

## NEBRASKA INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Partners in invasive species management and research.*

### **Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council**

The purpose of the ***Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council*** is to coordinate invasive species management and research across the State of Nebraska for the prevention and detection of invasive plant and animal species. Through a coordinated and well informed effort, we intend to provide land managers with the information needed to utilize funding and resources more effectively and efficiently. Our goal is to minimize the effects of harmful invasive species on Nebraska's citizens and ensure the economic and environmental well-being of the state.

Currently, over 32 states have a coordinated effort in their state to confront the topic of aquatic or terrestrial invasive species. With the constantly growing threat of invasive species in and surrounding Nebraska, a concerted response is necessary. Some ways we intend to achieve this include developing an adaptive management plan for the early detection of potential threats, providing recommendations to policy makers, serving as a forum for invasive species issues and public awareness, and fostering local initiatives and partnerships.

#### **The *responsibilities* of the council shall be to:**

1. Develop and periodically update a statewide adaptive management plan for invasive species;
2. Serve as a forum for discussion, identification, and understanding of invasive species issues;
3. Facilitate the communication, cooperation, and coordination of local, state, federal, private, and non-governmental entities for the prevention, control, and management of invasive species;
4. Assist with public outreach and awareness of invasive species issues;
5. Inform legislature in decision making, planning, and coordination of invasive species management and prevention; and
6. Establish advisory and technical committees considered necessary to aid and advise the council in the performance of its functions.

#### **The *membership* shall consist of an invited representative from:**

1. Nebraska Legislature
2. Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
3. Nebraska Department of Agriculture
4. Nebraska Forest Service
5. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
6. Nebraska Weed Control Association
7. The Nature Conservancy
8. University of Nebraska
9. Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
10. United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
11. United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
12. National Park Service
13. United States Fish and Wildlife Service

The governor may invite up to five additional members if it is deemed appropriate. Appointments will represent a cross-section of Nebraska's public interests, including two agricultural representatives.

#### **Suggested *committees* include, but are not limited to:**

1. Early Detection Committee
2. Education Committee
3. Funding Committee
4. Policy Committee