2022 Program Projects
Plant Protection Act 7721

G6_WA_0203_Preparing for Spotted Lanternfly in Washington State: An Interagency Action Plan to Protect Billions

Applicant Information

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Cooperator Name: Washington Recreation & Conservation Office
Cooperator Type: State Government

Basic Suggestion Information

Suggestion Title: Preparing for Spotted Lanternfly in Washington State: An Interagency Action Plan to Protect Billions (in Agricultural Commodities, Industry, and Environmental Services)
Goal Area: 6
Total Budget: 90,000

Cooperator Information

Funding remains with the entity submitting this suggestion (excluding subcontracts): Yes

Strategies

1) Yes
2) Yes
3) Yes
4) Yes

Abstract

(Please include a brief description of the project, it's objectives toward achieving success, what success will look like in terms of expected accomplishments, the time duration expected to complete the project and a short summary of cooperators involved, if any) (500 words/3,000 characters)

Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) poses a significant risk to the economy, agriculture, and environment of the State of Washington. Agricultural commodities such as apple, cherries, and grapes

have a value of more than $2.6 billion annually, which equals 27% of the total value of Washington's agricultural commodities. Washington is ranked second largest premium wine producer in the United States. Including direct and indirect costs, the economic impact of just wine grapes alone is $8.4 billion (https://www.washingtonwine.org/wine/facts-and-stats/state-facts). Spotted lanternfly also feeds on hops, in which Washington is the largest producer in the United States, accounting for 72% of all hops in the nation in 2020, with a value of more than $400 million.

In addition to food crop agricultural damages, spotted lanternfly poses a risk to ornamental trees of the same genus and threatens Washington's nursery industry. This is especially relevant with July 2021 Canadian requirements for woody plant material imported from the United State be officially inspected and certified as being free of spotted lanternfly. Furthermore, host trees such as walnut, ash, dogwood, pine, maple and willow play a critical role in Washington's urban and wildland forest health risking environmental consequences in addition to management costs to community and urban forests.

Responding to concerns from industry and other stakeholders, the State of Washington seeks to take proactive steps to prepare for spotted lanternfly incursion. Led by the Washington Invasive Species Council in partnership with state, federal, tribal, and local agencies, and agricultural industry, this project will develop an interagency action plan for spotted lanternfly. The action plan will outline specific actions both prior to spotted lanternfly detection as well as post detection including selecting and promoting tools and treatments, including quarantine and mitigation. Importantly, the strategy will be developed prior to the plant pest emergency and identify specific actions, entities, and steps for agencies, industry, academia, and other parties. The strategy will include rapid response plans, a communication plan, path for permitting and emergency funding for the goal of containment and eradication.

Suggestion Body

Purpose, Benefits and Accomplishments

Describe the purpose of your project. Include the impacts (benefits) expected and their estimated value as a return on the amount of funding being requested. Include the specific project objectives and subsequent accomplishments anticipated upon meeting these objectives. If appropriate, include information on anticipated trade impacts and benefits.

Washington is at risk from a wide variety of invasive species due to its geographic location, trade, transportation corridors, and robust economy that draws many to move their residence to this state. Invasive species threaten to damage Washington's landscapes, agriculture, business, and recreation.

Washington offers exciting opportunities to experience nature, attracting visitors from around the world to our national parks, forests, trails, wild and scenic rivers, wildlife refuges, and more. Outdoor recreation contributes over $21.6 billion to our state's economy annually. This industry supports nearly 200,000 jobs.

Washington is also a leading producer of fruit and vegetable crops. Our 36,000 farms produce more than $10.6 billion of products annually, including $2.3 billion of apples, $1 billion of milk, and $8.3 million of potatoes.

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This project improves the knowledge base, response options and capabilities prior to the onset of a plant health emergency. By developing this action plan prior to onset of the plant health emergency, we minimize the time between the detection and corresponding unified response activities. Through a small investment well prior to pest detection, the action plan will include immediate actions to educate the public, engage industry, and perform other activities to better protect against incursion--in addition to action planning items solely once the pest is detected. When detected, we anticipate that rapid response costs will be less with the action plan and implemented steps prior to detection than with no prior action plan.

Prior Experience

Was this suggestion provided Farm Bill funding in previous years?

If yes, select the years and then upload the most recent Accomplishment Report.

Yes

Technical Approach

Describe the technical approach to be employed, including a description of methodology and a summary of the various tasks to be undertaken. Describe overall project duration and appropriate performance measures that can be used to define project success.

The Washington Invasive Species Council, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Washington State University, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources, in collaboration with other state, federal, tribal, and local agencies will work together to develop an interagency action plan for

spotted lanternfly. By bridging gaps and uniting the whole community through the creation and implementation of the action plan Washington will take an interagency approach to prepare for management the invasive species with the goal of eradication and recovery of impacted resources.

The project has seven distinctive components that will be planned and executed within a 1-year span:

1. Develop a Spotted Lanternfly Preparedness Advisory Group
2. Develop Geographic Information System (GIS) Planning, Outreach, and Response Support Tools
3. Hold Industry and Stakeholder Workshops
4. Develop State Action Plan
    a. Economic and Environmental Risk Assessment
    b. Preventative Measures
    c. Detection Protocols, Validation, and Notification
    d. Communications
    e. Initial Response Actions
    f. Long Term Response Actions
    g. Restoration and Recovery
5. Validate Action Plan with Industry and Stakeholders
6. Deploy Preparedness Campaign to Mobilize Industry, Agencies, and the Public
7. Implement Rapid Response Planning, Permitting, and Emergency Funding Processes
8. Share Best Practices and Lessons Learned with A Regional Audience

Specifically, each program involves:

1. **Develop a Spotted Lanternfly Preparedness Advisory Group**
   The Washington Invasive Species Council will create a preparedness advisory group, which will be tasked with high-level guidance of the overall project. The group will include, but not be limited to a representative from the Washington State Department of Agriculture, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State University, a tribal nation located east of the Cascade Mountains, a tribal nation located west of the Cascade Mountains, U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Plant Protection and Quarantine, and a representative of an agricultural commodities association. The advisory group will meet bi-monthly or as needed to provide oversight of the project.

2. **Develop Geographic Information System (GIS) Planning, Outreach, and Response Support Tools**
   Over the past two years the Washington State Department of Agriculture GIS unit has developed and refined an incredibly successful model taken from the experience with citizen science and stakeholder outreach, survey and eradication efforts involving the first U.S. introduction of the Asian Giant Hornet. The GIS unit will design, develop, and deploy geospatial tools in support of planning, survey, communication & outreach as well as risk assessment and data management. GIS staff will support collaborative work with partner, stakeholder, and communications staff to develop outreach tools such as citizen scientist reporting web-based forms for marking survey and detection locations, inputting user information and adding pictures of suspect specimens throughout the state. Furthermore, to support the reporting tool, a custom web application that allowed the submitter to check whether their suspect specimen was a negative or positive

identification will be created. When educating the public and partner agencies, it can be challenging to share accomplishments, spatial data, and metrics in one location. This sharing and displaying text and images, statistical charts, videos as well as live and static maps in one location. To solve this problem, the GIS unit will develop a dashboard and story map that integrates these disparate components into one web based, visually appealing and informative product.

Applying this proven model which was initially developed for Asian giant hornet response has paid dividends in providing education and outreach, collecting, and displaying citizen and trapping information, and assisting rapid response planning for Japanese beetle (*Papillion japonica*) found in Eastern Washington. By creating these tools and integrating them into the action planning process, we intend to expedite response when the pest is found as quickly and efficiently as possible.

3. **Hold Industry and Stakeholder Workshops**
   The Washington Invasive Species Council and cooperating organizations will plan and convene four industry and stakeholder workshops to educate stakeholders on the risk posed by spotted lanternfly and invite them to participate in the project. Workshops will be held across Washington, targeting the most vulnerable regions of Washington. By uniting the whole community against spotted lanternfly, all organizations and stakeholders will provide input to plan development and implementation.

4. **Develop State Action Plan**
   The preparedness advisory group, with input gathered from stakeholder workshops will develop a comprehensive, interagency action plan to prepare for spotted lanternfly prior to detection. With assistance from a contracted planner and facilitator, an action plan will be developed to include elements such as: A) Economic and Environmental Risk assessment, B) Preventative Measures, C) Detection Protocols, Validation, and Notification, D) Communications Plan, E) Incident Initial Response Actions, F) Incident Long Term Response Actions, and G) Restoration and Recovery. Actions will identify a lead agency and agency official, timeline of action, resources needed to complete action, and key stakeholder, agency, or industry partners required to achieve the action.

5. **Validate Action Plan with Industry and Stakeholders**
   Up achieving an 80% draft, the action plan will be made available for review by industry and stakeholders that were involved in statewide industry and stakeholder workshops. The Washington Invasive Species Council and cooperating partners will plan and hold a statewide webinar to present results, gather feedback, and validate the plan. Upon completion of any revisions, the plan will be considered final and ready for deployment and use. However, if the pest is found at any point during the planning process the project team will pivot from development to immediate deployment while concurrently developing long-term response actions in addition to restoration and recovery actions.

6. **Deploy Preparedness Campaign to Mobilize Industry, Agencies, and the Public**

Upon completion of the action plan, a campaign to mobile industry, agencies, and the public will begin. The campaign will include educational seminars, social media advertising, a news release and media interviews, and public facing webinars.

7. **Implement Rapid Response Planning, Permitting, Quarantine, and Emergency Funding Processes**
   Upon completion of the action plan, the Washington Invasive Species Council and cooperating partners will implement rapid response planning activities such as permitting, state quarantine, processes in advance of a detection and identify processes and procedures to access emergency funding for initial response and long-term management once spotted lanternfly is verified to be in Washington. Activities include but are not limited to State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) preparation, developing state quarantine language and rulemaking documentation, consultation with federal agencies and state regulatory agencies on action areas and chemical application, consolidating host tree data to guide visual inspection and response actions, briefing state agency directors and the Office of the Governor on anticipated funding needs and determining a process to request emergency measures and resources.

8. **Share Best Practices and Lessons Learned with A Regional Audience and Develop Action Plan Playbook for Future High-Consequence Pests**
   Spotted lanternfly poses a significant risk to Washington, but also many other western states and provinces. Throughout this project, all processes and deliverables will be shared as a model for use in other jurisdictions with the goal of encouraging other jurisdictions to use this project as a model for their own action planning. Sharing will include, but not be limited to regional webinars, presentations, and sharing in forums such as the Western Plant Board and Western Invasive Species Council. A final report with lessons learned for regional adaption will be made available at InvasiveSpecies.wa.gov. Beyond spotted lanternfly, this project will also result in a templated process and action plan 'playbook' for use in Washington State. In the future, when a new high-consequence pest is detected, the playbook will guide a process that will result in an action plan—and inform response actions.

Upon completion, the project will accomplish the following:

- 1 Preparedness Advisory Group
- 5 Geographic Information System (GIS) Planning, Outreach, and Response Support Tools
- 4 Industry and Stakeholder Workshops
- 1 Action Plan
- 1 Industry and Stakeholder Validation Webinar
- Preparedness Campaign to Mobilize Industry, Agencies, and the Public
- 1 Final Report with Lessons Learned for Regional Adaption
- 1 Action Plan Process Playbook for Use with Future Detected High-Consequence Pests

Milestones

Describe the Milestones relevant to this project that would allow for observation, measurement and monitoring of include key dates or timelines for decisions, budget checks, obtaining inputs, reviews or the submission of deliverables. The number and type of Milestones will depend on the nature, scope and complexity of the project; they should all reflect specific date or timeline.

We intend for this project to begin on August 1, 2022 and continue through July 31, 2023. Within that performance period, we will plan and execute the following:

1. Develop a Spotted Lanternfly Preparedness Advisory Group (Month 1-2)
2. Develop Geographic Information System (GIS) Planning, Outreach, and Response Support Tools (Months 2-6)
3. Hold Industry and Stakeholder Workshops (Month 3-4)
4. Develop State Action Plan (Months 2-6)
5. Validate Action Plan with Industry and Stakeholders (Month 6)
6. Deploy Preparedness Campaign to Mobilize Industry, Agencies, and the Public (Month 6-12)
7. Implement Rapid Response Planning, Permitting, Quarantine, and Emergency Funding Processes (Month 4-12)
8. Share Best Practices and Lessons Learned with A Regional Audience and Develop Action Plan Playbook for Future High-Consequence Pests (Months 9-12)

The Washington Recreation and Conservation Office, administrative host of the Washington Invasive Species Council will track all information required for observation, measurement, and monitoring of this project. The agency will seek to actively include US Department of Agriculture throughout the project and will make available all information upon request for use in decisions, budget checks, obtaining inputs, reviews or the submission of deliverables.