The GB Invasive Non-native Species Framework Strategy

Niall Moore
Head of the GB Non-native Species Secretariat
Policy Background: Review 2001 - 2003

- > 60 Stakeholders in 3 Working Groups
- 8 Key Recommendations
  - Co-ordination
  - Risk assessment
  - Codes of conduct
  - Education and awareness
  - Legislation
  - Monitoring and surveillance
  - Policies for control
  - Stakeholder engagement
GB NNS mechanism components

- Stakeholder engagement
  - Forum
  - Sounding board
- Media & Comms. working group
- Rapid Response Working group
- Non-native Risk Analysis Panel
- GB Programme Board
  - Non-native Species Secretariat
- Monitoring
  - Existing species
  - Horizon scanning
  - New detections
GB Framework Strategy

Strategy Aim

- Sets out a high-level policy framework providing a context for national, regional and local initiatives
March '06
Working group established
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed

Jan '07
Draft signed off by ministers in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed

Feb '07
Start of public consultation

Jan '07
Draft signed off by ministers in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed

Feb '07
Start of public consultation

Jan '07
Draft signed off by ministers in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh

May '07
End of public consultation
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed

Feb '07
Start of public consultation

Jan '07
Draft signed off by ministers in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh

May '07
End of public consultation

Aug '07
Summary of consultation responses
March '06
Working group established

Dec '06
Final draft completed

Feb '07
Start of public consultation

Jan '07
Draft signed off by ministers in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh

Feb '08
Government response to consultation

Aug '07
Summary of consultation responses

May '07
End of public consultation
2. Three Stage Hierarchy from CBD
   - Prevention
   - Detection, surveillance and rapid response
   - Mitigation and control

3. Cross-cutting issues
   - Public awareness
   - Legislation
   - Research
   - Information exchange
   - Implementation
Chapter Structure

- Introduction/Preamble
- Objective
- **Key Actions** (n=49)
  - Some divided into tasks (n=68)
Public consultation on draft

- Too much emphasis on prevention
  - Don’t divert resources from existing problems
- No mention of resources
- Need Delivery Timetable
- Clear roles and responsibilities
- Don’t spend all time on plans – need action
- Strategic Stakeholder involvement
- Need Central Information point
- Marine issues are special
Strategy Implementation Plan

- Published in parallel with Strategy
- Details all actions and tasks
  - Prioritises them
- RAG Traffic Light system
- Lead and supporting agencies
- Timescale
- Costs
So what are we actually doing?
GB Strategy

Prevention

Monitoring and Rapid response
GB Strategy

Monitoring and Rapid response

Currently 10 species assessed (72 underway)

Media and communications strategy

International biodiversity day

NNSS website

Training

RA tool, management module, NNRAP and process functioning

Risk analysis mechanism

First EU country to develop a specific RA process

ISAPs

PAPs

Template developed

Template being developed

Field guide

ID information

ID sheets

Raising awareness

Prevention

GB Strategy

Control

Risk analysis mechanism

International biodiversity day

NNSS website

Training

RA tool, management module, NNRAP and process functioning

First EU country to develop a specific RA process

ISAPs

PAPs

Template developed

Template being developed

Field guide

ID information

ID sheets
GB Strategy

Develop means for collecting and collating information

Monitoring and Rapid response

Raising awareness

Risk analysis mechanism

Prevention

Surveillance, monitoring and detection

Initial action

RA tool, management module, NNRAP and process functioning

Current 10 species assessed (72 underway)

Media and communications strategy

International biodiversity day

NNSS website

Training

ID information

ID sheets

Field guide

Ludikia

Bufffog

Xenopus

Topmouth Gudgeon

Didemnum

Oak processionary moth

Dikemnum

Fat headed minnow

RR Working group

Coordinating body protocol

Resource audit

Identify sources of funding

Control

First EU country to develop a specific RA process

Template developed

Template being developed

ID sheets

Raising awareness

 surve

protocols

Develop means for collecting and collating information

Provide early warning function

Horizon scanning

PAPs

ISAPs

Prevention

Surveillance, monitoring and detection

Monitoring and Rapid response

Initial action

Control

NNSS

GB non-native species secretariat
Prevention

- Risk Assessment
  - Generic methodology developed
  - Mechanism to review
Monitoring and Surveillance

- NN Portal Established in March 2009
  - Launched on May 22
- Aim - comprehensive NNS monitoring for GB
  - Established NNS
  - New discoveries
- Needs rapid detection and reporting
Rapid Response working group

- Designating lead agencies
- Resource sharing among agencies
  - Staff/expertise
  - Equipment
- Identifying Gaps
  - In capacity
  - Legislation
Rapid Response: Water Primrose *Ludwigia*

- High risk species
  - England and Wales (8 known sites)
  - Cost - £30K
  - EA with Defra assistance
American Bullfrog

- High risk species
- Kent 1999 - 2004
  - Rapid response by NE – led to eradication
- Essex
  - New population detected 2006
  - Eradication ongoing
Rapid Response: Topmouth Gudgeon

- >30 sites in England and Wales
- Eradicated from crucial sites ongoing
- Equipment bought to bolster rapid response capability
Risk assessment
Invasive Species Action Plans

- Secretariat has started to develop ISAPs
  - Short – 2-3 pages
  - Action focussed

- Provide framework into which local action can fit
Control and Eradication

- Large-scale eradication – Govt led
  - Ruddy duck - £3.4 million
  - Western Isles mink
Public and Stakeholder Awareness

- Media and Comms Working group
  - Plan being finalised

- Public awareness survey in England

- May 22 – International Day for Biodiversity
  - Day of action
Public Awareness Survey (England)

- Baseline data on public attitudes
- Several key stakeholder groups targeted
  - Anglers
  - Horticulture trade
  - Gardeners
Perceived Threat from INNS

Public, n=600

Most perceive the threat of INNS to be smaller or no bigger than other threats.

- **Human exploitation**: 22% INNS is a bigger threat, 35% INNS is about the same level of threat, 43% INNS is a small threat.
- **Pollution**: 25% INNS is a bigger threat, 28% INNS is about the same level of threat, 47% INNS is a small threat.
- **Climate change**: 23% INNS is a bigger threat, 32% INNS is about the same level of threat, 45% INNS is a small threat.
- **Habitat destruction**: 18% INNS is a bigger threat, 37% INNS is about the same level of threat, 45% INNS is a small threat.
Support for Controlling INNS
(Base: General Public, n=600)

- INNS should be killed when they pose a threat to human health
  - Majority support
  - 88 strongly agree
  - 30 agree somewhat
  - 30 strongly disagree
  - 13 disagree somewhat

- INNS should be killed when they threaten native British species
  - Majority give qualified support
  - 74 strongly agree
  - 36 agree somewhat
  - 34 strongly disagree
  - 9 disagree somewhat

- INNS should be killed when they do significant economic damage
  - 72 strongly agree
  - 38 agree somewhat
  - 34 strongly disagree
  - 9 disagree somewhat

Legend:
- Strongly agree
- Agree somewhat
- Strongly disagree
- Disagree somewhat
Sourcing Plants  
(base: ‘Gardeners’; n=416)

- Garden Centre: 78%
- DIY Store (eg B&Q, Homebase etc): 48%
- Market/market stall/farmer’s market: 25%
- Retail nursery: 22%
- Supermarket: 21%
- Been given them by friends/relatives: 32%
- Mail order/catalogue: 6%
- Aquatic shop/centre: 5%
- From wild plants from my local area (eg taking cuttings, uprooting): 5%
- From a website: 3%
- Brought plants/cuttings etc home when I’ve been on holiday abroad: 3%
- Other: 4%
Sources of Information about Plants

‘Gardeners’; n=416

- Gardening magazines: 13%
- Internet: 9%
- Newspapers: 8%
- Gardening organisations such as RHS, Kew Gardens etc: 3%
- By some other source of information/advice: 1%
- Information on seed packets: 15%
- Gardening programmes on TV/radio: 20%
- Staff in Garden Centres, nurseries etc: 33%
- Gardening books: 16%
- Friends/relatives: 44%
- Labels on plants: 47%

I don’t use any information or advice when buying plants: 16%
Perceived Threat from INNS

They pose a threat to native fish

They pose a threat to native plants

They can carry and spread disease

They pose a threat to the future of angling

Some invasive non-native aquatic plants can make it difficult for anglers to fish

Some invasive non-native plants can make it difficult for anglers to get to the bank side

Overall high levels of perceived threat

Perceived to be very serious threats

Somewhat lower perceived threat

Perceived to be very serious threats

Very serious  Fairly serious  Not at all serious  Not very serious
Influencing the Public

- Surprised at large cost of impact
  - Wondered why they had not been informed

- Most did not know it is illegal to release

- Broad levels of support for controlling INNS
  - Need justification (but not precautionary)

- Willingness to get involved but in what role?
  - Volunteering?
What can the public do?

- Willingness to get involved - what role
  - Help in control
    - Rhodo bashing
    - Balsam pulling
    - Muckin4Life (Defra)
  - Help monitor certain species
NNSS Website www.nonnativespecies.org

- Hub for information on INNS

- Re-vamp in progress
  - Photo Library
  - Addition of Portal
Species Information

Species Fact Sheet

- Photo database
- Text about the species:
  - Distribution
  - ID
  - Management
  - Pathways
- Distribution map
- Link to risk assessment
- NBN
- DAISIE & NORANIS
- Risk Assessment
- Research management database

NNSS (GB non-native species secretariat)
ID Guides

- 21 Species completed
  - 14 Plants
  - 6 Vertebrates
  - 1 Invertebrate
- Another 47 just commissioned
- Available on Secretariat website
Photographic Library

NNSS Gallery: Found 28 image(s)

To download an image please click on the thumbnail. Please click here for guidance on using the NNS web gallery.

Species | Impacts / Management
--- | ---

Species Name: [Image of plant]
Habitat: [Image of plant]
Organism Type: [Image of plant]

Species A-Z
Scientific: Common

NNSS
(C) Non-native species secretariat
Stakeholder input into Policy

- Annual Forum
  - Government, NGOs, Trade
- Sounding Board
  - 17 organisations
- Country working groups
  - Wales
  - England
  - Scotland
Legislation

- Scottish Legislative Review
- W&C Act
  - Ban on Sale of species
Research

- Risk Assessment finalisation
- Horizon Scanning
- Quantifying Economic Impact
Monk Parakeets – research towards rapid response
Main issues with Strategy Implementation

- Legislative shortcomings
  - No compulsory access for control
  - Narrow remit of inspectors (e.g. plant health)
- Limited Resources
- Inter-agency working
- Linking local action with GB priorities
- Links to:
  - EU Strategy
  - WFD
  - BAP Process
Rapid Response: Water Primrose *Ludwigia*

- High risk species
  - England and Wales (8 known sites)
  - Cost - £30K
  - EA with Defra assistance
Future problems

- Indian House Crow
  - Predates native wildlife – birds eggs, chicks, small mammals etc.
  - Human nuisance
- Small population in the Netherlands
Action on the ground – Water Primrose

- High risk species (8 known sites, but probably more)
- 30k for initial eradication
Action on the ground – Japanese Knotweed

- Biocontrol agent
- Could be used as early as next year

*Mycosphaerella polygoni-cuspidati*

*Aphalara itadori*
GB Framework Strategy: Implementation