

DRAFT Guiding Principles DRAFT
INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

- >>Many alien species are used to support human livelihoods and a preferred quality of life.
- >>Invasions by alien species are a consequence of globalization of the economy and human-mediated environmental degradation. Therefore, only changes in human values, beliefs, and behavior will alleviate the threats posed by invasive alien species.
- >>The severity of the ecological and socio-economic impacts of invasive alien species and the complexity and uncertainty of invasion warrant rapid responses, as well as innovative, precautionary, and well-coordinated approaches to the problem.
- >>Everyone has a stake in the management of invasive alien species and therefore needs to be involved in efforts to address the problem; education and outreach needs are large and diverse.
- >>Education and outreach efforts will be most effective when they target the information needs of specific audiences, indicate that positive progress can be made, and recommend specific actions.
- >>An effective management strategy for invasive alien species integrates prevention, eradication, control, and restoration measures; sets priority for action in this order; and is routinely modified to reflect new information.
- >>Inventory, monitoring, applied research, and the development of new management methods and technologies (including for prevention and exclusion) are fundamental components of an effective strategy for managing invasive alien species.
- >>Efforts to manage invasive alien species are most effective when focused on clearly defined, measurable goals; proactive; based on current biological and socio-economic information; applied rapidly (even when "perfect" knowledge is lacking); benefit a diversity of stakeholders, and are integrated across all spatial and temporal scales.
- >>Control methods should be socially, culturally, and ethically acceptable, efficient, non-polluting, and should not adversely affect native flora and fauna, human health and well-being, domestic animals, or crops.
- >>Because invasions are often unpredictable, caution is warranted in the relocation of all organisms.
- >>A comprehensive strategy for preventing the spread of invasive alien species addresses the intentional, unintentional, authorized, and unauthorized movement of organisms among and within countries, as well as the establishment and spread of

alien species as a result of environmental degradation.

- >>In order to be effective, national and international goals and actions relevant to the management of invasive species need to be congruent, integrated, and mutually supportive.
- >>The United States can raise the profile of the invasive species issue, provide proactive leadership in invasive species management, and transfer information and technologies to address the problem on a global scale.
- >>Policies that address the problem of invasive alien species will be most effective if they are comprehensive and consistent across taxonomic groups, as well as invasion pathways and modes.
- >>The risk of invasion can be significantly reduced if stakeholders work cooperatively to undertake applied, interdisciplinary research on the biology on invasions (including invasion pathways and modes); develop and apply cost-effective, practical methods and technologies to manage invasive alien species; and make this information easily accessible so that it is incorporated into management and policy decision making.