

# Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership

Funded by water companies

END OF YEAR REPORT

YEAR TWO: 2021/22



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# Summary

Invasive non-native species are one of the world's biggest environmental threats and cost the GB economy nearly £2 billion annually. The cost to water companies is a minimum of £7.5 million per annum, expected to rise as increasing numbers of aquatic species arrive in GB.

Recreational water users and gardeners / pond owners are key pathways of introduction and spread of invasive aquatic species. Two awareness raising campaigns were launched by Government and key stakeholders to provide simple biosecurity guidance for these groups:

- *Be Plant Wise* in 2010
- *Check, Clean, Dry* in 2011

In 2017, a partnership was formed between government, water companies and environmental NGOs working together to improve aquatic biosecurity and mitigate the significant threat to water companies posed by invasive non-native species (INNS). Eight water companies generously contributed approximately £405k in total to a three year work programme, led by the GB Non-native Species Secretariat, which helped to significantly improve aquatic biosecurity in GB (view the [End of Project report](#)).

In order to maintain the substantial momentum built by the project, the steering group agreed to extend this project for five years (2020-2025). Nine water companies, including two new to the partnership, are contributing approximately £590k in total to the project, which aims to build on the work delivered from 2017-2020.

The previous work programme consisted of six key areas. Five of these continue in the new work programme:

1. **Border campaign:** run an annual six-month *Check, Clean, Dry* campaign at the border between March and September.
2. **Communications products:** continue to improve communications work (for *Check, Clean, Dry* and *Be Plant Wise*). Refine our communications products, continuing to develop bespoke materials for key audiences (for example, young water users), and deploy products at optimal locations to influence behaviours.
3. **Practical biosecurity:** provide demonstrations at major sporting events and possibly procure mobile cleaning stations.
4. **Training:** continue to deliver biosecurity training (e.g. for water asset managers, event organisers, and clubs) and develop a network of trainers, talks and articles in specialist magazines. Develop further training materials as required.
5. **European work:** expand the work with Belgian, French and Dutch partners to improve aquatic biosecurity in mainland Europe, targeting key events and the most significant European ports.

Some planned activities in the first two years of the project have been impacted by COVID-19 and related restrictions. Despite this, in year one the group still made good progress in the first four areas and added further activities to the work programme ([view the end of year report for 2020/21](#)).

In the second year the group has built on these achievements and made progress in the remaining work area:

- Running a six-month border biosecurity campaign at ports across England from March – September 2021.
- Running *Be Plant Wise* campaigns in Spring / Summer and Autumn 2021.
- Launching the updated NNSS website including redeveloped *Be Plant Wise* and *Check Clean Dry* pages.
- Continuing to develop and disseminate *Check, Clean, Dry*, and *Be Plant Wise* materials
- Purchasing four high performance pressure washers to support biosecurity at competitions.
- Working with partners in Europe through an EU Commission funded project to develop materials for awareness raising across the EU, for recreational anglers and owners of ornamental aquatic species.

This report provides an overview of the progress of the NNSS and other members of the group in delivering year two of the work programme (2021/22).

## **Membership of the steering group**

*Note: see Annex A for details of contributions from individual organisations*

### **Government**

GB Non-native Species Secretariat (NNSS)

Defra

Environment Agency

### **Contributing water companies**

Affinity Water (new member)

Anglian Water

Northumbrian Water

Severn Trent Water

Southern Water

South East Water

South West Water

Wessex Water (new member)

Yorkshire Water

### ***Check, Clean, Dry* partners**

Angling Trust

British Canoeing

Royal Yachting Association

## Work programme – summary of progress

The work programme consists of five work packages. In the first year of the project COVID-19 impacted on delivery of the work programme but two objectives were achieved and progress has been made in others. At the end of year one the group identified priorities for each area to be completed in year two.

In the second year of the project one objective has been achieved in full and, despite the impacts of COVID-19, significant progress has been made in all others:

Work package	Progress in year one	Objectives in year two	Progress in year two
<p><b>1. Border campaign:</b> run an annual six-month <i>Check, Clean, Dry</i> campaign at the border between March and September.</p>	<p>Ran reduced border campaign during period when restrictions were lifted.</p>	<p>Run a six-month <i>Check, Clean, Dry</i> campaign at the border between March and September 2021.</p>	<p><b>Objective achieved but some impact of COVID-19:</b></p> <p>Ran six-month campaign from March – September. Due to uncertainty around travel restrictions the messaging was amended to cover travel to new waterbodies at home and abroad.</p>
<p><b>2. Communications products:</b> continue to improve communications work (for <i>Check, Clean, Dry</i> and <i>Be Plant Wise</i>). Refine our communications products, continuing to develop bespoke materials for key audiences (for</p>	<p><i>Be Plant Wise</i> was relaunched in September 2020. Further materials were developed for <i>Check, Clean, Dry</i> and disseminated by partners. Other activities were added to the work programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop further BPW materials with partners as required, and deploy these in garden centres and aquatic retailers.</li> <li>• Publish the updated “alternatives booklets” commissioned in year one.</li> <li>• Run an annual awareness raising campaign for BPW at</li> </ul>	<p><b>Most objectives achieved but some actions are ongoing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Few garden centres have taken up BPW materials so the NNSS will work with Hort PAP working group to deploy these.</li> <li>• The first of three ‘alternatives booklets’ has been published.</li> <li>• Awareness-raising campaigns for BPW were carried out in Spring and Autumn 2021.</li> <li>• Further CCD materials have been developed and disseminated with the help of partners, including biosecurity videos by CCD partners.</li> </ul>

<p>example, young water users), and deploy products at optimal locations to influence behaviours.</p>		<p>key times in the gardening calendar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop further CCD materials with partners including materials for young water users, and biosecurity videos for paddlers and canal users.</li> <li>• Launch the updated NNSS website with mobile friendly biosecurity information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The updated mobile friendly NNSS website was launched in April 2022 including new CCD and BPW pages.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Practical biosecurity:</b> provide demonstrations at key sporting events and possibly procure mobile cleaning stations.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing due to the impact of COVID-19</b></p> <p>No suitable events took place due to COVID-19 but the NNSS have worked with the Angling and Trust and British Canoeing to commission the procurement of mobile cleaning stations.</p>	<p>Compile a list of large angling, boating, and paddling events in 2021 and prioritise ten high risk events. Commission LAGs to run wash down stations.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing due to the impact of COVID-19 but other activities carried out which meet main work package objectives.</b></p> <p>No suitable events were held due to COVID-19 but the NNSS worked with the Angling Trust and British Canoeing to disseminate mobile cleaning stations and has commissioned a review of biosecurity facilities and equipment in GB and abroad, to develop good practice guidance and national register of facilities.</p>
<p><b>4. Training:</b> continue to deliver biosecurity training (e.g. for water asset managers, event organisers, and clubs) and develop a network</p>	<p><b>Ongoing due to impact of COVID-19</b></p> <p>The guidance for paddlers has been completed and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish the event biosecurity guidance for anglers commissioned in year one. Use this to develop event biosecurity training</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>Event biosecurity guidance for anglers has been published and guidance for boaters is not required as the RYA / The Green Blue have a Boating Sustainable Event Toolkit.</p>

<p>of trainers, talks and articles in specialist magazines. Develop further training materials as required.</p>	<p>biosecurity training for paddling clubs has been developed.</p> <p>The development of guidance for anglers was delayed but is now in development.</p>	<p>materials for event managers and arrange training workshops for event managers in summer 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission development of event biosecurity guidance for boaters (once events are permitted, to allow testing of protocol).</li> <li>• Develop a network of trainers who can deliver training for water asset managers and clubs.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. European work:</b> expand the work with Belgian, French and Dutch partners to improve aquatic biosecurity in mainland Europe, targeting key events and the most significant European ports.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing due to impact of COVID-19</b></p> <p>Due to ongoing travel restrictions relating to COVID-19 this work has been delayed.</p> <p>The NNSS is involved in an EU Commission funded project to develop awareness raising materials for key pathways (anglers, the trade in ornamental aquatic species, and exotic pet trade) for use across the EU.</p>	<p>Work with European partners to identify key European ports and events to target for biosecurity awareness-raising in summer 2021.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing due to impact of COVID-19 but other activities carried out which meet main work package objectives.</b></p> <p>Due to travel restrictions relating to COVID-19 this work has been delayed.</p> <p>The NNSS is currently involved in an EU Commission funded project to develop awareness raising materials for key pathways including recreational water users (anglers), the trade in ornamental aquatic species (plants and animals), and the exotic pet trade, for use across the EU. These materials will be launched in September 2022.</p>

# Work programme – progress in each work package

## 1. Border campaign

**Aim:** run an annual six-month *Check, Clean, Dry* campaign at the border between March and September.

**Priority in year two:** Run a six-month *Check, Clean, Dry* campaign at the border between March and September 2021.

**Priority achieved:** yes, but some impact of COVID-19.

### Background

In recent years the rate of new introductions of invasive freshwater species to GB has increased dramatically following the creation of a canal linking the Danube and Rhine in 1992, which facilitated the spread of species from the Ponto-Caspian basin through Western Europe. The most likely introduction pathway of these species is via recreational water use, i.e. anglers and boaters on contaminated clothing and equipment. In GB there are around 3.2 million boaters and 4 million anglers (RYA, 2015 & EA, 2004). A 2015 survey found that around 44% of anglers travel abroad to fish: 33% of those visit France, the most popular destination, and overall 50% visit France, Belgium or the Netherlands.

In order to reduce the risk of further introductions of INNS to GB, the NNSS and Defra led a pilot summer border campaign in 2016, based on *Check, Clean, Dry*. The campaign targeted anglers travelling abroad with their own equipment to areas of Europe with invasive aquatic species not yet present in GB. A2 sized awareness-raising posters were displayed in Border Force holdings at nine ports in the UK and France for four weeks in August 2016. From 2017-2020 the *Check, Clean, Dry* Biosecurity Partnership funded an expanded annual border biosecurity campaign from March-September, with large (six-sheet) posters in highly visible locations in ports, advertising in relevant publications, and a campaign on social media. Due to COVID-19 and restrictions on travel a reduced campaign was carried out in 2020.

### Report on progress

As a result of uncertainty around travel restrictions in Spring / Summer 2021 the NNSS worked with partners to adapt the messaging to include travel to all new waterbodies at home and abroad. Between March and September 2021 the following activities took place:

- Seven large (1200 x 1800 mm) posters were installed in March at two GB ferry ports with links to France and Holland (Dover and Newcastle). These were displayed for six months.

- An advert was placed in the 2021 issue of the Brittany Ferries onboard magazine.
- A series of adverts were placed in specialist angling magazines (Angling Times, Improve your Coarse Fishing, and Trout & Salmon).
- Adverts were displayed on the websites of these publications.
- Targeted Facebook adverts were displayed to their followers and other anglers.
- A bespoke email was sent to the Angling Times mailing list.
- An advert was displayed in British Canoeing's magazine.
- *Check Clean Dry* was promoted throughout Invasive Species Week 2021.
- The NNSS wrote to partners asking them to help share the campaign with their audience and ran a social media campaign.

The NNSS has commissioned further activities at the border for Summer 2022.

## 2. Communications products

**Aim:** continue to improve communications work (for *Check, Clean, Dry* and *Be Plant Wise*). Refine our communications products, continuing to develop bespoke materials for key audiences (for example, young water users), and deploy products at optimal locations to influence behaviours.

### Priority in year two:

- Develop further BPW materials with partners as required and deploy these in garden centres and aquatic retailers.
- Publish the updated “alternatives booklets” commissioned in year one.
- Run an annual awareness raising campaign for BPW at key times in the gardening calendar.
- Develop further CCD materials with partners including materials for young water users, and biosecurity videos for paddlers and canal users.
- Launch the updated NNSS website with mobile friendly biosecurity information.

**Priority achieved:** Most objectives have been achieved but some are ongoing.

### Background

The NNSS and partners lead two national awareness raising campaigns targeting two key introduction pathways:

- [\*Be Plant Wise\*](#) – launched in 2010 with the aim of preventing the spread of invasive ornamental plants by gardeners and pond owners.
- [\*Check, Clean, Dry\*](#) – launched in 2011 with the aim of preventing the spread of invasive aquatic species by recreational water users.

Awareness raising materials were provided to clubs, water users, plant retailers and gardeners with guidance on biosecurity.

In recent years campaign partners had called for the existing materials and messaging, and the NNSS website, to be redeveloped to make them more effective. Working with partners and using funding from the Partnership:

- *Check, Clean, Dry* was updated and relaunched in 2017 with bespoke materials for different recreational groups. These were tested in focus groups.
- *Be Plant Wise* was updated and relaunched in 2020, and expanded to include terrestrial plants.

### Report on progress

*Check, Clean, Dry*

- 140 A3 signs have been printed and sent to partners for installation at key sites (849 in total through this project and the previous *Check, Clean, Dry* Biosecurity Partnership).

Further *Check, Clean, Dry* materials have been developed and disseminated with partners:

- A2 signs for [angling](#) and [paddling](#) washdown stations.
- A waterproof [pocket ID guide to invasive freshwater and riparian species](#).
- Animated biosecurity videos for [anglers](#) and [paddlers](#), developed by British Canoeing and the Angling Trust.
- Biosecurity videos for [canal users](#), developed by the Canal & River Trust.
- Waterproof branded phone pouches.

View all [Check Clean Dry materials](#).

### *Be Plant Wise*

The NNSS led an awareness raising campaign in Summer and Autumn 2021 to promote the campaign to gardeners, including:

- Adverts in the May, December and January issues of Gardeners' World Magazine (the January issue was provided for free by the publisher).
- Adverts on the Gardeners World website.
- A bespoke email to their mailing list.
- A social media campaign.

View all [Be Plant Wise materials](#).

The NNSS wrote to garden centres that had previously supported BPW to offer new materials. Uptake has been low so the NNSS will work with the Horticulture PAP Working Group to deploy these to their members.

Coventry University developed updated lists of plants for gardeners, landscapers and pond owners to use in place of non-native species, based on a previous list developed by the RHS and Plantlife in 2010. The NNSS worked with a designer to produce a [Guide to gardening without harmful invasive plants](#) and will publish guides for landscapers and pond owners in Autumn 2022.

The NNSS has been involved in developing a display for Chelsea Flower Show 2022, led by Defra/APHA Plant Health. The stand is based on the 'Don't Risk It' campaign and includes examples of invasive non-native species in addition to plant health pests.

### *NNSS website*

The [updated NNSS website](#) was launched in April 2021. The new website is mobile-friendly and includes updated [BPW](#) and [CCD](#) pages which users can easily access in the field, and an updated page on the [Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership](#). The NNSS also

updated its [e-learning site](#) which hosts the water company biosecurity e-learning developed through the previous *Check Clean Dry* Partnership Project.

### 3. Practical biosecurity

**Aim:** provide demonstrations at key sporting events and possibly procure mobile cleaning stations.

**Priority in year two:** compile a list of large angling, boating, and paddling events in 2021 and prioritise ten high risk events. Commission LAGs to run wash down stations.

**Priority achieved:** no, but other activities have been completed.

#### Background

Large events carry an increased risk of spread of invasive aquatic species due to greater numbers of participants attending from other parts of GB or further afield. Participants may unintentionally introduce new invasive species to the event waters, or back to the waters they usually visit.

Across GB there are a number of Local Action Groups (LAGs) that carry out work on non-native species, including practical management, awareness raising and training. Some are also experienced in implementing biosecurity at competitions and events, and have developed biosecurity guidance for event organisers.

Members of the *Check, Clean, Dry* partnership group identified a number of priority events (large competitions) for biosecurity assistance. The NNSS commissioned Local Action Groups to run washdown stations at these events.

The *Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership* steering group recommended building on this work in the first year of the new project but due to COVID-19 no suitable events requiring biosecurity support took place.

#### Report on progress

As a result of the continued impacts of COVID-19, no suitable events requiring biosecurity support took place in the second year of this project.

The group recommended the following new activities:

- Purchasing portable pressure washers for events.
- Carrying out a review of existing biosecurity facilities (permanent and portable) in GB and abroad to produce good practice guidance and a national register.

The NNSS worked with British Canoeing and the Angling Trust to purchase two hot and two cold high-performance pressure washers to use at relevant competitions and floating pennywort management events, and commissioned APEM Ltd to carry out the biosecurity facilities review, to be published in the third year of the project.

## 4. Training

**Aim:** continue to deliver biosecurity training (e.g. for water asset managers, event organisers, and clubs) and develop a network of trainers, talks and articles in specialist magazines. Develop further training materials as required.

### Priority in year two:

- Publish the event biosecurity guidance for anglers commissioned in year one. Use this to develop event biosecurity training materials for event managers and arrange training workshops for event managers in summer 2021.
- Commission development of event biosecurity guidance for boaters (once events are permitted, to allow testing of protocol).
- Develop a network of trainers who can deliver training for water asset managers and clubs.

**Priority achieved:** in part, but some activities are ongoing.

### Background

In 2019 a subgroup of the *Check, Clean, Dry* Biosecurity partnership developed a [biosecurity e-learning module](#) for use by water company staff, based on similar modules for government field staff (developed by the Environment Agency, NNSS, SNH, NRW and Natural England) and for Anglian Water staff.

The NNSS commissioned a local action group with experience in delivering event biosecurity to develop tailored event biosecurity guidance for paddling and angling. There were delays due to COVID-19 but the [Biosecurity at Paddling Events toolkit](#) developed by North Wales Wildlife Trust, British Canoeing and the NNSS was published in the first year of the project.

A draft training presentation for paddling clubs was developed by the NNSS and British Canoeing and trialled at two online workshops led by British Canoeing.

### Report on progress

The [Biosecurity at Angling Events toolkit](#) has been published.

The group discussed developing similar guidance for boaters but this is not needed as the RYA / The Green Blue already have a [Sustainable Event Toolkit](#) which includes biosecurity guidance.

## 5. European work

**Aim:** expand the work with Belgian, French and Dutch partners to improve aquatic biosecurity in mainland Europe, targeting key events and the most significant European ports.

**Priority in year two:** Work with European partners to identify key European ports and events to target for biosecurity awareness-raising in summer 2021/2022 (depending on restrictions).

**Priority achieved:** no, due to the impact of COVID-19 but other activity is underway.

### Background

Since 2011 government has promoted the *Check, Clean, Dry* campaign across GB. *Check, Clean, Dry* has also been promoted in Northern Ireland, while a separate biosecurity campaign, *Inspect, Remove, Dispose, Clean, Notify* was adopted in the Republic of Ireland.

No aquatic biosecurity campaign is currently promoted in neighbouring countries in mainland Europe (France, Belgium and the Netherlands). A number of invasive aquatic species are present in these countries which have not yet been introduced to GB, and they are popular destinations for recreational water users travelling abroad. Key stakeholders have called for *Check, Clean, Dry* to be extended to these countries to reduce the risk of introduction of novel invasive aquatic species.

In 2018 the campaign was formally adopted across the eight British Irish Council administrations.

Following an initial meeting in 2018, in 2019 the NNSS, accompanied by the Angling Trust, met with colleagues from Belgium, the Netherlands and Ireland at a meeting hosted by the European Commission. The NNSS commissioned the translation of key *Check, Clean, Dry* guidance (for anglers, boaters, paddlers) into French, Dutch and German and shared the artwork with the group for adaptation. All countries agreed to:

- promote *Check, Clean, Dry*.
- attend an annual meeting to update on progress with their aquatic pathways.
- try to link the relevant parts of their pathway action plans.
- identify a small number of important international competitions/events – 2 - 3 events for each of angling, kayaking, sailing etc. in BE, NL, UK (and FR) to target for increased biosecurity.

Due to travel restrictions and event cancellations relating to COVID-19, this work has been delayed.

## **Report on progress**

Due to continued travel restrictions and event cancelations relating to COVID-19 this work has been further delayed.

The NNSS is involved in an EU Commission funded project to develop awareness raising materials for key pathways including recreational water users (anglers), the trade in ornamental aquatic species (plants and animals), and the exotic pet trade, for use across the EU. Other *Check, Clean, Dry* and *Be Plant Wise* partners are also involved in these projects.

A set of posters and animations are being developed through the project and will be published in September 2022. The NNSS has been asked to translate CCD and BPW materials for project partners to use in the EU, and a forum will be established after the project ends to support ongoing good practice sharing between project partners and others on biosecurity.

# Promoting the Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership Project

## Background

The Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership project has significantly strengthened aquatic biosecurity in GB. The NNSS are grateful to the water companies that have contributed funding to support this work, and partners helping to deliver the project. Over the years the group has used various methods to recognise this support and this will remain an important part of the work programme moving forward.

## **Check Clean Dry Partnership**

### *Ministerial recognition*

In October 2017 the *Check Clean Dry* Partnership project received ministerial recognition when Lord Gardiner, previous Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity, led a reception at the House of Lords to thank partners for their contributions.

In March 2020 Lord Gardiner again thanked partners in the project: *“I am grateful to the eight water companies that have supported the current Check, Clean, Dry Biosecurity Partnership project, which has played such a significant role in helping to prevent new arrivals and stop the spread of invasive species already here.”*

### *Materials*

In order to promote the work of the partnership and contributions from participating water companies, the NNSS included a strapline on materials produced through the *Check Clean Dry* Partnership project.

## **Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership**

### *Ministerial recognition*

In October 2021 Lord Benyon, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Rural Affairs, access to nature and Biosecurity) wrote to water companies contributing to the project to thank them for their support.

### *Materials*

In 2021 the group agreed that a project logo would be more effective than a strapline. The NNSS has developed a logo (see Annex B) and will add it to all *Be Plant Wise* and *Check Clean Dry* materials.

In 2022 the NNSS developed an infographic highlighting the success of the project to date, to be used by the NNSS and members of the partnership (see Annex C). Large (A2) copies of the infographic have been displayed at the 2022 INNS Stakeholder Forum, and shown to Lord Benyon on a recent visit to York. The infographic has been recommended

for inclusion as a case study in the updated GB INNS Strategy, due to be published late 2022.

### *Invasive Species Week*

During Invasive Species Week 2021 the NNSS featured the partnership [in an article](#) on the APHA Science Blog. In Invasive Species Week 2022 the NNSS highlighted the project on the freshwater themed day, sharing the infographic on social media and through the Invasive Species Week mailing list.

## Total spend in year one of the project

Approximately £87k was spent. Full details of spend below:

### Year one

Key area	Expenditure in year one	Cost (inc VAT)
	<b>Advertising at ports</b>	
<b>Border campaign</b>	Printing / installation of posters, site rent (2020 campaign)	£1,170
	Printing / installation of posters, site rent (2021 campaign)	£20,574
	Adverts and artwork updated	£576
	Angling advertising campaign (2021 campaign)	£11,262
	<b>Total (border campaign)</b>	<b>£33,582</b>
	<b>Design</b>	
<b>Communications</b>	Rebranding of Be Plant Wise and development of new materials	£2,257
	Check Clean Dry materials for tour operators and paddling event biosecurity guide	£2,760
	<b>Printing</b>	
	172 Check Clean Dry A3 signs for British Canoeing, Angling Trust, South West Lakes Trust and RYA	£5,734
	Check Clean Dry materials for Angling Trust and British Canoeing	£2,545
	Be Plant Wise materials	£3,164
	<b>Other</b>	
	BPW adverts in Gardeners World magazine, website and mailing list	£11,999
	Updating the alternatives booklets	£10,740
	NNSS website development (a further payment is due next year)	£1,544
Postage for materials	£277	
	<b>Total (communications)</b>	<b>£41,020</b>
	<b>Event biosecurity</b>	
<b>Practical biosecurity</b>	Staff time to estimate the costs for dealing with the online trade in banned species	£2,023
	Non-refundable costs incurred for cancelled events	£720
	<b>Total (practical biosecurity)</b>	<b>£2,743</b>
	<b>Training</b>	
<b>Training</b>	Development of paddling event biosecurity guide	£4,998
	Development of angling event biosecurity guide	£4,998
	<b>Total (training)</b>	<b>£9,996</b>
<b>European work</b>	No spend	£0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£87,341</b>

## Total spend in year two of the project

Approximately £117k has been spent in year two of the project. Full details of spend below:

### Year one

Key area	Expenditure in year two	Cost (inc VAT)
<b>Border campaign</b> (note the 2021 campaign was paid for in year one).	<b>Advertising at ports (2022 campaign)</b>	
	Printing / installation of posters, site rent	£13,217
	Advert in Brittany Ferries Voyage magazine	£4,500
	<b>Other adverts (2022 campaign)</b>	
	Updates to artwork	£66
	Angling and sailing advertising campaign	£16,108
	<b>Total (border campaign)</b>	<b>£33,890</b>
<b>Communications</b>	<b>Advertising</b>	
	Two Be Plant Wise advertising campaigns	£15,599
	<b>Design</b>	
	Angling event biosecurity guide artwork	£2,640
	'Alternatives booklets' artwork	£5,813
	Check Clean Dry videos and animations from the Angling Trust, British Canoeing and Canal & River Trust	£9,319
	CCD artwork updates and new washdown signs	£498
	<b>Printing</b>	
	256 Check Clean Dry A3 signs for British Canoeing, Angling Trust, RYA and other partners	£10,080
	Other Check Clean Dry materials	£7,838
	<b>Other</b>	
NNSS website development	£8,455	
	<b>Total (communications)</b>	<b>£60,241</b>
<b>Practical biosecurity</b>	Four high performance pressure washers	£11,081
	Review of biosecurity facilities and equipment	£11,999
	<b>Total (practical biosecurity)</b>	<b>£23,080</b>
<b>Training</b>	No spend	£0
<b>European work</b>	No spend	£0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£117,211</b>

## Next steps

In year three the NNSS will continue to build on progress made in the first two years of the project:

<b>Key priority</b>	<b>Objectives in year three</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<p><b><u>Border campaign</u></b></p> <p>Run an annual six month Check, Clean, Dry campaign at the border between March and September.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run a CCD border campaign from March to September 2022, and commission a campaign to run from March to September 2023.</li> </ul>	£50k
<p><b><u>Communications products</u></b></p> <p>Continue to improve communications work (for Check, Clean, Dry and Be Plant Wise).</p> <p>Refine our communications products, continuing to develop bespoke materials for key audiences (for example, young water users), and deploy products at optimal locations to influence behaviours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote BPW and CCD campaigns to target audiences online.</li> <li>• Run annual BPW campaigns in spring and autumn.</li> <li>• Publish the two remaining “alternatives booklets” for landscapers and pond owners.</li> <li>• Develop and disseminate further BPW and CCD materials with partners as required.</li> <li>• Support the redevelopment of INNS Mapper / PlantTracker into a new tool for recording INNS management.</li> <li>• Continue to develop the NNSS website including the biosecurity pages.</li> </ul>	£40k
<p><b><u>Practical biosecurity</u></b></p> <p>Provide demonstrations at key sporting events and possibly procure mobile cleaning stations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve biosecurity at sites with priority species for containment (killer shrimp and quagga mussel).</li> <li>• Compile a list of large angling, boating, and paddling events in 2022 and commission LAGs to run wash down stations at priority events.</li> <li>• Publish good practice guidance for developing / purchasing biosecurity facilities, and a national register of biosecurity facilities.</li> </ul>	£20k
<p><b><u>Training</u></b></p> <p>Continue to deliver biosecurity training (e.g. for water asset managers, event organisers, and clubs) and develop a network of trainers, talks and articles in specialist magazines. Develop further training materials as required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the event biosecurity guidance for anglers and paddlers to develop training materials for event managers and arrange training workshops for event managers in Spring 2023.</li> <li>• Develop a network of trainers who can deliver training for water asset managers, marinas, and clubs.</li> </ul>	£10k

<p><b><u>European work</u></b></p> <p>Expand the work with Belgian, French and Dutch partners to improve aquatic biosecurity in mainland Europe, targeting key events and the most significant European ports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with European partners to identify key European ports and events to target for biosecurity awareness-raising in summer 2023.</li> <li>• Translate CCD and BPW leaflets and share these with partners for use in Europe.</li> </ul>	<p>£10k</p>
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## **Annex A: Contributions to aquatic biosecurity from the Aquatic biosecurity partnership**

### **Government**

Government will continue to invest over **£600k** per annum in tackling aquatic invasive species over the three years of the project.

Since the launch of its invasive species strategy in 2008, government has spent over **£5 million** on aquatic invasive species, including:

- Biological control and other research.
- Eradications.
- Risk assessments.
- Sales ban.
- Public awareness.

A major part of this has been the development of the *Check, Clean, Dry* public awareness campaign.

## Water companies

The following contributions have been made by water companies in each year of the project (**£672,876 in total**):

Water company	Contributions received in FY:				
	<i>Check Clean Dry Biosecurity Partnership</i>			<i>Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership</i>	
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
South West Water	£15,226	£15,226	£15,226	£15,227	£15,227
Southern Water	£18,165	£18,165	£18,165	£0	£60,000
South East Water	£7,246	£7,246	£7,246	£7,246	£7,246
Anglian Water*	£50,000	£0	£0	£10,000	£10,000
Northumbrian Water	£10,000	£5,000	£0	£10,000	£10,000
Severn Trent Water	£26,423	£26,423	£26,423	£26,000	£26,000

Yorkshire Water	£20,368	£20,368	£20,368	£0	£36,000
Wessex Water**	£0	£0	£0	£15,227	£15,227
Affinity Water**	£0	£0	£0	£2,000	£2,000
Thames Water**	£26,243	£0	£52,486	£0	£0
<b>Total</b>	<b>£173,492</b>	<b>£92,249</b>	<b>£139,735</b>	<b>£85,700</b>	<b>£181,700</b>
<i>Amount spent in FY</i>	<i>£92,464</i>	<i>£157,958</i>	<i>£104,844</i>	<i>£87,340</i>	<i>£117,211</i>
<i>Contributions carried over from the previous FY</i>	<i>£0</i>	<i>£81,028</i>	<i>£15,318</i>	<i>£50,209</i>	<i>£48,568</i>
<b>Total funding available in FY</b>	<b>£173,492</b>	<b>£173,277</b>	<b>£155,053</b>	<b>£135,909</b>	<b>£230,268</b>

\*Anglian Water made a greater contribution in year one of the project and paid directly for the development of water company e-learning so have made no contribution in FY 2018/19 or 2019/20.

\*\*Wessex and Affinity Water joined the project in FY 2020/21. Thames Water left after FY 2019/20.

Water companies are expected to contribute **£103,700** to year three of the project, giving a total of **£216,757** including **£113,057** carried over from year two.

## **Annex B: Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership logo**

For use on all resources developed through the project.

# Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership



Funded by water  
companies

# Annex C: project infographic

Available in square and portrait format for use online, and as an A2 waterproof poster.



**9** water companies involved



**6** other partners

Project delivery led by the GB Non-native Species Secretariat

Over **£1 million** invested by water companies between 2017-2025

**1** large survey of public and stakeholder awareness carried out which has underpinned all communications work carried through the project

**2** awareness raising campaigns redeveloped and relaunched



**2** biosecurity guides developed for angling and paddling event organisers

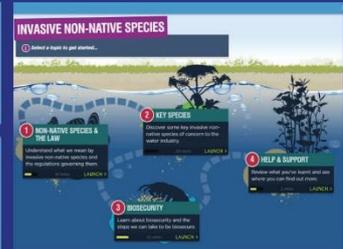
# Improving aquatic biosecurity

working together to protect the environment against the impacts of invasive non-native plants and animals

2017-2025

Aquatic Biosecurity Partnership  
Funded by water companies

**1** online training module for water company staff



**8** biosecurity stations at competitions

**4** pressure washers purchased

**6** annual Check Clean Dry border biosecurity campaigns since 2017, including:

**40** Over Check Clean Dry materials developed

**8** Be Plant Wise materials

More than **1000** Check Clean Dry signs sent out with the help of partners

**75** posters at ports

**57** adverts in magazines



**6** biosecurity videos developed



Find out more about the project at [nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry](http://nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry)