

## The problems invasive non native species can cause for local authorities

Invasive non native species (INNS) cause problems wherever they arise, however for local authorities who own and manage large areas of land this can be an additional burden.

While the cost of INNS to the UK economy is large, with some species the costs can be disproportionately large for local authorities because of the nature of infestations on land they own



INNS cause a wide range of problems, for local authorities these are typically:

**Environmental impacts** including increased erosion and flood risk or reduction of biodiversity in an area

**Health and social impacts** including prevention of access to recreation areas, potential legal costs of spread of INNS to neighbouring land or from

human injury arising from contact with an INNS, loss of tourism and recreational opportunities

**Economic impacts** including delays to development and increased remediation costs in preparation for development, increased requirement for land surveys, management and treatment costs of land. Loss of income, from prevention of recreational activities or access to spaces to carry out those activities

**Biosecurity:** you can help stop the spread of invasive non native species, through the following actions:

**CHECK** your equipment, clothing and footwear

**CLEAN** everything thoroughly, use hot water if possible

**DRY** everything, as some species can survive for up to two weeks in damp conditions



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