

Spartina

Are we ready to respond?

INITIAL DETECTION

Do standards exist for verification and are experts known?

THREAT-RISK EVALUATION

Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?

AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY

Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?

DECISION TO ACT

Has agency approval and funding been provided?

RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT

Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?

OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS

Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?

OUTREACH TO PUBLIC

Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?

LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL-PERMITTING PROCESS

Are permits in place or readily secured?

After response actions and monitoring has occurred.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring?



ARE WE READY?

Rapid Response Elements that are in place for **Spartina spp.**

INITIAL DETECTION. Do standards exist for verification? Are experts known?

Yes. Standards exist for verification, and experts are known in Washington, Oregon, and California.

THREAT-RISK EVALUATION. Have threats and risks to Washington been identified?

Yes. The *Noxious Emergent Plant Environmental Impact Statement* for Washington State was prepared in 1992 in which the threats and risks to estuarine habitat and the shellfish industry were identified.

AUTHORITY-RESOURCE INVENTORY. Is the responsible agency known and is funding available?

Yes. The lead agency for rapid response to a new *Spartina* outbreak is the Washington Department of Agriculture. Other agencies involved in the eradication effort include the Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources, as well as several county noxious weed boards and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Funding has been provided to the state agencies by the Washington Legislature.

DECISION TO ACT. Has agency approval and funding been provided?

Yes. State agencies have been acting with great success to eradicate *Spartina* from the Washington coast for many years. With the creation of RCW 17.26 came funding for the Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Fish and Wildlife to be expressly for *Spartina* control.

RESPONSE DEVELOPMENT. Are control strategies known? Is an action plan in place?

Yes. Control strategies have been well documented, and there is an annual state-wide management plan used by the agencies.

OUTREACH TO DECISION MAKERS. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation?

Yes. The process for outreach to decision makers is known and has been implemented many times.

OUTREACH TO PUBLIC. Is the process for outreach known and ready for implementation? Are key stakeholders known?

Yes. The process for outreach to the public is known and has been used many times.

LEGAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL – PERMITTING PROCESS. Are permits in place or readily secured?

Yes. A National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit exists that allows for the use of herbicides to control *Spartina*.

ACTION.

MONITORING.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS. Has the agency allocated funds for follow-up response actions informed by monitoring?

Yes. Monitoring for *Spartina* occurs on an annual basis. Unfortunately, new infestations are found somewhat regularly.