



## THE REFUGEE ECOLOGY PROTECTION, ASSISTANCE, AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE (REPAIR) ACT (H.R. 767)

Position Statement 08-PS12-08

North American Weed Management Association

### Situation

H.R.767 was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives on January 1, 2007, and passed on October 22, 2007. The bill has now been referred to the Senate Committee on Public Works and Environment.

A bill to protect, conserve, and restore native fish, wildlife, and their natural habitats at national wildlife refuges through cooperative, incentive-based grants to control, mitigate, and eradicate harmful nonnative species, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Ron Kind (WI)

### Summary

The Refugee Ecology Protection, Assistance, and Immediate Response Act - Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide under the Refuge Ecology Protection, Assistance, and Immediate Response Grant Program or the REPAIR Program (established by this Act): (1) a grant to any eligible applicant to carry out a qualified control project to control harmful nonnative species; and (2) a grant to any state to carry out an assessment project to identify harmful nonnative species, assess the needs to restore, manage, or enhance native fish, wildlife and habitats, identify priorities, and identify mechanisms to increase capacity building for native fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Requires the Secretary to consult with the Invasive Species Advisory Committee on: (1) the projects proposed for such grants; and (2) regarding the development of a database concerning control projects carried out with such grants.

Authorizes the Secretary to provide financial assistance to enable an immediate response to outbreaks of harmful nonnative species that threaten or may negatively impact refuge resources that are at a stage at which rapid eradication or control is possible, and to ensure eradication or immediate control of such species.

Directs the Secretary to establish a Cooperative Volunteer Invasives Monitoring and Control Program to document and combat invasive species in national wildlife refuges.

### Position

***The North American Weed Management Association supports the REPAIR ACT (H.R.767). NAWMA recommends that the Senate committee on Environment and Public Works move this bill forward and that the U.S. Senate approve this legislation.***

### Distribution:

Personal legislative contacts during NIWAW  
Senate committee on Environment and Public Works  
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  
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[www.nawma.org](http://www.nawma.org)

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

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