The National Buzz:
Politics, Trends & Opportunities

MN-WI Invasive Species Conference
St. Paul, MN
Nov. 8, 2010

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National Invasive Species Advisory Committee
Midwest Invasive Plant Network
Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council
Politics

- New Congress
  - Changing power structure
  - Shifting priorities
- Legislation
- Budget appropriations
2010 U.S. Budget ($3.54 trillion)

Mandatory 59%

Discretionary
- Other 15%

Discretionary
- Defense 21%

Interest 5%

Mandatory 59%

(Based on information from Center for American Progress)
National Invasive Species Management Plan - 2008-2012

- Prevention
- Early Detection & Rapid Response
- Control and Management
- Restoration
- Organizational Collaboration

http://www.invasivespecies.gov/

Why does this matter to you?
Recent ISAC discussion topics:

- **Specific species**
  - Plants, reptiles, mammals, birds, fish, mussels, marine species, pathogens, insects, algae

- **Issues**
  - **Climate change**: impacts on ag & food security, predictive models, what’s “native”?  
    - WHITE PAPER
  - **Biofuels**: regulating the use of invasive species  
    - WHITE PAPER
  - **Ballast water**: reasonable regulations
  - **EDRR**: implementation techniques
  - **Green economy**: private and public sector jobs  
    - WHITE PAPER
  - **Beneficial uses of invasive species**

- **Structures**
  - **State ISCs**: support and communication
  - **Federal budgets**
Other national conversations...

- State block grants
- Import regulations for animals, plants
- Aquatics (prevention, detection, mitigation)
- Urban invasives
- Sustainability of ecosystems & communities
- EDRR apps
- Nursery, landscaping, native plants, LEED-like approaches
- “Don’t Move Firewood”
- Evaluating “ecosystem services”
- NPDES permitting
- Habitat for birds, wildlife, fish, pollinators
Focus on climate change
Who’s making noise in Washington?

- Professional societies
- Nat’l Governors Association
- Pet industry
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Assoc. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
- Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
- National Environmental Coalition for Invasive Spp
- American Nursery & Landscape Assoc.
- Gardening groups, native plant enthusiasts
- Sportsmen’s groups (hunting, fishing, recreation)
- Nat’l Assoc. of Exotic Pest Plant Councils
- Healthy Habitats Coalition
State invasive species councils

- Alaska
- Hawaii

[Map showing states with invasive species councils]
State invasive species councils

- **Issues**
  - Coalition-building: differing priorities
  - Regulations: conflicting (or lack of) authority
  - Sustainable funding

- **Model programs & strategic plans**
  - WA-OR-ID, CA, NY, FL (Great Lakes Restoration Initiative)

- **Environmental Law Institute**
  - *Status & Trends in State Invasive Species Policy: 2002-2009*
  - [www.eli.org](http://www.eli.org)
Opportunities

Funding
- Federal programs
  - Farm Bill
- Grants
  - National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
  - EPA – watersheds, wetlands
  - Great Lakes Protection Fund
  - Sustainable Ag Research & Education (SARE)
  - Species/habitat organizations
- Corporate giving
  - Utilities
  - Retailers
- Sponsorships
Low-cost opportunities

- Networking
  - Communicate
  - Band together
  - Participate

- Strategizing
  - Midwest connections
  - Current events – climate, energy, carp, habitat...
  - Focus – What are you good at? Do that!
  - Adaptive management of your organization
In changing times...
Be resilient
In changing times...
Be responsive
In changing times...
Be resourceful
Feb. 28-March 3, 2011
Washington, DC

✓ Briefings
✓ Networking
✓ State Invasive Species Council Workshop

www.nisaw.org

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