Project Scoring Sheet – Invasive Species

Version 1.1

Notes

- This is a static document intended for reference only. It includes information the Reviewer sees while scoring an application.
- Questions relating directly to requirements are indicated with a red asterisk*.
- Checkmarks help reviewers focus in on key components of the scoring.
- The results of individual project reviews are available at the top of each project's page in the Conservation Certification Website.
- Information about other aspects of evaluations (e.g. methodology used for scoring) is available in the Certification Support Center.
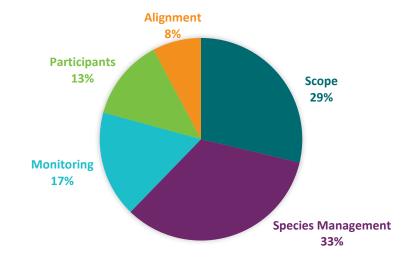
Contents

Overview

Percentage of points achievable per section

Scope │ 29% of points achievable

* Does the project exceed regulatory requirements?
If the applicant answered that no aspects of the project are done in relation to regulatory requirements, select N/A. If they answered that it was done in relation to regulatory requirements, select Yes or No depending on if it exceeds requirements.
> N/A
> No
> Yes

* Is the project targeting species that are considered invasive in the habitat and region? | Up to 2.99 points
> 0 - Not targeting invasive species
> 1 - Targeting invasive species | 2.99 pts

How many species does the project target? | Up to 5.7 points
> 0 - No invasive species targeted
> 1 - One invasive species targeted (e.g., garlic mustard or zebra mussels) | 3.99 pts
> 2 - More than one targeted species in the same habitat (e.g. invasive shrubs) | 5.7 pts

Is the project implemented site-wide or at multiple locations? | Up to 3.91 points
> 0 - No project implementation
> 1 - The project is implemented at one or a few locations, disjointed | 1.173 pts
> 2 - The project has a few locations connected through common species or approaches | 2.9325 pts
> 3 - The project is implemented site-wide| 3.91 pts

* What is the size of the project being actively controlled? | Up to 5.06 points
> 0 = No invasive species controlled
> Score = Number of acres greater than zero (an entry with partial acres is acceptable) | Points earned = score/100

What is the size of the project being actively prevented? | Up to 5.06 points
> 0 = No area actively prevented
> Score = Number of acres greater than zero (an entry with partial acres is acceptable) | Points earned = score/100

* How long has the project been on the ground? | Up to 5.98 points
> 0 = Project started less than 1 growing/breeding season ago (not long enough to have a measurable conservation outcome)
> Score = Number of years | Points earned = score/5

* Is there a stated conservation objective?
✔Applicant understanding
> No
> Yes

Species Management │ 33% of points achievable

Do the control and prevention methods incorporate effective and appropriate practices? | Up to 14.82 points

Effective and appropriate control practices will be those that research, common knowledge and/or experience at the site has shown can:
• Prevent or control the spread of an existing invasive species infestation,
• Reduce the size of an invasive species population/infestation, or
• Eradicate an invasive species infestation from a site.

    0 - Control and prevention methods do not incorporate any effective or appropriate practices
    1 - Control and prevention methods do incorporate effective and appropriate practices | 14.82 pts

Is there a post-control plan? | Up to 9.12 points
    0 - No post-control plan
    1 - A detailed post control plan to restore an appropriate habitat (e.g. acknowledgement of risk of disturbance, design of new plantings, continued monitoring) can include a statement that no new plantings or restoration were needed with an explanation of why | 9.12 pts

Is there a long-term commitment to the project? | Up to 5.7 points
    0 - No long-term commitment or not answered
    1 - Long-term commitment described, but without accountability (e.g. without number of years, schedule of actions, budgeting) | 2.85 pts
    2 - Commitment to a specific number of years or until objective is reached, with evidence such as budgeting or public statements | 5.7 pts

Are innovative methods or practices being developed or used to prevent or control invasive species? | Up to 2.66 points
    0 - No innovative methods or not answered
    1 - Scientifically innovative method | 1.33 pts
    2 - Scientifically innovative method with plan for analysis | 1.995 pts
    3 - Scientifically innovative method with plan for dissemination of results | 2.66 pts

Does the project illustrate leadership in invasive species control and prevention to industry, community or other audiences? | Up to 1.25 points
✔ Applicant understanding
    0 - No stated leadership role or documentation does not support
    1 - Leadership demonstrated by sharing knowledge with at least one type of audience (e.g. industry peers) | 0.625 pts
    2 - Leadership demonstrated by sharing knowledge with more than one type of audience (e.g. industry peers, community, academic, other facilities, government) | 1.25 pts

Monitoring | 17% of points achievable

Does the project include project-relevant baseline documentation? | Up to 4.25 points
✔Applicant understanding
✔Documentation is relevant
    0 - No baseline
    1 - Mid-project baseline collected (collected after on the ground activities started) | 2.125 pts
    2 - Initial baseline data collected (collected before the start of the project) | 3.1875 pts
    3 - Initial and new baseline data collected (collected prior to the addition of new habitat areas/features) | 4.25 pts

Does the project include a relevant, scientifically rigorous monitoring protocol? | Up to 4.25 points
Relevant = Monitoring that would inform assessment of habitat.
✔Applicant understanding
✔Includes methodology/procedure, timing and frequency
    0 - No monitoring plan or protocol. Or, monitoring protocol is not relevant
    1 - Monitoring protocol that is relevant but not scientifically rigorous (i.e. may not fully protect against bias) | 2.55 pts
    2 - Monitoring protocol that is both relevant and scientifically rigorous | 4.25 pts

* To what level is monitoring implemented? | Up to 8.5 points
Adequate monitoring = providing data that can be compared over time to assess whatever is being monitored.
Initial programs ✔Documentation is from at least the past year
Renewal programs ✔Documentation includes each year since last applied up to date applied
    0 - No monitoring or inadequate/irrelevant/harmful monitoring (monitoring that is not directly tied to the species)
    1 - Adequate monitoring of impacted area at least annually OR adequate monitoring of the invasive species directly at least annually | 5.95 pts
    2 - Adequate monitoring of impacted area at least annually AND adequate monitoring of the invasive species directly at least annually | 8.5 pts

Participants | 13% of points achievable

Do employees actively contribute to the project?
    Yes
    No

How many employee hours were spent on project specific activities each year? | Up to 3 points
Hours are calculated as: all planning + all implementation / # years of cert term with full data
    0 = No employee hours
    Score = Average number of employee hours/year over the course of the certification term (an entry with partial hours is acceptable) | Points earned = score/100

What was the depth of employee engagement in the project? | Up to 3 points

This criterion does not take into account the number of employees engaged.

      0 - No employee participation

      1 - One-off/ single event or irregular involvement of employees | 0.6 pts

      2 - Regular involvement of employees in implementation OR development or long-term planning | 2.1 pts

      3 - Regular involvement of employees in implementation AND development or long-term planning | 3 pts

Do any groups or partners actively contribute to the project?

      Yes

      No

How many partner hours were spent on project specific activities each year? | Up to 2.45 points

Hours are calculated as: all planning + all implementation / # Years of cert term with full data

      0 = No partner hours

      Score = Average number of partner hours/year over the course of the certification term (an entry with partial hours is acceptable) | Points earned = score/50

What was the depth of partner engagement in the project? | Up to 2.45 points

This criterion does not consider the number of partners engaged.

      0 - No partner participation

      1 - One-off/ single event or irregular involvement of partners | 0.49 pts

      2 - Regular involvement of partners in implementation OR development or long-term planning | 1.715 pts

      3 - Regular involvement of partners in implementation AND development or long-term planning | 2.45 pts

What was the level of technical advice used in the project? | Up to 2.1 points

✔Applicant understanding

      0 - No technical advice

      1 - Technical advice sought (from partner or other resources) | 0.63 pts

      2 - Demonstrated implementation of technical advice | 1.47 pts

      3 - Ongoing regular use of technical advice (at least once per year) | 2.1 pts

Alignment | 8% of points achievable

Is the project designed to connect to invasive species removal on nearby property? | Up to 4 points

✔Applicant understanding

✔Connecting habitat is off-site

      0 - No

      1 - Connects to adjacent properties' habitat of that type | 3 pts

      2 - Coordinated management for the species with adjacent properties | 4 pts

Does the project tie to a corporate level commitment to Invasive Species? | Up to 1 point
General corporate commitments to the environment, biodiversity, or education are not recognized.
✔ Specific to project type
    0 - No
    1- Yes | 1 pt

Does the project align with a large-scale conservation initiative? | Up to 2.25 points
✔ Applicant understanding
    0 - No stated alignment with an established initiative
    1 - Alignment with a general plan (not Invasive Species specific), or an initiative (without a specific plan). Example of both types: State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), migratory pathway | 1.125 pts
    2 - Managed in accordance with an established Invasive Species specific plan | 2.25 pts

Does the project demonstrate success through a third-party Invasive Species certification that meets WHC criteria? | Up to 0.5 points
    0 - No
    1- Yes (one or more) | 0.5 pts