

Meeting Actions



Partneriaeth **Bioamrywiaeth** Cymru
Wales **Biodiversity** Partnership

Title of meeting: **WBP Invasive Non-native Species Group**

Date of meeting: 8th March 2022

Venue: MS Teams

Time of meeting: 10.00 – 12.30

Present: **WG:** Leasa Fielding (Chair), Tom Warren, Becky Phillips,
WBP: Michaela Scrivin (secretariat)
Other: Anna Holmes (NMW), Ben Rowson (NMW), Beverley Lewis (BBNPA), Bradley Welch (BIS), Chloe Powell-Jennings (NRW), Chloe White (Dwr Cymru), David Jermyn (BBNPA), Dawn Thomas (NWWT), Debbie Murphy (CEFAS), Jennie Jones (NRW), Jess Minett (WaREN), Matt Tebbitt (Stitch in Time), Olaf Booy (APHA), Phil Stone (Canoe Wales), Sean Hathaway (Swansea CC), Theresa Kudelska (NRW), Tomos Jones (WaREN)

Apologies: Adam Rowe, Alison Smith (WG), Joanne Cable (Cardiff Uni), Judith Oakley (Swansea CC), Louis Macdonald-Ames (Wye & Usk), Niall Moore (APHA), Phil Horton (RYA), Robert Smith (Public Health Wales)

[Partner Updates](#)

[WaREN Update](#)

[Comprehensive review of species of special concern](#)

[Any Other Business](#)

ACTIONS OVERVIEW

Action	Lead	Timeframe	Update
Partner updates 1. Any further partner updates to Michaela by end of March 2. Phil Stone to circulate Check Clean Dry washdown station pdf.	All to email Michaela Phil Stone		
WaREN Update 3. Tomos to share Biosecurity strategy for comment once draft is finalised.	Tomos Jones		
Comprehensive review of species of special concern 4. No actions arising.			
Any Other Business / Next steps 5. WBP INNS Group meeting to be organised for 9 November 2022	Michaela Scrivin		Done



KEY POINTS & ACTIONS

Leasa Fielding welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies. The list of actions from the last meeting was reviewed:

List of actions from October 2021 meeting

1. Michaela to contact Kate Rodgers for INNS badge update, share info with group. **Done**
2. Group members to contact Tomos Jones if they wish to feed into WaREN project website and biosecurity strategy etc. **Done**
3. Any further partner updates to be emailed to Michaela by end of November. **Done**
4. WBP INNS Group meeting to be organised for March 2022. **Done**

Partner Updates

Written updates circulated before the meeting. Additional points include:

- **National Museum of Wales.** Marine and terrestrial invasives being featured in 'On your Doorstep' exhibition with Pembrokeshire National Park in St Davids at the end of the month. Quagga mussel appeared in Ireland. Marine INNS workshop run in October and marine INNS kit being created for use in Wales – kept at museum, available to use at no charge (except courier cost) from end of summer.
- **Brecon Beacons NPA.** Phase 3 of Japanese knotweed control programme on the Usk to be done in 2022 – reinforcement of previous work. Looking to have the whole of the catchment in the programme by 2024. Also working on the Tawe, and carrying on HB work. 4 self-sufficient volunteer groups operating. Working with NRW at Llangors Lake on HB, mink trapping, and investigating biosecurity / washdown facilities. Also working to start tackling skunk cabbage and signal crayfish.
- **Canoe Wales.** Also working on funding washdown stations, had signage specific to each piece of water done on Check Clean Dry. Phil to circulate pdf. Membership increased by 80% recently, all members informed about INNS. Member's roadshow to be discuss INNS.
- **Dwr Cymru.** INNS strategy being revamped for the next 3-5 years, can be shared once finalised.
- **GBNNS.** Staff to increase from 4 to 8. Local Action Group workshop – co-ordinator to be in post shortly with aim to help with regional co-ordination and access to funding. Looking at additional species for listing. Website to be relaunched next month. Talking to water companies about further work with invasive species.
- **LERCs.** Conversations had with WaREN team re continuity & databases.
- **NRW.** Priority sites identified for CABI (HB & crassula). Seeds collected from 4-5 sites (under permit) and will be propagated with rust fungus (HB) and mites (crassula) and see how effective the treatment should be. Link to biosecurity website to be circulated once it goes live.
- **NWWT.** Government funding for 12 months of further Shoresearch survey. Project Officer working on cotoneaster.
- **Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Area of Conservation:** Hoping to run another INNS training event in April for recreational boaters, to run alongside RYA event. Project funding to finish in August.



- **Stitch in Time.** Funding ends at the end of the financial year. Toolkit sent for consultation with stakeholder group, ready for publishing March/April. Project handed over to National Park, applications for further funding made but no grants confirmed as yet. Matt to stay working for the National Park permanently and will be involved with INNS week etc.
- **Swansea CC.** Grant aid received to take out rhododendron from PAWS site and replant.
- **WG.** Confirmation that INNS information leaflets are solely digital at this stage

CABI redoing the INNS economic impact assessment from 2010 so email has been sent to previous contributors, but if anyone has any contributions, please email CABI direct (as per email circulated by Michaela).

Actions: Anyone who hadn't managed to send a partner update to Michaela ahead of the meeting please feel free to send one by end of March and this can be included with the minutes when circulated. Phil Stone to circulate Check Clean Dry washdown station pdf.

WaREN Project: Phase 2 Update

Currently halfway through project. Tomos Jones gave updates on some of the 23 objectives:

- Online tool – INNS Mapper re-development project to go ahead in April. To provide occurrence record database and management action reporting tool
- Biosecurity strategy – draft Biosecurity and Prevention Strategy being developed. Raising awareness of importance of biosecurity, and improving uptake of biosecurity strategies
- Feasibility studies – three studies to be completed this year looking at innovative approaches and focusing on priority species
- Raising awareness – Invasive Species week, and WaREN national campaign to follow it: “Ecosystem Invaders”. Target audience are gardeners, recreational water users and exotic pet owners.

Discussion points

- Logo: feedback that horizontal split preferred with red banding
- Ecosystem Invaders campaign to launch on the back of invasive species week and finish at national eisteddfod
- Feedback welcomed for the biosecurity strategy once Tomos shares it.
- YouGov poll will collect baseline data for campaign from 1000 respondents across Wales, about knowledge of INNS.

Actions: Tomos to share Biosecurity strategy for comment once draft is finalised.

WaREN Project: Invasive Species Toolkit

Jess Minett spoke about supporting Local Action Groups via an INNS toolkit, which includes comprehensive identification guides, information about priority species for action, best practice management guides, and project planning and biosecurity sections. It also gives tips on awareness raising and communications (frequently asked questions etc)



Will be hosted on GBNNS website and available as a pdf by Invasive Species Week.

Discussion points

- Olaf to ensure new regional co-ordinator contacts Jess once in post.
- Marine species included in ID guides, but guide focused mainly on freshwater and terrestrial
- Check Clean Dry updated logos to be used
- Launched on the NWWT and GBNNSS websites, needs to stay available once project ends. PDF will be available to be shared/downloaded

Comprehensive review of species of special concern

Requirement under EU legislation to undertake the review, retained under GB. Minister to be advised whether 66 species on list still need to be listed. Species of European concern which are not able to establish in GB may be delisted. Email circulated on 2nd Feb with details – comments requested by 14th March.

- 23 species required further consideration.
- 2050 and 2100 climate scenarios options – if 2050 used, 10 species would come off the list. Species can still be monitored if removed, and re-listed if evidence changes
- Final recommendation (post stakeholder comments) will be presented at GB Committee meeting on 13th April

Discussion points

- Timescale for looking at additions to the list? Likely to require change to legislation – process approved by GB Committee but will require a long timescale including comprehensive risk assessments etc. Suggestions can be sent to Olaf

Any Other Business

- WG Plant Health programme 'Sentinel Sites' – one park or garden in each of 22 local authorities which are monitored for pests or diseases twice yearly. Badly affected by Covid restrictions, Be Plantwise information included.
- Email banner produced for Invasive Species week as promotional tool
- Next meeting to be organised for 9 November 2022.