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**Washington Invasive Species Council**  
**Proclamation Sample for Partners**

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**WHEREAS**, invasive species – including noxious weeds – damage our land and water, harm our wildlife and the productivity of our natural resources; and inhibit management of those resources in Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, every year, the costs to prevent, monitor, and control invasive species – combined with the damage to crops, fisheries, forests, and other resources – cost the nation an estimated \$137 billion a year; and

**WHEREAS**, invasive species are recognized as the second greatest threat to biodiversity worldwide after habitat destruction from human development; and

**WHEREAS**, invasive species threaten the survival of native plants and animals, and are a significant threat to almost half of the native species listed as federally endangered, including salmon; and

**WHEREAS**, invasive species interfere with ecosystems by changing natural processes such as fire, water availability, and flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, invasive species impede industry, threaten agriculture, endanger human health, and are becoming increasingly more difficult to prevent and control as a result of global commercialization and human travel; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention is far less expensive than trying to remove species once they arrive and an educated and aware public is highly effective at detecting introduced species early;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I/WE, **LEADERSHIP BODY** of **PLACE**, do hereby proclaim February 24-March 2, 2019 as

***Invasive Species Awareness Week***

in **PLACE**, and I encourage all people in our **PLACE** to learn more about preventing invasive species by visiting [invasivespecies.wa.gov](http://invasivespecies.wa.gov).

Signed this day \_ of February, 2019

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