Invasive Species
Strategic Action Framework:
Who, What, Why, & How
Our Goal Today

Initiate discussion of how to respond to Task Force direction on developing an Invasive Species Strategic Action Framework
Brief History of Task Force/Working Group Invasive Efforts

- 1997: Established the Noxious Exotic Weeds Task Team (NEWTT)
- 2000: The Task Force accepted the invasive plant assessment and management strategy
Brief History of Task Force/Working Group Invasive Efforts

- 2000: *Draft Initial Status Survey of Nonindigenous Animals in South Florida* (the Goodyear report)
- 2004: Established the Florida Invasive Animal Task Team (FIATT)
- 2008: FIATT developed *Draft Strategic Plan for Invasive Animals*
Brief History of Task Force/Working Group Invasive Efforts

- 2004: Developed/hosted an invasive species internet database:
  - Ecostems.org
Brief History of Task Force/Working Group Invasive Efforts

- Continued to elevate invasive species issues at Task Force/Working Group meetings (May 2008)
2010: Developed an overview of invasive exotic animals as part of a series of Working Group/Science Coordination Group Information Briefs 
http://www.sfrestore.org/information_brief/Final_Apr_06_10_Exotics.pdf
2010 Working Group Recommendations

- Promote federal prevention initiatives
- Establish EDRR Coordinator and dedicated EDRR funding
- Coordinate development of cross cut budget
- Promote continued improvements to coordination
2012 Task Force Direction

- December 7, 2012 Task Force Meeting
  - Conduct a comprehensive review of current efforts to combat invasive exotics and present updated recommendations for how to improve our efforts and boost our effectiveness
OERI/WG/SCG Efforts to Date

• Comprehensive Review
  • Extensive engagement with interagency invasives staff
  • Developed a conceptual Solutions Pathway framework
  • Participated in 2 workshops (pythons and ambrosia beetles)
  • Gathered information on resource allocation and gaps
  • Met with National Invasive Species Council staff
OERI/WG/SCG Efforts to Date

• Raising Awareness
  • Worked with Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (ECISMA) members on display for Everglades Coalition Conference
  • Created a Portal on the Task Force website: http://www.sfrestore.org/ies.html
  • Arranged Invasives Briefing for DOI Secretary Jewell, Senator Marco Rubio (with NPS)
  • Addressed the CISRERP and requested that they take up this issue in the next Biennial Report to Congress

• Providing Implementation Support (OERI)
  • Helping to coordinate Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) initiatives
Invasive Exotic Species

Non-native plant and animal species are defined as those species living in an area outside their native range. If a non-native species causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental damage or pose a threat to human health and safety, it is considered an invasive species. Invasive species have infested millions of acres of natural areas in the United States with the associated loss of native species, including rare and endangered species. Particularly pervasive in Florida, invasive species have been documented to alter the ecological structure and function of entire ecosystems, sometimes leading to irreversible changes in ecosystem processes and food webs. Invasive plant, animal and fish species are a rapidly increasing environmental and economic problem in south Florida. Florida is second only to Hawaii in the severity of the threat posed by invasive species and is particularly vulnerable to the introduction and spread of invasives because of its subtropical climate, major ports of entry, and the pet, aquarium, and ornamental plant industries.

What Can You Do?
- Don’t Let It Loose
- Turn in Your Unwanted Exotic Pets
- Next Amnesty Day September 21, 2013
- Adopt a Non-Native
- Report It – invasive.org

Education and Outreach
- National Park Service
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- South Florida Water Management District
- Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (ECISMA)
- The National Invasive Species Council

Kids
- USSS Exotic Species Trading Cards
- Don’t Let It Loose! Activity Guide
- Don’t Let It Loose - Bookmark

Everglades
Invasive exotic species are seriously threatening the integrity of South Florida’s native communities.

Agriculture
Invasive exotics can be a costly problem for agricultural practices.

Home
Invasive Exotic Endanger Human Health and damage private property.

Recreation
Invasives can Impact Recreational Opportunities.
2013 Task Force Direction

- July 9, 2013 Task Force Meeting
  - OERI to hold a high-level partnership workshop to discuss Strategic Action Framework
  - Provide coordination support for federal invasive species efforts (2010)
What Might a Strategic Action Framework Provide?

- Recommends a governance structure
- Helps decision-makers understand the connections between goals, strategies, tactics
- Defines success and provides for accountability
- Maximizes the extent to which the current capacity for partnership is leveraged to meet common goals
- Helps decision-makers make wise and timely investment decisions in the battle against invasive exotics
Creating an Action Framework; Not Another Plan

From Wisconsin’s “Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species”:

- *Not intended to replace existing projects or species specific plans.*
- *Provides an overarching strategy and draws recommendations from these plans for areas that require additional resources.*
- *Identifies common themes and areas of common interest where increased cooperation can help achieve strategic goals.*
- *Helps present the business case for invasive species prevention and control and can now be shared with leaders, decision makers, and natural resource user groups.*
Strategic Planning

How traditional planning processes and elements may help in developing a Strategic Action Framework
What is Strategic Planning?

- Long-term
- Future-oriented
- Includes:
  - Assessment (of current issues, capabilities, and needs)
  - Vision Development (of desired future)
  - Goal Setting
  - Strategy Building
- Can lead to priority-based resource allocation and other decisions
Strategic Plans Answer:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How do we get there?
- How do we measure our progress?
Where are we now?

- **Mission**
  - Brief, comprehensive statement of purpose
- **Principles**
  - Core values and philosophy that guide actions
Where do we want to be?

- **Vision**
  - Compelling, conceptual image of the desired future

- **Goals**
  - The desired end results
  - Encompass long periods; remain essentially unchanged

- **Objectives**
  - Specific and measurable targets for accomplishing goals
How do we get there?

- Organizing Principles
  - Invasion Curve?
  - Priority Species?
  - Priority Landscapes?
  - Priority Actions?
- Action Plans
  - Strategies used to accomplish goals and objectives
  - Detailed work plans
  - Resource allocation (e.g. crosscut budget)
How do we measure progress?

- **Performance Measures**
  - Used to measure results and ensure accountability
    - Outputs (products or services provided)
    - Outcomes (actual results achieved)
Existing Invasive Species
Strategic Plans
Florida/Everglades
Weeds Won’t Wait

- Noxious Exotic Weed Task Team (NEWTT) 2001 report
- Two main parts:
  - Assessment (285 pages); Executive Summary (20 pages)
  - Strategic Plan (103 pages); Executive Summary (21 pages)
Weeds Won’t Wait

- Concepts
  - Goals (4)
  - Outcomes
  - Steps
  - Actions
- Priorities
- FIATT followed the same Goals and Outcomes in its 2008 Draft Strategic Plan for Invasive Animals
ECISMA

- 16 pages in length including:
  - Objectives
  - Strategies

- Also includes:
  - Lead agency determination methodology
  - Protocol for rapid response actions
Florida Statewide Strategic Plan

- Plan to plan
- 44 pages in length including:
  - Topics
  - General Action Items
  - Summary of existing state programs and findings
Filling the Gaps Report

- Environmental Law Institute, August 2004
- 10 Strategies to Strengthen Invasive Species Management in Florida in 5 functional areas:
  - Prevention
  - Control and Management
  - Research
  - Education, Outreach & Public Partnership
  - Strategic Planning & Coordination
Invasive Species Strategic Plans

Other Examples
National Invasive Species Council

- Currently updating 2008 strategic plan
- 35 pages in length with:
  - Goals (5)
  - Objectives
  - Implementation Tasks
  - Performance Elements
Wisconsin

• Current (2013) statewide strategic plan
  • Developed by Wisconsin Invasive Species Council
  • Approved by Department of Natural Resources

• 20 pages in length including:
  • Topics
    • Goals (4)
    • Objectives
    • Actions
  • Priorities
Hawaii

- The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) is an interdepartmental collaboration with 6 voting member agencies
- 10 pages in length with:
  - Topics (6)
  - Goals (15)
  - Objectives
  - Measures of Effectiveness
Idaho

- Idaho Invasive Species Council established by Executive Order in 2001
- 36 pages including:
  - Goals (3)
  - Objectives
  - Action Items
  - Case Studies
  - Summary of Authorities in Invasive Species Management (Functions, Agencies, and Responsibilities)
WISC established by Legislature to improve state agency coordination

- 77 pages including:
  - Strategic goals (5)
  - Long- and short-term recommendations
  - Actions
  - Existing efforts and partnerships
  - Laws and regulations matrix
  - Case studies
Ontario

- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Intended to work with established national strategy
- 68 pages including:
  - Goals (4)
  - Key Actions
  - Tactics
  - Current Activities
  - Gaps Analysis
  - Extensive section on interagency collaboration and NGO/public partnerships
Australia

• Separate but parallel Animals (31 pages) and Weeds (24 pages) strategies including:
  • Goals (3)
  • Objectives
  • Strategic Actions
  • Outcomes
  • Case Studies
  • Roles and Responsibilities
AusBIOSEC

- Australian Biosecurity System for Primary Production and the Environment (AusBIOSEC)
- The Australian weeds and pest animal strategies sit under the overarching AusBIOSEC, which:
  - Integrates activities with respect to all invasive plants, animals and disease-causing organisms of terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments that impact on primary industries and on natural and built environments
  - Establishes a policy framework for greater national collaboration on biosecurity issues, both within and across jurisdictions, and with key stakeholders in the primary production and environment sectors
  - Provides common principles and guidelines to ensure consistency of biosecurity arrangements across sectors and jurisdictions
Common Goals and Elements
Common Goals

- All had at the Goal level:
  - Prevention
  - Limit spread/reduce impacts
- Some had at the Goal level:
  - EDRR
  - Restoration
  - Collaboration/Cooperation
  - Education/Public Outreach
Other Goal Areas

- Research
- Technology
- Information sharing/Data management
- Human health
Priority Areas

- Several plans included priority actions that cut across their established goals and objectives
- Weeds Won’t Wait Priorities:
  1. Organize (establish a formal multi-agency organization to implement state invasive exotic plant management strategy).
  2. Write the strategic implementation plan.
  3. Prioritize species for control and write their control plans.
  4. Develop a meaningful level of standardization needed for a common level of interoperability among agencies.
  5. Develop an early-warning and rapid-response capability.
Common Elements

- Weeds Won’t Wait identified six common elements of successful strategic plans:
  - A clear and definite goal
  - A cross-unit multi-level organizational element
  - An integrated means of: Preventing, Prioritizing, Assessing, Managing, and Studying Invasive Species
  - An emphasis on appropriate and harmonious policies and regulations
  - A means of transferring information and technology
  - Consistent and sufficient resources
Brainstorming Session
What Could a Strategic Action Framework Look Like?

- Who is the We?
  - Participants
  - Audience
- What are our Organizing Principles?
  - Invasion Curve?
  - Priority Species?
  - Priority Landscapes?
  - Priority Actions?
- Other?
THE INVASION CURVE

- Prevention: Species absent; Small number of localized populations; eradication possible
- Eradication: Rapid increase in distribution and abundance; eradication unlikely
- Containment: Invasive species widespread and abundant; Long-term management aimed at population suppression and resource protection

Resource Protection & Long-term Management

ARIA INFESTED

TIME ➔

CONTROL COSTS ➔
As Managers, What Would Help You?

- Easily translatable goals?
- Easily identifiable priorities?
- Cross-cut budget?
- Comprehensive view of existing:
  - Activities
  - Capabilities
  - Regulations
  - Partners
- Searchable database?
Ontario’s Strategic Plan

ONTARIO INVASIVE SPECIES STRATEGIC PLAN

GOALS

PREVENT | DETECT | RESPOND | MANAGE AND ADAPT

ACTIVITIES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Leadership and Coordination</th>
<th>Legislation Regulation and Policy</th>
<th>Risk Analysis</th>
<th>Monitoring and Science</th>
<th>Management Measures</th>
<th>Communication and Outreach</th>
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<tr>
<td>Clarify roles for key federal departments and agencies</td>
<td>Examine provincial legislation and policy framework</td>
<td>Increase capacity for risk assessments and analyses</td>
<td>Undertake surveillance in high risk areas</td>
<td>Manage key pathways</td>
<td>Evaluate existing communication initiatives</td>
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<td>Clarify roles for key provincial ministries</td>
<td>Support and strengthen existing legislation</td>
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<td>Improve monitoring programs and develop a network of experts</td>
<td>Develop and implement BMPs and management plans using a partnership approach</td>
<td>Expand initiatives to address gaps</td>
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<td>Improve communications/coordination across jurisdictions and governments</td>
<td>Review and enhance policies</td>
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<td>Strengthen data management</td>
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<td>Build new communication networks</td>
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<td>Build effective communication networks with partners</td>
<td>Enhance enforcement efforts</td>
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<td>Science support for surveillance protocols</td>
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<td>Improve the effectiveness of existing committees</td>
<td>Develop rapid response protocols</td>
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<td>Influence research priorities</td>
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<td>Establish new inter-jurisdictional committees to address gaps</td>
<td>Identify obstacles to proactive, rapid response, and management</td>
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<td>Improve research on the control of invasive species</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Conduct research on impacts of invasive species</td>
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<td>Conduct research on impacts of climate change on invasive species</td>
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<td>Build science capacity to support risk assessments</td>
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OUTCOMES

The impacts of existing invaders are reduced
New invaders are prevented from arriving and surviving
Where possible, the spread of existing invaders is halted
## WA Management Priorities

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<th>Higher impact</th>
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<td><strong>Higher prevention ability</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lower impact</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lower prevention ability</strong></td>
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<td>Management action: Focus control on species in high-value sites.</td>
<td>Management actions: Prepare response plans, identify regulatory gaps, and enhance prevention strategies through policy, education, and funding.</td>
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Invasive Species Management Priorities

- Feral swine
- Variable leaf milfoil
- Brazilian elodea
- Hydrilla
- Knotweed
- Nutria
- Yellow starthistle
- Common reed – non-native genotypes
- Leafy spurge
- Eurasian watermilfoil
- Tumbleweed
- Periwinkle
- Spartina
- Tamarisk
- Purple loosestrife
- Dalmation toadflax
- New Zealand mud snail
- Himalayan blackberry
- Knotweed
- Great crab
- Rush skeletonweed
- Scotch thistle
- Red swamp crayfish
- Bullfrog
- Garlic mustard
- Kochia
- VHS type X
- Exotic apple fruit pests
- Mediterranean snail
- Common crappie
- Hawkweed
- Butterfly bush
- Scotch thistle
- Tansy ragwort
- Exotic leaf rollers
- Giant hogweed
- Atlantic salmon
- Zebra/quagga mussel
- Lynx midwife
- Kudzu
- Cucumber
- SVC伏牛花
- Mitten crab
- Marine clam
- Bark-boring moths
- Wood-boring beetles
- Asian tree
- Northern steelehead fish
### Funding for Invasive Species Activities (In Thousands)

#### FY2011 Actual

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#### FY2013 President’s Proposed Budget

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### Summary of Authorities in Invasive Species Management

#### Idaho's Regulatory Authorities

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<thead>
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<th>Invasive Species Function</th>
<th>Authorities</th>
<th>Agencies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>22-1900, Invasive Species Act; Idaho Rule 02.06.09, Rules Governing Invasive Species; 22-2012, 22-2016 Plant Pest Act; 22-2409, Noxious Weed Law; 36-104, 36-106, 36-1102; 13.01.10. Fish and Game Authorities; IDAPA 13.01.03, Public Use of Land Owned or Controlled by Idaho Department of Fish and Game; 25-214, Disease Inspection and Suppression; 25-3900, Deleterious Animals; 38-602, Forest Pests</td>
<td>ISDA, IDFG, IDL, in cooperation with ISDA</td>
<td>Prohibits or restricts import, cultivation, possession, introduction or movement of invasive species and plant pests, including noxious weeds; Controls interstate movement of invasive animals and those with communicable diseases; Control weed infested seeds; Regulate the movement of injurious animals; Prevent and control noxious aquatic weeds; Authorizes cooperation with federally imposed quarantines. IDL, through the Forest Pest Act and ISDA, through the Plant Pest Act, can survey for forest pests and have broad authorities for control and prevention. Prohibits the use or transport of any hay, straw or mulch that is not weed seed free certified, on land owned or controlled by Idaho Department of Fish and Game; Prohibits the possession of wild birds; Rules governing the importation and release of wildlife.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Detection and Rapid Response</td>
<td>22-1900, Invasive Species Act; Idaho Rule 02.06.09, Rules Governing Invasive Species; 22-2009, Plant Pest Act; 22-2404, Noxious Weed Law</td>
<td>ISDA, Idaho counties, in cooperation with ISDA</td>
<td>The Noxious Weed Law and the Plant Pest Act contain specific references to the ability of any state agency to take emergency actions; Invasive Species Rules contain a Statewide EDRR AIS List. If any of the species listed are found to occur in Idaho, they are to be reported to ISDA immediately. Rules allow for inspections to detect the presence of EDRR AIS. All conveyances are subject to inspection. Requires the decontamination of any conveyance found or reasonably believed to contain EDRR AIS.</td>
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</tbody>
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The USGS National Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Program

Searchable Database
Next Steps