

Invasive species are organisms that are not native to an environment, and once introduced, they establish, quickly reproduce and spread, and cause harm to the environment, economy, or human health. Nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), a new invasive species in California, are the focus of this year's art contest. Nutria are large aquatic rodents from South America; when introduced to other places they damage wetland habitats, agricultural crops, streambanks, and levees. They have invaded California's Central Valley and southern Delta, and their impacts may reach throughout the state. Learn more about them at wildlife. ca.gov/nutria.

Help us make Californians aware of the danger posed by nutria. Your artwork might be an identification guide, an illustration of nutria's biology or impacts, a public service announcement, or a graphic showing how you would search for nutria. Be creative!

## WHAT: California Invasive Species Action Week Youth Art contest All types of media are welcome and encouraged:

drawings, paintings, animations, comic strips, videos, public service announcements – send it all!

**WHO:** Entries will be placed into three grade divisions (2 - 4, 5 - 8, 9 - 12) and the top 3 winners will be selected from each division. One contestant will be selected by Department of Fish and Wildlife staff to receive the Invasive Species Program Choice Award.

## THEME: SAY NO TO NUTRIA DEADLINE: May 3, 2019 SEND ENTRIES TO:

CDFW Invasive Species Program P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090 or Invasives@wildlife.ca.gov

## MORE INFO: www.wildlife.ca.gov/CISAW

Visit the youth art contest web page for entry forms and more info.









2017)

Summer Knight 2nd Place, Grades 9-12 (2017)