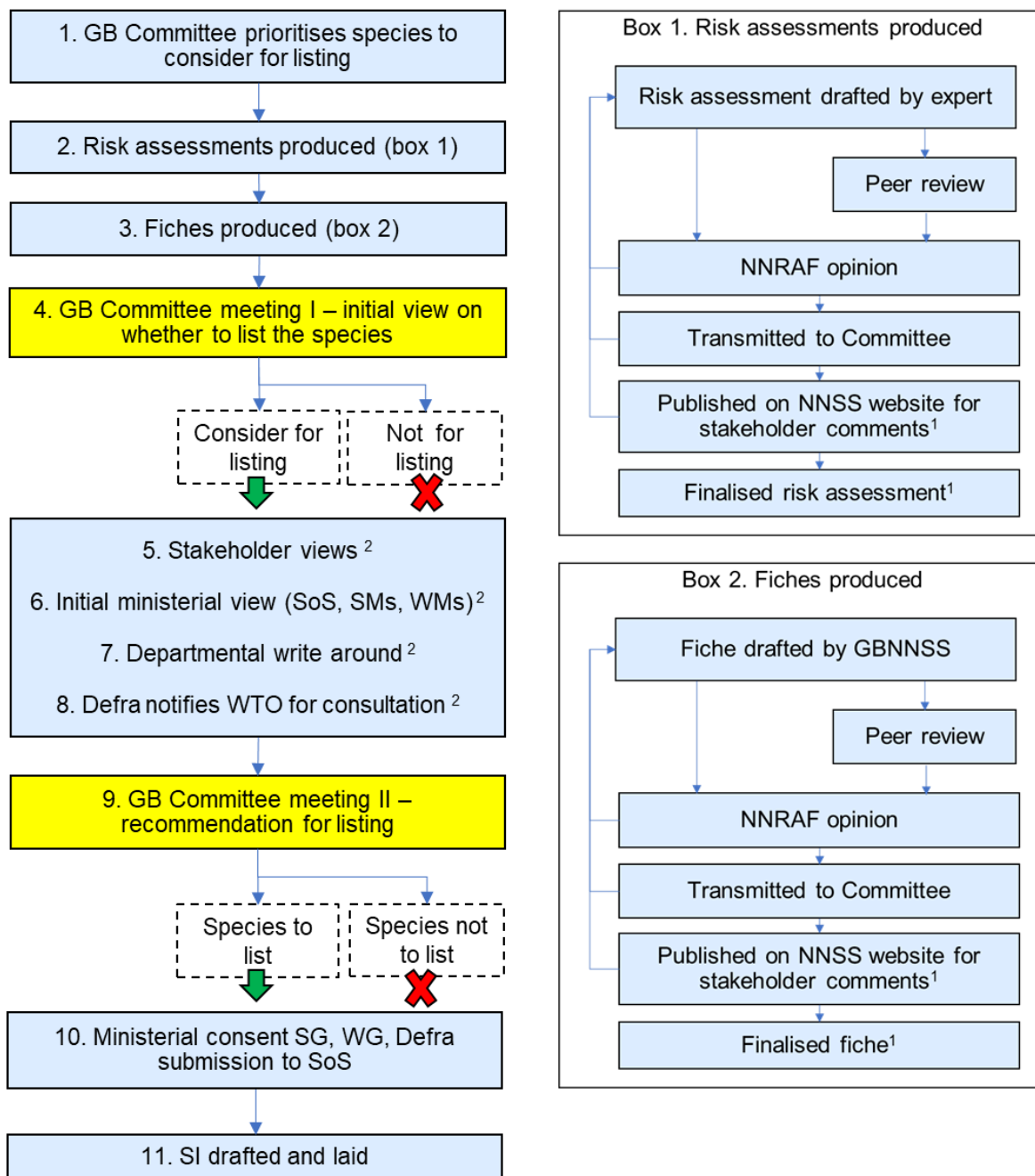


Process for listing Invasive Alien Species of Special Concern



¹ May be completed between steps 4 and 9

² May be undertaken in parallel

Names, acronyms and links:

- GB Committee / Committee = [GB Invasive Non-native Species Committee](#)
- NNSS / GBNNSS = [GB Non-native Species Secretariat](#)
- NNRAF = [GB Non-native Risk Analysis Forum](#)
- SoS = Secretary of State, WMs = Welsh Ministers, SMs = Scottish Ministers
- WTO = World Trade Organisation
- SI = Statutory Instrument

Notes on the listing process

1. GB Committee prioritises species to consider for listing

The Committee determines which species should be considered, taking into account horizon scanning, existing risk assessments, species that have been listed elsewhere and advice from agencies and stakeholders.

2. Risk assessments produced

The NNSS coordinates the production of risk assessments by experts, which are peer reviewed and reviewed by the NNRAF.

The NNRAF will express an opinion about whether the risk assessment is robust and fit-for-purpose, i.e. whether it is complete and represents sound science on which to base decision making. They may deliver a positive opinion on a risk assessment, require a minor or major revision, or deliver a negative opinion on it.

Once a risk assessment has received a positive opinion from the NNRAF it is transmitted to the GB Committee, with a risk summary sheet. With the approval of the Committee, they are then placed on the NNSS website for a 3-month period, during which stakeholders are invited to comment on the evidence presented.

Evidence presented by stakeholders that could substantially change the outcome of the risk assessment is considered by the NNRAF, with amendments made to the assessment where necessary. Where substantive changes are made, the NNRAF will provide a final opinion on the revised assessment.

3. Fiches produced

The NNSS drafts summary fiches, which include a table indicating whether listing criteria appear to be met. The fiches will include risk management information that would otherwise have been in risk management documents, including the potential socio-economic impact of listing (on trade, keepers, etc.) and effectiveness of listing.

Fiches are peer reviewed and reviewed by the NNRAF, similarly to risk assessments. Once they have received a positive opinion, they are transmitted to the GB Committee. With the approval of the Committee, they are then placed on the NNSS website for a 3-month period, during which stakeholders are invited to comment on the evidence presented. Stakeholder comments will be collated and presented to the Committee to help inform their decision making.

4. GB Committee meeting I – initial view on whether to list the species

The GB Committee reviews risk assessments and fiches, discusses pros and cons of potential listing, and indicates their initial views on which species to recommend for listing. At this stage, the Committee will determine which species they are minded to recommend for listing as species of special concern. This initial list will be

used for subsequent consultation stages. As with step 9, below, it is for the three administrations on the Committee (i.e. Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Government) to agree the initial view on species to recommend for listing, with agencies, arms-length bodies, etc. taking an advisory role.

Note that the GB Committee can form this initial view with draft fiches and risk assessments that have received a positive opinion from the NNRAF, they do not need to wait for the stakeholder comment period to be complete. Stakeholder comments on the risk assessment and fiches will be reviewed and taken into account by the Committee before the Committee making its final recommendation (step 9).

5. Stakeholder views

[Stages 5, 6, 7 and 8 can be carried out in any order or in parallel, as best suits the administrations]

Officials will gather the views of stakeholders on the species the Committee is minded to recommend adding to the list of species of special concern. Each administration will be responsible for gathering the views of respective stakeholders and bringing these to the attention of the Committee as necessary. The individual country working groups may be a useful vehicle through which to do this.

6. Initial ministerial view (Secretary of State, Scottish Ministers, Welsh Ministers)

Officials will consult Ministers on the species the Committee is minded to recommend adding to the list of species of special concern. The aim is to ascertain whether ministers are content with the proposed species to recommend and, if not, to provide an opportunity for further discussion.

7. Departmental write around

Officials will consult other government departments as necessary on the species the Committee is minded to recommend adding to the list of species of special concern. The aim is to check that departments are content with the proposed species to recommend and, if not, to provide an opportunity for further discussion. Each administration will be responsible for gathering the views of respective departments and bringing these to the attention of the Committee as necessary.

8. Defra notifies WTO for consultation

Defra will notify the WTO of species that are likely to be listed. Defra will inform the Committee of any concerns raised by the WTO.

9. GB Committee meeting II – recommendation for listing

Once the stages above are complete the Committee will meet to make its final recommendation, taking into account the evidence and views of stakeholders. The final decision on which species to recommend for listing requires the unanimous agreement of the three administrations represented on the Committee (i.e. Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Government). Members of the Committee that represent agencies, arms-length-bodies, etc. will have an advisory role in relation to listing. Once the Committee's recommendation has been made, all three Ministers will have to agree in order for a species to be listed.

10. Ministerial consent SG, WG, Defra submission to SoS

Acting on the recommendation of the Committee, Defra will seek ministerial consent from SG and WG. If received, they will prepare a final submission for approval of the SoS.

11. SI drafted and laid

Once the SoS has determined which species to list, with the consent of SG and WG ministers, officials in each administration will work to draft and lay the relevant SIs. These stages are not detailed in this process.