

# Capital Regional District Invasive Plant Species List

July 2025



## How to Use This List:

This list identifies the invasive alien plant species of concern in the Capital Regional District (CRD). All species on the list are considered a high priority for management. Species have been placed in categories based on such factors as known distribution, values or assets threatened, management objectives and management viability. Each category has a different management approach and objective. Each category has a unique colour. Icons are used to show the key values and assets that each species threatens.

The four categories and their management objectives, criteria, considerations, and processes are as follows:

PREVENT (PR) — Prevent introduction and establishment in the CRD	
<b>Definition</b>	Species not yet known to occur in CRD but likely to establish if introduced.
<b>Considerations</b>	May occur in nearby regions and/or on their Prevent or “Watch” lists.
<b>Process</b>	Monitor and consult with provincial Inter-ministry Invasive Species Working Group (IMISWG) and nearby jurisdictions. If a species is discovered in a single location or very isolated locations in the CRD that is not on any other Prevent or Eradicate lists, send information to IMISWG for direction. For species not known to occur in CRD or adjacent jurisdictions, rely on input from subject matter experts and IMISWG.
ERADICATE (ER) — Eradicate from CRD	
<b>Definition</b>	Species occurs in CRD with few known infestations of limited extent.
<b>Considerations</b>	Is eradication feasible with available resources?
<b>Process</b>	Actively seek all occurrences in the region and respond quickly to eradicate them.
CONTAIN (CN) — Eradicate infestations outside containment areas and strategic control within.	
<b>Definition</b>	Species infestations exceed the resource capacity to eradicate from the CRD but preventing infestation expansion is possible.
<b>Considerations</b>	Regional eradication is not feasible due to extent and/or location of populations but populations can be contained. Infestations targeted for containment should be discrete such that a containment line can be drawn.
<b>Process</b>	Consider known occurrences, map them and draw containment (isolation) polygon around them, and eradicate any plants that occur outside the polygon.
STRATEGIC CONTROL (SC) — Management objective depends on context, e.g., land use objectives, values or assets threatened	
<b>Definition</b>	Species is widespread in the CRD and can no longer be contained or eradicated from the region.
<b>Considerations</b>	Eradication at the landscape level is not feasible. However, control measures are warranted where assets such as wildlife, ecosystems, recreation, and infrastructure (e.g., gravel pits) are threatened. Eradication or active suppression may be feasible at a local level considering but not limited to such criteria as mechanisms for spread, degree of threat, values threatened, and resource capacity.
<b>Process</b>	Evaluate at a local level on a case-by-case basis

## Specific Values Icons and Listing Codes

Where applicable, icons are used to indicate specific values or assets that the species threatens, e.g., aquatic ecosystems, fire hazards, forest/woodland ecosystems, sports fields, gravel pits. If a species is also on a provincial and/or CRD priority list and/or has a CRD alert sheet, codes have been added as follows:

	Human health		Forest / woodland
	Animal health		Landscaping material sites (e.g., gravel pits, soil dumps, fill sites)
	Aquatic ecosystem (wetland, riparian), coastal dune ecosystems		Linear infrastructure (e.g., roadsides, boulevards, hydro corridors, pipelines)
	Coastal bluff / rock outcrop		Meadows, grasslands, old fields, pasture and rangelands
	Fire hazard		Sports fields, developed parks and beaches

If a species is also on a provincial and/or CRD priority list and/or has a CRD alert sheet, codes have been added as follows:

<b>BCP</b>	Provincial Prevent
<b>BCE</b>	Provincial EDRR
<b>BCC</b>	Provincial Contain or BCC(r) if Provincial Regional Contain
<b>BCT</b>	BC Provincial Priority Invasive Species list 2020
<b>CRDp</b>	CRD high priority species list. Source: High Priority Species Alert Sheet (no date)
<b>CRDa</b>	CRD species alert sheet. Source: CRD Invasive Species website

PREVENT (PR) - Prevent introduction and establishment in the CRD.			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>	Jointed Goatgrass		<b>BCE</b>
<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	Camelthorn		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>	Meadow/Slender Foxtail	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>	American Beachgrass		
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	Common Bugloss		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	Hoary Alyssum	  	<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	Slender False Brome	  	<b>BCE</b>
<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Italian / Shore Thistle	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	Slender-flowered Thistle	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Round Leaf Bittersweet	 	
<i>Centaurea calcitropa</i>	Purple Starthistle	 	<b>BCP</b>

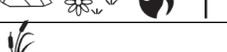
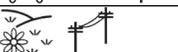
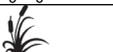
**PREVENT (PR) - Prevent introduction and establishment in the CRD.**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	Iberian Starthistle	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Brown Knapweed	 	
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow Starthistle	 	<b>BCE</b>
<i>Centaurea virgata ssp. squarrosa</i>	Squarrose knapweed		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Rush Skeletonweed	 	<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Plume Thistle		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	Common Crupina	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Purple Nutsedge	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth		<b>BCE</b>
<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>	Baby's Breath		
<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>	Saltlover		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>	Texas Blueweed		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	 	<b>BCE</b>
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	Black Henbane	  	<b>BCE</b>
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Woad	  	<b>BCE</b>
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Hoary Cress		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	Perennial Pepperweed		<b>BCE</b>
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	Floating Primrose-willow		
<i>Milium vernale</i>	Spring Millet Grass	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	Two-leaf Watermilfoil		
<i>Odontites serotina</i>	Red Bartsia	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Peganum harmala</i>	African Rue	  	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Water Lettuce		<b>BCE</b>
<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>	Kudzu	 	<b>BCP</b>
<i>Salvia aethiopsis</i>	Mediterranean Sage		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Salvia sclarea</i>	Clary Sage		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silverleaf Nightshade		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	<b>Johnsongrass</b>		<b>BCP</b>
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	<b>Smooth Cordgrass</b>		<b>BCE</b>

PREVENT (PR) - Prevent introduction and establishment in the CRD.			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Spartina anglica</i>	English cordgrass		BCE
<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	Dense-flowered Cordgrass		BCE
<i>Spartina patens</i>	Saltmeadow Cordgrass		BCE
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Water Soldier		BCP
<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>	Medusahead	 	BCP
<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>	Spurge Flax		BCP
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Puncture Vine	   	BCC(r)
<i>Ventenata dubia</i>	North Africa Grass	 	BCC
<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>	Syrian Bean-caper		

ERADICATE (ER) - Eradicate from CRD			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	Velvet-leaf		
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard		BCC CRDp
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Wild Chervil		BCC(r) CRDp
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed		BCE
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering Rush		BCE
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Hanging Sedge		
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	Diffuse Knapweed	 	CRD
<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>	Bighead Knapweed		
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	Maltese Starthistle	  	BCE
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed	  	CRDp CRDa
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	Spotted Knapweed	  	BCC(r) CRDp
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Poison-hemlock	  	BCC CRDa
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Hound's-tongue	  	
<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	Yellow Nutsedge		
<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	White Spanish Broom	   	BCC(r)
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	Portuguese Broom	   	BCE
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Paterson's Curse	 	BCP
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Blueweed; Viper's Bugloss	 	BCC(r)
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian Elodea		BCE

**ERADICATE (ER) - Eradicate from CRD**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge		
<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	Leafy Spurge		BCC(r)
<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	Eggleaf Spurge		BCE
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	Goat's Rue		BCE
<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	French Broom		BCE
<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	Giant Mannagrass		
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant Hogweed		BCC CRDp CRDa
<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	Orange Hawkweed		CRD
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Policeman's Helmet		BCC(r) CRDp CRDa
<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>	Jewelweed		
<i>Koenigia polystachya</i>	Himalayan Knotweed		BCC(r) CRDp
<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>	Dalmatian Toadflax		CRDp
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax		CRDp
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Garden Yellow Loosestrife		BCC(r) CRDp
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Yellow Floating Heart		BCE
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch / Cotton Thistle		CRDp
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Wild parsnip		BCC
<i>Petasites japonicus</i>	Japanese Butterbur		BCC CRDa
<i>Phragmites australis subsp. australis</i>	Common Reed		BCE
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	Sulphur Cinquefoil		
<i>Reynoutria japonica var. japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed		BCC(r) CRDp CRDa
<i>Reynoutria sachalinensis</i>	Giant Knotweed		BCC(r) CRDp CRDa
<i>Reynoutria x bohemica</i>	Bohemian knotweed		BCC(r) CRDp CRDa
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish / Rush Broom		
<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	Tamarisk		BCC(r) BCT
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	European Coltsfoot		

<b>CONTAIN (CN) - Eradicate outside of containment areas and apply strategic control within.</b>			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	European Beachgrass		
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shiny Geranium		<b>BCC CRDa</b>
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrotfeather		
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian / Spiked Water-milfoil		

<b>STRATEGIC CONTROL (SC) - Management objective depends on context, e.g. land use objectives, values or assets threatened</b>			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Bishop's Goutweed; Ground Elder		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree-of-Heaven		<b>BCC(r) BCT</b>
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Crow Garlic; Field Garlic		
<i>Anthriscus caucalis</i>	Burr Chervil		
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian Arum, Orange Candleflower		<b>CRDa</b>
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush		
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Bachelor's Buttons		
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada / Creeping Thistle		
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull Thistle		
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Wild Clematis		
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	Cotoneaster		
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	English / Common Hawthorn		<b>BCT</b>
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Cyclamen		
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel		
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel / Fuller's Teasel		
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser Celandine		<b>CRD</b>
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Sweet / Common Fennel		<b>BCC(r)</b>
<i>Hedera helix + Helix varieties</i>	English / Common Ivy & varieties		
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish Bluebells		
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	English Bluebells		
<i>Hypericum calycinum</i>	Aaron's-beard		
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Common St. John's-wort		

STRATEGIC CONTROL (SC) - Management objective depends on context, e.g. land use objectives, values or assets threatened			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Specific Values Threatened	BC/CRD Lists
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	English / Common Holly	 	BCT
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag Iris		BCC(r) CRDa
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Tansy Ragwort	 	CRDa
<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	Yellow Lamium		BCC(r)
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European Privet	 	
<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	Tree / Bush Lupine	 	
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife		BCC(r)
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Princess Tree	 	BCT
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary Grass	 	
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry-laurel		BCT
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portugal Laurel		
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Himalayan Blackberry	   	
<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	Cutleaf Blackberry	 	
<i>Salix alba 'Vitellina'</i>	Golden Willow		BCT
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Blessed Milk Thistle	 	BCC(r) CRDp CRDa
<i>Soliva sessilis</i>	Carpet Burweed	 	CRDp CRDa
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Common Tansy	 	BCC(r)
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	Yellow Salsify; Western Salsify		
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Common Salsify		
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless Chamomile	 	
<i>Typha X glauca</i>	Blue Cattail (hybrid)		
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved / Lesser Cattail		
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	    	BCC(r) CRDa
<i>Vinca major</i>	Large periwinkle		
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Common Periwinkle		

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Learn more at:  
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