



Partnerships and Collaborations

- Why are P&Cs needed?
 - Unilateral approaches don't work
 - Invasives don't respect political or other social boundaries
 - Partners bring different skill sets/expertise, opportunities for funding
 - Leverage dollars
 - Pool resources, people, equipment, knowledge
 - Political clout/influence



Partnerships and Collaborations

- What are key characteristics of a successful P&C?
 - Clear, specific, common goals; shared vision; mutuality
 - Leadership/coordination
 - Need a “champion” - a motivator who has a passion for partnership goals
 - Leader does not have to be an expert (hire a professional manager if possible)
 - Participants: must be inclusive; local participation (farmers/ranchers) essential
 - Public buy-in
 - Media support
 - Active partners; willing to compromise
 - No hidden agendas
 - Honesty/transparency required
 - Passion for solving invasive species problems
 - Communication
 - Consensus building; speaking with a common voice
 - Statewide/state-level coordination (task force or council)

Partnerships and Collaborations

- What are some potential barriers to success?
 - Ineffective leadership
 - Insufficient funding
 - Apathy/lack of motivation among land owners/managers
 - Financial incentives
 - Technical expertise
 - Absentee land owners
 - Insufficient “buy-in” or ownership by public
 - No “marketing” plan
 - Insufficient concrete action; partnerships must have measurable and visible outcomes

Recommendations

- Create an on-line directory of existing partnerships and collaborations related to invasives
 - Geographic coverage
 - Participants/stakeholders
 - Leadership
 - Training
 - Focus/charter/goals
 - Web site
- Develop a focus on education
 - Youth (K-8) – need curricula/materials
 - Media/public – make it clear why invasives are important; emphasize holistic approach to managing ecosystems
 - Continuing education for professionals (how do you change the “playing field?”; how do you set priorities?; how do you develop “marketing” plans to reach the media/public/legislators and policymakers?)

Recommendations

- Identify research needs
 - Tools and methods to assist in setting priorities (where should partnerships focus resources?)
 - Which species; which areas, which methods?
 - Develop new uses for invasives (e.g., biofuels)
 - Can invasives turn a profit?
 - Reward innovations
- Develop a state-level council to coordinate work on invasive species
 - Sanctioned by legislature and governor
 - Early-detection coordination
 - Facilitate research, inventory, monitoring, compliance