

Watts Remy

From: Cooley, Justin - FPAC-NRCS, McMinnville, OR <Justin.Cooley@or.nacdn.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:46 AM
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: SB 445

Public Comment in Support of SB 445,

The Oregon Invasive Species Council is integral to the management of invasive species at the state level. Invasive flora and fauna spread and cause damage to our state's industries and natural resources without regard to political or administrative boundaries. The proposed base funding is essential to maintain and improve the capacity of the OISC to carry out its legislative mandates. The infusion of \$200,000 to the Invasive Species Control Account will enable the Council to continue to support high priority invasive species control efforts over the next few years. I would implore to legislature to make a similar appropriation each biennium in perpetuity. These funds are extremely important but they are woefully insufficient to address the myriad of invasive species that are established or will be introduced to our state. There is a broad consensus, throughout Oregon, that invasive species are a significant threat to our state's economy, natural resources and way of life. Providing the means for the OISC to fulfill its mandate and support on the ground control efforts demonstrates a commitment to addressing this threat.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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