



Invasive Species Awareness Week

February 24 – February 28, 2020

WHEREAS, invasive species, including noxious weeds, damage our land and water, harm our wildlife and the productivity of our natural resources, and inhibit those resources in Skamania County; and

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

WHEREAS, invasive species are recognized to be 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 ecosystem services by changing natural processes such as fire, nutrient flow, water availability, and flooding; and

WHEREAS, invasive species impede industry, threaten agriculture, endanger human health, and are becoming increasingly harder 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, WE, the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of SKAMANIA COUNTY, do hereby proclaim February 24 – February 28, 2020 as

Invasive Species Awareness Week

In SKAMANIA COUNTY, and encourage all people in SKAMANIA COUNTY to learn more about preventing invasive species by visiting invasivespecies.wa.gov.

DATED: February 25, 2020

SKAMANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:

Chairman

Prosecuting Attorney

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

