

Ireland wishes to propose the following species for inclusion on the Union list of invasive alien species, as per Article 4(4) of Regulation 1143 of 2014:

***Elodea nuttalli* (Nuttall's pondweed).**

Please find attached (in MSWord and PDF) a comprehensive risk assessment carried out in accordance with Article 5(1) of the same Regulations.

This Risk assessment contains full details of how this species meets the criteria set out in Article 4(3)(a), (b), (c) and (d).

In relation to 4(3)(e), it is our contention that the containment of this species and minimisation of its further spread and adverse impacts can only be achieved through the inclusion on the Union list. In this regard, the risk assessment concludes that:

“If restrictions on sale and import are enforced and biosecurity measures are routinely implemented, the rate of further range extensions to uncolonised systems will likely be reduced, as the principal mechanism of spread is human-mediated.”

We would like to acknowledge the constructive feedback received on an earlier version of this Risk Assessment from Members of the Scientific Forum and also the particular help of our Swedish colleague, Melanie Josefsson, in acting as external reviewer of this latest version.