

## **Code of Best Practices for Classical Biological Control of Weeds<sup>1</sup>**

1. Ensure target weed's potential impact justifies release of non-endemic agents.
2. Obtain multi-agency approval for target.
3. Select agents with potential to control target.
4. Release safe and approved agents.
5. Ensure only the intended agent is released.
6. Use appropriate protocols for release and documentation.
7. Monitor impact on target.
8. Stop releases of ineffective agents, or when control is achieved.
9. Monitor impacts on potential non-targets.
10. Encourage assessment of changes in plant and animal communities.
11. Monitor interaction among agents.
12. Communicate results to the public.

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<sup>1</sup>The following resolution was ratified July 9th, 1999, by the delegates to the X International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds, Bozeman, Montana. "Delegates and participants to the X International Symposium for Biological Control of Weeds, recognizing the need for professional standards in the subdiscipline of classical biological control of weeds, urge practitioners of the subdiscipline to voluntarily adopt the Code of Best Practices for Classical Biological Control of Weeds, as published in the proceedings of the Symposium, and to adhere to the principles outlined in the code." Code available at <http://wric.ucdavis.edu/exotic/exotic.htm>