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**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

August 21, 2020

Commissioner Ron Anderson
Board of Yakima County Commissioners
128 N 2nd Street, Room 232
Yakima, WA 98902
Sent by E-mail only to: ron.anderson@co.yakima.wa.us

**RE: Appointment to Washington Invasive Species Council**

Dear Commissioner Anderson,

Thank you for your interest in working collaboratively to prevent and stop invasive species in Washington State. On behalf of the Washington Invasive Species Council, I am pleased to appoint you to the Washington Invasive Species Council in the member position representing counties east of the Cascade Mountains.

**Council Background**

The Washington Invasive Species Council was created by the Washington State Legislature in 2006 and is tasked with providing policy level direction, planning, and coordination for combatting harmful invasive species in Washington State and preventing the introduction of other invasive species that may be harmful. The council is a joint effort between local, tribal, state, and federal governments, as well as the private sector and nongovernmental interests. The purpose of the council is to foster cooperation, communication, and coordinated approaches that support local, state, and regional initiatives for the prevention and control of invasive species.

At creation, the Legislature recognized the important role of counties and recognized the differences faced by counties both east and west of the Cascades as it relates to invasive species. Council members representing counties play an important role in sharing information about invasive species to the counties that they represent in addition to collecting information from counties for the purpose of bringing it to the council.

**Council Alternate**

Upon soliciting nominations for the position representing counties east of the Cascade Mountains, the council also received a nomination of Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development Manager of Benton County. Most council member positions have pre-identified alternate members, who receive all communications from the council and represent the appointed member in meetings, if they are not available.

The council has appointed Mr. Fyall as alternate member representing counties east of the Cascade Mountains. Alternates are welcome to attend meetings to receive information but may not vote if the

member is present. Please coordinate with Mr. Fyall to determine which of you will be participating in the meeting in the member position. Mr. Fyall can be counted by email at Adam.Fyall@co.benton.wa.us or by phoning 509-736-3053,

**Council Meeting Schedule**

The council holds four regular meetings each year with three meetings typically being held in Olympia, and one meeting being held at a travel location. Due to COVID-19, the September 2020 meeting will be held online.

Remaining meetings of 2020 are as follows:

- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; September 24, 2020
- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; December 10, 2020

The council has not yet made a decision about 2021 meeting dates, however the following dates are proposed:

- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; March 2021
- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; June 2021
- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; September 2021
- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; December 2021

Meetings agendas, materials, and minutes are located at https://invasivespecies.wa.gov/council/meetings/. In general, meeting agendas are posted four weeks before meetings with materials being made available two weeks prior to the meeting date.

**Review Council Products**

Please review and become familiar with the following information as context to the council and work of the members.

1. Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 79A.25.310-79A.25.370
2. 2015-2020 Washington Invasive Species Council Strategic Plan
3. 2018 Washington Invasive Species Council Biennial Report to the Legislature

The council and I look forward to working with you to address invasive species that threaten the economy and environment of Washington State. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by email at Justin.Bush@rco.wa.gov or by phoning 360-704-0973.

Sincerely,

Justin Bush
Washington Invasive Species Council Executive Coordinator

CC:
Ray Willard, Chair, Washington Invasive Species Council
Adam Fyall, Alternate Representing Counties East of the Cascade Mountains, Benton County
Eric B. Johnson, Executive Director, Washington State Association of Counties
Jason Bergquist, Affiliate Services Coordinator, Washington State Association of Counties