



100th MERIDIAN INVASIVE SPECIES REVOLVING LOAN FUND (S. 1949) POSITION STATEMENT 08-PS13-08

North American Weed Management Association

Situation

Senate Bill 1949 "100th Meridian Invasive Species State Revolving Loan Fund" was introduced into the Senate on August 2, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to certain organizations in certain States to address habitats and ecosystems and to address and prevent invasive species.

Sponsor: Senator Harry Reid (NV)

Co-sponsors: Senators Ron Wyden (OR) and Pete Domenici (NM)

Summary

This act would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to States located within Region 4, as determined by the Census Bureau, for the purpose of encouraging partnerships among Federal and State agencies, Indian tribes, academic institutions, and public and private stakeholders to; prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species, protect and enhance a variety of habitats, and establish a rapid response capability to combat harmful invasive species.

Position

The North American Weed Management Association supports the idea of creating a fund to provide loans to States for the purpose of preventing and controlling the spread of invasive species, and protecting native ecosystems. Early warning and rapid response to invasive species is critical to the protection of the natural resources within the United States.

We would also like to express a desire that this legislation be expanded to the entire United States and not be limited to only those States located within Region 4.

Distribution:

Personal legislative contacts during NIWAW

Senate committee on Energy and Natural Resources – Sen. Jeff Bingaman, Chairman

Secretary of the Interior - Dirk Kempthorn

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