

## **Protocol to Establish Invasive Plant Containment Lines in the IAPP Application**

Approved by IMIPWG May 26, 2009

### **DEFINITION:**

*The objective of containment in invasive plant management is to prevent large infestations from spreading to un-infested areas. Establishing containment lines around targeted invasive plant species' infestations defines the areas that require treatment and assists in management planning. Inside the containment line the infestation of the invasive plant species is extensive and it is not possible to eradicate the target species. Outside the line the infestation is limited and preventing spread and achieving a long term goal of eradication is possible.*

*The establishment and location of containment lines is determined through stakeholder consensus and are set within geographic areas such as Regional Invasive Plant Committee boundaries or cross-regional areas of the Province. The location of the containment line is based on considerations of the following: a) target invasive plant species' current distribution and abundance; b) known vectors and projected rate of spread; c) natural barriers to movement (e.g. height of land, lakes or rivers), d) ecological factors, and d) other management objectives within the area. Containment lines are housed in the Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) Application, so that their locations are communicated and clear to all stakeholders and their invasive plant management crews.*

*Outside the containment polygon or area all sites of the species being contained need to be managed including enhanced awareness work, inventory, treatment, and monitoring. Management objectives inside a containment line may include rehabilitation of sites, or specific inventory and control actions on areas deemed to be critical from an economic or conservation perspective.*

### **PROCEDURES:**

As the support and action of all stakeholders and partners is required for successful containment of invasive plants, the following steps are required to establish containment lines:

- 1) Members of regional Invasive Plant Committees can propose and discuss containment lines. If lines are wholly within the regional invasive plant committee's area and consensus agreement on the location of the line can be reached, the request is forwarded to the Inter-Ministry Invasive Plant Working Group (IMIPWG) for review.



- 2) If proposed lines cross the boundaries of two or more regional invasive plant committees, all committees affected must agree to the lines and locations before they are forwarded to the IMIPWG.
- 3) An agency or organisation can propose containment lines to the IMIPWG, the Invasive Plant Council of BC (IPCBC), as well as to regional invasive plant committees. Proposals received by the IMIPWG or IPCBC will be referred to the affected regional committee(s) for consideration and support, and the committee will ensure final submission to the IMIPWG.
- 4) The IMIPWG will review proposed containment lines and either approve their inclusion in IAPP or discuss with those making the proposal why inclusion is not approved at that time or at that location.
- 5) If lines are approved for inclusion in IAPP, those making the proposal will work with the IAPP Technician to have the lines uploaded into IAPP.
- 6) Regular review and adjustment of containment lines is the responsibility of the sponsoring regional committees, agencies and organisations, and the IMIPWG.