

# Northwest Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change (NW RISCC) Network

*Goal:* Establish a community of practice to help practitioners integrate climate change science and adaptation with regional invasive species management activities (e.g., prevention, early detection, control, monitoring, research)

Contact: [Rachel@EcoAdapt.org](mailto:Rachel@EcoAdapt.org)

## NW RISCC Advisory Team



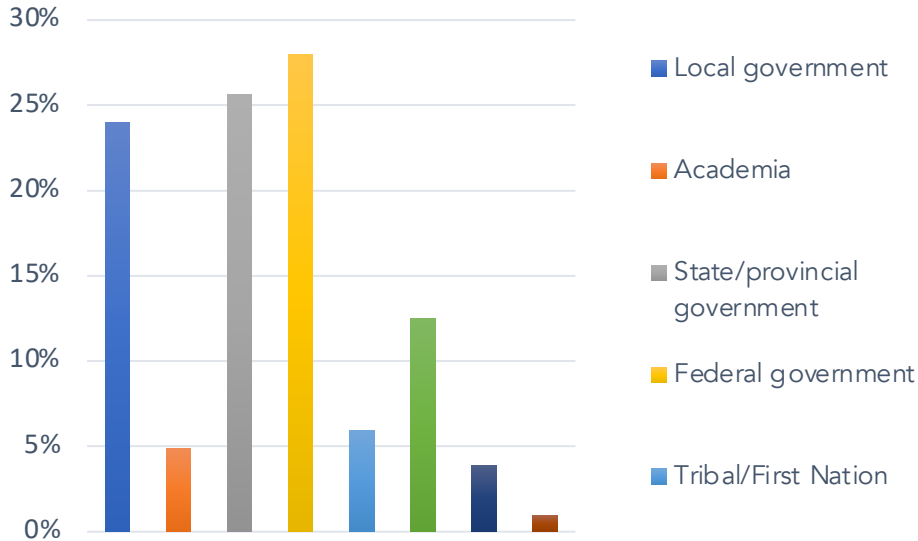
# Invasive Species & Climate Change: Northwest State of Practice Survey

- Identify the degree to which practitioners are considering the nexus of climate change and invasive species;
- Emerging practices and policies that may address the dual goals of reducing climate-related vulnerabilities and invasive species management efforts; and
- Needs, opportunities, and limitations faced by practitioners in the region

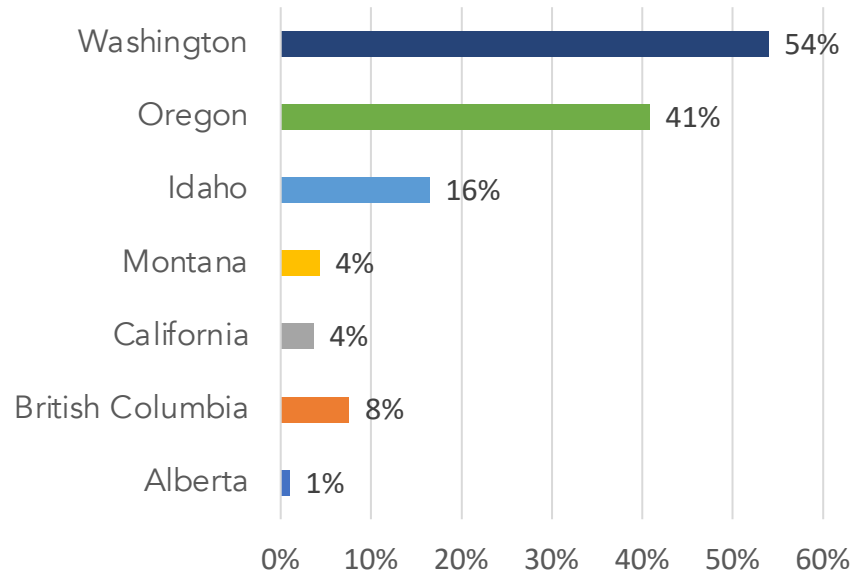


# Respondents

## Organization Type



## State(s) or province(s)

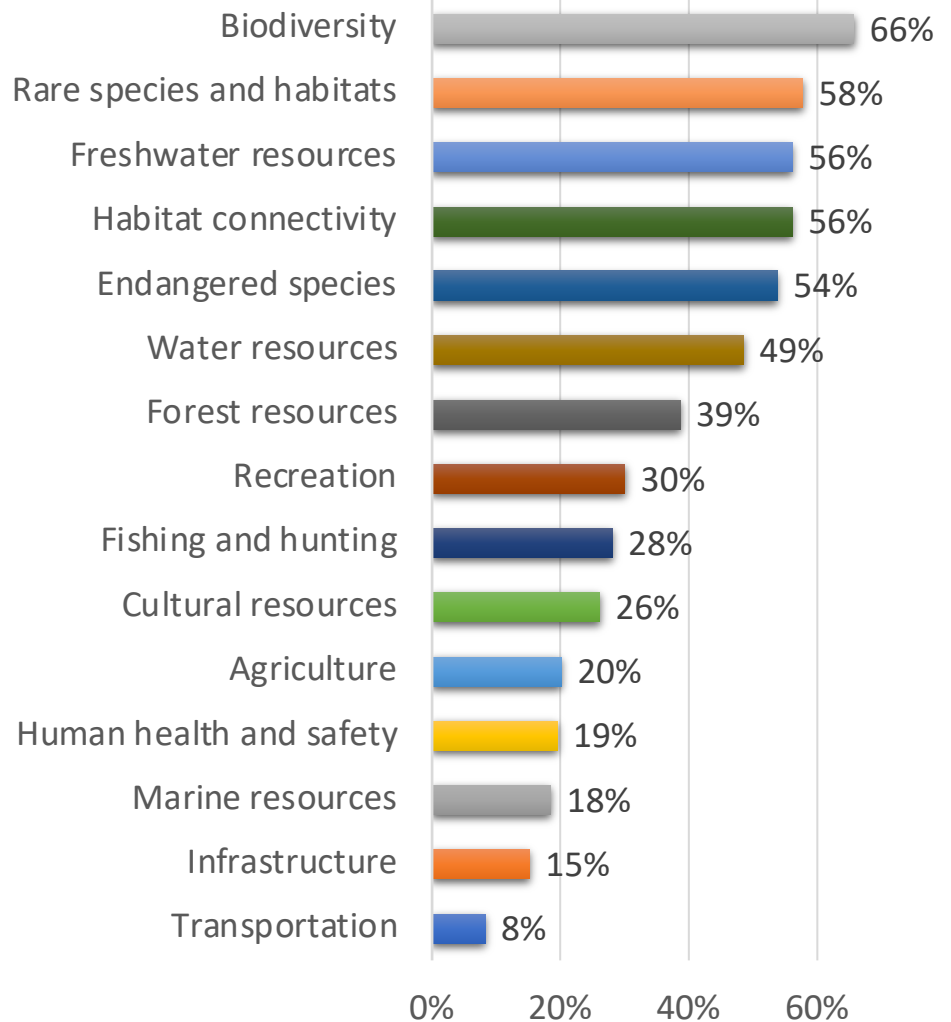


Most participants:

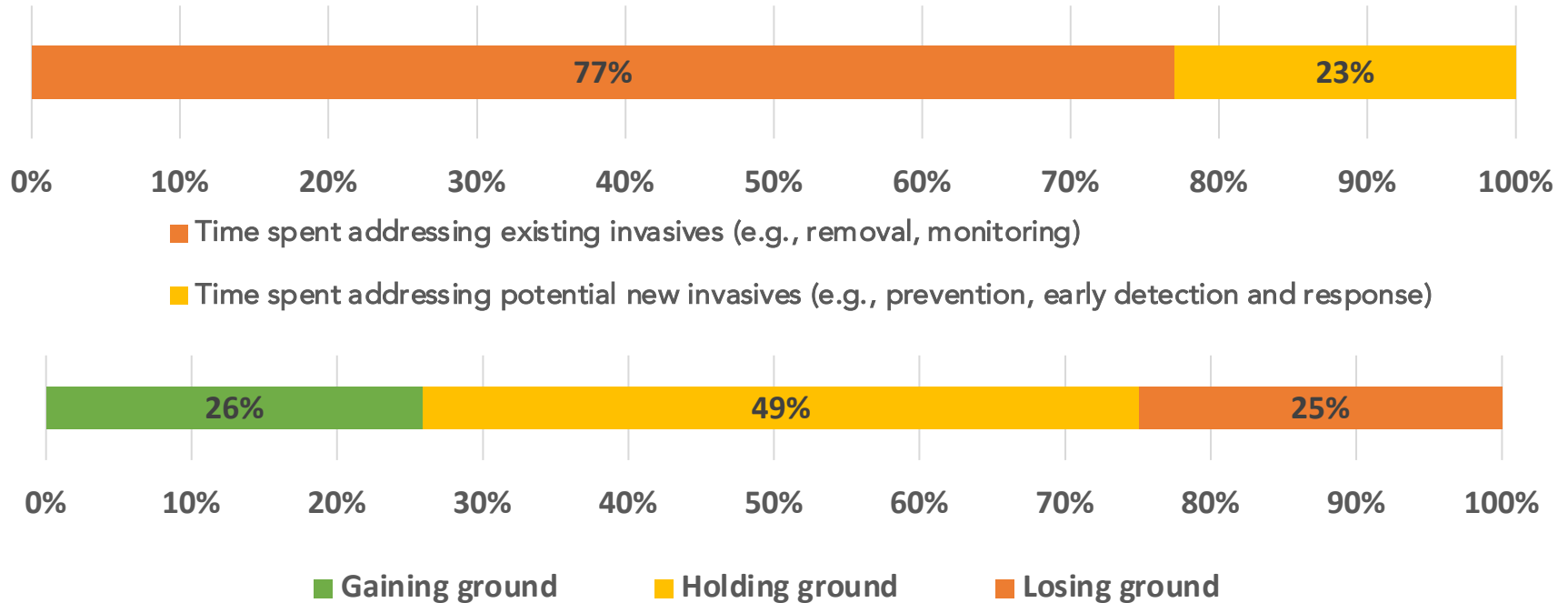
- Represent **federal** (28%), **state/provincial** (26%), or **local** (24%) government agencies
- Work in **project/program management** (35%) or **on-the-ground operations** (30%) (e.g., land stewards, field techs)
- Operate in **Washington** (54%), **Oregon** (41%), and **Idaho** (16%)

# Management Priorities

- Most common:
  - **Biodiversity**
  - **Rare species and habitats**
  - **Habitat connectivity**
  - **Freshwater resources**
  - **Endangered species**
- Least common:
  - **Agriculture**
  - **Human health and safety**
  - **Marine resources**
  - **Infrastructure**
  - **Transportation**



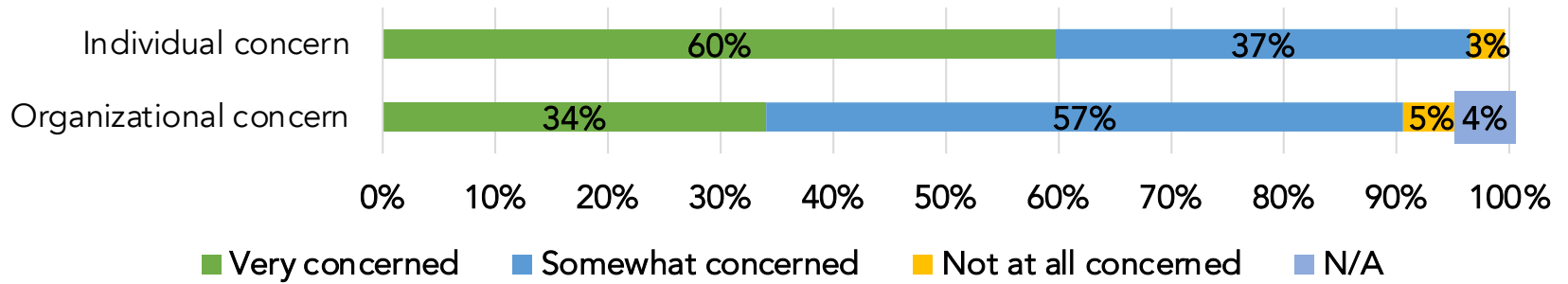
# Time Currently Spent Managing Invasives & Success Rate



On average, respondents currently spend **more time addressing existing invasive species.**

49% believe they are currently **holding ground** against invasives.

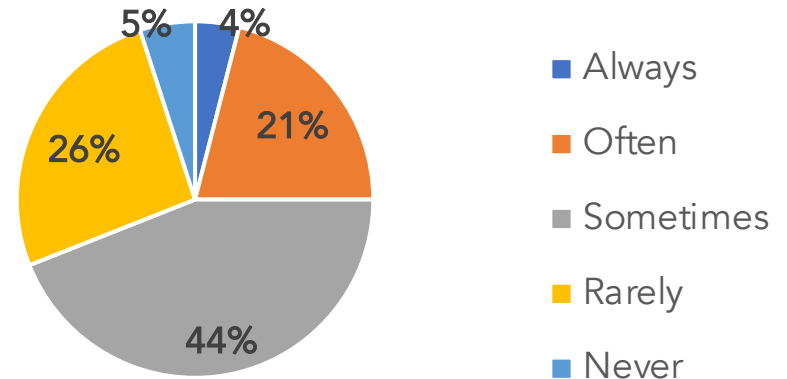
### Level of concern about the effect of climate change on invasive species management



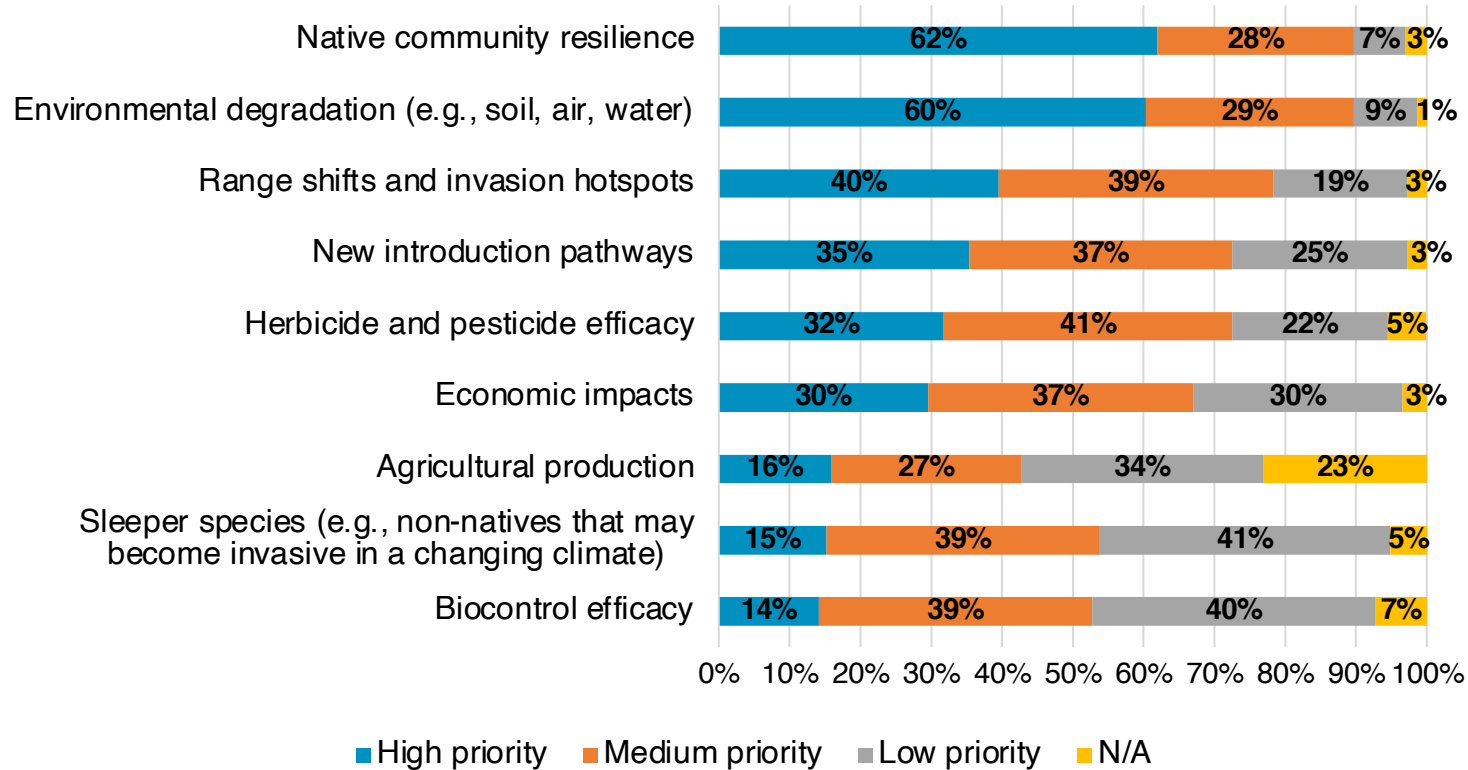
Majority of respondents indicate that they/their organizations are **very or somewhat concerned** about the effects of climate change on invasive species management.

Majority of respondents indicate that their organizations integrate climate change into invasive species management **sometimes, often, or always**.

### Extent to which climate change is incorporated into invasive species management



# Priorities for Invasives + Climate Change Nexus



Highest priorities: **native community resilience** and **environmental degradation**  
Lowest priorities: **sleeper species** and **biocontrol efficacy**

# Species' Priorities: Current and Future

Most frequently mentioned as challenges currently and within the next 10–20 years include:

- Zebra mussels
- Reed canary grass
- Knotweeds
- Scotch broom



Species listed as future threats:

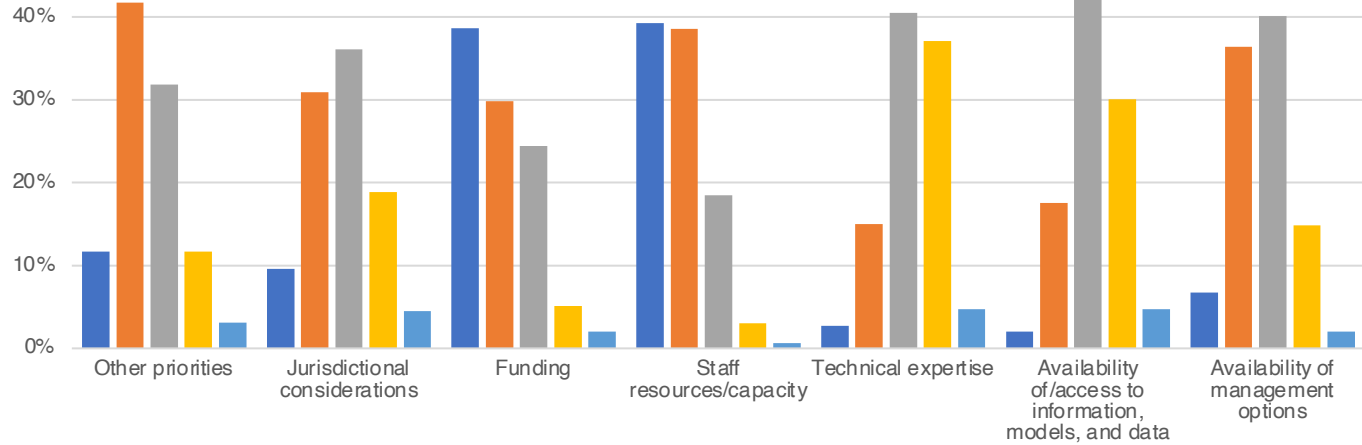
- Bamboo
- Chicory
- Pampas grass
- Broad-leaved paperbark
- Japanese eelgrass
- Bird cherry
- Ravennagrass
- Spurge flax
- Snakehead fish
- Mitten crab
- Argentine ant
- Invasive zooplankton
- Asian clam





# Limiting Factors

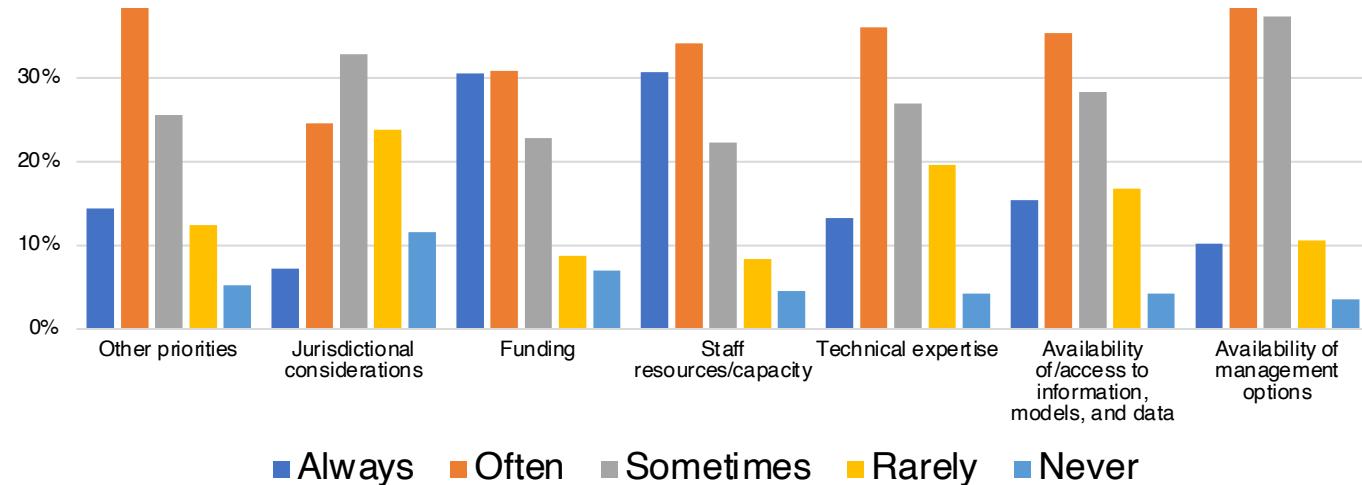
Manage invasive species?



Incorporate climate change into invasive species management?

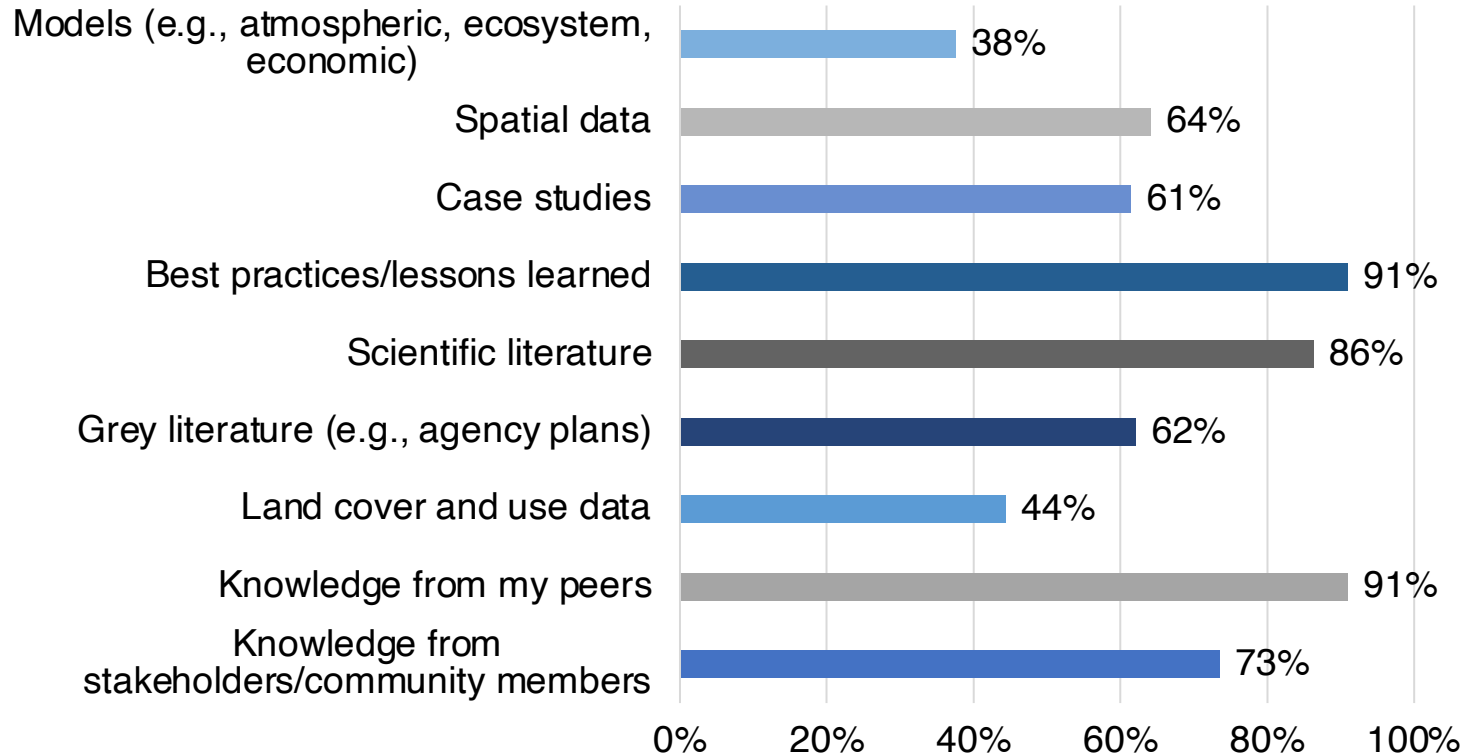
Consistent challenges:  
**staff capacity, funding, other priorities**

More important in a changing climate:  
**technical expertise, availability of data**



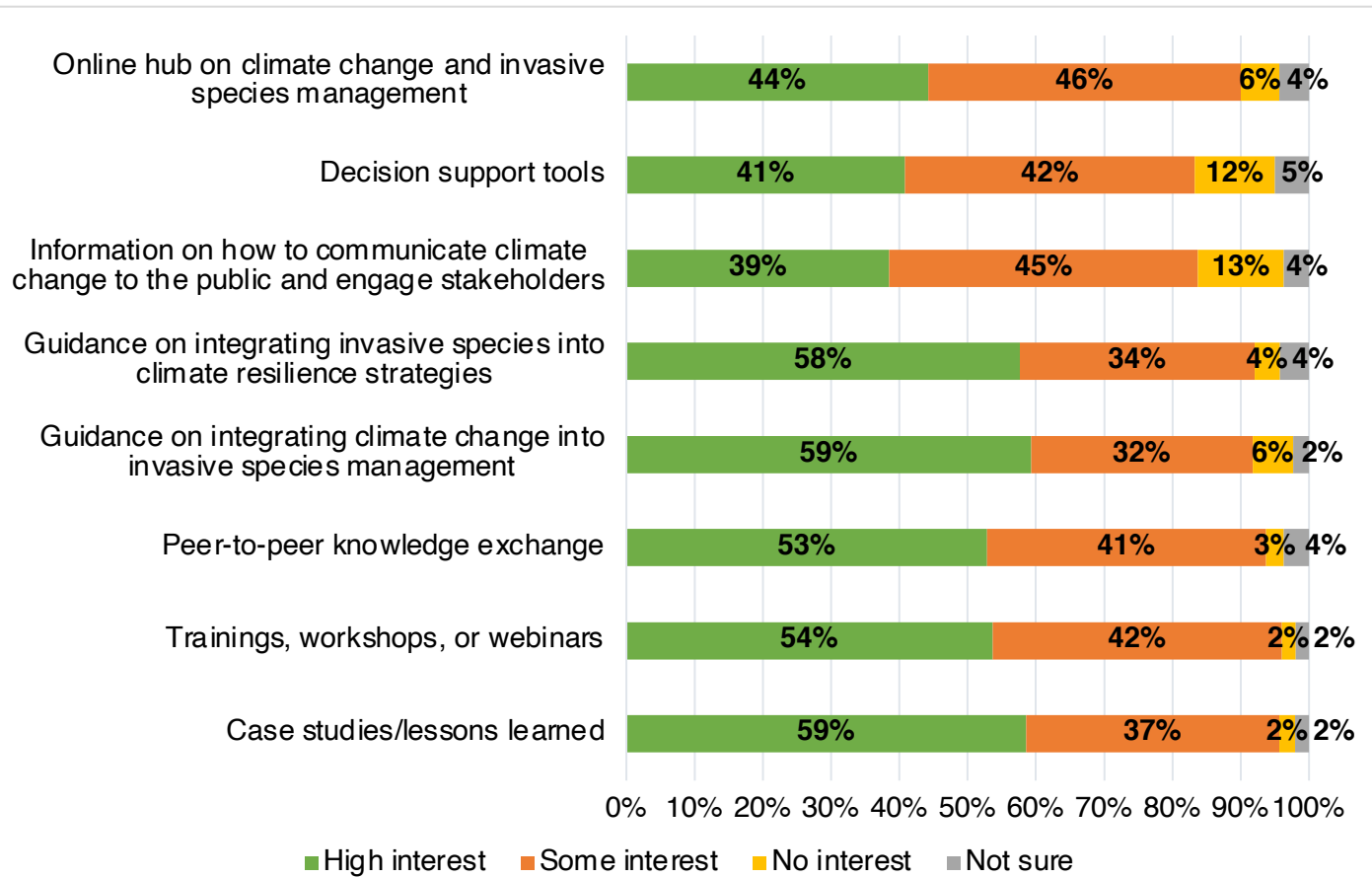
Always Often Sometimes Rarely Never

# Information and Resources Used



Most participants rely on **best practices and lessons learned** and **knowledge from peers**, less rely on **models**

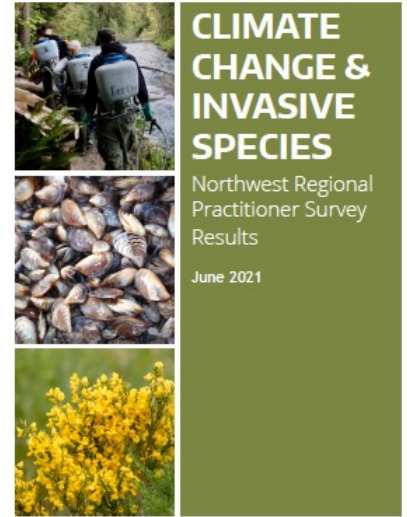
# Information and Resources Desired



Strong desire for **case studies, targeted guidance on integrated climate change and invasive species management, workshops/webinars, and peer-to-peer knowledge exchange**

## Products/Events

- Survey analysis report, case studies of invasives-climate connection, and summaries of regional scientific studies on climate and invasives
- NW RISCC Symposium: Save the Date! **September 15–16, 2021**



## Connect

[NWRISCC.org](http://NWRISCC.org)

[NWRISCC@gmail.com](mailto:NWRISCC@gmail.com)

Twitter: @NWRISCC

### Northwest Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change Network



A partnership of regional agencies and organizations dedicated to helping practitioners address the nexus of climate change and invasive species, including plants, animals, and pathogens.

The objective of the NWRISCC Network is to help practitioners within federal, tribal, state/provincial, and local agencies and other organizations integrate climate change science and adaptation with invasive species prevention, early detection, control, monitoring, and research activities.

[Join us!](#)