Shared Island Biosecurity and Invasive Species Forum 2025

04th November 2025

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Milltown Road, Belfast, BT8 7XP.

09.00 – 10.00: Registration, tea/coffee and networking opportunity

Part 1: Welcome and opening plenary. Chair: ***Sara McGuckin; Northern Ireland Environment Agency***

- 10.00 – 10.15: Opening address; ***Andrew Muir MLA; Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs***
- 10.15 – 10.25: Update on Asian hornet response in Ireland; ***Áinle Ní Bhríain; National Parks and Wildlife Service***
- 10.25 – 10.35: Update on Asian hornet response in Northern Ireland; ***Richard Gray; Northern Ireland Environment Agency***
- 10.35 – 10.50: The National Biodiversity Data Centre's Invasive Species Work Plan; one year on: ***John Kelly; National Biodiversity Data Centre***
- 10.50 – 11.05: Update from NNSS on progress and inspectorate work in GB; ***Olaf Booy; GB Non-native Species Secretariat***
- 11.05 – 11.15: Questions and thoughts from the floor

11.15 – 11.45: Networking and coffee break

Part 2: Chair: ***Niall Ó Donnchú, National Parks and Wildlife Service***

- 11.45 – 12.00: The status of Muntjac deer on the Ards Peninsula; ***Erfan Fadaei; AECOM***
- 12.00 – 12.15: The midlands mink eradication programme; ***Owen Murphy; Breeding Waders EIP***
- 12.15 – 12.30: A Shared Island review of surveillance and monitoring for invasive and non-native species; ***Hannah Tidbury; APEM***
- 12.30 – 12.45: Scottish Invasive Species Initiative – people power at landscape scale, ***Callum Sinclair; Scottish Invasive Species Initiative***
- 12.45 – 12.55: Introduction to new research into the trade of exotic pets across the island of Ireland. ***Michel Dugon; University of Galway***
- 12.55 – 13.00: Corporate Social Responsibility and Invasive Species - An opportunity for action? ***Emer Ní Dhúill; Business for Biodiversity Ireland***
- 13.00 – 13.15: Questions and Answers

13.15 – 14.15 Networking and Lunch

Part 3: Workshop sessions

14.15 – 15.15: Parallel workshops and information session

- **Workshop 1:** Towards comprehensive invasive species monitoring - opportunities and challenges.
    - **Chair:** Úna FitzPatrick; **Rapporteur:** Paul Brett

- **Workshop 2:** Closing the gaps: setting priorities for marine invasive species management.
    - **Chair:** Dave Wall; **Rapporteur:** Victoria Poppleton

- **Workshop 3:** Local action as an integral support mechanism for strategic invasive species management.
    - **Chair:** Eammon Horgan; **Rapporteur:** Chantel Carr

- **Workshop 4:** Identifying invasive and non-native species knowledge gaps and working towards solutions.
    - **Chair:** Ann Haigh; **Rapporteur:** Colette O'Flynn

15.15 – 15.30: Final networking and coffee break

Part 4: Return to Plenary. Chair: ***Sarah McClean, Loughs Agency***

- 15.30 – 15.50: Rapporteurs report, open discussion and thoughts from the floor
- 15.50 – 16.00: Closing remarks: ***Christopher O'Sullivan TD; Minister of State at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with special responsibility for Nature, Heritage and Biodiversity.***

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NPWS An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra National Parks and Wildlife Service	Shared Island Initiative