



A holistic approach to Invasive Alien Species management in freshwater aquatic, riparian and coastal ecosystems



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If you would like to be added to the RAPID LIFE distribution list, to receive a bi-annual eNewsletter and other relevant project outputs such as the Project's Technical Report, please provide contact details.



Please circulate this to any relevant technical stakeholders to whom you think it may be of interest.



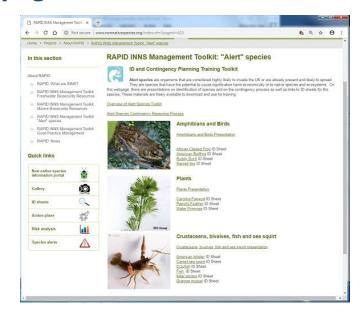
Regarding any queries or feedback please email: alexia.fish@apha.qov.uk

RAPID LIFE Newsletters are produced twice a year. If you have any items that you would like to include in the next issue, please contact alexia.fish@apha.gov.uk





RAPID Webpages and RIMPs



As some of you may have seen already, RAPID has a website full of useful resources relevant to work with freshwater and marine invasive species (www.nonnativespecies.org/rapid). All the resources are freely available for anyone to download and use.

The Regional IAS Management Plans (RIMPs) that have been developed through RAPID are now available to download on our website. The RIMPs are documents that are intended to bridge the gap between high-level strategies such as the <u>GB NNSS Strategy</u> and the work done by Local Action Groups at regional and local levels. Experts in each region have produced Regional IAS Management Plans (RIMPs) for each of five RAPID regions in England: East, Midlands, North, South East and South West. The RIMPs are intended to deliver consistent but regionally tailored recommendations on prevention, early warning, rapid response, eradication and control of IAS throughout England.

If you have any minor amendments/additions that you would like to suggest for any of the RIMPs, please the RAPID LIFE team at APHA know (email: alexia.fish@apha.gov.uk). We will collate these suggestions and make any required updated in January 2020. Into the future, we plan for the RIMPs to be comprehensively reviewed and updated regularly in order to make sure that they are fit for purpose.

The website will be developed over the course of the RAPID LIFE project and will be maintained after the project finishes, so please do suggest useful content or other ideas to help us make the resources as useful as possible. You can find the RAPID website at www.nonnativespecies.org/rapid

Please send feedback or suggestions to alexia.fish@apha.gov.uk



INNS Mapper: Bulk Upload Available



As some of you may already know, INNS Mapper is a web-based platform for submitting records as well as reporting surveys and treatment of invasive species across all five RAPID regions in England. INNS Mapper was initially developed for the Yorkshire Invasive Species Forum, managed by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Funding from the RAPID LIFE project has enabled the system to be expanded to include all of England, based on the RAPID regions.

Though we want people to start submitting as much data to INNS Mapper as possible, we know that a lot of LAGs and other stakeholders have a lot of existing data on file already and we'd like you to upload it, so that we can make INNS Mapper as up to date and useful as possible. With this in mind, a bulk data uploading tool is now available for a limited time (deadline to be confirmed). The tool can be found here: link http://ywt-data.org/inns-mapper/import. This can also be found when logged into INNS Mapper using the 'Survey' tab and 'Import infection points'

Users can download a template file from the bottom of this page which has the correct format for data to be uploaded.

For information and support for data uploading, please contact john.cave@ywt.org.uk

INNS Mapper can be found at http://ywt-data.org/inns-mapper Please take a look!



INNS Mapper: We Need Regional Champions!

Regional champions (RC) are an integral link between on the ground action within their region and the broader strategic work both regionally and nationally. RCs will have opportunity to share regional updates, manage black alert species and help shape regional activity by publishing or sharing local actions plans with INNS Mapper users. To do this RCs will receive additional user rights to the website in order to initiate changes. The main functions of the role are described in more detail below.

The role includes:

Post regional messages

Regional news are displayed on the home page. All users within your region will be able to view regional news posts, providing a great opportunity to share news and activity updates among a large range of users. RCs will be the only ones able to post news and updates for their region. This is a great way to spread messages about local or regional activity/news.

<u>Upload/update local management plans</u>

A section of the INNS Mapper website is dedicated to 'Action Plan Documents'. The RIMPS will be displayed in this location but it's also an area where local action plans are encouraged to be shared for the benefit of stakeholders. RCs will be able to control which local action plans are shared in this area. All regional stakeholders and users will be able to refer to these documents to support both regional and local action.

Manage sightings of black alert & national alert species

RCs will act as an important link for reporting regional and national alerts. RCs are responsible for reporting any records of national alert species within their region to GBNNSS, in doing so,

initiating the relevant and planned response. In addition, RCs will manage Black Alert species which are identified within the RIMPS. RCs are responsible for checking that Black Alert species are still relevant and where appropriate, contacting GBNNSS to request these be updated according to regional demands/circumstances.

For more information or if you're interested in volunteering to be a Regional Champion please contact john.cave@ywt.org.uk or alexia.fish@apha.gov.uk or otherwise get in touch with us at the upcoming LAGs workshop in February.



Water Primrose (*Ludwigia grandiflora*) – a national alert species. Photo credit: GB NNSS



Opportunity to Bid for Workshops

"Rapid LIFE Action C2.1 - Hold workshops in each region to increase awareness of 'alert' species and how to report them."

This contract will for the delivery of workshops with relevant stakeholders to increase their awareness of GB 'alert' species and how to report them, ideally with some regionally tailored information as well.

The materials for running the workshops have already been created through other RAPID LIFE actions and will be provided by APHA. Two workshops will be held in each region, with a minimum of 40 attendees at each one. These workshops could be run alongside other events in the region that would attract RAPID LIFE's target audiences (ie. biodiversity conferences, angling competitions, 'bioblitzes' etc.) to boost attendance. The aim of the workshops is simply boosting awareness amongst a broad range of stakeholder groups of national and regional 'alert' species, and what to do when species on these lists are encountered.

The work is expected to be carried out in summer 2019 and the contract will be advertised and circulated soon. If you have any questions about this contract, please get in touch with the RAPID LIFE team (alexia.fish@apha.gov.uk).



Killer shrimps (*Dikerogammarus villosus* and *Dikerogammarus haemobaphes*) both found in Britain and are national alert species. Photo credit: GB NNSS and The Environment Agency.