



Federal Lands Invasive Species Control, Prevention and Management Act - House Sponsor: Rep. Bishop (UT)

1. This Act improves allocation, coordination and spending effectiveness for Federal programs funded to control and manage prioritized invasive species (all taxa) on lands managed by the Department of the Interior, the United States Department of Agriculture and their respective Agencies.

a. Under jurisdiction of the Secretaries of Agriculture (USFS) and Department of Interior (BLM, BOR, NPS, USFWS, and BIA), this Act focuses control and management efforts on-the-ground.

- There shall be no preclusion to other authorities or law(s).

b. As a performance formula, any funds appropriated or made available by Congress and allocated to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior or the United States Department of Agriculture for any invasive species control, prevention and/or management program shall be based on a prepared strategic plan to reduce invasive species threats or management gaps upon those lands and waters directly managed by the Secretaries.

For funding allocations:

- 75 percent – Not less than; for on-the-ground control and management activities.
- 10 percent – Not more than; for administrative costs to carry out programs.
- 15 percent – Not more than; for research and/or education.

c. As a performance goal, an annual net reduction rate of 5 percent for any targeted population shall be based on a prepared strategic plan. Expenditures shall be prudent and implemented with the least costly option(s) to lower the treatment cost per acre or unit of measure.

2. For the first time, this Act uniformly supports Federal, State, local government and private entity partnerships to control invasive species. Borderless MOU collaborations are directed by Cooperative Agreements to include targeted species, reduction goals, mapping, economic assessments and contracting aspects. University, industry and local expertise become integral parts of the solution.

a. Funding is based on any amount appropriated or otherwise made available to the Secretaries for any fiscal year. For the listed DOI and USDA Agencies, the 2012 funding level was \$1.373 billion as reported by the National Invasive Species Council (NISC). No new money or off-sets are required.

b. Agency performance reporting is required to Congress every two years.

1. Written assurances are to be compliant with the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) and follows Section 15 of the Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974 (7 U.S.C. 2814).
2. Cost effective benchmarks and comparative economic assessments are required based on scientific data and recommendations to implement any program.

c. Research and education projects are based on prioritized and coordinated targets for faster control and management implementation to insure greater program success with public funds.

3. Categorical Exclusions shall be implemented in high value risk areas within 1,000 feet of land or water sites; including utility right-of-ways, power stations, railroads, roadsides, heritage sites, recreation sites, airports, monuments, lakes, streams, dams or other valued sites to provide control or management so long as the project is conducted consistently within agency and departmental procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

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