



SSISC Annual Program Plan - 2018

This document is the SSISC's Annual Workplan for 2018 that falls under SSISC's 2015-2020 Regional Strategy and Operational Plan. The programs listed below aim to achieve the goals outlined in the SSISC Regional Strategy, and align with the pillars outlined in the [Invasive Species Strategy of BC 2017-2022](#) as follows.

		SSISC Program Area 1: Coordination, Consultation & Administration	SSISC Program Area 2: Education & Outreach	SSISC Program Area 3: Inventory, Control & Monitoring
SSISC 2015-2020 Regional Strategy Goals	Raise awareness (focussed on behaviour change) about invasive species, their impacts, and management strategies.	Y	Y	
	Facilitate the flow of external information and provide a source of expertise on invasive species	Y	Y	
	Improve stakeholder communication, collaboration, coordination, and information sharing	Y	Y	
	Prevent new invasive species from arriving and follow integrated management and early detection and rapid response (EDRR) protocol to prevent their establishment if and when they do arrive.	Y	Y	Y
	Minimize or reverse the spread of existing invasive species through coordinated, integrated invasive species management efforts.	Y		Y
	Ensure program sustainability	Y		Y
Pillars of the BC Invasive Species Strategy 2014-2022	Establish and Enforce Effective Regulatory Tools	Y		
	Strengthen Collaboration	Y	Y	Y
	Prevent Introduction and Spread	Y	Y	Y
	Implement Effective Control, Restoration, and Monitoring Programs	Y		Y
	Support and Extend Relevant and Applicable Research	Y		Y

Program Area 1: Coordination, Consultation & Administration

Projects / Tasks:

1. Strategy & Planning

- a. Regional Strategy
 - i. Continue to Implement 5 yr Strategic Plan
 - ii. Continue to Implement 5 yr Operations Plan
 - iii. Carry out half-way 'Pulse check' of the 5 yr plans (board exercise)
- b. General Program Development
- c. Workplanning
- d. Species & Site Prioritisation – continue to review and revise as needed
- e. Analyze and communicate program results and efficacy
 - i. Mapping, data analysis, mapping change
 - ii. SSISC Annual Reporting

2. Host Annual General Meeting & Land Manager/Partner Planning Session

3. Fundraising

- a. Review Fundraising Strategy
- b. Seek new partnerships
- c. Apply for diverse funding

4. Partnership Building

- a. Actively target and invite a broad range of stakeholders to collaborate on common goals, for example:
 - i. Vail Resorts (Whistler Blackcomb)
 - ii. Independent Power Projects
- b. Build new and maintain existing partnerships
 - i. Attend stakeholder hosted meetings

5. Continue to build partnerships with First Nations

6. Collaborate with other organisations

- a. RISO
 - i. Attend Monthly calls & Summer Tour
- b. ISCBC and IMISWG
 - i. Participate in Joint Strategic Meetings with ISCBC and other RISOs
 - ii. Consider becoming an Affiliate member of ISCBC, negotiate affiliate agreement
 - iii. Participate in Soils Working Group
 - iv. Partner on Changing behaviour programs and other provincial level initiatives
- c. Whistler Non-Profit Network & Sea to Sky Environmental Non-Profit Network

7. Communicate with Federal and Provincial Government

- a. Submit input to Standing Committee on Finance in Sept 2018
- b. Maintain communication with MLA Sturdy and improve communication with MP Goldsmith-Jones

8. Information Flow

- a. Stay current on latest research and information
 - i. Professional Development, Learning & Staff training

- b. Participate in workshops, conferences, webinars and other discussions
- c. Support, contribute to, and communicate with current research efforts
- d. Maintain communication and feedback from external partners/trained persons back to the council and its members
- e. Communicate news and information to membership via quarterly newsletter

9. Manage Sightings database

- a. Receive reports
- b. Enter confirmed sightings into provincial databases
- c. Make maps/geodatabase available to partners
- d. Verify RAW sightings

10. Provide Source of Expertise

- a. Provide advice to stakeholders
- b. Provide support to local govt. for bylaw development
- c. Participate in provincial level conversations and workshops about knotweed
- d. Provide input and feedback on ISCBC and provincial government initiatives
- e. Develop and offer workshops for specific topics and audiences

11. Governance

- a. Staff communication with Board of Directors & Advisors
- b. Quarterly Board Meetings
- c. Develop Policy Framework, and draft new policies
- d. Recruit new Board Members
- e. Build Board Handbook

12. HR

- a. Hire Field Program Manager for year-round position (FT March-Dec, PT Jan/Feb)
- b. Re-hire Outreach Coordinator
- c. Re-hire Field technician
- d. Hire 2 Outreach Assistants & 1 Outreach Team Lead-hand (3 students)
- e. Hire 3 Field Crew Lead Hands
- f. Hire 3 Field Crew Members (students)
- g. Hire CFOW intern
- h. Hire Field Contractor (ensure contract wording satisfies Provincial standards)
- i. Build Staff Handbook
- j. Hire contractor to help with Policy Framework

13. Safety

- o Review and update safety plan

14. Finances & Payroll

15. Administration

- a. Consider need for Professional liability insurance

Funders:

- Local Governments (Local Government Partnership Program Fees support Program Areas 1&2):
 - o SLRD
 - o RMOW
 - o DOS

- VOP
 - Lions Bay
 - Community Foundation of Whistler
 - MFLNRORD
 - MOTI
 - HCTF
 - ECO Canada
 - Revenue from Fee-for-service programs
 - Donations
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Program Area 2: Education & Outreach

Projects / Tasks:

1. Invasive-free Certification Program

- a. Host training workshops for Landscaping, Horticulture and Earthmoving companies
- b. Host Squamish sessions at Cheakamus Centre, include field component to course.

2. Yellow Flag Iris Patrol

- a. Eco-tourism provider training

3. Training:

- a. Municipal staff
- b. Highway maintenance staff
- c. Landfill & Transfer Station staff
- d. Herbicide application workshop (upon request)
- e. First Nations communities
 - i. N'Quatqua
 - ii. Squamish

4. Develop and distribute content for Educators:

- a. School Teachers
- b. Stewardship Pemberton
- c. Whistler Museum
- d. Whistler Naturalists etc.

5. Community Weed Pulls

- a. Squamish, Pemberton, Lions Bay (1 day events)
- b. Whistler Burdock Blitz (season long)
 - i. Map Burdock locations
 - ii. Call to Action – ask people to adopt a section of valley trail, park, or other burdock infested area, and they volunteer to remove burdock at the site for the season.
 - iii. Produce a Video of how to remove burdock / create a webpage with info/maps/signup form

- c. Partners: AWARE Conference Program; Squamish Environment Society; Girl Guides & Scouts; High Schools; Lower Mainland Green Team
- 6. Signage**
- a. Continue to install and maintain Do Not Mow signage along Highway 99 to alert roadside mowers of knotweed locations.
 - b. Install temporary Interpretive Signage at highly visible knotweed treatment sites
 - c. Design & Order 'Invasive Plant Removal in progress' signs and stands
- 7. Event Booths**
- a. Host a booth at Outreach events including: Bioblitz, Rivers Day, Squamish & Pemberton Farmer's Markets, Brackendale Fall Fair.
- 8. Edible Invasives Event**
- a. Host edible invasives event
- 9. Plantwise Industry Program**
- a. Check in with Garden Centres – survey plants on shelves
 - b. Assemble 'Bear-smart' Plantwise brochures
 - c. Distribute Grow Me Instead resources & Promote the Plantwise app
 - d. Provide Plantwise resources to Seed libraries, seed swaps and 'Seedy Saturday' events.
- 10. Clean Drain Dry**
- a. Outreach at Boat Launches
 - b. Signage at Boat Launches
 - i. Whistler (Green Lake) – seek approval from RMOW, design and install
 - ii. SLRD (Anderson Lake, D'Arcy boat launch) – deliver and install existing signage
 - c. SSISC crews to disinfect gear when moving between waterbodies
- 11. Play Clean Go**
- a. Install 3 boot brush stations at BC Parks sites
 - b. Engage with mountain biking groups (WORCA / SORCA)
 - c. Bike specific signage at trail heads
 - d. Customize PCG Minnesota brochure for SSISC region
- 12. Don't Let it Loose**
- a. Raise awareness about Goldfish, bullfrogs & Red-eared slider turtles
 - b. Outreach to schools
 - c. Outreach to pet stores in region
- 13. Knot On My Property**
- a. Continue to promote & distribute resources
- 14. Alienbusters**
- a. Continue to promote & distribute resources
- 15. Pemberton's Worst Weeds / Whistler's Worst Weeds**
- a. Continue to promote & distribute these resources
- 16. I Spy In the Sea to Sky – Flowering times calendar**
- a. Convert flowering times database into a digital and printed calendar
- 17. Purchase/Print Outreach Resources:**
- a. Grow Me Instead, Don't Let it Loose, Play Clean Go, Clean Drain Dry printed resources
 - b. Caribiners
 - c. SSISC brochures & factsheets

- d. ISCBC and IMISWG factsheets
- e. SSISC branded staff shirts and caps

18. Purchase Outreach/Display Equipment

19. Resource Development

- a. Species fact sheets (Bullfrog, Flat Pea, Cypress Spurge)
- b. Update Disposal Recommendations for DOS, SLRD, VOLB
- c. Continue to work on region-specific Knotweed BMPs

20. Website

- a. Launch SSISC's new website
- b. Continually update blog/news/events section
- c. Continue to add species profiles
- d. Enable Payments/Donations function

21. Social Media

- a. Prepare and implement a social media strategy for 2018 using Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, including:
 - i. Invasive Species Month (Call to action; Weekly theme posts)
 - ii. I Spy in the Sea to Sky posts
 - iii. EDRR series

22. News Media

- a. Press releases
- b. Naturespeak article
- c. Letters to the Editor

23. You Tube

- a. How To Videos

24. Provide advice and information to private landholders and stakeholders

25. Engage with varied stakeholders & disseminate information via phone and email

- a. Forestry Companies (link to ISCBC online training program)
- b. Soil movers
- c. Gardening groups

Funders:

- Community Foundation Of Whistler
- Local Governments (Local Government Partnership Program Fees support Program Areas 1&2):
 - SLRD
 - RMOW
 - DOS
 - VOP
 - Lions Bay
- MFLNRORD
- MOTI
- BC Parks
- Gaming Grant
- Canada Summer Jobs
- ECO Canada

- Revenue from Training Programs
- Revenue from fee-for-service Field Program (e.g. private landholders)
- Other grants (TBD)

Program Area 3: Inventory, Control & Monitoring

Projects / Tasks:

1. **Regional EDRR**

- See SSISC species lists for details
- Letters to landholders
- Follow-up alerts to bylaw

2. **Provincial EDRR Support**

- Flowering Rush in Whistler

3. **Invasive Plant Field Program:**

- Inventory & Surveys
 - Aquatic plant surveys
 - Gravel Pits
 - Forest Service Roads
 - Squamish Nation Reserves
 - Inventory for terrestrial species on SLRD lands
- Control (Chemical & Mechanical)
 - Control high priority species at high priority sites
 - Maintain containment lines for high priority species
 - Rotate herbicide use at sites
- Biocontrol
 - Monitor for biocontrol agents at knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax sites across the region
 - Identify potential release sites for 2019
- Monitoring
 - Previously treated sites
 - Soil deposition sites
- Restoration (*Note: this subprogram is funded by the CFOW only*)
 - Seeding at selected treatment sites to prevent re-emergence of invasive plants
 - Planting of wetland vegetation at small number of sites where YFI has been removed

4. **Invasive Animal Field Program**

- Collate up to date invasive animal distribution records maps (MOE, E-fauna, CDC, WSI, Whistler Biodiversity Project etc.) and make regional maps
- Mussel veliger sampling
- Build and deploy mussel substrate monitors
- Partner with RMOW to carry out electrofishing control of Goldfish in Millar's Pond (Whistler)

5. **Fee-for-Service Field Program**

- Respond to requests for quotes for new sites/clients
- Provide invasive species inventory, control and monitoring services for private landholders
- Draft and implement new policy: mandatory pre-payment for private landowners
- Work with the District of Squamish to facilitate 10 year pre-payment for treatment programs at development sites / Lot 69
- Promote the fee-for-service program, seek new clients/landowners

6. Administration of Field Program

- Planning & Staff Communication
- Scheduling – build and implement ArcGIS Online scheduling layer
- Time-tracking using Harvest
- Invoicing
- Licences & Permits
- Improve Staff Training Materials:
 - Species Binders
 - Data Collection & Management
 - Staff Manual / HR Policies

7. Communication with Field Program Partners

8. Data Collection, Management & Entry into IAPP

- a. Continue to improve ArcGIS / Collector system
- b. IAPP Data clean up (archive old sites etc., correct knotweed species)
- c. Request species be added to IAPP
- d. Share site-scale data (plant points/lines and polygons) with partners

9. Mapping & Reporting

- a. Complete funder/partner reports
- b. Prepare species maps for Partner Planning Session
- c. Prepare containment line maps for selected species
- d. Work with local government partners to ensure invasive species spatial data and species information are shared with relevant staff (mowers, environmental staff, planners etc.)

10. Applied Trials – ‘Knock & Spray’ method for tall knotweed

11. Measure & Report on Progress, Successes, Methods that are working well:

- Build Efficacy database & perform data analysis
- Spatial analysis using iPad site scale data

12. Purchase/Hire & Maintenance of Equipment

- a. Purchase landscaping trailer
- b. Lease 3 trucks
- c. Purchase new backpack sprayers
- d. Purchase herbicides
- e. Purchase tools (loppers, smaller size waders)
- f. Ensure stem injection guns are in good working order

13. Purchasing of Tools and Supplies

- a. Water sampling equipment (part of Mussel Veliger sampling program)

Funders (fee for service & grants):

- MFLNRO
- MOTI
- HCTF
- Innergex
- DOS (Env., Capital Projects, Operations)
- SLRD
- Squamish Nation

- Community Foundation Of Whistler
 - RMOW
 - Canada Summer Jobs
 - ECO Canada
 - Village of Lions Bay
 - BC Hydro
 - BC Parks
 - Fortis BC
 - Private landholders
 - Developers
 - Vail Resorts (requested)
 - Skookum Creek Power Project (possibly)
 - BluEarth - Culliton Creek Hydro (possibly)
 - American Friends of Whistler (possibly)
-