

Green Joan

From: Cooley, Justin - FPAC-NRCS, McMinnville, OR <Justin.Cooley@or.nacdn.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 2:04 PM
To: JWMNR Exhibits
Subject: Comment on HB 5002

To whom it may concern,

Approval of POP 360 will allow the Noxious Weed Control Program to work more efficiently and effectively to address the highest priority threats to our state's natural resources and agricultural economy. The addition of an Aquatic Weed Specialist will improve the capacity of the program to implement an effective early detection and rapid response (EDRR) system. EDRR is the most cost effective means to control noxious weeds and it is the only strategy that can eradicate invasive species before they become established. Given the unregulated nature of the aquarium plant trade it is inevitable that new invasive species will be introduced to waters of the state. Having an Aquatic Weed Specialist will greatly increase the probability of early detection before new invaders become so wide spread that control becomes cost prohibitive.

Strengthen funding for county weed control programs. Additional funding opportunities for county weed control programs are desperately needed to build and maintain capacity at the local level. Continuous monitoring at the county level is the most cost effective means to detect the introduction of noxious weeds early in the invasion curve. Effective control and eradication projects take years to implement given that many of the worst weeds produce seed that can lay dormant for more than 5 years. Local capacity is essential to successfully implementing effective state wide control programs.

Thank you for your time,

Justin Cooley, Invasive Species Program Coordinator

Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District
2200 SW 2nd Street | McMinnville OR 97128
Cell: 503.810.8622 | Office: 503.376.7620

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.