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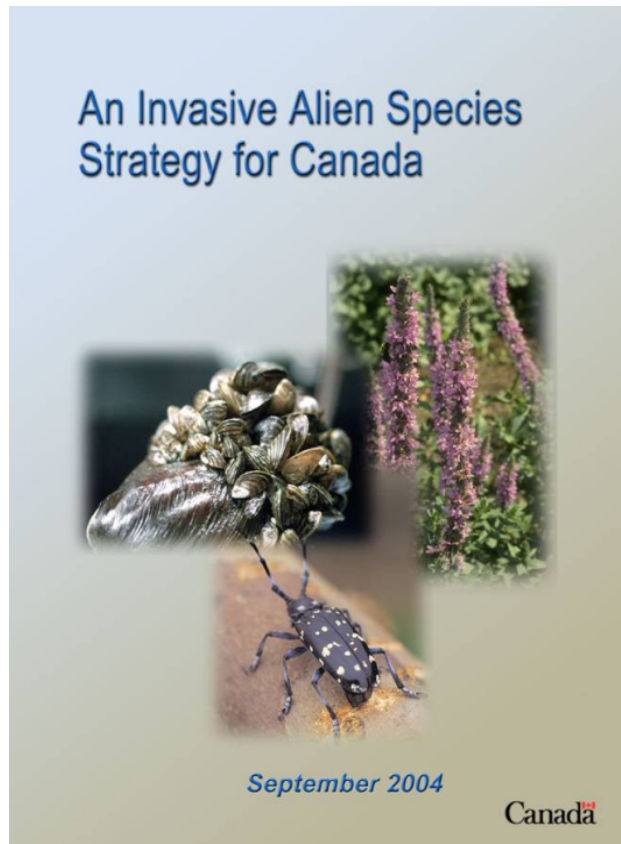
Canada



# **Canada's Invasive Alien Species Strategy**

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CABI Regional Consultation  
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# National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species



## Goal:

To protect Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and their native biological diversity and domestic plants and animals, from the risks of invasive alien species.

## Scope:

- Broad and inclusive
- Applicable to all intentional (purposeful) introductions, both authorized and unauthorized (illegal), and all unintentional (accidental) introductions.



# What are Invasive Alien Species\*?

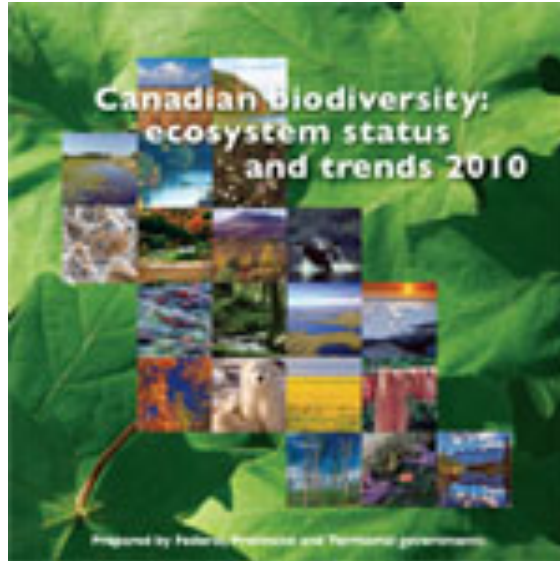
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- **Alien species** - plants, animals and micro-organisms introduced by human action outside their natural past, or present distribution
- **Invasive alien species** – Harmful alien species whose introduction or spread threatens the environment, the economy, or society including human health

\* From: An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada, 2004



# Invasive Alien Species in Canada



- “Invasive non-native species are a significant stressor on ecosystem functions, processes, and structure...”
- “This impact is increasing as numbers [of IAS] continue to rise and their distributions continue to expand”



# *An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada*

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- Provides a framework for actions to minimize the risks of IAS
  - Prevention
  - Early detection
  - Rapid response
  - Management
- Prevention is the most cost-effective way to address threats posed by IAS
- Focus is on prevention, and therefore on pathways of introduction



# *An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada*

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- **The Strategy includes 5 key implementation strategies:**
  - Legislation and Regulation
  - Risk Analysis
  - Science
  - Education and Outreach
  - International Cooperation
- **Criteria** proposed to guide decisions on priority for actions, for example: international obligations, probability of success and level of risk as demonstrated by risk assessment



# Collaborative Implementation

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- **Federal** responsibility for regulating international trade
- **Provinces / Territories, Aboriginal Governments and Municipalities** generally lead on management of established IAS
- **Other key stakeholders:** Industry, Non-Government Organizations, Academia, General Public
- **All levels** to collaborate on prevention (education and outreach) early detection (e.g. science and monitoring) and on rapid response



# Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Target: IAS

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- **Target 11:** By 2020, pathways of invasive alien species introductions are identified, and risk-based intervention or management plans are in place for priority pathways and species
- **Indicators**
  - Number of known new invasive alien species in Canada
  - Percent of federally regulated foreign invasive alien species not established in Canada
  - Number of intervention or management plans in place
- Progress in development of sub-national action plans, strategies, legislation, and supporting partnerships





# Cooperation and Coordination are Key

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- National-level mechanisms enable collaboration, information sharing and joint action
  - National Aquatic Invasive Species Committee
  - Forest Pest Working Group
  - Invasive Alien Species National Committee
  - Canadian Council on Invasive Species
- Many other active fora and partners at regional and local levels
- International cooperation and coordination also essential

