

# Federal and State Programs that Address Aquatic Invasive Species Control in the Mid-Atlantic Region

## Federal

### **Wildlife and Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)**

- Administered through US Department of Agriculture NRCS
- Provides both technical assistance and up to 75% cost share assistance to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat
- Eligible participants-private landowners, owners of Federal land when the primary benefit is on private or Tribal lands, owners of State and local government land on a limited basis, owners of tribal land
- Taxa-Invasive plants/weeds, plant pathogens/diseases, insects, animals, animal pathogens, diseases, aquatic species
- Contact information-Martha Joseph (202)720-7157 ([Martha.joseph@usda.gov](mailto:Martha.joseph@usda.gov))
- Purpose-A voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat primarily on private land

### **State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program**

- Administered through US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Assists states by providing Federal funds for the development and implementation of programs that benefit wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished. Both planning and implementation of programs are permitted. For planning-related grant activities, the States must provide a 25% match and a 50% match for all other types of eligible activities.
- Eligible participants-All state fish and wildlife agencies. No state can receive a grant unless it has developed, by October 1, 2005, a comprehensive wildlife conservation plan, consistent with criteria established by the Secretary of the Interior, that considers the broad range of the State, territory, or other jurisdiction's wildlife and associated habitats, with appropriate priority placed on those species with the greatest conservation need and taking into consideration the relative level of funding available for conservation of those species
- Contact: The Division of Federal Assistance  
[FederalAid@fws.gov](mailto:FederalAid@fws.gov)

### **Landowner Incentive Program**

- Administered through US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Assists states by providing grants to establish or supplement landowner incentive programs that protect and restore habitats on private lands, to benefit Federally listed, proposed or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk, and provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for habitat protection and restoration. The States must provide a minimum 25% match.
- Eligible participants-All state fish and wildlife agencies.
- Contact-The Division of Federal Assistance  
[FederalAid@fws.gov](mailto:FederalAid@fws.gov)

### **Delaware Landowner Incentive Program (DE LIP) Administered by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife**

- DE LIP assists private landowners with technical expertise and financial incentives to protect, enhance, or restore habitat to benefit species-at-risk. This can include wetland restoration and enhancement, riparian buffer establishment, and invasive species control. Either a flat fee or 75% cost share is provided to a landowner who must sign a conservation agreement to manage and maintain the restoration for a period of five or ten years. Eligible participants are any private landowner in DE interested in improving wildlife habitat on their property. For more information, contact: DE Division of Fish and Wildlife, Shelley Tovell-DiBona, 302-653-2880

### **Delaware *Phragmites* Control Cost-Share Program, Administered by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife**

- This cost share program assists private landowners in improving wildlife habitat in wetlands that have been degraded by the pest plant *phragmites*. The Division's research has shown that effective *phragmites* control is possible in many areas with consecutive late summer applications of glyphosate-based aquatic herbicides. The Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Resource Conservation Service enabling financial assistance to cover 88% of the cost of herbicide treatments. The Division is responsible for purchasing the herbicide, determining application timing and rates, coordinating the aerial spraying, and providing technical assistance. Eligible participants: Any private landowner in Delaware with a minimum of 5 acres of *phragmites* and a maximum of 200 acres to be spray treated for three years. For more information, contact: Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bill Jones, 302-284-4795.

### **New York State Invasive Species Eradication Grant Program**

- The New York State budget provided \$1 million for an invasive species eradication grant program in 2005. The State budget for Funding Year 2006-2007 included another \$1,000,000 to continue the Invasive Species Eradication Grant Program. Information on the grant program can be found at [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/habitat/erad.html](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/habitat/erad.html)

### **North Carolina Giant *Salvinia* Task Force**

- The Task force writes grants to obtain funding for control of giant *salvinia* on private lands. The Aquatic Weed Control Program provides monetary assistance for aquatic weed control for local government and public organizations. The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and the Aquatic Weed Control Program provide free consultation for private landowners with aquatic invasive weed problems. For more information, contact: Rob Emens at the NC Aquatic Weed Control Program, [rob.emens@ncmail.net](mailto:rob.emens@ncmail.net)