

Peer Review Plan

Date: 3/7/2016

Source Center: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Core Science Analytics, Synthesis, & Libraries Program
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mailstop 302
Reston, VA 20192

Title (preliminary): INVASIVESNET initiative: towards the development of the International Association for Open Knowledge on Invasive Alien Species.

Subject and Purpose: This product provides a background on the impact of and challenge posed by invasive alien species (IAS) and outlines the concept, mission, objectives, and other processes of the International Association for Open Knowledge on Invasive Species (INVASIVESNET), which is a newly proposed initiative toward addressing IAS concerns at the global level. Increasing travel, trade and tourism associated with globalization and expansion of the human population have facilitated intentional and unintentional movement of species beyond natural biogeographical barriers. Many of these alien species have become invasive in recipient communities. Currently, these IAS are considered to be among the main direct drivers of biodiversity loss at the global level, and may cause severe economic losses and risk to animal, plant and even human health. Furthermore, these impacts are expected to increase with climate change and new vectors and pathways. The INVASIVESNET initiative, proposed by concerned scientists, is aimed at developing a sustainable global network of networks on IAS. This information product will be submitted to a scientific journal for publication.

Impact of Dissemination: This product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

Timing of Review (Including Deferrals): March 2016. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: Initial peer review will be by individual letters. USGS will select the peer reviewers in accordance with the requirements found in Survey Manual chapter 502.3 -Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>).

Expected Number of Reviewers: Anticipates 3 or fewer initial reviewers. The selection of additional peer reviewers by the publishing journal is also anticipated.

Requisite Expertise: Invasive species science or informatics policy.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No opportunity for public comment is formally incorporated for this product.

Agency Contact: peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov.