

High Priority Species

Invasive Species Alert Sheet

Capital Region Invasive Species Program

Eradicate Species with Health Hazard Alerts

Giant Hogweed/*Heracleum mantegazzianum*



- Up to 6 m tall
- Spotted stems, grooved leaflets
- Closely resembles cow parsnip

Warning: skin burns, blistering, scarring



Blessed Milk Thistle/*Silybum marianum*



- Up to 2.5 m tall
- White marbling on green leaves
- Large spiny purple flower

Warning: poisoning and injury to livestock



High Priority Invaders for Eradication

Carpet Burweed/*Soliva sessilis*



- Small, up to 7 cm
- Forms "carpet" on turf
- Divided leaves, feathery
- Small, flattened spiny seeds



Garlic Mustard/*Alliaria petiolata*



- Mature: over 1 m tall
- Dense mats: young rosettes
- Small, white four-petal flowers
- Garlic odor when crushed



High Priority Invaders for Eradication

Black Knapweed/*Centaurea nigra*



- 10-80 cm tall
- Leaves: upper narrow, lower lobed
- Flowers rose to purple; bracts black/brown, fringed



Diffuse Knapweed/*Centaurea diffusa*



- 20-100 cm tall
- Long, hairy divided leaves
- Flowers white to pinkish; bracts urn shaped with short, rigid spines



Spotted Knapweed/*Centaurea stoebe*



- 20-120 cm tall
- Deeply cut, hairy leaves
- Flowers pink to purple; bracts black tipped giving spotted look



Lesser Celandine/*Ranunculus ficaria*



- Kidney to heart-shaped dark leaves
- Flowers March to April
- 8-petaled stalked flowers



CONTACT INFORMATION

P: 250.360.3302
E: invasive@crd.bc.ca
www.reportaweedbc.ca
www.crd.ca/invasive

CRD

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High Priority Invaders for Eradication

Yellow Toadflax/*Linaria vulgaris*



- Up to 80 cm tall
- Numerous leaves, one per node, soft and lance-shaped
- Yellow “snapdragon” flowers

Note: smaller toadflax, longer leaves



Dalmation Toadflax/*Linaria dalmatica*



- 60-120 cm tall
- Numerous stems
- Light green, waxy leaves
- Heart-shaped with pointed tip
- Yellow to orange “snapdragon” flowers



Scotch Thistle/*Onopordium acanthium*



- Up to 3 m tall
- Woody, branched stems with spine-edged wings
- Silver-grey colour: wooly hairs
- Large violet to reddish flowers



Yellow Loosestrife/*Lysimachia vulgaris*



- 1-2 m tall lance-shaped leaves
- Yellow 5-petaled flowers on tall, softly hairy stems
- Branched flower stems to cluster on top



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Knotweed Species: Bamboo-like (jointed) hollow speckled stems; large leaves.

Comparisons of Knotweed for identification:

Himalayan Knotweed
Persicaria wallichii /
Polygonum polystachyum

- Up to 3 m tall
- Lance-shaped leaves



Japanese Knotweed
Reynoutria japonica

- 1.5-2.5 m tall
- Smaller, heart-shaped leaves with straight base, tip pointed
- Leaves thicker, leathery



Giant Knotweed
Reynoutria sachalinensis

- Up to 6 m tall
- Largest, heart-shaped leaves
- Leaves thinner, more flexible



Bohemian Knotweed
Reynoutria X Bohemicum

- 3-5 m tall
- Hybrid of Japanese & Giant, characteristics of both



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Orange Hawkweed/*Heiracium aurantiacum*



- Fibrous-rooted with milky juice
- Orange-red flowers on leafless stalks
- Stems with stiff black hairs
- Long, oval-shaped leaves



Policeman's Helmet/*Impatiens glandulifera*



- 1-2 m tall, long slender leaves
- Pink/purple flowers like English policeman's helmet
- Hollow stems, reddish pink roots



Species Management



Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) is a proactive approach to managing new invasive species. EDRR aims to find, identify, and address species before they become widely established and cause harm to the natural environment, the economy, or public or livestock health.

The CRD maintains a Regional Priority Invasive Species list that divides plants into management groups (Prevent, Eradicate, Contain and Control) based on the status of spread through the region. This list can be found at www.crd.bc.ca/invasive.

If you spot any of these plant species, contact the CRD for assistance.

Local Best Management Practices are available for some species.

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