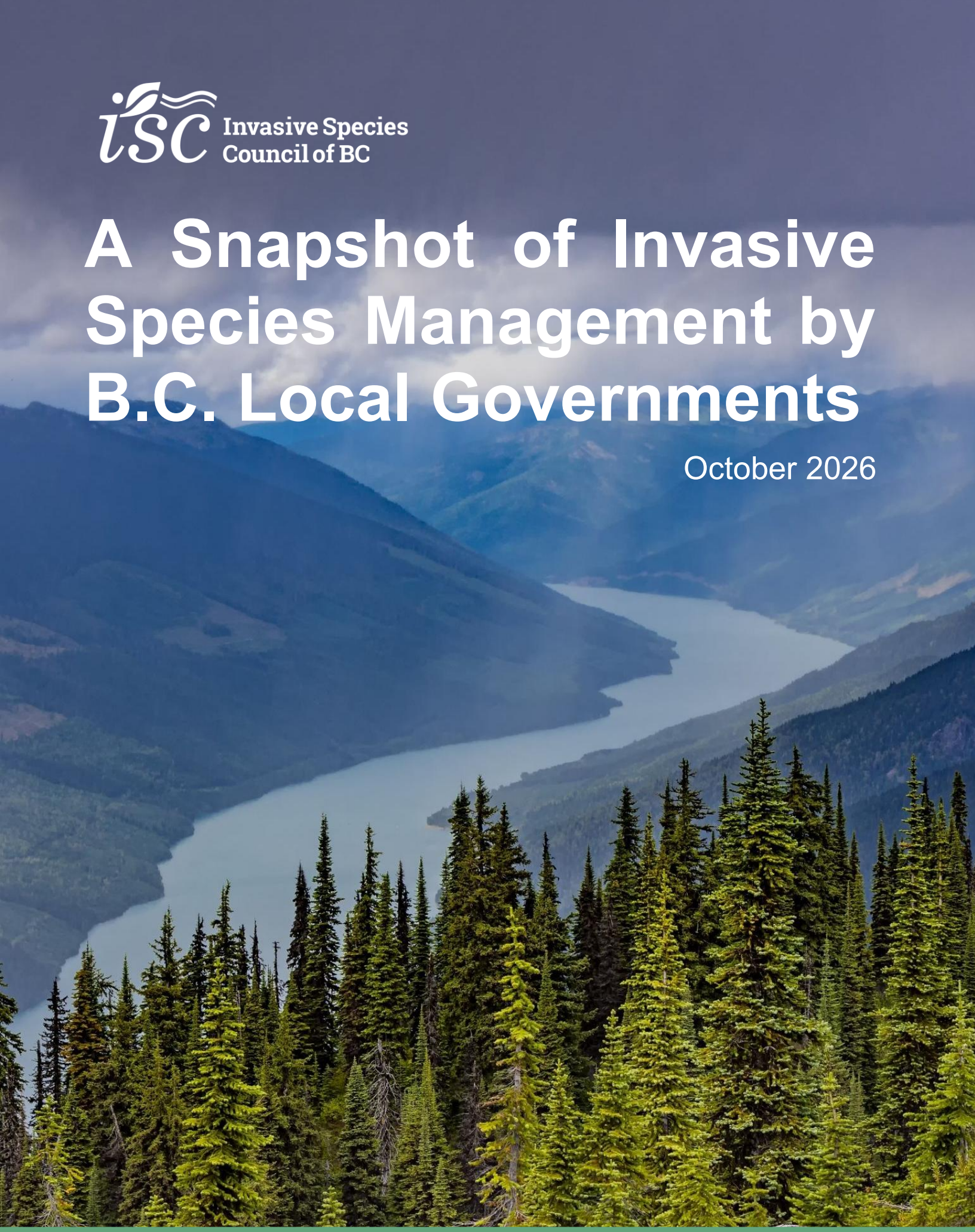
Invasive Species Council of BC

A Snapshot of Invasive Species Management by B.C. Local Governments

October 2026



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the B.C. municipalities and regional districts who contributed to this project. We appreciate the time and thoughtfulness that went into your responses. Local governments play a vital role in managing invasive species, and your input strengthens this shared effort.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary 3
Introduction 4
Methods..... 4
Survey Results: Key Findings from Across B.C..... 4
Directory of Local Government Programs 10
Conclusion and Next Steps..... 75
Appendices 77

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Invasive species threaten ecosystems, local economies, and community well-being across British Columbia. Local governments play a critical role in preventing and responding to invasive species; however, until now, there has been no centralized resource to understand what is being done, where, and by whom.

Local governments across B.C. are taking action on invasive species, often with limited staff, modest budgets, and without formal plans. Despite these challenges, many are doing great work, carrying out treatments, engaging the community, and forming partnerships that make a difference. The gaps identified, especially in planning, regulation, and capacity, highlight clear opportunities for better coordination and ongoing support. With the right tools and resources, local governments are well-positioned to lead a more united and effective response across the province.

The report and directory, published in 2026, offers a snapshot of current invasive species efforts across B.C.'s 27 regional districts and 161 municipalities. Some key survey findings include:

- 75% of B.C.'s regional districts and municipalities responded to the survey.
- 47% of responding municipalities and regional districts report having an invasive species program in place, either directly or through coverage by a higher-level jurisdiction.
- Programs focus primarily on control and eradication, municipal land treatments, and early detection.
- 88% of these local governments operate only one program.
- Most programs are internally funded and report stable or increasing investment.
- Fewer than 25% of local governments have a strategic or management plan for invasive species.
- Outreach efforts primarily involve educational materials on municipal sites.

INTRODUCTION

Invasive species are recognized by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services as one of the top five drivers of biodiversity loss globally, alongside pollution, climate change, direct exploitation of organisms, and sea and land use change. Without natural predators or pathogens to keep them in check, invasive species can spread rapidly, disrupting ecosystems, damaging infrastructure, impacting many industries, and creating long-term community costs.

Local governments are uniquely positioned to manage these risks. They oversee parks, streets, boulevards and pathways, public municipal lands, and development processes. They also hold regulatory tools and are often the first point of contact for concerned residents.

Local governments also hold legislative powers and responsibilities that can support invasive species management. Under the BC *Weed Control Act* and *Regulation*, land occupiers, including municipalities and regional districts, are required to control designated noxious weeds on lands they manage. The *Community Charter* enables municipalities to regulate nuisances and property maintenance through bylaws, while regional districts may offer invasive species services through service establishment bylaws under the *Local Government Act*. These tools provide a legal basis for enforcement, treatment, and prevention efforts at the local level.

This report and directory serves as a centralized reference on local government (municipalities and regional districts) programs across B.C. while providing additional insight into types of programs, collaborative efforts, funding sources, bylaws and enforcement tools, strategic and management plans, and outreach and education initiatives, among others. These insights offer a baseline for understanding the current state of local government involvement in invasive species management across B.C., providing a foundation for future planning, collaboration, and growth.

METHODS

A survey was conducted using SurveyMonkey to gather information to populate the directory from B.C.'s regional districts and municipalities on their invasive species programs, policies and bylaws. It was distributed via contacts through the ISCBC's Local Government Network (LGISN) or those found through an online search.

Follow-up with local governments was made via phone calls to capture additional information or attempts to gain additional survey responses.

For those regional districts and municipalities who didn't respond to the survey or phone calls, any remaining local government information was collected from their respective websites.

SURVEY RESULTS: KEY FINDINGS FROM ACROSS B.C.

Overview of Local Government Approaches

Local governments play a key role in managing invasive species across British Columbia. Their roles range from invasive plant removal to bylaw development, with efforts often tailored to local needs. This section summarizes how the 141 local governments (municipalities and regional districts) across the province that participated in the survey are addressing invasive species management.

- Survey responses from 141 out of 188 local governments—a response rate of 75%. This information was collected from November 2024 – March 2025 via the SurveyMonkey platform.
- Phone interviews and emails from January – June 2025.
- Where there were no survey responses or additional phone conversations, information was collected through local government websites from May – June 2026. At this time, all previously gathered information was updated, where necessary.

Of these, 69 local governments (47%) reported having a program, role, or active involvement. The data illustrates how this work unfolds locally and identifies common themes in program delivery, focus, and growth.

Program Reach and Regional Distribution

The 141 survey responses reflect a wide diversity of local governments from across the province, including both urban centers and rural or remote communities. While not every regional district is represented, responses in the chart below are grouped into broader regions to give a general picture of geographic reach.

- The highest number is in the **Mainland/Southwest (22).**
- Followed by **Vancouver Island/Coast (15).**
- And **Thompson-Okanagan (12).**
- Local governments in the remaining regions account for 20 additional programs.

This uneven distribution suggests that larger or more populated areas are more likely to have programs. At the same time, smaller or remote communities may face barriers such as limited staff capacity, budget constraints, or competing priorities.

Focus Areas of Local Programs

Respondents identified a wide range of program activities. The most common areas of focus include:

- Control and Eradication (90%)
- Municipal Land Treatments (81%)
- Detection (71%)
- Education and Outreach (65%), including signage, public campaigns, and school programming
- Prevention (51%)
- Restoration (43%)

Survey results suggest growing local involvement in invasive species management. While only 47% of respondents reported having a formal program, many of those programs are expanding in scope and activity. Among these, the majority focus on control and eradication, early detection, and municipal land treatments, highlighting strong engagement where programs exist.

Key Takeaways

- **Program Presence:** Nearly half of the respondents have an invasive species program.
- **Regional Variability:** Programs are more common in more populated regions.
- **Comprehensive Focus:** Most combine control with education, monitoring, and partnerships.
- **Growth Trend:** Programs are expanding in scope and reach.

There are clear opportunities to strengthen invasive species management efforts by:

- Supporting smaller or under-resourced communities.
- Improving coordination across jurisdictions.
- Sharing knowledge and best practices province-wide.

Partnerships and Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration

Collaboration is essential for effective invasive species management. Local governments across B.C. work with other jurisdictions, Indigenous communities, non-profits, and businesses to share knowledge, coordinate responses, and expand their reach. This section outlines how local governments are leveraging partnerships to deliver their programs. Most local governments with invasive species programs report working with external partners:

- 79% collaborate with at least one other group or agency.
- 60% partner with neighboring municipalities or regional districts.
- 36% reported an active partnership with a local First Nation.
- 84% partner with non-profits, including regional invasive species organizations, stewardship groups, and environmental non-government organizations (NGOs).
- 40% reported working with businesses, most often in landscaping, forestry, or agriculture.

Key Takeaways

- **Collaboration is common:** Most local governments partner to improve coordination and capacity.
- **Cross-boundary work is strong:** Neighbouring jurisdictions frequently align strategies.
- **First Nations engagement is increasing:** Many governments are looking to build or deepen relationships.
- **Non-profits are key:** They play a significant role in education and delivery.
- **Industry involvement is limited:** There is potential to expand engagement with sectors linked to invasive species pathways.

Invasive Species Funding

Stable, adequate funding is critical for effective invasive species management. In terms of amount and structure, local governments in B.C. vary widely in how much they fund their programs. This section of the survey covered annual investments, funding trends, categories, and sources.

Key Takeaways

- **Budgets are modest:** Over half of programs operate on less than $50,000 annually.
- **Funding has generally increased:** Over half reported growth in the last five years.
- **Future funding is uncertain:** While many expect stable or increased support, a third are unsure.
- **Operational and project-based models dominate:** Capital funding remains rare.
- **Municipal funding is foundational:** Grants and other supplements add flexibility but introduce instability.
- **Blended models are common:** Most programs combine multiple sources to meet their needs.

These findings highlight the need for more predictable and sustained funding, especially for communities looking to expand or stabilize their programs.

Program Delivery

Understanding how programs are delivered offers insight into staffing models, local capacity, and common resourcing approaches.

Key Takeaways

- **Mixed models dominate:** Most programs combine internal staff and contractors.
- **Teams are small:** The majority operate with fewer than five people.
- **Roles are diverse:** Delivery involves a mix of technical, operational, and public-facing positions.
- **Flexibility reflects capacity:** Many governments use seasonal or project-based staffing to match available resources.

These findings suggest that scalable, adaptable delivery models, especially those that support shared staffing or contractor pools, are vital for maintaining and expanding invasive species programs across B.C.

Outcomes and Success Indicators

Local governments use quantitative and qualitative measures to track the success of their invasive species programs. Survey responses highlight the most commonly used indicators and how success is interpreted locally.

Key Takeaways

- **Measurement is common:** 85% of programs use data to track outcomes.
  - Hectares treated and species eradicated are top metrics.
- **Public response matters:** Many programs consider community feedback a key indicator of success.
- **Context matters:** Definitions of success vary based on resources, priorities, and program maturity.

These findings suggest that while evaluation practices differ, most local governments strive to demonstrate impact using the available tools.

Regulatory Tools

Bylaws and other regulatory tools can help support local invasive species management. While not all local governments have bylaws specific to invasive species, many use broader nuisance or environmental regulations to address the issue. This section summarizes how regulatory approaches are applied across B.C.

Respondents described a wide range of bylaws that support invasive species management, either directly or indirectly. Many local governments use more than one bylaw, while some bylaws fall under broader regulatory frameworks.

Key Takeaways

- Half of the respondents have relevant bylaws, though approaches vary widely.
- Bylaws range in specificity, from invasive-focused to general nuisance regulations.
- **Uncertainty exists:** Some staff didn't know whether bylaws exist.
- Enforcement was rarely mentioned, suggesting informal or limited application.

These findings suggest that while bylaws aren't the primary tool, they remain an essential complement to outreach and treatment efforts. Strengthening clarity, awareness, and enforcement of existing tools may improve their effectiveness.

Invasive Species Planning

Strategic and management plans provide structure and direction for invasive species programs. While many local governments are engaged in on-the-ground work, relatively few have formal plans. This section explores current planning efforts, common approaches, and gaps.

Key Takeaways

- **Formal planning is limited:** Few governments have stand-alone invasive species plans.
- **Integrated approaches are common:** Invasive species are often included in broader municipal strategies.
- **Informal guidance is widespread:** Many use protocols or regional advice in place of local plans.
- **Planning is a growth area:** Supporting governments to develop or adapt plans could strengthen coordination and long-term action.

These findings show that while local governments actively manage invasive species, formalized planning remains a key opportunity, especially as programs mature and expand in scope.

Outreach and Education

Outreach and education are key tools for raising awareness, changing behaviour, and supporting prevention efforts. Survey responses show that many local governments actively engage the public, even without formal education plans.

Key Takeaways

- **Outreach is active and diverse:** Events, campaigns, and creative community initiatives are common.
- **External resources are essential:** Most governments use external materials to support efforts.
- **Partnerships enhance delivery:** ISCBC and regional organizations are critical collaborators.
- **Capacity shapes scope:** Smaller communities often rely on shared tools or external support.
- **Demand is growing:** Many want more accessible, regionally tailored outreach materials.

These findings suggest that while few governments have formal education strategies, outreach remains a growing and collaborative area. Expanding awareness of and access to adaptable, high-quality materials, particularly for smaller or under-resourced communities, could support more consistent and scalable public engagement across the province.

Growth and Evolution of Local Government Programs

Over the past 50 years, and especially within the last 15, local government involvement in invasive species management has steadily increased. Survey results show that most programs are relatively new, and many have expanded in scope since their inception.

Key Takeaways

- **Most programs are recent:** Nearly three-quarters were created within the past 15 years.
- **Programs are expanding:** Many have broadened their scope or added responsibilities.
- **Funding is generally increasing:** Growth has been supported by stable or rising investment.
- **Planning lags:** Despite growth, few governments have formalized strategies.

These trends suggest a clear opportunity: to match growing local activity with the tools and guidance needed for long-term coordination and success.

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

The following directory provides a snapshot of local government involvement in invasive species management across British Columbia. Organized by regional district, it includes all of the municipalities and regional governments in the province.

Note: All local governments in B.C. were contacted as part of this project. Survey data was collected over 2024/2025 and web queries were conducted in 2026. All information is current as of August 2026.

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Programs

Collaborates with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee (Coastal ISC) and other volunteer organizations like BroomBusters on invasive species in the regional district.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. P1278, 2012 - Cherry Creek Official Community Plan Bylaw policies include working with provincial authorities to prevent the introduction of invasive species.
- No. P1319, 2022 & No. P1166, 2023 - Bamfield Official Community Plan Bylaw and South Long Beach Official Community Plan Bylaw includes Development Permit Area guidelines, which state that applications for development permits must include an assessment report by a Qualified Environmental Professional that includes measures to reduce or mitigate negative impacts, including invasive species removal.
- No. P1310, 2023 - Sproat Lake Official Community Plan Bylaw includes a policy on working with provincial authorities, landowners, and community groups to increase public awareness on the spread of invasive species, and a policy to work with provincial authorities to prevent introduction and spread of invasive species.

Port Alberni (City)

Programs

BroomBusters volunteers remove Scotch broom in the community, and the City's parks department disposes of them. The city is reviewing its processes for managing invasive species with pesticides.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 4712, 2009 – Property Maintenance Bylaw states property owners must control noxious weeds including but is not limited to Broom, Himalayan Balsam, Carpet Burweed, Wild Chervil, Daphne, Dodder, Gorse, Orange Hawkweed, Introduced Yellow Hawkweed, Giant Hogweed, Horsetail, Knapweed, Japanese Knotweed, Leafy Spurge, Garlic Mustard, Perennial Pepperweed, Poison Ivy, Purple Loosestrife, Ragwort, Scotch Broom, Thistle [Canada and Sow], Toadflax [Yellow and Dalmatian] and any plant on Schedule A, Part 1 — Provincial Weeds list under the BC *Weed Control Act*.

Tofino (District)

Programs

Strategies and actions under the Recreation and Parks Master Plan includes monitoring for invasive species in conservation areas.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1102, 2009 - Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw has an exemption for the following reasons:

- (i) Pest infestations that threaten the integrity of sensitive ecosystems; or,
- (ii) To control, destroy, reduce or repel, directly or indirectly, an animal, plant or other organism which is harmful to human health; or,
- (iii) When the need for the use of the Pesticide is urgent and no effective non-Pesticide alternative is available.
- * "Pest" means an injurious, noxious or troublesome living organism, but does not include a virus, bacteria, fungus or internal parasite that exists on or in humans or animals.

Ucluelet (District)

Programs

Parks teams and community groups manage various invasive species, hosting community events that include the removal of yellow flag iris, scotch broom, Japanese knotweed, Himalayan blackberry, and butterfly bush. The district is working on a proposed municipal plan for best practices regarding locating, removing, and disposing of invasive species following scientific methods.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2017, 2026 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw prohibits owners or occupiers of real property to cause, suffer, permit, or allow such real property to become overgrown with brush, noxious weeds (means any weed designated by the weed control regulation to be

a noxious weed pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act*), or other growth, or to become infested with caterpillars or other noxious or destructive insects.

BULKLEY-NECHAKO

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Programs

Since 2005, the Regional District has partnered with the Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC) on education, monitoring, and management initiatives. A strategic plan includes invasive species management on regional district properties through the NWIPC. Outreach and educational activities include events, educational resources, websites, and social media.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1019 - Allows the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) to spend money on an extended weed control service. This is not an enforceable bylaw.

Burns Lake (Village)

Programs

Partners with the RDBN and NWIPC on invasive species programming.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 988, 2009 – Unsightly and Untidy Premises Bylaw to keep properties free of noxious weeds as well as prohibit any infestations of alien invasive species.

Fort St. James (District)

Programs

The District of Fort St. James' 2026-2030 operational budget includes annual invasive species treatment and mitigation.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 955, 2018 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw promotes property maintenance and keeping properties clear of noxious weeds.

» No. 1002, 2018 – Good Neighbour Bylaw requires prevention and removal of pest infestations including alien invasive species.

The District of Fort St. James Bylaw Officers enforce regulations through inspections and fines. A fine of $100 is imposed for non-compliance of both bylaws.

Fraser Lake (Village)

Programs

Partners with the RDBN and NWIPC on invasive species programming.

Bylaws and Policies

» No. 852, 2024 - Tree Bylaw with an urban tree canopy policy that includes promoting

non-invasive plants on public and private lands.

Granisle (Village)

Programs

Employs a seasonal horticulturalist who oversees village-owned land and green spaces.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 340, 2001 – Property Maintenance Bylaw states every owner and every occupier of real property shall: (b) clear the property of brush, noxious weeds, wild grass and other untended growths; and (c) prevent infestation of caterpillars and other noxious or destructive insects and shall clear the property of such caterpillars and insects.

Houston (District)

Programs

The District of Houston has been working with the NWIPC for 10+ years, contracting them seasonally to monitor and control invasive plants. Summer students are also trained in detection, and the district manually controls key sites of invasive plant species, focusing on municipal lands such as green spaces, parks, and walking trails.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1114, 2021 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.

Smithers (Town)

Programs

Invasive weed issues are brought to the attention of the Town of Smithers' senior management. Partners with the RDBN and NWIPC on invasive species programming.

Bylaws & Policies

Currently, there is no herbicide bylaw in place to permit spraying – a licensed herbicide applicator sprays for the Town when given permission.

» No. 2005 – Good Neighbour Bylaw states no person, owner or occupier will allow the accumulation of noxious weeds on the real property.

Telkwa (Village)

Programs

Partners with the RDBN and NWIPC on invasive species programming.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 587, 2008 - Good Neighbour Bylaw requires property owners and occupiers to remove any noxious weeds growing on site.

Vanderhoof (District)

Programs

Partners with the RDBN and NWIPC on invasive species programming.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1058, 2009 - Property Maintenance Bylaw to keep properties free of noxious weeds as defined in the BC W*eed Control Act.*

CAPITAL

Capital Regional District

Programs

The Regional Invasive Species Program provides coordination and support with invasive species across the Capital region. The Capital Regional District works with Indigenous and local governments, other land managers, residents, and horticulture professionals. Chaired and coordinated by the Capital Regional District, the collaborative intergovernmental working group, the Capital Region Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP), is comprised of ~60 local members working together on invasive species in the region. The Capital Regional District also collaborates with other regional and provincial partners, providing regional public outreach on priority invasive species, and an Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) program to manage priority species.

» **Bylaws & Policies**

» No. 3721, 2012 - Malahat Official Community Plan Bylaw includes guidelines for Development Permit Areas along steep slopes discourages the planting of invasive species.

» No. 3591, 2009 - Official Community Plan Bylaw for the Rural Resource Lands guidelines state that invasive species may require removal at Commercial Tourist Development Permit Areas, Watercourses, Wetlands, Riparian Areas, and Coastal Habitat and Hazard Protection Development Permit Areas.

» No. 171, 2007 - North Pender Island Official Community Plan Bylaw has guidelines for certain Development Permit Areas that include keeping undeveloped buffer areas around sensitive ecosystem areas to limit invasive species introductions. Development applications include proposed non-invasive plantings.

» No.107, 2011 - South Pender Island Official Community Plan Bylaw encourages owners and land managers to eradicate or limit the spread of invasive species.

Central Saanich (District)

Programs

Every Earth Day, the Habitat Acquisition Trust, Friends of Oak Haven Park, and Central Saanich staff organize an Earth Day event at Oak Haven Park which includes invasive plant removal. The Central Saanich Parks staff frequently monitor and remove invasive species in Centennial Park.

Bylaws & Policies

» No 1845, 2014 - Central Saanich Unsightly Premises and Noxious Weeds Bylaw for

clearing properties of noxious weeds.

- The Community Wildfire and Resiliency Plan includes policies on managing invasive species in parks and open spaces.
- No. 2100, 2023 - Official Community Plan Bylaw has policies for Sensitive Terrestrial Ecosystems Development Permit Areas which includes avoiding invasive plant introductions and keeping undeveloped buffer areas around sensitive ecosystem areas to limit invasive species access.

Colwood (City)

Programs

The Friends of Colwood Parks work with the city to coordinate invasive plant removal events at parks across Colwood. The city's Parks team and Public Works team manage invasive plants in parks and along beaches, respectively. Certain invasive plants including Scotch broom, English ivy, English holly, Himalayan blackberry, English hawthorn and periwinkle can be dropped off at Colwood Branch Dropoff for disposal.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 715, 2003 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires owners and occupiers to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.
- No. 1700, 2018 - City of Colwood Official Community Plan Bylaw includes policies on promoting native habitat restoration through invasive species removal and not allowing the planting of invasive species for landscaping at light industrial centers.

Esquimalt (Township)

Programs

The Branch Out Community Stewardship Program offers volunteer opportunities in public spaces with Esquimalt Parks providing tools and information. The Township is working with the school district and local First Nations to increase education on cultural practices in parks and helps the Greater Victoria Green Team with two events per year. The Township's Management Plan focuses on removing invasive species from parks.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 3076, 2022 - Tree Protection Bylaw stipulates appropriate species and their care.
- No. 2826, 2014 - Maintenance of Property and Nuisance Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.

Enforcement of regulations is through removal orders.

Highlands (District)

Programs

Using the Capital Regional District's contractor for invasive species removal and treatments, the district has a small annual budget for managing invasive species, mostly on public lands. In 2025, the district released a draft Invasive Species Policy.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 341, 2012 – Soil Deposit and Removal Regulation and Fees Bylaw require site reclamation plans include an Invasive Species Management Plan and sites requiring a permit do not promote growth of invasive species on the lands that are subject to the Permit.

» No. 277, 2007 – District of Highlands Official Community Plan Bylaw has policies to reduce the adverse effects of invasive species by the following approach to invasive plant species:

1. Implement and encourage use of Best Practices for preventing the introduction of invasive species.
2. Support the removal and control of invasive species on District-owned lands and encourage appropriate government agencies and utility companies to remove invasive species from other public and private lands. EDRR efforts will be encouraged.
3. Require training for staff and contractors for identification and removal of invasive species using Best Management Practices.
4. Support a public education program.
5. Encourage the revegetation of disturbed areas with the use of locally sourced, noninvasive, and native plants.

Langford (City)

Programs

Invasive species awareness is promoted through outreach and education, which includes participating in events, sharing educational resources on websites, and partnering with the Peninsula Streams & Shorelines Society, Greater Victoria Green Team, Langford Residents Association, and the Capital Regional District.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2255, 2026 – Community Standards Bylaw for keeping properties and boulevards abutting properties free of noxious weeds.

Metchosin (District)

Programs

Management of invasive plant species on public lands is done in conjunction with the Capital Regional District and the CRISP. Volunteer community groups, such as the Metchosin Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, the Metchosin Invasive Species Cooperative, the Capital Regional District Devonian Restoration Volunteers, and the Bilston Watershed Habitat Protection Association actively remove invasive plants from regional and local parks and trails. Both the Metchosin Biodiversity Project and the Metchosin Foundation are involved in related educational initiatives. Local activities include events, campaigns, and sharing of educational resources at the municipal hall and on various websites. The district also is engaged locally in the management of invasive bullfrogs and rabbits.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 467, 2004 - Metchosin Protection and Management of Rain Water Bylaw requires removal of invasive noxious weeds and species (maintenance plan) for public works projects undertaken to improve the habitat of fish-bearing watercourses and water bodies, or any activity that is authorized to improve the proper functioning condition of a watercourse, water body or of a Riparian-wetland Area.

» No. 287, 2013 – District of Metchosin Tree Management Bylaw allows for the removal of "any introduced invasive tree" within a Riparian Assessment Area with a permit.

North Saanich (District)

Programs

The District of North Saanich is a member of the CRISP, which provides support, advice, and assistance with identifying and managing high-risk invasive species. The district also partners with various community organizations, such as The Friends of North Saanich Parks and the Greater Victoria Green Team, who host frequent invasive plant removal events at various parks across the district.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1400, 2015 - North Saanich Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires noxious weeds to be removed from properties by owners.

Oak Bay (District)

Programs

The Friends of Uplands Park restoration group and District of Oak Bay's Parks Department remove invasive plants at Uplands Park which is home to the endangered Garry Oak ecosystem. The Oak Bay Native Plant Garden has a group of volunteers, the Friends of the Oak Bay Native Plant Garden, who conduct ongoing invasive plant removal.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3938, 1997 - Rubbish and Weed Control Bylaw that requires all occupiers or owners of land to keep properties free of noxious weeds.

Saanich (District)

Programs

Under the guidance of Saanich Parks staff, the Pulling Together Program has brought together over 200 volunteers across 44 parks to remove invasive plants since 2007. The district encourages residents to report instances of invasive species in parklands, public areas, and private lands, providing relevant contacts to report to within the District of Saanich and the Capital Regional District. The District of Saanich actively works to control and eradicate species on their EDRR list, and manages other invasive species on contain lists and strategic control lists. Starting in 2010, the Knotweed Stewardship Program provides support and free treatment for knotweed infestations on private land. The district has dedicated areas for invasive plant disposal with Hartland Landfill permitting all invasive plant waste, and the Saanich Garden Waste Disposal accepting English ivy, Scotch broom, English holly, Himalayan blackberry, English hawthorn, and periwinkle species.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 8080, 2000 - Noxious Weed Bylaw requires property owners to control invasive plants on private land.

» No. 9487, 2018 - Boulevard Regulation Bylaw requires property owners to keep invasive plants clear from any boulevards adjoining their property.

Sidney (Town)

Programs

Volunteers with Friends of Sidney Parks, under the approval from Council in early 2026, will run a one-year trial to host invasive plant removal sessions three times a month, with Parks staff providing oversight and support. The Town of Sidney and the Greater Victoria Green Team work together to host community invasive plant removal events.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2240, 2022 - Town of Sidney Official Community Plan Bylaw: Development Permit Areas provides guidelines for environmentally sensitive lands, prohibiting the planting of invasive species.

» No. 2100, 2016 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires (4.2) trees, weeds, and other growths so as to ensure the property does not appear unkept and is maintained to the same standards of the neighbourhood; and (4.3) Every Owner or occupier of real property shall prevent the infestation of the property by caterpillars and other noxious or destructive insects and shall clear the property of caterpillars and other noxious or destructive insects.

» Natural Environment Policies include collaboration with W̱SÁNEĆ Nations, the District of North Saanich, the District of Central Saanich, the Capital Regional District, and local environmental organizations to monitor and remove invasive species.

» Healthy Community and Environment Policies include supporting private land stewardship for protecting and restoring natural environments through invasive species removal.

Sooke (District)

Programs

The district works with the T'Sou-ke Nation, land stewards, community partners, and regional agencies to coordinate invasive species identification and removal, engage in public education and stewardship guidance, and handle invasive species reports from the public. The district occasionally hosts community invasive plant removal events and yard waste disposal days.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 296, 2007 - Unsightly Premises and Objectionable Situations Bylaw requires property owners and occupiers to remove noxious weeds from the property.

» No. 800, 2025 - District of Sooke 2025 Official Community Plan Bylaw with Natural Environment Policies and Actions that includes working with the T'Sou-ke Nation and other Indigenous communities to preserve culturally significant vegetation through invasive species removal.

Victoria (City)

Programs

The City of Victoria 2025-2029 plan details the Natural Asset Restoration Program, which includes invasive species management. The Climate Leadership Progress Report states that the City of Victoria is committed to managing invasive species to enhance and protect the city's biodiversity while adapting to climate change.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 21-035, 2019 – Tree Protection Bylaw where tree permits may be issued to cut or remove a tree if it is a regulated invasive plant, or an unregulated invasive plant of concern as declared by the Province of BC or the Invasive Species Council of BC.
- No. 07-050, 2015 – Property Maintenance Bylaw allows the City Council to regulate, prohibit, or impose requirements on any weeds they consider should be removed, cut down, or trimmed.

View Royal (Town)

Programs

The Town of View Royal is a member of the CRISP. The View Royal Habitat Restoration project brings local volunteers together to remove invasive plants across green spaces in View Royal. Since 2017, the Town has partnered with Greater Victoria Green Team to hold frequent invasive plant removal events at parks across View Royal.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 980, 2019 - Streets Bylaw states that owners with land adjacent to a boulevard must keep them free from invasive species.
- No. 512, 2003 - Property Maintenance Bylaw for owners and occupiers to keep property free from noxious weeds.

CARIBOO

Cariboo Regional District

Programs

The invasive species management program has been operational since 1979 and covers lands and rights-of-way managed and overseen by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT), Ministry of Forests (MOF), the Regional District, City of Williams Lake, City of Quesnel, and the District of Wells, and provides invasive plant surveys and treatments within Williams Lake and Quesnel. The ISCBC is contracted to conduct education and outreach, educating the public through guides, websites, and data sheets.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 4949, 2015 - Invasive Plant Management Regulation Bylaw prohibits accumulation of invasive plants on private property. The District's Bylaw Officer/Weed Control Officer is responsible for enforcement through inspections and removal orders. After 14 days of issuing a removal order, any control measures not completed are performed by the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) at the expense of the property owner with costs added

to that property's taxes.

- No. 4660, 2019 - 150 Mile Official Community Plan Bylaw states environmental management objectives which include supporting invasive plant control and encouraging the removal of invasive plants on public and private land.
- No. 4641, 2024 - Green Lake and Area Official Community Plan Bylaw policies for Agriculture include program support for increasing public awareness on invasive species, and Trail Development Standards and Guidelines advising against introducing or spreading invasive species.

100 Mile House (District)

Programs

An Integrative Pest Management Plan has been followed for 20+ years, focused on knapweed removals, sprays when needed, and public contributions to local mapping. Work is underway with the Cariboo Regional District to map and set up policies/bylaws. While the District currently responds to public inquiries with education and invasive plant removal, the plan focuses on mapping/monitoring of infestations and collaborating with governments, community, and First Nations to develop a strategic plan.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1465, 2026 – 100 Mile House Official Community Plan contains an objective for addressing climate change with restoration efforts using non-invasive species at development sites near sensitive areas.
- No. 1017, 2006 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties free of noxious weeds.

Quesnel (City)

Programs

Invasive Plant Management Plan targets key pathways of spread and focuses on controlling and eradicating invasive species within city boundaries. The program has been operational for 15+ years and is contracted to the Cariboo Regional District.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1771, 2015 – City of Quesnel Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw states noxious weed growth on properties is a ticketable offence.

Wells (District)

Participates in the Cariboo Regional District's invasive species management program.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on municipal invasive species-related bylaws, or policies could be found online.

Williams Lake (City)

Programs

Invasive species program focuses on municipal land treatments, enlisting the help of the

Cariboo Regional District.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2194, 2014 – Good Neighbour Bylaw prohibits property owners from allowing the accumulation of noxious weeds on their property.

CENTRAL COAST

Central Coast Regional District

No information on regional district invasive species-related programs, bylaws, or policies could be found online.

CENTRAL KOOTENAY

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Programs

Since 2015, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) has been working with the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) to address priority invasive species, following a strategic management plan. A Regional Invasive Species Working Group was created with representatives from both Regional Districts, inviting all municipalities to attend. An inventory and management plan for the City of Nelson, Regional District of Central Kootenay, Slocan City, Warfield, and Nakusp was conducted and developed in 2025. The district collaborates with the Okanagan Nation Alliance for invasive mussel monitoring and the Yaqan Nukiy on various projects. All landfills within the RDCK accept invasive plant waste.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on regional district invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Castlegar (City)

Programs

The City of Castlegar refers residents to Provincial Regulations regarding invasive species. An Integrated Pest Management Plan allows the city to use herbicide on city-owned properties.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.1449, 2026 - Good Neighbour Bylaw forbids the excessive growth of noxious weeds on properties.

Bylaw officers use door hangers to advise residents of invasive plants on their property.

Creston (Town)

Programs

Through a consultant, the Town of Creston developed a Tree Planting Guide that includes a list of 100 resilient tree and shrub species for planting purposes and 25 common invasive tree/shrub species to avoid.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Kaslo (Village)

Programs

Delivers invasive species management in partnership with CKISS.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1280, 2022 - Official Community Plan Bylaw includes policies on prioritizing native and non-invasive species in restoration and landscaping.

Nakusp (Village)

Programs

With input from the CKISS, the Village of Nakusp removes invasive species in highly maintained areas.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 640, 2011 – Good Neighbour Bylaw requires properties and adjacent boulevards be kept reasonably free of noxious weeds.

Nelson (City)

Programs

Nelson Hydro (a municipally owned and operated utility) has an integrated vegetation management policy and plan which applies to all vegetation and pest management activities undertaken by Nelson Hydro employees, contractors, and consultants within the Nelson Hydro service territory. They plan, permit, engage, approve, monitor or report on vegetation and pest management on wooden poles, transmission and distribution or statutory rights-of-way, substations/yards, generation sites, and all other Nelson Hydro assets and facilities within the Nelson Hydro service territory.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3652, 2026 – Zoning Bylaw with general landscaping requirements that plantings shall consist of species known to be indigenous to the West Kootenay region or non-invasive species and no prohibited invasive plant species listed in Schedule D.

» No. 3081, 2007 – The Pesticide Regulation Bylaw regulates the cosmetic use of pesticides with exemption *(k) Eradication of noxious and invasive species in accordance with the BC Weed Control Act (only where biological and mechanical controls either do not exist or have proven ineffective).*

New Denver (Village)

Programs

Participates in invasive species management through partnerships with CKISS and volunteer groups like the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 611, 2007 - The Official Community Plan Bylaw policies include working with volunteer groups to reduce invasive plants in parks in green spaces.

Salmo (Village)

Programs

Participates in invasive species management through partnerships with CKISS and volunteer groups including the Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 342, 1989 - Hazardous Plants Noxious Weed Control Bylaw requires owners or occupiers of real property, or their agents, shall clear the property of brush, trees, noxious weeds or other growths.

» No. 409, 1995 - Noxious & Destructive Insect Control Bylaw requires owners or occupiers of real property, or their agents, shall prevent infestations of caterpillars and other noxious or destructive insects and to clear the property of such insects.

» No. 649, 2013 – The Unsightly Premises Bylaw requiring owners and occupiers to remove, cut down or trim noxious weeds present on property.

Silverton (Village)

Programs

As of January 2026, CKISS received ongoing approval from council to continue an ongoing agreement to implement a regional invasive species strategy in the Village of Silverton.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Slocan (Village)

Programs

No information on municipal invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 700, 2022 - Official Community Plan Revision Bylaw's Ecological Protection & Enhancement policies include continual monitoring and addressing invasive species in the community, and removal of invasive species and preventing their spread. Landscaping policies prohibit any planting of species deemed as invasive or noxious.

CENTRAL OKANAGAN

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Programs

The Regional District of Central Okanagan's (RDCO) Invasive Weed Enforcement Program runs from April 1st to September 30th to assist residents with managing invasive plants on their property.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.1545, 2024 - RDCO Noxious Insect and Pest Infestation Control Bylaw stating owners and occupiers shall take actions to prevent infestations from noxious and invasives pests, and will take necessary actions to control any infestations on property. Inspectors may issue a notice to owners and occupiers to control any infestations. If the infestation is not controlled within 72 hours, inspectors may take necessary actions to control the infestation.
- No. 1544, 2024 - RDCO Noxious Weed Control Bylaw requiring owners and occupiers from April 1-Septemebr 30 prevent noxious weeds growing any higher than 9 inches. Inspectors will give notices in cases of noncompliance. If the recipient has not cut down the noxious weeds within 10 days of the notice, an inspector may enter the premises to conduct work needed to remove the noxious weeds at the owner or occupier's expense.
- No. 1303, 2012 - Brent Road/Trepanier Official Community Plan Bylaw - policies for Stewardship and Management include supporting provincial and federal regulations for invasive species, including compliance with the Regional District Weed and Insect Bylaw. Guidelines for Development Permits include restoring riparian areas where invasive species are present. Wetland ecosystem guidelines include reducing the introduction and spread of invasive species by excluding recreational activities such as biking and horseback riding, and managing livestock access. Overall guidelines for development permit areas include managing invasive plants on site. Guidelines for grassland ecosystems include invasive plant management and maintaining ecosystem health to prevent reintroductions from invasive species.
- No 1304-2012 – South Slopes Official Community Plan Bylaw has policies for Stewardship and Management include supporting provincial and federal regulations for invasive species, including compliance with the Regional District Weed and Insect Bylaws.

Kelowna (City)

Programs

The city partners with the RDCO to address homeowner questions and concerns. Activities performed by the Park Services Division under the urban forest program include invasive species management.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 8133, 1997 - Noxious Weeds/Grass Control Bylaw for prevention/removal of noxious weeds.

Lake Country (District)

Programs

Does not have a strategic plan for invasive species, but it plans to develop one for water-related species. Outreach and education involve campaigns and educational resources such as guides, toolkits, and websites.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1065, 2018 – District of Lake Country Official Community Plan Bylaw– Environment and Sustainability policies require disturbed land to undergo revegetation to prevent invasive species introductions. Landscaping guideline objectives state that invasive plants should be removed from environmental buffers and controlled in all other areas of a property.

Peachland (District)

Programs

Invasive species within the District of Peachland are regulated through the RDCO. The district maintains pedestrian walkways, sidewalks, roads and road shoulders with maintenance activities including noxious weed management.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2178, 2018 – Good Neighbor Bylaw states the owner or occupier must remove noxious weeds (any weed designated by regulation to be a noxious weed pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act*).

West Kelowna (City)

Programs

Official Community Plan and the Westbank Centre's Plan discusses invasive species. Removals of select invasive species occur on public property where applicable and time permits occur, but there is no adopted policy or direction from the Council. The City does not enforce noxious weeds/species on private property – this is a RDCO function.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 0167, 2013 – District of West Kelowna Noxious Insect Control Bylaw includes a list of insects, including invasive insect species. If there is non-compliance, all costs to remediate are charged back to the property owner on their tax.

» No. 0345, 2026 - Noxious Weed Control Bylaw requires owners and occupiers to prevent noxious weed growth exceeding 20.32 centimeters.

COLUMBIA-SHUSWAP

Columbia-Shuswap Regional District

Programs

The Columbia Shuswap Regional District was instrumental in establishing the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS), which has funded this program annually for the past 10 years. CSISS holds the district's strategic plan for invasive species.

Bylaws & Policies

» Noxious weed bylaw is not currently in use and is to be reviewed.

A noxious weed inspector from the Columbia Shuswap Regional District is responsible for enforcement.

Golden (Town)

Programs

Wildsight Golden Community Invasive Plant Program, operational for 15 years, focuses on public lands within the municipal boundaries and community education through Famer's market attendance, coordinated school presentations, and/or community weed pulls. A Plant Program Coordinator oversees the program, receiving technical support from CSISS. A contractor is hired for spray treatments. Outreach and education incudes events, and educational resources such as websites. The town enforces regulations through inspections and education, including written letters to property owners.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1287, 2011 – Property Maintenance Bylaw forbidding the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

Revelstoke (City)

Programs

The City of Revelstoke partners with the CSISS on preventing and managing invasive species, who acts as the qualified contractor for the city and conducts invasive plant inventories, manages public invasive species inquiries, conducts mechanical and chemical treatment on invasive species, engages in biological agent monitoring, and provides post-treatment monitoring and recommendations for future management plans. Tourism Revelstoke promotes preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species through best practices including PlayCleanGo, Clean Drain Dry, Buy Local Burn Local, and reporting invasive species.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2332, 2022 - Official Community Plan Bylaw has policies for parks, trails and recreation facilities that include controlling invasive species in city parks and open spaces while encouraging locals to practice minimizing impacts. For environmentally sensitive Development Permit Areas, all construction activities, subdivision and development require a development permit and must comply with guidelines that includes providing a map identifying invasive species on site with steps for removal, and developing a restoration plan for areas where invasive species have established.

» No. 1950, 2009 - The Official Community Plan Bylaw where policies on ecosystems include encouraging the use of native plants in public and private landscaping while prohibiting the use of invasive species and supporting removal of existing invasive plants.

Salmon Arm (City)

Programs

The City's Invasive Plant Management plan, operational since 2017, works with CSISS which provides inventories, treatment, and monitoring on municipal lands.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3137, 2002 – District of Salmon Arm Property Maintenance and Unsightly Premises

Bylaw promotes property maintenance and keeping properties clear of noxious weeds bylaw officers enforce regulations through inspections and enforcement.

Sicamous (District)

Programs

In 2024, the council's resolution "Federal Funding for B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program" was endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association and referred by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities. Outreach and education focus on campaigns and educational resources, including webpages, blog posts, and sharing information on social media. The district does not enforce regulations but rather advocates for provincial and federal legislation.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1005, 2021 - Good Neighbour Bylaw states properties cannot have uncontrolled growth or significant lack of maintenance of brush, noxious weeds (any weed designated as such under the BC *Weed Control Act* and includes the seeds of the noxious weed) or other growth which because of their condition are likely to spread to or become a nuisance to other land in the vicinity, or which are so unkempt as to be unsightly to the owners or occupiers of nearby property.

COMOX VALLEY

Comox Valley Regional District

Programs

The District's Invasive Species Partnership Program comprises of the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD), City of Courtenay, Town of Comox and Village of Cumberland, in consultation with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee (Coastal ISC). The CVRD's invasive species management plan includes inventorying parks and determining priority treatments. The invasive plant program, which has been operational since 2012, is delivered through service agreements with the Coastal ISC and other community groups. Education and outreach include sharing resources (guides, websites, signage), newsletter information, and hosting booths at events. The Coastal ISC works with the Regional District to manage giant hogweed and knotweeds on public and private land, with some residents being eligible for cost-free control of these species on their land.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 764, 2024 - Weed Control Regulation Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.

The CVRD's Bylaw Compliance officer is responsible for enforcement on private lands on a complaint basis. Penalties for non-compliance include inspections, fines, and removal orders, with fines not less than $500 and not exceeding $50,000.

Comox (Town)

Programs

The Town's Environmental Restoration Project focuses on riparian areas, recently cleared

lands and high-traffic pathways and edges in the park system to prevent invasive species from spreading into adjacent natural areas. This program has been operational for one year, while restoration projects with local stewardship groups have been ongoing since the 2000s. A key component of the program is fostering a meaningful partnership with K'omoks First Nation to ensure effective restoration at culturally significant sites. An invasive species management plan has been developed for Town parks and greenways. Education is provided to the public through websites, educational resources and events.

Bylaws & Policies

- The town's Bylaw Department is responsible for compliance and enforcement actions, including removal orders and small fines.
- No. 1527, 2006 – Comox Pesticide Use Bylaw permits the use or application of a pesticide (4.1. c) to manage pests that impact agriculture or forestry. "Pest" means an injurious, noxious or troublesome living organism, but does not include a virus, bacteria, fungus or internal parasite that exists on or in humans or animals.

Courtenay (City)

Programs

An Invasive Species Management Plan has existed for four years. Focusing on sensitive areas (riparian, estuary) and areas highly frequented by the public, invasive species are removed, and areas are restored with mulch and native plants. The city works with the Coastal ISC, Comox Valley Nature, and Project Watershed on invasive species issues.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 2850, 2016 - Tree Protection Bylaw prevents planting of invasive species and requires removal and disposal of invasive species growing on the tree or within dripline.
- No. 2804, 2014 – Prevention of Public Nuisances Bylaw states owners and occupiers must keep property free of noxious weeds.

Enforcement of bylaws includes a municipal ticket of $100, though rarely invoked.

Cumberland (Village)

Programs

An invasive species program focuses primarily on controlling and eradicating knotweed and hogweed, as well as restoration and public education on those species and others. Starting in the 2010s, this program enlists the help of the local BroomBusters, Streamkeepers, and other environmentally minded groups. Treatments are contracted out to a local restoration business.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.1210, 2024 - Community Nuisance Abatement Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. There are currently no bylaw staff to enforce these regulations.

COWICHAN VALLEY

Cowichan Valley Regional District

Programs

The Climate Change Adaption and Risk Management Strategy includes objectives for updating the regional district's Invasive Species Strategy to reflect novel species resulting from climate change, with supporting actions to educate the public on identifying new invasive species, increased management of invasive species in priority areas, and updating the invasive species bylaw. Coastal ISC works with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) to manage giant hogweed and knotweeds on public and private land, with some residents being eligible for free on control of these species on their land.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 3966, 2016 – CVRD Noxious Weeds Control Bylaw stating that all occupiers and owners must keep their property free from noxious weeds listed in Schedule A of the bylaw.
- No. 4628, 2025 - CVRD Unsightly Premises and Abandoned Property Bylaw requiring owners and occupiers to prevent uncontrolled growth of noxious weeds on private property.
- No. 4380, 2021 – CVRD Soil Deposit Bylaw forbidding anyone from depositing any topsoil, gravel, sand, rock, silt, clay, peat, sediment and other natural substances containing invasive species with an Electoral Area unless permitted under a facility license in accordance with CVRD Bylaw No. 2570, Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw, 2004.
- No. 88, 2011 - Thetis Island Official Community Bylaw encourages residents and property owners to control invasive species through ecologically sensitive techniques.

Duncan (City)

Programs

The Tree and Pollinator Plant Rebate Program states that eligible trees must not be an invasive species. In 2026, City and Emergency Management Cowichan will conduct invasive species removal at McAdam/Rotary Park and Centennial Park to reduce risk of wildfires.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 3245, 2024 - Planning & Development Applications Procedures Bylaw notes that planning and development applications should include an invasive species management plan for identifying invasive species on site, provide recommendations on removal, and estimated cost of removal.
- The City of Duncan's Council adopted the Urban Forest Strategy in 2010. The Council's prioritized areas of importance included developing site prescriptions to manage invasive species.
- No. 3156, 2017 – Good neighbor bylaw requires owners or occupiers to not allow noxious weeds (plants classed as noxious in the BC *Weed Control Act* and those listed in Schedule "A" to this bylaw) to be present.
- No. 3055, 2013 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw requires that when the boulevard

abuts an owner's property, the owner or occupier must keep the boulevard free of noxious weeds.

Ladysmith (Town)

Programs

As of April 2026, the Town of Ladysmith acquired Arbutus Hump land for preservation as parkland and ecological protection and collaborates with the Ladysmith BroomBusters team to remove Scotch broom from the area. Residents who are interested in removing invasive plants from the area are encouraged to contact the Friends of Holland Creek Society. Ladysmith Maritime Society is a Clean Drain Dry partner with ISCBC.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 2200, 2022 - Official Community Plan Bylaw with a goal for eradicating invasive plants from parklands in Ladysmith.
- No. 1970, 2018 – Property Maintenance Bylaw requires owners or occupiers to not allow weeds on the property that are likely to spread or become a nuisance to other Real Property in the vicinity, or plants that are unkempt to the point of unsightliness.

Lake Cowichan (Town)

Programs

As of 2026, a seasonal gardener is hired by the Town and is involved with removing invasive plants from public spaces. Through assistance from the FireSmartBC Community Funding and Support Grant beginning in 2024, fire prevention activities have included clearing blackberry from Olson manor alongside biology students from Cowichan Lake School, and removing invasive species from Friendship Forest, with hopes of receiving more funding for future years.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1050, 2021 - Town of Lake Cowichan Property Maintenance and the Prohibition of Unsightly Premises Bylaw forbidding owners and occupiers to allow growth of noxious weeds on their property.
- No.1097, 2023 - Town of Lake Cowichan Official Community Plan Bylaw includes policies on managing and eradicating invasive plants, as well as removing invasive plants along the Streamside and Watercourse Protection Area in accordance with an approved restoration plan.

North Cowichan (District)

Programs

An Invasive Species Program has been operational for over 13 years and focuses on high-priority regionally specific species on public and private lands. The Municipality has a Parrot's Feather Management Plan for Somenos Creek and has partnered with the Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society to implement that plan. The Municipality is also currently developing a biodiversity protection policy which will have some focus on invasive species management.

Invasives species related outreach mainly consists of providing residents with educational resources, including guides and information on the Municipality's website.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3804, 2021 - Nuisance Abatement and Cost Recovery Bylaw for the control of noxious plants on private lands and cost recovery related to their treatment/removal. The Municipality's Weed Control Officer and Bylaw Department are responsible for enforcement of invasive species related issues on private lands, including inspections, removal orders, and obtaining cost recovery for treatment.

EAST KOOTENAY

Regional District of East Kootenay

Programs

The Neighbourhood Invasive Plant Program has been operational for over 10 years, providing landowners with guidance, resources, and some financial support. The Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) is responsible for enforcing the BC *Weed Control Act* on private property, while the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council (EKISC) is responsible for managing Crown and MOTT lands. A second program, operational since 2017, addresses invasive plant complaints and enforcement on private property. Outreach activities focus on campaigns and educational resources, sharing factsheets and best management practices from regional and provincial invasive species organizations.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2711, 2017 – Invasive Plant Regulation Bylaw to control invasive plants on private property The RDEK's Weed Control Officer is responsible for enforcing the BC *Weed Control Act*, which includes conducting inspections and issuing fines and removal orders. Education is the primary objective; if voluntary compliance is not successful, remedial action will be taken with costs added to the property owner's taxes.

Canal Flats (Village)

Programs

Staff enforce invasive species regulations through information letters. Outreach activities include annual advertisements in the community newsletter.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 296, 2026 – Good Neighbor Bylaw forbidding noxious weeds (weeds listed in the BC *Weed Control Act*) to grow or accumulate on the property.

Cranbrook (City)

Programs

The Joseph Creek Restoration project includes invasive species removal activities that mainly target golden willow, a species listed as an invasive tree by province of BC in 2022. EKISC, based in Cranbook, is a project partner with Cranbrook Community Forest and hosts annual invasive plant removal events at the forest.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 4206, 2025 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw prohibits Noxious Weeds (prescribed in the BC *Weed Control Act* and *Weed Control Regulation*) to grow or accumulate on the Property.

Elkford (District)

Programs

EKISC's Elk Valley Invasive Plant Management Plan outlines invasive plant monitoring, management, and education and outreach initiatives conducted from 2020 to 2024. Recommended actions for future management include conducting invasive plant inventories, treating high-priority species, and community engagement and education through workshops, webinars, and school outreach programs.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.871, 2022 - Good Neighbour Bylaw requiring occupiers and owners to clean noxious weeds from their property as well from adjacent boulevards.

Fernie (City)

Programs

The Invasive Plant Management Program has existed since 2016. A turf and greenspace management plan is updated with the latest reports and data. An inventory of high infestation areas and monitoring lower priority species is maintained, with invasive species managed through spraying and hand pulling. Infestations and treatments are mapped, and year-end reports provide strategy and priority direction for the following year. The focus of outreach and educational activities is events. The Elk River Alliance and EKISC are partners in these activities.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2093, 2010 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the use of pesticides for non-essential/cosmetic purposes.

» No. 2456, 2022 – Community Standards Bylaw to prevent the accumulation weeds. "Weed" means a noxious weed as defined by the BC *Weed Control Act* and *Regulation.*

Invermere (District)

Programs

Contacts the Province or the Regional District of East Kootenay when an invasive species is identified.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 948, 1998 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires owners or occupiers of real property, or their agents, to clear the property of brush, trees, noxious weeds or other growths.

» No. 1364, 2008 - Pesticide Use Bylaw permits the use or application of a pesticide (4.1. c) to manage pests that impact agriculture or forestry. "Pest" means an injurious,

noxious or troublesome living organism, but does not include a virus, bacteria, fungus or internal parasite that exists on or in humans or animals.

Kimberley (City)

Programs

The City of Kimberley and EKISC have established a partnership. Reports regarding locations of invasive plant species applicable to the city are communicated to appropriate staff, routinely by the EKISC. City crews and contractors are actively conducting weed control on City-owned lands and rights-of-way.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 2671, 2020 – Good Neighbor Bylaw forbids property owners or occupiers to allow the accumulation of weeds (Noxious Weed means any weed designated by regulation to be a Noxious Weed pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act*).
- No. 2381, 2009 – Pesticide Bylaw limits cosmetic use but permits exemptions for controlling noxious weeds as defined by the BC *Weed Control Act*.

Radium Hot Springs (Village)

Programs

The Columbia Valley Invasives Action Project, headed by EKISC, includes invasive plant removal events, outreach initiatives and workshops.

EKISC's Elk Valley Invasive Plant Management plan outlines invasive plant monitoring, management, and education and outreach initiatives conducted from 2020 to 2024. Recommended actions for future management include conducting invasive plant inventories, treating high-priority species, and community engagement and education through workshops, webinars, and school outreach programs.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.334, 2007 - Village of Radium Hot Springs Littering, Garbage and Unsightly Premises Bylaw for occupiers and owners to clear noxious weeds from their property.

Sparwood (District)

Programs

Sparwood has a page on invasive plants with tips on management.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1165, 2015 - Official Community Plan Bylaw includes a policy on working with RDEK to manage noxious weeds and invasive species.

FRASER VALLEY

Fraser Valley Regional District

Programs

The Invasive Weed Control Program targets priority noxious weeds along public road rights-of-way in Electoral Areas C, D, E, G, and H, as well as in Chilliwack and Abbotsford. The program consists of terrestrial weed control, monitoring, mapping, data management, and public education, with respect to wild chervil, tansy ragwort, knotweed, and giant hogweed. The Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) continues to pilot a cost-sharing program to treat select knotweed sites found on private property and offers an annual curbside pickup program for disposal. The district contracts the Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society (FVISS) for program delivery, and collaborates with numerous land managers in the region, including the MOTT and First Nations. Outreach efforts involve events and campaigns, with guides and websites for education.

Bylaws & Policies

Enforcement actions are related to the BC *Weed Control Act* and applicable member municipality bylaws.

Abbotsford (City)

Programs

The City's Invasive Species Management Program has been operational for 5+ years. The city partners with the FVISS, which coordinates the pesticide use permit and roadside program. A second program, operating for 3+ years, focuses on utilities (sewers), controlling invasive species in storm ponds and acquiring pesticide use permits at the water's edge. The program runs in consultation with First Nations and the FVISS. Plans are to develop an invasive plant policy for the regional district in conjunction with the regional invasive plant society. A third program focuses on invasive species cleanup along roadways or city properties (not parks) in partnership with the FVISS, and consultation with Drinkwater Environmental Services. The city uses a website for education, with information specific to invasive species and a Weed Reporting app.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3068-2024 – Good Neighbour Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. Bylaw officers perform inspections and enforce fines. Section 6 of the No. 3017, 2020 Bylaw Enforcement Bylaw gives this authority. Regulations are enforced through compliance orders and tickets, as referred to in provincial and federal regulations.

Chilliwack (City)

Programs

The City's Invasive Species Management Program, in partnership with the FVISS, treats and manages invasive species within the city. The program has been operational since 2024. It primarily targets Japanese knotweed invasions and provides residents with the option for cost-share treatment plans. FVISS provides pre-season preparations, staff training, education and outreach, data management, treatment planning, and annual reporting. The city uses a website for education with information specific to invasive species and tips on how to prevent their spread.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 5041, 2021 - Community Standards Bylaw to manage invasive species on

boulevards and private properties. The City's enforcement actions include fines and removal orders, with a $500 penalty for non-compliance.

Harrison Hot Springs (Village)

Programs

Outreach and education activities include sharing information on social media, website resources, and partner brochures. The Village supports other organizations' inspections and campaigns, and shares information with environmental committee members. Partners include the BC Conservation Officer Services (Aquatic Invasive Species), FVISS and the FVRD.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1072, 2015 - Village of Harrison Hot Springs Property Maintenance Bylaw promotes property maintenance and keeping properties clear of noxious weeds The Village's Bylaw Enforcement Department enforces regulations through fines and removal orders, with a fine of $200 for non-compliance.

Hope (District)

Programs

The district has a Management Plan for invasive species on municipal land. This seasonal program has been in operation for eight years.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1240, 2008 – Good Neighbour Bylaw to prevent the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

Kent (District)

Programs

The invasive species program, in operation for five years, focuses on managing knotweed on municipal land. The district coordinates with the FVISS, which tracks knotweed outbreaks and hires a contractor to conduct herbicide treatments. Letters have been sent to property owners recommending treatments for knotweed on private property. Outreach and Education includes the use of websites to share information.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Mission (City)

Programs

The hogweed/knotweed control program, operational for 12 years, is one of several contracts with the FVISS. The FVISS educates City staff on identification, and the city maintains an inventory. The city partners with the Fraser Valley Conservancy, supporting the "Step to It" program which promotes local stream stewardship. Outreach and education include events, campaigns, and educational resources, such as websites and social media promotions. Summer students host booths at various community events.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 5524, 2015 - Good Neighbour Bylaw to manage invasive species/noxious weeds. The City's Bylaw Department enforces regulations through fines. There is a fine of $250 for noncompliance, although the existing bylaw does not specify how to remove/treat noxious weeds.

FRASER-FORT GEORGE

Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

Programs

The Regional District has provided grant funds to the Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC) over the past decade.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

MacKenzie (District)

Programs

The McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest's Forest Stewardship Plan outlines requirements for Agreement Holders to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species into the forest, ensure they train staff to recognize and report any occurrences of invasive species to the NWIPC, and consult the NWIPC prior to treating areas with invasive plants present.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1394, 2018 - Unsightly Properties Bylaw forbidding residents from allowing noxious weeds to grow on properties.

McBride (Village)

Programs

No information on invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.706, 2010 - Village of McBridge Maintenance Bylaw stating that property owners and occupiers are to prevent the accumulation of noxious weeds on properties.

Prince George (City)

Programs

Education and outreach are done in collaboration with the NWIPC. The City of Prince George enforces regulations through fines and removal orders.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 8425, 2012 - Property Maintenance Bylaw for preventing noxious weeds from

growing and accumulating on private property.

Valemount (Village)

Programs

Partners with the NWIPC. Outreach includes co-hosting events and sharing educational resources.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 702, 2013 – Good Neighbour Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The Bylaw Officer uses education to enforce regulations. There are fines for non-compliance.

KITIMAT-STIKINE

Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

Programs

There are plans to develop an invasive plant policy and to work with the regional invasive plant society. In 2025, the Regional District NWPC partnered to assess and manage invasive plants in the region on public lands as well as private lands with landowner permission.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 674, 2016 – Solid Waste Disposal Bylaw, ensures invasive species are contained/not composted. No enforcement is currently taken.

Hazelton (Village)

Programs

The Wilp, the Gitxsan Laxyip Management Office, the Village of Hazelton and BC Wildifre Service are collaborating on a culture burn at Anderson Flats to promote growth of traditional and medicinal plants and prevent invasive species from establishing.

The Hazelton Forest Stewardship Plan states that required measures for forest stewardship plan holders include referring to the InvasivesBC application to confirm known invasive plant sites, reviewing the invasive plant list and recommended plans and/or treatments with the licensee, permittee or contractor, advising the licensee, permittee or contractor to inspect and remove any invasive plant propagules or seeds from equipment and clothing, avoid transporting soil known to have invasive plants in it, and reporting any new occurrences of invasive plants.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on municipal invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Kitimat (District)

Programs

The Invasive Plant Program, operational for 12 years, offers inspection and possible treatments to private landowners with invasive species on their properties. This service is provided in

conjunction with the NWIPC, which provides data for the district at the end of the year. Program marketing is the responsibility of the district. Community education encompasses a range of initiatives including events, campaigns, websites, educational resources, social media, as well as the annual Seedy Saturday.

Bylaws & Policies

» Kitimat Municipal Code Part 9, Division 12 – Environmental Control Bylaw to keep properties free of noxious weeds.

New Hazelton (District)

Programs

Required measurements for stewardship plan holders under the Hazelton Forest Stewardship Plan include referring to the InvasivesBC application to confirm known invasive plant sites, reviewing the invasive plant list and recommended plans and/or treatments with the licensee, permittee or contractor, advising the licensee, permittee or contractor to inspect and remove any invasive plant propagules or seeds from equipment and clothing, avoid transporting soil known to have invasive plants in it, and reporting any new occurrences of invasive plants.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on municipal invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Stewart (District)

No information on invasive species-related programs, bylaws, or policies could be found online.

Terrace (City)

Programs

The invasive Species Management Plan, which has been operational for several years, focuses on detection and treatments in partnership with the NWIPC. In 2024, knotweed treatments were offered to residents on private property, in addition to the municipal areas. In 2024, the city met with Kitsumkalum First Nation to discuss priority species and treatment recommendations for the Kiyawmks Spring Creek restoration project. The city partnered with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and a local school for a Himalayan balsam weed pull.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1318-1993 - City of Terrace Nuisance Bylaw that requires clearing noxious weeds from the property when directed to do so by the City.

KOOTENAY BOUNDARY

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Programs

The Boundary Invasive Species Society (BISS) coordinates invasive species management in the Regional District of Kootenay-Boundary (RDKB), maintains an invasive species inventory, provides free support with identification and management information, and provides insects for

biological control of invasive plants. Since 1999, the Christina Lake Milfoil Control Program has been paid for by taxpayers of Electoral Area C. Management is conducted by commercial divers who manually remove milfoil each year, and as of 2023, floating benthic mats have also been installed to supplement control measures. The Climate Action Plan has a list of community actions that includes collaboration with partners for invasive species management.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Fruitvale (Village)

Programs

The Kootenay Conservation Program includes a guide called Slocan Valley Stewardship Solutions for Landowners & Land Managers, which includes resources for invasive species management.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 845, 2014 - Property Maintenance Bylaw where property owners and occupants must clear the property of any noxious weeds.
- No. 922, 2020 - Animal Responsibility Bylaw forbidding possession, breeding, shipping or releasing exotic animals, defined as alien invasive species as defined by the Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation, BC Reg 144/2004.

Grand Forks (City)

Programs

No information on invasive species programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 2089, 2022 - Official Community Plan Bylaw prevents planting of noxious weeds. The City of Grand Forks' Bylaw Enforcement Officer enforces regulations through Development Permits. They are not currently enforced.
- No. 2118, 2018 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw to regulate the use of pesticides. Exceptions include pesticide applications to invasive plants and/or noxious weeds as designated by the Province of British Columbia or any governmental entity agent.

Greenwood (City)

Programs

Education and outreach are conducted through the BISS, with resources for noxious weed controls and invasive species mitigation.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1013, 2024 - Good Neighbour Bylaw to manage invasive species/noxious weeds The City's Bylaw Enforcement officer (or anyone designated by the Mayor and Council) and members of the RCMP enforce regulations through fines. A fine of $100 is imposed

for non-compliance.

Midway (Village)

Programs

Midway Village's strategic plan includes annual spraying, as directed by the Public Works Foreman. Outreach and education include educational resources such as sharing information on social media. BISS is a partner that has provided calendars in the past with invasive species information.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 525, 2020 – Property Maintenance and Standards Bylaw to manage invasive species/noxious weeds. The Village CAO or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer enforces regulations through fines. Fines are not less than $150 and not more than $10,000, plus the cost of prosecution.

Montrose (Village)

Programs

No information on invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 779, 2024 - Good Neighbour Bylaw stating that any owner or occupier of a property shall not permit the presence or accumulation of noxious weeds.

Rossland (City)

Programs

The City of Rossland's Knotweed Program provides rebates of up to $400 of coverage for knotweed management on private property and provides of list of local licensed contractors. The City does knotweed management on city boulevards and properties.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2631, 2017 – The Good Neighbour Bylaw forbids owners and occupiers from allowing growth of noxious weeds on their property.

» No. 2673, 2017 – Noxious Weed Control Bylaw stipulating properties remain free of all noxious weeds listed in schedule A of the bylaw.

Trail (City)

Programs

The City manages issues when invasive plants are found on City property. CKISS is brought in for issues outside of the City's scope or abilities, managing the entire scope of identification, hiring the contractor, and post treatment review. CKISS also provides communications support as needed.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2936, 2024 - Solid and Yard Waste Regulation Bylaw stating yard and garden waste

shall not include invasive species.

Warfield (Village)

Programs

Partners with CKISS for management, outreach and education. The Village conducted an invasive plant study and adopted an invasive plant species control program in 2020 and hired summer staff for the invasive plant management program in 2021.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.686, 2006 - The Regulation of Untidy and Unsightly Properties Bylaw states that owners and occupants shall not allow noxious weeds to grow more than 30 cm in height on any property.

METRO VANCOUVER

Metro Vancouver Regional District

Programs

The Invasive species management program focuses on priority invasive species in the regional park system - managing the initial stages of spread, addressing illegal dumping, and revegetating with native plants. The Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) follows an Integrated Pest Management Plan and a Natural Resource Management Framework. Park associations and volunteers help to remove invasive plants from parks. The Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Ecological Restoration Team is a volunteer group that frequently meets up to remove invasive plants across the Metro Vancouver area.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1177, 2012 – Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw to prevent the introduction of invasive plants and animals that could harm the park ecosystems.

Anmore (Village)

Programs

The Village is currently developing a strategic plan. The Village currently relies on a local garden club to remove Scotch broom from public areas twice a year. Outreach and educational activities include sharing information using guides, toolkits and their website.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 188-1996 - The Property Maintenance Bylaw requiring properties to be cleared of noxious weeds.

Belcarra (Village)

Programs

The village maintains an invasive species program and plan, partners with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver (ISCMV) to map, monitor and treat some invasive plants. The municipality provides outreach and education.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.361, 2004 - Good Neighbour Bylaw where owners must remove any noxious weeds on their property.
- No. 261, 2024 - Village of Belcarra Official Community Plan Bylaw encourages the community to manage invasive species as part of the Village's goal to protect the environment. It also has policies regarding invasive species management that include partnering with the ISCMV to update their invasive species catalogue and map, develop an Invasive Species Management Plan, collaborate with ISCMV on invasive species education and management, including ivy pulling event support, and support Metro Vancouver and BC Parks to manage invasive species in təmtəmíxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park and in Say Nuth Khaw Yum/Indian Arm Provincial Park. Other policies include maintaining Belcarra's invasive species management program along Marine Avenue.

Bowen Island (Island Municipality)

Programs

Their Invasive Species Program focuses on controlling invasive plants, as well as communications and lending tools. The Municipality supports neighbourhood invasive pulls by lending out an Extractigator tool and providing disposal. The Municipality hosts the Island Pacific School on their community service days for invasive plant pulls. The Municipality also helps DFO monitor for European green crab. Outreach and education include events, campaigns, and educational resources such as websites, pamphlets, games for events, and social media posts promoting invasive species action.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 282, 2010 - Bowen Island Municipality Official Community Plan Bylaw's policy 90 states that Municipality will work with the community to build invasive species awareness, volunteer management, and mitigation measures.
- No. 556, 2021 - Pesticide Use Control Bylaw restricts the cosmetic use of pesticides with the exception of the noxious weeds listed in Schedule "A" on Private Lands and Public Land (knotweeds and giant hogweed).
- No. 568, 2022 - Site Alteration Bylaw which:
    - Does not allow or suffer the growth, or increased growth of invasive species* on the parcel or site that is subject to site alteration.
    - States every application for a permit for site alteration that involves more than 200 cubic metres (m3) of soil, or other material, or the creation of more than 300 sq. m. of exposed soil shall be accompanied by p) a site reclamation plan including an Invasive Species Management Plan, prepared by a registered professional to be incorporated into the permit.
    - *Means any alien invasive species of plant identified in the Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation under the Community Charter.

Burnaby (City)

Programs

The City's Invasive Plant Management and Treatment program focuses on Park areas (since 2009) and Engineering Rights of Ways (since 2019), identifying and prioritizing invasive plants for treatment. The Strategy identifies invasive plant abundance, distribution, and potential structural damage to City infrastructure, providing recommendations and restoration guidelines for an effective treatment strategy. Collaboration with community groups often involves weed pulls and restorative planting. The city works with ISCMV to provide training sessions for operational staff, and partners with ISCMV and the Lower Mainland Green Team for community events. Some events are in conjunction with Streamkeepers.

Bylaws & Policies

Private landowners are notified to manage invasive plants on their properties. Notifications are provided specifically for knotweed species, giant hogweed and other regional or EDRR species. Bylaw officers and Climate Action Specialists enforce removal orders for Japanese knotweed, which is enforced through the Unsightly Premises Bylaw, citing the Weed Act.

- No. 14711, 2024 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw prohibits the accumulation or growth of noxious weeds on private and public lands.
- No. 12465, 2008 - Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the cosmetic pesticide applications, but exceptions exist for managing designated pests, injurious infestations, or noxious weeds.

Coquitlam (City)

Programs

The Bad Seed program, operational for 15 years, aims to provide invasive species education, reduce green waste dumping into natural areas, and engage the public in weed pulls and restoration work. Program partners include local stewardship groups, educational institutions, and community groups who volunteer on specific restoration projects. The city has an Invasive Species Management Plan, and uses events, campaigns, guides and websites to educate the public. The city meets twice annually with an Invasive Plant Management Advisory Committee, and the Mundy Park Forest Management Plan also guides invasive plant management for this large, forested park.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 4181, 2010 – Noxious Weed Bylaw for preventing the spread of noxious weeds/eradicating giant hogweed in the community.
- No. 4853, 1998 - Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw to keep grass areas free of noxious weeds.

Delta (City)

Programs

The Invasive Species Strategy and the Invasive Plant Management Program, which has been operational for the past 46 years, helps prevent invasive species spread, educates the public, and provides early career field experience. The program's original intent was to control thistles on agricultural lands.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 6788, 2009 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the cosmetic uses of pesticides with exemptions to:

  ○ (b) the use of a pesticide in response to a danger to human or animal health or for the management of pests that transmit human diseases or impact agriculture or forestry; (e) the use of a biological control to destroy noxious pests, including rats and mice; (f) the use of a pesticide to control an infestation.

» No. 8066, 2021 - Property Enhancement Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. Enforcement is carried out by Bylaw Officers, who issue fines and removal orders. Complaints are investigated, and property owners are responsible for treatment. The City performs the work if not completed and bills the party responsible.

Langley (City)

Programs

Outreach and education include events, campaigns and websites. The City funds and partners with local non-profit groups such as the Langley Environmental Protection Society (LEPS), Langley Field Naturalists (LFN), and Green Teams of Canada.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2879, 2012 – Pesticide Control Bylaw regulates the application of pesticides but permits their use in the control or destruction of a noxious weed (as defined under the BC *Weed Control Act*) or alien invasive species (as defined under the *Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation* B.C. Reg. 144/2004).

» No. 3126, 2021 – Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw states that lands to be conveyed to the City for park shall be free of common noxious weeds, including weeds designated as an invasive plant, by the *Weed Control Regulation* under the BC *Weed Control Act*, and their seeds.

» No. 3075, 2018 - Community Standards Bylaw prohibiting the growth of noxious weeds on private property.

Langley (Township)

Programs

The Trails IPM Program, operational for over five years, controls noxious weeds on park and conservation lands owned by the municipality. The Parks Cleanup Partnership, operational for four years, works to remove invasive plants, increase usable park lands, engage the community, and foster stewardship within the youth of the township, with regularly scheduled activities. The Town works with the Langley Environmental Protection Society (LEPS) and Green Teams of Canada (GTOC) on restoration projects that focus on watersheds and riparian areas and engages the community and local schools to clean up and restore park lands respectively.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 5448, 2019 - Community Standards Bylaw prohibiting the growth of noxious weeds on private property.

Lions Bay (Village)

Programs

The village has no municipal program but sponsors the Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) to work in their region.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Maple Ridge (City)

Programs

The Invasive Species Treatment Program has been in effect since 2014. The program focuses on controlling and eradicating Japanese knotweed on public land. Confirmed occurrences are mapped through GIS and added to treatment lists. Approved contractors perform treatment applications, and sites are monitored yearly for efficacy.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 6413, 2006 - Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulating the use of pesticides for non-essential/cosmetic purposes.
- No. 6533, 2007 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The City's Bylaw Department is responsible for enforcement which includes inspections, fines, and removal orders. Noncompliance penalties are fines not less than $1,000 and not exceeding $10,000.

New Westminster (City)

Programs

The City's Natural Areas Team has been managing invasive plants for three years, through manual removals/mowing, restorative plantings, creating vernal ponds and restoring floodplains. The city creates media postings, attends public events, and posts signage around new or newly restored areas. First Nations have shown the city methods of restoration (hugelkultur), newly implemented in one City park. The city collaborated with them on plant selection and will be running First Nations-focused programs for plant ID and medicinal uses under their guidance.

Since 2018, the city has partnered with non-profit organizations New Westminster Environmental Partners and ISCMV to host 4-5 invasive plant removal events per year at Glenbrook Ravine Park.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 5969, 1991 – Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires every owner and occupier of real property shall clear that property and shall keep it cleared of brush, noxious weeds, wild grass and other untended growths.
- No. 7288, 2008 - Pesticide Use Bylaw restricts cosmetic herbicide use on residential properties, but exceptions are made for managing regulated noxious plants and health threats.

North Vancouver (City)

Programs

City Park Stewards Program creates community stewardship events for invasive plant removals and native plantings. The city follows an Invasive Plant Strategy, creating invasive plant inventories every five years. The city adopted a Climate and Environment Strategy in June 2024 and is currently developing an Urban Forest Plan. Metro Vancouver, ISCMV and member municipalities are partners in outreach and education, including events, social media, and educational resources such as websites, factsheets, and Best Management Practices.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 5659, 1986 – Nuisance Abatement Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The City's Environment Operations Department enforces regulations for City-owned land management, with occasional assistance from the Bylaw Department.
- No. 8041, 2009 – Cosmetic Pesticide Use Control Bylaw restricts usage except: (c), the Delegate is authorized to issue a permit to authorize use and application of pesticides where there is a danger to human or animal health or damage to buildings and structures; or (d) the Delegate is authorized to issue a permit to authorize use and application of pesticides to public land where there is in place an Integrated Pest Management Program governing the applicant.

North Vancouver (District)

Programs

The District of North Vancouver (DNV) follows a Strategic Plan and has been managing invasive species since 1998. The Parks team restores natural areas and provides knotweed and hogweed treatment on parkland, streets and other public lands, coordinates volunteer invasive removal and restoration events, and provides public education at Parks and Ecology Centre events. The Environment team coordinates management on District development projects and provides public education and enforcement on private property. The Climate and Biodiversity team initiated an Invasive Species Inventory, identifying priority areas and recent introductions. The DNV is part of the Regional Invasive Species Working Group, sharing management techniques and special projects. The North Shore Streamkeepers collaborate with the DNV on invasive management and restoration of riparian areas surrounding fish-bearing streams. Several corporate groups conduct invasive removal events with the DNV. Efforts are directed towards upcoming restoration projects and other priority areas.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on invasive species-related bylaws or policies could be found online.

Pitt Meadows (City)

Programs

The city is currently developing an Invasive Species Management Plan.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1400, 1991 – Property Maintenance Bylaw prohibiting the accumulation of noxious weeds
- No. 2377, 2008 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw to keep grass areas free of noxious

weeds

» No. 2502, 2011 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the use of pesticides for non-essential/cosmetic purposes. Citizens are asked to report invasive species through the Report Invasive Species App.

Port Coquitlam (City)

Programs

The city has a summer herbicidal treatment program for priority invasive species on public lands. They host invasive plant removals with local schools and stewardship groups, such as Burke Mountain Naturalists and the Maple Creek Streamkeepers. Education is provided through websites. Since the first detection of Japanese beetle in Port Coquitlam in 2022, the city has worked in collaboration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, ISCBC, BC Landscape Nursery Association, and other stakeholders to prevent their spread through trapping and spray treatments, as well as education and outreach events.

Bylaws & Policies

The Bylaw Department enforces regulations using fines, and removal orders.

» No. 4190, 2020 – Property Standards and Nuisance Abatement Bylaw states property owners must not allow the accumulation or growth of noxious weeds (as per the BC *Weed Control Act)*.

» No. 3767, 2011 – Pesticide Use and Control Bylaw restricts the cosmetic use of pesticides, but with exemptions to the use of pesticides related to farming, that impact forestry and to protect public health and safety (such as the removal of dangerous invasive species such as giant hogweed).

» No. 3965, 2018 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw states and owner or occupier may improve the portion of the boulevard directly adjacent to the owner or occupier's land but in no case including any noxious weeds (means any weed designated in the BC *Weed Control Act*).

Port Moody (City)

Programs

As of 2025, the city is creating a management strategy to guide future work under the current Invasive Species Management Program. Operational since 2013, the program focuses on control and eradication in natural areas within the city and transportation corridors. The city plans to implement a stronger program focusing on the prevention and detection, with enhanced education and outreach. A bi-annual volunteer program is operated in partnership with the Port Moody Ecology Society, Burrard Inlet Enhancement Society, Burke Mountain Naturalists, Green Teams Canada, and the Rotary Club of Port Moody. These organizations host outreach and removal/planting events. Outreach includes events and sharing educational resources.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2575, 2003 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw where permitted pesticides may be used control noxious plants There is currently no bylaw to enforce non-compliance with

invasive species. The city hopes to include this under the implementation portion of the upcoming new strategy.

» No. 1220, 1975 - City of Port Moody Untidy and Unsightly Premises Bylaw forbidding the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

Richmond (City)

Programs

The Invasive Species Action Plan was developed in 2017, partnering with the Regional Invasive Species Working Group, Soils and Invasive Species Working Group, Japanese Beetle Committees, and ISCBC. Volunteers from the Lower Mainland Green Team and local garden clubs help with removals. The Enhanced Pesticide Management Plan, in place since 2014, minimizes exposure to traditional pesticides by offering alternative organic pesticides and integrated pest management approaches. The community has been provided with a suite of outreach education and initiatives. Invasive plant management is highlighted in development applications.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 8514, 2016 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the use of pesticides for non-essential/cosmetic purposes with exceptions to:

- Management of pests that impact agriculture or forestry;
- Land used for forestry, transportation, public utilities or pipelines;
- Biological control to control or eradicate a pest;
- To control, manage or eradicate a noxious weed.

» No. 714, 2001 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw to keep grass areas free of noxious weeds. The Bylaws and Environment Coordinator is responsible for enforcement. The focus is on education and awareness, and no associated penalties exist.

Surrey (City)

Programs

Invasive Plant Management Program - Natural Areas, in operation since 2000, focuses on natural areas managed by the City's Parks Department, and knotweeds/giant hogweed on all City/Park owned lands. A priority species inventory is developed for eradication and control, and treatment sites restored with native trees and shrubs. The Park's Urban Forestry Stewardship Team implements community and volunteer invasive plant removals and native plantings, educational signage, brochures, and web information. The city has collaborated with the City of Delta for the management of a shared watershed and with First Nations when invasive removal sites require archaeological assessments.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 6533-2007 – Property Maintenance & Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The Bylaw Department enforces invasive species regulations through fines.

» No. 17160, 2010 – Surrey Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the use of pesticides

for non-essential/cosmetic purposes but allows for the control of noxious weeds (as designated under the BC *Weed Control Act.*

Vancouver (City)

Programs

Since 2017 when Japanese beetle was first detected in the False Creek area, the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation have worked in collaboration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, ISCBC, BC Landscape Nursery Association, and other stakeholders to prevent their spread through trapping and spray treatments, as well as education and outreach events.

ISCMV works with the city to host public invasive plant removal events and engages the public in education and outreach initiatives. They are a major hub of information on invasive species across the Metro Vancouver region, and host virtual workshops on invasive species.

The Vancouver Park Board works with the Stanley Park Ecology Society to remove invasive ornamental lilies from Beaver Lake.

The City's Seeding Stewardship Program provides residents with resources and training to create and lead a stewardship group that conducts nature-based stewardship activities, including invasive plant management.

There are various environment-focused organizations listed as Park Partners on the City's website that conduct hands-on work with invasive species management and host invasive plant removal community events at parks across the City of Vancouver. These groups include the ISCMV, Stanley Park Ecology Society, Everett Crowley Park Committee, Jericho Stewardship Group, Still Moon Arts Society, Nature Vancouver, and Environmental Youth Alliance. Other organizations that host community invasive plant removal events include Free the Fern Stewardship Society, and Pacific Spirit Park Society.

The city works with the SPCA, ISCBC and wildlife experts on long-term monitoring and research on European rabbit populations in parks around Vancouver.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 9535, 2025 – Health Bylaw restricting the use of pesticides with exemptions for specific applications and active ingredients (Schedule A).
- No. 4548, 2019 – Untidy Premises Bylaw states every owner or occupier of a parcel of real property shall keep the same cleared of weeds, brush, trees, or other growths, within a reasonable standard of that prevailing in the neighbourhood.

West Vancouver (District)

Programs

The Ivy Removal Program has been operational for two years, focusing on trees, riparian areas, and sensitive ecosystems in parks. The Knotweed Removal program, operational for the past 10 years, focuses on prevention, detection, control and eradication, and municipal land treatments. Invasive weed pulls take place annually and signs are used to educate the public on completed works. The district follows an invasive species management plan. Outreach and education consist of work with stewardship groups and schools (for invasive plant removal and

planting events), public events, guides, and websites.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 4377, 2004 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw restricts the use of pesticides except those to: 5.2.3 the use of a biological control to destroy insects or noxious animals, including rats and mice; 5.2.8 the use of pesticides to treat or control the spread of those noxious weeds listed in Schedule "C" on Private Lands and Public Lands, provided the person utilizes the methods set out in Schedule "C".
- No. 4830, 2004 - Good Neighbour Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.
- No. 4886, 2016 - Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw to keep grass areas free of noxious weeds/illegal to plant 19 target invasive plants. The District's Bylaw department enforces regulations through fines and removal orders.

White Rock (City)

Programs

The city has a Parks Master Plan with an Invasive Species Management Plan, and control priority invasive species in parks. The City and Lower Mainland Green Team work together to host community events across various parks in White Rock for invasive plant removal.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1864, 2009 – Pesticide Use Bylaw to regulate the cosmetic use of pesticides with exemptions to:
  - a biological control agent to destroy pests;
  - a pesticide on land used for agriculture, forestry, transportation, public utilities or pipelines
    - * "pest" means an injurious, noxious or troublesome living organism, but does not include a virus, bacteria, fungus or internal parasite that exists on or in humans or animals.
- No. 2019, 2013 – Unsightly Premises and Graffiti Abatement Bylaw states no owner or occupier shall cause or permit (c) trees, weeds or other growths that Council considers should be removed, cut down or trimmed.
- No. 2220, 2017 - White Rock Official Community Plan Bylaw with policies on landscaping advising against planting invasive species when gardening.

MOUNT WADDINGTON

Regional District of Mount Waddington

The Regional District coordinates a regional response to knotweeds, bringing together other organizations and securing funding.

Bylaws & Policies

No information on regional district invasive species-related bylaws, or policies could be found online.

Alert Bay (Village)

No information on invasive species-related programs, bylaws, or policies could be found online.

Port Alice (Village)

Programs

No information on invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 575, 2010 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw states property owners must clear property of noxious weeds listed under the BC *Weed Control Act*.
- No. 645, 2018 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw states every owner and occupier shall b) keep grass areas mowed, trimmed and free of noxious weeds.
- Port Alice Official Community Plan, 2023 - Section 5.9.7 states the Village will continue to monitor and address invasive species management in the community.

Port Hardy (District)

Programs

No information on district invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 10-2008 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw where owners must clear property of noxious weeds listed under the BC *Weed Control Act*.

Port McNeill (Town)

Programs

No information on invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 584, 2006 - Municipal Ticket Information System Bylaw where failure to clear brush/trees/noxious weeds counts as an infraction under its Nuisances & Unsightly Premises section. The specified fine for failing to clear noxious weeds from a property under this municipal ticket system is $100.00.

NANAIMO

Regional District of Nanaimo

Programs

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) has a page focusing on invasive species in the region which includes information on reporting invasives, a list of priority species, an 'Ask a Plant Expert' Q&A board, and an invitational link to become a volunteer to remove invasive

species in RDN community parks. The RDN currently partners with ISCBC and Coastal ISC for managing priority invasive species as well as BroomBusters and local conservationist and ecological restoration consultant Hunter Jarratt on public invasive plant removals and educational outreach initiatives. RDN staff and volunteers have worked together at weed pulling days, Scotch broom removal events, and restoration projects. The RDN has a tool library for streamkeepers and environmental stewardship groups which includes tools for invasive species removal. The RDN 2025 Parks Biodiversity Plan outlines the impacts of invasive species, lists municipal, provincial and federal invasive species management guidelines, and a parks biodiversity plan that includes goals and guidelines for invasive plant management in the RDN area. RDN Parks staff collaborate with RDN Drinking Water and Watershed Protection and RDN Energy and Sustainability for public engagement and outreach initiatives on invasive species, and the RDN Parks Operations Coordinator for Natural Areas provides support to stewardship groups on invasive species awareness. Volunteers from various organizations have engaged in invasive species removal and/or native planting initiatives to prevent the encroachment of invasive species. The Coastal ISC works with the Regional District to manage giant hogweed and knotweeds on public and private land, with some residents being eligible for free control of these species on their land.

Bylaws & Policies

» Policy C1-07, 2021 - Tree, Fire Risk and Invasive Species Management RDN Parks & Trails Policy gives guidance on prioritizing management of priority invasive species such as giant hogweed, Daphne laurel and poison hemlock while recommending management over eradication for more established species such as English ivy, Himalayan blackberry and Scotch broom. Recommendations in the policy include allocating operational funding for invasive species management, working with non-profits and volunteer groups to manage invasives, and an educational campaign on the harm of dumping yard waste into natural areas, signage on invasive species prevalent in parks, and educating park users on the RDN's efforts to manage invasive species.

Lantzville (District)

Programs

Invasive species are included in the District of Lantzville's Council Strategic Priority. The district's newsletter shares invasive species education. BroomBusters often hosts Scotch broom removal events in Lantzville.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 200, 2021 - Good Neighbour Bylaw for managing invasive species/noxious weeds.

» No. 150, 2019 - Official Community Plan Section 4.2.1 discourages the planting of and encourages the removal of invasive species/noxious weeds.

The District's Bylaw Officer enforces regulations through inspections and the issuance of removal orders. The penalties for non-compliance are municipal tickets or court procedures.

Nanaimo (City)

Programs

The Partners in Parks program relies on volunteers to help maintain and beautify open spaces,

parks and trails. The city works with the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) as some waterways and lands border each other. The city works on Garry oak protection and restoration with the Provincial government. Several groups help monitor streams and rivers, and the Nanaimo Area and Land Trust helps with invasive species and restoration projects. The City of Nanaimo is in the process of creating a Parks Biodiversity plan. The City focuses on education and sharing invasive species resources at community events.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 7242, 2017 – The Property Maintenance and Standards Bylaw requires the owner or occupier of real property or their agents shall remove from the entire property all noxious weeds and all brush or overgrowth which becomes a nuisance. Noxious or invasive species which, for the purposes of this bylaw, are limited to Himalayan blackberries, English ivy, Canada thistle, giant hogweed, knotweed, and Scotch broom.
- No. 7102, 2010 – Pesticide Use Bylaw regulates the cosmetic usage of pesticides, but with the exception to be (8) applied for the control of or eradication of an alien invasive species of plant. Alien invasive species means the species of plants listed in sections 1 and 2 of the Schedule to BC Reg. 144/2004 in *Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation*).

Parksville (City)

Programs

The Habitat Restoration Program has been supporting BroomBusters since 2006 to target Scotch broom. In conjunction with the Coastal ISC, knotweed and hogweed have been targeted on public and private property since 2015, with residents being eligible for free control of these species on their land. With an inventory of over 700 invasive species sites on City property and parks, the priority is removal of invasive species in sensitive wetlands and riparian areas, with native species planted on disturbed sites. Outreach activities include events, campaigns, and the use of educational resources.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1383, 2003 - Property Maintenance Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The Bylaw and Parks teams enforce regulations through inspections, fines, and removal orders.

Qualicum Beach (Town)

Programs

The town participates in regional invasive species management and partners with the Coastal ISC and neighboring municipalities on targeted priority species like knotweeds.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 722, 2018 - Noxious Weeds and Grass bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. "Noxious Weeds" means any weed designated by regulations a noxious weed pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act,* Regulation 66/85 and all amendments thereto; and in addition, any plant identified in ”Schedule A”. The Town is responsible for enforcement actions, including inspections and fines.

NORTH COAST

North Coast Regional District

No information on invasive species-related programs, bylaws, or policies could be found online.

Daajing Giids (Village)

Programs

Based in Daajing Giids, the Council of the Haida Nation actively monitors and manages invasive plants and European green crab across Haida Gwaii. The Council of the Haida Nation's Marine Planning Program, working in partnership with the Province of BC and Canada Government, are working to prevent novel aquatic invasive species introductions and stop the spread of invasive species already in Haida Gwaii. Knotweed is currently managed near infrastructure.

Bylaws & Policies

» The Good Neighbour Policy, enforced by the Good Neighbour Enforcement Policy, whereby nuisances include i) trees, weeds or other growths that council considered should be removed, cut down or trimmed.

Masset (Village)

Programs

The Village addresses invasive species management as a policy objective outlined in its official community plan and through active coordination with regional partners.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 268, 2017 - Village of Masset's Integrated Official Community Plan includes supporting strategies to manage invasive plants and aquatic species according to the BC *Weed Control Act* and the federal *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations*.

Port Clements (Village)

Programs

The Village addresses invasive species management as a policy objective outlined in its Official Community Plan and through active coordination with regional partners.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 490, 2025 - The Official Community Plan for Port Clements Bylaw includes policies for supporting the control of invasive species such as Japanese knotweed through careful and limited use of chemical treatments.

Port Edward (District)

Programs

The Invasive Plant Management Program, operational since 2021, focuses on high-priority invasive plants and treatments in partnership with the NWIPC. The land area managed is now within the municipal boundaries of Port Edward. Information is shared through social media posts and a monthly newsletter.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 706, 2020 - Property Maintenance and Standards Bylaw to prevent accumulation of noxious weeds on private properties. "Noxious Weeds" are defined as any harmful or invasive species designated under the *Weed Control Regulation* pursuant to the provincial BC *Weed Control Act.*

Prince Rupert (City)

Programs

The city's operations department partners with NWIPC to manage invasive plants like knotweed in the community. Outreach and education include websites, campaigns, and other resources. The City's Climate Adaptation and Action Plan touches on invasive species with some recommendations.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 3297, 2010 – Property Maintenance Bylaw that gives the City Council authority to regulate and control of noxious weeds on public and private, and impose requirements related to bylaw enforcement.

NORTH OKANAGAN

Regional District of North Okanagan

Programs

The Regional District's website contains information and resources on identifying, managing and reporting invasive species. The Greater Vernon Natural Space and Trails Master Plan includes actions for managing invasive species in natural spaces. The Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) works together with ISCBC on invasive species prevention and management, community education, early detection, and joint management with stakeholders and government agencies.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 59, 1972 - Noxious Insect Control Bylaw to prevent and control infestations of noxious insects, including invasive codling moths.

» No. 2574, 2013 – Starling Control Program Grant Service Establishment Bylaw to provide a grant service for the management of invasive European starlings.

Armstrong (City)

Programs

Partners with the RDNO which administers the Invasive Species Program for the area.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1829, 2018 – Good Neighbour Bylaw to manage invasive species/noxious weeds.

Coldstream (District)

Programs

Runs a yearly spraying program to tackle invasive and noxious weeds on District properties. An annual letter about noxious weeds is sent in March, providing education to property owners where infestations have been reported in the past, and to those in areas where noxious weeds tend to proliferate.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1129, 1993 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.
- No. 1630, 2013 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw states the owner or occupier shall maintain the boulevard to the back of the curb or sidewalk by removing noxious weeds (any weed designated by a provincial regulation to be a noxious weed).
- No. 1855, 2024 – Official Community Plan Bylaw states the following for invasive species within the permitting guidelines:
    - 4.g) removal of any invasive plant species and replanting of native species, in accordance with a restoration plan approved in writing by a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP).
    - A Riparian Restoration Plan must be prepared by a Qualified Environmental Professional, including but not limited to invasive species control.
    - The installation of invasive plant species is prohibited, in accordance with the *Invasive Plants Regulation* under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Enderby (City)

Programs

Outreach includes educational resources through the RDNO which administers the Invasive Species Program in the Enderby area.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 1517, 2013 - City of Enderby Good Neighbour Bylaw forbidding the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

Lumby (Village)

Programs

The Village partners with the RDNO, which administers the Invasive Species Program for the area.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 838, 2020 - Good Neighbour Bylaw where the Village's Bylaw Department enforces regulations through fines for unsightly premises (dry vegetation, weeds, and dead trees, as well as any noxious, offensive, harmful, or unwholesome matter). There is a $200 fine for the first offence and $400 for each subsequent offence until the area is cleaned up. Costs are added to property taxes.

Spallumcheen (Township)

Programs

The Township's Noxious Weed Control program focuses on road boulevards, using a combination of mowing, mechanical treatments and herbicide spray. This program was initiated in 2021, following the dissolution of the regional program, as a collaborative approach to target areas and slow the spread of invasive species in the region. Outreach and education include guides, toolkits, and websites.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.1974 - Noxious Weed Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.
- No. 2036 - Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw to keep grass areas free of noxious weeds. Enforcement is carried out by Bylaw Officers, who issue fines and removal orders. Non-compliance is complaint-based, and fines may include a ticket or the cost of removal.

Vernon (City)

Programs

The city follows an Environmental Management Areas Strategy, a guide which designates environmentally sensitive areas and provides mitigation measures, such as the introduction of vegetation management plans for larger developments. Invasive species management is under the umbrella of the City's Climate Action Plan.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 5470, 2013 – Official Community Plan Bylaw emphasizing landscaping with native and non-invasive plants.
- No 6200, 2025 – Official Community Plan Bylaw containing policies for climate and environment relating to invasive species. Policies include collaborating with the Okanagan Basin Water Board, the Province, and other local governments to stop the spread of invasive mussels, and conducting tree inventories in natural areas, public spaces and private properties to find invasive trees to be removed.
- No. 4980, 2005 – Good Neighbour Bylaw includes boulevard maintenance including a weed control program. The Bylaw Compliance Division enforces regulations through inspections, fines, and removal orders. Fines for non-compliance are $100.

NORTHERN ROCKIES REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Programs

The Weed Control Program, operational for over 10 years, focuses on treating invasive species on boulevards.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 242, 2025 - Northern Rockies Regional Municipality Official Community Plan Bylaw containing policies related to invasive species including planting non-invasive, climate resilient species throughout the community, and preventing invasive species introductions.
- No. 12, 2009 - Northern Rockies Regional Municipality Property Maintenance Bylaw allowing the Regional Council to regulate and control noxious weeds and requiring

property owners and occupiers to prevent accumulations of noxious weeds.

OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

Programs

The Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS) has been involved with invasive species prevention, detection and management in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) since 1996. Citizen Science Volunteers with OASISS participate in two programs: The Invasive Mussel Monitoring program at private docks, and Shoreline Surveys for invasive clams along Osoyoos Lake. The regional district website has pages on invasive plants, aquatic invasive species, and links to resources on reporting and identification. Additionally, Okanagan Invasive Species Online is a collaborative project that shares information on invasive species common to the Okanagan Valley region.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 2065, 2001 – Invasive Species Management Service Establishment Bylaw which combines the Noxious Weed and Nuisance Control services with noxious and destructive insects function and authorizes the Regional District Board to operate services needed for invasive species management within the Regional District.
- No. 2711, 2015 - Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Noxious and Destructive Insect and Pest Control Bylaw regulating the prevention, removal and continued control of noxious and destructive insects and related pest infestations.

Keremeos (Village)

Programs

Outreach and education include campaigns and resources such as guides and websites, to which OASISS is a partner in these activities. The Village's Public Works Department enforces regulations through inspections.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 810, 2014 – Good Neighbour Bylaw requiring property owners to prevent accumulations of noxious weeds. The village bylaw enforcement handles property maintenance concerns on a complaint-only basis.

Oliver (Town)

Programs

Outreach and education include sharing educational resources such as guides. The Town partners with RDOSC and OASISS.

Bylaws & Policies

- Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan states consultation with OASISS to identify and map occurrences of invasive grasses on municipal or public lands (e.g., cheatgrass, North Africa grass), and push for treatment and disposal of these species.
- Oliver + Area Trails Master Plan shares guidelines for invasive plant management when

planning and developing new trails and maintenance of existing trails.

» No. 1357, 2015 – Good Neighbor Bylaw prevents the accumulation of noxious weeds (any weed designated by regulation to be a noxious weed pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act* and includes the seeds of a noxious weed).

» No. 1436, 2026– Town of Oliver Official Community Plan Bylaw requires development permits within environmentally sensitive development permit area needs, and to control invasive plant species using site and species appropriate methods such as hand pulling, digging, cutting and mowing.

Osoyoos (Town)

Programs

Residents are referred to the OASISS for information about support with invasive species.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.1235, 2007 - Land Use Procedures Bylaw for removal of invasive species/restoration.

» No. 1277, 2011 - Good Neighbour Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. The Town's Bylaw Enforcement Officers and the Chief Administrative Officer have the authority to enforce these bylaws. Removal orders may be issued for boulevards, and development requests may be made to identify and remediate invasive species when a qualified professional has identified them.

Penticton (City)

Programs

Works with RDOS to manage and fund management in the municipality. Partners with the OASISS to provide outreach and education.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2019-08, 2019 - Official Community Plan Bylaw prohibits the use of invasive plants in landscaping. The City of Penticton staff perform inspections to ensure compliance.

» No. 5030, 2012 - Good Neighbour Bylaw requires owner shall not permit the accumulation of noxious weeds (means a weed designated by the BC *Weed Control Act*, Chapter/Regulation 487, and the *Weed Control Regulation* to be a noxious weed and includes the seeds of a noxious weed) to remain on the Real Property.

Princeton (Town)

Programs

Works with RDOS to manage and fund management in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 813, 2009 - Property Maintenance Bylaw forbidding people from allowing noxious weeds or noxious or destructive insects to accumulate on property, boulevards and alleyways, and forbids people from dumping noxious weed waste on public property.

Summerland (District)

Programs

Focuses on the elimination of invasive species from road rights-of-ways and parks. Several local communities partner with OASISS and support from RDOS, sharing regional communications, analysis, and invasive species removals.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2021-023, 2021 - Good Neighbour Bylaw forbidding the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

PEACE RIVER

Peace River Regional District

Programs

The Invasive Plant Program, part of the Peace River Regional District's (PRRD) Environmental Services Department, handles outreach and education, compliance and enforcement related to invasive species, and are involved with identifying invasive reports from public. The Invasive Plant Program has two committees: The Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants Monitoring Committee (made up of stakeholders and interested individuals-membership open to the public); The Invasive Plant Committee of the Peace River Regional District (regional board advisory committee that considers issues affecting communities in PRRD, provide direction for operations on invasive plant program).

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2482, 2022 - Invasive Plant Control Bylaw requires property owners or occupiers to prevent the accumulation of any invasive plant or noxious weed. The Environmental Services Manager, or designate, may enter any Real Property for the purpose of enforcing and administering this bylaw. Every person found guilty of an offence shall receive a warning ticket and all further action will be reported to the Provincial Ministry responsible for enforcing the BC *Weed Control Act*.

» The 2025 Strategic Plan and Profile includes an annual work plan for the Invasive Plant Program which covers inventory and surveys, treatment and treatment monitoring, education and awareness, coordination and partnership building, provincial EDRR support, and reporting and data management. Special projects include free invasive plant dumping, strengthening partnerships with First Nations communities for invasive plant control, and relaunching awareness programs on oxeye daisy and invasive hawkweeds.

Chetwynd (District)

Programs

The district does not run its own programs but works with PRRD to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No, 884, 2008 - Noxious Weeds Regulation Bylaw requires owners and occupiers to keep the property free of noxious weeds.

» No. 912, 2009 - Property Maintenance & Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires that no person shall cause or permit a noxious weed to grow on the property of which he or she is the owner or occupier.

Dawson Creek (City)

Programs

The City follows a Noxious Weed Control Plan for the removal and treatment of noxious and invasive weeds. This program has been in operation since 2009 in conjunction with the PRRD. The City's strategic plan involves regular inspection at worksites to identify weeds and select for treatment and removal. A private contractor treats specific areas for noxious and invasive weeds. The city provides educational resources, including guides, toolkits, and websites.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 4190, 2013 – Property Maintenance Bylaw requires that no owner or occupier of property within the City will cause or permit refuse or other noxious, offensive or unwholesome matter (noxious weeds, or other noxious or destructive insects) to collect or accumulate on or around the property, including the boulevard(s).

» Municipal Development Permit Area Guidelines development principle 21: Remove invasive species, manually where feasible, and take measures to prevent the spread of invasive species.

The City's Bylaw Department enforces compliance through the issuance of removal orders.

Fort St. John (City)

Programs

The Integrated Pest Management Program, operational since 2016, focuses on invasive species on municipal properties. Outreach and education include campaigns, educational resources, and the use of websites.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2434, 2018 - Property Standards Bylaw promotes property maintenance and keeping properties clear of noxious weeds and insects. Enforcement actions include inspections, fines, and removal orders. A fine of $150-250 is imposed for non-compliance.

Hudson's Hope (District)

Programs

The district does not run its own programs but works with PRRD to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 791, 2010 – Property Maintenance Bylaw forbidding owners or occupiers to allow noxious weeds to grow on the property.

» No. 822, 2013 - District of Hudson's Hope Official Community Plan Bylaw includes measures for continuing to work with the PRRD's Invasive Plant Committee to protect farmland and ecosystems from invasive species impacts, and to work towards an invasive plant management program that minimizes pesticide use.

Pouce Coupe (Village)

Programs

The Village does not run their own programs but works with PRRD to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 588, 1991 - Property Maintenance and Noise Bylaw requires property owners and occupiers to keep the property, including boulevards in front of the property, free of noxious weeds.

Taylor (District)

Programs

The district does not run its own programs but works with PRRD to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 876, 2023 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw stating that no property or premises shall have noxious weeds on site. If an inspector deems a property to be in contravention of this, they may issue a Weeds, Grass and Litter Order to a property owner requiring them to remove and dispose of any noxious weeds on their property. The bylaw also lists the following species of concern to the district: Canada thistle, Russian thistle, marsh plume thistle, scentless chamomile, oxeye daisy, common daisy, common tansy, cleavers, green foxtail, wild mustard, burdock, yellow and orange hawkweed, spotted and diffuse knapweed.

Tumbler Ridge (District)

Programs

The district works with the PRRD and other strategic partnerships with provincial and regional organizations to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 707, 2023 - The Tumbler Ridge Official Community Plan Bylaw notes that the district will create strategies that encourage property owners and developers to control invasive plants as described in the BC *Weed Control Act*.

» No. 747, 2025 – The District of Tumbler Ridge Zoning Bylaw includes requirements for future development zones require strategies to control invasive plants as described in the BC *Weed Control Act.*

QATHET

qathet Regional District

Programs

qathet Regional District's (qRD) Regional Invasive Plant Disposal Plan was implemented in 2022, and the Regional District purchased a machine that disposes of invasive plant waste using Air Curtain Burning Technology, giving it the name 'The Burn Boss'. The qRD works with various partners including BroomBusters, the Tla'amin Nation, the City of Powell River, and garden clubs to host and promote collection events of invasive plant materials disposal using the Burn Boss. As of 2026, qRD continues to host free invasive plant collection events. The Regional District Board of Directors adopted the Invasive Plant Management Strategy in 2017, establishing a framework for collaboration on managing and eradicating invasive plants. This strategy included the creation of the Invasive Plant Technical Review Committee consisting of representatives from the qathet Regional District, Tla'amin Nation, the City of Powell River, provincial agencies, and key landowners and managers.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.403, 2006 - qathet Regional District's Savary Island Official Community Plan Bylaw prohibits the use of invasive plants to stabilize slopes along shoreline Development Permit Areas.
- No.551, 2019 - Texada Island Official Community Plan Bylaw notes that Texada Island works with the Coastal ISC on education about invasive species impacts.
- Policy No. 1.12, 2016 - Integrated Pest Management Program Policy outlines alternative management (cultural and biological control methods) to pesticide-use, and lists procedures for when a pesticide must be used to control or eradicate an invasive species.

Powell River (City)

Programs

The City works and funds the management of aggressive invasive species like knotweed and cooperates with the qRD on seasonal free disposal of plant waste. They actively support community partners and volunteers to manage invasive species in the municipality (e.g., BroomBusters, Westview Elementary, Lang Creek Native Plant Garden, qathet School District, Kelly Creek Community School, and the property owner of the Powell River Salmon Society). The Powell River Community Forest Stewardship Plan includes a section on measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plants. This includes the Forest Stewardship Plan holder and contractors identifying invasive plants on site and working collaboratively to eradicate or manage the spread of invasive priority species on site.

Bylaws & Policies

- No.2649, 2021 Property and Building Maintenance Standards Bylaw forbidding residents from allowing noxious weeds to accumulate on their property.
- No. 2784, 2025 – The Municipal Solid Waste Collection Bylaw includes organics as accepted waste, but not invasive species.

SQUAMISH-LILLOOET

Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Programs

The invasive species program has been operational since 2011. The Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) and Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society (LRISS) oversee the treatment of invasive species in the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD). The program provides education, training and outreach to communities, focusing on priority invasive plants. Outreach activities include events, campaigns and educational resources.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 1542-2017 - Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Noxious Weeds Control Bylaw prohibits the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property. The Regional District's Bylaw department enforces regulations through inspections, fines, and removal orders with a maximum penalty of $2,000.

- No. 1541-2017 – SLRD Invasive Species Management and Control Service Establishment Bylaw stipulating invasive species control and management are conducted within the Regional District through entering contracts with external parties for services.

Lillooet (District)

Programs

The LRISS conducts surveys, invasive plant removal, and education on invasive species throughout the Lillooet region.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2026-034 - District of Lillooet Invasive Species Management Bylaw bans the sale of invasive plants and seeds within the district and requires the removal of harmful invasive species on private lands.

Pemberton (Village)

Programs

The SLRD, which encompasses the Village of Pemberton, has a guide to owning land in agricultural land reserve which states that weeds and invasive plants must be kept under control. A plant list for residents is also available that includes invasive plants to avoid. The Pemberton Valley Agricultural Area Plan's actionable steps for the regional board include installing trailhead signage to educate users about preventing invasive species from spreading, working with organizations to educate landowners about invasive species, and examining supporting local invasive species councils with invasive weed mapping projects. Action steps for the Regional District include installing signage in recreation areas, distributing brochures to new property owners, supporting the SSISC with initiatives, providing education to recreation/tourism operators, nurseries, gardeners and landscapers on invasive species identification, risk factors and prevention, encourage these commercial users to develop precautions towards introducing invasives. The Spel'kúmtn Community Forest Stewardship Plan highlights measures to prevent introduction and spread of invasive plants by forest practitioners. This includes conducting an inventory, mapping and monitoring of invasive species in cut blocks and roadsides, reporting instances of invasive plants,

revegetating and/or reseeding areas altered by forestry practices to reduce invasive plant establishment, ensuring work wear and equipment are free from invasive plants parts and seeds, and removing any invasive plants that have appeared due to Licensee's primary forestry activities.

The SSISC has been involved with invasive species monitoring and management in Pemberton including invasive species surveys, mapping and control on public and private lands in Pemberton and Mt. Currie and hosting public invasive plant removal events for removing burdock and yellow archangel. They have produced various resources on invasive plants in the Pemberton area including resources for realtors and landowners with links to relevant bylaws, eLearning courses, best soil disposal practices, and a guide to invasive species identification and management.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 822, 2017 - Village of Pemberton Site Alteration Bylaw where site alterations involving removal or deposit of soil, cut trees or other materials should minimize the spread of invasive species. Any application for a site alteration over 100 cubic metres of soil, cutting trees, or other materials shall include site reclamation plans prepared by a Registered Professional that includes an Invasive Species Management Plan.

» No. 476, 2002 - Village of Pemberton Unsightly Premises Bylaw forbidding owners or occupiers of a property to allow noxious weed overgrowth.

» No. 713, 2012 – Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw requires the boulevard immediately abutting an owner's property, such property owner must keep the boulevard free of brush and noxious weeds.

Squamish (District)

Programs

The district has a new program focused on control and eradication on private property in accordance with the Invasive Species Management Bylaw developed in 2020. The bylaw is implemented with helpful input from many local governments such as the Resort Municipality of Whistler, City of Richmond, SLRD, and is in partnership with the SSISC. Municipal staff receive education in identification and reporting requirements for invasives. SSISC provides community education opportunities such as weed pulls, private property consulting for invasives control and an Invasive Plant Retail Campaign asking retailers of invasive plant species for voluntary compliance with the bylaw, among other things. New municipal driven restoration projects focus on invasive species management in riparian areas. A contractor has been hired to remove invasive species and replant the area with native species.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2786, 2020 – District of Squamish Invasive Species Management Bylaw prohibiting accumulation of invasive species, allows recovery of abatement costs.

The district aims to seek voluntary compliance, often achieved through education. Under the bylaw, the district may deliver a notice informing a property owner/occupier of the presence of invasive species, recommended steps to treat the species, and a reasonable timeline in which they are to comply. In cases of non-compliance, the district can issue a fine (≤ $10,000) or

ensure compliance by performing the works at the landowner's or occupier's expense.

» No. 2641, 2018 – Soils Management Bylaw regulates the deposit and removal of soil containing invasive species.

The presence of invasive species on site requires a Management Plan to be prepared by a Qualified Environmental Professional following BMPs. The district enforces regulations through inspections, fines up to $50,000 or work performed at the landowner/occupier's expense and stop work orders for developments. Currently, the District is taking an educational approach with voluntary compliance.

» No. 2787, 2020 – Pesticide and Herbicide Bylaw restricts their usage with exceptions: (f) applied to control or destroy Invasive Species in accordance with the *Integrated Pest Management Act* and the Invasive Species Management Bylaw; (g) applied by the Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council in accordance with the *Integrated Pest Management Act.* "Invasive Species" means any species listed in Section 1 of the Schedule to the *Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation* under the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26 as an "alien invasive species".

Whistler (Resort Municipality)

Programs

Partners with the SSISC on an Invasive Species Management Plan, which has been in operation since 2012. The SSISC supports program development, training, education and outreach, as well as an invasive plant field program and bylaw support. The SSISC is responsible for outreach, and the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) shares their information on websites, social posts, weekly e-newsletters, and the mayor's report. The RMOW collaborates with the District of Squamish on invasive species management, sharing experiences and insights on regulatory efforts and processes.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 810, 1990 and amendment No. 836,1991 – Property Maintenance Bylaw requires every owner and occupier to clear the property of noxious weeds. "Noxious Weed" means any weed and the seed thereof to the extent the weed is designated by the regulations under the BC *Weed Control Act*, R.S.B.C. 1979, c. 432 and amendments thereto.

» No. 1822, 2007 – Pesticide Use Regulation Bylaw restricts the application or use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes with the exceptions of:

  - 4.1.5. To control, destroy, reduce or repel, directly or indirectly, a pest or invasive species which is harmful to human health or the environment, when used in accordance with the *Integrated Pest Management Act*, SBC 2003, c. 58;
  - 4.1.6. Where permitted pursuant to *Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction – Environment and Wildlife Regulation* [B.C. Reg 144/2004]; and
  - 4.1.7. To golf courses, only where the principals of Integrated Pest Management have been applied by a certified Integrated Pest Management practitioner with a valid pesticide applicators certificate and the pesticide application is a last resort to avoid the loss of use of the facility.

» No. 2426, 2025 - Environmental Protection Bylaw prohibiting planting/sowing/deposit,

release, sale, introduction or spread or any invasive species. The Manager of Climate and Environment of the Resort Municipality may order anyone responsible for the introduction or spread an invasive species to take measures to control and manage forth.

» No. 2469, 2025 – Solid Waste Bylaw states the following:

  - A person shall not dispose of invasive species except in a container, receptacle, or other location labelled and designated for invasive species* or Landfill Waste. “Yard Waste” includes plant matter that is generated from landscape maintenance but does not include Invasive Species.
  - Soil with invasive species is banned from landfills.
  - * “Invasive Species” means any species listed as an “alien invasive species” in the *Spheres of Concurrent Jurisdiction — Environment and Wildlife Regulation.*

The RMOW Bylaw Service is responsible for enforcing regulations, which include conducting inspections, and issuing fines and removal orders. Penalties are $250 for failure to comply with a notice to remove invasives. An amended bylaw will provide more penalty options and higher penalty amounts.

STRATHCONA

Strathcona Regional District

Programs

The Strathcona Regional District (SRD) collaborates with regional organizations like the Coastal ISC. Comox Strathcona Waste Management can do curbside pickup for bags of invasive species and encourages residents to bag invasive plants and take them to landfills. Quadra Island park and trail maintenance services include eight hours of invasive plant removal annually.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 276, 2023 - Oyster Bay-Buttle Lake Official Community Plan Bylaw where policies on forest management include invasive species management and ensuring forests have a diverse mix of species to reduce invasive species presence.

» No.139, 2012 - Cortes Island Official Community Plan Bylaw stipulating development, operation and management requirements include not introducing species that have potential to become invasive.

Campbell River (City)

Programs

The City partners with various organizations including the Coastal ISC to prevent and manage invasive species (primarily giant hogweed and knotweeds) on public and private land, with residents being eligible for free on control of these species on their property and have developed an Invasive Plant Management Plan. They work with Greenways Land Trust on outreach, work parties and other events related to invasive species education and management and recognize BroomBusters’ efforts to reduce Scotch broom in the City’s park

and along road corridors. The Campbell River Waste Management Centre accepts invasive plant waste.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 3551, 2014 - Environmental Protection Bylaw that prohibits planting invasive plants or noxious weeds on property and requires owners to keep their property free of invasive species and noxious weeds.
- No. 4022, 2026 –Official Community Plan Bylaw Objective 7.1.9 where the city aims to maintain and promote integrated pest management practices while incorporating strategies to prevent, control, and manage invasive species.

Gold River (Village)

Programs

The Gold River Parks and Trails Master Plan lists invasive species management as a moderate priority for Nimkish Park.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 666, 2008 - Village of Gold River Unsightly Premise Bylaw forbidding excessive amounts of noxious weeds (as defined as those covered under the BC *Weed Control Act)* on private properties with accumulations subject to fines.

Sayward (Village)

Programs

The Village's Public Works Department undertakes invasive species management.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 308, 2000 - Village of Sayward Official Community Plan Bylaw with guidelines for Natural Environment Development Permit areas which include preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species, and goals for Natural Assets in supporting strategies for invasive plant and aquatic invasive species control.
- No. 502, 2023 – Public Nuisance Bylaw requires owners and occupiers to keep their property and boulevard clear of noxious weeds (means any weed designated as noxious pursuant to the BC *Weed Control Act*) and prevent infestation by caterpillars and other noxious or destructive insects.

Tahsis (Village)

Programs

Works with the Coastal ISC and volunteer organizations to remove invasive species, such as Scotch broom and European green crab.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 614, 2019 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds. Weeds include those under the BC *Weed Control Act, and* any plant with weed-like qualities that could spread to neighbouring properties.

» No.975, 2025 - Village of Tahsis Official Community Plan Bylaw with guidelines for Natural Environment Development Permit areas including preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Zeballos (Village)

Programs

Works with the Coastal ISC and other regional partners to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 457, 2012 - Village of Zeballos Unsightly Premises Bylaw stating if given a notice, property owners or occupiers are required to clear the property of any noxious weeds.

SUNSHINE COAST

Sunshine Coast Regional District

Programs

The Sunshine Coast Regional District's (SCRD) Parks Volunteer Program includes invasive species removal events. The Regional District's Solid Waste Management Plan, estimated to be finalized in 2026, includes strategies to improve invasive species management, support disposal of invasive species in line with best management practices, and improve education on invasive plant disposal. The Coastal ISC coordinates invasive species management across the Regional District, collaborating with First Nations, MOF and MOTT, regional and municipal governments across the region, community groups, and landowners.

Bylaws & Policies

» Bylaw No. 641, 2012 – Roberts Creek Official Community Plan Bylaw policies include consideration of invasive species removal at vacant, previously developed industrial and commercial sites, and develop an invasive plant management and eradication program in partnership with local First Nations, the community and agencies. Objectives under the goal for Enhancing the Green Building Sector incudes amending Building and Subdivision Servicing bylaws to include invasive species management.
» Bylaw No. 675, 2014 – Halfmoon Bay Official Community Plan – Environment objectives include development of a strategy for eliminating invasive plants, discouraging the use of invasive plants, and supporting invasive plant eradication.
» Egmont/Pender Harbour Official Community Plan, 2018 - Objectives for Upland Environment include developing an invasive species management program, coordinating efforts with the Coastal ISC, growing community awareness of invasive species impacts, and creating opportunities for community involvement through volunteer invasive plant removal events.

Gibsons (Town)

Programs

The Town maintains an invasive species webpage, with species and disposal information.

MOTT is the pest management plan holder for invasive plant management on public lands in the SCRD, and the Town of Gibsons works with MOTT on invasive species management. Gibsons developed a knotweed management plan in 2019. The Town works with the Coastal ISC to manage giant hogweed and knotweeds on public and private land, with residents being eligible for free on control of these species on their land.

Bylaws & Policies

- The Urban Forest Plan outlines various actions related to invasive species management. The 2024/25 update to Development Permit Area No. 2-Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit Areas includes guidelines for minimizing impact during construction including not introducing invasive species to an area. Parks Department staff may remove invasive species during trail walk assessments. Future-proofing the urban forest from climate change and forest health threats includes developing an integrated pest management plan for invasive management.
- No. 996, 2005 – The Pesticide Regulation Bylaw restricts the cosmetic usage of pesticides within the boundaries of Gibsons. It does not refer to invasive plants or noxious weeds but permits pesticide usage on rights-of-way or utility corridors.

Sechelt (District)

Programs

The Invasives Program, operational since 2009, focuses on Japanese knotweed on all lands within its jurisdiction, including enforcement on private land. A group of volunteers worked on a restoration project at Cascade Green, and MOTT and the SCRD actively manage invasives in areas neighbouring the District of Sechelt. Educational resources include guides and factsheets that are shared at open houses. The 2025-2029 Financial Plan includes funds from conditional provincial grant of $175,000 for purchasing an air curtain burner for invasive plant waste disposal that cannot be brought to local landfills.

Bylaws & Policies

- No. 522, 2012 - Property Maintenance Bylaw to keep properties clear of noxious weeds.
- No. 441, 2007 – Pesticide Bylaw to regulate the use of pesticides for non-essential/cosmetic purposes.

Bylaw officers enforce regulations through inspections, fines, and removal orders. Fines of $100 are issued for non-compliance.

THOMSPON-NICOLA

Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Programs

A service to fund the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) noxious weed control program and the Invasive Plant Committee was created in 1976, and the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee (SIWMC) was created as a non-profit society in 1997. In April 2017, the functions of the TNRD committee and the SIWMC were amalgamated into one new comprehensive committee, the Thompson-Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee

(TNIPMC). The function of the TNIPMC is to facilitate partnerships with government agencies, First Nations, stakeholder groups and the public to reduce the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of terrestrial invasive plants within the TNRD. The Committee acts by coordinating invasive plant management efforts throughout the regional district and preventing further invasive plant introduction and spread through education and outreach. In addition, the TNRD offers additional invasive plant program services to its residents and residents of select member municipalities. These services include rebate programs, free spray and seeder equipment loan outs, private land consultations, and biological control agents. The TNRD also works in partnership with a variety of partners to coordinate and administer operational management of invasive plants throughout the region.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2529, 2015 - Invasive Plant Control Regulatory Bylaw prohibits the accumulation of invasive plants on private property within the TNRD. The TNRD weed inspector and bylaw officer are responsible for enforcement, which includes inspections, issuance of removal orders, and management, with costs added to private landowner taxes.

Ashcroft (Village)

Programs

Public Works staff control weeds on boulevards, lanes, and other public property throughout the season. Works with TNIPMC and other regional partners to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 879, 2025 - Good Neighbour Bylaw with a list of invasive plants that must be removed from all properties when identified.

» No. 889, 2026 – Official Community Plan Bylaw has a low-priority action to “develop an invasive species management briefing note that identifies low-effort approaches and assesses the feasibility of pursuing a management regimen”.

Barriere (District)

Programs

Partners with the TNRD, which provides educational resources to the district, including door knocker noxious weed notices and invasive plant guides.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 0023, 2008 - District of Barriere Community Improvement and Unsightly Property Bylaw forbidding the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

» No. 85, 2011 – Official community Plan Bylaw:

- Under its objectives and policies for wildlife and habitat, the district will protect valuable existing green space/open space and foliage through appropriate regulations and guidelines on both private and public lands, and address threats to biodiversity during development processes including invasive species.

- An exemption to the Riparian Areas Regulations includes “removal of individual invasive species identified by a (QEP), by hand or in a manner that does not unduly disturb surrounding native vegetation. The District of Barriere has an Inventory Package that QEPs can access which includes a list of invasive species”.

Cache Creek (Village)

Programs

Partners with the TNRD and TNIPMC to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No.756, 2012 - Cache Creek Property Maintenance and Unsightly Premises Bylaw stipulating that properties must be kept free of noxious weeds.

» No. 6-011, 2026 – Village of Cache Creek Official Community Plan Bylaw has an objective to “Manage invasive species that threaten native ecosystems and agricultural productivity”. Policy 5.9.4.) Invasive Species Management: The Village shall work with property owners and partner agencies to support identification, education, and control of invasive plant species that threaten natural ecosystems and agricultural productivity.

Chase (Village)

Programs

The Village partners with the TNIPMC to manage invasive species in the municipality.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 731, 2010 - Property Maintenance Bylaw states that noxious weeds shall be cleared by property owners or occupiers.

» No. 907, 2021 – Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the non-essential and cosmetic application of pesticides but has an exemption to control weeds that are designated as noxious weeds under the BC *Weed Control Act.*

Clearwater (District)

Programs

The district partners with the TNRD and the Invasive Plant Management Program. Their Strategic Plan deals with yellow flag iris in Dutch Lake. Past partnerships include the TNRD and working with a contractor on some areas of the lake. A five-year plan (2025-2029) is being developed for yellow flag iris.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 56, 2010 – District of Clearwater Good Neighbour Bylaw stipulating that owners or occupiers of a property must not allow an accumulation of noxious weeds on the property.

» No. 331, 2026 – The Official Community Plan states the following:

- The removal of danger trees as identified by a qualified arborist and removal of invasive plant species are exempt from requiring a Development Permit.
- Development involving environmentally sensitive areas requires a restoration plan for restoring disturbed areas, including removal of invasive species and replanting.

Clinton (Village)

Programs

The Village partners with the TNRD and the Invasive Plant Management program. The village hosts a dedicated Invasive Plant Program managed via its community forest program with a stewardship plan that has measures to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are listed under the Invasive Plants Regulation

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 505, 2013 – Good Neighbour Bylaw forbids noxious weeds to grow or accumulate on private property.

» No. 606, 2025 – Village of Clinton Official Community Plan Bylaw states a property owner does not need to apply for a development permit to remove invasive species, even when the invasive species are within a development permitting area.

Kamloops (City)

Programs

The Integrated Pest Management Plan, operational for 15+ years, works in partnership with TNIPMC, BC Parks, MOF, and MOTT. Volunteers remove invasive species through the Adopt a-trail Program. Outreach and education include providing educational resources through guides, websites, door knockers, and brochures. The city has been involved in a coordinated response to Japanese beetle since 2024 in collaboration with Tk̓emlúps te Secwépemc, ISCBC, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, BC Landscape and Nursery Association, and other stakeholders.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 49-1, 2007 - Good Neighbor Bylaw ordering that properties are kept clear of noxious weeds. The Community Services Department enforces regulations through inspections, fines, and removal orders. Fines for non-compliance are $100 and/or abatement fees.

» No. 50-1, 2017 – Property owners are free to remove any i) Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*), ii) Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*); or iii) Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*).

» No. 26-2, 2009 – The Pesticide Use Control Bylaw regulates the use of pesticides for non-essential purposes with exemptions the control of weeds or plants that are:

i) designated as a noxious weed under the BC *Weed Control Act*, as amended from time to time; or

ii) designated from time to time as an invasive weed or plant by the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee.

Logan Lake (District)

Programs

The district participates through partnership of the TNRD's Invasive Plant Program. Invasive plants are sprayed and hand pulled on municipal properties. A wetland development program is run in conjunction with the British Columbia Institute of Technology. The Lower Nicola Indian Band Development Corp.'s company, and Shulus Forest Enterprises provides invasive species control and some spraying of District properties. The Community Forest also provides weed management as part of its post-harvest rehabilitation work. Outreach and education involve sharing guides and website information.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 659, 2010 - District of Logan Lake Unsightly Premises Bylaw forbids the accumulation of noxious weeds on private property.

Lytton (Village)

Programs

No information on invasive species-related programs could be found online.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 663, 2012 - Unsightly Premises Bylaw stating no owner of a property shall allow noxious weeds to grow any higher than 8 inches/20.32 cm, otherwise they must be cut down and/or removed from the property.

Merritt (City)

Programs

City of Merritt partners with the TNRD for invasive plant management. Merritt landowners have helped with invasive plant management on private land, with rebates for invasive plant control administered by a certified TNRD contractor. Residents can access education and outreach programs through the TNIPMC. When landscape plans are submitted by developers, the city encourages the use of native plant species through Development Permit Area Guidelines and the Zoning Bylaw.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 2284, 2020 - Zoning Bylaw requires the use of native species in landscaping.

» No. 2387, 2018 – Good Neighbor Bylaw requires owners and occupiers to not allow the accumulation of noxious weeds (as defined by the BC *Weed Control Act*) on the property or on portion of the boulevard or lane adjacent to the real property.

Sun Peaks (Mountain Resort Municipality)

Programs

The Municipality's Landscape Design Guidelines state that invasive plants are prohibited for planting. As of 2022, Sun Peaks has opted into the TNRD's Invasive Plant Management Program to help landowners manage certain invasive plants on their property. This includes rebates for invoices on plant control done by a certified TNRD contractor, free equipment

loan-outs, free private land consultations with experts, and free insects for biological control.

Bylaws & Policies

» No. 0216, 2023 - Good Neighbour Bylaw states any owner or occupier of a property must not allow an accumulation of noxious weeds on the property.

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

This report provides a clear snapshot of how local governments across British Columbia address invasive species. Many are active in treatment, outreach, and policy development, though differences in capacity, planning, and program maturity remain.

The findings highlight current strengths and point to areas where collaboration, support, and strategic investment could help strengthen invasive species management across the province.

Key Takeaways

» Nearly half of respondents (69 of 145) reported having an invasive species program, often delivered through a mix of in-house and contracted approaches.

» Formal plans and bylaws are limited, though many incorporate invasive species into broader environmental or operational frameworks.

» Outreach and education are active in many jurisdictions, frequently supported by regional partners and shared resources.

» Budgets vary widely: Most programs operate on modest funding, though over half have seen increases in recent years.

» Regulatory tools are underused: While many governments have bylaws, few are invasive-specific or consistently enforced.

Opportunities for Improvement

Based on survey responses and related input, several areas emerge where additional support and coordination could strengthen local government efforts:

» Strengthen local planning: More governments could benefit from developing invasive species strategic or management plans to guide long-term action.

» Expand regional collaboration: Neighbouring communities face shared or similar challenges and could align resources and strategies.

» Build staffing capacity: Stable, year-round staff would improve program delivery and continuity.

» Enhance outcome tracking: Common metrics would help evaluate progress and share results across jurisdictions.

» Support smaller communities: Targeted resources and tools could help under-resourced governments launch or grow programs.

Recommendations for Collaboration

To build on what's already working, the following actions could help strengthen collaboration

and coordination across jurisdictions:

- **Continue partnering** with organizations like ISCBC and regional invasive species organizations to develop and share outreach tools, access training, and align messaging.
- **Encourage peer learning** through platforms like the Local Government Invasive Species Network, which supports knowledge sharing and coordinated action.
- **Coordinate public campaigns** using shared materials and consistent messaging to reduce duplication and amplify impact.
- **Share information** on funding opportunities by creating or supporting mechanisms that allow local governments to exchange details on relevant grant programs, including timelines, eligibility, and lessons learned.

Looking Ahead

Local government leadership will continue to play a central role in preventing and managing invasive species that affect ecosystems, infrastructure, and local economies. Revisiting this report in a few years would help track progress, identify new trends, and refine support.

A follow-up survey could:

- Measure growth in planning and program development.
- Assess evolving challenges and priorities.
- Inform future province-wide coordination efforts

Appendices

APPENDIX A: RAW SURVEY DATA

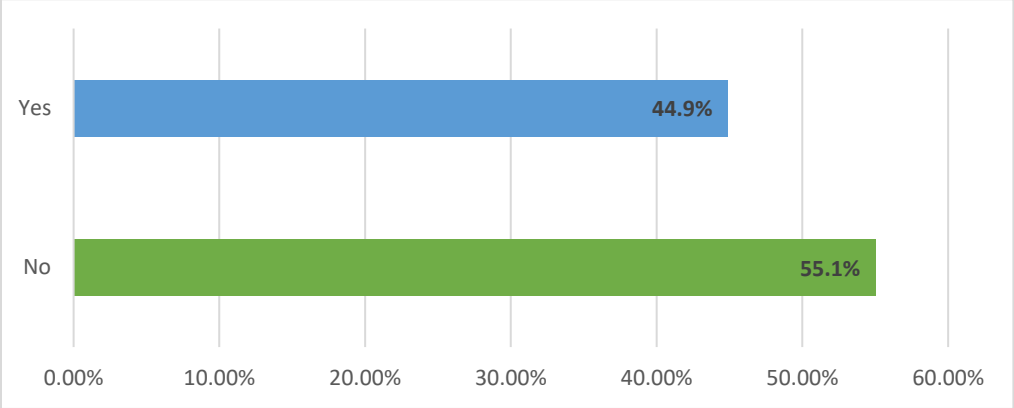
The following questions were used in a 2024–25 survey conducted by the Invasive Species Council of BC to gather information from local governments on invasive species programs, partnerships, funding, bylaws, and planning. These questions were distributed through SurveyMonkey.

Contact Information

1. Tell us about your organization.
    - Municipality/Region Name [Textbox] **100% response rate.**
    - Contact Person [Textbox] **98.5% response rate.**
    - Position/Title [Textbox] **97.0% response rate.**
    - Contact Email [Textbox] **98.5% response rate.**
    - Contact Phone Number [Textbox] **97.0% response rate.**
    - Website URL [Textbox] **66.2% response rate.**

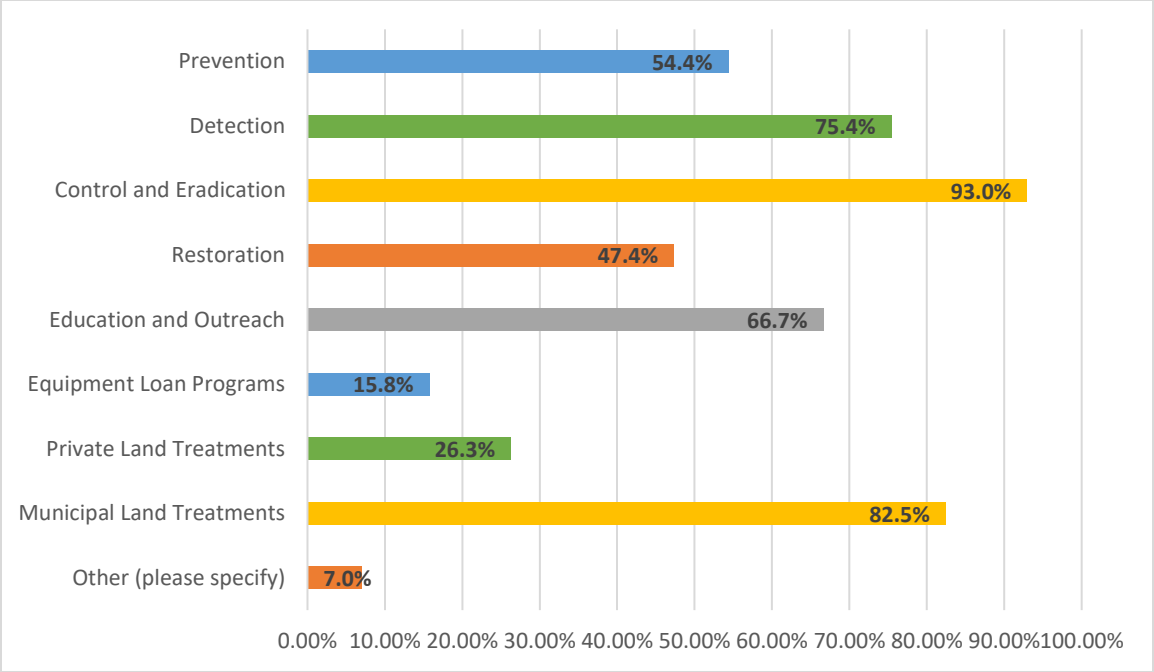
Programs

2. Does your organization have a program specific to invasive species? [Yes/No] **97.9% response rate.**



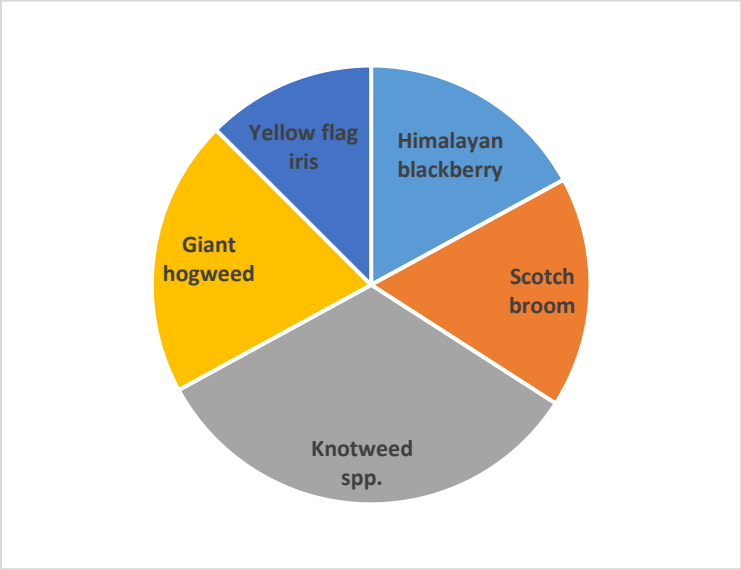
Program #1 Information

3. Program name [Textbox] **36.9% response rate.**
4. Program's focus areas (select all that apply): **40.4% response rate.**



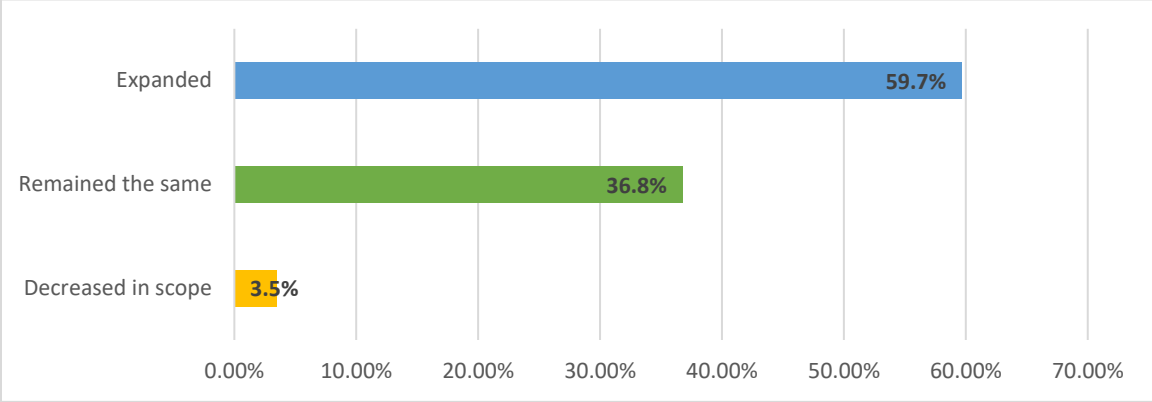
- Other (please specify): Regional treatments (2); Regulations – bylaw (1).

5. Program description (include details on the focus areas, land area managed, objectives, etc.) [Textbox] **39.7% response rate.**
6. Target invasive species (if applicable) [Textbox] **39.7% response rate** (Chart shows top 5 species).



7. How long has this program been operational? [Textbox] **39.0% response rate.**
8. Is the program annual or seasonal? If seasonal: how long does the program run, and what are the active months? (E.g., 5 months, May–September) [Textbox] **39.0% response rate.**

9. Has the program expanded, remained the same, or decreased in scope over time? **40.4% response rate.**

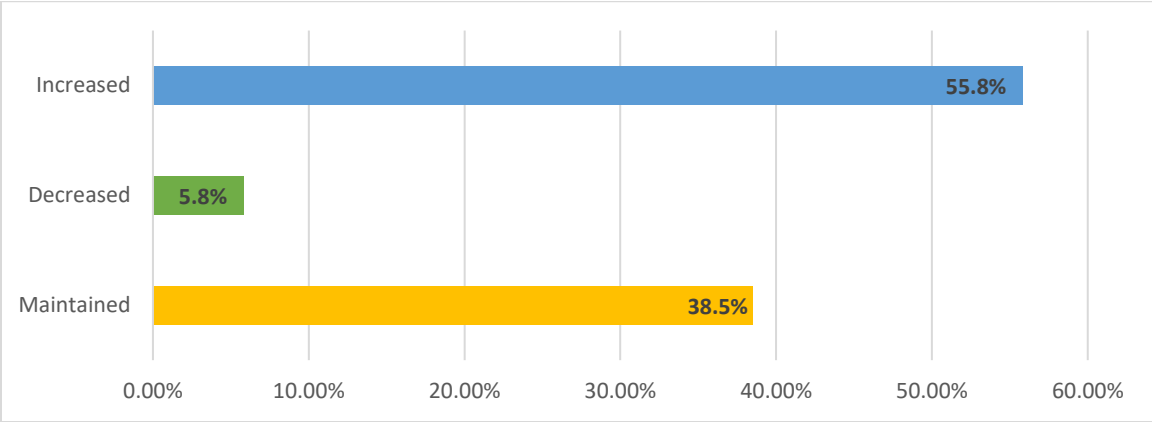


Program Partnerships

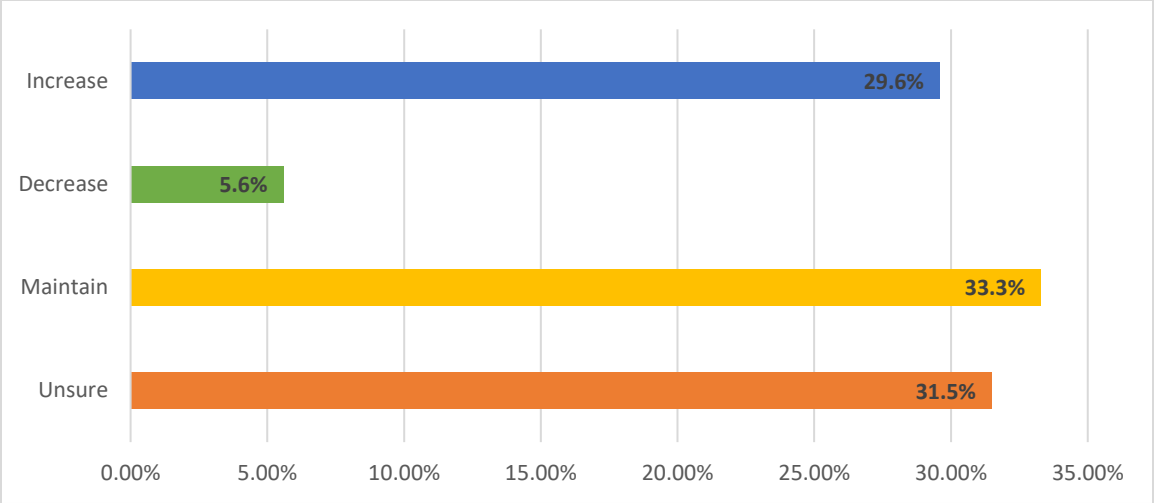
10. Describe program-associated partnerships or collaborations with neighbouring local governments because of this program [Textbox] **32.6% response rate.**
11. Describe collaborations with local First Nations because of this program [Textbox] **31.2% response rate**
12. Describe collaborations with non-profits because of this program [Textbox] **32.6% response rate.**
13. Describe collaborations with businesses because of this program [Textbox] **29.1% response rate.**

Invasive Species Funding

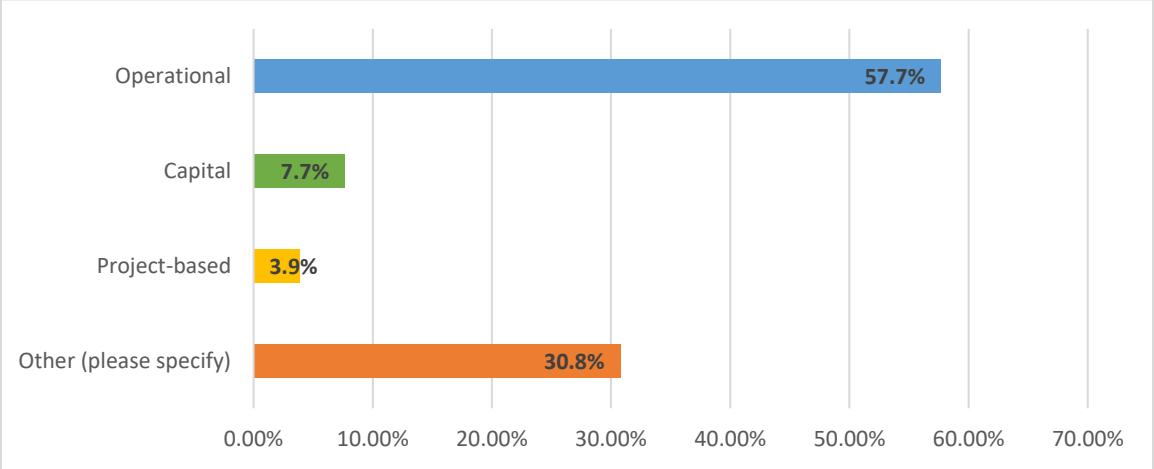
14. What is the annual investment into the program? [Textbox] **37.6% response rate.**
15. Has the funding changed in the last five years? **36.9% response rate.**



16. Do you anticipate funding changes in the next few years? **38.3% response rate.**

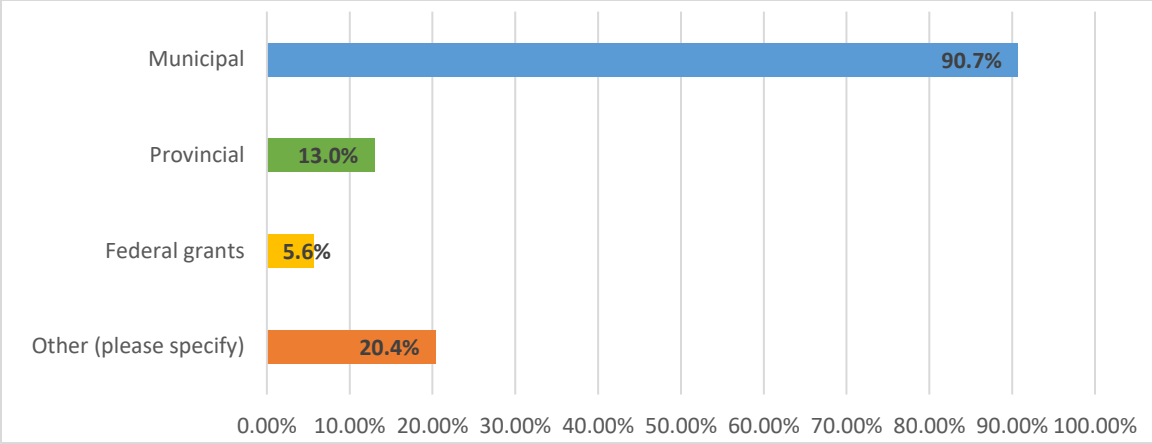


17. How is the project funding categorized? If it is a blend, please explain in the 'other' category. **36.9% response rate.**



- Other (please specify): Blend of capital and project based (3); Blend of operational and project-based (3); Blend of capital and operational (8); All of the above (1).

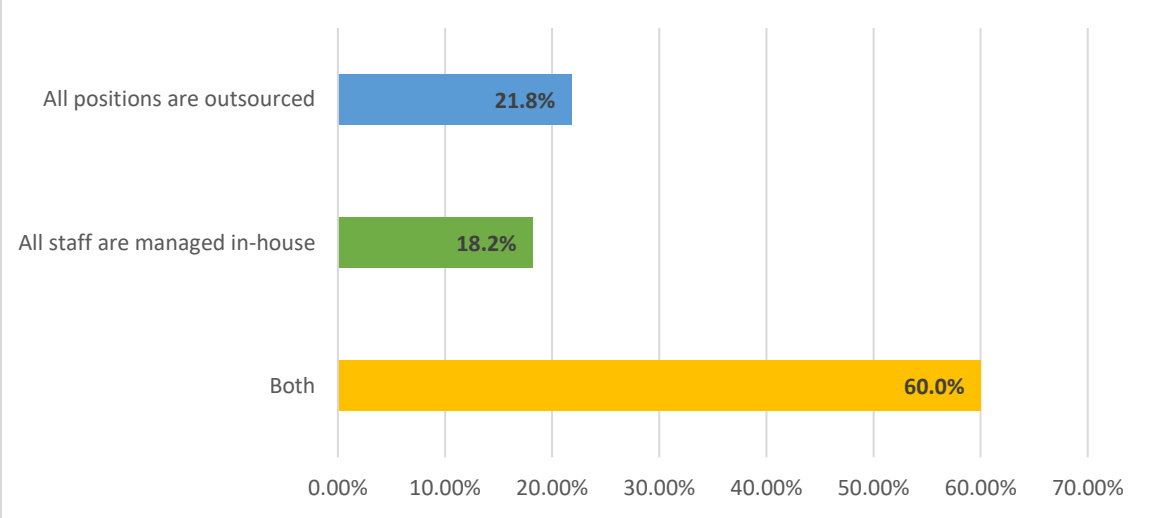
18. What is the funding source? (select all that apply): **38.3% response rate.**



- Other (please specify): Regional (1); Regional taxation (3); Other projects (1); Other grants (4); Fee-for-service (1).

Positions / HR

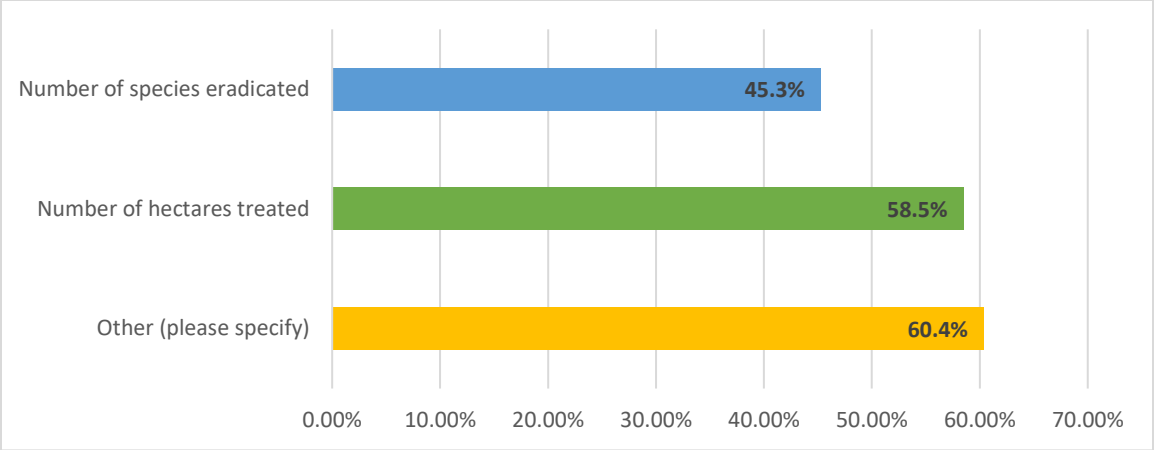
19. Do you outsource any positions to contractors, or are staff managed in-house? **39.0% response rate**



20. How many staff and contractors are involved in this program? [Textbox] **38.3% response rate.**
21. Describe the types of positions in your invasive species program, including details such as full-time (FTE), part-time (PTE), seasonal, term, or other arrangements. E.g., 1 FTE, 2 seasonal PTE, 1 term contractor. [Textbox] **34.0% response rate.**

Program Outcomes

22. How do you assess program success? (select all that apply) **37.6% response rate.**

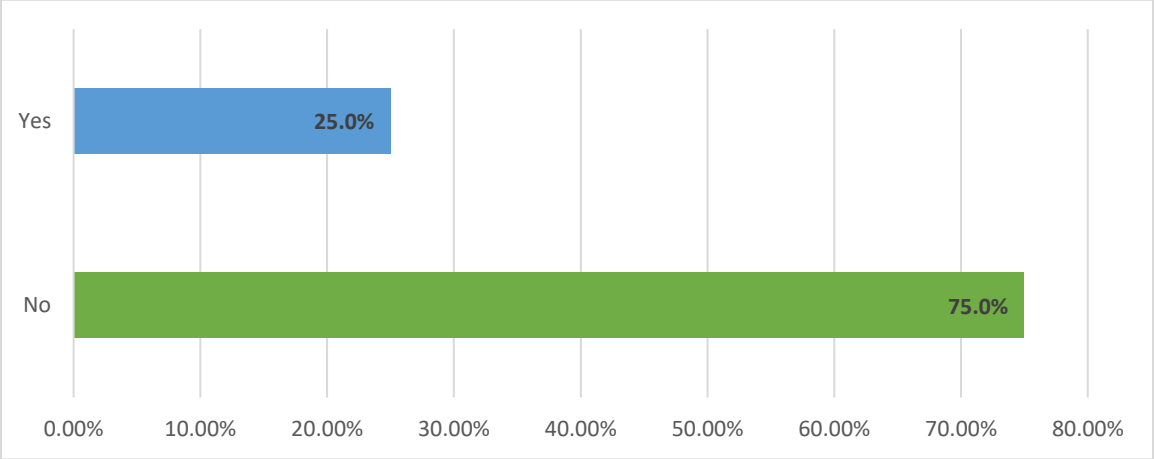


- Other (please specify): Kg removed (3); Volunteer hours (3); Total area treated year-to year (3); Annual site assessment (4); Public complaint driven (5); Community engagement (5); Public feedback (2); Area restored (2); Sites treated (3).

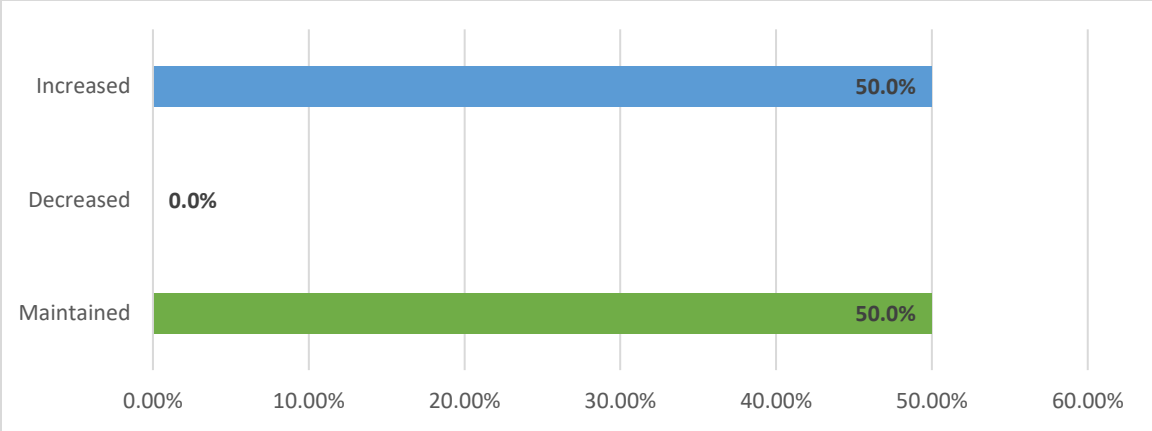
23. What are some of the key outcomes of your program? Please include results such as the number of invasive species managed, total area treated, or other significant achievements. [Textbox] **36.2% response rate.**
24. What are your greatest needs moving forward? [Textbox] **34.8% response rate.**
25. How would you describe the program's overall success or impact? [Textbox] **36.9% response rate.**

Providing Funding to Other Organizations

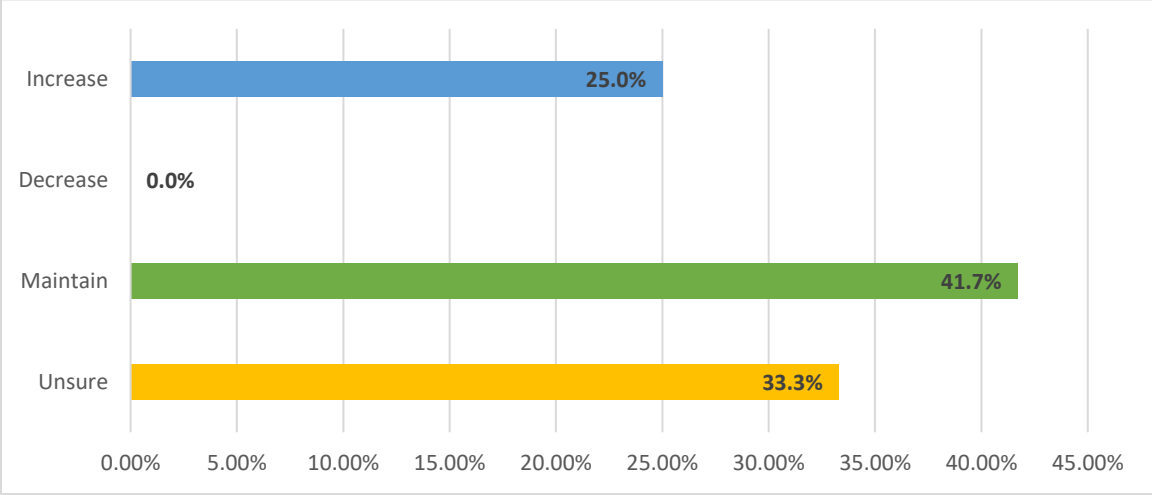
26. Does this program support other organizations for invasive species work? [Yes/No] **39.7% response rate.**



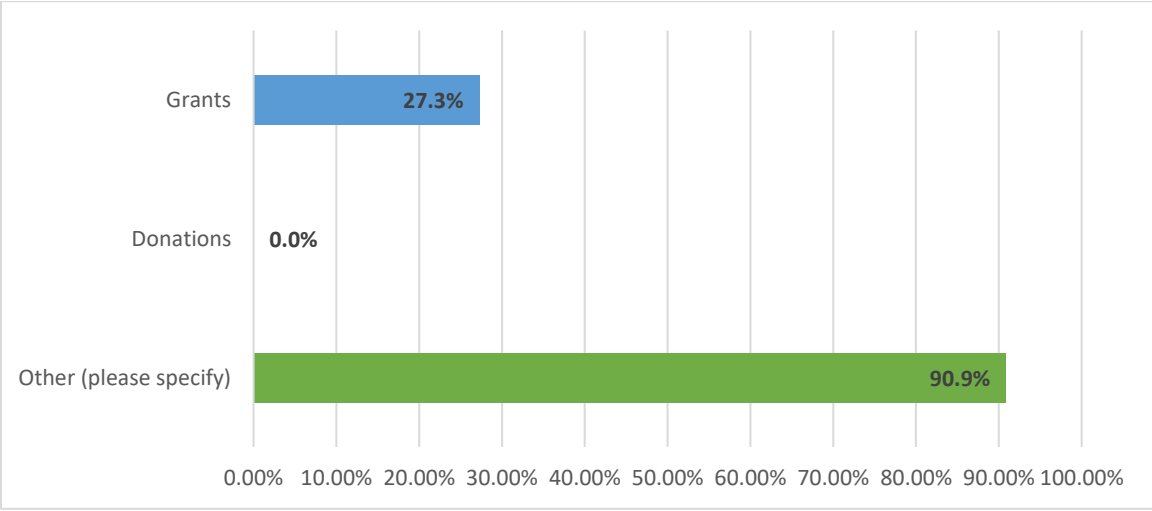
27. How much is invested annually in other organizations for invasive species work? [Textbox] **9.2% response rate.**
28. Has this funding changed in the last five years? **8.5% response rate.**



29. Do you anticipate your funding to these organizations will change in the next five years? **8.5% response rate.**



30. What is your funding source? (select all that apply) **7.8% response rate.**



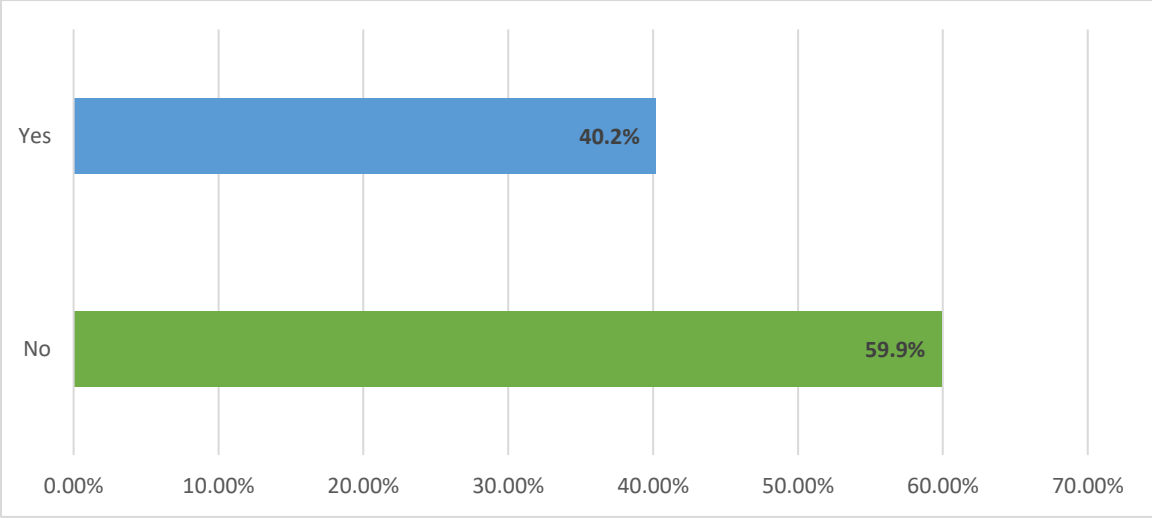
- Other (please specify)

Additional Programs

31. Do you have other programs specific to invasive species? [Yes/No] *If yes, a second full set of questions (Program #2) is repeated.* **40.4% response rate, with 17.5% responding 'Yes'. Further results are available upon request.**

Bylaws

32. Do you have bylaws related to invasive species management? [Textbox] **93.6% response rate.**

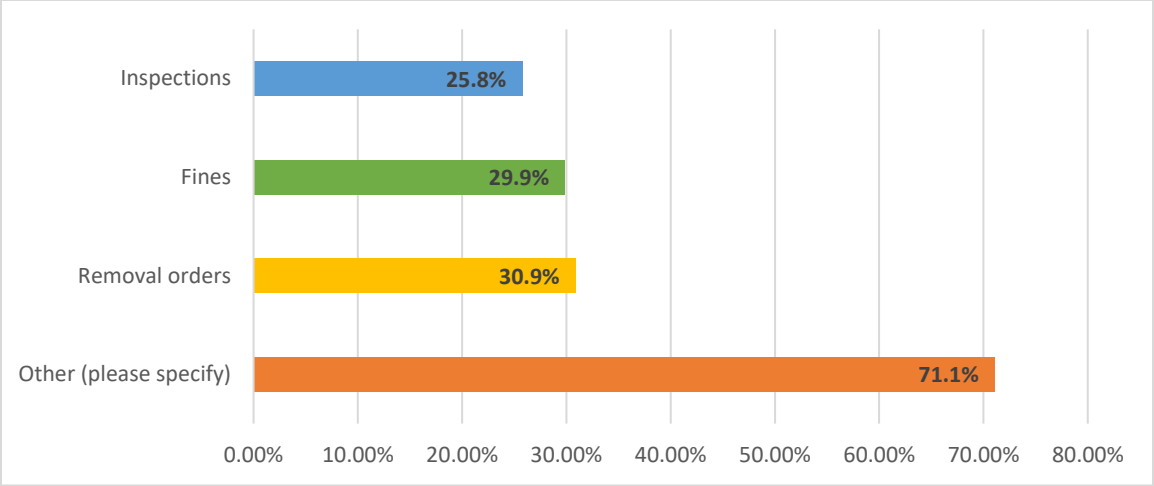


Bylaw #1

33. Bylaw Number [Textbox] **34.0% response rate.**
34. Bylaw Description [Textbox] **36.3% response rate.**
35. Please provide a link to the Bylaw (if available) [Textbox] **27.0% response rate.**
36. Do you have additional bylaws? [Yes/No] *If yes, a second full set of questions (Bylaw #2) is repeated.* **37.6% response rate, with 28.3% responding 'Yes'. Further results are available upon request.**

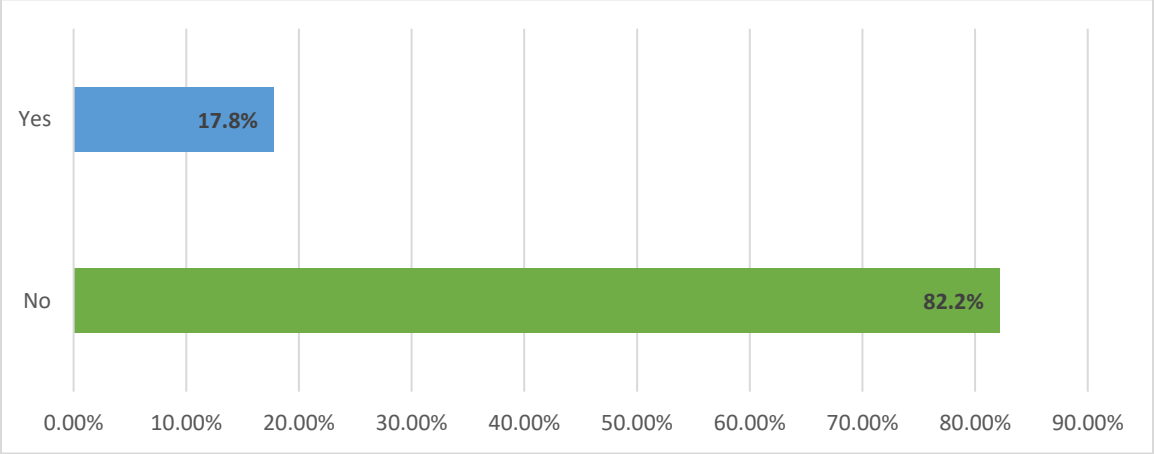
Invasive Species Enforcement

37. What enforcement actions does your organization use for non-compliance with invasive species regulations? (select all that apply) **68.8% response rate.**



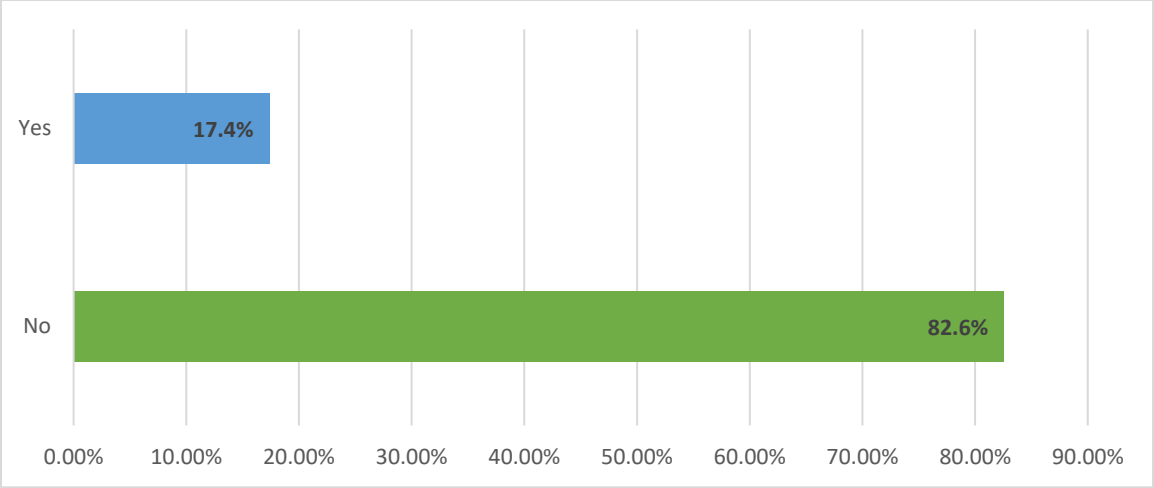
- Other (please specify): No enforcement (37); Stop work orders (1); Education and outreach (5); Complaints (2); Noxious weeds/*Weed Control Act* (3); Written letters (3); Inspections (2).

38. Who are the responsible authorities? [Textbox] **66.0% response rate.**
39. What are the penalties for non-compliance? [Textbox] **60.3% response rate.**
40. Do you use any provincial regulations for enforcement? [Yes/No] **75.9% response rate.**

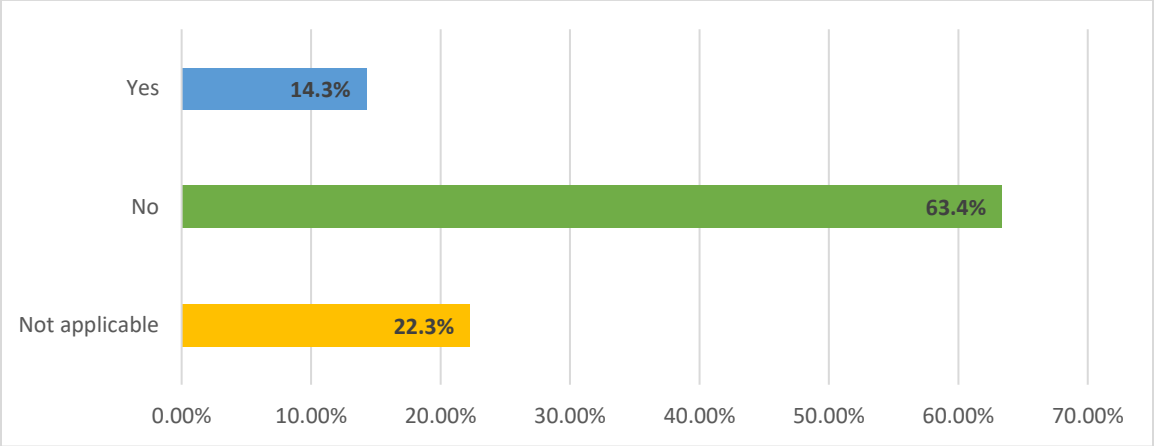


Invasive Species Planning

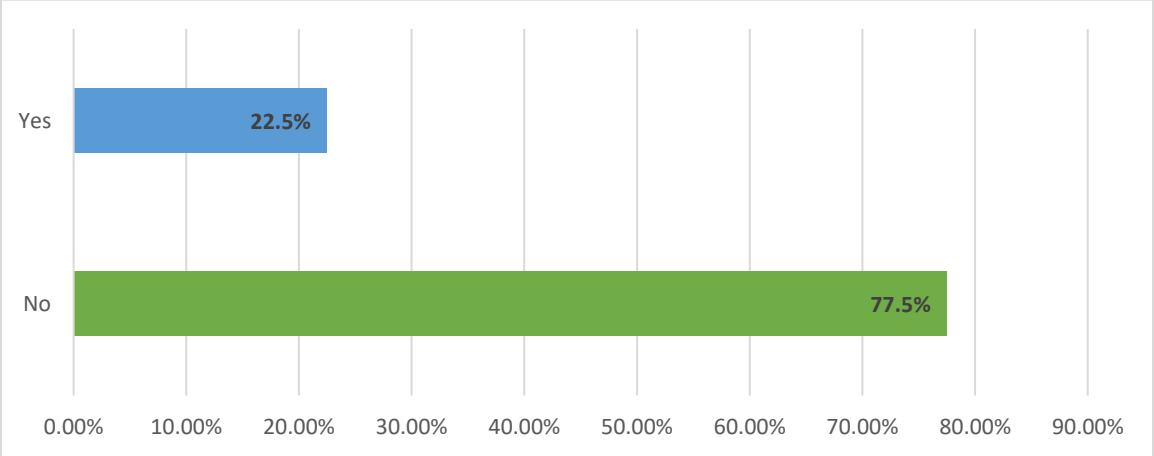
41. Do you have a strategic plan for invasive species? [Yes/No] **81.6% response rate.**



42. Please provide a brief description or link to the strategic plan [Textbox] **27.7% response rate.**
43. If you don't have a plan, are you developing one? [Yes/No/Not applicable] **79.4% response rate.**

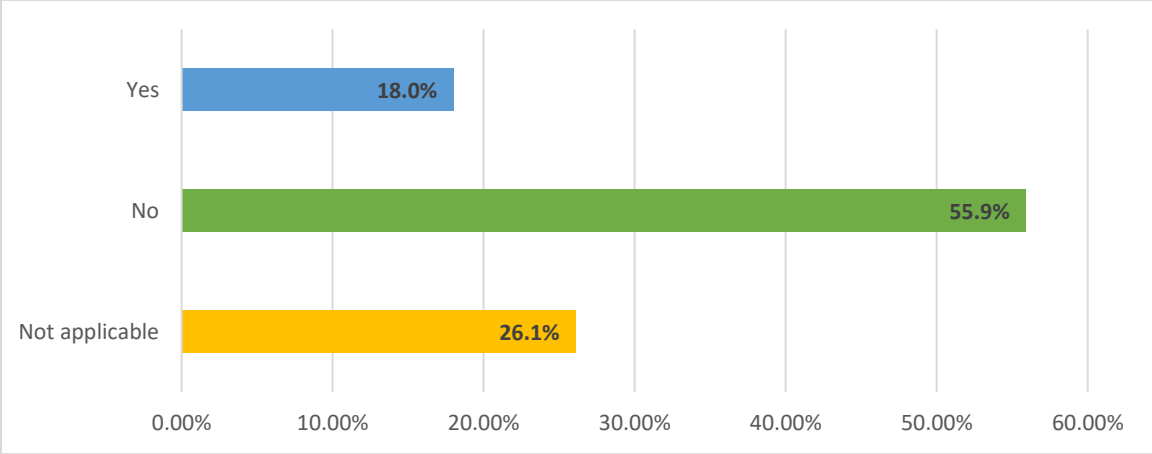


44. Do you have a management plan for invasive species? [Yes/No] **78.7% response rate.**



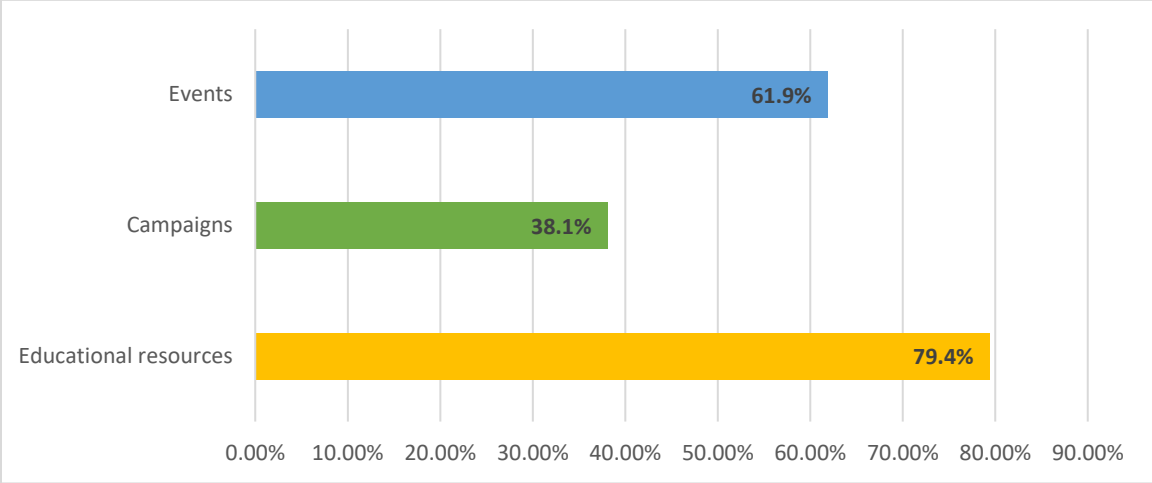
45. Please provide a brief description or link to the management plan [Textbox] **28.4% response rate.**

46. If you don't have a management plan, are you developing one? [Yes/No/Not applicable] **78.7% response rate.**



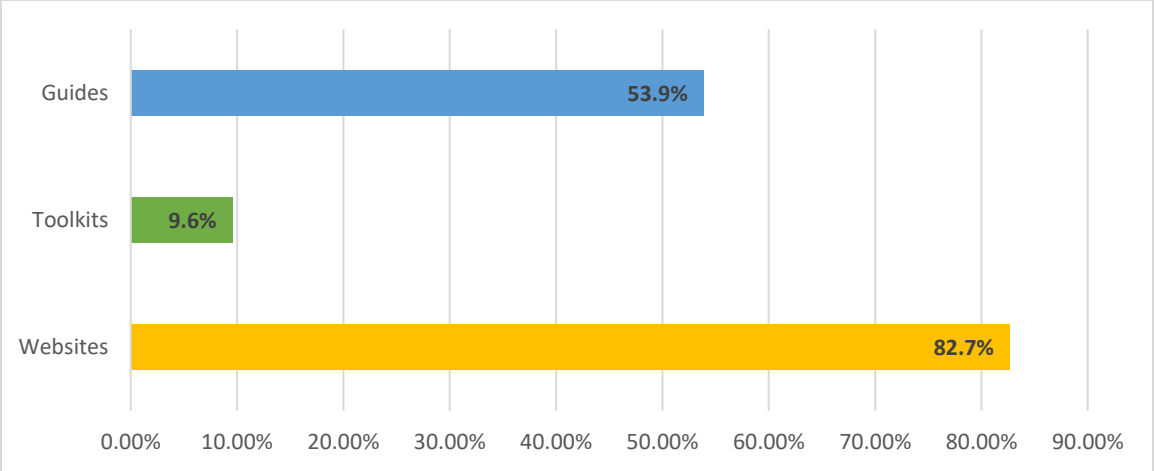
Outreach and Education

47. What outreach activities has your organization conducted to address invasive species? Please include details such as events, campaigns, educational resources, or any other activities. (Select all that apply.) **44.7% response rate.**



48. Who are the outreach and education partners related to these activities? [Textbox] **54.6% response rate.**

49. What are some of the key resources your organization has developed for outreach and education? Suggested details include guides, toolkits, websites, or any other significant resources. (Select all that apply) **36.9% response rate.**



Final Comments

50. Is there anything additional you would like to add or share with us? [Textbox] **27.7% response rate.**