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New Grant for Invasive Species Education & Outreach

Invasive species pose serious threats to Oregon's economy, ecosystems, working landscapes, infrastructure, and natural heritage. Unchecked, invasive species can imperil public health, fish and game populations, outdoor recreation, and transform ecosystems, resulting in widespread and long-lasting economic and environmental damage. Meaningful outreach and education is crucial to engage and activate a wide network of people protecting Oregon from invasive species.

Oregon Legislature provided the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) with \$100,000 to fund education and outreach projects in the range of \$2000 to \$20,000 during the 2019-2021 biennium. The OISC seeks to fund a diverse range of conventional and innovative projects to build knowledge and awareness, and empower policy makers, communities, interest groups, and members of the public to take actions that help prevent the spread of and control invasive species across the land and waters of the state. The OISC encourages innovation that leverages current invasive species educational approaches and messaging and/or new messages and approaches to invasive species education and outreach to reach new audiences.

Education & Outreach Projects

Projects can be implemented in a variety of ways. Successful applicants will have goals tied to:

- 1. The Education & Outreach Strategies outlined in <u>Oregon's Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species</u>
 - Expand awareness of invasive species through improved communication tools that effectively reach the Oregon public and messaging that resonates with Oregonians.

- Collaboratively develop educational materials with network partners to pool expertise and resources.
- Promote focused, inclusive outreach and engagement to build public support and involvement among historically under-represented audiences.
- 2. Understanding the prevention, detection, spread, impacts, or management of invasive species in Oregon; and
- 3. Protecting our aquatic resources, working landscapes, wildlife, and the unique beauty of our state for future generations.

Grant Timeline

- Applications due: January 30, 2020
- Awards announced: April 2020
- Project completion & final report due: June 30, 2021 or within 60 days of project completion

Application Details

All documents must be submitted electronically as well as one hard copy postmarked by 11:59 PM on January 30, 2020. Awards will range between \$2,000 to \$20,000 depending on the scope and reach of the project. Project match of 25% is required, but can be met with either outside funding sources *or* in-kind labor match. Applications requesting over \$20,000 may be considered if the applicant can demonstrate significant statewide benefit. We encourage prospective applicants to reach out to Council Members and/or the OISC Coordinator (coordinator@oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org) to discuss your project ideas.

Full application instructions and links to helpful references can be found at: www.oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org/grants

About the Oregon Invasive Species Council

The <u>Oregon Invasive Species Council's</u> mission is to protect Oregon's natural resources and economy by planning and leading a coordinated and comprehensive effort among state and public agencies, tribes, scientists, land managers, industry leaders, educators, and members of the public. The <u>Oregon's Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species</u> was adopted in 2017 and outlines strategies to achieve the following objectives: 1) Prevention; 2) Early Detection & Rapid Response; 3) Control & Management; 4) Education & Outreach; and 5) Coordination & Leadership.

Report Invasive Species! 1-866-INVADER or https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/

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