

Species name: Himalayan balsam <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	
Member State proposing the RA: Poland	
Criterion for listing	Evidence that the criteria for listing are met
<p>(a) they are found, based on available scientific evidence, to be alien to the territory of the Union excluding the outermost regions</p> <p>(b) they are found, based on available scientific evidence, to be capable of establishing a viable population and spreading in the environment under current conditions and in foreseeable climate change conditions in one biogeographical region shared by more than two Member States or one marine subregion excluding their outermost regions</p> <p>(c) they are, based on available scientific evidence, likely to have a significant adverse impact on biodiversity or the related ecosystem services, and may also have an adverse impact on human health or the economy</p> <p>(d) it is demonstrated by a risk assessment carried out pursuant to Article 5(1) that concerted action at Union level is required to prevent their introduction, establishment or spread</p> <p>(e) it is likely that the inclusion on the Union list will effectively prevent, minimise or mitigate their adverse impact</p>	<p><i>I. glandulifera</i> is native to the foothills of the Himalayas from north-west Pakistan to northern India. The plant is also recorded as native in Nepal and possibly in Bhutan.</p> <p>In 23 EU Member States <i>I. glandulifera</i> has established populations and counts to invasive species.</p> <p>The species threatens native biodiversity, penetrating into natural and semi-natural habitats and occurring, among others, in plant communities along edges of rivers and lakes, light floodplain forests and wet meadows. It invades natural habitats of Natura 2000, e.g. hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities (habitat type 6430), alpine rivers and the ligneous vegetation along their banks (3240), alluvial forests (91E0) and other habitats such as wet meadows. <i>I. glandulifera</i> may form dense stands that cover the soil, shade out and replace native annual and even perennial plant species. It may also displace native species through competition for pollinators.</p> <p>The species is already invasive in most EU countries. Concerted action at Union level is required in order to control the species, especially in protected areas and in natural habitats. EU cooperation is necessary, taking into account that this species is spreading mostly with water courses that can flow through more than one country. Furthermore, EU common legislation could prevent trade and planting of this species, eg. for honey production.</p> <p>Management measures are still cost-effective when applied on selected protected areas and habitats.</p>
Outcome	Compliant