

# IAS control and the national list of IAS in Croatia

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REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
Ministry of Environmental Protection  
and Green Transition

# Legislative Framework on IAS in Croatia

## **THE ACT ON THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF ALIEN AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES (IAS Act) (OG. No. 15/18, 14/19)**

- implementation of Regulation (EU) No  
1143/2014

### COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and  
Green Transition, Nature Protection Directorate  
Institute for Environment and Nature

# Legislative Framework on IAS in Croatia



In the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 and of IAS Act, the Ministry cooperates with state administration bodies competent for customs supervision, plant health, veterinary medicine, forestry, hunting, fishing, agriculture, water management, internal affairs and state inspectorate.



The Ministry also cooperates with public institutions for nature protection (8 national parks, 12 nature parks, 26 public institution on county and local level)

# More stringent national rules - according to Article 23 of Regulation (EU)1143/2014

- permits for placement of alien species on the market/growing of alien species in contained holding/release of alien species into the nature
- Most of the permits are related to horticulture, pet shops, and sports fishing

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of permits	138	112	151	205	119



## Ordinance on the black and white list of alien species (OG, No.13/24)

- ▶ black list entered into force on 10 February 2024.
- ▶ prohibited introduction (including transit), holding, rearing or propagation, transport, placing on the market, use or exchange, release into the environment. The same restrictions apply to this species as to those on the Union list.
- ▶ use of the species on the black list only for research or ex-situ conservation and in case of high public interest

Taxonomic Group	Species
Bird	Rose-ringed parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i> (Scopoli, 1769)
Fish	Brown bullhead <i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i> (Lesueur, 1819)
Fish	Channel catfish <i>Ictalurus punctatus</i> (Rafinesque, 1818)
Fish	Black carp <i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i> (Richardson, 1846)
Fish	Pond loach <i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i> (Cantor, 1842)
Crab	American lobster <i>Homarus americanus</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837
Plant	„Pampas grass” <i>Cortaderia selloana</i> (Schult. & Schult.f.) Asch. & Graebn
Plan	Amur silver-grass <i>Miscanthus sacchariflorus</i> (Maxim.) Benth. & Hook.f. ex Franch.
Plant	Chinese silver grass <i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> Andersson
Plant	Switchgrass <i>Panicum virgatum</i> L.

# Ordinance on the black and white list of alien species (OG, No.13/24)

- white list contain commercially interesting alien species (3037 species) which do not pose ecological risk



Birds



Ornamental fishes



Plants

Corals

# Management of invasive alien species that are widely spread

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Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 1143/2014

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Croatia has adopted five management plans in 2022

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For small Asian mongoose, signal crayfish, red-eared slider, Himalayan balsam, common milkweed



# Action plans on the pathways of invasive alien species

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Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 1143/2014

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Croatia has adopted two action plans in 2021

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For transport and spontaneous spread



# Projects for controlling priority IAS populations



**OBJECTIVE:** control of populations of priority IAS to minimise their negative impact on native species and habitats (+ habitat restoration)



**SOURCE OF FUNDING:** the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (budget obtained from the sale of emissions units)



**Beneficiaries:** public institutions for management of protected natural values (8 national parks, 12 nature parks, 26 public institutions for nature protection on county and local level)



**Public calls:** 2022, 2023, 2024



**TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACTED PROJECTS:** ~ 2 700 000 EUR

# Projects for controlling priority IAS populations

8 plants: floating primrose-willow, tree of heaven, common milkweed, Himalayan balsam, giant hogweed, Japanese hop, giant goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), false indigo-bush

6 animals: signal crayfish, spiny-cheek crayfish, red-eared slider, small Asian mongoose, coypu, blue crab

2022: 6 projects

2023: 9 projects

2024: 9 projects



# Public call "Enhanced Management of Protected Areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network Sites"



In December 2025, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition launched this call for public institutions for management of protected natural values.



It is financed by the EU's Competitiveness and Cohesion Programme for 2021-2027, with national co-financing.  
(totalling €75 million)



The aim of this call is to contribute to the preservation and achievement of favourable conservation status of target species and habitat types, as well as the sustainable management of ecosystems and biodiversity through conservation, restoration and management activities in protected areas and Natura 2000 network sites across Croatia.



Some projects will involve the eradication or control of IAS such as the red-eared slider, lionfish, blue crab, Himalayan balsam and false indigo-bush.



Project implementation will begin in 2026. Some project activities are already underway, and the provisional end date of the programming period is the end of 2029.

# Cooperation with other sectors

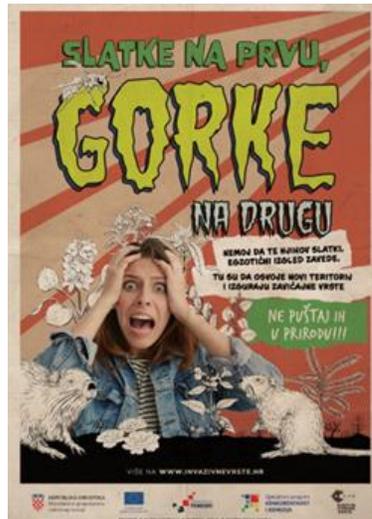


Hunters are interested for coypu removal

Needed permits:

- permits from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition for removal of IAS from Union list
- Permits from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for hunting coypu as it is not on the list of game species
- State inspectorate (veterinary inspection) has issued permit for removal of coypu in the territory of Croatia according to Animal Protection Law
- hunter submit annual reports on hunting coypu to the ministries
- Order for the removal of raccoon dogs (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*, Gray, 1834) and raccoons (*Procyon lotor*, Linnaeus, 1758) (OG No.146/2024 - individual permits are not required)

# The Information System on Alien and Invasive Alien Species



- established in 2020
- The Central Information System on Alien and Invasive Alien Species includes:
  1. Catalogue of the alien species
  2. The interactive map with data on presence and eradication
  3. Mobile application - Invasive species in Croatia
  4. On-line form for reporting observations of IAS
  5. Web page <https://invazivnevrste.haop.hr/en>
- NOT PUBLIC:
  6. permits and certificates for placement of alien species on the market/growing of alien species in contained holding /release of alien species into the nature and permits for species from the Union list



# Thank you for your attention

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