

# Non-Native News

The quarterly newsletter of invasive non-native species issues

## National Biosecurity campaign launching in March 2011

The public will soon be asked to 'check-clean-dry' when they are near watercourses. The campaign will provide basic biosecurity advice, targeted at those involved in angling and boating activities.

The campaign is supported by a range of organisations, including the Angling Trust and the Royal Yachting Association.

The campaign has been instigated in response to the arrival of the invasive shrimp, *Dikerogammarus villosus*. However, the message is deliberately broader than a campaign purely to stop the spread of the shrimp and should reduce the risk of a wide range of invasive animals, plants and diseases from being spread by human activities.

We will be reviewing our activities and training or advising the appropriate staff. Staff will be able to access guidance at [O:\Invasive Species National Resources\Biosecurity](#). More generic advice on biosecurity measures, such as advice for anglers or boat users, is available at [GB non-native species secretariat](#)

## KPI 722 toolkit database

Many of you will be familiar with the spreadsheet that was produced to provide operations with a choice of management options for our priority invasive species. This information will soon be available in a database format.

Steve Peters has skilfully utilised the data from the Excel toolkit to populate an Access database that should be much more user-friendly. The database is currently being piloted. If you would like to review and comment on this resource, please contact Trevor Renals.

## Local Action Groups share best practice at workshop.



Representatives from a variety of Local Action Groups (LAGs) met at Preston Montford in January.

This is the second workshop for LAGs, and is likely to become an annual event. Proceedings from the event are available at [GB non-native species secretariat - Local Action Groups Workshop 2011](#). The first workshop was financed by funds we secured to deliver WFD objectives. Encouraging the creation of local action groups is a good way of delivering some aspects of River Basin Plans, engaging partners and delivering 'big society'.

If you intend to facilitate a LAG in your Area or Region and would like to attend future workshops, contact [nnss@fera.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nnss@fera.gsi.gov.uk). A variety of resources for LAGs are available on [GB non-native species secretariat - Local Action Groups - Home](#), including leaflets, posters, risk assessments and guidance.

## Invasive species surgeries; coming to an office near you?

Area staff in NW Region and Wales have attended invasive species surgeries, and another is planned for South East Region in London on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Staff have had the opportunity to discuss biosecurity, the progress of the biocontrol projects, WFD and delivering KPI 722. A summary of FAQ's from these events will be available at <O:\Invasive Species National Resources\Frequently Asked Questions>

If you would like to organise a surgery for your Region, please contact Trevor Renals to arrange a suitable date and venue. If you wish to attend the London surgery, contact Joanna Heisse who is coordinating the event.

## Bids invited for Ludwigia eradication

We anticipate that funding may be made available to eradicate water primrose *Ludwigia grandiflora*.

If you have a Ludwigia site, inform Trevor Renals of your anticipated management plan and costs. Also, please report any suspected new sites to Trevor.

## Have you seen a bloody red mysid?



The bloody red mysid, *Hemimysis anomala* is another Ponto-Caspian species that has arrived in the UK.

Thankfully, it is not considered as damaging as 'killer shrimp', but site owners should still exercise good biosecurity measures if the mysid is present.

Phil Harding and Lesley Rippon, Midlands Region, co-wrote an excellent paper, which is

available at <O:\Invasive Species National Resources\Priority species management\Bloody red mysid - Hemimysis anomala>. There is also a recording sheet in this folder to record the presence of the bloody red mysid, if you find it in your Area. Please also record any impacts this species has on the ecology of waterbodies.

## Winner of Invasive species management 'Region of the Year award' for 2010.

It's been hard to choose from amongst the many excellent projects from across the Regions. For 2010, both Wales and Anglian Region have been awarded the coveted title.

This is in recognition of their excellent responses to the arrival of *Dikogammarus villosus*. Staff have clearly demonstrated the 'yes, if' attitude. Area labs have performed trials that have directly contributed to GB biosecurity measures. Managers have shown good leadership assuming responsibility for coordinating the response despite a lack of supporting legislation, duties and resources.

## Who is your ISAG rep?

For details of the Invasive Species Action Group, visit <O:\Invasive Species National Resources\ISAG - Invasive Species Action Group>

## Forthcoming events

**7 June**, Fishmongers Hall, London.  
Third Sector GB Invasive Non Native Species & Biosecurity Planning Conference led by RAFTS and ART <Association of Rivers Trust - Calendar>

**16 June**, Harper Adams University College, Shropshire. British Ecological Society - Emerging issues in invasive species science and management <BES invasive species>

If you need help with a technical query concerning invasive species, or any other ecology or conservation issue, email [ConsEcoHelp.consecohelp@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:ConsEcoHelp.consecohelp@environment-agency.gov.uk).

### For more information contact:

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