



# **State and Federal Legislation Funding Initiatives**

**Wendy West**

**California Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition**

**El Dorado County Weed Management Area**



# What is CALIWAC?

## California Invasive Weed Awareness Coalition

- Coalition of private sector groups concerned with invasive weeds
- Mission: support and enhance existing weed control efforts in California



# How is CALIWAC supporting legislation?

## Legislator Education:

- National Invasive Weed Awareness Week
- California Day at the Capitol
- California Weed Awareness Week – July 18-24, 2005

## Legislation:

- Federal - Senate Bill 144
- New State Legislation - \$2 Million Funding



# Federal Legislation

- Meeting annually with congressional representatives during NIW A W
- “Leave behind” packet with a position paper, photos, background materials and contact information
- Highlight the success of “on the ground” projects and local programs
- Letters of support to Members and Committee Chairs
- S. 144 - \$100 million to weed management entities



**CALIWAC Team  
Washington, D.C 2004**



**Day at the Capitol '04**



# State Legislation

- Funds from Senate Bill 1740 – expired June 2004
- Push for new legislation to re-fund SB 1740
- California Invasive Weed Day at the Capitol – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual February 2005
- Educate legislators – particularly urban



# What you can do to help!

- Alert your partners – be ready to write letters, make phone calls
- Participate in Invasive Weed Day at the Capitol and NIWA W
- Educate, Educate, Educate!