



CASE STUDIES - ESPC Target 10

Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and ecosystems

UK Invasive Species Programme

GSPC Target 10 (ESPC targets 2.21-22)

Relevant species or habitats

Mediterranean Temporary Pool communities, Sheep's-fescue-Carlina Thistle (*Festuca ovina*-*Carlina vulgaris*) dry grassland, limestone cliffs and scree, ponds.

Invasive species: *Crassula helmsii*, *Cotoneaster* spp., *Quercus ilex*, *Viburnum tinus*

Project coordinators Plantlife International (UK)

Partner organisations : Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust, Countryside Council for Wales, National Trust, Bristol City Council, Gerrard's Cross Parish Council, Natural England, Buckinghamshire County Council

Funding mechanisms

Funded by UK Trusts and Foundations



1. *Crassula helmsii* 2. *Quercus ilex* 3. *Cotoneaster* ssp. 4. *Viburnum tinus*

Description

The aim of this project is to contribute to a pragmatic approach to the control of non-native invasive plant species in Britain. Some non-native invasive species are now so widespread that complete eradication in Britain is highly unlikely. For such species, efforts in control or eradication must be focused to target particular sites or geographical zones that are at threat or would have most to lose were invasive species to spread further.

Plantlife has collated disparate information about non-native invasive plants affecting sites (protected or unprotected) of botanical importance. This will enable resources to be prioritised and focused on sites where remedial action to tackle invasive species is most needed.

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Description (II)

Following from this, in partnership with local authorities, land owners and government agencies, Plantlife is undertaking habitat management at a number of key botanical sites threatened by invasive plants:

- The Lizard (Cornwall)
- Torbay Limestones (Devon)
- Avon Gorge (Gloucestershire)
- South Buckinghamshire Commons (Buckinghamshire)
- Great Orme (Gwynedd)

Historically, some efforts to control invasive species have failed in the absence of follow-up management and monitoring of results. This project seeks to limit the likelihood of such failure by working with partners to develop management plans for these sites and establishing monitoring programmes. Monitoring will ensure that any necessary follow up work is swiftly identified. It is hoped that in demonstrating the management techniques and publishing case studies from the experience at each site, land owners and conservation practitioners will have access to important information to assist with invasive species management at other sites.

Date of case study 2008-2010

Citations and Publications

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Website <http://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/plantlife-campaigning-change-invasive-plants.html>

Other relevant information on invasive species in UK:

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org>

