

**Time:** Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

**Public Comment:**

If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff. Please be sure to note on the card if you are speaking about a particular agenda topic. The chair will call you to the front at the appropriate time.

You also may submit written comments to the Council by mailing them to the RCO, Attn: Justin Bush at the address above or at [justin.bush@rco.wa.gov](mailto:justin.bush@rco.wa.gov).

**Special Accommodations:**

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please notify us at 360-902-3088.

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**OPENING AND WELCOME**

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b>	<i>Chair</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities and Safety Information</li> <li>• Call-in Participant Check-in</li> <li>• Review Agenda</li> </ul>	

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**HOT TOPIC REPORTS**

<b>9:10 a.m.</b>	<b>1. Council Welcome and Clark County Vegetation Management Overview</b>	<i>Casey Gozart</i>
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>2. Executive Coordinator's Report</b>	<i>Justin Bush</i>
<b>9:50 a.m.</b>	<b>3. Council Member Introductions</b>	<i>All</i>
<b>10:20 a.m.</b>	<b>4. Oregon Invasive Species Council Introduction and Overview</b>	<i>OISC</i>
<b>10:40 a.m.</b>	<b>5. OR/WA Invasive Species Council Collaboration Discussion</b>	<i>All</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	

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**DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS**

<b>11:20 a.m.</b>	<b>6. Washington Feral Swine Interagency Response Updates</b>	<i>Laurence Schafer</i>
<b>11:40 a.m.</b>	<b>7. Regional Don't Let it Loose Campaign Updates</b>	<i>Justin Bush</i>
<b>11:50 a.m.</b>	<b>8. Economic Analysis of the Impact of Invasive Species in Washington</b>	<i>Alison Halpern</i>
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>9. Top 50 Species Review Process</b>	<i>Justin Bush</i>

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**12:20 p.m.      BREAK**

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**12:40 p.m.      10. Council Business**

- a. Strategic Plan Accomplishment Update
  - b. Chair and Vice-Chair Discussion
  - c. Chair Nominations
  - d. Play Clean Go PNW Invasive Plant Council Request
  - e. Review and Discuss 2017 Meeting Dates
  - f. Approval of June Minutes
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*Chair,  
Justin Bush*

**1:40 p.m.      11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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**1:55 p.m.      12. Next Steps**

- Review next meeting location and date
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*Chair*

**2:00 p.m.      ADJOURN**

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Washington Invasive Species Council  
Fiscal Year 17 Farm Bill Section 10007  
Project Suggestions

**Suggestion 1.**

**Expanding the Columbia Gorge Invasive Species Project: A Multiregional Approach (G5\_WA\_0363)**

**Partners:** Washington State University Extension, Skamania County

**Amount:** \$68,000.00 total; \$ 33,386.00 WISC, \$19,747 WSU, \$14,867.00 Skamania County

**Summary:** This suggestion expands a regional approach to detection, public outreach, and collaboration funded in FY16 focusing on the Columbia River Gorge. To improve and continue the Columbia Gorge Invasive Species Workshop using FY16 developed materials and model, including hosting a second regional workshop will occur in partnership with Washington State University, focusing on the Eastern Washington-Western Idaho region.

**Suggestion 2.**

**Establishing a First Detector Invasive Species Network in Washington State (G5\_WA\_0246)**

**Partners:** Washington State University Extension

**Amount:** \$62,000 total; \$47,258 WISC, \$14,742.00 WSU

**Summary:** This suggestion will create a regional network of invasive species first detectors, trained to detect new pest occurrences, identify pests of high-consequence, and report the observations to the proper responding authorities. The Washington Invasive Species Council and partnering organizations will compile and develop educational curriculum, organize and hold training workshops, and provide existing reporting tools to the trained, first detector network participants. This trained group of invasive species first detectors represents Washington's first line of defense in preventing the damages from high-consequence invasive pests.

**Suggestion 3.**

**Don't Let it Loose Washington: A Novel Behavior Change Project (G5\_WA\_0004)**

**Partners:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Pacific Education Institute

**Amount:** \$76,000.00 total; \$66,000 WISC, \$6,000.00 WDFW, \$4,000.00 PEI

**Summary:** This suggestion will address the introduction of invasive pests of regulatory significance kept in schools, or private residences as educational specimen or pets. Through successful development and implementation of this behavior change campaign, the public will: 1) Understand the potential negative consequences of releasing unwanted plants, insects, and animals into the natural environment; 2) Understand Best Management Practices for disposing of unwanted plants, insects, and animals; 3) Prevent the procurement of potentially invasive plants, insects, and animals as pets for home and school use; and 4) Understand when and where to report occurrences of the species they detect.

## **OR/WA Invasive Species Council Collaboration Discussion**

### **Discussion Points**

#### **Theme 1: Education and Outreach**

- a. Messaging
  - i. What messages are you promoting?
  - ii. How can we amplify our efforts by using consistent messaging?
  
- b. Role of Social Media
  - i. What social media platforms are you using and why?
  - ii. Do you have an outreach plan?
  
- c. Direct Outreach
  - i. What is the council's role in direct outreach?
  - ii. What events do you target?
  - iii. Do you feel this is an effective use of council members and staff?
  
- d. Engaging Citizens as First Detectors
  - i. Do you engage Citizen Scientists as First Detector Networks? Why?
  - ii. How can we better engage citizens?

#### **Theme 2: Prioritizing Efforts**

- a. How are your priorities developed? What lessons have you learned from this process?
  
- b. How do you incorporate newly detected species that were not analyzed?

#### **Theme 3: Continued OISC/WISC Collaboration**

- a. What potential opportunities do you see to collaborate?
  
- b. How should we periodically check-in?
  - i. Staff coordinating calls
  - ii. Physical meetings
  - iii. Bi-State Summit

## Invasive Species Impact and Prevention/Early Action Assessment Tool

Species/Guild Name:			
Through the Gate?	Here	Near	Far
<b><u>Summary of Scores</u></b>			
		<b>Potential</b>	
		<b>Max.</b>	<b>Score</b>
Ecological Impacts		40	_____
Economic Impacts		40	_____
Human Health Impacts		10	_____
Invasive Potential		33	_____
Difficulty of Control		10	_____
	TOTAL IMPACT	133	_____
Feasibility of Prevention/Early Action		50	_____
Number of 'Unknown' Scores Recorded:			
Level of Certainty in Assessment:			
	High	Medium	Low

Invasive species – plants, animals, insects, and pathogens – are a threat to Washington’s environment and economy, exacting a high price for their presence. These biological invaders can produce serious, often irreversible effects on our natural resources and natural resource-based industries; they may also harm the health of humans and livestock. While not all non-native species have aggressive or harmful traits, the sheer number of these species coming through our gates increases the risk of significant adverse impacts. With limited resources available to manage this problem, agencies and stakeholders must be strategic in their approach.

In response to this increasing threat, the Washington Invasive Species Council has developed a ranking system to evaluate the impacts and potential invasiveness of invasive species to our natural areas, natural resource-based industries, and public health. This ranking system has been designed to be a robust and transparent procedure to aid the Council in (1) **identifying the most problematic invasive species in or near to the state** and (2) **prioritizing Council actions**. We created an impact assessment process by incorporating components from other assessment models (e.g., Invasiveness Ranking System for Non-native Plants in Alaska, California Invasive Plant Inventory), in which species are ranked by a series of questions in five broad categories: ecological impacts, economic impacts, human health impacts, invasive potential, and difficulty of control. In addition, in keeping with the Council’s strategic focus on prevention and early detection and rapid response as identified in *Invaders at the Gate*, we have included a separate assessment of how feasible it would be for Washington state agencies to take preventive measures or be effective with early action for a species.

The first three sections of the impact assessment pertain to the severity of a species’ potential or actual impact on the natural environment, natural-resource based industries, and human health. These impacts may have been observed occurring in Washington or, if not yet here, in another state or region. The Invasive Potential section focuses on a species’ biological characteristics associated with its potential to disperse, spread, and flourish into and within a new area. The questions in this section provide a measure of a species’ potential to be invasive. The fifth section, Difficulty of Control, measures the financial and human investment needed to control a species. **A higher total impact score corresponds to a greater detrimental impact caused by a species.**

The second part of the assessment, the Current Ability to Prevent/Take Early Action section, asks questions related to entry and transport pathways, current distribution, and policy and outreach measures already in place to facilitate efforts to conduct prevention measures or an effective rapid response. **A higher score for Current Ability to**

**Prevent/Take Early Action corresponds to a greater likelihood of Washington state agencies being able to effectively implement prevention measures or conduct early action on a species.**

For most questions, scores range from 0 to 10 points. This numeric spread was adapted from Alaska's ranking system and chosen to highlight relative differences among species. Any score of 'unknown' is given a numeric score of 1 and incorporated into the overall score. The number of unknown responses are recorded and used to determine the level of certainty in the assessment (i.e., high, medium, low).

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**WORKSHEET**

**IS IT THROUGH THE GATE?**

- Here Species has established populations in Washington.
- Near Species has established populations in western U.S. region and similar habitat exists in Washington or species has been identified entering Washington through pathways but is not yet established.
- Far Species has established populations in areas outside of western U.S. region that have climate conditions similar to Washington.

**IMPACTS**

A score of 'unknown' will be given a numeric score of 1.

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ ECOLOGICAL IMPACT**

\_\_\_\_\_ Impact on ecosystem processes

- A. No impact on ecosystem processes. 0
- B. Influences ecosystem processes to a minor degree (e.g., has a perceivable but mild influence on soil nutrient availability). 3
- C. Causes significant alteration of ecosystem processes (e.g., increases sedimentation rates along streams or coasts, reduces areas of open water important to waterfowl, alters water chemistry, alters rate of water retention, reduces ecosystem productivity). 7
- D. Causes major, possibly irreversible, alteration or disruption of ecosystem processes (e.g., alters geomorphology, hydrology, or fire frequency; fixes substantial levels of nitrogen in the soil which favors non-native species). 10
- U. Unknown

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Impact on community composition, structure, and interactions

- A. No impact on community composition, structure, and interactions. 0
- B. Influences community composition, structure, and interactions (e.g., reduces the number of individuals in one or more native species). 3
- C. Causes significant alteration of community composition, structure, and interactions (e.g., produces a significant reduction in the population size of one or more native species). 7
- D. Causes major alteration in community composition, structure, and interactions (e.g., forms a complete monotype, results in the extirpation of one or more native species reducing biodiversity or changing composition towards exotic species). 10
- U. Unknown

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

_____	Impact on genetic integrity of native species/potential for hybridization	
	A. No impact on genetic integrity of native species/no potential for hybridization.	0
	B. Known to hybridize with one or more native species and produce sterile offspring that lower the reproductive output of native species.	5
	C. Known to hybridize with one or more native species and produce fertile offspring that can outcompete native species.	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

_____	Impact on federal or state species of concern (SOC) or high-value/rare ecological communities as defined by the Washington Natural Heritage Program	
	A. No impact on SOC or high-value/rare ecological communities.	0
	B. Causes detrimental impact on SOC species or high-value/rare communities.	5
	C. Causes extirpation of one or more SOC species or eradication of a high-quality/rare ecological community.	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ ECONOMIC IMPACT**

_____	Impact on agricultural/aquaculture industry	
	A. No impact on agriculture or aquaculture.	0
	B. Causes minor impact on agriculture or aquaculture (e.g., somewhat reduced production and crop yields, reduced forage for livestock).	3
	C. Causes significant impact on agriculture or aquaculture (e.g., major reduction in production and crop yields, loss of livestock, loss of markets by contaminants, genetic integrity of crop species, damage to water diversion system).	7
	D. Potential to shut-down portions of the industry (could be due to regulatory measure).	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

_____	Impact on forest products industry	
	A. No impact to forest products industry.	0
	B. Causes minor impact to forest products industry (e.g., somewhat reduced timber and other forest products yields, small increase in susceptibility to fire).	3
	C. Causes significant impact to forest products industry (e.g., major reduction in timber and other forest product yields, significant increase in susceptibility to fire).	7
	D. Potential to shut-down portions of the industry (could be due to quarantine or other regulatory measure).	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Impact on physical infrastructure

- A. No impact on physical infrastructure. 0
- B. Causes minor impact on physical infrastructure (e.g., minor damage and/or impediments to dams, roads, railways, fences, power lines, flood control ditches, aquaculture equipment). 3
- C. Causes significant impact on physical infrastructure (e.g., major damage and/or impediments to dams, roads, railways, power lines, aquaculture equipment). 7
- D. Potential to render parts of physical infrastructure unusable, replacement costs would be extreme. 10
- U. Unknown

Comments:

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\_\_\_\_\_ Impact on recreational sector

- A. No impact on recreational opportunities. 0
- B. Causes detrimental impact on recreational opportunities (e.g., diminished opportunities for camping, biking, hiking, boating, fishing/shellfish gathering, birding, hunting). 5
- C. Elimination of one or more recreational opportunities. 10
- U. Unknown

Comments:

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3. \_\_\_\_\_ **HUMAN HEALTH IMPACT**

- A. No impact on human health. 0
- B. Causes physical injury (e.g., thorns, shells of zebra mussel) or provides habitat for a disease vector or organism. 5
- C. Is a human disease vector or is a disease organism. May also cause individual mortality (e.g., accidental ingestion of poison hemlock, West Nile Virus). 10
- U. Unknown

Comments:

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4. \_\_\_\_\_ **INVASIVE POTENTIAL**

\_\_\_\_\_ Rate of spread with no management

- A. Does not occur – species does not spread within suitable habitat. 0
- B. Actual or potential slow rate of spread within suitable habitat. 3
- C. Actual or potential moderate rate of spread within suitable habitat. 7
- D. Actual or potential rapid rate of spread (doubling in < 10 years) within suitable habitat. 10
- U. Unknown

Comments:

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_____	Natural ability for dispersal beyond parent population	
	A. Does not occur.	0
	B. Infrequent or inefficient dispersal (occurs occasionally despite lack of adaptations).	3
	C. Efficient dispersal occurs but population remains within a natural boundary (such as a waterbody or natural area surrounded by human development).	7
	D. Numerous opportunities for dispersal (species has ability to move across natural barriers or has adaptations such as wings or hooked fruit-coats that facilitate dispersal).	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments:

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_____	Habitat specialization (How far-reaching can infestation become/potential distribution)	
	A. Highly specialized habitat requirements (species is found in only one ecotype or ecological niche).	0
	B. Moderately specialized habitat requirements (species is found in 2-3 ecotypes or ecological niches).	5
	C. General habitat requirements (species occupies a wide range of ecotypes or ecological niches).	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments:

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_____	Other species in the genus invasive	
	A. No.	0
	B. Yes.	3
	U. Unknown	

Comments:

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**5. \_\_\_\_\_ DIFFICULTY OF CONTROL – LEVEL OF EFFORT REQUIRED**

	A. Management is not required (e.g., species does not persist).	0
	B. Management is relatively easy and inexpensive; requires a minor investment in human and financial resources.	3
	C. Management requires a major short-term investment of human and financial resources, or a moderate long-term investment.	7
	D. Management requires a major, long-term investment of human and financial resources.	10
	U. Unknown	

Comments:

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**Total Impact Score \_\_\_\_\_**

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**CURRENT ABILITY TO PREVENT/TAKE EARLY ACTION**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Potential for entry into and transport within Washington via human activities (both directly and indirectly – possible mechanisms include commercial sales, use as forage/ revegetation, aquaculture, biological supply, horticulture, transport on boats, etc.)
- A. High - numerous pathways for entry into and transport within Washington exist and species is routinely identified traveling on these pathways. 0
  - B. Moderate - some entry into and transport pathways within Washington exist and species is occasionally identified on these pathways. 3
  - C. Low - entry and transport pathways are infrequent and inefficient. 7
  - D. Does not occur. 10
  - U. Unknown

Comments:

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Regulatory barriers to prevent entry into and transport within Washington
- A. No or minor regulatory restrictions on organisms/host and no surveillance. 0
  - B. No or minor regulatory restrictions on organisms/host with surveillance. 3
  - C. Regulatory oversight on organisms/host with restricted trade. 5
  - D. Trade and/or transport of organisms/hosts illegal. 7
  - E. Strict prohibition on organisms/host and some infrastructure for interception. 10
  - U. Unknown

Comments:

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Current distribution in Washington
- A. Widely distributed throughout state. 0
  - B. Regionally distributed. 3
  - C. More than one infestation known spread within one or multiple watersheds. 5
  - D. Isolated infestation, 1-3 known locations encompassing fewer than 50 acres. 7
  - E. Not present. 10
  - U. Unknown

Comments:

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Degree to which control is mandated
- A. No regulatory barriers, voluntary control may or may not be encouraged. 0
  - B. Mandatory control at local level. 3
  - C. Mandatory containment of species where regionally established and mandatory control of species where not yet established. 7
  - D. Mandatory eradication of species. 10
  - U. Unknown

Comments:

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Current efforts for education and outreach**

- A. No education and outreach efforts are undertaken for this species. 0
- B. Some education materials exist and passive outreach occurs (e.g., signs posted at public access points, information cards made available at public events). 3
- C. Education materials exist and outreach occurs sporadically and/or after a new species or infestation is discovered. 7
- D. Education and outreach materials and programs exist and are actively provided to targeted audiences before the species or a new infestation is discovered. 10
- U. Unknown

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

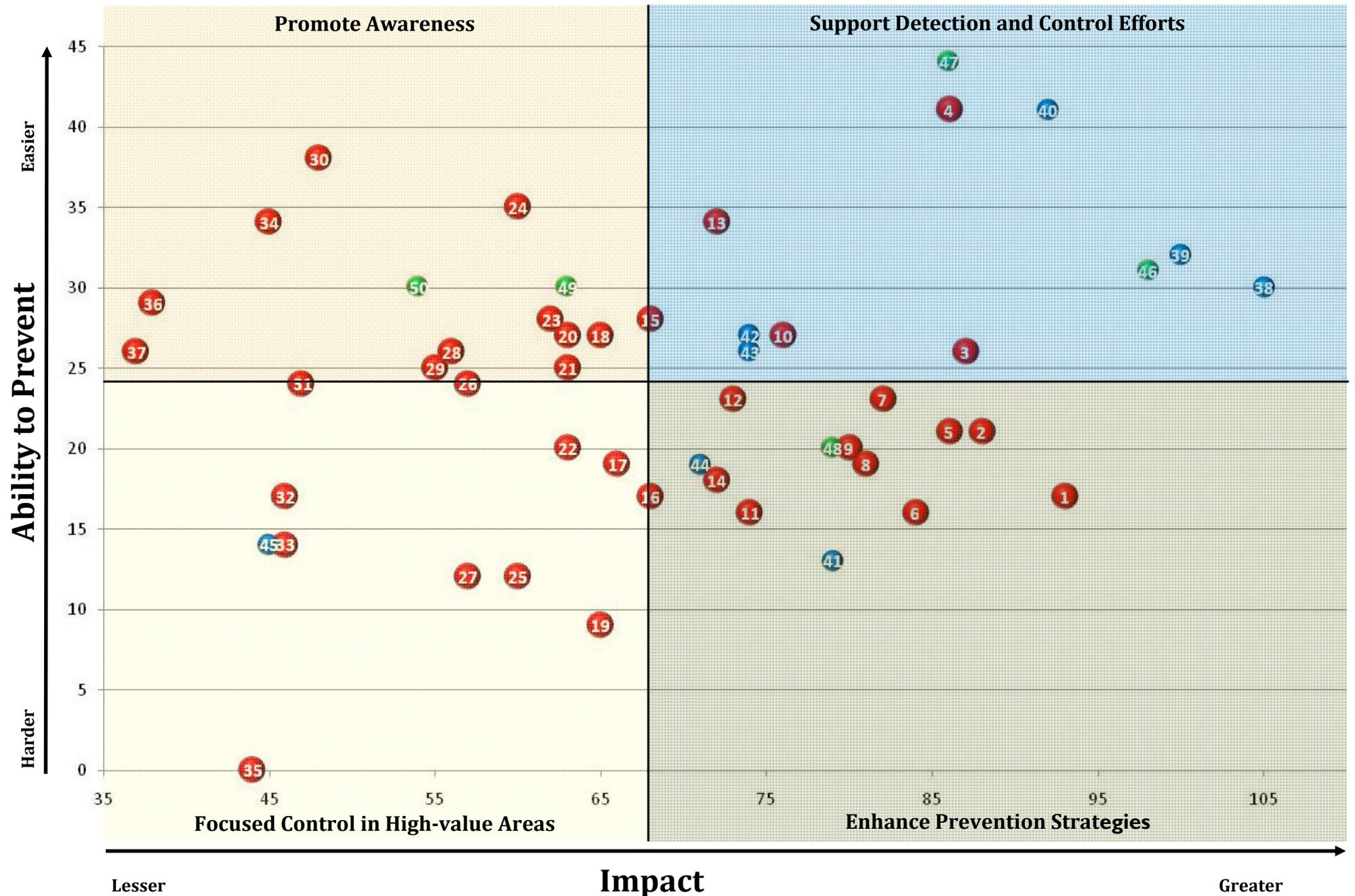
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Current Ability to Prevent/Take Early Action Score**

# Invasive Species Management Priorities

- **Here**
- 1. Feral swine
- 2. Variable leaf milfoil
- 3. Brazilian elodea
- 4. Hydrilla
- 5. Knapweeds
- 6. Nutria
- 7. Yellow starthistle
- 8. Common reed – non native genotypes
- 9. Leafy spurge
- 10. Eurasian watermilfoil
- 11. Tunicates
- 12. Parrotfeather
- 13. Spartina
- 14. Tamarix
- 15. Purple loosestrife
- 16. Dalmation toadflax
- 17. New Zealand mud snail
- 18. Himalayan blackberry
- 19. Knotweeds
- 20. Green crab
- 21. Rush skeletonweed
- 22. Scotch thistle
- 23. Red swamp/rusty crayfish
- 24. Bullfrog
- 25. Garlic mustard
- 26. Kochia
- 27. VHS type IVa
- 28. Exotic apple fruit pests
- 29. Mediterranean snail
- 30. Common crupina
- 31. Hawkweeds
- 32. Butterfly bush
- 33. Scotch broom
- 34. Tansy ragwort
- 35. Exotic leafrollers
- 36. Giant hogweed
- 37. Atlantic salmon
- **Near**
- 38. Zebra/quagga mussel
- 39. Lymantriids
- 40. Kudzu
- 41. Caulerpa
- 42. SVCV/IHNV
- 43. Mitten crab
- 44. Marine clams
- 45. Bark-boring moths
- **Far**
- 46. Wood-boring beetles
- 47. VHS type IVb
- 48. Water chestnut
- 49. Asian carp
- 50. Northern snakehead fish



# Invasive Species Management Priorities

Invasive species constitute one of the gravest threats to Washington’s plants, animals, and businesses dependent on the rich biodiversity here.

Two critical parts to managing invasions are:

1. Identifying the species that threaten resources
2. Prioritizing species for management action

To better manage invasions, the Washington Invasive Species Council developed an assessment process to provide a transparent, repeatable, and credible basis for the council and partner agencies to prioritize management actions for invasive species (see assessment tool for more details).

All taxonomic groups are represented in the council’s assessment process, not just plants or marine species as seen in other assessments. **Based on best-professional judgment and science, this is a management tool to categorize invasive species of greatest threat to Washington and to guide council action.**

## The Scores

The assessment provides two scores for each species:

- An **impact score** that relates to a species’ environmental, economic, and human health threat
- A **prevention score** that relates to an agency’s ability to take preventative or early action for that species

For example, the higher the impact score, the greater the threat is to Washington’s environment, economy, human health, or a combination of them. The higher the prevention score, the greater the opportunity for an agency to prevent establishment of the species or the greater the agency’s ability to respond quickly to new infestations.

Both of these scores are plotted on a management grid to inform the council on future actions to take and to track the effectiveness of those actions. The actual scores are less important than the relative difference among species and the change in score over time.

The scores also will serve as a baseline against which to measure how effective the actions of the council and other agencies are in reducing a species’ impact and improving the ability of state agencies to prevent new species from establishing, and to conduct a

rapid response. The movement of a species on the graph will be important to enable the council to be adaptive in implementing its actions.

## Creating the List

A workgroup of invasive species professionals, each with expertise in a different taxonomic group (e.g., terrestrial plants, insects, aquatic animals), came together and identified species that pose the greatest threat to Washington’s environment, economy, and human health. While most of the species on the list already live in Washington, some are in the western United States as well as outside the western United States but in areas with similar climate conditions.

This is a dynamic list, which will be revisited and re-evaluated annually. At that time, new species posing serious risk to Washington will be added to the list and new information will be incorporated into species assessments.

## How the List will be Used

The grid will guide council action, such as looking at the current ability to prevent new infestations, making policy

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower impact Higher prevention ability</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Management actions: Promote awareness and encourage citizen action.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Higher impact Higher prevention ability</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Management actions: Support detection and control efforts and prepare response plans.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower impact Lower prevention ability</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Management action: Focus control on species in high-value sites.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Higher impact Lower prevention ability</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Management actions: Prepare response plans, identify regulatory gaps, and enhance prevention strategies through policy, education, and funding.</p>

recommendations, and identifying where more management or education is needed.

It is intended also to:

- Provide a uniform methodology for categorizing invasive species.
- Provide a clear explanation of the process used to evaluate and categorize species.
- Provide flexibility so the criteria can be adapted to the needs of different regions or organizations.

- Identify where more information may be needed.
- Educate about the impacts of invasive species and the ability to prevent them.

Meanwhile, the graph is not intended to:

- Represent a scientifically-based risk assessment (this is an assessment based on best professional judgment).
- Produce a list that itself has regulatory force, though regulatory agencies may use the information to modify existing lists.

- Provide lists for any region because the invasiveness of species will differ from one region to another depending on geography, climate, ecosystems present, and other factors.

## How to Read the Grid

The grid is divided into four sections based on high and low impact scores and high and low prevention scores. Management actions presented in the quadrants then pertain to the group of species falling there.

More information may be found at [www.InvasiveSpecies.wa.gov](http://www.InvasiveSpecies.wa.gov).

# GIVE INVASIVE SPECIES THE BRUSH OFF.

Shoes can carry the seeds of invasive plants which damage the Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. Please brush them off before entering and leaving this area.



## What's The Problem?

Some invasive species produce huge amounts of seeds that can remain viable in the ground for long periods of time.



## Invasive Plants On The Move...

**Tansy Ragwort**  
(*Senecio jacobaea*)



**Garlic Mustard**  
(*Alliaria petiolata*)



**Herb Robert**  
(*Geranium robertianum*)



**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES  
IN YOUR TRACKS.**

[PlayCleanGo.org](http://PlayCleanGo.org)



**King County**

Department of  
Natural Resources and Parks  
Water and Land Resources Division  
Noxious Weed Control Program



PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
**invasive**  
PLANT COUNCIL



WASHINGTON STATE  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE  
**Washington Invasive  
Species Council**

# Proposed 2017 Board Meeting Dates

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board  
 Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
 Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group

Washington Invasive Species Council  
 Holiday/Weekend

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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## WASHINGTON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

June 16, 2016

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LOTT WET Science Center  
500 Adams St NE, Olympia, WA, 98501

### Washington Invasive Species Council Members Present:

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Bill Tweit, Chair	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ray Willard, Vice Chair	Washington Department of Transportation
Shaun Seaman	Chelan Public Utility District, WISC Industry Advisory Panel Representative
Lizbeth Seebacher	Washington Department of Ecology
John Gamon	Washington Department of Natural Resources
Jim Marra	Washington State Department of Agriculture
Rob Fimbel	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Pat Stevenson	Stillaguamish Tribe
Joe Maroney	Kalispel Tribe
Marc Daily	Puget Sound Partnership
Anna Lyon	Okanogan County
Vicki Yund	U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Shawna Bautista	U.S. Forest Service
Carrie Cook-Tabor	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Lt. Eric Young	U.S. Coast Guard
Alison Halpern	Noxious Weed Control Board
Steven Burke	King County Noxious Weed Program
Sasha Shaw	King County Noxious Weed Program

### Guests and Presenters:

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Emily Grason	University of Washington Sea Grant
Emily Stevenson	Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area, and Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Program
Cathy Lucero	Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board
Nathan Lubliner	Washington Department of Ecology

### Recreation and Conservation Office Staff:

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Justin Bush	Executive Coordinator
Wendy Loosle	Board Liaison

## **Welcome and Call to Order**

Bill Tweit, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with welcome and announcements. Kelsey Browne from the WET Center provided facility logistics, safety information, and a brief summary of the Center's operations.

## **Hot Topic Reports**

### **Item 1: Executive Coordinator's Introduction and Report / Justin Bush**

Justin Bush introduced himself as the new Executive Coordinator, providing a brief summary of his personal and professional background. Mr. Bush updated the council members on recent meetings with partners, upcoming events and tours, education and outreach efforts, and sighting reports. Highlights in communication outreach include a twenty percent increase in social media use (Facebook) and upcoming outreach events with the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy.

Mr. Bush continues to improve the sighting response system with timestamps, photos, and improved tracking, documenting, and monitoring efforts. Further technological updates include the upcoming decommissioning of the server that hosts the WA Invasives mobile application (app) data; Mr. Bush is currently seeking alternative options for hosting the app since the server will sunset at the end of the year. Also, the hotline phone number (1-877-9-INFEST) was removed and Mr. Bush requested that all references to the hotline be removed from outreach materials.

Mr. Bush provided updates on the National Park Service Challenge Cost-Share, the Recreation and Conservation Office budget proposals for the 2017-19 biennium, and the No Child Left Inside grant which was not funded.

Mr. Bush clarified that the iNaturalist is a separate mobile application that hosts data on a distinct server; however, the functionality is similar. Mr. Maroney shared that the app is gaining momentum, and there may be opportunities to sync it with the WA Invasives App.

In response to questions about outreach, Mr. Bush welcomed ideas for citizen science participation, increased support for sighting report validation, and creation of a one-pager to support communication updates across partners.

### **Item 2: Legislative Updates / Round Table**

Mr. Bush provided several legislative updates, including news of two new Washington/Oregon State representatives on the National Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee: Blaine Parker, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, and Dr. Richard Mack, WSU in Pullman. Chair Tweit encouraged sending letters to each representative for their service and to establish communication with the national committee.

Mr. Bush updated the council on several pieces of legislation. H.R. 5334, Stamp on Invasive Species Act; H.R. 754 which intends to combat national invasive species issues; and HHR 1485/s 2240 which requires net reduction in invasive species on federal lands, prioritization of control options, and work with local entities for implementation.

Alan Pleus, WDFW, provided an update on the Vessel Incident Discharge Act (VIDA), regulation intended for commercial and recreational vessels. Mr. Pleus is monitoring this legislation with regards to invasive species, potential for local regulation and control, and impacts to state resources. Tribal entities in Washington have expressed concern, along with WDFW. Mr. Young explained that the purpose behind

the legislation is meant to address inconsistency in ballast water regulation and operations; he doesn't anticipate this creating more work for the US Coast Guard, but some effort to maintain alignment of policies and standards may be necessary. Chair Tweit added that the ultimate goal is to collaborate with industry to maintain standards while upholding state authority and protection protocols. Marc Daly offered support from PSP as needed.

### **Item 3: University of Washington Green Crab Research / Emily Grason**

Emily Grason, University of Washington Sea Grant, presented information about citizen science participation in early detection of invasive European green crab along Washington's inland shores. The population of green crab is expected to increase, particularly in the Salish Sea area. Ms. Grason provided a summary of the current threat of invasion, the species' habitat needs, and potential areas of invasive establishment. She outlined the structure, goals, and protocols of the Citizen Research Assisting Biologists, a program geared towards prevention of species' establishment. Volunteers may have prior experience, however all undergo training before assignment to sites based on potential invasion threat across the Puget Sound. The CRAB team conducted a pilot of the program and a follow-up assessment to inform potential updates for the re-launch this past March. Analysis of the data collected to date demonstrates that the intensity of monitoring is expected to improve with the increased volunteer efforts. Ms. Grason concluded by sharing information about future work on the invasive Asian mud snail (*Batillaria*) density, continued program evaluation, pursuing funding for monitoring in 2016, and supplemental work in bait efficacy and Spartina control.

Ms. Grason explained that the main control mechanism is trapping; although this is labor intensive and the threat of re-infestation still persists. Additionally, she described the differences in the types of habitat that the species prefers in the PNW versus other infestation sites globally. She responded to questions about anticipating changes in spread and monitoring due to climate change impacts.

Chair Tweit requested that Ms. Grason provide updates ongoing to the council.

### **Item 4: Columbia Gorge Invasive Species Project / Emily Stevenson**

Emily Stevenson, Washington Co-chair of the Columbia Gorge – Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) and Program Coordinator for the Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Program, provided an overview of the CWMA program which facilitates coordination of invasive species management among public and private land owners. She summarized the current work CWMA which includes projects such as invasive weed surveys, installation of boot brushes as trail heads, field guide development, public education workshops, and project site tours. The CWMA recently was awarded Fiscal Year 2016 Farm Bill funding, in partnership with the council and the Washington State University Extension. The cooperative agreement will fund development of best management practices for target species, curriculum development, training, and distribution of educational materials and tools. In response to council questions, Ms. Stevenson shared resources for learning more about boot brushes, installation and maintenance needs, and the potential for studying public use and impacts to invasive species management.

**Break 10:30 - 10:40 a.m.**

## **Discussions, Decisions, and Updates**

### **Item 5: AIS Funding Advisory Committee Update / Bill Tweit**

Chair Tweit informed the council members that the complete version of the AIS Funding Advisory Committee plan is included in the meeting materials. Preparations for 2017-19 budget legislation are underway.

### **Item 6: Clallam County Integrated Roadside Weed Management Plan / Cathy Lucero**

Cathy Lucero presented information about integrated weed management in Clallam County. She began by introducing issues around honeybee habitat and pollination services. She described concerns regarding the populations of native pollinators and the need for pollinator-friendly habitats throughout the growing season. Studies of habitat challenges demonstrate that roadside areas for pollinators serve as critical connections for species that mitigate elimination by high-speed vehicles. Ms. Lucero discussed the potential for roadside areas to additionally support noxious weed control. In Clallam County in particular, where spraying of any kind is not permitted, alternative management strategies are becoming more prevalent. A 2015 survey of 250 miles and 16 high-priority species highlighted that the current management strategy – mowing – is not effective. As a result, an integrated roadside vegetation management plan and proposed ordinance has been introduced to ensure responsible weed management through all effective methods available (adding herbicide, prevention measures, and cultural strategies) and to incorporate public involvement. The proposed management plan includes an annual work plan, reviewed by the Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board, and land owner agreements for noxious weed control. She concluded by sharing the future goals of the work plan, public engagement and transparency, and research in the use of best management practices. More information about Clallam County noxious weed control can be found at: <http://www.clallam.net/weed/>.

Ms. Lucero shared that she hopes WISC will add themselves as a reviewer of the work plan, previously reviewed and vetted by 39 other partners. The county will continue to hold public workshops to build awareness and gather input for improvement of the management plan.

Mr. Willard made a motion that the council should formally support the Clallam County Integrated Roadside Weed Management Plan. Vicki Yund seconded. Ms. Bautista expressed her agreement. Mr. Daly abstained. Chair Tweit suggested that council members take time to review the plan within the next two weeks and register objections with Mr. Bush. Should no objections be raised, the motion will carry. The revised motion (to postpone official approval until time for review has passed) was carried.

### **Item 7: Regional Don't Let It Loose Campaign / Justin Bush**

Mr. Bush informed the council the campaign continues to be on track with the established timeline. The plan builds off of resources established by the State of Montana to incorporate an online presence. After further funding is secured through the Farm Bill, Mr. Bush will coordinate with the states of Oregon and Idaho to continue regional public outreach. An RCO issued press release was sent to schools and classrooms as part of a public awareness initiative, which was well-received by the education community. Mr. Bush requested council participation on the WISC social media platforms and for contact information of respective organizations' communications staff.

### **Item 8: Economic Analysis of the Impact of Invasive Species in Washington / Alison Halpern**

Alison Halpern shared that the anticipated completion date for the economic analysis has been postponed due to needed refinement of the report outcomes. The re-focused goal of the report will support gathering information about target species, impacts to Washington State, and the importance of

control and prevention. To support funding the report, Ms. Halpern will be sending invoices to participating agencies as part of a memorandum of understanding that outlines deliverables and roles.

#### **Item 9: Aquatic Invasive Species General Management Permit Renewal / Nathan Lubliner**

Nathan Lubliner, Department of Ecology, provided information about the Aquatic Invasive Species Management General Permit, currently being revised as per the five-year cycle for renewal. The permit covers the in-water treatment of aquatic invasive animal species and nonnative invasive marine algae and allows for the treatment of early infestations and for small localized projects that may lead to the eradication or containment of invasive species. Mr. Lubliner summarized the changes and updates to language in the permitting requirements and criteria, and shared the dates of the now open public comment period: May 18, 2016 through July 1, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Further information is available at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/invasive.html>. Should council members wish to provide comment, Mr. Lubliner requested that the specific section of the draft permit be cited.

Mr. Pleus explained that, as the only current permittee, WDFW needed the authority to apply chemical protocols for invasive species management in aquatic systems. The permit was designed to meet WDFW needs, but other agencies that respond to aquatic invasive animal species and nonnative invasive marine algae are eligible to apply. Additionally, experimental use permits are available through the Department of Agriculture or the Environmental Protection Agency; the data for labelling would be shared with Ecology.

Chair Tweit and Mr. Willard suggested submitting a comment on behalf of the council supporting the permit, and encouraging Ecology to use the process to communicate information online and continue to update every five years. Marc Daly moved to support the council chair submitting a letter on the council's behalf stating the permit's importance for meeting their strategic plan goals. Pat Stevenson seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Item 10: Top 50 Species Prioritization Process / Justin Bush**

Mr. Bush summarized the steps taken at the previous meeting and the process to update the Top 50 Species ranking list. Chair Tweit requested that council members identify whether they are willing to volunteer their participation in the revision process. Carrie Cook-Tabor volunteered, along with other members from her organization, to support with invasive animal species information and ranking. Mr. Bush will reach out to members not present today for interest in participating. The timeline will be revisited at the next council meeting.

The council discussed the prioritization process of species, rationale for grouping species, and limiting the list to fifty species. The current list will be divided amongst three sub-committees for re-evaluation. Suggestions for prioritization of species amongst groups included consideration of new species to be added, diseases carried by invasive species, focusing on education and outreach potential, and including a sub-category for species that can be prevented and need further monitoring.

#### **Item 11: Council Business / Justin Bush**

**Strategic Plan Update:** Mr. Bush began with a summary of the council's Strategic Plan, recently updated in 2015. In review of the plan's goals and actions, rankings were assigned to gauge progress on Tier 1, 2, and 3 objectives. The progress dashboard for each tier confirmed that the council is on track with meeting these actionable items. Ms. Cook-Tabor suggested re-invigorating the use of sub-committees to support outreach, identifying the priorities for outreach, and sharing resources for outreach events. Ms. Bautista echoed these outreach goals, and shared that the Oregon Invasive Species Council is interested in producing regionally-coordinated outreach materials and a joint booth/table at events.

**New Membership:** The council discussed the addition of new members, including: Joe Maroney, Kalispel Tribe Directory of Fishery and Water Resources (Alternate – Deane Osterman, Executive Director); Todd Murray, Washington State University Director of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Unit (Alternate – Rachel Bomberger, Plant Diagnostician); and Steven J. Burke, King County Noxious Weed Control Program (Alternate – Sasha Shaw, Communications Specialist).

**Industry Panel Discussion:** Shaun Seaman provided an update on behalf of the industry panel, which usually meets prior to each council meeting. As issues arise, Mr. Seaman’s role is to facilitate discussion amongst the panel and share feedback at council meetings.

**Alternate Member Discussion:** Mr. Bush explained that for each new member, an alternate from the same organization was designated in order to monitor attendance and prepare for each meeting. He asked that current members notify him should they have alternates that they would like to designate.

**September Meeting Location:** The upcoming meeting will be held in Vancouver, WA. The Oregon Invasive Species Council will be sending a representative to attend the council’s meeting. The specific meeting location in Vancouver is currently being determined.

**Approval of March Minutes:** No additions or corrections were requested for the minutes from the previous meeting in March 2016. Ms. Yund made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Willard seconded. Motion carried.

**Item 12: Public Comment**

Margaret Tudor, Pacific Education Institute, submitted written comment in which she recommended that the council develop stricter rules and scripted guidance for use by science classroom teachers handling live species.

Mr. Seaman proposed discussing the development of scripted rules prior to issuing a formal recommendation. Ms. Yund agreed, suggesting that the executive committee review the request and provide recommendation to the council about the potential for moving forward. Chair Tweit agreed and will bring recommendations to the September meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

**Next meeting**

September 22, 2016  
Vancouver, WA

Minutes approved by:

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Bill Tweit, Chair

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Date