



Meet the Invasive Species Challenge. Know the NISC Plan, Manage the Problem. PREPARE, PREVENT, PROTECT.

NISC NEWSLETTER

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Practicing Early Detection (ED)

Early detection and rapid response (EDRR) is a series of actions that can contain and eradicate invasive species populations. Four EDRR programs were highlighted at the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) conference held in 2008:

- Oregon's *Spartina* response program (Bonnie Rasmussen, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture).
- Florida's control efforts for several invasive plant species (Tony Pernas, National Park Service).
- Weed risk assessment project combining plant survey data and climate modeling to support early detection of invasive plants in California. (Doug Johnson, California Invasive Plant Council).
- Citizen monitoring and reporting efforts in Alaska which will be used as a component of a proposed EDRR plan for the state (Gino Graziano, Alaska Assoc. of Conservation Districts).

These presentations with audio are available to [view online](http://www.weedcenter.org/CWMAconf/CWMA_presentations.html). http://www.weedcenter.org/CWMAconf/CWMA_presentations.html

Detecting Aquatic Invaders:

From Issue #22 of the "Aquatic Invasive Species News in a Nutshell" by Joan Cabreza, Editor. The 100th Meridian Aquatic Invasive Species Notification Database is being developed. It is focused on environmental managers so that they can report and receive information on invasive mussel populations. The prototype database is now on-line, comments are being solicited. Contact David Britton at <david_britton@fws.gov>.

Northwest Rapid Response Exercise #2 The 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin Team met in Portland, OR, on October 15, 2008 and was followed by a one and a half day facilitated mock response exercise focusing on the "Columbia River Basin Interagency Invasive Species Response Plan: Zebra Mussels and Other Dreissenid Species."



BANANA BUNCHY TOP VIRUS (BBTV) early detection survey and cooperative control effort on the island of Maui, Hawaiian Islands. Photo courtesy of the Maui Invasive Species Committee.

What is Early Detection (ED):

Early Detection is the set of actions taken to find and identify all occurrences of newly establishing invasive species.

Early Detection efforts require dedicated resources, planning, and coordination. Invasive species are often detected by chance or by people over the course of other duties but active surveys by trained individuals conducting targeted invasive species surveys are the most effective. The ability to quickly and accurately identify, map and communicate about newly establishing species are still lacking for much of the United States.

"If you're going to conduct ED, have a plan for what to do next..."

Updating Weed Laws to Increase Efficient Management of Plant Invasions by Peter Rice, University of Montana -- Decisions on designating species for a state or provincial weed list can have far-reaching implications for noxious weed management. Although some states have "tiered" lists that group weed species according to management priority, range, or other parameters, most state and provincial weed laws only address weeds that have become well established. Updating noxious weed laws that include tiered lists can guide allocation of resources towards high priority species, such as those species requiring rapid response. Summary: Report: [http://www.weedcenter.org/Newsletter/08_12RiceP_final_report\(9_08\).pdf](http://www.weedcenter.org/Newsletter/08_12RiceP_final_report(9_08).pdf)

This article and the CWMA article are from the December Center for Invasive Plant Management Newsletter: <http://www.weedcenter.org>

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In the News

September 3, 2008: A University of CO study, **Dam invaders: impoundments facilitate biological invasions of freshwaters**, by P.T. Johnson et al. has been published in *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* (2008, 6, pp.357-363). It concludes that dam construction and biological invasions are closely linked, and that the growing number of dams and other impoundments is increasing the number of invasive species and the speed at which they spread. Article alert thanks to Nutshell News! <http://www.esajournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1890/070156>

December 19, 2008: **EPA finalizes discharge permit for large commercial vessels**. Katherine Boyle, E&E reporter - "U.S. EPA released a new permit yesterday to regulate water pollution from commercial vessels. About 61,000 U.S.-flagged and 8,000 foreign-flagged vessels will need to comply with the Clean Water Act permit, which EPA issued to meet conditions in a 2006 federal court decision. The decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California revoked a 1973 permit exemption for commercial and recreational vessels. A three-judge panel for the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals later upheld the district court decision."

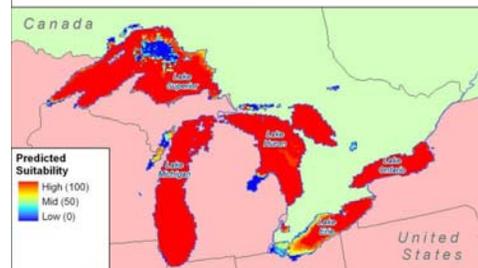
State News

The Oregon's Invasive Species Council is hosting an **Invasive Species Awareness Day** at the Capitol in Salem, OR on January 13, 2009. The purpose of the event is to, "increase awareness, understanding, and support that the threat of invasive species plays relative to Oregon's economy, environment, and quality of life. Representatives from industry, government, academia, and non-profit organizations will staff displays in the lobby of the capitol and be available throughout the day to engage with legislators on issues of importance relative to invasive species. In particular, the Oregon council supports several bills in the upcoming Oregon legislative session that deal with expanded invasive species funding for counties, restructuring of the Oregon council to add the Department of Environmental Quality as an official member, consolidation of plant quarantine laws, enforcement language that makes it illegal to knowingly allow feral swine to run free and to offer fee hunts for feral swine, and enforcement authority to stop watercraft potentially contaminated with aquatic invasive species. In addition, the Oregon council seeks funding for numerous projects and management activities that allow for full implementation of this proposed legislation." This event is an action item identified in the Oregon council's 2008-2009 business plan. Contact Lisa A. DeBruyckere - Oregon Invasive Species Council Coordinator lisad@createstrat.com.

November 24, 2008. "Great Lakes: Appellate court upholds states' rights to regulate ballast water. (by Daniel Cusick writing for Greenwire) Ocea-going ships docking in Michigan can be required to obtain certification that their ballast water is free of invasive species and other harmful organisms before discharge is permitted. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a 2005 Michigan state law requiring that shippers either certify they will not discharge ballast water in Michigan ports, or that they be equipped to kill live organisms in the ballast prior to discharge." http://www.glelc.org/files/fednav_6th_cir_opinion.pdf

December 18, 2008: **Tamarisk-defoliating beetle spreads to flycatcher habitat; group sues to halt damage**. April Reese, E&E News - Western reporter, "A leaf-eating beetle introduced into southern Utah nine years ago to control salt cedar (an invasive tree that has invaded many of the West's rivers) the insect itself has become a nuisance, spreading southward into nesting habitat for the endangered Southwestern willow flycatcher. An environmental group this week filed notice that it intends to sue the federal government to force it to halt the expansion of the beetle into nesting sites." Notice: http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/species/birds/southwestern_willow_flycatcher/pdfs/notice-20081212.pdf

Blueback herring (*Alosa aestivalis*)



Predicting Future Introductions of Non-indigenous Species to the Great Lakes (Final Report, 2008) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. EPA/600/R-08/066F. This report predicts the spread of aquatic nonindigenous species into the Great Lakes to help resource managers focus monitoring activities on particular species at the most vulnerable U.S. Great Lakes ports. The report also demonstrates the use of a habitat suitability model and ballast water discharge data to predict invasion potential.

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=190305>



BLUEBLACK HERRING (*Alosa aestivalis*) Native to the Atlantic Coast - this is an anadromous fish living in marine systems and spawning in deep, swift freshwater with a hard substrate. In areas other than New York, these fish were intentionally stocked for forage. In New York, these fish are expanding their range using canals. Also see: www.tnfish.org/InvasivesExoticSpeciesTennessee_TWRA/BluebackHerring_TWRA.htm

Drawing courtesy of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

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Toolkit

The Center for Invasive Plant Management (CIPM) announced the second of two learning websites developed for the US Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge System and other natural resource managers. The website, *Managing Invasive Plants: Concepts, Principles, and Practices*, provides an overview of invasive plant management supported by case studies, quizzes, scientific literature, and web-based resources. The website is best viewed in Internet Explorer.

<http://www.fws.gov/invasives/staffTrainingModule/index.html>

This article is from the December CIPM Newsletter:

<http://www.weedcenter.org>

The ISAC invasive species definition clarification is now published!!

The recommended citation is:

Beck, K. George, Kenneth Zimmerman, Jeffrey D. Schardt, Jeffrey Stone, Ronald R. Lukens, Sarah Reichard, John Randall, Allegra A. Cangelosi, Diane Cooper, and John Peter Thompson. 2008. *Invasive species defined in a policy context: Recommendations for the federal Invasive Species Advisory Committee*. *Invasive Plant Science and Management* 1(4):414-421. Thanks to George Beck for the notice!

"Don't let your cat go AWOL" Brochure Reprint. "When families deploy or are transferred, pet cats often get left behind. Military bases struggle with how to manage these abandoned domestic and resulting feral cat populations. DoD's Partners In Flight's brochure, *Don't Let Your Cat Go AWOL*, provides information on dealing with this important and complex issue." Contact Jane Mallory at Jane.Mallory.crt@osd.mil. From the "Steppingstones" Newsletter of the Department of Defense partners in Flight Program

<https://www.denix.osd.mil/portal/page/portal/denix/environment/NR/DoDPartnersinFlight>

WOOD BORING BEETLES Identification Tool: The USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (USDA/APHIS/PPQ/CPHST) is pleased to announce the release of its newest identification tool: *Wood Boring Beetles of the World Part 1: Wood Boring Beetle Families*. A new Luc® interactive identification tool by Andrew Cline, Michael Ivie, Charles Bellamy, and Julia Scher. http://www.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/WBB/key/Whole_site/Html/Home.htm

A global review of marine invasive species: where they are, how they are being introduced, and which ones are most harmful is now online: <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment> (Jennifer L Molnar, Rebecca L Gamboa, Carmen Revenga, Mark D Spalding. 2008. *Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity*. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. Vol. 6, No. 9, pp. 485-492.)

Ant Guide: The new edition of *PIAkey: identification guide to invasive ants of the Pacific Islands* has been released. <http://www.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/PIAkey/Copyright.html>



STINGING NETTLE CATERPILLAR (*Darna pallivitta*) has been established in Hawaii since 2001 and is an early detection target in California. Photo by UH—CTAHR.

The USFS has released a draft of the report, "Sustainable Forests". The draft report is available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/sustain/2010SustainabilityReport>. The website also contains information about the on-line review process, supporting technical materials and partner reports, and links to other websites describing workshops and briefings. The chapter titled, Criterion 3 - Maintenance of ecosystem health and vitality has indicators for the area and percent of forest affected by invasive species. For more information please contact 2010sustainabilityreport@fs.fed.us

Announcements

Susan Mangin will be the new Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Executive Secretary, beginning January 18, 2009. Susan will serve in a technical staff position in the Branch of Invasive Species in the Division of Fish and Wildlife Management and Habitat Restoration, Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Program within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She serves as the Executive Secretary of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and provides technical support and policy analysis to the co-chairs of the ANSTF to implement provisions of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act.

Recent Articles

From the Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council (PNW IPC):

<http://www.pnw-ipc.org/>

Aquatic invaders - *Sargassum muticum* and *Crassostrea gigas*. Research studies on these species have been posted:

<http://pnw-ipc.org/invasivesresearchsargassum.shtml>

• Short- and long-term effects of disturbance and propagule pressure on a biological invasion. Kevin H. Britton-Simmons and Karen C. Abbott

• Functional group diversity, resource preemption and the genesis of invasion resistance in a community of marine algae. Kevin H. Britton-Simmons

• Two invaders achieve higher densities in reserves. Terrie Klingler, Dianna K. Padilla and Kevin Britton-Simmons

• Direct and indirect effects of the introduced alga *Sargassum muticum* on benthic, subtidal communities of Washington State, USA. Kevin H. Britton-Simmons



Sargassum muticum.
Photo by
Andrew
Cohen,
www.exoticguide.org

Legislative Update

December 8-10, 2008: National Council on Science and the Environment's *Biodiversity in a Rapidly Changing World* conference generated nearly 200 recommendations in 30 breakout sessions. Members presented these draft recommendations to the Energy and Environment Transition Team of the incoming Obama Administration later in the week.

<http://ncseonline.org/Conference/Biodiversity/>

06. Invasive Species and Biodiversity: Challenges and Recommendations for a Changing World Include:

Congress should pass a law stating that it is a national goal to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful organisms (invasive species as defined in Executive Order 13112 signed in 1999 by President Clinton).

Congress should establish and fund a national Center to coordinate federal, state, and local efforts to prevent the introduction of invasive species and to control the spread of those already introduced. Serving as a nationwide resource, the Center should share information on invasive species between agencies and organizations and online. Taking advantage of social marketing methods, the Center should also develop, implement, and market education and outreach on invasive species.

The Center should establish a national invasive species research program, including relevant social and cultural research.

Congress and the Administration should develop comprehensive risk assessment processes for all intentional imports of organisms, including white, gray and black (or green, yellow, and red) lists of organisms whose import is permitted, prohibited pending study, or prohibited, respectively. For these purposes, organisms should be classified to the species level rather than by more general categories.

Agencies should develop and propose a mechanism for recovering costs associated with conducting risk assessments of introductions of species from the private or public bodies that do or seek to introduce new species.

Congress should establish an emergency fund for rapid response to newly introduced or newly spreading invasive species, and a process for disbursement.

The President should fund a public works program focused on invasive species removal and monitoring, including employment and training.

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February 8-13 , 2009: 3rd International Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods - Christchurch, New Zealand - Contact: <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php>

February 9-13 , 2009 - The joint Weed Science Society of America and Southern Weed Science Society Conference - Orlando Florida - Contact: <http://wssa.net/Meetings/WSSAAnnual/Info.htm>

February 13-16 , 2009 - International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance - Vienna, Austria - Contact: http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm

February 15-19 , 2009: World Aquaculture Society: Aquaculture America 2009 - Seattle, Washington, USA - Contact: <http://www.was.org/meetings/WasMeetings.asp>

February 18-19, 2009: 2009 Tamarisk & Russian Olive Research Conference in Reno, NV. Please visit www.tamarisk.colostate.edu for more information about the conference, registration and hotel reservations.

February 18-19 2009: 13th Pacific Entomology Conference - Honolulu, Hawaii, USA - Contact: <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/peps/hes/>

March 9-12 , 2009: Meetings of the NAPPO Panels for Forestry, Invasive Species and Pest Risk Analysis - San Antonio, Texas, USA - Contact: <http://www.napponet.org/>

March 10-12, 2009: International Scientific Congress on Climate Change, Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions - Copenhagen, Denmark - Contact: jsha@adm.ku.dk

March 12-13, 2009: 3rd Workshop 2009 European Weed Research Society (EWRS) Workshop - Weeds and Biodiversity Working Group - Lleida, Spain - Contact: http://www.ewrs.org/biodiversity/workshop_2009.asp

March 29 - April 1, 2009: Western Aquatic Plant Management Society (WAPMS) Meeting. WAPMS will hold its 2009 Conference in Honolulu, HI. Program development is still underway, but there will be special sessions on invasive seaweeds and management of Eurasian watermilfoil in Idaho. They are soliciting presentations and posters. To arrange a special session on a particular topic, contact Robert Leavitt, rleavitt@cdfa.ca.gov. For agencies or university presenters who would otherwise be unable to attend, WAPMS and the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation have limited funds to help, especially with airfare. For more information, contact Tom McNabb, tmcnabb@cleanlake.com.

August 24-27, 2009: Marine Bioinvasions Conference. The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), PSU, National Sea Grant, and PSMFC are jointly sponsoring the 6th International Marine Bioinvasions Conference, to be held at Portland State University in Portland, OR. The purpose is to examine marine bioinvasion vectors, patterns, distribution, ecological and evolutionary consequences, economic impacts, biosecurity approaches, and invasion impacts on biodiversity. Registration will open in 2009. For more details, go to [\[www.clr.pdx.edu/mbic\]](http://www.clr.pdx.edu/mbic).

September 21-24, 2009: 2009 North American Weed Management Association Conference, Kearney, NE. The theme is "Response to the Riparian Invasion." They are putting together a program that covers Nebraska's plan and setting up a structure to address potential new riparian plant invaders. For more information about NAWMA, please visit www.nawma.org.

Conferences and Meetings

For a complete listing of meetings visit www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/news/calendar.php



January 13-16, 2009: 20th USDA Interagency Research Forum on Invasive Species will be held at the Loews Annapolis Hotel 126 West St, Annapolis, MD. The USDA Forum on Invasive Species is an annual meeting that began in 1990 as the "USDA Interagency Gypsy Moth Research Forum".

Please see the conference website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/morgantown/4557/forum/index.shtml>

Topics include:

Invasive Plants and Their Impacts

Gypsy Moth Research

Risk Assessment for Invasive Species

Exotic Wood Boring Insects

Biological Control

Alien Forest Pathogens

International Forest Insects and Disease Reports

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