

# Invasive Species



# Terms and Definitions

**AQUATIC:** Consisting of or pertaining to water

**AWRY:** Out of whack; amiss

**BALLAST:** Heavy material that is carried in the hold of a ship to improve its overall stability

**BIODIVERSITY:** The variety of living organisms that exist in the same geographic area

**BIOINVASION:** The introduction of non-native species into various areas throughout the world, which results in a variety of negative effects ranging from the disruption of food and agricultural production to the dramatic alteration of natural habitats

**BIOTECHNOLOGY:** The use of engineering technology and techniques to solve problems concerning living organisms

**BOTANIST:** An individual who specializes in the study of plants

**CARGO:** The load of items and goods carried by a ship, truck, or airplane

**CLIMATE CHANGE:** Changes to the Earth's climate, including global warming, that may ultimately prove harmful to humans and other living beings

**COMBAT:** To contend with or fight against

**CONSERVATION:** The process of protecting something from loss, decay, or waste

**CONTROL:** To keep in check; to regulate the quantity or status of something

**COUNTERACT:** To mitigate the effects of something by performing some sort of opposite action

**DEFORESTATION:** The clearing of forests or trees

**DESTRUCTION:** The act or process of destroying

**DETECTION:** The act or process of identifying or discovering something

**DETERRENT:** Something that discourages or prevents another from doing something that is undesired

**ECOLOGY:** The science that involves investigation of the relationships between living organisms and their environments

**ENDANGERED:** At risk of becoming extinct

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Any species of fish, plant, or animal that is in immediate danger of becoming extinct

**ENVIRONMENT:** The Earth's surroundings and resources which enable living things to develop and prosper

**ERADICATE:** To eliminate

**EXOTIC:** Coming from a different part of the world

**EXTINCT:** No longer in existence

**FORESTER:** An individual who is trained in the art and science of cultivating and maintaining forests



**GRANT:** The giving of funds for a specific purpose

**HABITAT:** The place where a person, animal, or plant naturally grows or lives

**HEALTH:** The condition of optimal well-being

**IMPACT:** An effect on someone or something

**IMPERATIVE:** Pressing or important

**INTERVENTION:** To interfere in order to alter a specific action

**INVADER:** Someone or something that enters an area and harmfully permeates it

**INVASIVE:** Tending to intrude, encroach, or overrun

**LAW:** An official rule of conduct established and enforced by a government or other authoritative body

**MALIGNANT:** Causing substantial harm; threatening to life or well-being

**NATIVE:** Naturally existing in a particular area; indigenous

**NEGLECT:** To disregard or pay inadequate attention to

**NOXIOUS:** Harmful to the well-being of living things; injurious

**OVERWHELM:** To upset as a result of an excessive quantity

**PATHOGEN:** A bacterium, fungus, or related entity that causes disease

**PERIL:** Immediate danger

**PRESERVATION:** The act of protecting something from harm

**REGULATION:** A rule or law that governs conduct

**RESTORATION:** The act of returning something to its previous state or condition

**SCIENTIST:** An individual who possesses knowledge and research expertise in one or more of the sciences

**SPECIES:** A naturally existing population of similar organisms that breed among themselves

**SUSTENANCE:** Food or another entity that supports life and/or health

**TAXES:** Fees required by a government to be paid in order to generate funds for common matters

**THREATENED SPECIES:** Any species of fish, plant, or animal that seems likely to become endangered in the near future

**TOXIC:** Poisonous or especially harmful

**TOXICITY:** Of a poisonous nature

**TRANSPORT:** To carry from one location to another

**WATERWAY:** A body of water that ships are successfully able to navigate

**WILDLIFE:** The term used to describe all wild animals collectively

