



**Scottish Invasive Species Initiative**

## Scottish Invasive Species Initiative Project Conference

Invasive non-native species – why they matter and the importance of control

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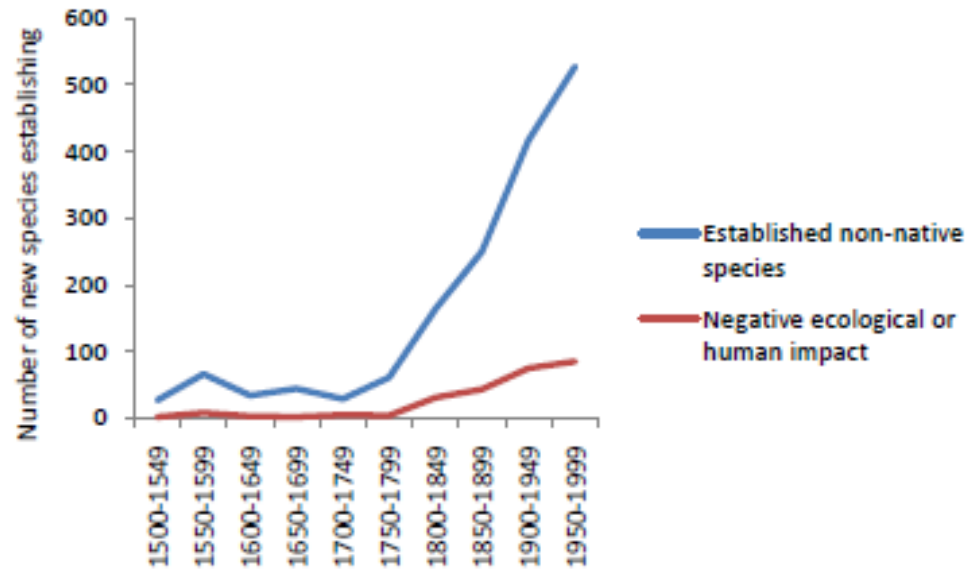


# Invasive non-native species

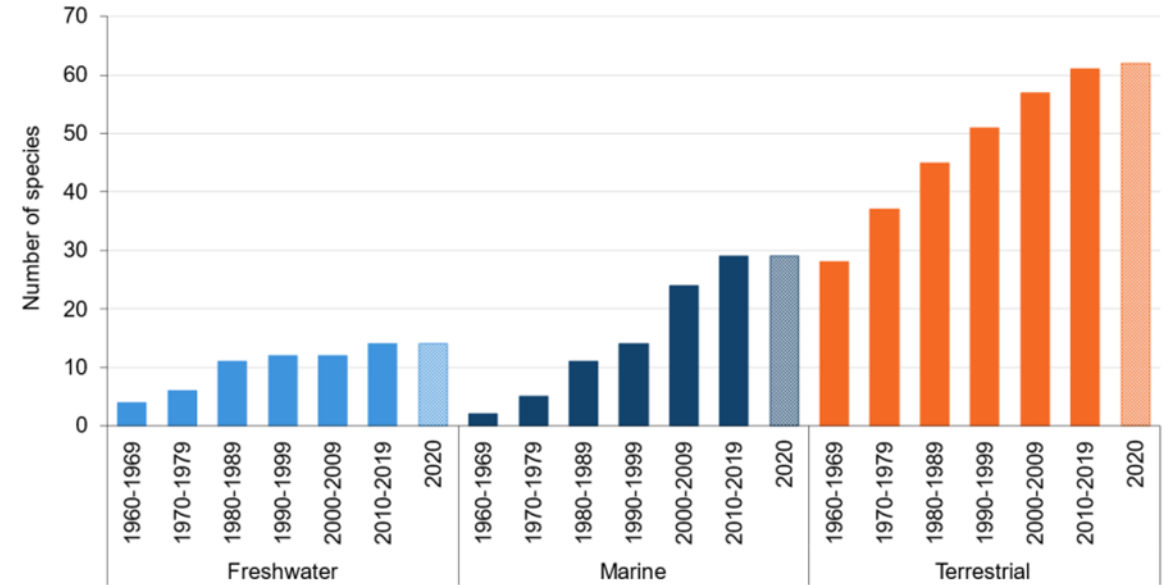




# Invasive non-native species are an ongoing and increasingly significant issue



Number of established non-native species and the number that are designated as having a negative ecological or human impact against date of first arrival



Number of invasive non-native species established in or along 10% or more of Great Britain's land area or coastline, 1960 to 2020

- Dramatic increase in number of species arriving, no indication of this trend slowing
- 10-12 new species become established in GB each year
- 10% of these will go onto be invasive and challenge us to respond

# Invasive non-native species – impacts (biological, economic and “way of life”)





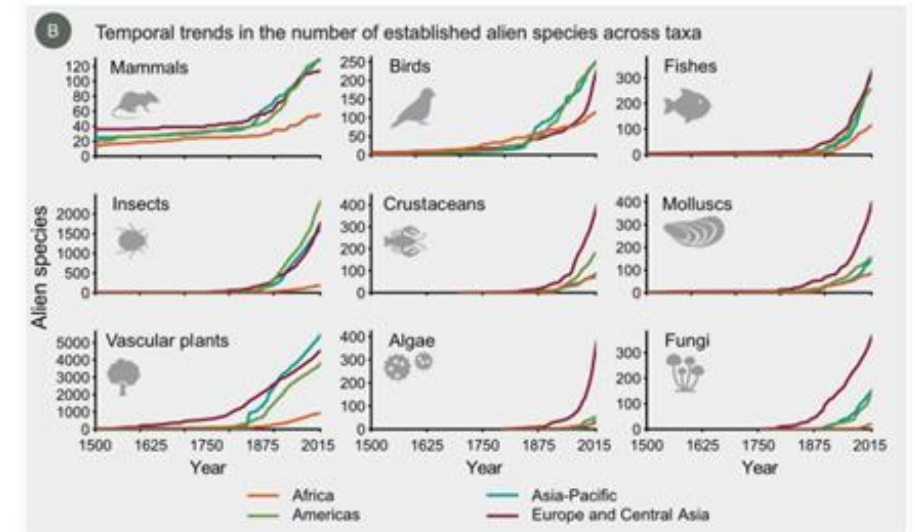
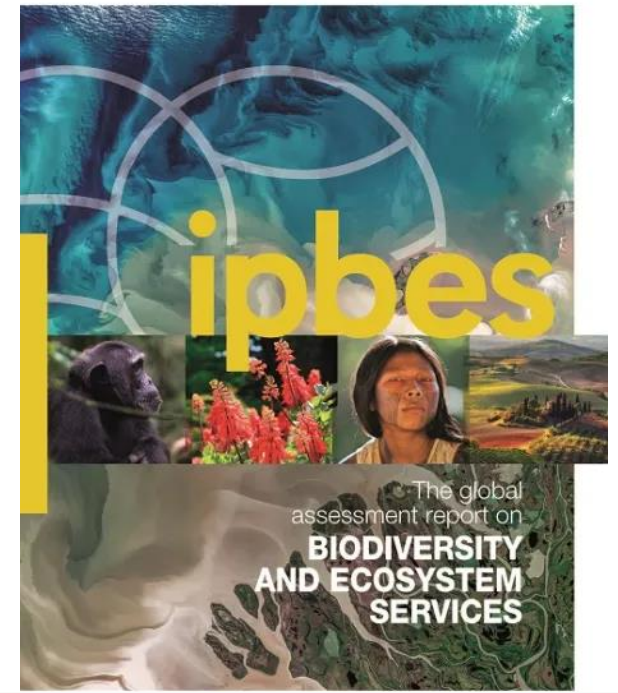
# So, how do we respond? Hierarchy of actions

- **Prevention –**
  - Stop arrival of new species by blocking pathways and good biosecurity
- **Early detection and rapid response –**
  - Find invasive species and remove quickly before established
- **Management –**
  - Response when prevention and early detection have failed. Expensive!



## Impacts are recognised internationally and nationally

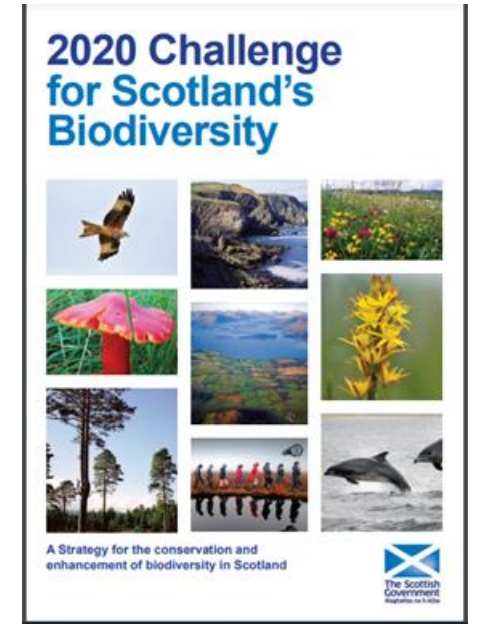
- Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment of Biodiversity (2019) identified 5 largest direct drivers of biodiversity loss globally:
  - Changing use of the land and sea especially;
  - Direct exploitation of organisms;
  - Climate change;
  - Pollution; and
  - Invasive non-native species.
- IPBES Assessment on Invasive Alien Species (2023) and their control found:
  - Invasive non-native species have a key role in 60% of global plant and animal extinctions
  - Annual costs now >\$423 Billion – quadrupled every decade since 1970





# Impacts are recognised internationally and nationally

- Great Britain Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy (2023 to 2030)
- Scotland's Biodiversity – It's in your hands (2004) and 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity (2013)
- Imminent Scottish Government consultation on Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy to 2045 will seek views on approaches and actions to protect our biodiversity resources – including how we tackle invasive non-native species







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