

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 NNESS 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.**

Thank you to the funders of the Shared Island Biosecurity and Invasive Species Forum

 <p>Northern Ireland Environment Agency www.daera-ni.gov.uk</p>	<p>Funded by An Chomhairle Oidhreachta The Heritage Council</p>
 <p>NPWS An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra National Parks and Wildlife Service</p>	 <p>Shared Island Initiative</p>