

Wayne Allard

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For Release:
May 20, 2004

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SENATOR ALLARD APPLAUDS PASSAGE OF TAMARISK CONTROL BILL

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) applauded Wednesday’s passage of Senate Bill 1516, the Salt Cedar Control Demonstration Act, a bill which he helped draft and shepherd through the Senate.

The Salt Cedar plant, also known as the Tamarisk, has invaded the margins of streams, lakes and wetlands throughout the Western United States. An individual plant can consume up to 200 gallons of water per day, which has exacerbated drought conditions in the West, and is highly disruptive to native habitats and species.

“As an original cosponsor of S. 1516, I am pleased the Senate has recognized the seriousness of this problem,” Senator Allard said. “This bill marks a major step in the continued effort by Congress to provide important resources for the removal of invasive species.”

Senator Allard played a key role in the development of S. 1516, and introduced similar legislation during the 107th Congress in 2002.

“Eradication of this unquenchable shrub will save water, reduce salinity and provide better habitat for the Southwest Willow Flycatcher and other riparian species,” Senator Allard said. “This is an important step in mitigating the water shortages and environmental damage associated with the tamarisk.”

The bill will provide millions of dollars to states and public/private partnerships to control and eradicate the tamarisk.

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