

A few examples of the invasive plants and animals that could become a serious problem in our waterways:

#### FISH DISEASES

Diseases such as Koi Herpes Virus (pictured) kill fish and can close fisheries.



#### WATER PRIMROSE

Freshwater plants like water primrose block up rivers and lakes interfering with fishing. Water primrose is not yet widespread in Britain but if it spreads further, like it has in other parts of Europe, it will cost £millions to manage.



#### KILLER SHRIMP

This shrimp is a voracious predator of other small animals including our native shrimp and young fish, which can significantly impact on the whole ecosystem. Its small size (3 cm max) means it could easily be hidden on damp nets or waders, where it can survive for two weeks.



# STOP THE SPREAD

Find out more about invasive plants and animals and how you can help to stop the spread at:

[nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry](http://nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry)

Twitter: @CheckCleanDryGB

Scan QR code on your mobile



 Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

 Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT



Photos from Trevor Renals and the Environment Agency.

# Going fishing?



Diseases and invasive plants  
and animals kill fish  
and block waterways  
Don't spread them  
on your kit

CHECK

CLEAN

DRY

Invasive plants and animals from all over the world have been introduced accidentally to British waters. Over fifty different species have already been found in our lakes, rivers, and other waterways, and the number of new arrivals is increasing rapidly.

They cause serious environmental problems that can be irreversible – killing fish by spreading diseases and reducing the oxygen levels of the water, outcompeting other native wildlife, and damaging ecosystems. Invasive plants also clog up waterways, making it hard to fish and increasing the risk of flooding.

They can be small and hard to spot so are easily spread on damp equipment and clothing. **Protect the environment and fishing you enjoy by keeping your kit free of invasive plants and animals.**

## CHECK

**Check** your gear after leaving the water for mud, aquatic animals or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it at the site.

## CLEAN

**Clean** everything thoroughly as soon as you can, paying attention to nets, waders, and areas that are damp and hard to access. Use hot water if possible.

## DRY

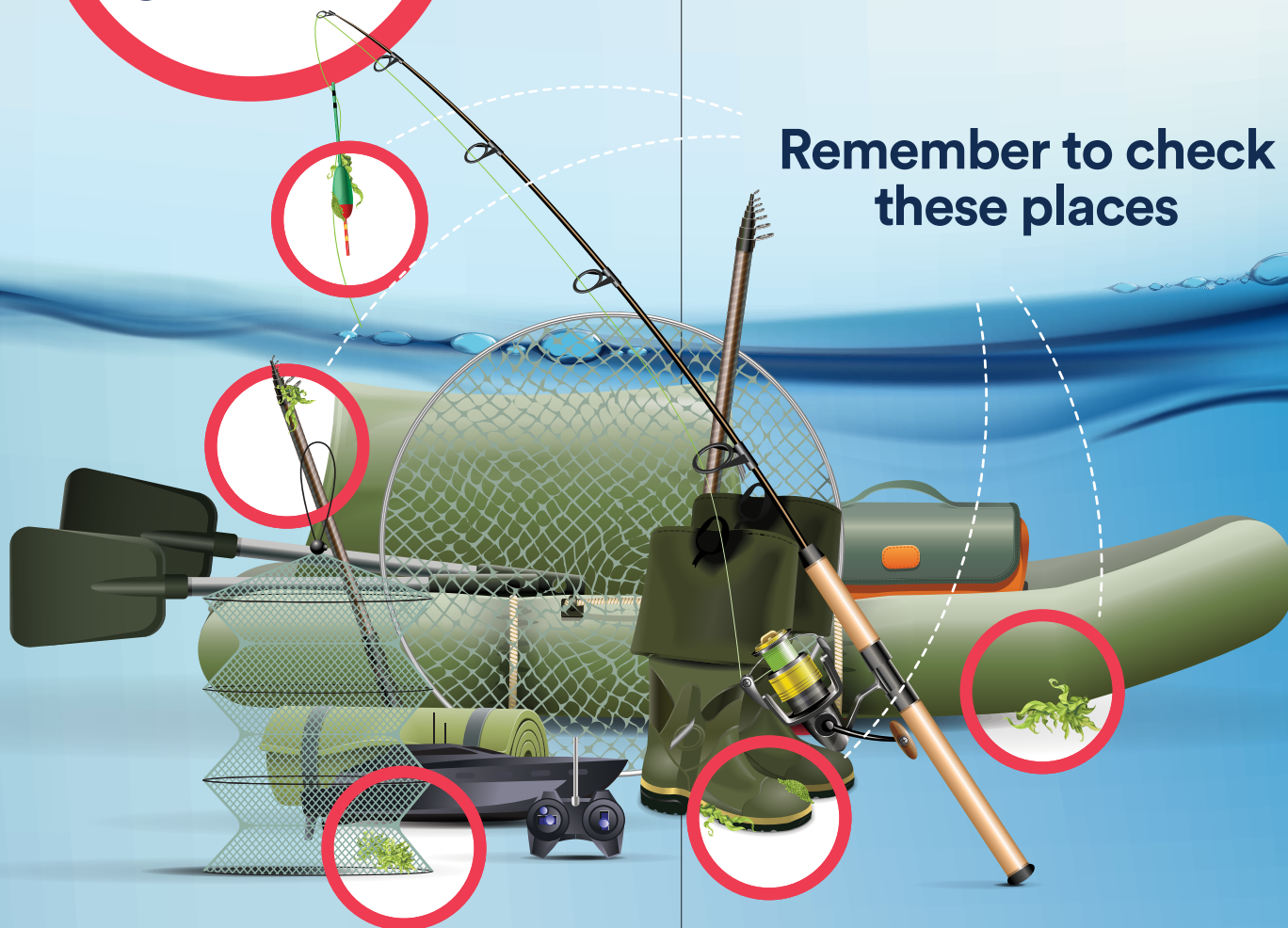
**Dry** everything for as long as possible before using elsewhere as some invasive plants and animals can survive for two weeks in damp conditions.

# STOP THE SPREAD

It's even more important to **Check Clean Dry** if you're taking your kit abroad to make sure you don't bring any plants or animals back with you.

**Make sure everything is clean and has been dried thoroughly before you use it again at home.**

## Remember to check these places



You can request free Check Clean Dry awareness-raising materials for your club from [nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry](https://nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry)