

# **Marine Invasive Non-Native Species in the Solway**



**A Report prepared by Solway Firth Partnership**

## **Definitions**

### **Invasive Non Native Species**

Invasive non-native species (INNS) are those that have been transported outside of their natural range and that can damage our environment, environmental services, the economy, our health and the way we live. Impacts of INNS are so significant, they are considered to be one of the greatest threats to biodiversity worldwide. They threaten the survival of rare native species and damage sensitive ecosystems and habitats.

### **Biosecurity**

Biosecurity means taking steps to make sure that good practices are in place to reduce and minimise the risk of spreading invasive non-native species. A good biosecurity routine is always essential, even if invasive non-native species are not always apparent.

## **Abbreviations**

Abbreviations used in this report:-

AAG Area Advisory Group (for River Basin Management Planning)

ABT Associated British Ports

AT Angling Trust

BMFS British Marine Federation Scotland

CFINNS Cumbria Freshwater Invasive Non-Native Species Initiative

CBDC Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre

CWT Cumbria Wildlife Trust

DAISIE Delivering Alien Invasive Species Inventories for Europe

DEFRA Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

DGERC Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre

EA Environment Agency

EMS European Marine Site

FoCF Firth of Clyde Forum

GB NNSS GB Non-Native Species Secretariat

INNS Invasive Non-Native Species

MMoC Making the Most of the Coast Project

MMO Marine Management Organisation

MarLIN Marine Life Information Network  
MCS Marine Conservation Society  
MSS Marine Scotland Science  
NNS Non-native species  
NT National Trust  
NTS National Trust for Scotland  
NE Natural England  
NWIFCA North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority  
RAFTS Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland  
River Annan Trust  
RBMP River Basin Management Plan  
RYAS Royal Yacht Association Scotland  
SAC Special Area of Conservation  
SAMS Scottish Association for Marine Science  
SWT Scottish Wildlife Trust  
SEPA Scottish Environment Protection Agency  
SNH Scottish Natural Heritage  
SCAONB Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty  
SFP Solway Firth Partnership  
SPA Special Protection Area  
SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest  
SUSFISH Shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea: working towards a sustainable future  
TGB The Green Blue  
WOW World Oceans Week  
WWT Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2. BACKGROUND</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3. THE CONTEXT</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.1 Biosecurity: The Nature of the Problem</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.2 Policy and Legislation</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3.3 Existing Planning Framework</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4. BIOSECURITY ISSUES IN THE SOLWAY</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.1 Description of the Solway</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.2 Use of the Area</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.3 Biosecurity – current and potential threats</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>4.3.1 Current Biosecurity issues</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>4.3.2 Potential Biosecurity issues</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>4.4 Stakeholders</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>5. BIOSECURITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>5.1 Objectives and Outputs</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>5.2 Actions and Timeframes</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>6. MONITORING</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>7. REFERENCES</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>32-34</b>

## Executive Summary

This plan describes the biosecurity issues of the Solway and presents actions that have been agreed with stakeholders for the prevention, early detection, control and mitigation of the introduction and spread of Marine Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) and those INNS of freshwater and brackish water that impact on the marine and coastal environment. The vision of this plan is:

**‘To establish a sustainable framework for preventing, detecting and controlling marine invasive non-native species within the Solway Firth Partnership area through appropriate management, data collection, liaison and education.’**

The key objectives and outputs of the plan are to:

Objective 1: Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of marine INNS within the Solway area and to other areas

Output 1.1: Ensure that key stakeholders are aware of the threat of marine INNS through an awareness raising programme which will include promoting the Check, Clean, Dry Initiative, producing web pages on the SFP website, producing articles for Tidelines, producing literature identifying key marine INNS and producing posters for appropriate sites such as harbours, yachting centres, recreational angling hotspots etc.

Objective 2: Promote optimum surveillance, detection, monitoring and rapid response systems for the identified Marine INNS which pose significant threats to biodiversity and economic interests.

Output 2.1: Facilitate a training programme for existing local volunteer groups across the Solway to aid early surveillance and data collection of marine INNS.

Output 2.2: Promote the reporting of INNS and facilitate the Government’s rapid response mechanism for those INNS which pose significant threats to local marine and coastal biodiversity and economic interests.

Objective 3: Develop effective control programmes for existing marine INNS which are operational and sustainable, including preventing further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of the country.

Output 3.1: Facilitate effective control or eradication programmes in line with national policy and work with stakeholders to implement them.

The successful implementation of the actions in this plan is expected to bring about environmental and economic benefits for the Solway including:

- The conservation of internationally and nationally designated sites such as the Solway Firth European Marine Site, Luce Bay and Sands SAC etc.
- Maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity

- Maintenance and, where necessary, improvement of the water environment so that the inshore waters meet the Water Framework Directive standards and the European marine sites are maintained at favourable status
- Protection of the high quality landscape of the area including the National Scenic Areas in Dumfries and Galloway and the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Cumbria
- Helping to ensure the outcomes of INNS management in the Solway area are more cost effective, strategic and sustainable

### Action Plan

Action	Lead	Partners	Timeframe				
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Objective 1: Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of marine INNS within the Solway area and to other areas</b>							
Produce / update web pages on the SFP website	SFP	SFP	---	---	---	---	---
Promote Check, Clean, Dry Campaign	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA/ River Trusts/ NWIFCA/ TGB/ RYAS/ BMFS	---	---	---	---	---
Arrange and/or attend meetings with stakeholders to raise awareness and distribute material	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA	---	---	---	---	---
Actively engage with industry at the main Solway ports to raise awareness of marine INNS	SFP	Industry	---	---	---	---	---
Include articles in Tidelines magazine	SFP		---	---	---	---	---
Produce literature identifying key marine INNS	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA/ River Trusts/ FCF	---				
Produce marine INNS posters for harbour, yacht centres etc.	SFP	SFP/ GBNNS/	---				
<b>Objective 2: Promote optimum surveillance, detection, monitoring and rapid response</b>							

<b>systems for the identified Marine INNS which pose significant threats to biodiversity and economic interests.</b>							
Facilitate a training programme for existing local volunteer groups	SFP	AONB/ NE/ NTS/ DGC Rangers/ NSA Vols/ WWT/ SWT /NWIFCA/ SAMS	----	----			
Produce a waterproof marine INNS identification guide	SFP	SEPA/ EA	----				
Promote an effective single point of contact reporting and response system	SFP / GBNNS	SNH, Marine Scotland / NE / DGERC / CBDC	----				
Train SFP Staff as Trainers	SFP	SFP	----				
Continue surveillance of Pacific oyster	SFP / EA/ SNH/ NE	SFP/ SEPA/ NWIFCA	----	----	----	----	---
Survey for marine INNS during routine work	SFP / SEPA/ EA / SNH/ NE	SFP/ NWIFCA	----	----	----	----	----
<b>Objective 3: Develop effective control programmes for existing marine INNS which are operational and sustainable, including preventing further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of the country</b>							
Remove Pacific oyster from identified locations in Galloway	SFP	SFP	----				
Look at funding opportunities to enable INNS work	SFP		----			----	

**Partners\* - These are organisations who have been identified as likely partners but further discussion is required.**

## 1 SCOPE AND PURPOSE

This plan describes the biosecurity issues of the Solway and presents actions that have been agreed with stakeholders for the prevention, early detection, control and mitigation of the introduction and spread of Marine Invasive Non-Native Species. The vision of this plan is:

**‘To establish a sustainable framework which will prevent, detect, control and eradicate marine invasive non-native species within the Solway Firth Partnership area through appropriate management, data collection, liaison and education.’**

The key objectives for meeting the vision of the plan are:

**Objective 1: Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of marine INNS within the Solway Firth area and to other areas**

**Objective 2: Promote optimum surveillance, detection, monitoring and rapid response systems for the identified Marine INNS which pose significant threats to biodiversity and economic interests**

**Objective 3: Develop effective control programmes for existing marine INNS which are operational and sustainable, including preventing further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of the country**

The objectives are in accordance with the 3-stage approach as recommended within the GB Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy:

- Prevention – most effective and least environmentally damaging
- Rapid Response – early detection and surveillance, potential eradication
- Control & Containment – where the INNS is widespread and eradication is not feasible, control of the population and mitigation against negative impacts

Of these, the first two stages are the most cost effective. The ultimate key to the effectiveness of this Plan is the building of local awareness, capacity and partnerships to ensure the success and long term sustainability of the presented actions. The resulting environmental and economic benefits for the Solway include:

- The conservation of internationally and nationally designated sites such as the Solway Firth European Marine Site, Luce Bay and Sands SAC etc.
- Maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity
- Protection of natural fish and shellfish stocks
- Maintenance and, where necessary, improvement of the water environment so that the inshore waters meet the Water Framework Directive standards and the European conservation site is maintained at favourable status
- Protection of the high quality landscape of the area including the National Scenic Areas in Dumfries and Galloway and the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Cumbria

The area covered by this plan is consistent with that of the Solway Firth Partnership and is shown in Figure 1.



## 2 BACKGROUND

Solway Firth Partnership (SFP) is an independent charity that works with people to support the sustainable development of the Solway Firth whilst protecting the special qualities of the local marine and coastal area.

Formed in 2005, Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland (RAFTS) is a leading independent freshwater conservation charity representing Scotland's national network of rivers and fisheries Trusts and Foundations. This Plan is based on the RAFTS Biosecurity Plan template and links in with Biosecurity Plans prepared by the River Nith Trust, the River Annan Trust and the Galloway Fisheries Trust. These form a set of 25 plans being produced throughout Scotland as part of a national programme of action implemented through RAFTS with backing and support from the Scottish Government, SNH, SEPA and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. On the English side biosecurity plans have been produced by the Cumbria Freshwater INNS Initiative and the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority. The Cumbria Freshwater Biosecurity Plan is the first county-wide plan in England and was funded by Natural England, the Environment Agency, AT and RAFTS. Links will be made from all those documents with this plan.

A Marine INNS Seminar was held in September 2012 in Carlisle to bring together stakeholders from both sides of the Solway to discuss the potential threat of marine INNS and explore the options for dealing with them. A wide range of experts from Scotland and England presented at the seminar (see Appendix 1 – Programme of Marine INNS Seminar) and, along with workshops and feedback sessions informed the agreed outcomes from the partners present (Section 4.5 Stakeholders). The actions from the seminar for SFP to take forward were:

- Produce a biosecurity plan for the Solway
- Provide training to existing coastal volunteer groups to help identify marine INNS
- Raise awareness of marine INNS across the Solway to encourage prompt reporting

The aims, outputs and actions of this Biosecurity Plan were produced as a result of consultation with the stakeholders present at the Marine INNS Seminar. The Plan will provide a platform for local action to address the issue of invasive non-native species over its five year lifespan. The outcomes and impacts will be monitored, reviewed and incorporated into future Plans. This Plan is not a legal instrument in itself but it draws on existing legal and regulatory instruments to support the implementation of its actions and to help achieve its objectives. As such, the successful implementation of this Plan will rely on strong local partnerships founded on solid legal and policy principles by a range of interested parties.

### 3 CONTEXT

#### 3.1 Biosecurity – the nature of the problem

Non-native species (NNS) have been introduced deliberately, for cultural and economic benefit, and accidentally to the UK over many hundreds of years. With the increase in global shipping, aquaculture and recreational tourism, however, there is now a greater threat of introducing non-native species to the marine environment. This can be exacerbated by climate change depending on the tolerance and adaptability of individual species. Not all NNS are invasive from the start of their establishment as some take time to establish and develop the rapid growth required for invasive behaviour. Climate change is expected to have a significant impact on biodiversity by making conditions more favourable for NNS and where NNS are already present, they may become invasive.

Non-native species become 'invasive' (INNS) when they thrive aggressively and threaten native species, ecosystems, natural features (such as mussel banks), or interfere with manmade structures and business interests such as aquaculture or fisheries. INNS are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity, being capable of rapidly colonising a wide range of habitats and excluding the native flora and fauna. This can be through competition for resources such as space, light and food or, in some cases, local species can become prey to INNS. The presence of INNS can also impact on the water environment and the condition of European protected areas, increasing the risk that these sites do not meet their favourable conservation target or the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The Solway is an estuary with limited shipping along the north Solway Coast but with important national and international commercial shipping routes on the south Solway to ports such as Workington, Whitehaven and Silloth. Stranraer is a major ferry and shipping port with links to Ireland, England, Wales and further north in Scotland. Fishing is an important industry on both sides of the Solway with Kirkcudbright being the main base for scallop fishers in south Scotland although smaller ports such as Isle of Whithorn are also used. Scallop boats also work out of the Cumbrian ports on the Solway and although the Isle of Man is not within the area of this biosecurity plan boats from the island fish within the Solway area and also land at local ports. Recreational boat users also use and visit the Solway area with activities such as sea angling, scuba diving, sea kayaking, jet skiing, wind and kite surfing popular in the area. These factors mean that there is an increasing probability that certain INNS are likely to arrive in the Solway.

There are no major aquaculture installations in the Solway but there is a native oyster farm in Loch Ryan (The Loch Ryan Oyster Farm Fishery Co Ltd) and a non-native oyster farm on the South Solway Coast, Solway Marine Oysters at Silloth. Whilst aquaculture companies have stringent measures to prevent the introduction of disease and must abide by the current Aquaculture & Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007 [a new Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Bill was introduced in October 2012 and is likely to become an act in autumn 2013] and the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, the impact of INNS introduced accidentally by the industry itself or from another source could be devastating. There is some information available on the cost of impacts of marine INNS, mostly relating to carpet sea squirt, but no specific costing studies have been done to date

for the Solway Firth. SUSFISH (Shellfish productivity in the Irish Sea; working towards a sustainable future) are currently carrying out research on the effects of global sea temperature rise on species distribution. DEFRA have estimated that INNS cost the UK economy at least £2 billion per year. It is hoped that the ecological, social and economic impacts and the costs for mitigation, control and eradication of these species will be eased with the introduction of the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 restricting the introduction of INNS; the IMO Ballast Water Convention which requires all ships to implement a Ballast Water and Sediments Management Plan and the Check, Clean, Dry Campaign encouraging water users to take measures to prevent the spread of INNS from one water body to another. In contrast to terrestrial INNS, marine INNS are still greatly understudied, and so far, only a fraction of the invaders and their impacts have been recorded. In addition, knowledge of successful control methods in the marine environment is in the early stages of development.

The Solway is now known to have seven marine INNS (Japanese wireweed, *Sargassum muticum*; Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas*; orange-tipped sea squirt, *Corella eumyota*; leathery sea squirt, *Styela clava*; green sea fingers, *Codium fragile*; acorn barnacle, *Elminius modestus* and common cord grass, *Spartina anglica*) and the arrival of other species already present in England, Wales and Ireland is possible (see Section 4 for details). Whilst this number may be considered small relative to those recorded in other parts of the world, it is in the interests of all users of the Solway to keep it that way.

INNS can be released and spread through many different pathways in the marine environment. Experience from around the world would suggest that these include the following, in no particular order:

- hull fouling of both commercial and private vessels
- fouling of commercial fishing vessels and equipment
- fouling of buoys, way markers and navigational lights
- fouling of other recreational equipment, e.g. diving gear, fishing lines, sea kayaks, mooring ropes, dinghies, canoes, clothing
- ballast water exchange
- distribution through water transfer of planktonic stages
- escape or release of plants and animals from aquaria
- live bait or its live packaging released or escaped
- importation or movement of new species (historically), shellfish or stock for aquaculture
- organisms attached to structures and equipment subsequently relocated e.g. pontoons,
- aquaculture cages, dredges
- natural occurrences e.g. debris from the 2011 Japanese tsunami has reached the USA coast with INNS attached

Given the high costs for the mitigation, control and eradication of marine INNS once they are established, this Plan emphasises the need for prevention of arrival and, failing that, rapid response to the introduction of INNS before they become established. The Plan therefore

identifies pathways and develops actions to limit the likelihood of INNS entering the Solway in the first place.

Management of INNS at a local scale in inshore waters is a new approach and there is much to learn regarding successful prevention and control of organisms in open systems. Even identification of marine INNS can be difficult, often requiring microscopic or genetic examination of a sample to distinguish it from native species. It is therefore important to develop a rigorous reporting, identification and recording system as part of any Biosecurity Plan. In terms of control of existing INNS, mechanical methods are favoured as chemical methods would usually also involve the destruction of native flora and fauna and biological methods such as the introduction of a predator which can alter the ecosystem in other unforeseen ways.

### 3.2 Policy and Legislation

The UK has international obligations to address INNS issues, principally through the Water Framework Directive and the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, the Convention of Biological Diversity including the International Plant Protection Convention and the Bern Convention on Conservation of European Wildlife and Habitats.

The actions presented in this plan conform to, and are supported by UK Government legislation associated with the prevention, management and treatment of INNS:

**European Water Framework Directive (WFD)** - the two aims within the directive are that water bodies reach good ecological status by 2015 (or by 2027 at the latest if longer timescales can be justified) and that no deterioration in ecological status is permitted. This applies to the impact of INNS in the marine environment, as well as inland, and this plan can help achieve these objectives. Under WFD, depending on the invasive species and their extent, water bodies are not able to reach high ecological status; the maximum level obtainable is good ecological status and in order to achieve this, the Directive requires that INNS 'have not damaged the native aquatic plant and animal communities'. Again, depending on the species and extent, some INNS can also reduce the ecological status further e.g. to moderate. The Solway Firth is currently assessed as being of high ecological status but in the next round of monitoring it is likely that the presence of the INNS listed below could reduce its status to good.

Water Body Name	Species of Concern
Loch Ryan, North Solway	Japanese wireweed
North Solway – various points	Pacific oyster
North Inner Solway and South Inner Solway – various points	Common cord grass
North Solway	Orange tipped sea squirt
North Inner Solway and South Inner Solway – various points	Acorn barnacle
Loch Ryan	Leathery sea squirt
Loch Ryan, North Solway	Green sea fingers

**EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)** - requires each Member State to work towards 'good environmental status' of their marine waters by 2020. The first stage of

this process in Scotland, under the auspices of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, is the development of Scotland's National Marine Plan. Within this Plan, one of the draft national objectives is that 'non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystems'.

**UK legislation** - is comprehensive and covers Acts relating to specific industries as well as environmental Acts. For a comprehensive review, visit the legislation section of the GB NNSS website [www.nonnativespecies.org/](http://www.nonnativespecies.org/)

**The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011** - is the latest piece of legislation to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) relating to INNS. The 2011 changes introduce a new regime of Species Control Agreements and Species Control Orders. These will enable relevant bodies (Scottish Ministers, SNH, Marine Scotland, SEPA and the Forestry Commission Scotland) to set out measures that must be taken to control or eradicate an invasive non-native plant or animal, when control is considered to be both viable and of sufficient priority. The Scottish Government has published a Code of Practice to accompany the 2011 Act to help people understand their legal responsibilities with regard to non-native plants and animals.

**The Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain** – aims to address the key weaknesses in our capacity to respond to the threats posed by non-native species. The Strategy provides a framework for a more co-ordinated and structured approach to dealing with non-native species and any potential invasive threat in or to Great Britain. It includes better co-ordinated and strategic prevention measures aimed at reducing the introduction of damaging non-native species into Great Britain.

**Convention on Biological Diversity, Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including Aichi Biodiversity Targets** – Target 9 sets out that by 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

### 3.3 Existing Planning Framework

This Biosecurity Plan links Government-led policy, legislation and strategic action with local actions and reflects, implements and/or supports the provisions and requirements of the following existing Plans:

- Solway Firth Partnership Business Plan 2011 - 2013
- The River Basin Management Plan for the Solway Tweed River Basin District 2009–2015
- Solway Area Management Plan
- Solway Firth EMS Management Plan
- Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan
- NSA Management Plans for Nith Estuary, Fleet Valley and East Stewartry Coast
- Cumbria Local Biodiversity Action Plan
- Dumfries and Galloway Local Biodiversity Action Plan
- Cumbria Freshwater Biosecurity Plan 2011 – 2015
- River Annan Trust Biosecurity Plan 2010 – 2016

- River Nith Trust Biosecurity Plan 2011 - 2016
- Galloway Fisheries Trust (being prepared at present)
- North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority Biosecurity Plan (being prepared at present)
- Identifying best practice in management of activities on Marine Protected Areas (NECR108)

This Plan also supports the conservation objectives of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and European Marine Sites (EMS) within the Solway area.

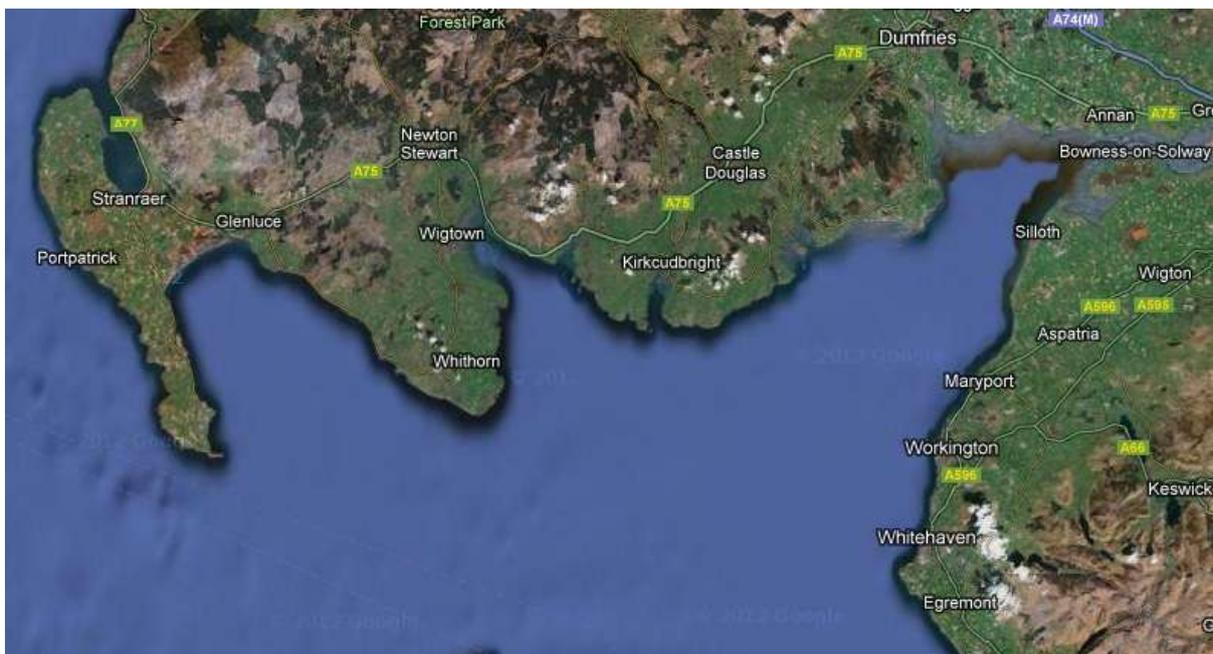
## 4 BIOSECURITY ISSUES IN THE SOLWAY

### 4.1 Description of the Solway

The Solway Firth covers a surface area of 3,923 km<sup>2</sup> with a maximum water depth of 265m and an average water depth of 55m.

The two shores of the Solway differ broadly in character reflecting their differing geology, with older harder rocks on the Scottish side creating a more rugged coastline than the softer sandstone and coal measures of the southern shore. The north shore consists of a series of peninsulas divided by estuaries, with granite intrusions creating rugged uplands rising directly from the coast. In the south, softer sediments have been eroded to form a wide coastal plain, backed by the more resistant rocks of the Lake District Fells.

The Solway is influenced by the Atlantic Ocean through the North Channel and through St George's Channel much further to the south. This effect generates rapid tidal streams in the Solway. One of the main reasons for the lack of major commercial development at the head of the Solway Firth is the difficulty in navigating the shallow uncharted waters which restricts access to all but the smallest vessels.



**Figure 2 Map of the Solway**

### 4.2 Use of the Area

The Solway accommodates many small and medium sized harbours with the larger ports being situated on the Cumbrian shore. The commercial activity of Workington and Silloth contrasts markedly with the relative tranquillity of the small harbours on the Galloway coast.

The area's main fishing ports and harbours are Whitehaven and Stranraer, Maryport, Silloth, Annan, Kirkcudbright and the Isle of Whithorn. Most of the area's fishing fleet is involved in shellfish fishing with the key species being scallops, queen scallops, nephrops, brown shrimp, cockles, crab, lobster, whelk mussels and periwinkles. Demersal fish (cod, whiting,

plaice, sole, dogfish) are also landed by the local fleet. From the Cumbrian shores fishing for Dover sole, bull and turbot is important along with plaice, cod, codling and skate.

There are a number of locally based sailing clubs in the Solway with good marina facilities at Whitehaven, Maryport and Stranraer and pontoons at Kippford and Kirkcudbright. Most sailing activity is restricted to within 5km of the coast and the most popular trans-Solway route is between Maryport and Kippford. Boating is highly seasonal, taking place between May and September.

Other recreational activities such as windsurfing, scuba diving, jet skiing and land sailing also take place at various locations around the Solway. Sea angling; angling from the shore, inshore fishing and deep sea fishing is popular with frequently caught fish including lesser spotted dogfish, mackerel, pollack and ballan wrasse during May to October, with cod caught during the winter. Flounder and dab are mainly caught in the inner reaches of the estuaries. Bass can be caught from beaches while tope fishing from boats is popular off the Galloway coast.

Renewable energy is widely regarded as a cleaner source of energy than fossil fuels. Securing sustainable clean energy from the marine environment could help meet future energy demands. Robin Rigg in the Solway Firth, Scotland's first offshore wind development, has a capacity of 180MW from 60 turbines.

In 2011 there were a reported 20.5km of submarine electricity cables and over 90km of oil and gas pipeline in the Solway Firth and North Channel. There are also seabed telecommunication cables and power cables which run across the Firth to Ireland and Northern Ireland.

### 4.3 Biosecurity: Current and potential threats

At the time of writing there are seven known species of marine INNS already present in the Solway with an additional three species being in close proximity or a potential threat. These are species that if introduced would have severe consequences for local biodiversity and the economy.

There is also a growing recognition of the impacts of translocated species. Translocated species are native species that have been transported outside of their natural range which can have severe ecological impacts.

#### 4.3.1 Current Threats

Common Name <i>Latin Name</i>	Environmental Impact	Socioeconomic Impact
Common Cord Grass <i>Spartina anglica</i>	Medium	Low
Pacific oyster <i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	Medium	Low
Wireweed <i>Sargassum muticum</i>	Medium	Low
Orange tipped sea	Low	Medium

squirt <i>Corella eumyota</i>		
Acorn barnacle	Low	Low
Leathery sea squirt	Low	Medium
Green sea fingers	Low	Low

The above environmental and socio-economic risk scores are based on information in the GB NNSS risk assessments for species, where completed, (available at [www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)) and on the experience of the impact of these species in other parts of the UK and in the Solway to date.



**Common cord-grass, *Spartina anglica*** is a well-established and vigorously invasive grass of estuarine salt marshes in England, Wales, Ireland and from southern Scotland to Argyll, the west coast of Scotland. It is a hybrid of a North American and a British native species which arose some time before 1892. It colonises the lower zones of estuarine salt marshes and intertidal mudflats, excluding native flora and fauna and can lead to a loss of habitat for feeding

and roosting, seriously affecting populations of migratory wildfowl and waders. It may compete with areas used for commercial oyster and mussel farming and have an impact on the recreational use of the coast by land locking sandy beaches. *S. anglica* is an aggressive invasive ranked among the "100 world's worst alien invaders" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Removal by digging at an early stage of invasion can be successful, but manually intensive. Smothering in plastic sheeting has been locally successful. Alternatively herbicides have been used but can need frequent reapplication.

Image © Nic Coombey



**Pacific oysters, *Crassostrea gigas*** were deliberately introduced to Great Britain from Canada during the 1960s for commercial purposes with the first record from the wild being in 1965. Farmed populations occur throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and are widespread in Europe. It was initially presumed that temperatures in British waters would not be suitable for Pacific oysters to successfully spread, settle and spawn locally, but escapees have

established feral populations in south-east and south-west England and Wales. There are extensive beds of naturally recruited Pacific oysters in some southern estuaries of England and sparse settlements are known from the north coast of Wales near Conwy. Mature individuals were recorded on the Galloway coast at Ravenshall in October 2012, Ross Bay in December 2012 and Balcary Bay in January 2013. These are small colonies but will be removed to prevent any spread. Image © Nic Coombey



**Wireweed, *Sargassum muticum*** is a highly distinctive large olive-brown seaweed, often over 1m long. Its lateral branches hang like washing from a line when held out of the water. Wireweed competes with native seaweeds and

sea grasses through rapid-growth, shading and abrasion. It is a nuisance in harbours and shallow waters where it is a hazard to boating due to entanglement of propellers. It can dominate in rock pools, altering the habitat. It is distributed widely along the coasts of south and west England, Wales and West Scotland. It was first recorded in Scotland in Loch Ryan in 2004 and has since populated various areas further north up the west coast. Whilst physical removal may be possible, care must be taken to prevent further spread of the species and recolonisation from surrounding populations following clearance is likely. See Appendix 2 for contact details of species specific recording scheme. Image © Fiona Crouch



**Orange tipped sea squirt, *Corella eumyota*** has been found along the south coast of England at Brighton, Portsmouth and Weymouth and in harbours on the south west, south and east coasts of Ireland. A record has also been noted on the Galloway Coast. This is a solitary sea squirt, 2-4 cm long, which often attaches to hard substrates such as cobbles, boulders, ship hulls and shells of mussels and oysters. Note the distinctive curved or U shaped gut, the identifying feature. Other similar

squirts have an S shaped gut. It may threaten oyster and mussel farms through fouled gear and by smothering and outcompeting cultures. Image © Fiona Crouch



**Acorn barnacle, *Elminius modestus*** is a small sessile barnacle, 5-10 mm in diameter, which is native to Australasia and is now widely distributed around most coasts of England and Wales and present in a few areas of Scotland including various sites around the Solway. It attaches to a variety of surfaces including rocks, stones, hard-shelled animals and artificial structures including ships, and tolerates a wider range of salinity and turbidity than native species. This is a fast growing species that is

quick to reach maturity, which, combined with its high reproductive output in water temperatures above 6°C, gives it a competitive advantage over native species. This barnacle can dominate hard surfaces and displace native species; it has largely displaced native barnacles in estuaries in southwest England, although impacts are less significant on exposed rocky shores. In favourable conditions it can be a nuisance as a fouling organism. Spread of this species may be limited by the appropriate treatment of ships' ballast water and removal of hull fouling communities, but is unlikely to be prevented due to the species' ability to disperse naturally during the pelagic larval phase. Image © Paul Brazier - CCW



**Leathery sea squirt, *Styela clava*** is a brown solitary sea squirt up to 20 cm tall, attached by a small flat holdfast at the base of a narrow stalk. It attaches to solid surfaces in shallow water, especially in harbours and marinas but also on wrecks and natural rock bottoms. It is a large organism that can achieve high densities and did prove to be a severe nuisance to long-line mussel farming in eastern Canada until replaced by other invasive species, however, this species

has not been noted as a problem to aquaculture in the UK to date. It is distributed from the

Clyde around the south coast of England and to the Humber and has been recorded in Loch Ryan. Mechanical clearance by individual 'picking' appears possible; however, small unstalked individuals would be very inconspicuous, suggesting that total clearance of surfaces would be necessary to achieve eradication. Image © GB NNS



**Green sea fingers, *Codium fragile*** is a spongy green seaweed with numerous Y-shaped, branching, cylindrical fronds with a felt-like texture. It usually grows to around 25 cm in Britain. It has the potential to compete with native species for space, forming dense clumps and potentially altering community structure. It can be a nuisance to fisheries and aquaculture, particularly on NW Atlantic shores; it fouls nets and may attach to, uplift and move commercially

produced shellfish and seaweed. Green sea fingers is present around Great Britain including the Scilly Isles, Channel Islands, South Wales, the south coast of England and the west coast of Scotland to Argyll. It is well established so prevention of further dispersal is unlikely. Mechanical removal would be unlikely to succeed as the species can reproduce asexually from fragments; however, a population of green sea fingers in Oban was decimated through predation by sea slugs, suggesting a possible biological control strategy. Image © GBNNS

#### 4.3.2 Potential Threats

Looking further afield provides an idea of the species that are likely to become a problem in the Solway through various pathways. The following species are considered most likely to appear in the Solway area in the near future due to their proximity.

Common Name <i>Latin Name</i>	Risk of Introduction	Local Impact
Chinese mitten crab <i>Eriocheir sinensis</i>	High Risk	High
Carpet sea squirt <i>Didemnum vexillum</i>	High Risk	High
Slipper limpet <i>Crepidula fornicata</i>	Low Risk	Medium
Killer shrimp <i>Dikerogammarus villosus</i>	High Risk	High
Zebra mussel <i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	Medium Risk	High



**Chinese mitten crab, *Eriocheir sinensis*** was first introduced to the Thames Estuary in 1935 and is now established in several sites throughout England and Wales. Juveniles occur in lower estuaries and marine habitats. As they develop, young crabs migrate upstream, into freshwater and brackish systems. Adults usually live in burrows in muddy riverbanks, although aquatic vegetation and marshes may

provide an alternative habitat. Adults migrate into deep, open, saltwater locations to reproduce. This species can impact marine and freshwater ecosystems and is a voracious predator that will consume a range of invertebrate species and the eggs of fish leading to competition with native species and impacting invertebrate and fish populations. It burrows into river banks, increasing erosion and river turbidity, and causing bank collapse. Burrowing also leads to the siltation of gravel beds, including those used for fish spawning. Chinese mitten crab is known to have been present in the Duddon estuary (South West Lakes), where two females were recorded and captured. No subsequent evidence of its presence has been found to date. It is also the intermediate host for the mammalian lung fluke *Paragonimus ringer*, which is known to infect humans. See Appendix 2 for contact details of species specific recording scheme. Image © FERA



**Carpet sea squirt, *Didemnum vexillum*** was first recorded in 2008 in the Plymouth and Holyhead estuaries, carpet sea squirt has now been recorded in a number of other locations in Great Britain including a couple on the Clyde. It forms pale orange, cream or off-white colonies of extensive thin (2-5 mm) sheets and can form long pendulous outgrowths. Colonies can overgrow other fauna and occupy a substantial proportion of available space. On offshore banks in the USA it has shown very extensive coverage of the seabed, potentially smothering species living in gravel and affecting aquaculture. There have been decreases in brittle stars and sea urchins noted in The Netherlands. It is suggested that carpet sea squirt degrades in cold weather and that this influences its ability to regenerate and reproduce sexually. Wrapping affected surfaces in polythene sheets secured with cable ties has been effective in New Zealand and N Wales, whilst a costly exercise, causes the encased sea squirt to suffocate and decay within weeks, and can be enhanced by adding a biocide such as bleach within the plastic wrapping. Repopulation from untreated sites has occurred in N Wales. Funding will soon be sought at a UK level to consider further options to tackle this invasive species. See Appendix 2 for contact details of species specific recording scheme. Image © CCW



**Slipper limpet, *Crepidula fornicata*** was discovered in Liverpool Bay in 1872, but this population has since died out. It was subsequently introduced to Essex between 1887 and 1890 with American Oysters *Crassostrea virginica* from north-east USA, it may also have been transported on ships' hulls and in ballast water when it is in the open-water larval phase. Since 1934, it has been found in silt brought into the UK with Dutch oysters, and is now abundant in the whole of the North Sea on oyster and mussel banks. Its numbers are continuing to increase. Slipper limpet competes with, and can displace, other filter-feeding invertebrates. The species can be a serious pest of oyster and mussel beds. Image © GBNNSS



**Killer shrimp, *Dikerogammarus villosus*** is highly invasive with only a few known populations in Britain. A key ID feature is the presence of cone shaped

protrusions on the tail. It is often larger than native freshwater shrimp species and sometimes has a striped appearance. It is a voracious predator, killing invertebrates and small fish and will quickly dominate the habitats it invades and can significantly alter their ecology. It is tolerant of poor water quality and brackish water and can survive in damp conditions for up to five days. It could therefore be spread in ballast water and also by people on kit used in the water, including angling gear, boats, kayaks and trailers. Image © Environment Agency



**Zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*** is a freshwater mussel species with a distinctive striped colouration and shape. They are found commonly across England and Wales and in limited locations in Scotland and Ireland. It inhabits a range of clean and well-oxygenated freshwaters but can tolerate weakly brackish waters. It attaches, usually in groups, by sticky threads to anything solid underwater such as masonry, stones, wooden posts, tree roots or shells. This attachment can block pipework, affect lock gates and other hard structures in the water. They can also significantly alter ecosystems by smothering native species and rapidly

filtering out nutrients from the water. The growth of these colonies is similar to that of marine mussels. Image © GBNNSS

#### 4.5 Stakeholders

The engagement of key stakeholders is imperative for the success of this plan. Those involved in the development of the plan through attendance at the INNS Seminar in Carlisle include:

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder
Government and Agency	Environment Agency GB NNS Secretariat Marine Scotland Natural England SEPA SNH
Local Authority	Dumfries and Galloway Council Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Fisheries	North and West Cumbria FLAG River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board River Nith District Salmon Fishery Board
Non-Government Organisation	Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre Cumbria Wildlife Trust Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre Eden Rivers Trust Lake District Coast Aquarium Making the Most of the Coast Project National Trust for Scotland

	Nith Catchment Fishery Trust River Annan Trust RSPB South Cumbria Rivers Trust (the CFINNS Initiative)
Recreational Sport	Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network
Industry	Kirkcudbright Training Range Solway Shore Stories
Marine and Coastal Fora	Firth of Clyde Forum Solway Firth Partnership North Solway Area Advisory Group Solway Area Advisory Group

A wider group of stakeholders including industry will have the opportunity to be involved in the development of this plan. It is also hoped that these organisations will be keen to be involved in raising awareness of INNS and ensuring that Biosecurity measures are in place in their area of interest to prevent the spread of INNS.

## 5 BIOSECURITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

### 5.1 Objectives and Outputs

The objectives of this plan will be achieved through a partnership approach focused on the three strategic elements described previously, and namely:

- Prevention – this is the most effective and least environmentally damaging option
- Rapid Response – includes early detection and surveillance, potential eradication
- Control & Containment – where the INNS is widespread and eradication is not feasible, control of the population and mitigation against negative impacts is required

This section of the biosecurity plan was developed in part through a workshop with various stakeholders at Tullie House Museum in Carlisle on 21 September 2012. Actions for prevention are based on identifying and disrupting pathways for the introduction and spread of INNS and include a mixture of awareness raising and practical measures. Actions for rapid response focus on the establishment of a reporting and response system by species but are also dependent on a raised level of awareness amongst users of the marine environment. Control and containment measures will be coordinated with national initiatives and advice.

#### **Objective 1: Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of marine INNS within the Solway Firth area and to other areas**

**Output 1.1: Ensure that key stakeholders are aware of the threat of marine INNS through an awareness raising programme which will include promoting the Check, Clean, Dry Initiative (see Appendix 3), producing web pages on the SFP website, producing articles for Tidelines, producing literature identifying key marine INNS and posters for appropriate sites such as harbours, yachting centres etc.**

Awareness activities will be focused on addressing local priorities as well as supporting the GBNNSS Media and Communications Strategic Plan and its key messages to the general public:

- INNS damage our environment, the economy, our health and the way we live
- We require the support of stakeholders to increase awareness, reporting and better understanding of INNS issues and impacts
- INNS
  - Threaten our native plants, animals and habitats,
  - Are estimated to cost the British economy between £2 and £6 billion pounds each year,
  - Can threaten our health.

The local priorities for awareness will look to disrupt the pathways for the introduction and spread of INNS in the Solway area. The main pathways, preventative action and relevant stakeholders are listed in Table 5.1 below.

Pathway	Preventative Action	Stakeholder
Ballast water	Follow best practice and where possible do not pump non-sterilised water out in harbours or into the Solway	Port Authorities / Harbour Masters / Boat owners
Hull fouling	Annual haul-out of vessel and treatment with antifouling. Hull design to prevent fouling and encourage easy cleaning	All vessel owners and users – fisheries, recreational boating, shipping companies Boat/Kayak designers
Port infrastructure as a receptor	Good housekeeping. Design to discourage fouling.	Port Authorities / Local Authorities
Fouling of recreational equipment	'Check, Clean, Dry' all marine equipment and clothing between use and before moving from one water body to another (see Appendix 3)	All marine groups and Associations using equipment including angling, scuba diving, sailing etc.
Relocation of structures and equipment	'Check, Clean, Dry' all structures and equipment before moving from one water body to another (see Appendix 3) Check for INNS	Port Authorities Marinas Fisheries Renewables industry
Attached to marine debris / litter	Minimise marine litter / debris – National Marine Litter Strategy, Fishing for Litter campaign, MMoC and WOW beach cleaning activities	Local Authorities Fisheries SFP NTS Solway Coast AONB MCS
Escape or release of plants and animals from aquaria	Do not release animals and plants from aquaria Use native species whenever possible	Aquarium stockists / customers
Natural dispersal	Understand tidal currents and spread risk for each invasive species.	SNH / GB NNSS / SEPA

**Table 5.1 Pathways, preventative action and relevant stakeholders**

**Objective 2: Promote optimum surveillance, detection, monitoring and rapid response systems for the identified Marine INNS which pose significant threats to biodiversity and economic interests**

**Output 2.1: Facilitate a training programme for existing local volunteer groups across the Solway to aid early surveillance and data collection of marine INNS.**

Marine species can often be extremely difficult to identify with the naked eye and can look very similar to other marine species from the same family. Often laboratory identification with the use of a microscope or even genetic level analysis is required to be absolutely certain of the species. It is therefore essential that any material circulated to help identify INNS contains enough information to allow the user to be fairly certain it is indeed the relevant INNS that has been sighted and that, where appropriate, these sightings are checked by an

appropriate organisation. Training courses will be set up for existing volunteer groups such as the Solway Coast AONB and NTS to help them identify INNS and to follow the appropriate reporting systems.

A reporting system exists for Wireweed and Carpet Sea Squirt through the SNH website and for the Chinese Mitten Crab through GB NNSS. All records can also be submitted to the Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre or Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre, depending on location, and they will ensure they are passed onto the relevant body.

**Output 2.2: Promote the reporting of INNS and facilitate the Government's rapid response mechanism for those INNS which pose significant threats to local marine and coastal biodiversity and economic interests.**

The type of rapid response will depend on the species detected and be proportionate to the threat posed. The response will also be in line with national guidelines for the relevant species:

- A GB or Scottish High Priority Response that will be led by national governmental institutions
- A Priority Local Response

In the Solway, at present, species that would require a GB or Scottish High Priority Response are:

- **Chinese Mitten Crab**
- **Carpet Sea Squirt**
- **Slipper limpet**
- **Killer shrimp**

The response to reports of these species would be to follow the procedure:

- report to SFP who will pass the information onto GBNNSS, SNH, DGERC or CBC)
- determine the extent of infestation
- isolate area where practicable
- follow relevant Codes of Practice to prevent further spread

Species requiring a local priority response at present are:

- **Common cord grass**
- **Pacific oyster**
- **Japanese wireweed**
- **Orange tipped sea squirt**
- **Green sea fingers**
- **Acorn barnacle**
- **Zebra mussel**

The response to reports of these species in new locations would follow the procedure:

- report to SFP who will send onto appropriate local record centre
- determine the extent of the infestation

- surveys in course of normal work to establish and map distribution
- identify source and close pathways if possible
- include new areas in eradication / control programmes
- monitor
- follow relevant Codes of Practice to prevent further spread

It should be noted that the list of priority species may change as our understanding about INNS in the Solway increases.

**Objective 3: Develop effective control programmes for existing marine INNS which are operational and sustainable, including preventing further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of the country.**

**Output 3.1: Facilitate effective control or eradication programmes in line with national policy and work with stakeholders to implement them.**

Control and eradication programmes, if deemed necessary would only be undertaken in line with national policy and using a combination of specialist contractors and agency staff due to the specialist nature of such operations in the marine environment. Surveys can identify INNS distribution, however, these can be costly in the marine environment and would normally only be carried out for GB/Scottish Response species. Additional funding sources would need to be identified for any survey, control and eradication works.

By raising awareness of the necessity to incorporate biosecurity planning within industry and by implementing biosecurity procedures such as 'Check, Clean, Dry' (see Appendix 3) or the annual haul-out and anti-fouling of a marine vessel, stakeholders in the Solway will help to prevent further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of Scotland.

## 5.2 Actions and Timeframes

This section presents the actions required to realise the objectives and outputs along with the lead agency, key partners and timeframe required for their implementation. Funding will be sought to complete those action plan areas with funding sources needing to be identified for all survey, control and eradication works.

### Action Plan

Action	Lead	Partners*	Timeframe				
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Objective 1: Reduce the risk of introduction and spread of marine INNS within the Solway area and to other areas</b>							
Produce / update web pages on the SFP website	SFP	SFP	----	----	----	----	----
Promote Check, Clean, Dry Campaign	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA/ River Trusts/ NWIFCA/	----	----	----	----	----

		TGB/ RYAS/ BMFS					
Arrange and/or attend meetings with stakeholders to raise awareness and distribute material	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA	----	----	----	----	----
Actively engage with industry at the main Solway ports to raise awareness of marine INNS	SFP	ABP/ Ferry companies	----	----	----	----	----
Include articles in Tidelines magazine	SFP		----	----	----	----	----
Produce literature identifying key marine INNS	SFP	SFP/ SEPA/ EA/ River Trusts/ FCF	----				
Produce marine INNS posters for harbour, yacht centres etc.	SFP	SFP/ GBNNS/	----				
<b>Objective 2: Promote optimum surveillance, detection, monitoring and rapid response systems for the identified Marine INNS which pose significant threats to biodiversity and economic interests.</b>							
Facilitate a training programme for existing local volunteer groups	SFP	AONB/ NE/ NTS/ DGC Rangers/ NSA Vols/ WWT/ SWT /NWIFCA/ SAMS	----	----			
Production of a waterproof marine INNS identification guide	SFP	SEPA/ EA	----				
Promote an effective single point of contact reporting and response system	SFP / GBNNS	SNH, Marine Scotland / NE / DGERC / CBDC	----				
Train SFP Staff as Trainers	SFP	SFP	----				
Continue	SFP /	SFP/	----	----	----	----	---

surveillance of Pacific oyster	EA/ SNH/ NE	SEPA/ NWIFCA					
Survey for marine INNS during routine work	SFP / SEPA/ EA / SNH/ NE	SFP/ NWIFCA	----	----	----	----	----
<b>Objective 3: Develop effective control programmes for existing marine INNS which are operational and sustainable, including preventing further spread of INNS from the Solway to other parts of the country</b>							
Remove Pacific oyster from identified locations in Galloway	SFP	SFP	----				
Look at funding opportunities to enable INNS work	SFP		----			----	

**Partners\*** - These are organisations who have been identified as likely partners but further discussion is required.

## 6 MONITORING

Biosecurity planning has been initiated within the Solway area by the Solway Firth Partnership. Progress in delivering the objectives of this Biosecurity Plan will be determined by the level of engagement, support and commitment of the stakeholders and partners to deliver action against shared priorities. That is the challenge for all parties as we seek to implement the actions and deliver the objectives of the plan. To ensure the effective implementation of this plan, it is vital that the outcomes and impacts of the actions are monitored and reviewed to ensure that the objectives are being met. A monitoring programme should include:

- Assessment of efficiency of surveillance and rapid response systems
- Occurrence and distribution of INNS within the Solway area
- Effectiveness of any established control and eradication programmes
- Assessment of the ability to close or restrict established pathways of transmission
- Monitoring the effectiveness of all legislation and codes of practice especially those that are aimed at closing /restricting pathway. This will be facilitated by the Local Coastal Partnership Officer sitting on the Scottish Government marine INNS working group

In addition, it is essential to carry out regular risk assessments and update the environmental, socioeconomic risk scores for those species present as well as the introduction risk scores for those species likely to arrive in the near future.

Solway Firth Partnership will undertake to review the biosecurity plan on an annual basis and will include new records of INNS as appropriate to ensure the plan continues to be as up to date as possible.

## 7 REFERENCES

- Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy  
<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/index.cfm?sectionid=55>
- Convention on Biological Diversity, Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including Aichi Biodiversity Targets <http://www.cbd.int/sp/>
- EC Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm)
- EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EC)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm)
- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html)
- EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/marine/ges.htm>
- Marine Scotland Act  
[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/pdfs/asp\\_20100005\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/pdfs/asp_20100005_en.pdf)
- Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/6/introduction/enacted>
- Marine invasive alien species: a threat to global biodiversity Marine Policy 27, 313-323, 2003, Bax N, Williamson A, Aguero M, Gonzalez E, Geeves W.
- The River Basin Management Plan for the Solway Tweed River Basin District 2009–2015
- Scotland’s National Marine Plan: Pre-Consultation Draft  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/21114728/9>
- GB Non-native Species Secretariat [www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)
- Consultation on Draft Code of Practice on Non-Native and Invasive Non-Native Species <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/17115253/5>
- Solway Firth Review, Solway Firth Partnership, June 1996
- Scotland’s Marine Atlas – information for the National Marine Plan, The Scottish Government, 2011
- MarLin website [www.marlin.ac.uk](http://www.marlin.ac.uk)
- Delivering Alien Invasive Species Inventories for Europe [www.europe-aliens.org](http://www.europe-aliens.org)
- Identifying best practice in management of activities on Marine Protected Areas (NECR108) <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/3800278>

## Appendix 1 – Marine INNS Seminar Programme

**Marine Invasive Non-Native Species Seminar****Working Better Together in the Solway Firth**

21 Friday September 2012

10.30am – 3.00pm

Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, CA3 8TP

10.30am	<b>Registration and tea / coffee</b>
11.00am	<b>Welcome and introduction to the day</b> Solway Firth Partnership
11.05am	<b>Non-native Species: the situation nationally</b> Niall Moore: Head of GB Non-Native Species Secretariat
	<b>Questions</b>
11.35am	<b>Quick Update Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting the Scene from Marine Scotland – David Mallon</li> <li>An update from SEPA – Janet Khan-Marnie</li> </ul>
	<b>Questions</b>
12.05pm	<b>Workshop – Working better together!</b> <b>Split into discussion groups to review:-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the threats?</li> <li>Mapping emerging species</li> <li>What is being done locally?</li> <li>What are our priorities and actions?</li> </ul>
12.50pm	<b>Reconvene and feedback on main points from group discussions</b>
1.00pm	<b>Lunch, Networking and Displays</b>
1.45pm	<b><i>D. vex and D. vill, Biosecurity in Action</i></b> <b><i>Sarah Brown: The Firth of Clyde Forum</i></b>
	<b>Questions</b>
2.10pm	<b>Quick Update Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update from Natural England – Ruth Cantrell, Marine Advisor, Irish Sea Team</li> <li>Chinese Mitten Crab in the Duddon - Bekka Corrie-Close, South Cumbria Rivers Trust</li> <li>Potential Impact of Marine INNS on River Fisheries, Debbie Parke, River Nith Trust</li> </ul>
	<b>Questions</b>
2.50pm	<b>Sum up and Next steps</b>
3.00pm	<b>Close</b>

**Hosted by Solway Firth Partnership**  
**Funded by the Environment Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage**

## **Appendix 2 - Invasive Non-Native Species recording schemes and further information sources**

Recording schemes

### **Wireweed**

[www.snh.org.uk/wireweed](http://www.snh.org.uk/wireweed) or Email [wireweed@snh.gov.uk](mailto:wireweed@snh.gov.uk)

### **Carpet Sea Squirt**

[www.snh.org.uk/carpetseasquirt](http://www.snh.org.uk/carpetseasquirt) or Email [carpetseasquirt@snh.gov.uk](mailto:carpetseasquirt@snh.gov.uk) or call 01463 725000

### **Chinese Mitten Crab**

<http://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/index.cfm?pageid=254>

### **For all other marine INNS**

Email GB NNSS at [alert\\_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alert_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk)

Contact MarLIN at [http://www.marlin.ac.uk/marine\\_alien/marine\\_alien.htm](http://www.marlin.ac.uk/marine_alien/marine_alien.htm)

For any records in Dumfries and Galloway, Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre <http://dgerc.org.uk> or call 01387 760274

For any records in Cumbria, Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre <http://www.cbdc.org.uk/> or call 01288 618732/618770

### **For Further information on Marine INNS**

GB Non-Native Species Secretariat

<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/home/index.cfm>

For Advise on Best Practice for leisure boaters on preventing the spread of INNS

The Green Blue:

[http://www.thegreenblue.org.uk/boat\\_users/antifoul\\_and\\_invasive\\_species.aspx](http://www.thegreenblue.org.uk/boat_users/antifoul_and_invasive_species.aspx)

RAFTS Invasive Species and Bio-security Programme:

[http://www.invasivespeciesscotland.org.uk/biosecurity\\_programme/biosecurity\\_plans.asp](http://www.invasivespeciesscotland.org.uk/biosecurity_programme/biosecurity_plans.asp)

International Maritime Organisation

Ballast water

<http://www.imo.org/OurWork/Environment/BallastWaterManagement/Pages/default.aspx>

Appendix 3 – GB NNS ‘Check, Clean, Dry’ Campaign



**STOP THE SPREAD**

**STOP THE SPREAD**  
**INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES**  
**CHECK-CLEAN-DRY**

Are you unknowingly spreading invasive species on your water sports equipment and clothing?

Invasive species can affect fish and other wildlife, restrict navigation, clog up propellers and be costly to manage. You can help protect the water sports you love by following three simple steps when you leave the water.

**CHECK** Check your equipment and clothing for live organisms - particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

**CLEAN** Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

**DRY** Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

For more information go to [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) and search for Check Clean Dry

Loggong  
Canal & River Trust  
SOUTH SCALES  
RYA  
defra  
Environment Agency  
NATURAL ENGLAND  
NNS