



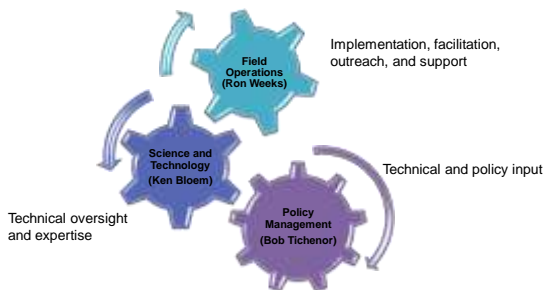
## Biological Control – Update on National Program Direction/Strategic Plan

United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

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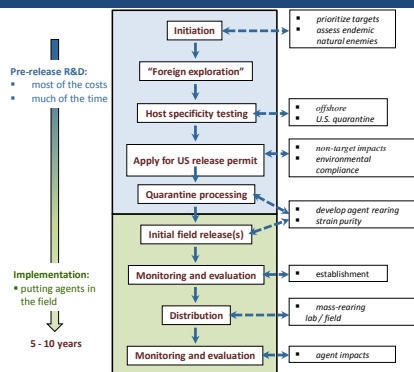


## Biological Control Cross-Functional Working Group (BC-CFWG)



## PPQ Definition

Biological control is the intentional use of natural enemies (“biological control agents” – parasites, predators, pathogens, competitors, or antagonists) to reduce pest populations to levels below which would occur in the absence of the natural enemies, thus making a pest less damaging.



## Project Prioritization Factors

- importance of pest (emergency, significant impacts)
- amount of resources needed (time and money)
- opportunities (e.g. agent timing, climate, partnerships)
- likelihood of success (e.g. measurable, agent impacts)



## Overview of PPQ BC Strategic Goals

- 1) Ensure program supports PPQ's long and short term priority pest targets.
- 2) Strengthen partnerships with external resources.
- 3) Enhance management, program staff, and stakeholder's awareness and understanding of program.
- 4) Develop avenues to monitor, evaluate/measure and communicate program outputs and outcomes.



### Strengthen Prevention and Preparedness

- Support and coordinate foreign exploration and pre-release activities for BC agents for high priority pests.
- Work closely with key partners and stakeholders to identify and leverage off-shore opportunities for key pests not yet in the USA.
- Prepare for invasive pest threats to ensure a more rapid deployment of BC.



### Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Activities

Engage stakeholders and experts for input into PPQ target and priority setting process.

- National and Regional Plant Board meetings per invitation
- Interagency planning, steering and technical support meetings/collaborations
- Tribal consultations and technical support
- Professional society meetings
- Regional pest specific meetings, workshops, advisory groups



### Additional program plans (not exhaustive)

- Annual timeframe to receive BC projects – improved planning and budgeting
- Internal and external communications (annual report, SharePoint site, PPQ website, permitting process)
- Leveraging existing rearing facilities, resources, and expertise
- Improved accomplishment/data reporting
- Cost – sharing captured (indirect and direct)



### What about the money?

Field Ops	\$3,744,857	
Program	\$3,335,333	89.1%
Agreements	\$2,162,131	64.8%



### Volunteer Plant Board Representatives for BC Strategic Planning

- SPB: Trevor Smith - Florida
- EPB: Carol Holko - Maryland
- WPB: Mike Pitcairn - California
- CPB: Monica Chandler - Minnesota



### Key Review Comments

- APHIS critical role in shared response and mitigation strategies – plan is not far off from expectations
- BC Steering Committee – member composition
- Structured approach to a national prioritized target list for BC (e.g., every 5 years) – process, time frame, frequency, participation
- Follow-up and assessment process - how much/long
- TAG issues – communication, timeliness, guidelines and criteria. Separate and distinct unit from BC Cross-Function Working Group



**Time for a few questions/suggestions/comments...**



**Thank you on behalf of the PPQ BC-CFWG!**

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