



Wales Biodiversity Partnership Invasive Non-native Species Group

Key Messaging Document

Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Messaging Aims:	3
3. Key Messages	5
Natural Resources Wales	5
GB Non-Native Species Secretariat.....	5
4. Topic Specific Messages	6
Biosecurity and Pathways	6
Recording INNS	7
Gardening / Horticulture	8
Water Users – including anglers, boaters, paddlers and swimmers.....	8
Pet Owners	9
Construction Industry and Development Sector.....	10
Landowners and land management organizations e.g. nature reserves	11
Marine Water Users	12
5. Other Useful Information and Links	13
GB Non-Native Species Secretariat.....	13
Wales Biodiversity Partnership – Invasive Non-Native Species Group.....	14
Ecosystem Invaders campaign	14
Legislation.....	14
Welsh Government’s Code of Practice for Species Control Provisions	15
Asian hornet.....	15
Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed	15
Invasive Non-native Species (INNS) Portal in Wales.....	16
Recording Pests and Diseases	16
6. Communicating with Key Stakeholders	17
7. Resources	18
Check Clean Dry materials	19
Be Plant Wise materials.....	20

1. Introduction

The Wales Biodiversity Partnership (WBP) Invasive Non-native Species (INNS) Group was formed to help identify INNS priorities and resolve issues relevant to Wales. The group acts as a source of expertise on INNS in Wales and is considered the Wales Country Working Group under the GB Non-Native Species Strategy. Its work programme is focused on action under five key messaging aims as outlined below. This document represents these aims and endeavours to support WBP INNS Group members provide consistent messaging in their communications with external audiences.

For further information and details of the group's membership see:
www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Invasive-Non-Native-Species-Group

Document Aim	To provide consistent and straightforward messages for WBP INNS Group members to use to convey to a broad audience.
Messaging Aims	Raise awareness of the impact and threat of INNS Raise awareness of the importance of implementing biosecurity Promote ways the general public can identify and record INNS Help drive behaviour change and understanding of how individual actions can have an impact Encourage action to control and avoid the spread of INNS where appropriate
Audience	Public sector organisations Private sector organisations Academia Gardening / Horticulture Freshwater users – including commercial and recreational use (anglers, boaters, canoeists, divers) Marine users – including commercial (marinas, ports, harbours, fishermen) and recreational use (anglers, boaters, canoeists, divers) Pet owners – specifically exotic pets, birds and fish owners Conservation NGOs Construction industry and development sector Landowner organisations General public
Timing	Ongoing
Version	Version 2 (August 2024)

2. Messaging Aims:

Aim 1 - Raise awareness of the impact and threat of INNS

- Promote Invasive Species Week.
- Raise awareness of Invasive Alien Species of Special Concern and INNS priority species for action in Wales.
- Promote the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat (GB NNSS) as a hub for NNS information in Britain.
- Promote the WBP INNS webpages as a hub for INNS information in Wales.
- Promote sources of distribution records of INNS (i.e. NBN Atlas Wales INNS Portal, Aderyn, BSBI)
- Promote attendance of WBP INNS Group members at the annual GB Non-native Species Stakeholder Forum.
- Encourage Local Action Groups to share knowledge and good practice.
- Promote the WBP INNS Group / WaREN newsletter.

Aim 2 - Raise awareness of the importance of implementing biosecurity

- Promote biosecurity campaign messages for Check Clean Dry and Be Plant Wise and promote Invasive Species Week in Wales.
- Promote biosecurity e-learning module on the GB NNSS website.
- Share biosecurity best practice and resources.

Aim 3 - Promote ways the general public can identify and record INNS

- Promote GB NNSS species alerts, species recording and ID sheets.
- Raise awareness of the importance of reporting alert species
- Promote recording of sightings through iRecord (online or app), Local Environment Record Centres Wales (LERC Wales) app, or INNS Mapper.
- Promote actions and coordinated efforts to control INNS via INNS Mapper. The INNS Mapper app and website are available in Welsh (Mapiwr INNS) and data reported to INNS Mapper is open access and publicly available for anyone to use.

Aim 4 - Help drive behaviour change and understanding of how individual actions can have an impact e.g. fly tipping garden waste, releasing unwanted pets

- Promote the agreed key messages to develop awareness of INNS issues.
- Encourage awareness raising actions to be linked to an invitation to pledge to take practical action and find solutions to problems posed by INNS.
- Ensure INNS events build relationships between people and places by being interesting, interactive, including sign posting to next steps and opportunities to learn more.
- Encourage the formation of groups to monitor, progress and maintain momentum.

Aim 5 - Encourage action to control and avoid the spread of INNS where appropriate

- Promote local events occurring during Invasive Species Week.
- Encourage Local Action Groups to share knowledge and good practice. The [WaREN Invasive Species Toolkit](#) is a useful resource that can be used by LAGS, containing sections on ID and reporting, management, project planning, biosecurity and raising awareness.

3. Key Messages

What are invasive non-native species?

The following key messages have been developed by WBP INNS Group members:

Natural Resources Wales

Natural Resources Wales has developed a set of key messages for all stakeholders:

- Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) are animals, plants or other organisms introduced directly or indirectly by people into places out of their natural range of distribution, where they have become established and dispersed, and generate an impact on local ecosystems and species. These impacts can be costly to the economy and can even impact on our health and way of life.
- INNS are one of the five main threats to biodiversity loss worldwide.
- INNS can affect the resilience of ecosystems in many ways including through competition, predation, environmental impact, spreading diseases, genetic impacts/hybridization and by altering the structure of ecosystems.
- INNS can impact well-being by affecting recreational activities.
- The presence of INNS may exacerbate the impact of climate change for example by increasing the risk of flooding.
- INNS can affect human health by causing rashes, serious allergic reactions and increasing hay fever.
- INNS have a significant impact on the prosperity of Wales. The cost of INNS to Wales is estimated to be at least £343 million a year primarily affecting agricultural, forestry, and horticultural activities, and can also impact aquaculture, transport, utilities, and construction.

GB Non-Native Species Secretariat

These key messages are based on the GB Media & Communications Working Group key messages.

- Over 2000 plants and animals have been introduced to GB by people, these are known as non-native species.
- Most are harmless but a small proportion (10-15%) become invasive.

- Invasive non-native species damage our environment, the economy, our health and the way we live.
- They threaten our native plants, animals and habitats.
- They cost the British economy almost £2 billion pounds each year.
- They can threaten our health.

4. Topic Specific Messages

In addition to the above key messages a series of topic specific messages have also been developed.

Biosecurity and Pathways

Biosecurity is about reducing the risk of introducing or spreading invasive non-native species (and other harmful organisms such as pests and diseases).

Following good biosecurity practices reduces the risk of introduction and spread of invasive non-native species.

Good biosecurity is always important. Any site may have invasive non-native species which can be spread by contaminated clothes, equipment, vehicles and machinery.

Be responsible – always arrive at a site with clean kit.

If available, make use of facilities on site to clean footwear, equipment and vehicles before you leave.

Stop the spread. Never release, move or dump invasive non-natives into the environment:

- It is illegal and you could be prosecuted
- INNS can spread disease
- They threaten your sport or hobby
- They can threaten our native plants, animals and ecosystems
- Cost you a lot of money if you are liable for their removal

When visiting rivers, lakes and other water bodies always: [Check Clean Dry](#): Check - all clothing and equipment; Clean – clothes and equipment on site, preferably with hot water and; Dry - thoroughly dry equipment and clothing.

A biosecurity e-learning module based on [Check Clean Dry](#) is freely available in English and Welsh through the GBNSS e-learning site [Biosecurity e-learning module](#)

Find out more by visiting the GBNNSS:

[Biosecurity and Pathways](#)

[Marine biosecurity » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#)

The Wales Resilient Ecological Network (WaREN) Project have developed an [Invasive Species Toolkit](#) which includes [biosecurity](#) and best practice guidance. There are seven associated animated clips (1-2 minutes):

1. Invasive Species Toolkit: Supporting Volunteer Action in Wales ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))
2. How to use the INNS Mapper App ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))
3. How to manage Himalayan balsam! ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))
4. How to lead a management day ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))
5. How to help stop the spread of invasive species ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))
6. Protect Nature Now Charter ([English](#) and [Welsh](#)) - see objective 10
7. What are Invasive Species ([English](#) and [Welsh](#))

Pathways are the means by which non-native species are introduced or spread. [Pathway Action Plans](#) provide guidance for different organisations and individuals on steps to take to reduce this risk. Pathway Action Plans have been drafted for:

- Angling
- Horticulture
- Recreational boating
- Zoos
- Exotic Pets (in development)

Recording INNS

Everyone can provide useful biological records of non-native species. By using online recording sites and smartphone apps it is now easier than ever.

Non-native species records, including plants that are commonly seen, help us to understand how many of these species are present, where they are found and the rate at which they are spreading

By far the most important data you can provide are 'early warning' records of new non-native species and those that are only just starting to establish. By recording these 'alert' species as quickly as possible you could be helping to prevent the establishment of a new invasive non-native species.

View a list of alert species: <https://www.nonnativespecies.org/non-native-species/species-alerts/>

Records of the INNS of most interest to Wales can be viewed on NBN Atlas Wales INNS Portal

Records of any non-native species can be uploaded to the [iRecord](#) or [LERCs Wales](#).

Records, surveys and management of INNS can be uploaded via the bilingual [INNS Mapper website and app](#). Please find the following supporting videos [here](#) for using INNS Mapper:

- How to report a sighting on INNS Mapper
- How to conduct a survey on INNS Mapper
- How to report Management of INNS on INNS Mapper
- View INNS Mapper records
- Verify sightings reports, records and photos on INNS Mapper

Find out more: [Recording](#)

Gardening / Horticulture

Be Plant Wise

We all want to look after the environment and our native wildlife for future generations to enjoy. **Be Plant Wise** by following our three simple tips:

- **Know what you grow:** Choose the right plants for your garden, pond and water features. Download your free guide to [plants to use in your garden in place of invasive non-native species](#). There are also guides available for [landscaping](#) and for [ponds and aquariums](#).
- **Stop the spread:** Keep your plants in your garden - don't plant them, or allow them to grow, in the wild.
- **Compost with care:** Dispose of your unwanted plants, roots, weeds, seeds, and seed heads responsibly. Find out which [invasive plants can't be composted](#) and how to dispose of them safely.
- It is illegal to dump or plant invasive non-native plants in the wild.
- Never dispose of pond plants in any waterway.

Find out more at [Be Plant Wise and Alternative plants](#)

The [Horticulture Pathway Action Plan](#) provides guidance for different organisations and individuals on steps to take to reduce the risk of spread of invasive non-native species.

Water Users – including anglers, boaters, paddlers and swimmers

- Invasive non-native species cause serious environmental problems that can be irreversible and interfere with the activities you enjoy by clogging

propellers, damaging boats, blocking up waterways making it hard to fish or use them for paddling, and increasing the risk of flooding.

- Help protect the environment and activities you enjoy by keeping your kit free of invasive plants and animals, whenever you leave the water remember to [Check Clean Dry](#):
 - Check your equipment, boat, and clothing after leaving the water for mud, aquatic animals or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it at the site above the high-water level.
 - Clean everything thoroughly as soon as you can, paying attention to areas that are damp or hard to access. Use hot water if possible.
 - Dry everything for as long as you can before using elsewhere as some invasive plants and animals can survive for over two weeks in damp conditions.

Find out more:

[Check, Clean and Dry](#)

[Freshwater invasive species to look out for » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#)

[Anglers » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#) Help stop the spread of invasive plants and animals in our waters!

[Angling Trust INNS campaign](#)

[Boaters » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#)

[Paddlers » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#)

[Stand Up Paddleboarders » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](#)

The [Angling and Recreational Boating Pathway Action Plans](#) provides guidance for different organisations and individuals on steps to take to reduce the risk of spread of invasive non-native species.

Pet Owners

- Never release pets into the wild and always keep them in such a way that they can't escape.
- It is cruel and illegal to release non-native species of pets into the wild.
- Never release plants and animals from ponds and aquaria into the wild.

- It is illegal to release non-native species into ponds and watercourses.
- Released pets can spread disease to native wildlife.
- Invasive non-native pet species can outcompete, predate or hybridize native species.
- It is illegal to breed, keep or transport some non-native pets. See more at [National Wildlife Crime Unit](#).

Certain invasive non-native pets are listed as species of special concern under legislation and must not be imported, kept, bred or transported, sold or exchanged, allowed to breed or escape or released into the environment. There is information on the rules for species of special concern:

[Invasive non-native \(alien\) animal species: rules in England and Wales - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Invasive non-native \(alien\) plant species: rules in England and Wales - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

A Pet Code of Practice has been developed by the Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association (OATA) and the Reptile and Exotic Pet Trade Association (REPTA) to help pet owners understand their responsibilities. [Pet code of practice](#).

Pet fish owners can find out more from: [OATA website](#).

[Pathway Action Plans](#) (PAPs) provide guidance for different organisations and individuals on steps to take to reduce this risk. An Exotic Pets Pathway Action Plan is currently in development.

Construction Industry and Development Sector

- Understand the risks of your site and activities before you go out on site. Producing a [biosecurity risk assessment/plan](#) will help you protect the environment and prevent you from breaching legislation. A good biosecurity routine is always essential, even if invasive non-native species are not always apparent.
- Plan visits so that the most risky visit is the last one of the day.
- Arrive at the site with clean footwear, vehicles and equipment.
- Ensure footwear and equipment is clean (visually from soil and debris) before leaving the site.
- Ensure vehicle is kept clean - in particular remove any accumulated mud before leaving the site.

- Make use of facilities provided on the site to clean footwear/equipment.
- Keep access to a minimum. If practical do not take vehicles onto premises, keep to established tracks and park vehicles on hard standing.
- Where possible avoid areas of livestock and areas with known risks (e.g. INNS, disease or pests).
- Do not take invasive non-native plant material (e.g. seeds, rhizomes etc) and contaminated soil from site unless it is carried by a licensed waste carrier to a [suitably permitted waste facility](#).
- Always dispose of invasive non-native plant material and contaminated soil on site under a waste permit or exemption (see [Natural Resources Wales / Check if you need to tell us about your waste activity](#) for further information)

Landowners and land management organizations e.g. nature reserves

- If you are visiting a site where an invasive non-native species is known to be present, use appropriate biosecurity measures to stop its spread.
- Biosecurity means taking steps to make sure that good hygiene practices are in place to reduce and minimise the risk of spreading invasive non-native species. A good biosecurity routine is always essential, even if invasive non-native species are not always apparent.
- Arrive at the site with clean footwear, vehicles and equipment.
- Ensure footwear and equipment is clean (visually from soil and debris) before leaving the site.
- Ensure vehicle is kept clean - in particular remove any accumulated mud before leaving the site.
- Make use of facilities provided on the site to clean footwear/equipment.
- Keep access to a minimum. If practical do not take vehicles onto premises, keep to established tracks and park vehicles on hard standing.
- Where possible avoid areas of livestock and areas with known risks (e.g. INNS, disease or pests).

- Do not take invasive non-native plant material (e.g. seeds, rhizomes etc) and contaminated soil from site unless it is carried by a licensed waste carrier to a [suitably permitted waste facility](#).
- Always dispose of invasive non-native plant material and contaminated soil on site under a waste permit or exemption (RD058.2).
- Where possible posters and signage should be put in place to make people aware of the risk of invasive non-native species and provide advice on how to prevent their spread.

Marine Water Users

- Marine Protected Areas are fundamental to the conservation of marine biodiversity. They ensure our marine ecosystems remain healthy, sufficiently connected and resilient to change.
- It is an offence under both the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019 to release, or allow the escape, into the wild any animal which is not ordinarily resident in GB or which is listed in Schedule 9 of the 1981 Act or Part 1, Schedule 2 of the 2019 Order.
- Marine INNS outcompete, smother or predate native species affecting their abundance and diversity and can significantly damage or modify marine habitats and affect the resilience of ecosystems. Invasive non-native species can spread disease. Any loss or damage to biodiversity can affect their functioning and ability to adapt to change.
- Helping to reduce the number of invasive non-native species can help to maintain and increase the diversity and resilience of marine ecosystems. Carrying out good [biosecurity](#) is key to stopping the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species in the marine environment.
- Key pathways for the introduction and spread of marine INNS are maritime transport (commercial and recreational), aquaculture and infrastructure developments.
- The eradication of INNS in the marine environment is not always feasible and can often be costly. For this reason, it is important we prevent introduction and spread, where possible, by promoting campaigns such as [Check, Clean and Dry](#), encouraging the use of biosecurity planning where necessary and following [best practice advice](#).
- [Recording](#) marine invasive non-native helps us to understand how many of these species are present, where they are found and the rate at which they are spreading.

- The [National Marine Plan Policy](#) for Wales for INNS (policy ENV-03 page 54) helps to inform developers and decision makers about actions to take when considering invasive non-native species in the marine environment.
- A [Welsh Marine Invasive Species Priority Monitoring and Surveillance List](#) has been developed Welsh Government to focus action on species that pose a threat to native biodiversity.

[Pathway Action Plans](#) (PAPs) provide guidance for different organisations and individuals on steps to take to reduce this risk. [See the Recreational Boating PAP.](#)

5. Other Useful Information and Links

GB Non-Native Species Secretariat

The GB Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) has responsibility for helping to coordinate the approach to invasive non-native species in Great Britain. The NNSS is responsible to a Programme Board which represents the relevant governments and agencies of England, Scotland and Wales. [Home » GBNNSS](#)

The GB Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy provides a strategic framework within which the actions of government departments, their related bodies and key stakeholders can be better co-ordinated. [GB INNS Strategy 2023-2030](#)

A Local Action Group (LAG) is a group or project focused on reducing the risks and impacts associated with invasive non-native species in a specific area. [Local Action Groups \(LAGs\)](#)

Invasive Species Week is an annual week of awareness raising and events to help prevent the spread, and reduce the harmful impacts, of invasive non-native plants and animals. [Invasive Species Week](#)

On the GBNNSS website you can find training and educational resources on non-native species and biosecurity, including e-learning, sector specific information, and examples of good practice. [Training » NNSS](#)

A series of ID sheets have been developed to help with identification of non-native species. [ID sheets » NNSS](#)

By recording any sightings of alert species as quickly as possible you could be helping to prevent the establishment of a new invasive non-native species. [Species alerts » NNSS](#)

Wales Biodiversity Partnership – Invasive Non-Native Species Group

The group was formed to help identify INNS priorities and resolve issues as well as acting as a source of expertise on INNS in Wales. The Group maintains a list of Priority Species for Action in Wales.

[WBP Invasive Non-Native Species Group](#)

Ecosystem Invaders campaign

The Ecosystem Invaders campaign was developed in 2022 (further development in 2023) to provide tools to increase engagement and participation. The aim of the campaign is to increase the awareness of invasive non-native species and their impacts in Wales to improve public engagement. The target audience is gardeners and recreational water users. Access the resource kit [here](#).

Legislation

EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation

The [EU Regulation](#) (1143/2014) on invasive alien (non-native) species entered into force on 1 January 2015. The requirements of the EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation 1143/2014 [EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation 1143/2014](#) have been retained in domestic law and are supplemented by the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019.

Species of special concern

[The Invasive Alien Species \(Enforcement and Permitting\) Order 2019](#) implements some of the requirements contained in the retained Regulation by putting in place enforcement, licensing and permitting regimes for listed species of special concern.

A species of special concern is an invasive species whose adverse impact across Great Britain are such that concerted action is required pursuant to Article 4(3) of the retained EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation 1143/2014.

The retained legislation restricts species of special concern from being imported, kept, transported, sold or exchanged, grown or cultivated, bred, allowed to escape or be released into the environment (except under permit or licence).

Find out more:

[Species of Special Concern](#)

[Invasive non-native \(alien\) animal species: rules in England and Wales](#)

[Invasive non-native \(alien\) plant species: rules in England and Wales](#)

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

[The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#) remains the key piece of legislation for controlling non-native species which are not species of special concern. Section 14(1) of the Act makes it an offence to release or allow the escape into the wild any animal which is not ordinarily resident in GB or is listed in Schedule 9 of the Act. It also an offence to plant or causing to grow in the wild any plant listed on Schedule 9.

Welsh Government's Code of Practice for Species Control Provisions

Species Control Agreements and Orders collectively known as Species Control Provisions, ensure owners take action or permit NRW or Welsh Ministers to enter land and carry out operations to prevent the establishment and spread of certain invasive non-native species and formerly resident native species.

This code of practice sets out how the provisions for species control agreements and orders contained in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 should be applied by the Welsh Ministers and Natural Resources Wales. This code relates to Wales only.

[Welsh Government Code of practice for species control provisions](#)

The Code is currently being updated (2024)

Asian hornet

Asian hornet is a highly effective predator of insects, including honeybees and other beneficial species.

It is important to report any suspected sightings of this species as soon as possible. Vigilance is particularly required in southern parts of England and Wales and around major ports. Asian hornet is active mainly between April and November (peak August/September) and is inactive over the winter.

Sightings should be reported immediately with a photo via the links below:

- [Asian Hornet Watch app for iPhone](#)
- [Asian Hornet Watch app for android](#)

More information on [Asian hornet](#)

Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed

Welsh Government guidance on the management of Japanese knotweed:

[Japanese knotweed: Advice for Community and Voluntary Groups](#)

[Japanese knotweed: public information on controlling invasive species](#)

[Himalayan balsam: public information on controlling invasive species](#)

[Giant hogweed: public information on controlling invasive species](#)

Natural Resources Wales:

[Japanese knotweed: what you need to know](#)

Invasive Non-native Species (INNS) Portal in Wales

The INNS Portal, hosted by the [National Biodiversity Network Atlas Wales](#) supports the activities of the [Wales Biodiversity Partnership Invasive Non-Native Species Group](#) in providing a single resource to view and search records and lists of over 300 invasive non-native species of interest to Wales that are held by the NBN Atlas: [NBN Atlas Wales INNS Portal](#). An overview can be found in the [INNS Portal User Guide](#).

Recording Pests and Diseases

There are a number of invasive non-native species which are classified as notifiable pests or diseases in the UK. Other legislative mechanisms exist to deal with these.

Animal Health

If you suspect a notifiable animal disease you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. Failure to do so is an offence. For further information see: www.gov.uk/government/collections/notifiable-diseases-in-animals.

Aquatic (fish and shellfish) health pests and disease

Any suspicion of a notifiable fish or shellfish disease on farms or in the wild must be reported to CEFAS Fish Health Inspectorate email fhi@cefas.co.uk, telephone 01305 206700. Failure to do so is an offence. Further information on serious diseases of fish and shellfish (bivalve molluscs and crustaceans) can be found on the www.GOV.UK website (applies to England and Wales).

Bee Health

There are a number of notifiable pests and diseases in the UK which may affect bees. Beekeepers must tell the National Bee Unit (NBU) if they suspect they are present by calling the National Bee Unit Helpline on 0300 303 0094 or your local bee inspector immediately.

Failure to do so is an offence (see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bee-health>). More Advice on beekeeping is available on: BeeBase and the [Welsh Beekeepers Association](#).

Plant and Tree Health

If you suspect a plant or tree of having a pest or disease you can report it.

Give as much information as you can, including:

- location of incident
- what you have seen
- the species affected
- contact name and telephone number

Report signs of tree pests and diseases using [Forest Research's Tree Alert](#).

Report signs of plant pests and diseases to the Animal and Plant Health Agency by emailing: planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk.

Visitors to the woodlands can play an important part in preventing the spread of pests and diseases. We can unknowingly encounter infection as we walk through the woodland, this can be spread by the mud & leaves that collect on our footwear or wheels. Infection could be spread to the next place we visit if we do not clean our footwear and bikes before our next visit.

Help reduce the spread of pests and diseases by carrying out simple cleaning tasks. These will hopefully become second nature as you get used to arriving for each walk or bike ride with clean equipment. You can also keep an eye out for any sightings of possible tree disease or pests and report to [TreeAlert](#).

[Keep it Clean poster - English](#)

[Cadwch yn Lan/Keep it clean poster - Cymraeg/Welsh](#)

6. Communicating with Key Stakeholders

Key partners / audience from the top five stakeholder groups

Group (from the list agreed)	Key partners	Members	Key audience
Gardeners / pond owners	Horticultural Trade Association, Ornamental and Aquatic Trade Association, British Association of Landscape Industries	Horticulture and aquatic retailers (shops and online), Landscaping companies	Gardeners, Landscape gardeners, Pond owners, Horticulturists

Recreational water users (freshwater)	Angling Trust, Royal Yachting Association, The Green Blue, British Canoeing, British Rowing Water companies	Clubs and marinas	Anglers, Canoeists, Kayakers, Boaters, Rowers, Triathletes, Open water swimmers, Divers, Dragon boat racers
Exotic pet and fish owners	Pet Industry Federation, REPTA, British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Ornamental and Aquatic Trade Association, Licensing authorities for pet shops, RSPCA, British Veterinary Association	Retailers of fish and exotic animals, Zoos, Wildlife parks, Aquariums, Vets, Animal welfare inspectors	Exotic pet owners, Fish owners, Animal rescue centres
Landowners	Landowner associations, National farmers unions, Wildlife Link, Water companies, Infrastructure, BASC, Outdoor learning	Landowners, Farmers, Public bodies, Individual NGOs, Outdoor education centres	Members of conservation NGOs, Field staff, Land managers, Interested public, Site workers, Water users
Marine water users	Marine Pathways Project, Angling Trust, Royal Yachting Association, The Green Blue, British Marine, British Canoeing, British Rowing	Clubs and marinas	Anglers Canoeists Kayakers Boaters Rowers Open water swimmers Divers Dragon boat racers

7. Resources

A range of materials have been developed and disseminated in partnership with stakeholders to support the GB INNS campaigns.

Many of the materials are available to download on the GB Non-native Species website:

Check Clean Dry: [Resources » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](https://nonnativespecies.org/resources)

Be Plant Wise: [Materials and resources » NNSS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](https://nonnativespecies.org/materials)

Free hard copies of posters, leaflets, signs and stickers are also available to help you with awareness raising, please contact the GB NNSS at nnss@apha.gov.uk for availability of hardcopies.

Relevant social media posts should include the hashtag #GBINNS to facilitate sharing by others. Where possible, posts referencing the Check Clean Dry campaign should tag @CheckCleanDryGB or include #CheckCleanDry.

The [Ecosystem Invaders](#) campaign also has a range of materials including for families. These can be accessed via the resources kit [here](#).

Check Clean Dry materials

General

Posters and signs

- [Check Clean Dry](#) | [Check Clean Dry \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Clubs and managers of waterbodies](#)
- [Washdown station](#)

Leaflets

- [Pocket fold out ID guide](#)
- [Additional identification guides](#)
- [Travelling abroad?](#)
- [Bilingual Ecosystem Invaders leaflet for recreational water](#)

[Ecosystem Invaders video for recreational water](#) | [Ecosystem Invaders video for recreational water \(Welsh\)](#)

Angling

Posters and signs

- [Coarse angling](#) | [Coarse angling \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Game angling](#)
- [Marine angling](#) | [Marine angling \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Coarse angling washdown station](#)

Leaflets

- [Coarse angling](#)
- [Welsh](#)
- [Marine angling](#) | [Marine angling \(Welsh\)](#)

Boating

Poster and signs

- [Boating](#) | [Boating \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Marine boating](#) | [Marine boating \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Boating on canals](#) | [Boating on canals \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Boating washdown station](#)

Leaflets

- [Boating](#) | [Boating \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Marine boating](#) | [Marine boating \(Welsh\)](#)

- [Boating on canals](#) | [Boating on canals \(Welsh\)](#)

Paddling and Stand Up Paddleboarding

Posters and signs

- [Paddling](#) | [Paddling \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Stand Up Paddleboarding](#)
- [Paddling washdown station](#)

Leaflets

- [Paddling](#) | [Paddling \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Stand Up Paddleboarding](#)
- [Paddling abroad?](#)

Border biosecurity materials

- [Angling abroad poster](#) | [Angling abroad poster \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Boating abroad poster](#) | [Boating abroad poster \(Welsh\)](#)
- [Paddling abroad poster](#) | [Paddling abroad poster \(Welsh\)](#)

Be Plant Wise materials

Leaflets

- [Garden plants leaflet](#) | [Garden plants leaflet: Welsh](#)
- [Aquatic plants leaflet](#) | [Aquatic plants leaflet: Welsh](#)
- [Bilingual Ecosystem Invaders leaflet for gardeners](#)

[Ecosystem Invaders video for gardeners](#) | [Ecosystem Invaders video for gardeners \(welsh\)](#)

Guides to alternative species to use in place of invasive non-native plants:

- [Guide for gardeners](#)
- [Guide for landscapers](#)
- [Guide for pond or aquarium owners](#)

Posters

- [Garden plants poster](#) | [Garden plants poster: Welsh](#)
- [Aquatic plants poster](#) | [Aquatic plants poster: Welsh](#)

Other materials

- [Information sheet for retailers](#) | [Information sheet for retailers: Welsh](#)
- [Pop up banner](#) for events and displays

- Be Plant Wise logos can be used in your own communications with GBNNSS approval, please contact nnss@apha.gov.uk to request them
- [Draft posts for social media](#) and [landscape](#) and [square](#) graphics for these
- [Plant Alert](#) is a citizen science reporting tool for reporting potentially invasive ornamental plants in gardens.

Examples of Check Clean Dry materials

STOP THE SPREAD

Invasive plants and animals can carry diseases that kill fish, and block waterways and banks interfering with fishing. They can be small and hard to spot so are easily spread on damp equipment and clothing.

Protect the environment and fishing you enjoy by keeping your kit free of invasive plants and animals.

Remember to check these places

CHECK Check your gear after leaving the water for mud, aquatic animals or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it at the site.

CLEAN Clean everything thoroughly as soon as you can, paying attention to nets, waders, and areas that are damp and hard to access. Use hot water if possible.

DRY Dry everything for as long as possible before using elsewhere as some invasive plants and animals can survive for two weeks in damp conditions.

Watch out for

QUAGGA MUSSEL KILLARNEY SHEEP FISH DISEASES FLOATING PENNYWORT

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Scottish Government natural scotland GBNNSS Plant Wise

Find out more about invasive plants and animals and how you can help to stop the spread at: nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

Os yw'ch planhigion yn dianc y tu hwnt i'ch pwll neu'ch acwariwm, yna gallan nhw fynd yn blanhigion goresgynnoi, gan niweidio ein bywyd gwylt, ein hamgylchedd a'n heconomi

MYND AT WRAIDDY MATER

Unwaith y byddan nhw wedi sefydlu, mae planhigion goresgynnoi yn gostus i'w rheoli a gall y difrod y maen nhw'n ei achosi fod yn rhywbeth na ellir ei ddad-wneud. Gallwch chi helpu i ddiogelu ein dyfrffyrdd trwy ddilyn ein tri chyngor syml:



Dewiswch y planhigion cywir ar gyfer eich pwll, acwariwm a nodweddion dŵr eraill



Cadwch eich planhigion yn eich pwll neu eich acwariwm a phediwch a phlannu unrhyw beth mewn tir gwylt



Gwaredwch eich planhigion, gwreiddiau, chwyn, hadau a dŵr sydd wedi'u tafu o'r neilltu, mewn ffordd gyfrifol



Dysgwch fwy yn nonnativespecies.org/beplantwis