

Invasive Species Advisory Committee

Questions for Early Detection Rapid Response Discussion

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

The Department of the Interior is working with other members of the National Invasive Species Council [NISC] and states and tribes to develop a framework for a national Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) program that will build on existing programs to assist states and tribes in forestalling the stress caused by the establishment and spread of additional invasive species populations. This will include the development of a plan for creating an emergency response fund to increase the capacity of interagency and inter-jurisdictional teams to tackle emerging invasive species issues across landscapes and jurisdictions.

Your guidance will inform the development of the framework and funding plan, which is due September 30. We look forward to hearing your feedback on the questions below during the EDRR discussion scheduled on Wednesday May 20, 2015.

1. How could a national EDRR framework support and otherwise add value to regional, state, tribal, and local EDRR efforts?
2. What are the opportunities, and what has worked in the past, to connect and enhance existing EDRR systems across geographic regions and/or across taxa?
3. What are your top programmatic recommendations for national framework, i.e. what capabilities and capacities should the EDRR framework build or enhance?
4. What operational rapid response needs (e.g., species or tool specific) do you have, or what opportunities do you see on the horizon (e.g. new tools/techniques in development)?
5. What rationale would you use to gain political support for EDRR, and how would you respond to opposition? For example, are there examples of effective talking points that you use in your public presentations and what (if any) opposition have you heard?
6. In your EDRR experiences, what aspects were the most critical for success, and, conversely, which aspects (or lack thereof) may have led to failure? What constitutes success in EDRR?