

# State Invasive Plant Councils: Their Role in California and Beyond



**Doug Johnson, Executive Director  
California Invasive Plant Council**

Scarlet wisteria (*Sesbania punicea*)

# **IPC/EPPCs**

**IPC = Invasive Plant Council**

**EPPC = Exotic Pest Plant Council**

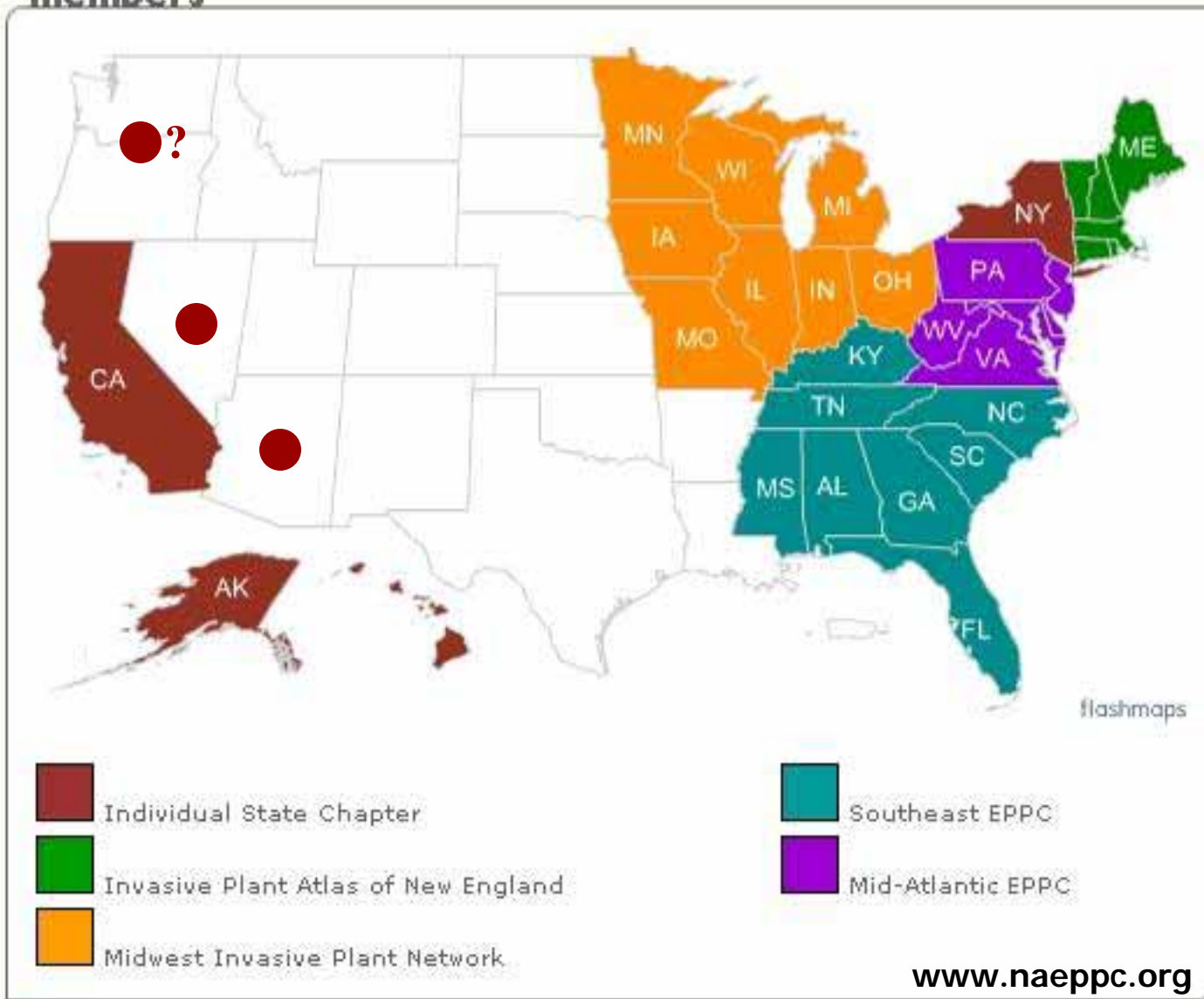
**Same thing: NGOs representing  
wildland weed workers in a given  
state.**

# States and regions with IPC/EPPCs

Alabama	<b>Alabama Invasive Plant Council</b>
California	<b>California Invasive Plant Council</b>
Connecticut	<b>Connecticut Invasive Plant Council</b>
Georgia	<b>Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Florida	<b>Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Kentucky	<b>Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Michigan	<b>Michigan Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Mid-Atlantic	<b>Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Midwest	<b>Midwest Invasive Plant Network</b>
Mississippi	<b>Mississippi Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
New England	<b>Invasive Plant Atlas of New England</b>
New York	<b>Invasive Plant Council of New York State</b>
North Carolina	<b>North Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Ohio	<b>Ohio Invasive Plant Council</b>
South Carolina	<b>South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Southeast	<b>Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Tennessee	<b>Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council</b>
Wisconsin	<b>Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin</b>

# State Invasive Plant Councils

members





**A helping hand...**

French broom (*Genista monspessulana*)



**Share successes...**

**Wild radish (*Raphanus sativus*)**



**Broad-based support...**

*Water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes)*

**Weed goddess!**



Cape-ivy (*Delairea odorata*)



# 4 Groups to Review

- **Cal-IPC, the largest in terms of membership, budget and staff.**
- **Three others:**
  - **GA-EPPC (annual budget \$2,000)**
  - **IPAW, Invasive Plants Assn of Wisconsin (\$20,000)**
  - **MIPN, Midwest Invasive Plants Network (\$200,000)**

# Topics

- **Formation and structure**
- **Members**
- **Operations**
- **Finances**
- **Outreach**
- **Partnerships**
- **Projects**

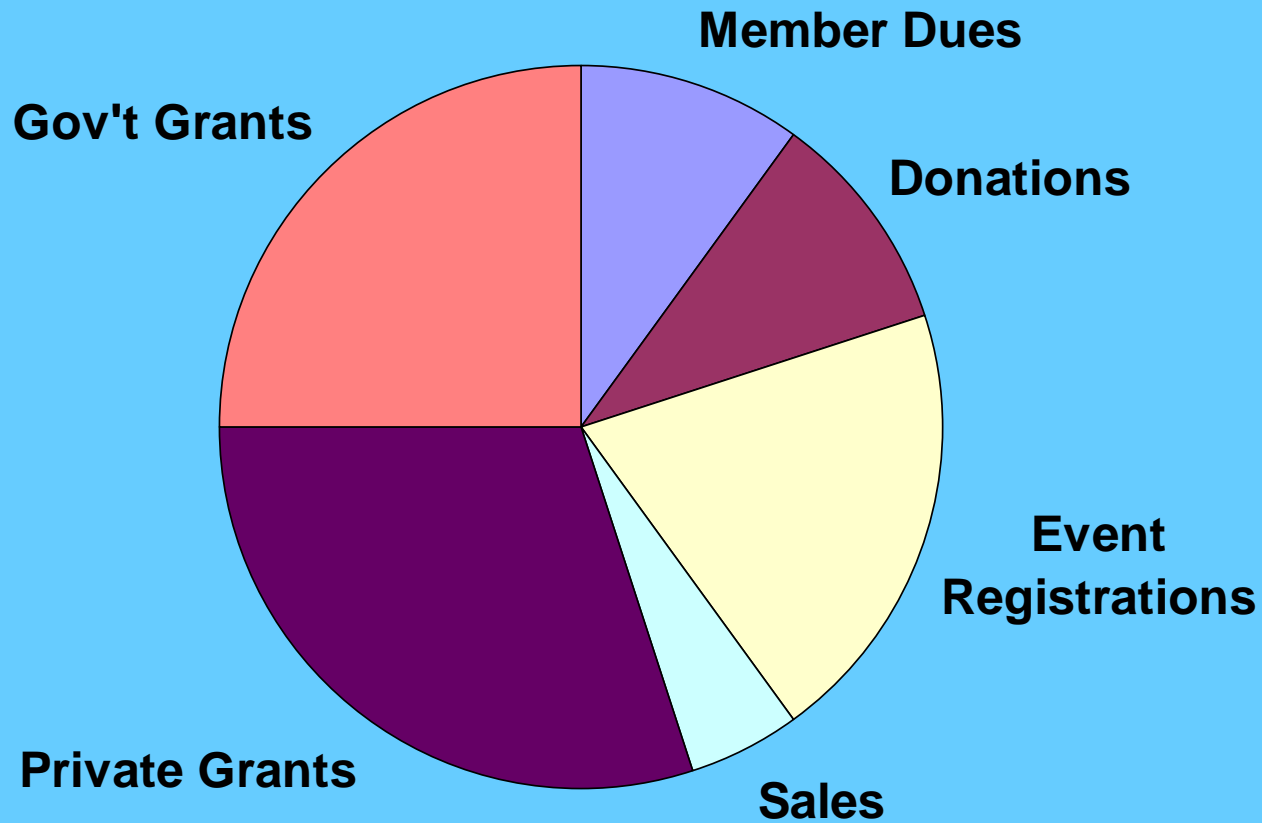
# Cal-IPC Background

- Formed 1992, nonprofit status granted 1993
- First 10 years, no staff, run solely by BOD. Annual budget \$20,000.
- Core functions:
  - Annual Symposium
  - Quarterly newsletter
  - Weed list

# **Cal-IPC with staff**

- **In 2002, ED hired half-time.**
- **Now have 3 full-time staff:**
  - **Executive Director**
  - **Project Manager**
  - **Outreach Associate**
- **Office shared with other groups.**
- **Annual budget \$400,000.**

# Cal-IPC funding - \$400,000



# **Cal-IPC solidified core work**

- **Annual Symposium, 400 attendees.**
- **Quarterly newsletter on schedule.**
- **Revised weed list (Inventory)**
- **Membership database**
- **Website**

# Cal-IPC new project areas

- **Advocacy at state and national levels.**
- **Field courses for weed workers.**
- **Projects (grant funded):**
  - **Mapping consortium**
  - **Risk assessment**
  - **Nursery collaboration**
  - **Technical publications**

# Cal-IPC collaboration

- **Other NGOs:**
  - Joint m'ship with CNGA, SERCAL.
  - Advocacy with Farm Bureau, etc.
  - Nursery collaboration with SusCon.
- **Industry:**
  - Nursery and landscape trades.
  - Restoration business sponsors.



# Cal-IPC collaboration, cont'd

- **Gov't agencies**
  - USDA ARS for development of biocontrols
  - Caltrans, USFWS for mapping Saharan mustard
  - USGS, Joint Fire Science, CIPM on fire report
- **WMAs**
  - Led advocacy for renewed state funding at \$1.5M

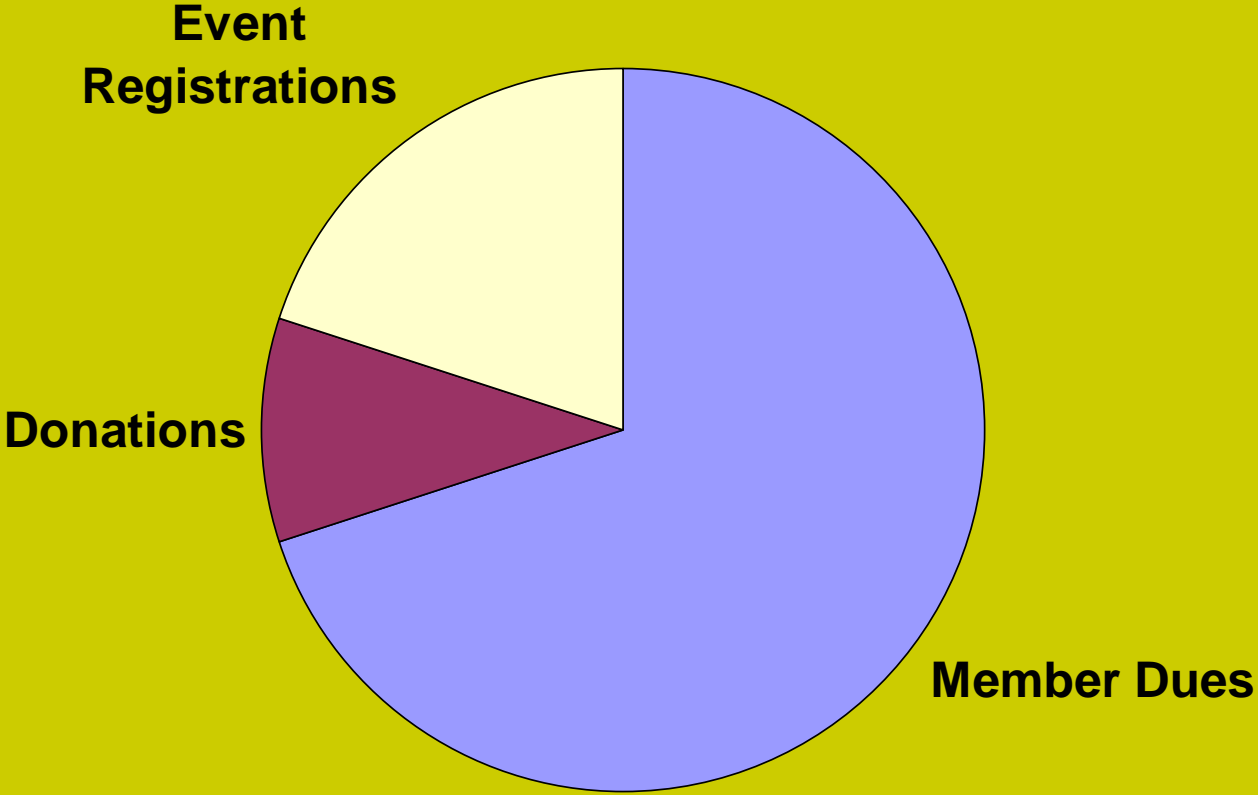
# Cal-IPC looking forward

- **Mapping at landscape scale.**
- **Risk assessment protocol:**
  - Horticultural trade
  - Funding
  - Biosecurity policy
- **Grow weed worker capacity.**
  - Funding
  - Training
  - Coordination

# Georgia EPPC

- Formed 1999, with hiatus. No staff.
- Under Southeast-EPPC umbrella.
- 100 members, budget \$2,000.
- No formal conference, newsletter, or list (meetings twice a year).
- Main activity: Giving workshops—200 trainees in last 2 years.

# GA-EPPC funding - \$2,000



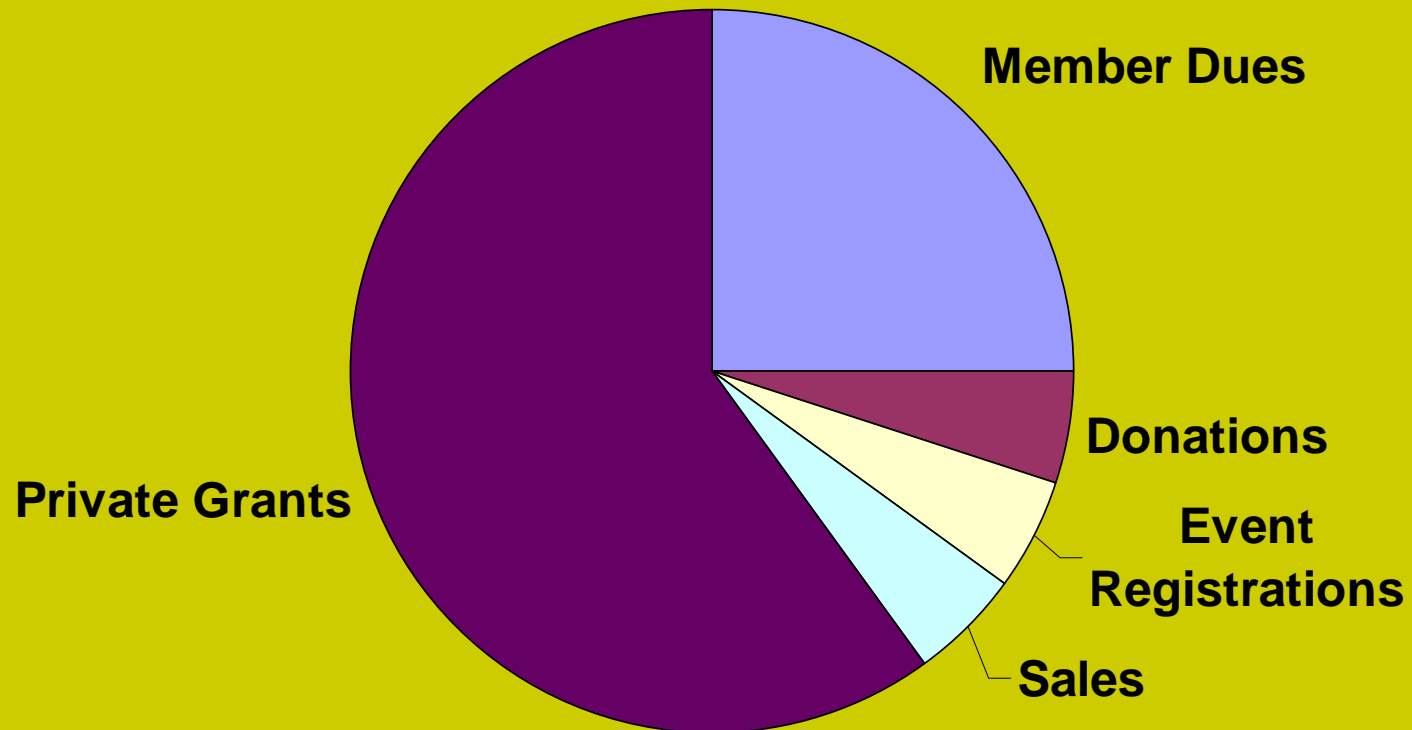
# **IPA of Wisconsin**

- **Formed 2001, 501c3 status.**
- **PT staff for admin, website.**
- **200 dues-paying members, plus.**
- **Annual conference (with others).**
- **Quarterly newsletter, book.**
- **Website, listserv.**
- **Weed list.**

# **IPAW extras**

- **Seat on Governor's Invasive Species Council.**
- **Board representation includes head of state nursery assn., etc.**
- **Speakers' bureau, lots of PPTs and associated materials.**
- **Active website, with alerts, etc.**

# IPAW funding - \$20,000



# Midwest IPN

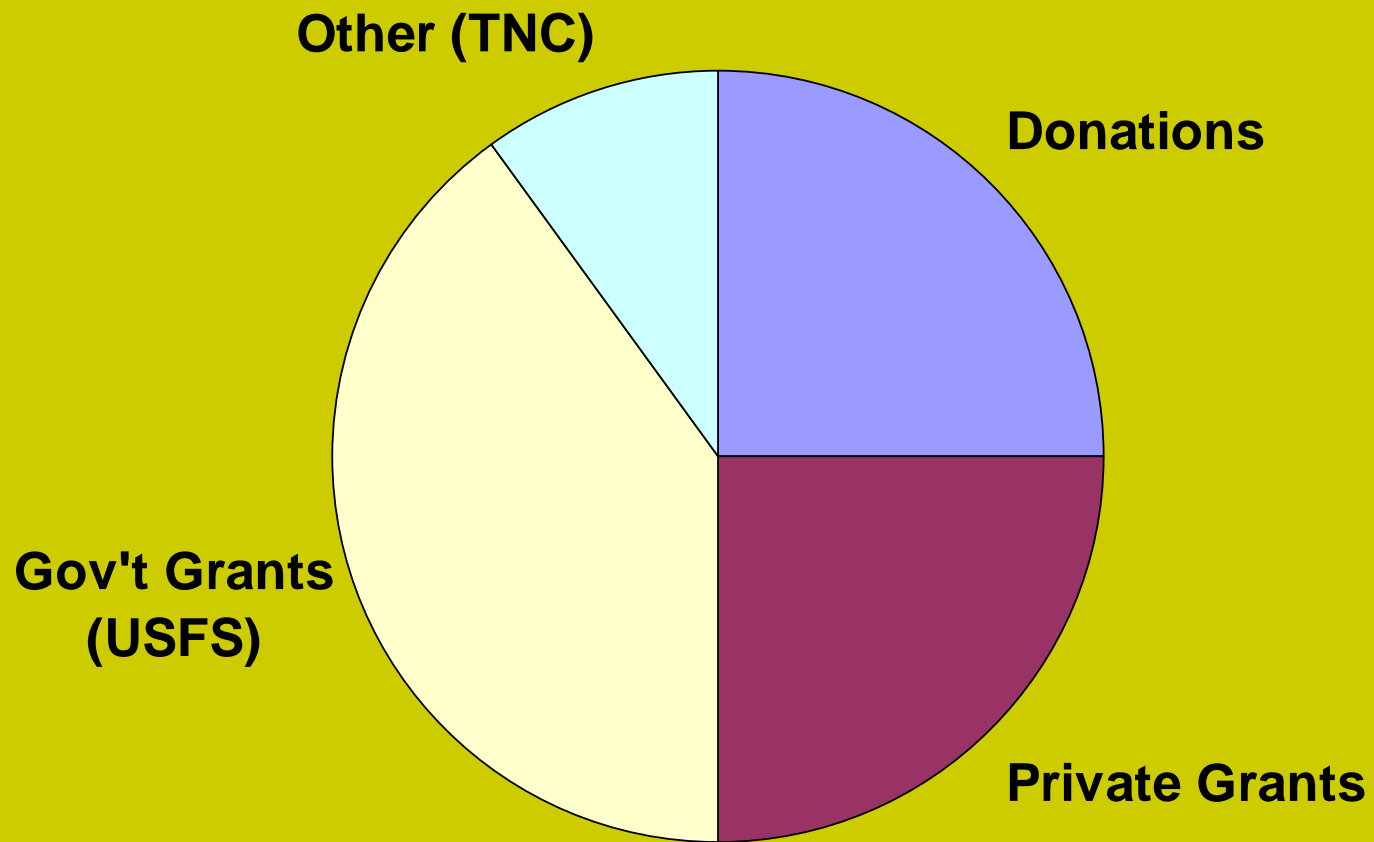
- Formed 2002, pursuing 501c3.
- Housed by The Nature Conservancy.
- One FT staff = Coordinator.
- Annual conference, quarterly newsletter.
- Tight relationship with EPPCs in region, agencies, TNC.



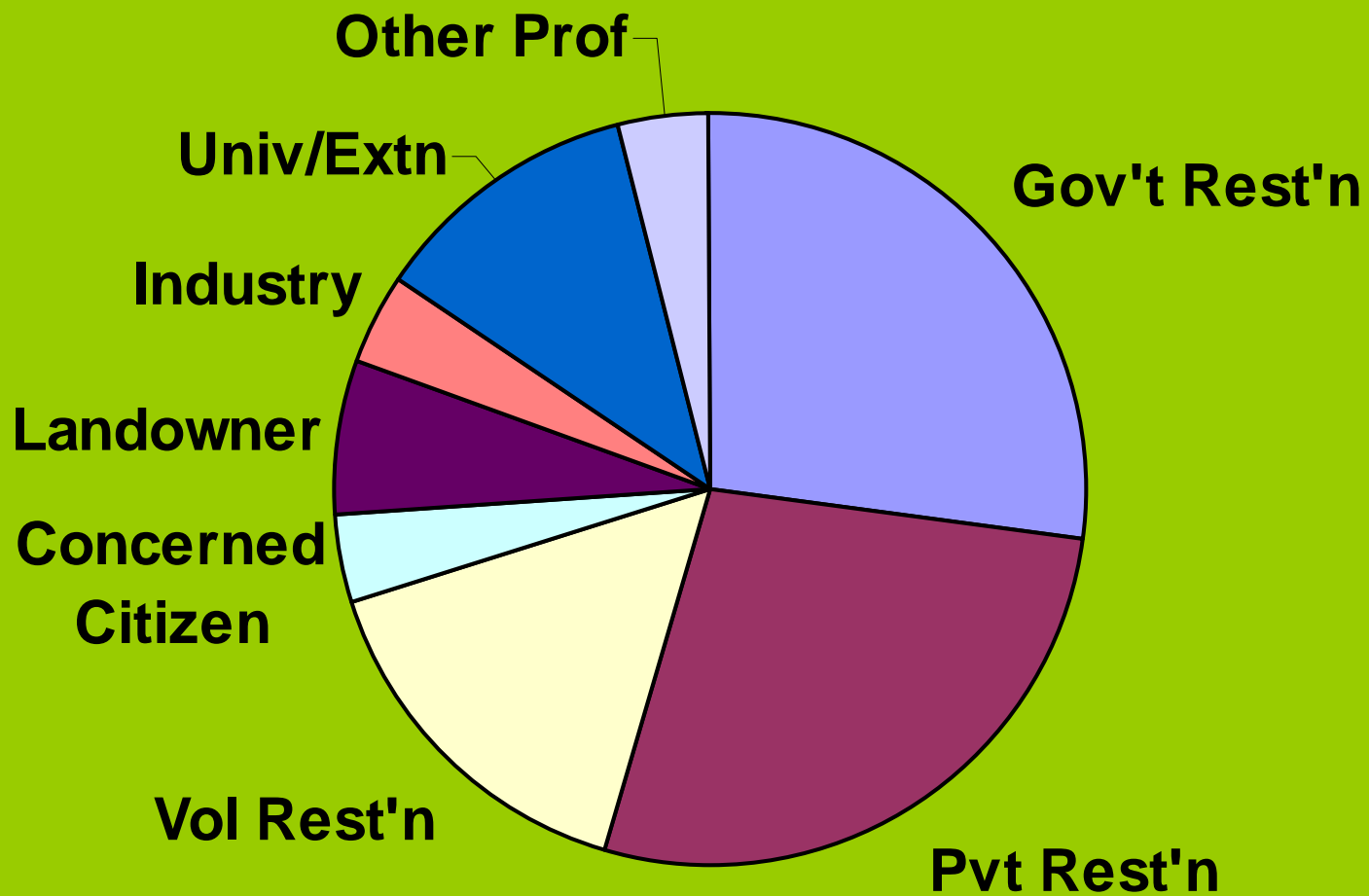
# **MIPN extras**

- **Conduct trainings on forming CWMAAs in effort to boost capacity.**
- **Produce a range of publications:**
  - **CWMA cookbook for eastern states.**
  - **Landscaping alternatives brochure.**
  - **Weeds 101 brochure.**
  - **Field guide.**

# MIPN funding - \$200,000



# Average Demographics



# Funding Sources

- **"Small"** (GA-EPPC) –members
- **"Medium"** (IPAW) – members + private grants
- **"Regional"** (MIPN) – donations + gov't grants
- **"Large"** (Cal-IPC) – members + donations + events + private + gov't grants

# Function levels

- 1. Conference, newsletter, website**
- 2. Trainings, list, enhanced website, basic outreach publications**
- 3. Advocacy, research coordination, technical publications**

# Why (re)form a PNW-EPPC?

- 1. Enhanced capacity to address invasive plants through growth and coordination.**
- 2. Take on big picture projects that may not otherwise be addressed.**
- 3. Represent an important region in national discussions.**

# National Assn. of EPPCs

- **Preparing position statements and strategy in advance of NIWAW.**
  - Federal WMA funding
  - S.1288 for NPS collaboration
- **Advocacy for enhanced biocontrol development budgets.**
- **“Weeds Across Borders” – international cooperation.**

# Keys

- **Strong Board of Directors:**
  - Broad representation
  - Energy, experience, vision
  - Funding connections
- **Staff:**
  - Committed to bootstrapping
  - Ability to wear lots of different hats
- **Sponsor organization can help**



# Funding for staff

- Nest egg
- Revenue producing activity
  - Trainings
  - Conference
- Starter grant
  - General operating/Capacity building
  - Project
- Switzer Leadership Grant

## **In conclusion...**

- **Cal-IPC is keen on having a northern neighbor and is willing to help.**
- **NA-EPPC is keen on having the PNW represented.**
- **A lot of examples exist, so you don't need to reinvent the wheel.**

## **And furthermore...**

- **You already have a lot of existing material to invest in an org'n.**
- **You have great people in the community whose collective energy has all the potential.**
- **You already have a 501c3 est'd.**

