

**Safeguarding the Nation from
the Impacts of Invasive Species**

We Can Do This...

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NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL
—SECRETARIAT—

⋮ Invasive Species:



...means, with regard to a particular ecosystem, a non-native organism whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human, animal, or plant health.

- Ecosystem specific
- Harm – known or likely

⋮ Safeguarding the Nation

- Invasive species impact every aspect of national security:
 - human, plant, and animal health
 - food and water availability
 - the integrity of critical infrastructure
 - livelihoods and survivorship
 - military readiness
- In the US, environmental damages and associated losses from invasive species are already amounting to more than \$100 billion annually.



⋮ Invasive Species in U.S. Policy

“It is the policy of the United States to prevent the introduction, establishment, and spread of invasive species, as well as to eradicate and control populations of invasive species that are already established.” ~ Executive Order 13751



⋮ Federal Leadership

NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

- Membership: Senior officials of 13 departments and 3 WH offices (CEQ, OSTP, OMB)
- Co-Chairs: DOI, USDA, DOC
- Charge: “Provide the vision and leadership necessary to coordinate, sustain, and expand Federal efforts to safeguard the interest of the United States through the prevention, eradication, and control of invasive species...”
- Staffing: NISC Secretariat. Small team of experts on invasive species policy, science, communication, and interdepartmental coordination administered by DOI.

INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Membership: “Representatives of diverse stakeholders who have expertise to advise the Council.”
- DOI Secretary appoints ISAC members after consultation with other NISC members
- Established under FACA (5. U.S.C.App.), charter administered by DOI
- Provides advice at the request of NISC through white papers/recommendations
- e.g., Recommendations on invasive species impacts on infrastructure adopted last December

■ NISC: A Whole of Government Approach

- Ensures “Federal agency and interagency activities...are coordinated, complementary, cost-efficient and effective”
- Publishes NISC Management Plan to establish and guide Administration priorities
- Leads implementation of duties set forth in relevant Executive Orders and Presidential Memoranda
- Directs Federal action on emerging issues of government-wide concern
- Secretariat enables NISC to function with a whole of government vision; stay alert to emerging issues; coordinate/improve communication with Congress, states, territories, tribes, the private sector, etc.



⋮ Federal Priority Setting/Guidance

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13751

- Section 1: Policy
- Section 2: Definitions
- Section 3: Federal Agency Duties
- Section 4: Emerging Priorities
- Section 5: NISC
- Section 6: NISC Duties
- Section 7: Management Plan
- Section 8: DOS/DOD Provisions
- Section 9: HHS Provisions
- Section 10: General Provisions

2016-2018 NISC MANAGEMENT PLAN

- National EDRR Program
- Regional focus on Pacific, Arctic, North America
- Improving coordination with states, tribes, territories
- Reducing risks via movement of watercraft, seed/planting re restoration, managed relocation
- Fostering development, adoption, and sharing of decision support tools
- Advancing technologies for prevention, eradication, and control of invasive species

■ The Watch List



- Making the economic case
- Infrastructure impacts
- Increase role of states, tribes, territories
- “Rural America” - hunting, fishing, recreational boating communities
- On-the-ground effectiveness
- Innovative approaches to solving grand challenges by region

■ The Grand Challenges: What Stops Us?

Miconia wins: Experts concede Hawaii Island has lost the war against invasive plant

Published May 1, 2017 - 12:05am

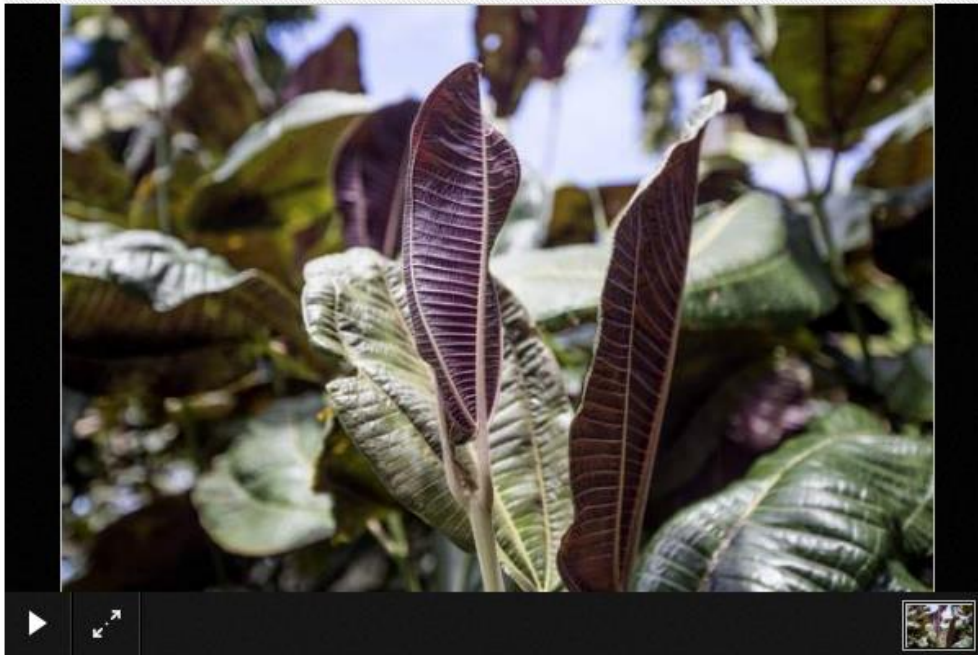
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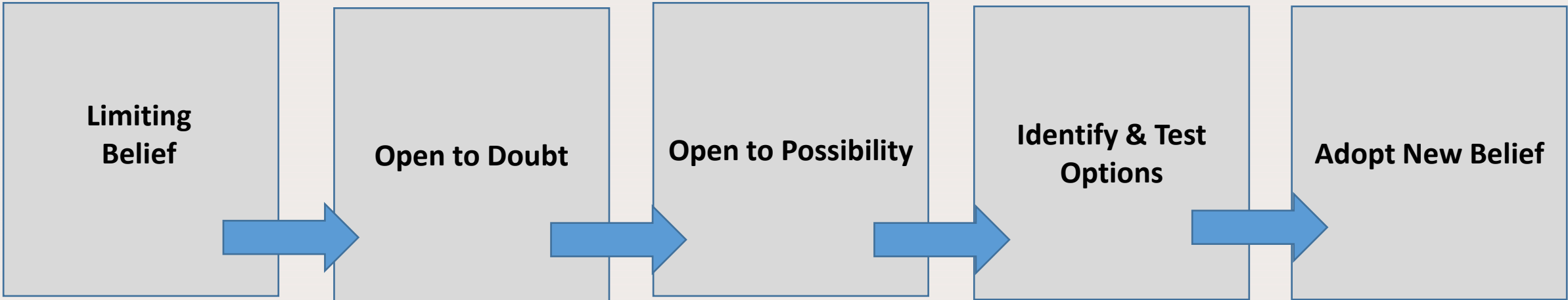


By IVY ASHE Hawaii Tribune-Herald

- Funding?
- Human capacity?
- Methodology toolkit?
- Will?
- Perspective?



Belief Change



Innovation

Creating an Innovation Culture



- We can and need to incentivize innovation
- Technology reapplication can be cost-effective and expand markets
- A complex, context-specific issue requires a flexible toolkit
- As the toolbox grows, tools can be used in effective combination
- Regulatory evolution will be necessary
- Social acceptance is imperative

■ Innovation in Action

- Advancements in technology innovation called for in MP and EO 13751
- First Innovation Summit held on Dec 5, 2016
- Numerous activities around advanced genetic technologies
- March 15, 2017: Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing on innovation/invasive species
- WildAid Bill (s. 826) – includes innovation prizes
- April 21-23: Earth Optimism Summit – Make for Planet Challenge with invasive species theme
- Next Innovation Summit – Sept 28 (Pacific focus)

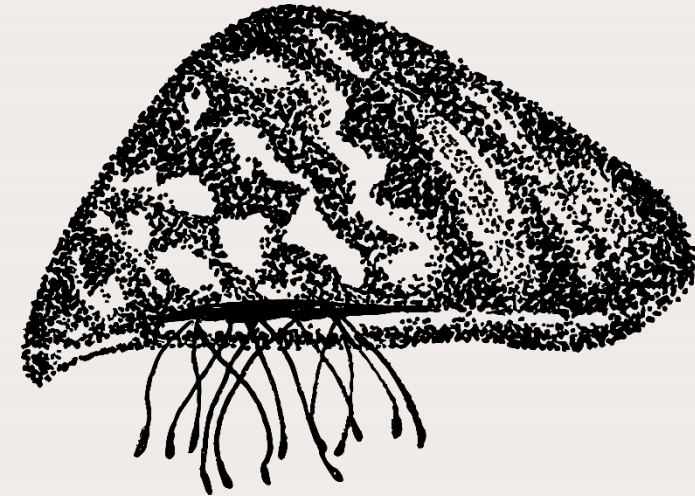


The current toolbox for addressing invasive species is incomplete and, in many cases, inadequate. Investments in technology innovation enable us to change the conversation from “We can’t” to “We can!”

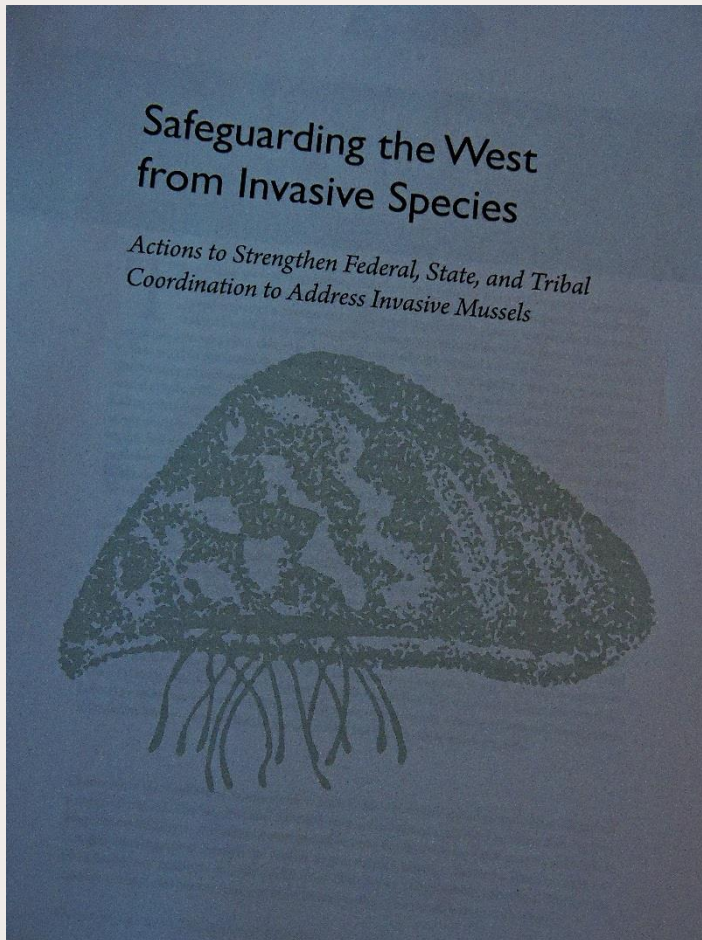
█ Invasive Mussels as a Grand Challenge

The administration has...

- Recognized the grand challenge that already exists in the Great Lakes region – and the implications to the environment and economy
- Recognized the risks/threat to the West posed by mussel invasion
- Called upon Interior staff to summarize current knowledge and planning priorities in a briefing document
- Assembled thematic working groups of federal, state, and tribal agency reps to identify a “mussel agenda”
- Identified initial priorities (40+) for cooperative implementation and announced these last month at the 100th Meridian Initiative mtg in Helena



⋮ Invasive Mussels as a Grand Challenge



Next steps...

- Additional funding has been allocated from DOI BIA and is to be allocated from Bureau of Reclamation
- Intergovernmental working group to be led within region (BOR/USFWS)
- Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) to continue to play a leadership role and ensure coordination with other relevant initiatives
- Progress update at next Western Governors' Association meeting in Dec in Phoenix
- Explore other grand challenges by region? Priorities to be established by NISC by end of 2017...

#wecandothis