

Alaska Invasive Species Past-Present- Climate Change



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How?



And Why?



Ignorance and
Apathy

Solution



Inspiration

Agreement of Terms

What is an Invasive Species?

- **Non Indigenous**
 - Truly from a far away land
 - Not a range extension
- **The Population causes Harm**
 - To the Economy
 - To Human Health
 - To the Environment



The Alaska Situation

Relatively un-invaded so far because

- Stringent transport laws
- Geographic isolation/Northern Climate
- Small human population/few disturbed habitats

But the potential for invasions is INCREASING because

- Climate change/Development/Increasing trade and tourism

Bottom Line we are trying to communicate

It is in the best interest of Alaska and Alaskans to prohibit both the purposeful and accidental introduction of invasive Species

Alaska NIS Concerns

Present

- Northern Pike
- Atlantic salmon
- Norway Rats
- Chytrid fungus
- Earthworms
- Many Plants
 - Jap. Knotweed
 - White Clover
 - Garlic Mustard
 - Orange Hawkweed
 - And many more



Potential

- Green Crab
- New Zealand mud snail
- Mitten Crab
- Bull Frogs
- Crayfish
- Various finfish
- Invasive Tunicate
- Many Plants
 - Eurasian Milfoil
 - Purple Loosestrife
 - And many more



Driving Forces in Alaska for NIS Action

- ◆ National Invasive Species Act of 1996
- ◆ Executive Order 13112
- ◆ Endangered Species Act
- ◆ 2002 Plan written and approved
- ◆ 2003 Program Coordinator hired

Selected Invasive Species Program Work to Date

- Education and Outreach
- State and Regional Coordination
- Investigate Reports
- ADF&G NIS Team/AK NIS Council
- Ballast water/hull fouling work

Challenges

◆ Agency Staff buy-in

◆ Public buy-in

◆ Political Leadership buy-in

◆ Industry buy-in



