

# **WSWS Newsletter**

205 W. Boutz, Bldg. 4, Ste. 5, Las Cruces, NM 88005

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November 2007



President Ron P. Crockett Ron.Crockett@clark.wa.gov

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Spring Newsletter Deadline April 1, 2008

#### Contact Us

WSWS website at: www.wsweedscience.org website technical assistance contact Tony White at: webmaster@wsweedscience.org

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# Report from the President by Ron P. Crockett

Most of you working in areas encompassing the reach of WSWS membership are bringing another field research season to a close. I hope that your efforts in the field have been productive, enlightening, and completed in a safe manner without injuries or lost time.

I would challenge you to sort through your data and identify key findings that will enlarge our collective knowledge base as we begin to prepare for, and build presentations for the WSWS meeting and upcoming grower/customer meetings, and submissions to research journals.

I would like to thank those who have assisted me this past year in fulfilling my duties as President. While we all still miss seeing and working with Wanda Graves, **Phil Banks** has capably made the transition as our new Business manager smooth, and has been available to answer my and others' many questions. At the same time President-Elect, and 2008 Program Chair **Dan Ball**, has been busy organizing the meeting to be held in Anaheim. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their support and encouragement this past year. Each member has distinguished themselves and the society through their service.

I would encourage each of you to commit to present one or more presentations whether as a poster, or as a traditional oral presentation at our annual meeting. Once again, we value the contributions of the graduate students and undergraduates who energize the meetings with their energy and probing questions. I look forward to visiting with you in Anaheim!

# Annual Meeting Registration and Title Submission ONLINE! by Tony White, WSWS Webmaster

Online pre-registration and title submission is currently open for the 2008 WSWS annual meeting. All important meeting dates and submission deadlines are available on the homepage of the website.

To register for the meeting, please go to **www.wsweedscience.org** and login to your account. Once at the 'My Account' page, simply go to 'Meeting Registration' under Quick Links or scroll down to that section. Pre-registration for the meeting will be available until February 18, 2008.

If you plan to present a paper or poster at the meeting, you must register for the meeting before the 'Title and Abstract Submission' button becomes active. Titles must be submitted by <u>December 3, 2007</u> and abstracts must be posted by <u>February 4, 2008</u>. Please carefully follow all online instructions to complete each section of the registration process.

A key feature will be added to the website this year to allow WSWS members to view all submitted abstracts online. This system is targeted to be fully functional by February 10, 2008. This feature will give each meeting participate the opportunity to learn more about each presentation before the meeting instead of waiting to see them later in the printed proceedings. More details about this system will be available soon. webmaster@wsweedscience.org 573-248-2909 (office)



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# Nominations for WSWS Fellow, Honorary Member and Distinguished Achievement Awards

Go to the website www.wsweedscience.org and find the nomination information under the annual meeting section. Nominate a deserving individual of our society. The deadline is soon upon us, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Thanks!

## WSWS Retirees to be Honored by Kassim Al-Khatib

WSWS Welcome and Retirees Reception will recognize members that have retired since the 2007 Annual Meeting. If you know of any WSWS members who have retired since the 2007 WSWS meeting please contact Kassim Al-Khatib, Immediate Past-President at khatib@ksu.edu, telephone 785-532-555.

# Arundo/Phragmites Symposium by Carl Bell

Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, CA -- March 13 & 14, 2008

The symposium for the 2008 Western Society of Weed Science annual meeting will address giant reed (Arundo donax L.) and common reed (Phragmites australis (Cav.)), two widely distributed invasive reed grasses of riparian and wetland ecosystems in North America. The symposium organizing committee is in the process of assembling an outstanding collection of speakers leading research and control activities on these reeds; such as Jodie Holt (UC Riverside), Scott Stienmaus (Cal Poly San Luis Obisbo), Jeff Derr (Virginia Tech), and Bernd Blossey (Cornell University). Topics will include biology, ecology, invasion, genetics, environmental and ecological impacts, and control. In particular, the research and potential for biological control for both reeds will be highlighted. A draft agenda will available soon. The symposium will begin after the WSWS business meeting on Thursday morning (March 13, 2008) and continue until noon on Friday. A hosted reception will take place in the evening of March 13 allowing participants and speakers to interact on an informal basis. This symposium is an "add-on" to the annual meeting and has a separate registration. We would like to encourage posters for this symposium, especially from students. For further information, please contact Carl Bell (UC Cooperative cebell@ucdavis.edu or (858) 694-3386

### **News Release**

The following is a reprint from an interview with Steve Dewey about his new responsibility as liaison to EPA for WSSA done for the Utah State University College of Agriculture newsletter.

How has it been these past few months being a weed "pioneer" in this position at EPA?

I recently completed my fourth monthly visit to EPA in Washington DC. I am learning a lot, and I feel like my presence there is making a real difference. My EPA colleagues ask me lots of questions and seem to value the information I provide. I'm regularly invited to participate in their decision-making meetings, and my opinion is invited frequently.

Is the work turning out to be what you anticipated? If not, how is it different?

**Research Section** 

Rick Boydston, **Chair** USDA/ARS USDA-ARS, WSU-IAREC 24106 N Bunn Road Prosser WA 99350 Ph: 509-786-9267 boydston@pars.ars.usda.gov

Research Section, Chair Elect Kirk Howatt North Dakota State Univ. 470 F Loftsgard Hall Fargo, ND 58105 701-231-7209 Kirk.Howatt@ndsu.edu

# **Education Regulatory Section, Chair**

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**CAST** Representative

Phillip Stahlman Kansas State University Agric. Research Center 1232 240th Ave. Hays, KS 67601 785-625-3425 stahlman@ksu.edu I'm not exactly sure what I expected. Because this is a first-of-its-kind appointment, I didn't have anything to base my expectations on. But, so far it's been an interesting and positive experience. My reception at EPA has been very open and friendly. I often feel like they consider me one of their own. I had expected my efforts to focus on a few big issues, and that it would involve preparation of formal WSSA position papers and compilation of expert witness documentation. However, I've found that my most frequent and valuable role has been to provide many small tidbits of information on a wide variety of topics through casual one-on-one conversations with individual EPA employees, as well as through my invited participation in the many small day-to-day committee meetings that take place. I suppose there will be some really big issues that will require the kind of input I had expected, but I believe my greatest influence will be through providing many little pieces of the information puzzle.

What's the biggest challenge thus far?

Learning the organization, processes, and language of EPA. I've had to create a long list of EPA acronyms that I take with me to the various committee meetings to help me follow the conversations. There is rarely a sentence spoken in any meeting that doesn't contain at least one acronym.

What's the most rewarding/interesting thing about your appointment?

For some reason I've always considered the EPA to be in a somewhat adversarial role when it comes to the interests of agriculture and weed management. Now that I've had an opportunity to see the EPA from inside, my perspective and opinion have changed. I see the people I work with in the Office of Pesticide Programs at EPA as reasonable and caring individuals who understand the importance of managing weeds (and other pests), and who recognize the value of herbicides as a weed control option. I had expected to find a definite anti-herbicide atmosphere at EPA. Instead, I found an organization that considers herbicides to be an essential element of the current weed management technology, and that is dedicated to finding ways to use these tools in a manner that causes no harm humans or the environment.

The big question, would you rather be mapping thistle in the backcountry at Bryce Canyon or navigating Washington?

I'd always choose to be in the wide open outdoors.

#### Call for Student Awards Reminder

Graduate Students and Young Scientists Awards A Competition Sponsored by EWRS, WSSA and IWSS

Deadline for submission of all material should be sent via email, no later than **December 20**, **2007** to: the Coordinator of the Graduate Students Awards Committee: Dr. Per Kudsk – University of Aarhus, Department of Integrated Pest Management, Forsogsvej 1, DK 4200 Slagelse, Denmark (**Per.Kudsk@agrsci.dk**). Details for requirements are in the WSWS September 2007 Newsletter.

## **Student Contest Reminder**

Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to enter the Student Paper and Poster Contest at the WSWS Annual Meeting. Please refer to the guidelines/ criteria on the website (http://www.wsweedscience.org). Please contact Jim Harbour, DuPont Field Development, 3319 22nd St. S., Fargo, ND 58104 701-261-8456, mailto:james.d.harbour@usa.dupont.com.

#### **WSSA Representative**

Vanelle Peterson Dow AgroSciences 28884 S. Marshall Road Mulino, OR 97042 Ph: 503-829-4933 Fax: 503-829-6577 vfpeterson@dow.com

# November Job Postings

A full list of job descriptions is available at:

http://www.wssa.net/ WSSA/Jobs/listing.htm

# Extension Support Specialist – IPM

Director - Center for Invasive Plant Management Plant Protection Faculty

Chico, CA

Study Director/Contract Manager Greensboro, NC

Environmental Field Scientist Greensboro, NC

Research Associate (Post Doc)

East Lansing, MI Project Manager

Research Associate and Management Assistant Las Cruces, NM Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Fargo, NC

### WSWS 2007-2008 Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

Awards

Don Morishita (2008) Roland Schirman, Chair (2009) Robert Wilson (2010)

#### Education-Ad Hoc Distance Education

Tracy Sterling, Chair
Carol Mallory-Smith
Scott Nissen
Bill Dyer
Kassim Al-Khatib
Noxious Weed Shortcourse
Celestine Duncan

#### **Fellows and Honorary Members** Vanelle Peterson (2008)

Vanelle Peterson (2008) Rod Lym, Chair (2009) Phil Westra (2010)

#### **Finance**

Phil Munger, Chair (2008) Jesse Richardson (2009) John Fenderson, (2010)

### **Course Announcements**

PSPP 546 Herbicide Physiology is a 3-credit, distance delivery graduate course to be offered in the Fall semester, 2007. The course is taught by Profs. William Dyer (Montana State University), Tracy Sterling (New Mexico State University), and Scott Nissen (Colorado State University). We will cover topics in herbicide classification, herbicide mode of action, resistance mechanisms, and practical diagnosis of field situations. Prerequisites include upper division courses in biochemistry and plant physiology, or consent of the instructors. The course is designed for students without traditional access to this course material, and is not designed to replace existing, oncampus courses at other institutions. Please see <a href="http://eu.montana.edu/credit/courses/pspp546.htm">http://eu.montana.edu/credit/courses/pspp546.htm</a> or contact Dr. William E. Dyer at wdyer@montana.edu for more information

# **Job Posting**

Research Associate and Management Assistant- MARATHON-Agricultural and Environmental Consulting, Inc.

**Job Description**: - Plan, coordinate and complete field research projects on company owned or leased facilities. - Assist with the consulting activities related to pesticide and other agricultural product behavior - Assist in the business management of professional and scientific societies.

**Qualifications:** - BS or MS degree in an agricultural or biological science area. - Excellent verbal and written communication skills. - Demonstrated ability to learn quickly and apply past experience and training to new and always changing job situations. - Able to work independently. Able to manage others and work cooperatively. - Experience with agricultural field research - Experience with farm equipment, crop management, and irrigation practices.

#### Contact:

Phil Banks - MARATHON-Agricultural and Environmental Consulting, Inc.

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# Washington Report by Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D., Director of Science Policy

#### Weed Scientists: Apply for 1 of over 100 AAAS Fellowships

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) solicits candidates from a broad array of disciplinary backgrounds to apply for a year-long Science and Technology Policy Fellowship in Washington DC. Fellows come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, and non-profits, and represent a spectrum of career stages from recent PhD graduates to faculty on sabbatical, to retired scientists and engineers. The age range of the 2006 Fellows class was 26 to 66. The AAAS also serves as the "umbrella" organization for other scientific societies that sponsor a Fellow, such as the American Society of Agronomy.

The AAAS Fellowship program is a great opportunity to work closely with federal decision-makers in agencies such as the USDA, EPA and the National Science Foundation among others. Fellows receive a stipend of up to \$87,000 for the year. Relocation expenses of up to \$3500 are also provided. The deadline for applications for the 2008-2009 Fellowship class is December 20, 2007. For more information, please visit: <a href="http://fellowships.aaas.org">http://fellowships.aaas.org</a>

#### 2007 Farm Bill Passed by House of Representatives

The House of Representatives passed the 2007 Farm Bill (H.R. 2419) by a vote of 231-191. The Senate will mark up their version of the 2007 Farm Bill when they return to Washington DC after Labor Day. The 2002 Farm Bill expires on September 30, 2007.

#### **Herbicide Resistant Plants**

Steve Seefeldt (2008) Monte Anderson (2008) Steve King, Chair(2009) Craig Alford (2009) John Obarr, (2010)

#### Legislative

Sandra McDonald (2008)
Case Medlin, Chair (2009)
Dana Coggon (2010)
Lee VanWychen, Standing Member,
Ex-officio

#### **Local Arrangements**

Carol Mallory-Smith (2008) Carl Bell, (2009) Nelroy Jackson, Chair (2009) Keith Duncan (2010) April Fletcher (2010)

#### Necrology

Lisa Boggs (2008) Brad Hanson, Chair (2009) Laurel Baldwin (2010)

#### **Nominations**

Bob Parker (2008) Vent Hicks, Chair (2009) Jill Schroeder (2010) Kassim Al-Khatib (Past President)

#### Poster

Linda Wilson (2008) David Belles, Chair (2009) Carl Libbey (2010) Charles Hicks (2010)

#### **Program**

Dan Ball, Chair (2008) Rick Boydston (2008) Mike Edwards (2008)

#### **Public Relations**

Brian Olson, Chair Mark Ferrell Milt McGiffen Brad Hanson Bill Cobb Erin Taylor Dennis Scott

#### **Publications**

Dan Ball, Chair Joan Campbell, Proceedings Traci Rauch, Research Progress Report Cheryl Fiore, Newsletter Tony White, Web site, Webmaster

#### **Site Selection**

David Vitolo (2008) Brian Olson, Chair (2009) Bill Kral (2010)

## Student Paper Judging

Brad Ramsdale (2008) Jim Harbour, Chair (2009) Paul Figueroa (2010) The House Farm Bill vote was unusually partisan (instead of geographically divided) due to a last minute move by Democrats to find money to pay for the bill's nutrition programs. Democrats said the funds would come from closing tax loopholes that allowed foreign companies in the United States to shelter their earnings in tax havens. Republicans called the move a tax increase that would cost American jobs. The White House has threatened a possible veto of the bill because of the tax provision and because of the level of farm subsidy payments. The final House vote of 231-191 fell far short of the margin that would be needed to override a veto, but many things could change with the Senate version of the Farm Bill and the final conference agreement between both chambers.

Despite the partisan wrangling, there are some good proposed changes in the House version of the Farm Bill that will benefit our discipline:

- \$1.6 billion in priorities to strengthen and support the fruit and vegetable industry in the United States.
- A new section for Horticulture and Organic Agriculture includes nutrition, research, pest management and trade promotion programs.
- Making important new investments in renewable energy research, development and production in rural America. While the Energy Title (Section 9) does not exclusively prohibit the planting of known invasive plants for biomass production, Section 9008 (g)5(C) states that the Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy shall only support biofuels research that is "consistent with the integrity of soil and water resources and with other environmental considerations".
- Amends certain conservation programs to improve awareness and financial assistance to land managers who focus on pest management practices. Some of these changes include:
  - Allowing producers to conduct prescribed grazing for the control of invasive species on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands.
  - o Providing flexible assistance to producers enrolled in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to install and maintain conservation practices that: A) enhance soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing land, forestland, wetland, and wildlife; and B) conserve energy.
  - Assisting producers in EQIP to make beneficial, cost effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, energy use, forest management, pest or irrigation management, or other practices on agricultural and forested land including control of invasive species.
- Establishes a new National Agriculture Research Program Office (NARPO) composed of 6 Program
  Offices, each led by a Director appointed by the Under Secretary for Research, Education and
  Economics, currently Dr. Gale Buchanan. The purpose of NARPO is to coordinate the programs
  and activities of USDA's research agencies "in an integrated, multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary,
  interagency, and inter-institutional manner" to minimize duplication and maximize coordination at
  all levels
  - The 6 Program Offices are: (1) Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment; (2) Food safety, nutrition, and health; (3) Plant health and production; (4) Animal health and production and animal products; (5) Agriculture systems and technology; and (6) Agriculture economics and rural communities.
  - The Under Secretary shall fund each Program Office through the appropriations available to the various agencies within the research, education and economics mission area. The aggregate staff for all Program Offices shall not exceed 30 full-time equivalent positions and shall be filled by current full-time equivalent positions.
  - The Under Secretary shall integrate leadership functions of the national program staff of the research agencies (i.e. CSREES, ARS, ERS) into NARPO to ensure that the Directors of the Program Offices are the primary program leaders for the mission areas of the integrated agencies and that administrative duplication does not occur.

## House FY2008 Ag Appropriations Bill Leaves Much to be Desired

Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT) is the new chairwoman of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. While there is still hope that she will comprehend the value of agricultural research and extension, her subcommittee's FY2008 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration Appropriations Bill left much to be desired. While her funding priorities such as food stamps and nutrition programs were not unexpected, it seems clear that we need to convince her and her staff about the importance of agricultural research. Independent studies have shown that the average social **rate of return** to public investment in **agricultural research ranges from 35 to 53 percent**. Agricultural research investments will influence agricultural productivity in as few as 2 years and the impact will be felt for as long as 30 years. These returns are shared by all levels of the industry, from producers to consumers.

In the House-passed Agriculture Appropriations Bill on August 3, USDA-ARS would receive \$1.1 billion, a decrease of \$52 million below FY2007. USDA-CSREES would receive \$671 million, the same as FY2007. Within USDA-CSREES, the National Research Initiative (NRI) would get \$190 million, the same as FY2007. The NRI, authorized at \$500 million annually, has been slowly increasing over the past 6 years, at least keeping pace with inflation. We will definitely lose ground if the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee flat lines the NRI.

Sustaining Membership Neil Harker, (2008) Jeff Tichota, Chair (2009) Peter Forster (2010)

Membership Ad-Hoc Phil Stahlman, Chair Phil Banks, ad hoc Dirk Baker John L. Baker Lisa Boggs Vanelle Peterson **Eric Coombs** Steve Fennimore Jeff Koscelny James Olivarez **Dudley Smith** Randy Smith Kai Umeda Brenda Waters Ralph Whitesides

Special Symposium/ Workshop Ad Hoc

Janet Clark
April Fletcher
Lincoln Smith
Matt Rinella
Tim Miller, Chair
Joe DiTomaso
Rita Beard
Celestine Duncan

#### 2008 Calendar

Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting February 4-7 Chicago,

WSWS Meeting Annual Meeting March 11-14 Hyatt Regency, Anaheim, CA

5<sup>th</sup> International Weed Science Congress June 23-27

Plant Growth Regulation Society of America (PGRSA) 35th Annual Conference. August 3-7

Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco, California.
For information contact Dr.
Matthew Fidelibus, PGRSA
Program Chair, Assistant
Cooperative Extension Specialist,
Department of Viticulture and
Enology, University of California,
Davis, Kearney Agricultural
Center, 9240 S. Riverbend Ave.,
Parlier, CA 93648, Tel 559-646-6510, Fax 559-646

Meanwhile, the Food Stamp Program is provided at \$39.8 billion, an **increase of \$1.7 billion** over 2007. The House ag appropriations bill rejects the Administration's proposal to restrict eligibility for food stamps to families who are receiving other public nutrition services. The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program gets \$5.6 billion, which is **\$415.6 million above** FY2007. I don't want to sound like a heartless Science Policy Director, but it begs the question of whether a \$2 billion increase in food stamp and nutrition programs will provide the same social benefits and returns to the American people compared to reducing or flat lining agriculture research programs.

#### **Executive Branch Releases FY2009 R&D Priorities**

On 16 August, the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released the annual memorandum identifying research and development (R&D) priorities for the federal government. The memo, which is sent to the heads of executive branch agencies and departments, details what programs the Administration intends to prioritize during fiscal year (FY) 2009. To read the full report, please visit: <a href="http://www.ostp.gov/html/FY2009FINALOMB-OSTPRDPriorityMemo.pdf">http://www.ostp.gov/html/FY2009FINALOMB-OSTPRDPriorityMemo.pdf</a>

The American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI) remains a focal point for the administration, as the President has begun work to double research budgets for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy's Office of Science, and the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The Administration favors R&D investments that: 1) Advance fundamental scientific discovery to improve future quality of life; 2) Support high-leverage basic research to spur technological innovation, economic competitiveness and new job growth; 3) Strengthen science, mathematics and engineering education based on the recommendations of the Academic Competitiveness Council and the National Math Panel to ensure a scientifically literate population and a supply of qualified technical personnel commensurate with national need; 4) Enable potentially high-payoff activities that require a Federal presence to attain long-term national goals, especially national security, energy independence, and a nextgeneration air transportation system; 5) Sustain specifically authorized agency missions and user facilities that support the authorized missions of other agencies; 6) Enhance the health of our Nation's people to reduce the burden of illness and increase productivity while respecting the inherent dignity and value of every human life; 7) Improve our ability to understand and respond to climate change and other global environmental issues and natural disasters through better observation, data, analysis, models, and basic and social science research; 8) Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the science and technology enterprise through expansion of competitive, merit-based peer-review processes; 9) Phase out programs that are only marginally productive or are not important to an agency's mission; and, 10) Encourage interdisciplinary research efforts on complex scientific frontiers and strengthen international partnerships to accelerate the progress of science across borders.

**Understanding Complex Biological Systems**: The memorandum directs agencies to target research on a deeper understanding of complex biological systems through multi-disciplinary collaborations aimed at developing new and improved measurement and management tools to provide valid data that can be compared across laboratories and platforms. Agencies should concentrate research at 1) the cellular and sub-cellular, and the organism, population, and community levels; and 2) the interface of the life, physical and computational sciences.

The Administration highlighted the importance of **global earth observations** and their supporting roles in various areas of research. Agencies need to place a greater emphasis on coordinating their Earth observation activities. To ensure coordinated, long-term collection of critical land imaging data, agencies should respond to the recommendations of the Future of Land Imaging report in their budget requests. The full 120 page report can be found at: <a href="http://www.ostp.gov/html/FLI-IWG%20report%20Print-ready%20low-res.pdf">http://www.ostp.gov/html/FLI-IWG%20report%20Print-ready%20low-res.pdf</a>

#### **Executive Order 13443: Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation**

On August 16, President Bush issued Executive Order 13443. The purpose of this order is to direct Federal agencies that have programs and activities that have a measurable effect on public land management, outdoor recreation, and wildlife management, including the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat. To view the full Executive Order as printed in the Federal Registrar, please visit: <a href="http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-4115.htm">http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-4115.htm</a>

To advance the goals of the Executive Order, President Bush is calling for a White House Conference to convene within the year to focus specifically on North American wildlife policy. Of relevance to weed and invasive plant management, federal agencies are directed to: 1) Manage wildlife habitats on public lands in a manner that expands and enhances hunting opportunities; and 2) Work collaboratively with State governments to manage and conserve game species and their habitats in a manner that respects private property rights and State management authority over wildlife resources.

#### **CAST**

Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

Become a member

http://www.castscience.org/ Nearly **700 million acres of public lands** are managed by the departments of the Interior and Agriculture, which is approximately 1/3 of the total land area in the United States (2.1 billion acres). And according to the latest figures released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, more than 12 million hunters spend a total of 225 million days pursuing their game, spending an estimated \$23 billion annually on hunting activities.

# New Invasive Species Management Bill Introduced in Senate: 100th Meridian Invasive Species State Revolving Loan Fund (S. 1949)

On August 2, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) along with co-sponsors Wyden (D-OR), Domenici (R-NM) and Craig (R-ID) introduced the 100th Meridian Invasive Species State Revolving Loan Fund bill. S. 1949 was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, led by Senator's Bingaman and Domenici, both from New Mexico. S. 1949 defines an invasive species as a nonnative species introduced into a specified ecosystem, whether intentional or unintentional, which causes, or may cause, harm to the economy, the environment, or human, animal, or plant health.

S. 1949 directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to any combination of public or private stakeholders; Federal agencies; Indian tribes; state land, forest, or fish and wildlife management agencies; and academic institutions in the 13 most western states (NM, CO, WY, MT, ID, UT, AZ, NV, CA, OR, WA, AK, and HI) that demonstrate an effort to address or prevent invasive species. In general, 1) at least 25% of the loan must be repaid directly to the US. Treasury Department or through in-kind contributions by each qualified organization; and 2) at least 25% of the loan must be repaid by the state in which the project is carried out. S. 1949 authorizes a federal appropriation of \$410 million, in total, over 5 years (2008 to 2012).

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## Note From the Business Manager - Phil Banks

As we get closer the meeting, please remember to update your member profiles at the website so we can keep our records current. Any changes in address, phone numbers, e-mail or job affiliations can be made by logging into your account and revising your profile. Each year we purge the names of those that have not attended a meeting for the past two years and have not paid their yearly dues. If you want to keep up with the WSWS and cannot attend the meeting, be sure to renew your membership. It is only \$ 25 per year and keeps you up to date with what is happening in WSWS and weed science in general. Also, be sure to check the online store often to see what new publications are offered. If you need anything from the Business Office feel free to call (575-527-1888) or e-mail (wsws@marathonag.com) me any time.



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