ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
COUNCIL 2017-18

September 27, 2017 Exhibit 10

The Montana Invasive Species Council

MISC
Montana Invasive Species Council

A statewide partnership working to protect Montana's economy, natural resources and public health through a coordinated approach to combat invasive species.

MISC's mission is to protect Montana's economy, natural resources, and public health and safety by assessing and bolstering Montana's invasive species efforts through a coordinated approach to keep invasive species out of Montana and to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of invasive species already established in the state.

MISC is a partnership between tribal government, state agencies, federal agencies, non-profits, private landowners, industries, and others specializing in or affected by invasive species. Members and partners work together to identify invasive species challenges and threats and create solutions to address the threat and impact of invasive species.

Confirmed Members:

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Vacant: Private landowner
Wildlife Organization
Tribal Representatives

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The Montana Invasive Species Strategic Framework

Finalized in fall 2016, the Montana Invasive Species Strategic Framework serves as a roadmap for better collaboration in Montana's efforts to prevent and manage invasive species. The framework tackles the state's top priorities with over 90 coordinated actions aimed at better protecting Montana from invasive species.

1) Coordination: Respond to invasive species as a shared responsibility and a common priority across the state by integrating and strengthening Montana's management.

2) Prevention: Reduce the transport of invasive species into and within Montana by fully engaging existing entities and resources.

3) Detection: Identify invasive species and responsibly share the locations of high priority invasive species across jurisdictions in Montana to focus and improve management

4) Rapid Response: Develop a generalized rapid response plan for emerging invasive species.

5) Control: Grow both capacity and expertise in managing invasive species in Montana to improve program effectiveness.

Montana Invasive Species Council 2017-2018 Projects

- Establishment of an independent scientific advisory panel for invasive species issues
  - Identification of regional and national expertise regarding all taxa
  - Standing up independent science panel for aquatic invasive species issues

- Rapid response training, planning and preparedness
  - Montana Dreissenid Rapid Response Guidelines
  - EDRR pilot project and invasive mussel plan for Missouri River Basin
  - Regional tabletop exercises in collaboration with watershed partners
  - ICS training for responders

- Invasive Species Law Review
  - Clarify existing statute regarding all-taxa invasive species issues
  - Host summit in 2018 to discuss potential solutions to identified gaps

- Invasive species data management and prioritization
  - Focus on making data consistent and shareable among managers
  - Identify and prioritize biggest invasive species threats to Montana