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**Advisory committee targets invasive species**

An advisory committee to oversee action against invasive species has been appointed by the Invasive Species Council of California.

"The 24 founding members of the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee have a challenging task ahead of them," said Secretary A.G. Kawamura of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, chairman of the council. "They will lay the groundwork that will enable this council to enhance our collective ability to protect California's environment, food systems, human health and economy from invasive and destructive pests, plants and diseases."

The ISCC was formed earlier this year. Mike Chrisman, secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency, serves as vice chair. Also serving on the council are Linda Adams, secretary of California's Environmental Protection Agency; Dale Bonner from the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency; Kim Belshe from the California Health and Human Services Agency; and Matt Bettenhausen, of the California Emergency Management Agency.

The CISAC will make recommendations to the ISCC, including drafting an invasive species rapid response plan. The committee will take input from local government, tribal governments and federal agencies, as well as environmental organizations, academic and science institutions, affected industry sectors and impacted landowners.

Members of the California Invasive Species Council Advisory Committee include:

Supervisor Linda Arcularius, Inyo County; Ted Batkin, California Citrus Research Board; Victoria Brandon, Sierra Club; Mike Chapel, wildlife biologist, U.S. Forest Service; Gabriela Chavarria, Natural Resources Defense Council; Christiana Conser, Cal-HIP & PlantRight Sustainable Conservation; Ricardo De Leon, Metropolitan Water District; Joseph M. DiTomaso, Cooperative Extension; Robert Dolezal, California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers; Dennis Faria, Imperial Catfish; Andrea Fox, California Farm Bureau Federation; Larry Godfrey, Department of Entomology, U.C. Davis; Robert Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Region; Doug Johnson, California Invasive Plant Council; and Mary Maddux-Gonzales, Sonoma County public health officer.

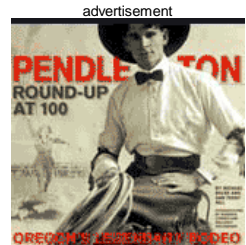
Also, Karen McDowell, San Francisco Estuary Partnership; Leigh Melander, Imaginal Institute; David Pattison, California Association of Pest Control Advisors; John Randall, Nature Conservancy; Kristina Schierenbeck, USDA; Zea Sonnabend, California Certified Organic Farmers; Rick Tomlinson, California Strawberry Commission; Greg Van Wassenhove, Santa Clara County agricultural commissioner; Keith Douglass Warner, Santa Clara University.

**More online**

For more information on the Invasive Species Council of California, please visit [www.iscc.ca.gov](http://www.iscc.ca.gov).

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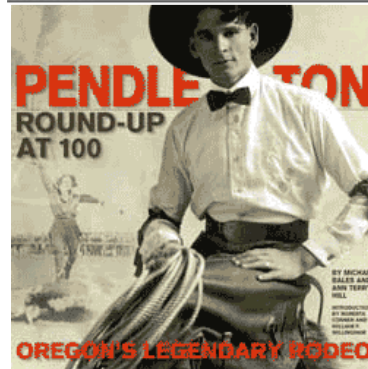
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