

Biosecurity Measures



Non-native animals or plants that have been introduced to areas outside their normal geographic range have the ability to spread causing damage to the environment, the economy, our health and the way we live^[1]. They are the **second biggest threat to biodiversity** and controlling infestations is a massive economic cost to landowners. INNS are estimated to **cost the British economy £100 million a year**^[2].



Preventing INNS from spreading can be achieved through policy, awareness and biosecurity. It is estimated to **cost less than 1% of the current costs of getting outbreaks under control**^[2].

Biosecurity

- Good biosecurity guards against introducing INNS and prevents it from spreading
- Biosecurity involves simple hygienic practices to ensure users do not transfer INNS between sites on equipment, vehicles, clothing and footwear.



Key INNS within Yorkshire: A) Signal Crayfish B) Zebra Mussels C) Himalayan Balsam D) Giant Hogweed E) Floating Pennywort

Before a site visit

- Check records to ensure no vulnerable species, INNS and diseases present at site – if present follow ‘Additional Biosecurity Measures’ document
- If visiting multiple sites visit the site with INNS last
- If visiting multiple sites where possible take multiple equipment to use on the different sites.
- Wear footwear and outerwear that is easy to clean.
- Request all attendees visiting site to come with clean and dry footwear.
- Plan parking: avoid taking vehicles onto site/through muddy areas. Check vehicles regularly; do not let mud and organic material accumulate.
- Only take the equipment you need to site, before use make sure it is thoroughly clean and dry.
- If introducing organic material to the site e.g. trees, plants, wooden posts etc. check they are supplied by a reputable supplier/stockist.
- Prepare biosecurity kit and ensure you have a source of fresh/clean water for wash down.

On Site

Find a suitable place to start biosecurity measures – to avoid re-contamination this needs to be away from any potential transfer pathways; car parks, footpaths, any areas heavily used or easily accessible by others.

CHECK

clothing, footwear, vehicle and equipment for debris, mud, aquatic animals or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it at the site.

CLEAN

everything thoroughly as soon as possible, paying attention to **damp or hard to access** areas. Where feasible, immersion in hot (>45°C) water for 10 minutes will kill INNS rapidly. Dispose of the used infected water on site onto a flat area of hardstanding ground or well vegetated area at least 10m away from any watercourse, and where it cannot move into a drain or stream

DRY

everything for at least 48 hours before using elsewhere, ideally in a warm well ventilated room.