



Noxious Weed Control & Eradication Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-412) Position Statement 07-PS8C-03

North American Weed Management Association

Situation

S.144/H.R.119 was passed by Congress and signed into law (P.L. 108-412) on October 30, 2004. The passed bill became part of the Plant Protection Act "Subtitle E--Noxious Weed Control and Eradication" and requires the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program that will provide financial and technical assistance to weed management entities to control or eradicate noxious weeds on public and private lands. **Final Rule 9 CFR Part 94** delegated to Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) the authority to carry out the Noxious Weed Control Act of 2004. It will be their job to draft rules and regulations to guide the implementation of the Act. P.L. 108-412 currently authorizes \$15,000,000 to be appropriated for noxious weed control and eradication. The original bills authorized appropriating up to \$100,000,000 annually, but because the bill passed under suspension, appropriations were limited to \$15,000,000. No funds have been appropriated for implementation.

Findings published during the deliberation of this legislation were:

- United States faces unprecedented harm from nonnative weeds,
- Harmful nonnative weeds overtake native vegetation making the land unsuitable for forage, agricultural production and wildlife by creating unhealthy mono-cultures,
- Damage has been estimated to run in the hundreds of million dollars annually, by reducing the productivity of the land,
- Successful management of these invasive weeds will require coordinated actions at all levels of government, private landowners and organizations,
- The fight must begin at the local level where weed management is implemented,
- To date, effective action has been hampered by inadequate funding at all levels of government and by inadequate coordination, and by ineffective invasive weed management.

Position

NAWMA seeks

a) Full currently authorized funding of \$15,000,000 for the Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act of 2004

b) Report on the implementation plan.

WE WOULD LIKE A REPORT ON THE FUNDING STATUS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY APHIS DURING NATIONAL INVASIVE WEEDS AWARENESS WEEK VIII.

Distribution:

Personal legislative contacts during NATIONAL INVASIVE WEEDS AWARENESS WEEK

Department of Agriculture – Mike Johanns, Secretary

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Dr. Ron DeHaven, Administrator

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Adopted by the NAWMA Board of Directors

December 21, 2006

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