



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL SEEKS AWARD NOMINATIONS BY NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

SALEM, Oregon - At the end of the year, it is time to reflect on the invasive species battles of 2015 and recognize those whose contributions and efforts help to protect Oregon's economy and environment.

Annually, the Oregon Invasive Species Council recognizes people and organizations through special awards that highlight those who are protecting Oregon's natural resources, economy and quality of life from the devastating effects of invasive species.

Nominations are closing soon for people and/or organizations who have done or are doing outstanding work in Oregon in 2015. There are five public categories and a sixth for service to the Council including:

**Eagle Eye Award** | presented to the person or persons reporting the most important sightings of an invasive species in 2015. The 2014 Eagle Eye award winner was Chris Mayhew, the Longshoreman who noticed and reported an egg mass of the Asian Gypsy Moth on cargo entering Portland.

**Protect the Northwest Industry Award** | presented to a company or business that contributes to protecting Oregon from invasive species. The 2014 Protect the Northwest Industry award winner was Jan Eliot of Stone Soup Comic Strip.

**Invader Crusader Award** | presented to the Oregon student(s) making a difference in protecting Oregon from invasive species.

**Sandra Diedrich Award** | presented to the person(s)/organization (non-government) making the most outstanding contribution to protecting Oregon from invasive species. The 2014 Sandra Diedrich award winner was Lisa DeBruyckere.

**Ten Fingers in the Dike Award** | presented to the person(s) or unit in a government agency going above and beyond the call of duty to keep new invaders out of the state. The 2014 Ten Fingers in the Dike award winner was the Yellow Tuft Alyssum Working Group.

**Service Award** | presented to the person or persons who have demonstrated extraordinary service to the Oregon Invasive Species Council. The 2014 Service award winners were Judi Sanders, Mark Porter, and Doug Daoust.

Winners will be recognized at an awards reception in December 2015. If you would like to nominate a person or organization, please visit the Oregon Invasive Species Council website to enter your nominations - <http://www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org/> - The Council will discuss the nominees, choose the winners and invite them to the awards celebration in December 2015.

**About the Oregon Invasive Species Council** | [www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org](http://www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org)

The Oregon Invasive Species Council is a group of representatives from state and public agencies, scientists, educators and members of the public who lead Oregon's fight against the threat of invasive plants and animals. They collaborate with a wide group of people to spearhead initiatives to increase citizen understanding and involvement in protecting the state against the harms of invasive species. Activities of the council include: the Annual Oregon Invasive Species Report Card, Top 100 Worst Invasive Species List, in addition to support of popular invasive species educational campaigns that promote a collective knowledge of how to protect Oregon, online reporting system for people to report suspected sightings of invasive species, and a variety of information and outreach programs. The council was created by the Oregon legislature in 2001 and receives funding through a variety of state, federal and private donations.