

# 2015-2016 Report Card on Oregon's Invasive Species Activities

Presented to Oregon by the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC)



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The OISC was created by the Oregon legislature in 2001. Its mission is to conduct a coordinated and comprehensive effort to keep invasive species out of Oregon and to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of invasive species already established in Oregon. Invasive species are plants, animals, and microbes not native to a region which, when introduced either accidentally or intentionally, out-compete native species for available resources, reproduce prolifically, dominate regions and ecosystems, and cause harm to humans, the ecology, and the economy. The Council carries forth its mission through four primary responsibilities, as laid out in ORS 570.755: (1) Maintain an invasive species hotline for public reporting ([www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org](http://www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org) & 1-866-INVADER), (2) Educate the public about invasive species, (3) Develop a statewide plan for invasive species, and (4) Provide grants or loans for educational projects or eradication efforts. The council also develops a list of 100 most dangerous invaders threatening Oregon.

This report card provides an assessment by the Oregon Invasive Species Council of invasive species activities in Oregon from 2015 through 2016. For additional information about the council, including 2015-2016 meeting minutes, a list of the top 100 most dangerous species threatening to invade the state, the council's business plan, a list of current council members, awards, reports, news, and events, visit the OISC website at <http://www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org>.

## Overall Grades:

Excluding Invasives:	<b>B</b>
Reporting Invasives:	<b>B</b>
Outreach/Education:	<b>C-</b>
Statewide Planning:	<b>B</b>

## Comments

## Goals & Areas to Improve

### Success at Excluding Invasive Species in Oregon

- Matt grass has been popping up and there are efforts underway to treat and control quickly
- Keeping invasive species out of Oregon is a tall order and hard to prove
- The Council's work on ED/RR efforts is a bigger testament to the Council's and managing agency's success such as AGM
- Despite ongoing efforts, we have detected Japanese beetle and continue to see spread of sudden oak death (SOD) in Oregon.

- Increase support of prevention programs
- Increase and expand insect trapping and monitoring efforts around the state
- Increase weed surveying efforts around the state

### Reporting Invasive Species (website and phone line)

- The invasive species hotline is GPS-enabled and mobile-friendly.
- We now have online integration of pest detectors
- There were 392 reports between 2015 and 2016.
- There have been approximately 204 reports per year on average since the Hotline was established (2008).
- The majority of incoming reports are for invasive land plants
- All reports are tracked in a spreadsheet

- Increase available funding for hotline & reporting tools
- Increase use of hotline
- Council website can be improved to assist with reports. The website could be updated with pictures of things we are looking for, risk assessments, etc
- Resources should be easily accessible for users

for future reference and follow-up.

### Comments

### Goals & Areas to Improve

#### **Outreach and Education**

- Open houses for Asian gypsy moth and Japanese beetle were a success
- Outreach to students, including the design contest for Don't Let it Loose
- Invasive species wagon has been taken to various events throughout the state
- Awareness of invasive species impacts in legislature needs improvement: invasive species bills did not pass

- Work on building out available resources online
- Increase efforts to get involved with diverse stakeholders
- Expand / improve awareness of invasive species issues
- Expand invasive species messaging, images, stories

#### **Statewide Action Plan/ Planning and coordination**

- The Council approved a new 2017-2027 Strategic Plan for Invasive Species and accompanying 2017-2019 Action Plan in December 2016
- Samara Group was contracted as the OISC Coordinator Team
- The Council holds regional Council meetings several times throughout the year that are open to the public and bi-annual Oregon Invasive Species Summits
- The OISC Coordinator meets regularly with neighboring Councils to ensure effective invasive species coordination and collaboration

- Increase integration of the importance of invasive species efforts within and between state agencies
- Expand coordination between regional invasive species partnerships (CWMAs, SWCDs, etc.)