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## OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL WELCOMES FIVE NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2019

Each year, the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) sends out a request for nominations to fill available appointed member seats. Council members are drawn from government agencies, tribes, universities, industries, organizations, and the public with an interest and expertise in some aspect of invasive species management. In December 2018, five new Council members were selected for an upcoming two year term (2019-2020).

In addition to the new council members, Dr. **Helmuth Rogg** will serve as the Oregon Invasive Species Council Chair for 2019. Helmuth is the Director of Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Plant Protection and Conservation Programs Area and has served on the Council as an ex-officio member since 2014.

The OISC welcomes the following new members:

**Norie Dimeo-Ediger**, Director of K-12 Education Programs, Oregon Forest Resources Institute  
*1st term on the Council*

Norie is the director of K-12 Education Programs with Oregon Forest Resources Institute and has worked for more than 30 years with K-12 students and teachers in both classroom and field programs. She is well-known and respected throughout the state for working collaboratively to develop and support relevant and useful programming and resources. Norie also brings an expertise in building diverse and collaborative partnerships and an ability to engage audiences in understanding important ecological concepts.

**Olivia Duren**, Riparian Analyst, The Freshwater Trust

*1st term on the Council*

Olivia is the Riparian Analyst at The Freshwater Trust in Portland and has experience collaborating with multi-agency and multi-disciplinary groups to design and implement large-scale restoration and conservation programs. She is interested in two-way collaboration in developing invasive species management, communication, education, and policy strategies that are effective and actionable. Her qualifications include specialization in plant ecology and noxious weed surveys, leadership of multi-state restoration programs, and improving the long-term function of natural systems.

**Erin McConnell**, OR/WA Invasive Species Program Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management

*1st term on the Council*

As the Oregon/Washington Invasive Species Program Coordinator at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Erin provides recommendations for invasive plant management to all BLM offices in Oregon & Washington. She has over 20 years of experience working as a Weed Manager for Oregon BLM, 19 of which were spent working in rural eastern Oregon. She has experience managing BLM District Weed Programs and control activities including chemical, biological, manual, and mechanical methods. She looks forward to strengthening relationships between the BLM and OISC.

**Christine Moffitt**, Retired Fisheries Biologist

*1st term on the Council*

Dr. Christine Moffitt has extensive experience in aquatic resources. After retiring from a long career as an educator and researcher at the University of Idaho and with the USGS, she moved to the South Oregon Coast. Christine is actively engaged in Oregon Coastal issues and presently serves on several boards and councils including the Oregon Sea Grant Advisory Council, the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, and the Friends of South Slough NEER. She is a Fellow of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and remains very active at all levels with AFS activities. Her expertise includes ballast disinfection systems, non-native aquatic pathogens, aquaculture risk management, quagga/zebra mussel and other non-native mollusk mitigation, and control measures.

**Meg Raabe**, Pest Survey Specialist, USDA, APHIS, PPQ

*2nd term on the Council*

Meg has been a valuable member of the OISC for the last two years and is now beginning her second term on the Council. As a Pest Survey Specialist with USDA APHIS PPQ, Meg has extensive experience with invasive agricultural pest programs from California to Florida. She brings knowledge of rules and regulations for federally regulated species in addition to experience in invasive agricultural pest and pathogen monitoring.

## **ABOUT THE OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL**

The Oregon Invasive Species Council is a group of representatives from state and public agencies, tribes, scientists, educators, and members of the public who lead Oregon's fight against invasive species. The Council's mission is to protect Oregon's natural resources and economy by planning and leading a coordinated and comprehensive effort; which requires collaborative, cross-agency participation. As a result, Oregon's Statewide Strategic Plan & Action Plan was adopted in 2017 and outlines the long-term and short-term strategies for the state's invasive species control and include the following objectives:

1. Prevention
2. Early Detection & Rapid Response
3. Control & Management
4. Education & Outreach
5. Coordination & Leadership