WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council

Washington Invasive Species Council Decision Memo

Item 15

Meeting Date: December 10, 2020

Title: 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

Prepared By: Justin Bush

Summary

This memo summarizes a request for approval of the 2020-2025 statewide invasive species strategy. If approved, the council will make this report available at InvasiveSpecies.wa.gov.

Council Action Requested

This item will be a:

☒ Request for Decision

☐ Request for Direction

Request for Decision

Background

The Washington Invasive Species Council was created by the Washington State Legislature in 2006 and tasked with providing policy level direction, planning, and coordination for combating harmful invasive species throughout the state and preventing the introduction of others that may be harmful.

A cornerstone product of the council is a strategic plan designed to build upon local, state, and regional efforts, while serving as a forum for invasive species education and communication. The Washington Invasive Species Council Strategic Plan provides priorities, direction, and formalizes the council's commitment to invasive species control and prevention.

Over the course of 2020, the council has developed a strategy to guide the council and partners from 2020-2025. The 2020 strategy is presented for approval, so that work may begin on implementation.

Summary of Process

- January-February 2020: Staff Review
- March 2020: Council Work Session – Strategic Areas

- April-July 2020: Council Work Groups
    - Climate Change
    - Innovation and Research
    - Prevention
    - Education and Outreach
    - Management
- June 2020: Council Work Session
- July-August 2020: Photo Requests and Conceptual Graphic Design
- October 2020: Council Review and Comment
- October 2020: Council Prioritization of Strategic Objectives
- October 2020: Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Communications Review
- November 2020: Updated Draft Review by Council and RCO
- November-December 2020: Public Review and Comment
- December 2020: Council Final Discussion and Approval Decision

Decision Point

Decision to approve the 2020-2025 *Washington State Invasive Species Council Strategic Plan with the understanding that it will be revisited by the council annually or as needed during the performance period*. The council is asked to approve with the caveat that small errors will be corrected and changes adding clarification will be made at the discretion of staff and the council chair throughout the performance period.

a. Staff Recommendation: *Approve report. The strategy was drafted throughout 2020 in collaboration between 22 council organizations and provides critical direction to partners, council organizations, and staff.*

Additional Resources

1. 2008 Strategy
2. 2015 Strategy
3. Draft 2020 Strategy