



Invasive alien species (IAS) and their impacts represent a growing concern for the managers of natural areas. That is particularly true for aquatic environments where an array of stakeholders are now taking action. Public policies on the French and European levels are also coming into play.

What is the status of current knowledge on biological invasions? What is the applicable legal framework and what recommendations should be made? In the field, which species are managers attempting to address? Which techniques are used, where and how, and what are the objectives and the results achieved?

The first volume, published in the *Knowledge for action* series in 2015 and titled *Practical information*, presents the current situation concerning the management of invasive alien species in aquatic environments. Though no “cure alls” currently exist, the volume offers highly actionable information while attempting to address the specific aspects of each situation.

The second volume, published the same year and titled *Management insights*, provides valuable examples of efforts to control IASs in the form of over 50 project management reports. Over one hundred people throughout France contributed to gathering the information required to present an in-depth discussion of the situation and to propose a scientifically based approach to assist environmental managers in setting up management projects.

Following the outstanding reception of the first two volumes and the resulting increase in management efforts, it was decided to publish this third volume titled *Management insights (cont.)*, comprising 35 management reports on 21 species already examined and 12 new species, including three present in the overseas territories.

Emmanuelle Sarat, a scientific officer for invasive alien species at the IUCN French committee, has managed the Biological invasions in aquatic environments (IBMA) work group since 2014.

Doriane Blottière, a project officer for invasive alien species at the IUCN French committee, has assisted in managing the IBMA work group since 2017 and is in charge of drafting the management reports.

Alain Dutartre, an independent hydrobiologist (formerly at Irstea), has worked for over 30 years on aquatic plants (native and alien) and their management. As a founding member of the IBMA work group, he has contributed to research work and efforts to assist water managers in improving the management of invasive alien species.

Nicolas Poulet is a scientific officer for continental aquatic biodiversity at the Research, science-advice and training department of AFB. He works to establish research and management projects on both invasive and emblematic species and participated in managing the IBMA work group.

Yohann Soubeyran, a scientific officer for species in the overseas territories at the IUCN French committee, has managed a special project on IASs in the overseas territories since 2005. In 2014, he joined the management team at the IBMA work group.



Invasive alien species in aquatic environments

Practical information and management insights

Vol. 3

Management insights (cont.)

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and Yohann Soubeyran (editors)

The French biodiversity agency

The agency, which reports to the Ecology ministry, supports implementation of public policies in all fields concerning the knowledge, preservation, management and restoration of biodiversity in all sectors, terrestrial, aquatic and marine. In addition to assisting public entities, the agency also works closely with socio-economic stakeholders. A further task is to reach out to the public in order to mobilise citizens for projects to encourage biodiversity.

Missions in continental France and the overseas territories include:

- organising and expanding knowledge and know-how;
- supporting all public policies addressing biodiversity;
- managing protected areas and providing support to other managers;
- providing socio-professional stakeholders with knowledge and advice;
- providing financial support for projects with partners;
- mobilising and raising the awareness of the general public;
- organising the biodiversity job sector and providing training;
- ensuring compliance with regulations concerning biodiversity.

The French committee of the International union for the conservation of nature

The French committee constitutes the network of French organisations and experts working for the IUCN and serves as a knowledge base and platform for discussion on biodiversity issues. This novel partnership comprises two ministries, eight public organisations, 42 NGOs and a network of approximately 250 experts grouped in special commissions and topical work groups. The committee addresses biodiversity issues in France and promotes French research and science-advice work internationally.

The IBMA work group

This book was drafted by the Biological invasions in aquatic environments (IBMA) work group that Onema (now AFB) and Cemagref (now Irstea) launched jointly in 2009. Its mission is to assist all stakeholders working on the topic of invasive alien species (IAS) by facilitating access to new knowledge on managing IASs and developing management tools. Since 2014, the work group has been managed by the IUCN French committee and AFB.

This book continues the *Knowledge for action* series that makes new research findings and science-advice work available to professionals in the biodiversity sector (scientists, engineers, managers, instructors, students, etc.).

The book is available on the AFB site (<https://professionnels.afbiodiversite.fr/fr/node/416>, on the IBMA site (<http://especes-exotiques-envahissantes.fr/>).

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