

What is an invasive species?

An invasive species is defined as a species outside of its native range whose introduction and/or spread threatens biodiversity^{1,2,3}.

Alien species are considered invasive, and included in the indicator, based on:

1. Evidence of the impact of the species on biodiversity anywhere in the introduced range of the species.
2. Evidence of the spread (wide-ranging or rapid) and abundance (high or rapidly increasing) of the species in its introduced range.

This assessment thus follows commonly used criteria for designating species as invasive.

Criteria commonly used to infer the status of species as invasive

Criterion	References
1 Evidence that the species is invasive elsewhere, or has a history of invasiveness (especially under similar climatic and geographic conditions).	4, 5, 6, 7
2 Extent of introduced range.	8, 9
3 Extent of native geographic range.	8, 9, 10
4 Taxonomic relatedness to known invaders.	11, 12, 13

References

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