U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

INVASIVE SPECIES STRATEGIC PLAN | 2021-2025

PROTECTING AMERICA'S RESOURCES FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

Cover Images

1. A USGS-Great Lakes Science Center scuba diver collects invasive Dreissenid mussels and algae from Lake Huron as part of algal growth monitoring. (USGS)
2. A USFWS watercraft inspector visually searches for invasive mussels below the waterline on a trailered sailboat arriving to Alaska at the Alcan Land Port of Entry. (USFWS)
3. A local high school Youth Ranger pulls an invasive faya tree in the forest of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. (NPS)
4. BLM firefighters conduct prescribed burn of invasive tamarisk and Russian olive species in Arizona. (BLM)
5. A USGS collaborative research program tracks invasive Burmese pythons in Florida to provide demographic information to support removal efforts. (USGS)
6. NPS staff replace components of a predator-proof exclosure around critical nesting habitat for the endangered Hawaiian petrel on the slopes of Mauna Loa. (NPS)

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LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Invasive species management is critical to advancing Interior's mission and national priorities.

Five years ago, under President Trump's first Administration, the Department of the Interior developed its inaugural Invasive Species Strategic Plan — a forward-looking framework designed to protect America's lands, waters, and communities from one of the most persistent threats to our nation's economic and natural resources — invasive species. That plan laid the foundation for the accomplishments highlighted in this report.

Invasive species management is critical to advancing Interior's mission and national priorities. It strengthens national security by safeguarding critical infrastructure, ensuring reliable delivery of water and power, reducing catastrophic wildfire risk, and preserving the quality of recreation, hunting, and fishing opportunities that define the American way of life.

Because invasive species cross jurisdictions, solutions must be collaborative. Interior has built strong partnerships across federal agencies and with states, tribes, territories, local governments, and other stakeholders. Through coordinated action and innovation, we are ensuring public lands remain productive and accessible while conserving habitat and protecting wildlife.

The accomplishments in this report demonstrate the power of strategic direction and local leadership. Unified approaches improve government efficiency, and cost-effective solutions reduce long-term expenses for American families and businesses. Together with our partners, Interior has delivered measurable results and reaffirmed its commitment to steward America's resources.

Eva Irana

Deputy Assistant Secretary -
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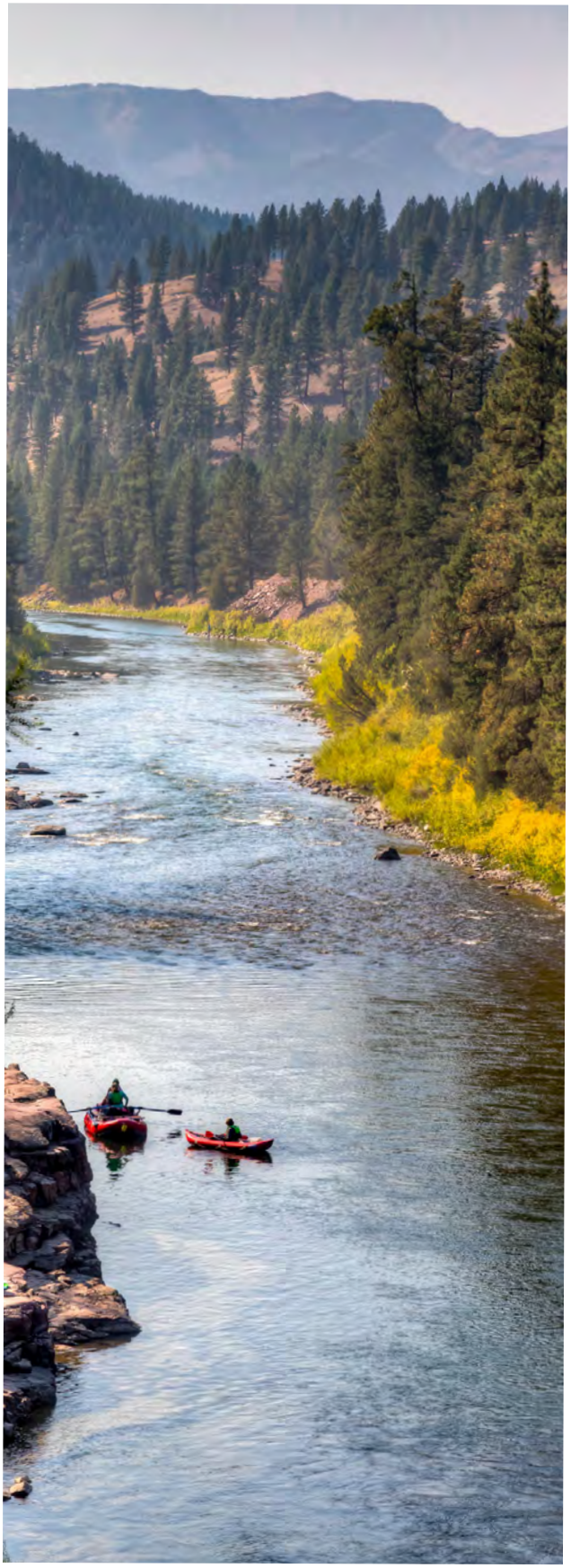
INTRODUCTION



Blackfoot River in Missoula, Montana (BLM)

The Department of the Interior (DOI) plays a critical role in stewarding the nation's natural resources and cultural heritage. DOI manages over 480 million acres of public lands, vast freshwater systems, and essential infrastructure that supports energy, water, and recreation. Within this broad mission, the DOI serves as a national leader in combating invasive species — harmful non-native organisms that impose significant costs to the economy; human, animal, and plant health; and the environment.

Invasive species have imposed an estimated $1.22 trillion burden on the U.S. economy between 1960 and 2020 — costing billions annually. Beyond economic impacts, these threats jeopardize national security by endangering public health; damaging water and power infrastructure; fueling wildfires; degrading forestry, fisheries, and rangeland productivity; and affecting other critical sectors. Proactive invasive species management reduces these costs. Effective management helps to protect people and places, conserve native plants and wildlife, and preserve the recreational and cultural values that millions of Americans enjoy.

DOI bureaus and offices each have unique responsibilities and capabilities to manage invasive species. From preventing their introduction and establishment to taking action to detect, eradicate, and control existing infestations, bureaus work collaboratively across landscapes and jurisdictions to limit the spread and impact of invasive species.

DOI developed its Invasive Species Strategic Plan (Plan, 2021-2025) as a roadmap to guide coordinated, strategic action across all levels of the organization. The Plan provided a unified framework that informed federal, state, tribal, territorial, and non-governmental efforts in preventing, detecting, and controlling invasive species across jurisdictions. Its emphasis on collaboration, science-based decision-making, and shared priorities helped align diverse stakeholders toward common goals and measurable outcomes.

This Accomplishments Report highlights progress made toward achieving the Plan's goals. It reflects the dedication, innovation, and hard work of DOI staff and partners across the country. The collective efforts protected vital resources and demonstrated the economic and ecological benefits of proactive, science-based invasive species management.

While not exhaustive, this report illustrates the type of activities in which DOI engaged and the resulting impact of those efforts, setting the stage for continued leadership and collaboration for effective invasive species management.

[1] Fantle-Lepczyk et. al. 2022. Economic costs of biological invasions in the United States, Science of The Total Environment, V. 806(3)

INVASIVE SPECIES 2021-2025 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborate across Interior and with others to optimize operations through leveraging partnerships, joint educational efforts, and shared funding.

- Increase engagement in partnerships at multiple scales and "do our share" to advance mutual priorities.
- Increase information exchange across Interior and with others to share expertise on invasive species science and management.
- Increase understanding about invasive species and motivate actions to address them.
- Increase partner and internal awarness of Interior funding opportunities
- Increase coordination of resources and investments across Interior and with others to support mutual priorities.

PREVENTION

Cost-effectively prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species into and within the United States.

- Increase the use of cost-effective approaches to prevent the introduction of invasive species into the United States.
- Prioritize prevention practices to inhibit the secondary spread of invasive species within the United States.
- Leverage research and innovation to develop cost-effective tools, technologies, and methods to prevent invasive species introductions and secondary spread.

EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE

Implement early detection and rapid response efforts in coordination with other federal agencies, states, tribes, territories, and other partners to reduce potential damage and costs from new infestations becoming established.

- Engage in coordinated early detection biosurveillance efforts that inform decision-making for rapid responses.
- Engage in coordinated rapid response efforts based on the outcome of early detection biosurveillance.

CONTROL AND ERADICATION

Cost-effectively control or eradicate established invasive species populations to reduce impacts and help restore ecosystems.

- Control or eradicate established invasive species on Interior-managed lands and waters and across jurisdictions, where practicable.
- Reduce the role of invasive species in wildfire frequency, intensity, and extent.
- Leverage research and innovation to develop safe and cost-effective tools, technologies, and methods to control or eradicate invasive species, restore ecosystems, and adapt to environmental change.
- Increase efficiency of conducting environmental compliance for control or eradication activities.

DATA MANAGEMENT

Improve invasive species data management for decision-making at all levels of goverment.

- Promote user-friendly, interoperable databases.
- Increase invasive species data collection and its accuracy, consistency, level of reporting, and utility across Interior.

CROSSCUTTING PRINCIPLES

Promote and engage in collaborative conservation; Leverage science; Adaptively manage; Manage on a watershed or ecosystem scale, including islands and other isolated or contained geographies; Promote innovative solutions; Apply integrated pest management; Prioritize cost-effectiveness; Streamline regulatory and decision-making processes; and Demonstrate accountability.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The BLM Taos Field Office Fire and Weeds programs conducted a 330-acre aerial spray of cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) in the Pot Mountain burn scar in New Mexico utilizing drones. (Rocky Mountain Ecology LLC)

HIGHLIGHTS

DOI plays a vital role in invasive species management across the country. From preventing the introduction and establishment of new invasive species to eradicating and controlling existing infestations, DOI bureaus and offices are actively engaged in a wide range of efforts.

While this report cannot capture all activities between 2021 and 2025, the following examples highlight the breadth and impact of DOI's work in collaboration with partners.

GOAL 1: COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Collaborated at all levels to promote coordination and cost-effective implementation**
  Local partnerships, regional networks, national groups, international initiatives (see inset)

- **Increased engagement with tribes, territories, and indigenous communities to understand needs and work on shared solutions**
  Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, Native Hawaiian Community biocultural considerations for Hawaiian forest bird conservation, U.S. Territorial conferences on infrastructure and collaboration

- **Led and expanded national Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) to act on shared priorities**
  Invasive Mussels Rapid Response MOU[2], Island Restoration MOU[3], Prevention MOU[4] (see Field Notes)

- **Supported national education initiatives to encourage consistent messages and best practices**
  Clean, Drain, Dry; Don't Let It Loose; Don't Move Firewood; Habitattitude; PlayCleanGo; Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

- **Made funds available to partners and created efficiencies in accessing those funds**
  Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Invasive Species Funding for Tribes; DOI Eradication Notice of Funding Opportunity; DOI Funding Guide for Invasive Species Management; DOI Interagency Agreement for West-wide Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Training and Decontamination; DOI Prevention Notice of Funding Opportunity; Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) Invasive Species Funding for Territories; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Funding for Golden Mussels, Regional Aquatic Nuisance Species Panels, State Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plans, and Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan

Examples of partnerships that align priorities and coordinate action

OUTCOME GOAL 1

Outcome: Effective partnerships used the best available information and leveraged resources to address national and regional invasive species priorities efficiently and effectively.

[2] https://www.doi.gov/sites/default/files/usace-usfs-doi-mou-2020.pdf
[3] https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024-09/usfws_island-restoration-2015-mou-and-8-addendums_092624.pdf
[4] https://iris.fws.gov/APPS/ServCat/DownloadFile/272959

GOAL 2: PREVENTION

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Expanded planning, training, and other guidance to promote prevention practices**
  Biosecurity trainings for custom inspectors at borders and points of entry, disaster response guidelines[5], guide to Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species Transport by Wildland Fire Operations, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Plan workshops and plans, invasive species pathway risk assessments (global, regional, local)
- **Implemented tools to prevent invasive species introductions, spread, and costly impacts**
  Watercraft inspection and cleaning stations, watercraft decontamination dip tank pilot program, boot brush stations, vehicle wash stations, signage at recreational access points
- **Leveraged Injurious Wildlife provisions to stop invasive species at U.S. borders**
  Invasive species interceptions at borders and points of entry (see Measures)

OUTCOME GOAL 2

Effective biosecurity measures reduced the number of invasive species that arrived, established, and spread within the United States.

An Arizona Department of Game and Fish specialist power-washes an invasive mussel encrusted boat at Lake Pleasant, Arizona. (NPS)

GOAL 3: EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID RESPONSE

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Led and applied innovations to increase efficiency of detection methods**
  Artificial intelligence traps, drone surveillance, molecular detection tools and protocols (e.g., environmental DNA genetic marker development and species prioritization process, laboratory testing standards, automated networked molecular sampling, point-of-use molecular detection tools), rapid assessment tools, remote sensing
- **Implemented place-based early detection and rapid response (EDRR) to protect DOI assets, trust resources, military readiness, and adjacent lands**
  Brown Treesnake Rapid Response Team, Great Lakes Early Detection Monitoring Program, National Park Service (NPS) Invasive Plant Management Teams, USFWS Invasive Species Strike Teams, asset-based and invasion hotspot EDRR surveillance projects (e.g., CNMI[6] little fire ant EDRR), local and regional collaboratives (e.g., Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas)
- **Advanced a National EDRR Framework to create efficiencies and reduce costs and harm**
  Coordination mechanisms, decision support tools, field detection tools, surveillance funding and capacity, response funding and capacity (e.g., Interjurisdictional Invasive Species Rapid Response Team, Rapid Response Fund for Aquatic Invasive Species), web-based applications for communication, tool consolidation, and data aggregation (e.g., Siren) (see Field Notes)

OUTCOME GOAL 3

Invasive species were detected and eradicated early in the invasion process.

[5] https://www.doi.gov/invasive-species-and-disasters
[6] Interagency effort among DOI, Department of War, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Customs and Biosecurity

GOAL 4: CONTROL AND ERADICATION

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Innovated solutions for control or eradication to reduce economic risks and protect native species**
  Brown treesnake (e.g., aerial bait delivery), Burmese python (e.g., robotic decoys), European green crab (e.g., trapping), invasive annual grasses (e.g., integrated treatments), invasive carp (e.g., deterrents), invasive mosquitoes (e.g., incompatible insect technique), *Phragmites* (e.g., microbial control), rodents (e.g., eradication feasibility assessments), tamarisk (e.g., biological control), quagga and zebra mussels (e.g., ultraviolet light treatment) (see Field Notes)

- **Prioritized projects with high likelihood of success so that limited resources were used wisely**
  Invasive species eradication on islands (e.g., fox eradication validated on 33 islands, AK; rats eradicated from Wake Atoll, Pacific; yellow crazy ants eradicated from Johnston Atoll, Pacific), invasive plant management (e.g., invasive annual grass control in sagebrush cores, WY; biological control of dalmation and yellow toadflax, ID), USFWS Large Invasive Species Eradication Program (e.g., 8 projects funded across the U.S.)

- **Strengthened integrated invasive species and wildland fire management approaches to reduce risk to human and natural communities**
  Invasive Annual Grass Technology Transfer Partnership, Joint Fire Science Program priority research opportunities, National Invasive Species Council and Wildland Fire Leadership Council Task Team, National Seed Strategy, Sagebrush Conservation Design

- **Instituted policies to decrease time required to take action to control and eradicate infestations**
  Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Approval of Herbicide Active Ingredients for Use on Public Lands, DOI Categorical Exclusion for Invasive Species Management, USFWS Alaska Region Terrestrial Invasive Plant Management Strategy Programmatic Environmental Assessment

GOAL 5: DATA MANAGEMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Developed decision-making tools for cost-effective actions**
  Ecological Risk Screening Summaries[7] (evaluates degree of species risk), Flood and Storm Tracker Maps[8] (predicts species spread after floods), Invasive Species Habitat Tool[9], Resist-Accept-Direct Framework[10], Screen and Evaluate Invasive and Non-native Data[11], Site Prioritization Tool for Invasive Species[12] (see Measures)

- **Expanded federal databases for invasive species mapping and analysis to aid federal and non-federal decision-making**
  BLM Vegetation Management Action Portal, Siren: the National EDRR Information System[13], U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database[14]

- **Promoted partner databases and enlisted volunteers to increase reporting and tracking of invasive species**
  EDDMaps, iBiocontrol, iMapinvasives, iNaturalist, Wild Spotter

OUTCOME GOAL 4

Control and eradication projects were implemented using management tools that substantively reduced the impact of priority invasive species on Interior resources and those of its neighbors and partners.

OUTCOME GOAL 5

Managers and data users, including partners, had access to the data and decision-enabling tools necessary to manage invasive species effectively.

[7] fws.gov/story/ecological-risk-screening-summaries
[8] nas.er.usgs.gov/viewer/flooding/
[9] gis.usgs.gov/inhabit/
[10] irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/654543
[11] nas.er.usgs.gov/SEINED/
[12] rconnect.usgs.gov/site-prioritization-tool/
[13] invasivespecies.gov/siren
[14] nas.er.usgs.gov

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Customs and Biosecurity team successfully intercepted the highly destructive little fire ant on cargo arriving from Guam after receiving training from USFWS, funded by OIA. (Top image credits: CNMI Customs and Biosecurity Team. Bottom image credit: USFWS)

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

Across DOI, collaborative action made a substantial difference in protecting U.S. resources and restoring impacted public lands. The successful strategies below feature the power of partnerships, innovation, and persistence.

These snapshots offer a glimpse into what effective invasive species management looks like in practice — and the success we can achieve when we work together.

FIELD NOTES: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

NPS

PREVENTION PAYS OFF

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Benjamin Franklin's adage is especially relevant in the realm of invasive species where proactive management substantially reduces future costs at the trillion-dollar scale. DOI took proactive steps to tip the scale in favor of preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species by working with partners through the Nationally Coordinated Invasive Species Prevention Memorandum of Understanding, managed by USFWS. Since 2019, five DOI bureaus (BIA, BLM, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), NPS, and USFWS) joined forces with non-federal partners to strengthen national prevention efforts. Together, they supported public outreach initiatives like PlayCleanGo® and Clean. Drain. Dry.®, expanded access to decontamination tools, and installed boot brush stations at public recreation areas. These efforts helped to stop invasive species before they spread, protecting ecosystems, economies, and public health. The MOU resulted in coordinated action across agencies and jurisdictions that built a proactive defense against invasive threats — with the aim of saving future costs and preserving natural resources for future generations.

Learn more at https://www.fws.gov/project/invasive-species-prevention-mou

K. Holzer

COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE TO MANAGE MOSSBALL MAYHEM

One person can make a difference. In March 2021, a proactive pet store employee reported a suspicious aquatic "hitchhiker" on Marimo moss balls sold at a pet store in Seattle, Washington. This launched an international response. Reported to the Nonindigenous Aquatic Database, USGS identified the hitchhiking organism as a zebra mussel, a highly destructive aquatic invasive species. By April, contaminated products were found in 46 states. USFWS launched an immediate response involving state, provincial, and federal agencies, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, and industry. This coordinated, multi-agency effort resulted in development of effective decontamination protocols, a national voluntary moratorium on Marimo moss ball sales, and enhanced border inspection protocols that prevented the entry of additional contaminated products. The response demonstrated the importance of effective coordination between federal and state agencies and revealed the need for long-term planning to address invasive species in the aquatic trade pathway to protect the U.S. from devastating aquatic invasive species.

Learn more at https://www.fws.gov/carp/story/2021-03/invasive-zebra-mussels-found-moss-balls

USFWS

INVASIVE SPECIES: CATCH THEM WHILE YOU CAN

Quick action is needed when an invasive species is found in a regional fish hatchery supplying recreationally and culturally important fish. In 2024, USFWS collaborated with the White Mountain Apache Tribe, Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, and USGS to successfully eradicate invasive New Zealand mudsnails (NZMS) at the Alchesay National Fish Hatchery in Arizona, before the invasive species spread with the distribution of hatchery raised sport fish. Thanks to proactive surveillance using environmental DNA (eDNA), NZMS were detected early in their invasion. Rapid follow-up sampling and physical inspections confirmed their presence. In response, the team isolated the affected infrastructure and applied a targeted copper-based treatment. Post-treatment eDNA monitoring confirmed successful eradication. This effort demonstrated the National EDRR Framework in action—leveraging science and interagency coordination to cost-effectively target high-risk invasive species in high-risk places. DOI advanced this EDRR Framework with federal agencies, states, tribes, territories, and partners to stop invasive species before they spread and cause costly long-term harm.

Learn more at https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75dcffd9b27543268a92dfee4e4ad6b6

USFWS

BACTERIA IN FLIGHT: A NEW STRATEGY TO SAFEGUARD NATIVE BIRDS

Native Hawaiian forest birds are facing imminent extinction. These honeycreeper species now survive only at high elevations, where cooler temperatures limit invasive mosquitoes— the carriers of deadly avian malaria. In response, a broad coalition of governmental and non-governmental partners launched an urgent effort to save these ecologically and culturally significant birds. Within DOI, NPS, the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations, USFWS, and USGS worked with partners to lead the fight against extinction. Using the groundbreaking approach known as the Incompatible Insect Technique (IIT), helicopters and drones deployed lab-bred, non-biting male mosquitoes into remote forested habitats where the endangered birds reside. These male mosquitoes carried Wolbachia, a naturally occurring bacterium that causes reproductive incompatibility with wild females. When Wolbachia-carrying males mate with wild females, the resulting eggs don't hatch, leading to population collapse. This was the first time the IIT was used at such a large scale for conservation. Together with longer term genetic solutions for disease resistance, these strategies offer hope for Hawai'i's native birds.

Learn more at www.nps.gov/articles/time-is-running-out-maui-s-forest-birds-will-go-extinct-without-action.htm

VICTORY ON THE GROUND: PARTNERSHIPS COMBAT INVASIVE THREATS

On the sweeping prairies and rugged breaks of Montana, the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) and Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (BLM) faced a growing threat. Invasive plants like Japanese brome and leafy spurge were fueling wildfire risk, diminishing forage for wildlife and livestock, and choking out native species. In response, the USFWS Invasive Species Strike Team and refuge biologists, BLM staff, USGS scientists, and university partners leveraged funding and took action to manage these invaders and increase restoration efforts. Crews applied targeted herbicides to remove Japanese brome, knapweed, and other invading plants and released biological control agents to weaken leafy spurge and tamarisk. Researchers monitored impacts across the landscape. The results are tangible: upland victories are paving the way for riparian restoration, lessening fuel loads, supporting recreation, and revitalizing habitats for native wildlife and game species.

Learn more at https://www.blm.gov/programs/weeds-and-invasives

View of the Missouri River Breaks on Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge in Montana where DOI and partners manage invasive species to lower wildfire risk, support recreation, and safeguard ecosystems. (USFWS)

A USGS-Great Lakes Science Center scientist in Michigan counts invasive larval sea lamprey after exposure to lampricide in an experiment assessing development of resistance. (USGS)

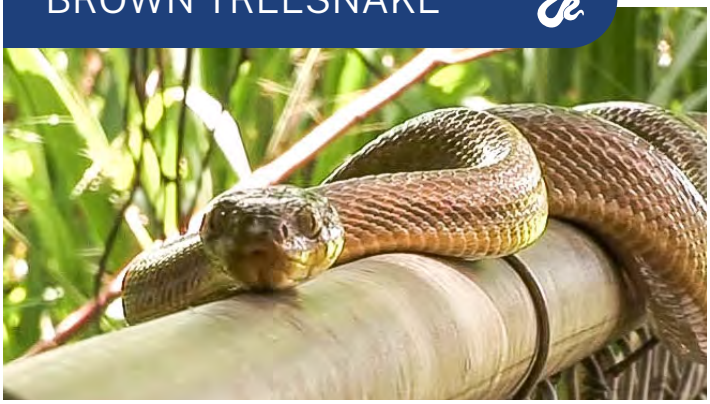
SPOTLIGHTS

From Fiscal Years 2021 to 2025, Congress directed funding to DOI to help manage specific invasive species that pose serious threats to the nation's economy, communities, and ecosystems. This section highlights a selection of those priority species — showcasing how targeted investments drove meaningful progress in prevention, control, and restoration.

While not an exhaustive list of invasive species, these examples reflect DOI's commitment to addressing high-impact invasive species through science-based, collaborative action.

INVASIVE SPECIES SPOTLIGHTS: CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

BROWN TREESNAKE



⚠ PROBLEM

Brown treesnakes (BTS) cause costly power outages, prey on native wildlife, and disrupt ecosystems — as it has already done on Guam, where BTS eliminated nearly all native forest birds.

SOLUTION

NPS, OIA, USFWS, and USGS supported a Rapid Response Team, deployed control tools, led research, and partnered with other organizations and local communities to prevent BTS spread to other areas — particularly Hawai'i, and other U.S. territories. They also reduced BTS in Guam for native species restoration.

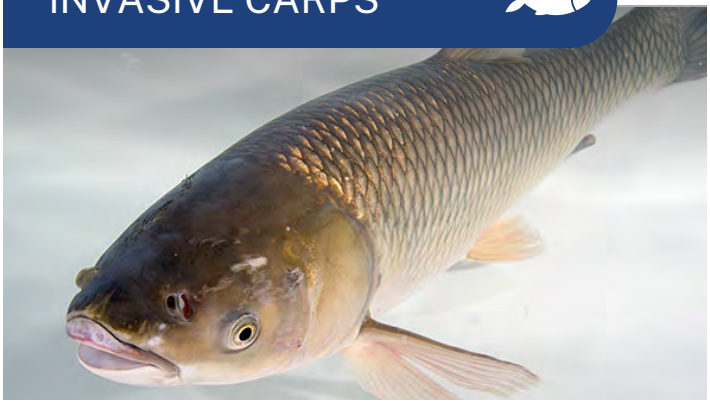
GOOD NEWS!

Prevention is working: BTS has not established on other U.S. and Pacific islands. And, DOI partnerships with community volunteers are controlling BTS at Asan Beach-War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam and creating habitats to restore native birds.

→ WHATS NEXT?

Agencies are implementing newly developed BTS kill traps. Experts are initiating work on biological control and other tools and evaluating detection capabilities of Coatimundi (a mammal that will be trained to climb trees and hunt BTS), with the goal of creating snake-free areas in Guam.

INVASIVE CARPS



⚠ PROBLEM

Invasive carps threaten commercial and recreational fisheries and outcompete native fish for food and habitat due to their rapid reproduction, voracious feeding, and lack of natural predators.

SOLUTION

BIA, NPS, USFWS, and USGS cooperated with federal and non-federal partners on detection, containment, and control measures to reduce populations in the Mississippi River Basin and stop their spread into the Great Lakes, focusing on key pinch points like Brandon Road Lock and Dam on the Illinois River.

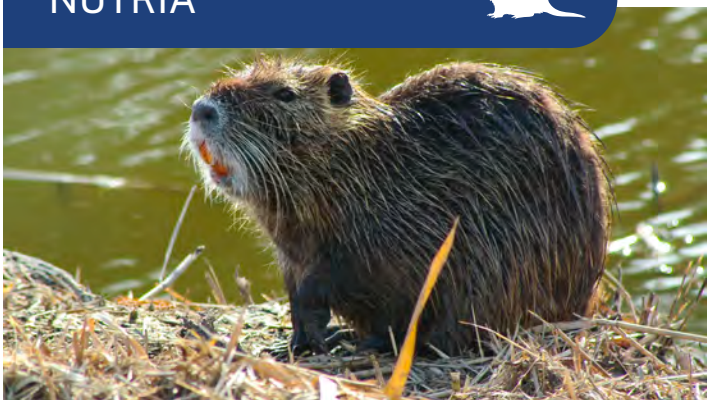
GOOD NEWS!

Coordinated actions successfully contained invasive carp within established ranges, preventing their spread into the Great Lakes. New tools continued to reduce risk of spread.

→ WHATS NEXT?

Agencies are refining new detection and control tools to sustain containment and further reduce the risk of invasive carp spread.

NUTRIA



⚠ PROBLEM
Nutria damage levees and irrigation systems and destroy wetland ecosystems by consuming native vegetation and destabilizing soil. This leads to costly infrastructure repairs, erosion, and habitat loss.

SOLUTION
BIA, BLM, BOR, NPS, USFWS, and USGS collaborated with partners across the country to detect, control, and eradicate (when possible) nutria and restore damaged marsh habitat.

GOOD NEWS!
Partners eradicated nutria from Eastern shore marshes of the Chesapeake Bay after more than 20 years of coordinated management.

→ WHATS NEXT?
Experts are identifying new areas for eradication in the U.S.

ZEBRA/QUAGGA MUSSELS

⚠ PROBLEM
Quagga and zebra mussels clog water infrastructure, impair recreation, and damage ecosystems, causing billions in maintenance and mitigation costs.

SOLUTION
BIA, BLM, BOR, NPS, USFWS, and USGS collaborated with partners to prioritize actions and support integrated interventions, such as watercraft inspection and decontamination, monitoring, containment, control, research, and education and outreach.

GOOD NEWS!
BOR and USGS in collaboration with other scientists and partners advanced promising treatments to reduce biofouling of critical infrastructure and control infestations in large-scale open-water systems.

→ WHATS NEXT?
Continued collaboration will apply proven treatments and integrated management strategies will protect critical infrastructure and ecosystems from new mussel infestations, including emerging threats such as golden mussel.

A USGS-Great Lakes Science Center scientist counts invasive *Phragmites australis* stems within a sampling quadrat in Ohio to support landscape-scale adaptive management. (USGS)

BY THE NUMBERS

To promote accountability and continuous improvement, DOI's Invasive Species Strategic Plan included a focused set of performance metrics designed to track progress, guide adaptive management, and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies over time.

These SMART metrics — specific, measurable, achievable, results-oriented, and time-fixed — helped managers assess outcomes, refine approaches, and scale successful efforts across programs and landscapes

MEASURES

PREVENTION

72,149 Injurious Wildlife Interdictions[15]

0 New Injurious Wildlife Established[16]

RAPID RESPONSE

15 Rapid Response Plans[17]

30 Rapid Response Preparedness Exercises[18]

DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS

5,562 INHABIT Page Views[19]

2,798 INHABIT Users[19]

3,918,488 NAS Page Views[20]

1,734,148 NAS Database Users[20]

21,943 SEINed Page Views[21]

17,470 FaST Maps Page Views[22]

596 Siren Users[23]

17,447 SEINed Users[21]

CONTROL AND ERADICATION

242 Invasive Animal Populations Under Control or Eradicated[24]

361,428 Acres of Invasive Plants Under Control or Eradicated[25]

190+ Uses of a Categorical Exclusion to Expedite Control Actions on the Ground[26]

DATA MANAGEMENT

4 Bureaus using NAISMA Standards[27] and contributing to National Databases[28]

COLLABORATION

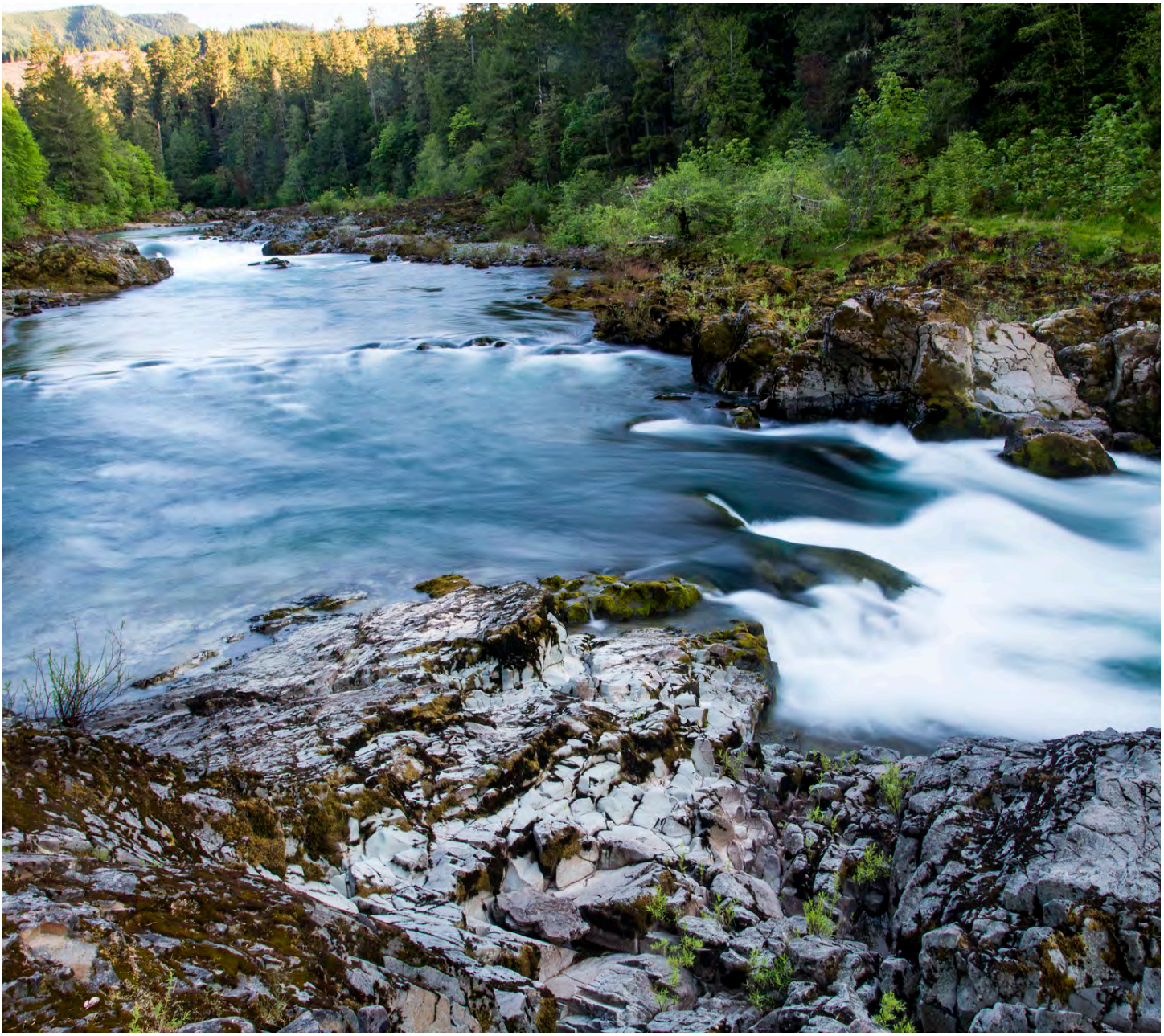
89 Percent of Partners Satisfied or Very Satisfied with DOI Collaboration[29]

BUREAUS AND OFFICES

Each bureau and office has a unique mission requiring distinct but complementary roles in invasive species management. Regular coordination at all levels yielded both local successes and nationwide results. Coordination involved working within and across bureaus and offices and with many partners, such as other federal agencies; state, local, tribal, and territorial governments; private landowners, and non-governmental groups. Examples of DOI bureaus and offices that advanced unified approaches:

	Bureau of Indian Affairs	BIA
	Bureau of Land Management	BLM
	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	BOEM
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION	Bureau of Reclamation	BOR
	Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	BSEE
NISC	National Invasive Species Council	NISC
	National Park Service	NPS
	Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance	OEPC
	Office of Emergency Management	OEM
	Office of Insular Affairs	OIA
OFFICE OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN RELATIONS	Office of Native Hawaiian Relations	ONHR
	Office of Policy Analysis	OPA
	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement	OSMRE
DOI Office of Wildland Fire	Office of Wildland Fire	OWF
	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS
USGS science for a changing world	U.S. Geological Survey	USGS

WHAT'S NEXT?



Southwest Oregon (BLM)

The Department of the Interior made significant strides over the past five years to address the pervasive challenge of invasive species. Through prevention, early detection, rapid response, eradication, and other coordinated efforts, Interior bureaus and offices—working hand in hand with federal, state, tribal, territorial, and other partners—helped to safeguard the nation's lands, waters, and wildlife. Left unaddressed, invasive species will remain an ongoing and evolving threat to America's national security, economy, and natural and cultural resources. Building on our accomplishments, the Department will continue to lead with innovation and collaboration to protect economies and ecosystems and ensure that future generations inherit healthy, thriving, and economically viable public lands.

ENDNOTES (MEASURES)

Sagebrush Steppe in Southeast Oregon (BLM)

[15] Cumulative number of injurious animals under 18 U.S.C. § 42 (Wildlife Ports of Entry) or injurious animals and invasive wildlife and plants under 16 U.S.C.§ 3371-3378 (interstate and Wildlife Ports of Entry) interdicted by USFWS from Fiscal Years 2021-2025. Office of Law Enforcement does not target injurious wildlife specifically, so these interdictions reflect those that are detected through other inspections. Interdictions vary by year due to staffing and import paperwork received. High numbers in some years are driven by fish eggs that come in without health certificates. (Source: USFWS)

[16] Between Fiscal Years 2021-2025, 307 species were listed as injurious wildlife under 18 U.S.C. § 42. Two-hundred and eighty-eight of those were not established at the time of listing. 100% of those have not established in the United States. This is based on species listed as injurious that were not native to any part of the United States or its territories. (Source: USFWS)

[17] Number of rapid response plans that DOI bureaus developed or funded between Fiscal Years 2021-2025. Rapid response is a process to eradicate the founding population of a non-native species from a specific location before it becomes established or spreads so widely that eradication is no longer feasible. A rapid response plan is defined as a document that is developed in advance of a detection or a response. It outlines a framework for identifying partners, establishing leadership structures, directing communication, moving through the regulatory permitting process, and other action steps that may be required to respond to an invasive species when it is detected. (Source: BOR, NPS, Office of Everglades Restoration, OIA, USFWS, USGS)

[18] Number of preparedness exercises that DOI bureaus led, participated in, or funded between Fiscal Years 2021-2025. A preparedness exercise is defined as an in-field or table-top activity (in-person or virtual), or actions that support those activities (such as providing technical information if asked), that builds preparedness in overall programming and operational tactics for responding to new invasive species detections. (Source: BOR, NPS, Office of Everglades Restoration, OIA, USFWS, USGS)

[19] Cumulative number of page views of the main landing page and users of the Invasive Species Habitat Tool (INHABIT) between Fiscal Years 2023-2025. INHABIT is a web application that displays habitat suitability models for over 250 terrestrial invasive plant species in the United States. (Source: USGS)

[20] Cumulative number of page views and active users of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database (NAS) between Fiscal Years 2023-2025. NAS is a web-based, interactive database that is a central repository for spatially referenced accounts of introduced aquatic species in the United States. (Source: USGS)

Alabama Hills Recreation Area in California (BLM)

[21] Cumulative number of main landing page views and users of the Screen and Evaluate Invasive and Non-native Data (SEINeD) tool between Fiscal Years 2023-2025. The SEINeD is a tool that enables users to screen and link datasets for occurrences of non-native and invasive aquatic species tracked by the NAS Database. (Source: USGS)

[22] Cumulative number of page views of the Flood and Storm Tracker (FaST) tool between Fiscal Years 2023-2025. This online tool creates maps to help assess impacts on aquatic invasive species distributions due to flooding associated with storms. (Source: USGS)

[23] Number of users of Siren, the National EDRR Information System, in 2025. Launched in fall 2024, Siren is a web application that is an information sharing hub, a decision support network, and a community of practice. (Source: USGS)

[24] Average number of invasive animal populations that were under control on DOI-managed lands and waters between Fiscal Years 2021-2024. “Under control” means that the population had been suppressed or eradicated to a level so that natural resource objectives were able to be met. (Source: NPS, USFWS)

[25] Average number of acres infested with target invasive plant species that were under control on DOI-managed lands and waters between Fiscal Years 2021-2024. “Under control” means that the infestation had been suppressed or eradicated to a level so that natural resource objectives were able to be met. (Source: BLM, BOR, NPS, USFWS)

[26] In 2024, seven DOI bureaus adopted a NPS categorical exclusion (CE) for invasive species management. A CE is a category of actions that normally do not have significant effect on the human environment, individually or in the aggregate, and therefore do not require the preparation of an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement.

[27] Bureaus using the North American Invasive Species Management (NAISMA) data standards include BLM, NPS, USFWS, and USGS.

[28] Bureaus sharing data with national invasive species databases (EDDMaps, iMapinvasives, or the Nonindigenous Aquatic Database) include BLM, NPS, USFWS, and USGS.

[29] Results from DOI partner survey measuring satisfaction with invasive species outcomes leveraged through partnerships from Fiscal Years 2021-2025. In this context, partners meant individuals, groups, and governmental or non-governmental entities working together to advance invasive species initiatives of mutual interest.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

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