

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources



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Alaska Invasive Species Awareness Week proclaimed June 20-26

(Palmer, AK) – Governor Bill Walker has proclaimed June 20–26, 2016, to be Alaska Invasive Species Awareness Week. During this time, Alaskans are encouraged to educate themselves on invasive species, participate in local cleanup and management activities, and take steps to prevent new infestations in Alaska.

Here's some of the activities planned around Alaska during Invasive Species Awareness Week:

- The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will survey Sitka's Whiting Harbor for the invasive tunicate *Didemnum vexillum*.
- The Anchorage Parks Foundation will host a bird vetch weed pull in Chugach State Park from 2-5 p.m., Wednesday, June 22. Volunteers will meet at 2 p.m. at the Potter Trailhead of the Turnagain Arm trail.
- The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will control reed canarygrass on federal lands in Juneau and work with the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities on similar efforts on state lands.
- The Fish & Wildlife Service and the Copper River Watershed Project will be preparing for their first small-scale herbicide application of fluridone to control *Elodea* on the Copper River delta.

Find out more about invasive terrestrial and aquatic plants impacting Alaska at <http://plants.alaska.gov/invasives/index.htm>. Find out about other invasive species that pose risks to native fish and wildlife at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=invasive.main>.

Want to get involved in local projects to prevent and control infestations? Contact your local soil and water conservation districts, park rangers, and non-profit organizations that are involved in addressing invasive species.

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