

Help your local Biodiversity Officer find out what invasive species are in your local area. Invasive species can have negative impacts on our native species, so knowledge of their distribution is very important.



Mink



Himalayan balsam



Grey squirrel



Japanese knotweed

Here are some examples of invasive species that you may see, but other species may be recorded.  
For further information go to [www.habitas.org.uk/invasive](http://www.habitas.org.uk/invasive)



No stamp  
required

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<p><b>Mink</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium sized mammal with dark chocolate brown fur, white chin patch and slightly bushy tail.</li> <li>• Seen all year round.</li> <li>• Similar to otter.</li> <li>• Found along rivers, streams, lakes, canals and the coast.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Himalayan balsam</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large oval pointed leaves, flowers are a purple colour, 'seed pods' explode easily. Plants reach 2m in height.</li> <li>• Flowers from June to August.</li> <li>• No similar species.</li> <li>• Found on banks of rivers, canals or on lake or pond margins.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grey squirrel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large squirrel with grey and yellowish brown/chestnut fur and a large bushy tail.</li> <li>• Seen all year round.</li> <li>• Similar to red squirrel.</li> <li>• Found in woodland, parks, gardens and hedgerows, often found in urban areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Japanese knotweed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conspicuous vertical green leafy shoots 1.5 to 2.5m tall. Leaves are large, oval and pointed. White flowers.</li> <li>• Shoots die at end of summer and turn brown, new shoots appear each spring.</li> <li>• Similar to giant knotweed.</li> <li>• Found on river banks, in parks and demesnes, or on waste ground.</li> </ul>

*Enjoy recording whilst taking care to avoid the spread of any invasive species. Relevant access permission should always be sought prior to visiting any sites.*



Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Telephone number: .....

E-mail: .....

Species (e.g. Mink)	Number seen	Date (e.g. 12/05/06)	Grid Reference/Location (e.g. J085884/Entrance to Randalstown Forest)	Comments

Your contact details will be passed to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR) for recording purposes only. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any mailings regarding future biodiversity events.