



**Invasive Species Standard Operating
Procedure**
Chinook Business Area
May 2024

INTRODUCTION

This Invasive Species (IS) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is intended to provide guidance to all BCTS staff, licensees, and contractors. BCTS is committed to controlling the spread and/or introduction of invasive species through provincial legislation and Sustainable Forest Management certification requirements.

SCOPE

This SOP covers all aspects of forestry planning, silviculture, block, and road development. It includes and applies to relevant Business Area staff, licensees, and contractors working for BCTS.

The SOP applies to all [Provincial Priority Invasive Species list](#) found in the following areas:

1. BCTS TCH's operations in Chilliwack, Sea to Sky, Sunshine Coast and Haida Gwaii Forest Districts.
2. BCTS TCH's operations in TFL's within the 4 districts noted above.
3. Any other land tenure in which BCTS TCH operates as a forest land management partner with 3rd party entities, e.g., Community Forests, First Nation Woodland Licences, disposition agreements, etc.

OBJECTIVES

1. Define the various steps and procedures that are required to occur at different operational stages to effectively manage invasive species.
2. Identify who have the responsibility to complete the procedures outlined in this SOP.
3. Meet legal requirement to manage for invasive species through:
 - a. The Forest and Ranges Practices Act and related Invasive Species Regulation
 - b. 3rd party certifications via the Sustainable Forestry Initiative



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

1. Invasive Species Program Maintenance	
Procedure	Responsibility
Annually review invasive species program.	Planning Officer

2. TRAINING and AWARENESS	
Procedure	Responsibility
Complete the Invasive Species Council of B.C. " Invasive Species and Forestry " Course every 2 years.	BCTS staff, Licensees, and Contractors

3. PLANNING	
Procedure	Responsibility
Review the Provincial Priority Invasive Species list to determine potential IP species in area of proposed activity.	Planning Forester, Practices Forester
Check the Invasive BC Application tool; Invasive Species BC (gov.bc.ca) for any presence of IS. Refer to the Invasive Species Program Best Management Practices for mitigation and management strategies.	Planning Forester, Practices Forester
If a preliminary field review is conducted, and occurrences are identified, follow reporting process outlined in <i>Step 5. Field Assessment and Reporting</i> .	Planning Forester, Practices Forester, Operations Technician

4. PRE-WORKS	
Procedure	Responsibility
For TSLs - Review the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCH's Invasive Species Environmental Field Procedure (EFP) • IS specific details in Site Plan with Licensee including discussions around how IS management options were integrated into the block/road engineering and related Site Plans. • Summary that includes the name, pictures, and any comments of IS occurrences identified in planning stage. • Details on grass seeding and monitoring requirements, as well as road maintenance activities. 	Harvesting Monitors
For planning and development contracts (e.g., cutblock and road layout, multi-phase, road construction, etc.) - Review the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Priority Invasive Species list. • IS features in the vicinity of the planned activities. 	Practices Forester, Planning Forester, Operations Technologist



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management strategies to be considered (from legal orders, FSP, BA BMP's, etc.). • Reporting procedure if a species occurrence is identified (Section 5). 	
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5. FIELD ASSESSMENT & REPORTING	
Procedure	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct field assessment for IS presence. • Complete the <i>Invasive Species Tracking Form</i> at each phase of development: 1. Planning; 2. Layout & Development; 3. Final TSL Package; and 4. Silviculture. • Upload the most up to date version of the IS tracking sheet at each phase in LRM under block activities. • Report any identified IS online, or through the <i>Report Invasives Android</i> or <i>Apple</i> app, recording name, photographs, coordinates, area of infestation and any additional information. 	<p>BCTS Staff and Multiphase Contractors</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report any identified IS online, or through the <i>Report Invasives Android</i> or <i>Apple</i> app, recording the species name, coordinates, photographs, area of infestation, and any additional information. • For more information about reporting go to Reporting Invasive Species. 	<p>Licensees, Permittees, and Contractors</p>

6. FOREST OPERATIONS & INSPECTIONS	
Procedure	Responsibility
<p>During layout, access, harvesting, and silviculture inspections, section 90 “Business Area Specific Requirements” of the TCH inspections and pre-work checklists requires that Invasive Species Management is addressed. If there are any observations of IS, follow the reporting procedure outlined in Section #5, and ensure licensees, permittees, and contractors (LPC) are mitigating spread as per the IS best management practices.</p>	<p>Engineering Tech., Silviculture and Harvesting Monitors</p>

7. POST OPERATIONS	
Procedure	Responsibility
<p>Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review tracking form and any additional information in LRM. • Schedule follow-up monitoring and treatment (if needed) of grass seeding effectiveness in LRM. <p>Silviculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review tracking form and any additional information in LRM before surveys. 	<p>Engineering Tech., Harvesting Monitors, Silviculture</p>



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Additional IS Resources

[Field Guide to Noxious weeds and other selected invasive plants of British Columbia](#)

Invasive Species Council of BC: [Forestry Operations Factsheet](#)

[Best Management Practices for Preventing the Spread of Invasive Species During Forest Management Activities](#)