

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

### **STRIVE Report No. 73**

#### **Development of the National Invasive Species Database**

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The National Biodiversity Data Centre has worked on the National Invasive Species Database initiative to provide a national framework for the management and provision of information on invasive species in Ireland. A fundamental requirement for an effective strategy to deal with the problem of invasive species is the provision of high quality information on the current and potential spread of the key invasive species, a coordinated national network for the dissemination of that information, and the establishment of an early warning system to alert for new arrivals.

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### **Background**

The objective of this project is to continue development of the National Invasive Species Database to include all 86 priority invasive species, and alert for the arrival of potential invaders as listed in the Invasive Species Ireland's risk assessment. This will facilitate the communication of valuable distribution information on Ireland's priority invasive species to the local authorities, state bodies, NGOs and researchers. This can then be used to mobilise and inform invasive species action at the local level and policy at the national level. In particular the National Biodiversity Data Centre is promoting the development of county invasive species strategies and supporting this by providing tailored priority invasive species reports for each local authority.

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Ten key tasks were identified to be undertaken in this project. These are:

- Provide priority invasive species report for each local authority
- Create a distribution database for each local authority
- Development of web-based species profiles
- Continue to populate and manage the National Invasive Species Database
- Website development of functionality and accessibility to the National Invasive Species Database
- Manage Invasive Species Recording Scheme
- Develop proposal for a national baseline survey
- Collaborate with European and International networks
- Liaise with and provide national coordination to state agencies
- Loading of new data to the mapping system

### Recommendations

- Ensure that the National Invasive Species Database is kept fully up to date  
Develop web services for Ireland's early warning system
- Support and integrate with existing surveillance and monitoring programmes
- Continued support and collaboration with state bodies, organisations, cross-border initiatives and European and international invasive species networks
- Meet legislative and policy needs-forthcoming Invasive Species Strategies and possible Directive
- Implement a national monitoring programme to track the spread of invasive species

### For Further Information

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