

THE INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHITE PAPERS

National Invasive Species Council - The National Invasive Species Council (NISC) was established through Executive Order 13112 in 1999. NISC is an inter-Departmental council that helps coordinate and ensure complementary, cost-efficient, and effective Federal activities regarding invasive species. The Council is composed of 13 Federal Departments and Agencies responsible for the development and execution of the National Invasive Species Management Plan. More information about NISC and the National Invasive Species Management Plan can be obtained by visiting <http://www.invasivespecies.gov>

Invasive Species Advisory Committee - Executive Order 13112 also established the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) to advise the federal government on invasive species issues and to act as stakeholder representatives. ISAC is composed of stakeholders from state organizations, industry, conservation groups, scientists, academia and other interests. In their capacity, the Advisory Committee periodically issues White Papers addressing issues associated with administering the National Invasive Species Management Plan.

To date, five White Papers have been created and approved by ISAC. A brief summary of each white paper is given below and full text versions of the White Papers are available online at http://www.invasivespecies.gov/global/ISAC/ISAC_whitepapers.html

INVASIVE SPECIES DEFINITION CLARIFICATION AND GUIDANCE

Approved by ISAC April, 2006

Executive Order 13112 defines an invasive species as “an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.” The purpose of the *Invasive Species Definition Clarification and Guidance* white paper is to provide a non-regulatory policy interpretation of the term invasive species by identifying what is meant and, just as important, what is not meant by the term. The white paper also provides insight into those areas where societal judgments will be necessary to implement effective public policy. The utility of the clarification white paper is in education, conflict resolution, and efficiency in the planning, prevention, control/eradication, and management of invasive species.

BIOFUELS: CULTIVATING ENERGY, NOT INVASIVE SPECIES

Adopted by ISAC August, 2009

The increased focus on developing biofuels as an alternative energy source has led to concerns of potential invasive species risks associated with biofuel production. Certain plant species being proposed for biofuel production in the U.S. are invasive species or may escape cultivation and become invasive species. The *Biofuels: Cultivating Energy, not Invasive Species* white paper provides

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Department of Defense • Department of Homeland Security • Department of Transportation
Department of the Treasury • Department of Health and Human Services • Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Agency for International Development • U.S. Trade Representative

background information on the potential linkage between biofuels and invasive species. The paper concludes with recommendations to the Federal government to avoid inadvertently facilitating the introduction and spread of invasive species through its development, encouragement, funding and other support of biofuels programs.

INVASIVE SPECIES AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN THE GREEN ECONOMY

Adopted by ISAC June, 2010

Invasive species are intricately linked to the economy and they have the potential to both expand and reduce the emerging Green Economy - an emerging marketplace that seeks to optimize the synergy among social, environmental, and financial values. The *Invasive Species and Public Investment in the Green Economy* white paper provides background information about both the opportunities and challenges that invasive species represent to the Green Economy. The paper concludes by offering recommendations for action by the Federal government to capitalize on the opportunities invasive species prevention and management provide for green collar jobs and social program development, as well as to reduce the risks that invasive species pose to realization of green economic growth.

INVASIVE SPECIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Adopted by ISAC December, 2010

Climate change is likely to exacerbate problems caused by invasive species allowing them to become established in, spread through and disrupt ecosystems. The *Invasive Species and Climate Change White Paper* discusses the interaction between climate change and invasive species and provides specific examples of this interplay in both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The white paper concludes with recommendations to government agencies to integrate invasive species considerations into climate change policies such as assessing new invasion pathways created by climate change and increasing support for monitoring and adaptive management programs.

MARINE BIOINVASIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Adopted by ISAC June, 2011

Changes in the Earth's climate will likely continue, or even accelerate, over the next century and the impact of invasions mediated by climate change on marine systems may be profound. The *Marine Bioinvasions and Climate Change* white paper discusses the interaction between climate change factors such as sea level rise, increased ocean temperature, ocean acidification, changes to currents and salinity and the potential for biological invasions. The white paper concludes with recommendations to government agencies to develop tools that will facilitate conservation decisions in the management of marine resources.