



Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act Position Statement 08-PS11-07

North American Weed Management Association

Situation

The Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act (H.R.2720), (S.177) passed the House and Senate and became Public Law No: 109-320 on 10/11/2006. Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act - Directs the Secretary of the Interior (the Secretary), acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, to carry out a salt cedar (*Tamarix* spp) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) assessment and demonstration program to: (1) assess the extent of the infestation by salt cedar and Russian olive trees in the western United States; (2) demonstrate strategic solutions for the long-term management of such trees and the reestablishment of native vegetation; and (3) assess economic means to dispose of biomass created as a result of removal of those trees. Directs the Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a memorandum of understanding for the administration of such program.

Requires the Secretary to: (1) complete an assessment of the extent of the infestation; (2) identify long-term management and funding strategies that could be implemented by land managers in addressing the infestation and that should be tested as components of specified demonstration projects; and (3) establish a program that selects and funds at least five projects to demonstrate and evaluate the most effective methods of controlling salt cedar and Russian olive trees. Directs the Secretary to complete an analysis of economic means to use or dispose of biomass created by salt cedar and Russian olive tree removal.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) review the assessment, identification and documentation of strategies, demonstration projects, and analysis; (2) report to Congress annually, including a synopsis of any independent review and details of the manner and purposes for which funds are expended; and (3) facilitate public access to all information that results from carrying out this Act.

Authorization of Appropriations- There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act--

- (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2006; and
- (2) \$15,000,000 for each subsequent fiscal year.

Position

NAWMA seeks full currently authorized funding of 15,000,000.

NAWMA REQUESTS THAT DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR REPRESENTATIVES BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE FUNDING STATUS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AT THE AGENCIES BRIEFING DURING NATIONAL INVASIVE WEEDS AWARENESS WEEK.

Distribution:

Personal legislative contacts during NATIONAL INVASIVE WEEDS AWARENESS WEEK

Department of Interior

Bureau of Reclamation

U.S. Geological Survey

USDI Invasive Species Coordinator – Gordon Brown

FICMNEW Co-Chairs – Peter Egan and Mike Ielmini

Adopted by the NAWMA Board of Directors

January 15, 2008

www.nawma.org

NAWMA, P.O. Box 687, Meade, KS 67864

Phone (620)873-8730; Fax (620) 873-8733, E-mail nawma@sbcglobal.net