



2012 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit

Resolution on Invasive Species

- Whereas,** the State Ag and Rural Leaders, (SARL) is comprised of agriculture and rural leaders of state and provincial legislative bodies from the US and Canada; and
- Whereas,** Invasive species are responsible for the loss of wildlife and fish caused by impaired ecosystem health and loss of diversity and can impact the value of land; and
- Whereas,** invasive species impacts commerce, reduces agricultural yield and quality of forage and crop production, and impacts both livestock and human health from pest outbreaks and disease transmission; and
- Whereas,** Invasive species can increase soil erosion and diminish water quality and quantity, reduce recreational opportunities, increase wildfires and flood events; now therefore be it
- Resolved,** that SARL supports legislation and appropriations that improves private, local, state, and federal land managers' capabilities for on-the-ground control of invasive species; and be it further
- Resolved,** that SARL supports a significant increase in on-the-ground control of invasive species by Federal land management agencies to achieve a 25% decrease in current infested acres and waterways and a streamlining of the NEPA process within Federal agencies; and be it further resolved that
- Resolved,** that the federal highway Administration provide increased funding to every state for control of invasive species on state highways; and be it further
- Resolved,** states should be encouraged to work in regional and national concert to educate the public on invasive species harmful effects, and that natural resource management agencies at all levels should collaborate to form partnerships to protect land, water assets, and natural resources from invasive species harm.

*Approved by members of State Agriculture and Rural Leaders
Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit
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