



Agenda Date: 7/19/2005
Agenda Placement: 3C

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Marcia Blackmon for David Whitmer - Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Commissioner
REPORT BY: Greg Clark, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, 253-4357
SUBJECT: Proclamation-Invasive Weed Awareness Week

RECOMMENDATION

Agricultural Commissioner requests the Chair proclaim the week of July 18 - July 24, 2005 as "Invasive Weed Awareness Week".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The recommended action will raise public awareness of the problems caused by invasive, non-native weeds.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Invasive, non-native, weeds are plants that have been introduced into an environment in which they did not evolve from and have no natural enemies to limit their reproduction and spread. These weeds affect both agricultural and natural systems, and cost the U.S. economy over \$13 billion a year. Invasive weeds are able to crowd native plants and have devastating impacts on natural areas. Some of these plants, such as pampas grass and English ivy, are

common garden escapes, while others are transported accidentally from other countries in less obvious ways. By educating the public about this problem, the public will be better informed and able to make informed choices when buying plants and to actively prevent the spread of harmful species. This problem has become so widespread that a solution is only possible with the cooperation of the public. Locally, public agencies and land managers have spent millions of dollars over the past few years to repair damage caused by invasive weeds.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Proclamation

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey