



CALIFORNIA

◀ INVASIVE SPECIES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2013 Implementation Report

on

***Stopping the Spread, a Strategic Framework for Protecting California
from Invasive Species (2011)***

approved by the

California Invasive Species Advisory Committee

July 17, 2013

and presented to the Invasive Species Council of California



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State of California
Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor



Strategic Framework - Implementation Report
Leadership Section

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| | Progress being made |
| | No progress |
| | Situation has deteriorated |

| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action |
|--|--|--|---|
| LC-1. Secure adequate long-term funding to sustain effective invasive species programs. | Funding has decreased and remains vulnerable to general fund cuts | *Renew funding for Weed Management Areas *Renew funding for county high-risk pest exclusion | *Inventory all invasive species programs and budgets *Seek new funding sources |
| LC-2. Share responsibility for invasive species outreach more equally among ISCC agencies. | CDFA and to a lesser extent DFW are very involved, other ISCC agencies are not (note that some federal agencies, especially USDA, are very active) | *Select liaison from each ISCC agency to attend CISAC meetings *Include CISAC outreach message in agency outreach | *Inventory existing state outreach efforts and help coordinate |
| LC-3. Formalize the ISCC and CISAC for long-term stability. | Remains vulnerable to administration change | *Meet with CISAC at least once a year | |
| LC-4. Review California laws and regulations affecting invasive species response. | Complicated | *Generate wish-list of small code changes needed | *Review current legislation for positions and review laws and regulations for suggested improvements |
| LC-5. Build a strong coalition of stakeholder groups. | Started but put on hold | | *Consider group sign-on campaign to support the Framework *Identify a coalition to coordinate lobbying on invasives, with supportive factual information *Identify unified “asks” |
| LC-6. Create an online clearinghouse for information on invasive species programs, laws, and research. | Progress has been made on ISCC/CISAC website | *Continue to provide staff support for website *Link to/from relevant agency information | *Develop content and messaging |
| LC-7. Create a working group to review public health risks of invasive species and their management. | Remains under discussion | *Agencies decide whether to create the working group | |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report
Prevention and Exclusion

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| | Progress being made |
| | No progress |
| | Situation has deteriorated |

| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action | |
|--|--------|---|--|--|
| PE-1. Identify and address new and existing pathways for entry and movement of invasive species. | | CISAC Pathway Report completed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Make report accessible on the website *Develop interactive program to easily identify priority threats through each pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Continue to identify new and existing high-risk pathways *Provide a more detailed pathways report to CISAC |
| PE-2. Increase interagency communication to ensure coordinated prevention approaches. | | Some progress being made with Weed Free Hay MOU signed; two CDFA/USDA Invasive Species forums held; UCD symposium held 4/24/12; 2 sessions of CDFA 21st Century held, with third scheduled 6/5/13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *ISCC should meet regularly *Brief legislators on CISAC/ISCC activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Brief ISCC on current activities |
| PE-3. Support uninterrupted high-risk inspection activities. | | Some CA Border stations closed or hours of operations reduced due to budget constraints | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Re-open Border Stations and keep them fully staffed *Fund additional agriculture canines *Reinstate county high-risk funding *Increase enforcement/penalties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Explore ways to educate online purchasers and inspect internet pathways |
| PE-4. Develop and Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent invasive species spread. | | Some BMP's established (e.g. Cal-IPC recent publication "BMPs for Transportation and Utility Corridors"). | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Present BMPs to ISCC for concurrence and support *Inventory list of BMPs and certifications available |
| PE-5. Partner with import industries to improve preventive screening. | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Encourage broader membership on CISAC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Identify import industry partners and encourage their participation in CISAC |
| PE-6. Encourage individual actions to prevent entry of invasive species. | | Minor progress on CISAC website and creation of Farmers Market brochure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Review CISAC outreach campaign and provide feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Explore other outreach/PSA opportunities (e.g., air travelers) *Keep messaging positive |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report

Prevention and Exclusion (continued)

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| PE-7. Maintain a list of invasive species that harm or could harm California. | | CISAC online invasive species living list; USDA/CDFA agricultural invasive species lists | *Encourage interaction within the various agencies and departments | *Update and maintain invasive species list |
| PE-8. Strengthen California's restrictions on live non-agricultural animal imports. | | Discussed, no progress | *Encourage interaction within the various agencies and departments *Provide messaging at airports, especially in the international arrival section | *Request formal participation from CDFW and animal import industry groups *Evaluate strict Australian or New Zealand model *Encourage USDA/CBP to look for and stop pests of concern to California in addition to federally actionable pests |
| PE-9. Adopt strong guidelines for biofuel production. | | Discussed, no progress | *Encourage interaction within the various agencies and departments *Use existing guidelines developed through the National ISAC | *Identify regulatory agencies that oversee biofuel guidelines *Identify invasive potential of biofuel candidates *Assist in determine mitigation criteria to reduce invasion and escape potential |
| PE-10. Include invasive species prevention in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance. | | Discussed, no progress | | *Request clarification and update on CEQA process *Explore negative impacts of improper habitat restoration work |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report

Detection and Response

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| | Progress being made |
| | No progress |
| | Situation has deteriorated |

| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action |
|---|--|---|---|
| DR-1. Create a standing Rapid Response Working Group to guide response to new invasive species, supported by a Rapid Response emergency fund. | Varies depending on agency: DFW and USDA have RR funding | *Provide adequate funding | *Identify existing processes and resources: which agencies do what, when, and how |
| DR-2. Complete a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for response to new invasive species. | In progress with funded project | *Review, provide comments and ultimately adopt and implement PEIR | *Review and make recommendations on completed document |
| DR-3. Align regulatory processes to facilitate rapid response and eradication of newly discovered invasive species. | In progress USDA/CDFA/CACs have regulatory and policy frameworks for agricultural pests | | *Identify regulatory hurdles |
| DR-4. Expand invasive species surveillance efforts, integrating new tools in risk assessment to set priorities. | In progress (CDFA Report a Pest App, Cal-IPC Weedmapper) | *Integrate awareness and improve communications between departments | *Recommend increased involvement from agencies other than CDFA |
| DR-5. Formalize a standard rapid response plan. | Varies depending on agency but little overall progress | *Expand CDFA process (flowchart in PEIR) to other agencies | *Reinforce recommendation |
| DR-6. Train key individuals and organizations to detect new invasive species. | Minimal progress, if at all, due to budget cuts | *Integrate awareness to encourage all agencies to use the best training protocols | *Recommend increased involvement from other agencies *Recommend identification and use of available insect pheromone traps |
| DR-7. Continue to train staff for rapid response. | Varies depending on agency | *Expand CDFA process to other agencies | *Reinforce recommendation |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report

Eradication and Management

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| | Progress being made |
| | No progress |
| | Situation has deteriorated |

| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action |
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| EM-1. Expand biological control efforts. | CDFA weed funding has decreased though USDA-ARS continues to work on biological control; situation better on insects | *Increase CDFA biocontrol funding now that Prop 30 passed *Promote the incorporation of bio-control into IPM programs where appropriate | *Formally recommend restoration of biocontrol funding to ISCC chair *Support UC, CDFA, USDA and industry grant applications for biocontrol projects |
| EM-2. Support regional collaborations and public-private partnerships. | WMAs no longer funded in CDFA budget, but effective coalitions are operative on some insect pests and diseases such as Sudden Oak Death | *Restore minimal funding for WMAs now that Prop 30 passed | *Formally recommend restoration of WMA funding to ISCC chair *Encourage Pest Control districts focusing on IPM *Support collaborative EGVM type eradications |
| EM-3. Increase the number of field biologists working on invasive species. | CDFA budget cuts have eliminated field biologists working on weed management and biocontrol | *Restore funding to increase field biologists working with invasive plant species and biocontrol programs | *Investigate opportunities for Farm Bill funding as weed management and biocontrol benefits all states, all crops and wild lands |
| EM-4. Increase on-the-ground workforce and job training for invasive species management. | Activity continues through efforts of Cal-IPC and UC Cooperative Extension | | *Reach out to CalTrans and county road and parks departments |
| EM-5. Develop more effective management tools and restoration techniques. | Has improved with new publications and new UC Cooperative Extension hirings | *Restore funding for the development of new management tools and restoration techniques | *Investigate grant funding opportunities for management/restoration |
| EM-6. Establish standardized mapping and reporting protocols. | Cal-IPC CalWeedMapper and CalFlora have made progress | *Restore CDFA funding for these efforts | *Investigate opportunities to map other organisms |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report

Eradication and Management (continued)

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| EM-7. Strengthen the state's invasive plant listing process and rating systems. | | Diagnostic lab at CDFA is developing criteria to list plants more effectively and transparently in the 4500 list | *Continue to work with the CDFA diagnostic lab to streamline the process and expand to all taxa | *Continue to develop listing criteria *Consider giving equal weight to wildland weeds, in either a consolidated or separate list |
| EM-8. Minimize invasive plant spread along roadsides and utility corridors. | | Publication of BMPs by Cal-IPC has helped and new control book will also help in this area, but activity is minimal | *Work to reinstate funding support of these activities *Bring county road departments and utility companies into stakeholder network | * ID organizations (eg Electric Power Research Institute) that could become collaborators |
| EM-9. Develop and implement prioritization models for managing invasive species. | | Progress good with CalWeedMapper and Forest Service funding of the development of an online prioritization tool based on WHIPPET | | *Explore ways to expand CDFA and USDA rating and priority systems to other agencies such as BLM, CalFire, etc *Facilitate completion of NEPA documentation on weeds |
| EM-10. Expand training programs for using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles and Best Management Practices (BMPs). | | No progress in past couple of years | | *Revise the Strategic Framework to prioritize exclusion, detection and eradication for pest prevention * If these fail, then biocontrol/IPM/BMP management are the next best alternatives |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Report
Outreach and Public Engagement

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| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action |
|--|---|---|--|
| OPE-1. Develop and deliver a consistent outreach message based on stewardship. | In progress through the activities of both CISAC and ISCC, including consistent branding of phrase “invasive species” | *Host ISCC website *Provide portal for public website *Incorporate CISAC messaging into agency messages | *Farmers Market outreach project moving forward *Have submitted funding proposal for expanded website & email newsletter |
| OPE-2. Provide clear public health information for invasive species management. | Under discussion (see LC-7) | see LC-7 | *Assist with messaging if health working group is formed |
| OPE-3. Support inclusion of invasive species in environmental education curricula. | Progress being made by CISAC activities | | *Continue to assist with Ag in the Classroom fact sheet *Review environmental curricula *Recommend inclusion of IS information in relevant professional licensing curricula *Work on development of Scout badges for invasive species |
| OPE-4. Establish activities to engage public participation. | CDFA has developed pest identification app and is hosting 21st Century Symposia | *Maintain and expand current efforts to encourage public engagement | *CISAC will develop public informational website and issue email newsletter if funding is available |
| OPE-5. Evaluate effectiveness of outreach and public engagement techniques. | CISAC has had some progress in this area | | *Farmers Market brochure project includes follow-up surveys to assess effectiveness |

Strategic Framework - Implementation Dashboard

Fundamental and Applied Research

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| | Progress being made |
| | No progress |
| | Situation has deteriorated |

| Strategic Framework | Status | ISCC Action | CISAC Action |
|---|--------|---|---|
| FAR-1. Assess the ecological, agricultural and economic impacts of invasive species in California. | | Chico State researcher has agreed to help develop economic assessments of invasive species | *Provide available economic information regarding costs associated with invasive species |
| FAR-2. Study the biology of invasive species to support effective management. | | Weed study requires lead researcher and funding; progress made in other areas* | *Provide funding for research on California's worst invaders *Reinstate biocontrol work for invasive weeds and insects |
| FAR-3. Study restoration outcomes. | | Weed study requires lead researcher and funding (UC Davis recruiting CE Specialist to work on restoration); progress made in other areas* | *Encourage ecosystem restoration whenever possible, especially on new projects *Fund ecosystem restoration on all agency projects |
| FAR-4. Study interactions of native species and invasive species. | | Requires lead researcher and funding* | *Fund research on native, non-native species interactions *Identify most egregious cases of non-native species with impact on native species interactions |
| FAR-5. Address invasive species in relation to climate change and other high-visibility issues. | | Progress on noxious weeds through Cal-IPC WeedMapper; some progress made in other areas* | *Whenever possible, support reduction of greenhouse gases *Identify those species most likely to increase their range with climate change *Propose possible mitigations for these species |
| FAR-6. Research new invasive species control methods and expedite the assessment of existing methods. | | Some progress from University and Cooperative Extension but needs agency funding** | *Provide emergency funding for control of new high profile, economically important invaders and associated research *Identify those high-profile, economically important invaders that are potential threats |

*There is research in each of these areas, some of which has been conducted in California. A "state-of-field" paper would more specifically identify further key research needs in California for FARs 2-6.