

British Columbia Invasive Species Management, Species of Concern, Future Outlook

Montana Invasive Species Council

Summit Regional Panel

October 26, 2022

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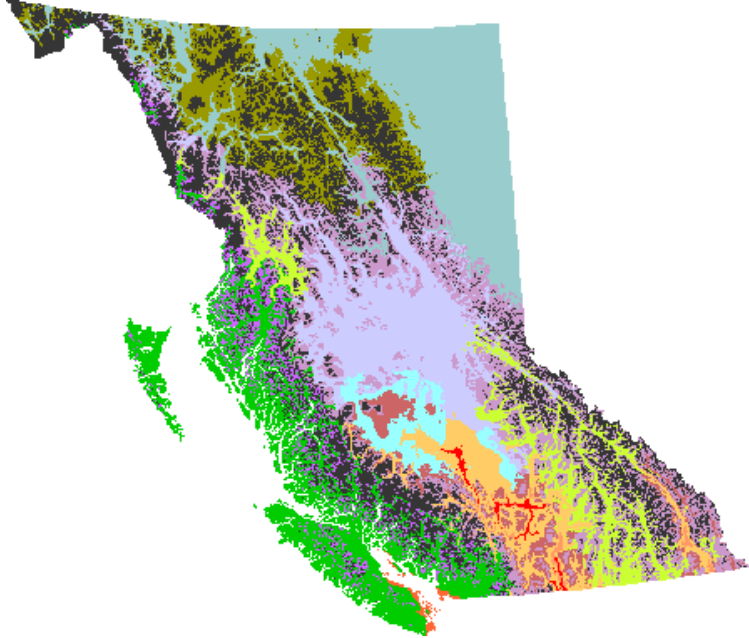
ISCBC

The Invasive Species Council of BC gratefully acknowledges the territories of the Indigenous Peoples of BC where we live and work to maintain healthy ecosystems for all.

- Largest invasive species non-profit in Canada
- Focus: education, outreach, training, cross-border collaboration across Canada and internationally
- Founding member, co-chair of the Canadian Council on Invasive Species



BC Biogeoclimatic Zones



Government of BC

- 233.45 Million Acres
- Ecologically diverse province
 - Coastline, deserts, mountains, grasslands, temperate rainforests
- Most biodiversity in Canada
- Most Species at Risk in Canada
- High diversity of invasive species



Invasive Species Management in British Columbia



~1-2% of BC land is federal

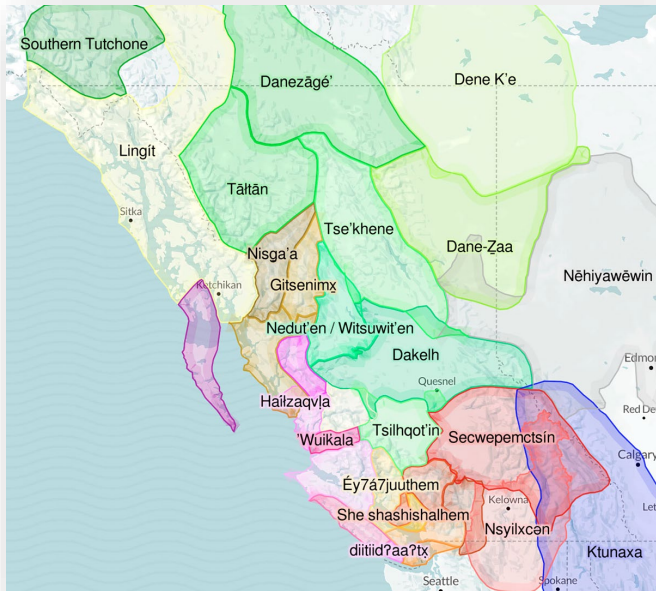
- National Parks
- Military Lands
- Railways

Department of Fisheries & Oceans

- Aquatic Invasive Species

Canadian Food Inspection Agency

IS Management Indigenous



First Peoples' Cultural Council

> 200 First Nations & 39 Metis Communities

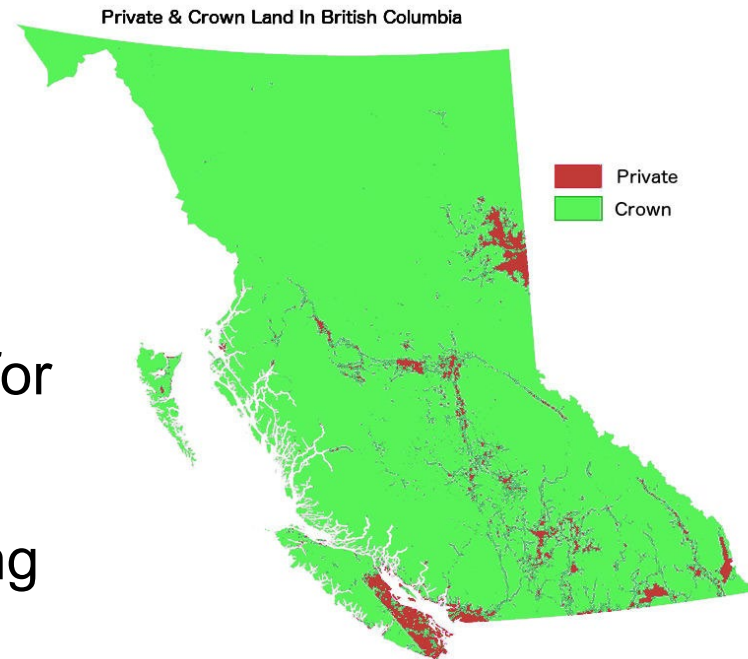
- >30 First Nation languages

~0.5% of BC Land is under Treaty

- Reserve lands & Traditional territories
- Indigenous Invasive Species Network

British Columbia

- 233.45 Million Acres Total
- Crown Land = 94%
- Provincial government responsible for Crown Land Management
- Growing collaboration for recognizing traditional territories



- Ministry of Forests
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Lands, Waters and Resource Stewardship
- **BC Inter-Ministry Invasive Species Working Group**

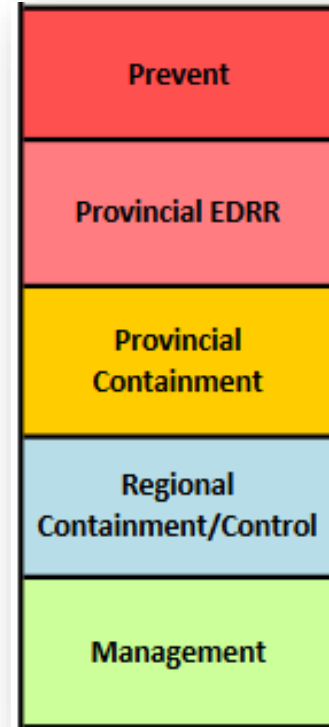


BC Provincial Priority Invasive Species

- Science-based Risk Assessment
- Direct limited management resources

Weed Control Act: Schedule A

- Noxious Weeds List
- Landowners must manage
- Illegal to transport, buy or sell



Provincial Invasive Species Legislation

- Wildlife Act, 1996: Controlled Alien Species 2009
- Weed Control Act, 1996
- Forest and Range Act, 2002
- Community Charter, 2003
- Integrated Pest Management Act, 2003

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This Act is current to September 28, 2022

See the [Tables of Legislative Changes](#) for this Act's legislative history, including any changes not in force.

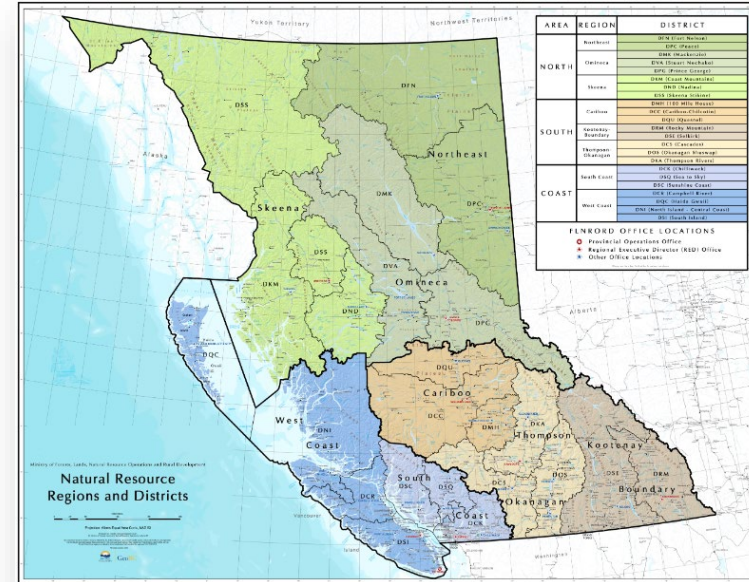
WEED CONTROL ACT
[RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 487

Contents

- 1 Definitions
- 2 Duty to control noxious weeds
- 3 Appointment and powers of inspectors
- 4 Notice to control noxious weeds
- 5 Noxious weed control regulations
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- 8 Recovery of costs
- 9 Weed control committees
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- 11 Weed control agreements
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- 14 Exemptions
- 15 Offence
- 16 Power to make regulations

28 Regional Districts in BC

- Diverse eco-regions with different priorities
- Region-specific noxious weeds
- Municipal bylaws
- Collaborate with ISCBC, 12 Regional Invasive Species Committees
- Local Government Invasive Species Network



Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Invasive Species of Concern

Japanese Beetle (*Popillia japonica*)



- Collaborative eradication program in Vancouver/Lower Mainland since 2018
- 2021 – Small decline to 79 beetles trapped
- Movement controls, outreach and education have contributed toward program early success

Lymantria moths

(Lymantria dispar dispar) & (L. dispar asiatica)

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency & Ministry of Forests as lead agents
- ISCBC supported ground efforts
- Monitored aerial spraying activities
- 2022 = BC's largest spray program for this species



Feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*)



- “Squeal On Pigs”
- Nation-wide collaboration, including CCIS
- Awareness of range expansion and impacts (ecological, economical)
- Increased reporting of feral pig sightings
- Call for a strong response plan in BC
- Target audience: hunters & agriculture

Spotted knapweed

(*Centaurea stoebe*)

- Noxious agriculture weed
- Provincial government funded operations
 - Integrated Pest Management
 - Spraying, manual, biocontrol
- 13 Biocontrol Agents active in BC
 - Seed feeders – Fly, moth, beetles
 - Root feeders – Moth, beetles
- Progress: Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)



Zebra & Quagga mussels

(*Dreissena polymorpha* & *D. rostriformis bugensis*)



- Not in BC, Alberta, or Saskatchewan
- Provincial Mussel Defence Program
- Barge moving from Ontario -> BC
- Notification from several provinces
- Largest ever decontamination protocol
- 30 Day quarantine



Spotted lanternfly
(*Lycorma delicatula*)



L. Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

Northern giant hornet
(*Vespa mandarinia*)



Washington State Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

Spongy moth
(*Lymantria dispar dispar*)



USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

Flowering rush
(*Butomus umbellatus*)



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Yellow star thistle
(*Centaurea solstitialis*)



Steve Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org

Cordgrasses (*Spartina anglica*, *S. densiflora*, *S. patens*, *S. alterniflora*)



Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California - Davis, Bugwood.org

Future Outlook

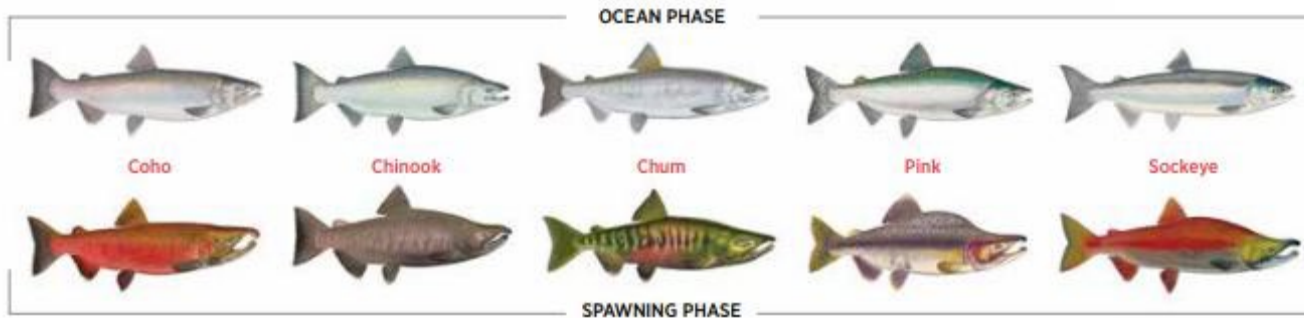
Invasive Species Strategy for BC 2023-2027

- Framework for Invasive Species Management
- Collaboration of all interested partners across BC
- Analysis of Invasive Species Strategy 2018-2022
 - Monitoring for Success
- **Goal for 2023-2027: Identify what is missing**



Recognize Indigenous leadership and traditional knowledge

- Invasive species impacts traditional practices and medicinal plants
- ~50% Pacific Salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) populations in decline



Department of Fisheries & Oceans

Aquatic Invasive Species Impacts

Small mouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*)

Yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*)

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Knotweeds (*Reynoutria* spp.)

Climate Change events in British Columbia, 2021

Lytton Wildfire



Lower Mainland Floods & Landslides



How Invasive Species management support IPCC goals?

- Restoration to maximize sequestration
- Prioritize invasive species that most disrupt carbon cycle
- Carbon sequestration & invasive plants

IPCC: International Panel on Climate Change



Youth Taking Local Action – Volunteer Program



- 682 Youth Volunteers
- 34,769 Volunteer Hours
- Youth in Classrooms
- Ambassadors for Responsible Practices
- Reporting Invasive Species

Any questions, comments or collaborations please email

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Invasive Species Council of BC

