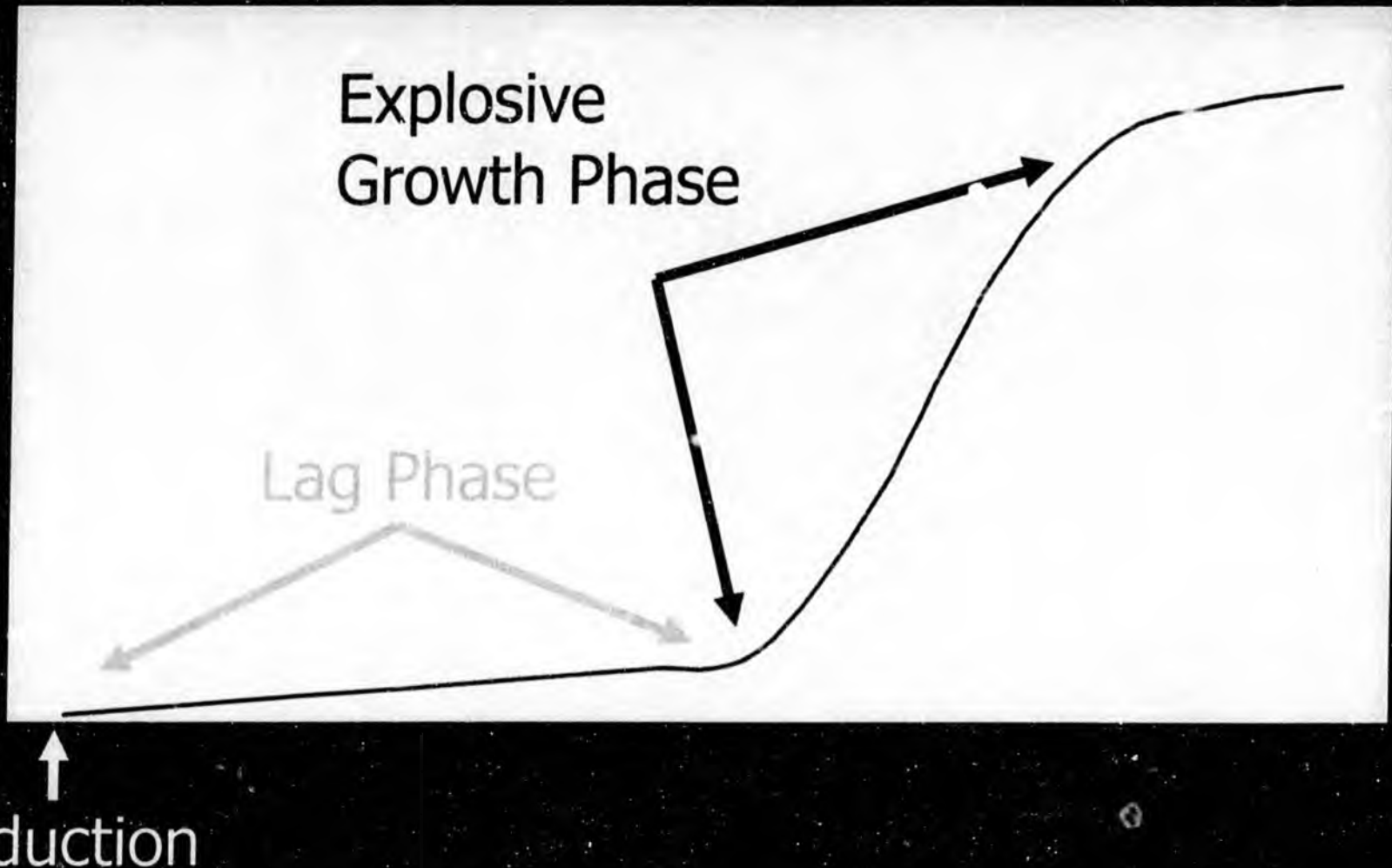


Leary Spurge

- Costs agricultural producers and tax payers in the Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming \$144 million per year.
- Caustic latex (sap) causes blisters, blindness



Weed Invasion Curve



Introduction

Laying the groundwork for
successful invasive plants
prevention and management:

WHAT, WHERE, WHY



Weed Ranking Project
 Alaska Natural Heritage Program
 major funding from
 US Forest Service, State and Private Forestry
 in cooperation with
 National Park Service, Alaska Support Office
 USDA, Agricultural Research Service
 UAF, Cooperative Extension Service
 US Geological Survey, Alaska Biological Science Center



[Home](#)

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[Alaskan Non-native Species Literature and Websites](#)

[Collaborators](#)



Below are two tables: The [first table](#) lists non-native species present in Alaska the [second table](#) lists non-native species currently not recorded in Alaska

They are also available below as MS Excel tables:

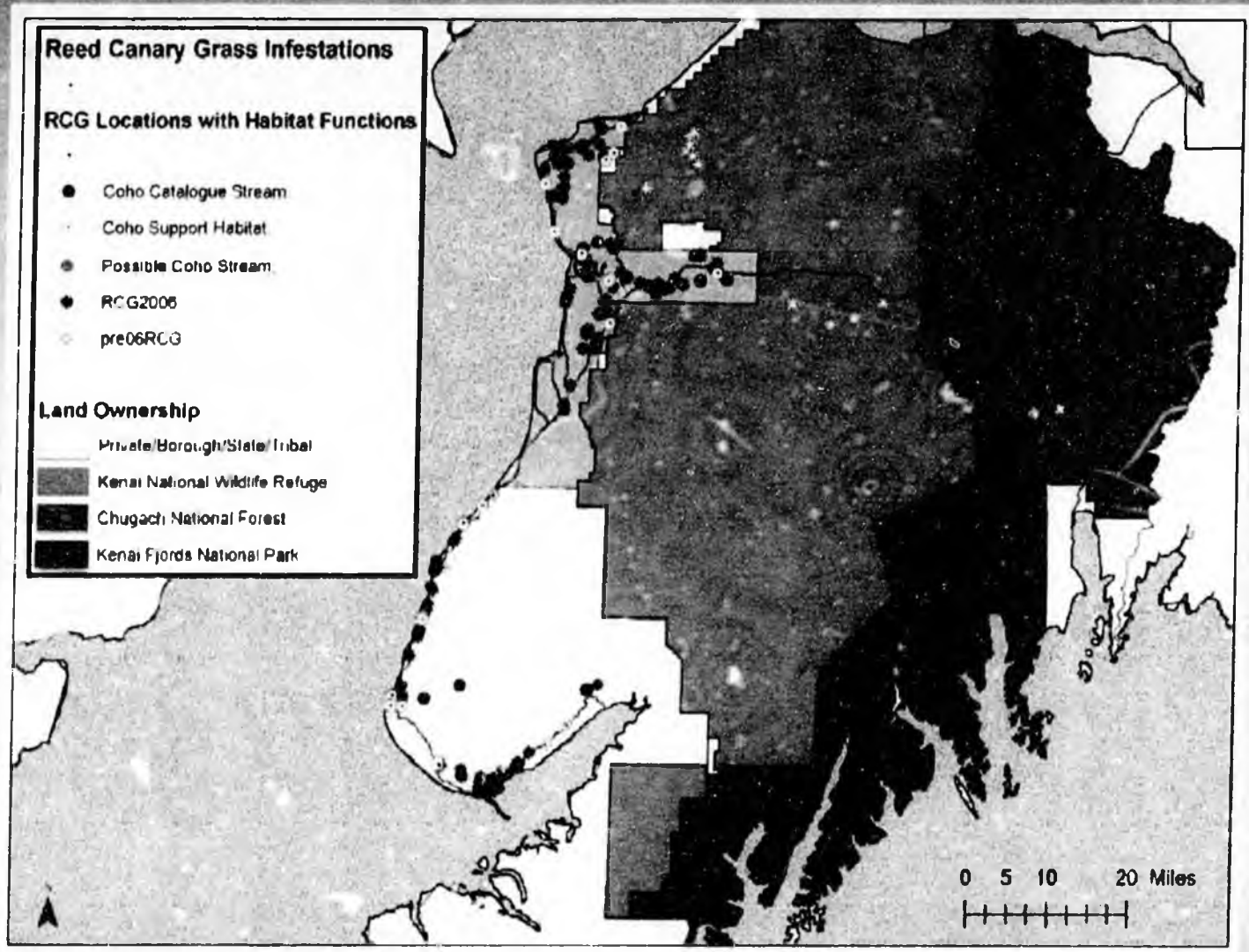
[Non-native species present in Alaska \(Excel table\)](#)

[Non-native species NOT recorded in Alaska \(Excel table\)](#)

Non-native species PRESENT in Alaska

Species Biography	Risk Assessment Report	Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank 0-100 (low-high)	Climate similarity of Alaska ecoregographic regions and areas where the species occurs		
					South Coastal	Interior Boreal	Arctic Alpine
ACMIM-bio	ACMIM-rank	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> var <i>millefolium</i> L.	common yarrow	48	Yes	Yes	Yes
ACPT-bio	ACPT-rank	<i>Achillea ptarmica</i> L.	sneezewort	46	Yes	Yes	Yes
ALPE-bio	ALPE-rank	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> (Bieb.) Cavara & Grande	garlic mustard	70	Yes	No	No
ANCO-bio	ANCO-rank	<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	Mayweed chamomile, dog fennel	41	Yes	Yes	No
BRIN-bio	BRIN-rank	<i>Bromus inermis</i> ssp. <i>inermis</i> Leyss	smooth brome	62	Yes	Yes	Yes
BRTE-bio	BRTE-rank	<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L.	cheatgrass	78	Yes	Yes	Yes
CABA-bio	CABA-rank	<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i> L.	Creeping bellflower	64	Yes	Yes	Yes
CABU-bio	CABU-rank	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> (L.) Medik L.	shepherd's purse	40	Yes	Yes	Yes
CAAR-bio	CAAR-rank	<i>Caragana arborescens</i> Lam	Siberian pea shrub	65	No	Yes	Yes
CEEL-bio	CEEL-rank	<i>Centaurea biebersteini</i> DC	spotted knapweed	88	Yes	Yes	No
CEFO-bio	CEFO-rank	<i>Cerastrium fontanum</i> ssp. <i>vulgare</i> (Hartman) Brieger & Burdet & <i>C. glomeratum</i> Thell	mouse-ear chickweed, big chickweed & sticky chickweed	39	Yes	Yes	Yes
CHAL-bio	CHAL-rank	<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	lambquarters	35	Yes	Yes	Yes
CIAR4-bio	CIAR4-rank	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> L. Scop.	Canada thistle	76	Yes	Yes	Yes
CIVU-bio	CIVU-rank	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Sav.) Ten	bull thistle, common thistle	61	Yes	Yes	Yes
COAR-bio	COAR-rank	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	field bindweed, morning glory	38	Yes	Yes	Yes
COCO2-bio	COCO2-rank	<i>Cotula coronopifolia</i> L.	common brassbuttons	42	Yes	No	No
CRTE-bio	CRTE-rank	<i>Crepis tectorum</i> L.	narrow-leaf hawk's beard	43	Yes	Yes	Yes
CYSC-bio	CYSC-rank	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> (L.) Link	English bloom, Scotch broom	69	Yes	No	No

Laying the Groundwork - The Wildlife AKEPIC: The Alaska Exotic Plants Information Clearinghouse



<http://akweeds.uaa.alaska.edu/>

High-priority Wetland Infestations of Reed Canary Grass
Recorded on Western Kenai Peninsula, 2006

Norman Bell & Walter Coors as 115th District
2514 Lath St. Seattle, WA
Map No. AK 99603



Laying the Groundwork
Public Awareness



CNIPM Website: www.cnipm.org

CNIPM Recommendations

- I. Develop a Noxious and Invasive Plant Management Program within the Department of Natural Resources



CNIPM Recommendations

II. Appoint a State Weed Coordinator for the program and provide administrative support



CNIPM Recommendations

III. Create a **State Weed Board** with representatives from a broad range of stakeholders to:

- Provide recommendations to state agencies
- Develop a **Statewide Weed Management Plan**
- Seek outside funding for state weed prevention and management efforts

Need for a Weed Board

- Coordination Imperative- weeds don't respect boundaries
- Groundwork has been laid, now we need an overarching system of support from the state
- Don't need to reinvent the wheel- other states provide lessons, templates, and examples
- Act now to safeguard AK resources and economy- never cheaper than TODAY



Citizens are
working
in their
communities,
but...





“It takes a State to stop a weed”

-Anchorage residents Troy and Lori Zaumseil



The Alaska Committee for
Noxious & Invasive Plants
Management

Jamie Nielsen, UAF Cooperative Extension Service

Telephone: (907) 786-6315

Email: ffjmn@uaf.edu

Gino Graziano, Alaska Association of Conservation Districts

Telephone: (907) 354-1227

Email: gino graziano@alaskaswcds.c.org



Invasive Plants

A Growing Threat to Alaska's Ecology and Economy

Issue

In recent years, well established and expanding populations of highly invasive plants have been documented in Alaska. These species pose a serious threat to Alaska's agriculture, tourism, wildlife, fisheries, and subsistence resources.

Alaska is in a unique position to avoid the extensive invasive plant problems that plague the rest of the U.S.

Addressing this situation NOW will yield benefits for years to come.

Most introduced plant species are beneficial to Alaskans. We enjoy them in our gardens and they are agricultural staples.

However, a small subset of introduced plants is invasive. These non-native plants aggressively spread into places where they are not wanted.

People and vehicles generally spread invasive plants from human habitation centers outwards along transportation routes (roads, airports and float ponds, trails and rivers) as they move materials and goods.



Japanese knotweed taking over a salmonberry patch in Juneau, AK.



Invasive plants threaten riparian areas and the species that depend upon them.

Facts

- Invasive species threaten Alaska's ecosystems by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife forage and shelter, altering ecosystem dynamics, and in some cases permanently changing environmental conditions.
- Annual damage from invasive species worldwide estimated at \$1.4 trillion.
- Idaho is estimated to spend \$300 million per year on invasive species control.
- One weed – spotted knapweed – now costs Montana over \$14 million/year and covers over 5 million acres. In Alaska, this species has been found at over 10 sites from Ketchikan to Anchorage.
- The number of new invasive plants found in Alaska continues to rise each year.
- Many of the invasive plants in Alaska are not yet widespread and can be controlled quickly and cheaply by taking action NOW.

Alaska—To Do List

Prevention

There are many ways that invasive seeds and plant materials are introduced to Alaska. Educating land managers, industry, and the public about the introduction and spread of invasive plants will pay huge dividends in protecting property values, agriculture, industry, wildlife, and wild lands. The adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is especially true for invasive plants.

Regulations for Alaska

The State Division of Agriculture is now considering adding new species to the prohibited weed seed list. CNIPM* supports more extensive changes to the regulations that will better serve Alaska's natural resources, agriculture, horticulture, tourism, fisheries, and other industries. The current regulations have not been changed since 1983. It is time to update the laws for Alaska's future.

Early Detection System

Create a system for rapid identification of new invasive species so that they can be controlled quickly and effectively.

Funding

In Alaska, no state agency currently has the funds or staffing to adequately address this emerging resource issue. We support the development of an Invasive Plants Program for Alaska to prevent the explosion of invasive plants that now plague the other states. Alaska must have a state program in order to obtain federal funds available under the Federal Noxious Weed Act.

Control of invasive plants

Facilitate greater cooperation among land owners and agencies to develop the best Alaska specific control strategies for the invasive plants of greatest concern.



Educating Alaskans about the threat of invasive plants.

Summary

Alaska is in a unique position to avoid the enormous costs of widespread invasive plants, now impacting all 48 contiguous states and Hawaii. Early intervention in Alaska can prevent the deterioration of the state's wealth of natural resources. The increasing impacts of invasive plants on agriculture, subsistence resources, fisheries and tourism industries, urban areas, wildlife and ecosystems require coordinated prevention and control actions on the part of all agencies, partners and the public. Prevention and early eradication have repeatedly been shown to be far cheaper and more effective than large-scale control efforts once populations have gotten out of hand.

More Information

Jamie Nielsen

CNIPM – Chair
Invasive Plant Program
University of AK Fairbanks
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e-mail: bjni@ual.edu

Gino Graziano

CNIPM – Vice Chair
Invasive Plant Program
Alaska Association of
Conservation Districts
(907) 354-1227
e-mail: cwna@ak.net

* The Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management (CNIPM)

A group of professionals and individuals from over 35 different State and local organizations, citizens groups, and federal agencies was created in 2000. The yearly conferences now draw 120+ participants, and the 2006 conference was opened by the Mayor of Anchorage.

Agriculture, Department of

Decision Unit Summary

Decision Unit	Agency Request			Governor's Recommendation		
	FTP	General	Total	FTP	General	Total
3.00 FY 2008 Original Appropriation	237.25	20,533,300	47,284,600	237.25	20,533,300	47,284,600
4.10 Reappropriation	0.00	0	44,000	0.00	0	44,000
4.30 Supplemental	0.00	0	0	0.00	9,000,000	9,000,000
4.60 Deficiency Warrants	0.00	255,000	255,000	0.00	255,000	255,000
4.70 Revenue Adjustments	0.00	(255,000)	(255,000)	0.00	(255,000)	(255,000)
5.00 FY 2008 Total Appropriation	237.25	20,533,300	47,328,600	237.25	29,533,300	56,328,600
7.00 FY 2008 Estimated Expenditures	237.25	20,533,300	47,328,600	237.25	29,533,300	56,328,600
8.10 FTP or Fund Adjustments	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
8.20 Object Transfers	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
8.30 Transfer Between Programs	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
8.40 Removal of One-Time Expenditures	(1.00)	(8,286,000)	(9,165,700)	(1.00)	(17,286,000)	(18,165,700)
9.00 FY 2009 Base	236.25	12,247,300	38,162,900	236.25	12,247,300	38,162,900
10.10 Employee Benefit Costs	0.00	229,900	537,600	0.00	221,900	518,800
10.20 Inflationary Adjustments	0.00	63,900	150,800	0.00	17,900	104,800
10.30 Replacement Items	0.00	509,600	1,142,700	0.00	110,800	695,900
10.40 Interagency Nonstandard Adjustments	0.00	2,500	5,300	0.00	2,500	5,300
10.60 Change In Employee Compensation	0.00	54,400	167,300	0.00	272,000	836,500
11.00 FY 2009 Total Maintenance	236.25	13,107,600	40,166,600	236.25	12,872,400	40,324,200
Administration						
12.01 Ag in the Classroom	0.00	0	75,000	0.00	0	0
Animal Industries						
12.01 Animal Programs	0.00	200,000	200,000	0.00	0	0
12.02 Rangeland Monitoring	0.00	50,000	50,000	0.00	0	0
12.03 Removal of Limited Service Positions	0.00	0	0	(3.00)	0	0
Agricultural Resources						
12.01 Governor's Initiative - Water Projects	0.00	0	0	0.00	5,000,000	5,000,000
Plant Industries						
12.01 Plant Investigator	0.00	89,600	89,600	0.00	0	0
12.02 Eurasian Water Milfoil	0.00	4,000,000	4,000,000	0.00	4,000,000	4,000,000
12.03 Invasive Species	0.00	89,100	129,100	0.00	86,500	126,500
12.04 Gypsy Moth Survey	0.00	77,000	99,500	0.00	77,000	99,500
12.05 Gov's Initiative - Garden	0.00	0	0	0.00	1,500	1,500
Marketing and Development						
12.01 Idaho Rural Partnership	1.00	135,000	310,000	1.00	135,000	310,000
12.02 RediFit	0.00	0	55,000	0.00	0	55,000
Soil Conservation Commission						
12.01 NRCS Rent	0.00	40,000	40,000	0.00	0	0
12.02 Water Quality Program	0.00	425,000	425,000	0.00	0	0
12.03 Loan Program	0.00	500,000	500,000	0.00	0	0
12.04 Insurance For Districts	0.00	35,000	35,000	0.00	0	0
12.05 District Audits	0.00	60,000	60,000	0.00	18,000	18,000
13.00 FY 2009 Total	237.25	18,808,300	46,234,800	234.25	22,190,400	49,934,700



Alaska Association of Conservation Districts

1700 E. Bogard Rd. Suite 203 • Wasilla, AK 99654
907-373-7923 • fax 373-7192

Eric Wade, Executive Director
aacd@mtaonline.net

Representative Craig Johnson
State Capitol, Room 126
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Representative Craig Johnson,

The board of the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) voted to support House Bill 330 (HB 330):

“An Act relating to management of noxious weeds and invasive plants; establishing the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board; and establishing the noxious weed and invasive plant management fund.”

As an organization that promotes development of natural resources in manners that conserve their use for future generations, the AACD is concerned with the effect that unmanaged invasive plants will have on natural resources. The AACD has responded by funding an Invasive Plant Program with support from the USDA Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service and others. A noxious weed and invasive plant management board will provide the structure and direction needed for the state to lead efforts in noxious weed and invasive plant management.

Noxious weeds and invasive plants have proven worldwide as a threat to natural resources by displacing native and desirable plants, reducing forage and wildlife shelter, altering ecosystems and in some cases permanently changing environmental conditions. Worldwide, estimated annual costs for invasive species are \$1.4 trillion. Idaho spends \$300 million a year on invasive species control, and Montana spends \$14 million a year on just one weed, spotted knapweed. In Alaska, spotted knapweed has been found at just more than 10 sites. Other invasive plants are similarly in small populations that will expand without management. Alaska has a unique opportunity to avoid losses in resource production and costs of management that other states such as Montana are experiencing.

AACD fears Alaska's unique opportunity to manage invasive plants in a relatively inexpensive manner is departing with each passing summer. Over the last 8 years professionals have discovered well established and expanding populations of highly invasive plants in Alaska. These highly invasive plants are a threat to natural resources related to agricultural production, forestry, fisheries, tourism, subsistence resources, water fowl, large and small game, and non-timber forest products such as wild berries. All of these resources are keystones to Alaska's natural resource based economy and subsistence uses. State support of organized efforts to prevent new

introductions and manage invasive plants that are already here will prevent impacts to the economy from invasive plant related losses in natural resource production.

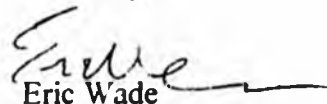
HB 330 will make significant advances in establishing invasive plant management in Alaska. Other states such as Oregon, Washington and Idaho are beginning to see success in invasive plant management from their established noxious weed and invasive plant boards. In Alaska, establishing a noxious weed and invasive plant management board with the proposed structure will ensure that the appropriate state agencies, producers of natural resources and experts in the field of invasive plant management are cooperating in planning for invasive plant management and developing inter and intra-agency policy changes.

HB 330 tasks the noxious weed and invasive plant management board with developing a strategic plan for invasive plant management. This plan will provide the direction to state agencies and local weed management efforts that is needed to coordinate their efforts. A strategic plan will initiate the state program that is necessary to acquire federal funds available under the Federal Noxious Weed Act. When applying for federal assistance, local efforts will benefit from a statewide strategic plan as it will demonstrate state commitment and cooperation with local efforts.

HB 330 establishes a noxious weed and invasive plant management fund to support the board and weed management efforts around the state. Federal funding sources expect state matching dollars towards projects. This fund will provide state matching dollars necessary to support local efforts in acquiring federal assistance.

The AACD board believes HB 330 represents the best structure to further state involvement in invasive plant management. This involvement is necessary to prevent losses to natural resources from invasive plants.

Sincerely,



Eric Wade

Executive Director

Alaska Association of Conservation Districts



Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management

House Resources Subcommittee,

The Board of Directors for the Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management (CNIPM) would like to provide members of the House Resources Subcommittee with information about invasive plant threats to natural resources and invasive plant management efforts in Alaska and other states.

Noxious weeds and invasive plants have proven worldwide to be a threat to natural resources because they compete with crops and native plants, degrade fish and wildlife habitat, and can decrease property values. Worldwide, estimated annual costs of invasive species are \$1.4 trillion. Idaho spends \$300 million a year on invasive species control, and Montana spends \$14 million a year on just one weed, spotted knapweed. In Alaska, spotted knapweed has been found at more than 10 sites. Many other invasive plants have been found in Alaska in similarly small populations that will expand beyond control without prompt management. Managing invasive plants when they are in small, incipient populations is recognized by experts as the most cost effective way to prevent the problem from getting out of control. Alaska has a unique opportunity *in prevention*; to avoid natural resource losses, direct and indirect economic impacts and extensive herbicide use that others are experiencing.

Over the last eight years professionals and the public have discovered well-established and expanding populations of highly invasive plants in Alaska. These highly invasive plants are a threat to agricultural production, forestry, fisheries, tourism, subsistence resources, waterfowl, large and small game, and non-timber forest products such as wild berries. All of these resources are keystones to Alaska's natural-resource based industries and subsistence uses. Professionals in Alaska and outside can demonstrate that Alaska's invasive plant problem is growing. However, swift coordinated management will prevent major losses to resources and expenditures of state funds.

Other states such as Oregon, Washington and Idaho have established coordinated efforts for invasive plant management through the establishment of noxious weed and invasive plant boards. Successful invasive plant management boards include an appropriate range of stakeholders such as land managers from state agencies, representatives of industries affected by the issue and experts in the field of invasive plant management.

Noxious weed and invasive plant management boards develop and regularly review statewide strategic plans for invasive plant prevention and management. Plans provide coordination and direction to state agencies and local weed management efforts. Strategic plans are also pre-requisites to acquisition of federal funds available

under the Federal Noxious Weed Act. Strategic plans demonstrate state commitment and cooperation with local efforts.

State weed boards often establish funds to provide financial assistance for local weed management efforts. Federal funding sources expect state matching dollars towards projects. Federal funds are often ephemeral, and are selected through a competitive process at the national level. States with established invasive plant management funds have support that will allow for management to continue in the absence of available federal dollars or changes in federal priorities.

Questions have been raised whether the board to be created by HB 330 should cover all types of invasive species, including such organisms as marine zebra mussels and agricultural diseases such as potato blight. While this idea was considered it has shortcomings with regards to invasive plant management.

Several states with successful invasive species management efforts have a weed board dedicated to managing only invasive plants to simplify listing species for management, provide adequate number of appropriate experts and stakeholders, and facilitate coordinated management. There are numerous plant species of concern for Alaska, requiring input from plant experts and stakeholders. Coordination needs are unique with invasive plants due to their ability to quickly spread across multiple land ownership boundaries. Invasive animals and/or diseases also require significant coordination efforts. However, potato blight and zebra mussel, for example, require management efforts from a primary agency, in this case the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Agriculture and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), respectively. On the other hand, a single species of invasive plant may be found growing within the management purview of Department of Transportation, ADF&G, DNR, and private property holders.

Other states have advised Alaska that, in order for a state weed board to be successful, Alaska needs two things: knowledge of invasive plants that occur in or threaten the state, and established local management efforts. We have these things. A scientific ranking of over 100 invasive plant species located in the state is complete and available online alongside results of survey efforts for these invasive plant species. Local efforts to manage invasive plants have begun through all the Soil and Water Conservation Districts and five established Cooperative Weed Management Areas, regional groups that coordinate work across jurisdictional boundaries.

The background work has been done to pave the way for a successful state weed board in Alaska. The need is great and the opportunity to *prevent* major invasive plant problems in Alaska will not last forever. Now is the time to take action.

Thank you for your time on this important issue,

CNIPM board
Jamie Nielsen (Chair)
Gino Graziano (Vice-Chair)



Alaska Conservation Alliance

Uniting for Alaska's Future

February 15, 2008

Representative Johnson
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: **HOUSE BILL NO. 330** – Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board

Dear Representative Johnson

On behalf of the Alaska Conservation Alliance (ACA), a consortium of 40 Alaska-based conservation groups, I want to acknowledge and applaud your foresight to create a Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Board. Invasive species present not only an ecological hazard but a serious threat to our economy and quality of life in Alaska. While Alaska has largely been spared, many other states have been hard hit with the impacts of invasive species, and this proactive bill will help the state establish procedures and protocol to deal with both established and potential invasive plants and noxious weeds.

Given the environmental and economic importance of this bill, I would like to respectfully suggest the following additions in order to more effectively meet the bill's overall goals. ACA would strongly encourage that the Plant Board be required to take a least toxic approach to plant management. While herbicides can be effective at managing invasive plant species they do contaminate soil and water bodies, harm other plants and animals, and lead to bioaccumulation of toxics and herbicide tolerance. Since biological and mechanical weed control can often be both cost-efficient and effective we think it is good policy to use herbicides only as means of last resort and then when necessary use the least toxic herbicide in the least amount to be effective.

To accomplish this policy objective, we suggest amending Sec. 41.10.270 (3) to read as follows:

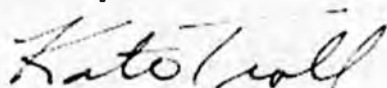
(3) develop and annually review a comprehensive state strategic plan for the management of noxious weeds and invasive plants based on resources including a least toxic approach to control and eradication, and priorities identified by the board in consultation with federal, state, municipal, and public groups, including the conceptual design for a national Early Detection and Rapid Response System for Invasive Plants;

This simple amendment directs the experts to develop the specifics of a least toxic approach to the control and eradication of invasive plants. More importantly including this policy directive will ensure that we don't exchange one set of environmental problems for another.

Second, the definition of invasive species should be amended so that it does not include species natural northern migration due to the effects of global climate change. As warming increases, a species former range may be extended northward; as such, it does not fit the typical definition of an invasive species. This could be accomplished by making sure that "alien" does not include indigenous species to Alaska that may be naturally extending their range in response to the effects of climate change.

I strongly encourage you and the Alaska Legislature to incorporate these changes and pass HB 330. This bill will help get us ahead of a troublesome and expensive curve. It is in the best, common interest of Alaskans. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kate Troll".

Kate Troll
Executive Director

From: Bradleyhouse@acsalaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 2:41 AM
To: Rep. Craig Johnson
Cc: nakadaninja@msn.com
Subject: HB 330

Hi Craig-

I spoke with Nicole Syren, her family owns Bells Nursery/Mosesian Farms of Alaska. I asked she review the bill and give me her opinion.

She did offer a couple of observations.

- 1.) The definition of "invasive plant" – she is not comfortable with (line 13 – 14, page 6) "plant subspecies alien to the state". Her concern is some of the plants grown at the nurseries do not originate from Alaska and makes it subject to interpretation. She feels that could be taken out without affecting the goal of the bill.
- 2.) The conflict with this bill is pesticide regulations. The Mosesian Farms "sanitize" their soils before use to prevent weed growth. She stated that the regulation trend is for "watered down pesticide" use. As a result, they are becoming less effective in their fight to prevent weed growth. Responsible use of higher potency pesticides could greatly reduce the proliferation and increase of noxious weeds. (This comment is FYI.)
- 3.) The three appointed members of the board should be from the nursery/farm/greenhouse industries for knowledge and balance of debates due to the complexities of external influences others on the board may be unaware of that are not in the business.

Thanks for your work!

-Berni Bradley

Cc: Theresa, please forward this to Nicole

From: AKCANWIN@aol.com [mailto:AKCANWIN@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2008 9:15 PM

To: Rep. Carl Gatto

Subject: Invasive Weeds House Bill 330

Dear Representative Gatto

We are Troy and Lori Zaumseil. We have been very active around Alaska on the issue of invasive weeds and we are writing to ask for your support with **House Bill 330**. This bill addresses the threat to Alaska from noxious, invasive weeds that are becoming more and more established in Alaska. Invasive weeds have begun to compromise fish passage in Alaskan waterways, encroach onto agricultural acreage and overtake residential and public land. Each of these has the potential to affect Alaska through lowered property values, reduced wildlife forage and lower salmon harvests. We know that many legislators are talking about "holding the line on spending" and "being conservative with Alaska's finances" and that is always the right thing to do. But as Troy and I are speaking in front of community councils and other groups we are explaining that enacting this legislation **IS** the fiscally responsible thing to do. There is ample proof and forewarning that Alaska **WILL** incur losses and expense if we don't address invasive, noxious weeds and address it **NOW**. We must put the framework in place to prevent and control this threat and minimize these kinds of losses and resulting unavoidable expense--a formal weed program will do that, as well as make federal funds available to Alaska. Alaska is in a position to catch this problem in its early stages, we can not afford to squander that advantage. Representative Craig Johnson has been working with the Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plant Management (CNIPM) to develop **House Bill 330**. Troy and I have been speaking to community councils and other groups to make them understand why spending a dollar of their tax money now will save them thousands later. We have also been asked to speak at the Alaska Forum on the Environment and at the Alaska Botanical Gardens Spring Conference--the threat from invasive weeds is being recognized by citizens all over the state. Perhaps most important to us is our invitation to speak in Washington D.C. at the National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week. We will be traveling to D.C. in a couple weeks to address the opening session and meet with Alaska's federal representatives on this issue. We want to carry the message that Alaska is fighting the good fight and responding to this threat to her ecology, economy and environment. Please add your voice and support to this important legislation and encourage other legislators to do the same. The up front expense is minimal compared to what we stand to preserve in natural resources and save in financial losses later.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Troy and Lori Zaumseil

January 29, 2008

Trish Wurtz
P.O. Box 82864
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Dear Ms Wurtz

Thank you for your comments regarding invasive plants in Alaska and HB330. It is critical that the public be able to share their opinions and comments to their representative and I truly appreciate your comments.

Invasive plants are a growing concern for Alaska, especially with global warming affecting migration. The proposed bill provides a means to limit the possible damage. The bill is scheduled to be heard in the House Resources Committee on February 11th at 1:00 p.m. You can send a letter of support or call in to testify during the hearing. I have also forwarded your information to the Committee to be included as part of the public testimony and debate.

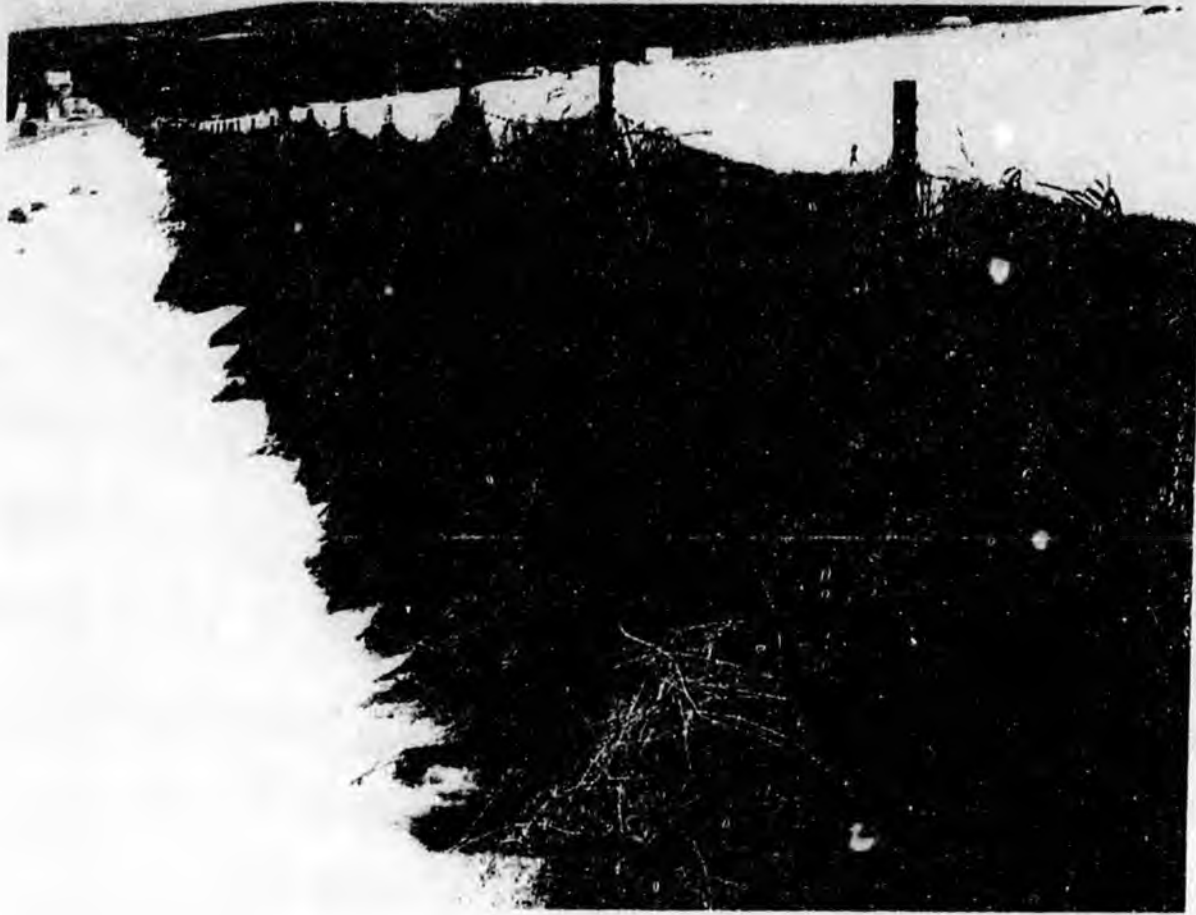
As a member of the House Resources Committee, I will deliberate the bill and I will take your concerns under consideration in the committee and later on the House Floor.

I always enjoy listening to Fairbanksans and will work hard for our city. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance in the future.

Working hard for Fairbanks families,

Representative Scott Kawasaki
District 9 Fairbanks

RES/CC JOHNSON



Invasive bird vetch covering a fence at the UAF experimental farm

Dear Rep. Kawasaki,

1/22/08

Invasive plants are not yet a big problem in Alaska, but there's cause for concern. About a hundred species that are known to be aggressive invaders elsewhere have been found in Alaska, and they are beginning to spread like crazy.

Alaska still has lots of pristine land left. We need the weed board that Representative Johnson has proposed in house bill 330. The weed board needs some start-up funds, too.

Alaska needs to act before invasive plants become a big problem here. We need to act now, before the big problems occur. Please support bill 330.

Sincerely,

Trish Wurtz

Trish Wurtz
Box 82864
Fairbanks, AK 99708

nice to see you
at Kenton's memorial
work party.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Alaska Region

State & Private Forestry
3301 'C' Street, Suite 202
Anchorage, AK 99503-3956

File Code: 3400

Date: September 11, 2007

The Honorable Craig Johnson
Representative, House District 8
State House
716 W 4th Avenue, Suite 640
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Representative Johnson:

Thank you for your interest and support of the Forest Service Invasive Plant Program in Alaska. Your e-mail inquiry regarding our Fiscal Year 2008 budget for this program was forwarded to me by Jeanne Ostnes of your staff. As you know we do not yet have an appropriation, but have no reason to assume that funding will be different from previous years. In Fiscal Year 2007, the Alaska Region of the Forest Service was allocated \$243,000 for invasive plants management on non-federal lands. All of those funds were distributed to cooperators and partners, such as University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service, Alaska Association of Conservation Districts, Alaska Natural Heritage Program, and the Municipality of Anchorage. With these funds, and others leveraged from cooperators, 110 acres of treatment were planned for accomplishment.

I plan to attend the September 20 meeting to discuss invasives in Alaska and look forward to a dialogue with representatives from your office and others. Our long standing partner and grant recipient in the invasive plant program, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service, will also be represented by Jamie Nielsen. Additionally at that time, I expect to be able to announce the selection of our new Invasive Plant Program Coordinator for Alaska.

If you need additional information, please contact me at (907) 743-9451.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN E. PATTERSON
Acting Director, State & Private Forestry

cc: Jeanne Ostnes



Letter to State Legislators

We are Troy and Lori Zaumseil. We live in Anchorage, we are Alaskans and we believe there is a crisis looming that threatens every aspect of what makes Alaska unique in all the world. Every day noxious, invasive plants are encroaching more and more into the eco-system of Alaska--choking, diminishing and forever changing the natural make up of our land--the same is happening in nearly every other state in the union, costing each of them millions and millions of dollars every year. The good news is that because of Alaska's remote setting, we have the best advantage over all those states to prevent invasive plant species infestation. What is completely unbelievable to us, is that Alaska has almost no safeguards in place to do this! We are asking you as someone who has sworn to protect the interests of Alaska and her citizens to read on and become part of the solution.

We are far from the most knowledgeable persons on the subject of invasive species and the policies that deal with them, but we have become personally impassioned and involved after finding 3 plants during the course of our spring gardening shopping that were infested with invasive species. One of them contained a Canada Thistle, which is listed in Alaska statute as a prohibited noxious weed. We sought resolution through Home Depot directly, expecting that they would act swiftly and make corrections to avoid sanctions from the Division of Agriculture. However, Home Depot refused to take action regarding the stock in their stores even after we notified them of our findings, so we felt we had no choice but to contact the Department of Agriculture and the USDA State Plant Health Coordinator.

What we learned is that while there is a statute that has a list of prohibited noxious weeds--that list is over 20 years old and in desperate need of updating. The problem is that what should be a simple act of adding a newly discovered problem plant to the list takes a year or more to happen--more than enough time for an aggressive invader to be permanently established and on its way to costing the state of Alaska millions in futile attempts to control and eradicate. Worse than that, as we have come to discover, is even though there is a statute, there is now allowance for enforcement, measuring compliance, levying penalties for violations or follow up. So although we made a report to these state agencies, they are limited by budget, lack of manpower and a statute with no real backbone. Essentially, in this case where a known entry point for a prohibited noxious weed is identified, there exists no means of addressing those responsible. The response from Home Depot has been almost non-existent and now we see why. This must change!!

There are a lot of dedicated experts putting forth extraordinary efforts to address invasive noxious plants in Alaska. They are working on how to control and eradicate these plants, they are spending time and energy educating the public about why it's important to be vigilant, they are working on studying the effects invasive plants have on every aspect of the environment, wildlife, livestock, property values, tourism and natural habitats. They are all fighting a losing battle if Alaska doesn't step up her defenses on the front end of this problem--PREVENTION. There are many states who have had to accept that millions of acres are just lost to them--over run by Star Thistle or Leafy Spurge and other invasive plants. These states lose hundreds of millions of dollars every year fighting to contain further spread, in reduced agriculture production, property values lowered, etc. We have found many reports that detail this and can provide many more statistics. Experts in the field all agree that prevention, by far, is the least expensive and most effective means of addressing noxious weeds.

To stop invasive species from ever getting in to Alaska, we need workable laws that allow the experts on the subjects to add and subtract known threats in real time. The current statutes are antiquated--drawn up to address agriculture and farming issues in the state half a century ago--they need to be updated to reflect the current age of retail box stores, mail order nurseries and property owners with access to them. These new statutes must address specific issues and penalties for non-compliance. There should be an enforcement office who can field reports regarding invasive species and have the authority to act on them, do site inspections at retail outlets with the authority to issue warnings and fines if the situation merits and lastly work

with property owners to control invasive species on their land and stay compliant. Our experience with Home Depot is proof positive that big business will not police themselves out of concern for OUR natural resources. We have to find a way to make them care and enforceable regulations are the start!!

If prevention costs \$1, but fighting the problem after the fact costs \$1000, and the dollar isn't spent, then there is a failure to protect that financial interest. Please don't let the citizens of Alaska down. As someone sworn to protect the interests of the citizens you serve, we are bringing the battle to you, please pick up arms and join us in addressing this problem while it is the most manageable it will ever be. Each day another plant goes to seed, another noxious weed finds its way into Alaska gardens, into the moose and caribou forage, into the pastures, residential properties and on to hiking trails. The problem will never be easier to solve than it is today.

We are working to make all Alaskans aware of the changes that need to take place. We have been contacted by the Anchorage Daily News and Mother Earth News has expressed an interest in having me write about our quest. We find people every day who assumed that there was enforcement and safeguards in place to protect Alaska from invasive plants and we are determined to find those people in larger number and bring them all into this grassroots movement to affect change.

Thank you for your time. We ask that you make room for this matter on your calendar and we look forward to working with you.

Troy and Lori Zaumseil
9015 Dewberry St
Anchorage, AK 99502
907-245-2373

HB

336

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 336
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): HB336-CED-AEA-01-25-08 Dept. Affected: DCCED
 Title: Susitna Hydroelectric Project RDU: Alaska Energy Authority (453)
 Sponsor: Johnson et al Component: Statewide Project Development
 Requester: Resources Component Number: 2888

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	1,000.0							
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation requires the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) to conduct a study and prepare a proposal for a hydroelectric power project on the Susitna River appropriately sized for the Railbelt Area.

The project would be significant in scope and would likely extend beyond one year; therefore, we suggest a capital appropriation. It is likely additional funds would be required, but these amounts are indeterminate at this time. We assume that AEA would develop a best fit scenario, and develop a preliminary design to provide enough detail that a valid project concept cost estimate and schedule could be developed and reported to the Legislature no later than June 30, 2010.

Prepared by: Sara Fisher-Goad, Deputy Director - Operations
 Division: Alaska Energy Authority
 Approved by: Emil R. Notti, Commissioner
Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Phone 907-771-3012
 Date/Time 1/25/08 9:00 AM
 Date 1/25/2008

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG JOHNSON
HOUSE DISTRICT 28

Sponsor Statement Susitna River Hydroelectric Power Project HB 336

This legislation will direct the Alaska Energy Authority to conduct a review of the past studies and analyses of the Susitna River hydroelectric power project. Submittal of its report to the legislature would be no later than June 30, 2010.

Additionally, under this legislation, Alaska Energy Authority will conduct a collaborative study with Railbelt utilities to propose an appropriately-sized hydroelectric power project on the Susitna River.

Low price of oil helped to end the Susitna hydropower plan in the mid 1980's. The high price of oil could open the window of opportunity for development today. This proposal would respond to the assessed needs for power expansion to Kodiak, Southwest, and Northern Alaska.

The Act is scheduled for termination June 30, 2010.

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH REPORT

APRIL 13, 2005



REPORT NUMBER 05.206

A HISTORY OF MAJOR ENERGY APPROPRIATIONS, INCLUDING THE RAILBELT ENERGY FUND

PREPARED BY KATHLEEN L. WAKFIELD, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

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You asked about the history of the Railbelt Energy Fund (REF). Specifically, you asked us to review and up-date a list of appropriations to and from the fund, and for other major energy-related projects. In this report, we provide a brief history of Alaska's energy expenditures and a history of the REF, as well as brief discussions of other major projects. We also include several tables that show a chronological history of major energy appropriations, appropriations to and from the REF, and expenditures for the Power Cost Equalization program.

SUMMARY

Any discussion of Alaska's energy program over the last thirty years must begin with the understanding that the program has a complicated history, and that information is not available from any one source. We compiled information for this report from a variety of sources. We carefully reviewed data from the Office of Management and Budget and Legislative Finance, old

reports from the now defunct Division of Energy, information from the Alaska Energy Authority, fund data from the Department of Administration, and appropriations in Legislative Finance operating budget books and the *Session Laws of Alaska*. We tried to ensure that the information contained in this report is as complete and accurate as possible.

Major funding for energy projects began in 1976, with an appropriation of \$2.5 million to the water resources revolving loan fund. Out of that came the initial appropriations for loans for major dam projects: Green Lake, Swan Lake, Terror Lake, and Tye Lake. In 1982, lawmakers changed the loans to grants, made additional appropriations for the projects, and also appropriated funds to purchase the hydroelectric project at Solomon Gulch.¹ The Swan, Terror, and Tye Lake projects, along with Solomon Gulch, became known as the "Four Dam Pool." The Four Dam Pool was sold to private utility companies in 2002.²

In 1979, lawmakers appropriated the first funds for the **Susitna Hydroelectric Project**. Between 1979 and 1985, about \$423 million was appropriated for Susitna. During the same period of time, lawmakers appropriated funds for the **Bradley Lake Hydroelectric Project**—a total of \$328 million (\$163 million in grants and \$165 million in general obligation bonds).³

Between 1980 and 1984, legislators appropriated \$124 million for the **Alaska Intertie**, which runs from Willow to Healy (and which was formerly called the "Anchorage/Fairbanks intertie"). In this same time period, lawmakers created the **Power Cost Equalization** program in the Division of Energy. The program was to reduce electrical rates paid by rural consumers to a level comparable to the rates in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. From 1981 to 2005, PCE expenditures totaled about \$378 million.⁴

In 1986, lawmakers created the **Railbelt Energy Fund (REF)**. The Susitna project was cancelled, and the monies appropriated for it were repealed and reappropriated to capitalize the REF. Between 1986 and 2005, a total of \$468 million was appropriated to the REF, and appropriations of about \$437 million were made from the REF to fund a variety of projects. Projects funded from the REF include the Healy Cogeneration Project (\$55 million), the intertie reserve for the Northern and Southern interties (\$100 million) and the capitalization for the Power Cost Equalization and Rural Capitalization Fund (\$67 million).

In 2000, lawmakers created the **Power Cost Equalization Endowment Fund** to support the PCE program. The fund was capitalized with an appropriation of \$100 million from the

¹ The major dam projects were to provide electrical power to the following communities: Ketchikan (Swan Lake), Kodiak (Terror Lake), Sitka (Green Lake), Valdez/Glennallen (Solomon Gulch), and Wrangell/Petersburg (Tye Lake).

² The AEA still owns Bradley Lake. The AEA also owns a small hydroelectric project at Larsen Bay on Kodiak Island. This project was paid for through revenue bonds, and includes water system upgrades as well as hydropower generation. The AEA has tried to get the community of Larsen Bay to take over the project, with no success at this point. Sara Fisher-Goad and Valorie Walker, AEA.

³ Many of the figures used in this report are final tallies, and may not equal the total of the original appropriations for a particular project. For example, the original total for Bradley Lake was about \$340 million—\$175 million in general funds and \$165 million in general obligation bonds, with a lapse amount of about \$11.5 million. The figure we quote here is the total minus the lapse. Please note that we are not able to identify original totals in many cases, due to amendments to the original appropriations and repeals and reappropriations for different projects.

⁴ This figure includes actual expenditures for fiscal years 1981-2003, and authorized budget amounts for FY2004 and FY2005.

Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund, and in 2002 the proceeds from the sale of the Four Dam Pool were deposited to the fund. The balance is about \$192 million.⁵

Since those first appropriations in the 1970s, Alaska has appropriated approximately \$762 million for major energy projects for the railbelt, and about \$878 million for the Four Dam Pool and PCE (this does not include the endowment fund). Railbelt projects include Susitna, Bradley Lake, the Alaska, Northern and Southern interties, and the Healy cogeneration project. These figures do not include the many small energy projects and grants across the state (for example, bulk fuel loans, generator upgrades, small hydropower projects, and weatherization projects).

The following information provides more detail on some of these major projects. In addition, Table 1 shows a brief chronological history of the major energy appropriations.

FOUR DAM POOL

The "Four Dam Pool," as its name suggests, consists of four individual hydroelectric projects: two in Southeast Alaska (Swan Lake [Ketchikan] and Tye Lake [Petersburg/Wrangell]), one in Kodiak (Terror Lake), and one serving Valdez/Glennallen (Solomon Gulch). The projects include generation and transmission facilities. Funding for these projects began in 1976, with the initial loans for Swan, Terror, and Tye Lakes (Chapter 237, SLA 1976). In 1981-82, lawmakers appropriated about \$53 million for the purchase of the Solomon Gulch project, which was constructed by the Copper Valley Electric Association.⁶ Electrical utilities purchased hydropower from these four projects through long-term power sales agreements.⁷ The Four Dam Pool was owned and operated by the state through the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA).⁸ According to the AEA, total funding for the Four Dam Pool was about \$499 million, provided through state grants and loans (approximately \$295 million in grants, \$185 million in loans, and including about \$19 million in interest accrued over the life of the project).⁹

In 2000, lawmakers approved the sale of the Four Dam Pool, and in 2002 the Four Dam Pool Power Agency (a consortium of the utilities that had purchased power from the dams) acquired the projects with the help of a loan from the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority

⁵ Personal communication, Sara Fisher-Goad, financial analyst, and Valorie Walker, deputy director/finance, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, April 11, 2005. Ms. Fisher-Goad can be reached at 907-269-4623; Ms. Walker can be reached at 907-269-3011.

⁶ Solomon Gulch is the oldest of the Four Dam Pool projects, and the only one not built by the State of Alaska. "Alaska's Public Energy Resources." Rural Resource Agency Report 85.003207, July 1985, p. 75.

⁷ The Four Dam Pool utilities are Copper Valley Electric Association, Ketchikan Public Utilities, Kodiak Electric Association, Petersburg Municipal Power and Light, and Wrangell Municipal Light and Power.

⁸ Like Alaska's energy projects, the Alaska Energy Authority has a complicated history. Originally, the Alaska Power Authority (APA) was part of the Department of Commerce and Economic Development. The APA became the AEA in 1991. In 1992, the AEA was placed under the auspices of AIDEA, and in 1999 rural energy programs formerly administered by the Division of Energy, such as PCE, were transferred to the AEA. The AEA continues to act as a separate legal entity, although personnel are provided by AIDEA and the executive director serves both organizations.

⁹ Sara Fisher-Goad and Valorie Walker, AEA.

(AIDEA).¹⁰ AIDEA loaned the consortium \$77.1 million for the "purchase, closing costs and initial funding of reserves related to the acquisition of the Four Dam Pool Project."¹¹

BRADLEY LAKE

As we mentioned above, funding for Bradley Lake began in 1979. During the 1980s, the state appropriated about \$175 million for the project. That amount was made up of a mix of general funds (\$68 million) and funding from the Power Development Fund (\$50 million) and the Railbelt Energy Fund (\$57 million). In 1993, about \$11.5 million lapsed back into the REF. The total cost for Bradley Lake was \$328 million, including \$165 million in general obligation bonds. Bradley Lake came online in 1991 and provides electrical power to a variety of railbelt utilities: Anchorage Municipal Light and Power, Chugach Electric Association, Golden Valley Electric Association, Homer Electric Association, Matanuska Electric Association, and Seward Electric Utility.¹²

POWER COST EQUALIZATION PROGRAM

As you know, the Power Cost Equalization program, or "PCE," was established in 1980 for the purpose of reducing electrical rates paid by rural consumers to a level comparable to the rates in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. Precursors to the current program were the Power Production Cost Assistance and the Power Cost Assistance programs. The Power Cost Equalization program was established in 1984, with expanded program parameters. In 1994, lawmakers created the Power Cost Equalization and Rural Energy Capitalization Fund, and capitalized it with an appropriation of \$67 million from the REF.¹³ Further deposits to the fund are composed of annual appropriations for electrical subsidies and grants, appropriations from the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska special reserve fund, appropriations from the power cost equalization endowment fund, interest, and any "gifts, bequests, contributions from other sources, and federal money."¹⁴

¹⁰ "The Four Dam Pool Power Agency Loan," *AIDEA 2004 Annual Report*, p. 40, <http://www.aidea.org>. "Hydroelectric Facilities," *Alaska Electric Power Statistics 1960-2001*, Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage, November 2003, Appendix C-1, <http://www.iser.uaa.alaska.edu/Publications/akelectricpowerfinal.pdf>.

¹¹ "Status of the Four Dam Pool Project and AIDEA Financing," Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority/Alaska Energy Authority, February 8, 2005.

¹² *Alaska Electric Power Statistics, 1960-2001*. Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska, November 2003, p. C-1.

¹³ The Rural Electric Capitalization provision allows the AEA to award grants to eligible utilities for up to 75 percent of the costs for small power projects designed to reduce the cost of providing electrical power. According to AS 42.45.180(b), total grants may not exceed three percent of the available balance in the fund in any one year.

¹⁴ AS 42.45.100(b).

Table 2 shows the actual expenditures for PCE for fiscal years 1981 through 2003, the authorized budget for FY2004 and FY2005, and the Governor's Requested Budget for FY2006. The total amount for the PCE program from 1981-2005 is about \$378 million.

MAJOR INTERTIES

Funding for the construction of the Alaska intertie (formerly known as the "Anchorage/Fairbanks intertie") began in 1981.¹⁵ Between 1981 and 1985, lawmakers appropriated about \$124 million in general funds for the project, which runs from Willow to Healy, and in 2002 they appropriated about \$20 million from the REF for an upgrade to the Teeland substation.

Lawmakers also funded other intertie projects, the major ones being the Northern, Southern, and Southeast interties and the Sutton/Glennallen intertie. The Northern intertie, which runs from Healy to Fairbanks, cost about \$65 million. The Southern intertie from Anchorage to Kenai was never built—lawmakers appropriated about \$47 million for the project, but the participating utilities pulled out.¹⁶ The funds remain with the Alaska Energy Authority until they are repealed or reappropriated. The AEA has returned about \$28.5 million in interest on the Southern intertie appropriation back to the State of Alaska.¹⁷

Lawmakers appropriated \$55 million from the REF for the Sutton/Glennallen (\$35 million) and Southeast (\$20 million) interties in 1993. In 2000, those funds lapsed back into the REF. The Sutton/Glennallen project was cancelled, and the Southeast intertie is being built by the utilities that purchased the Four Dam Pool as part of the purchase agreement.

RAILBELT ENERGY FUND

As you know, lawmakers created the Railbelt Energy Fund in 1986. Management of the fund was assigned to the Department of Revenue, and monies were to be appropriated by the legislature for projects "to assist in meeting Railbelt energy needs."¹⁸ Later, in 1993, lawmakers amended the statute to include expenditures for "programs, projects, and other expenditures to assist in meeting Railbelt energy needs, including projects for retrofitting state-owned buildings and facilities for energy conservation."¹⁹ As of March 31, 2005, the unexpended and unobligated

¹⁵ In the 1980s, lawmakers also appropriated funds for several smaller intertie projects, or for feasibility studies for such interties. We do not include these projects in this report.

¹⁶ Sara Fisher-Goad and Valorie Walker, AEA.

¹⁷ The Attorney General determined that interest on these funds should be returned to the general fund. Sara Fisher-Goad and Valorie Walker, AEA, April 11, 2005.

¹⁸ Sec. 1, Ch. 29, SLA 1986. The "railbelt" refers to Alaska communities on the road system.

¹⁹ AS 37.05.520 (Chapter 18, SLA 1993).

balance of the Railbelt Energy Fund is \$31,166,876 (this includes the FY2005 year-to-date interest earnings of \$1,112,997).²⁰

The initial funds for the REF came from monies left over from the Susitna Hydroelectric Project. About \$424 million was appropriated for Susitna during the early 1980s, but only about \$134 million was spent on the project. When plans for the dam were discontinued, lawmakers repealed the appropriations for the Susitna project and reappropriated the remaining amounts to the REF as the initial capitalization (roughly \$289.5 million).²¹

Since 1986, a total of just over \$468 million has been appropriated to the REF, including interest. About \$437 million has been spent from the fund for a variety of projects, including the Bradley Lake Hydroelectric project (\$57 million) and the Railbelt intertie reserve (\$100 million for the Soldotna-Anchorage and the Healy-Fairbanks interties).²² In addition, funds were appropriated to the Power Project Fund for loans for the Sutton to Glennallen and Swan Lake to Tye Lake interties (\$55 million total).²³ In 1993, \$67 million was appropriated to capitalize the Power Cost Equalization and Rural Electric Capitalization Fund (these were general funds appropriated to the REF for this specific purpose).

Tables 3 and 4, attached, show the details of appropriations to and from the fund.²⁴

Lawmakers have made no appropriations from the REF since 2002, when they appropriated \$42.9 million for various transmission line and intertie projects.²⁵ The REF is normally not used for general government expenditures, and according to the Office of Management and Budget, projects selected for appropriations from the REF have traditionally been determined by the legislature outside the normal budget process. The Legislative Finance Division notes that the

²⁰ Personal communication from Brenda Swift, accountant, Division of Finance, Department of Administration, April 5, 2005. Ms. Swift can be reached at 907-465-5614.

²¹ Chapter 41, SLA 1985, Sections 4, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

²² By Sec. 2, Ch. 96, SLA 1987, \$50 million in GF was repealed and reappropriated to the REF for Bradley Lake. Ch. 172, SLA 1988 appropriated an additional \$7 million from the REF to Bradley Lake. In 1993, \$11.5 million from the Bradley Lake project lapsed back into the REF (Sec. 7[1]-[7], Ch. 19, SLA 1993). The appropriation for the intertie reserve is contained in Sec. 159, Ch. 208, SLA 1990.

²³ Sec. 4(a) and Sec. 5(a), Ch. 19, SLA 1993. In 2000, the funds for these two projects lapsed back into the REF. The utilities originally involved in the Sutton/Glennallen intertie project withdrew and the project was cancelled. The Swan Lake/Tye Lake intertie is being constructed by the utilities that bought the Four Dam Pool as a part of the purchase agreement, Sara Fisher-Goad and Valorie Walker, AEA.

²⁴ Although the initial intent of the REF was to fund energy programs in the railbelt, during the early 1990s it was also used to fund a variety of capital projects across the state. As you will see in Table 2, lawmakers appropriated almost \$85 million from the REF for various capital projects in 1990 and 1991, including funds for the University of Alaska (\$39.5 million), the McLaughlin Youth Center (\$2.5 million), and a congregate housing facility for the City of Kenai (\$3.3 million).

²⁵ Sec. 78, Ch. 1, SSSLA 2002. We do not include the FY2004 "CBR sweep"—general fund subaccounts (one of which is the Railbelt Energy Fund) are automatically "swept" into the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund (CBRF) to meet the requirements of Article IX, Sec. 17(d) of the Alaska Constitution, which requires that withdrawals from the CBRF be repaid. Section 61(d) of Chapter 159, SLA 2004, transferred the FY2004 sweep back to the subaccounts from which it came.

REF is generally treated as a "hands off" fund, one from which appropriations are made only with the endorsement of a finance committee chair or other high-ranking legislator.²⁶

I hope you find this information to be useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or need additional information.

²⁶ "The Alaska Railbelt Energy Fund," Legislative Research Services Report 05.041, April 5, 2005, p. 3.

Table 1: Summary of Major Energy Appropriations, 1976-2005
(In thousands)

Year	Comments	Amount
<i>Chronological History</i>		
1976	The first major appropriations for energy projects began in 1976, with an appropriation to the water resources revolving loan fund for energy projects	\$2,500.0
1976-1982	Initial appropriations for loans and grants for major dam projects (Green Lake, Swan Lake, Terror Lake, Tye Lake), including the purchase of Solomon Gulch. (Loans were reappropriated as grants in 1982)	\$185,260.0
1979-1985	Appropriations for Susitna Hydroelectric Project	\$423,500.0
1980-1986	Appropriations for Bradley Lake Hydroelectric Project (includes \$165 million in GO bonds). \$57 million is from the REF (\$50 million of this was a funding source change from GF to REF). This project came online in 1991.	\$328,000.0
1980-1984	Grants for Alaska Intertie (formerly known as "Anchorage/Fairbanks Intertie)	\$124,000.0
1986	Railbelt Energy Fund (REF) created Capitalization of REF. Susitna appropriation made in 1985 repealed and reappropriated to the General Fund and then to the REF. Reappropriated unexpended, unobligated, and unencumbered prior year appropriations for Susitna to the REF.	\$289,500.0
1993	Ch. 18, SLA 1993 authorized AIDEA to issue GO bonds up to \$185 million for selected energy projects (\$60 million for Northern Intertie, \$60 million for Southern Intertie, \$40 million for Southeast Intertie, \$25 million for Sutton/Glennallen Intertie). No bonds were issued.	\$185,000.0
1995	Northern Intertie	\$65,000.0
2002	Southern, and Southeast interties, and Alaska intertie upgrade (the Southern intertie was discontinued after participating utilities withdrew from the project). ¹ Sale of the Four Dam Pool	\$87,300.0