

Management of Invasive Plants Planning Process

Background

The location of known invasive plants within, or adjacent to BCTS development activities will be identified using information gathered from the FLNRO Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP). BCTS staff and contractors will supplement this data with invasive plant reconnaissance during development planning, related inspections and post-harvest surveys (i.e. multi-phase activities, harvest/road inspections and silviculture surveys). The presence, or absence of invasive plants within 5km of proposed BCTS development activities, combined with the category of invasiveness and the proximity of high value crops will dictate subsequent BCTS management practices based on current approved Forest Stewardship Plan Invasive Plant Measures.

Purpose

In order to schedule appropriate management practices to reduce the spread of invasive plants related to primary forest activities, the Prince George Business Area desires a pro-active approach to locating the presence of invasive plants within, or adjacent to BCTS development activities. This specifically relates to

- Processes associated with harvesting, road construction and road deactivation,
- Post-harvest inspections related to BCTS roads, cut blocks and re-vegetation monitoring,
- Post-harvest silviculture surveys.

Scope

This planning process provides BCTS staff and related contractors with a consistent approach to locating invasive plants, relative to proposed BCTS development areas and implementing appropriate re-vegetation practices to reduce further spread of these invasive plants.

Procedure

BCTS staff, associated layout contractors and silviculture surveyors will use the FLNRO Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/application.htm> to:

- A. Identify inventoried Invasive Plant sites within and adjacent to proposed BCTS development areas within the Prince George Business Area (PGBA).
- B. Update provincial invasive plant inventories as new occurrences are encountered during development planning, or subsequent monitoring.

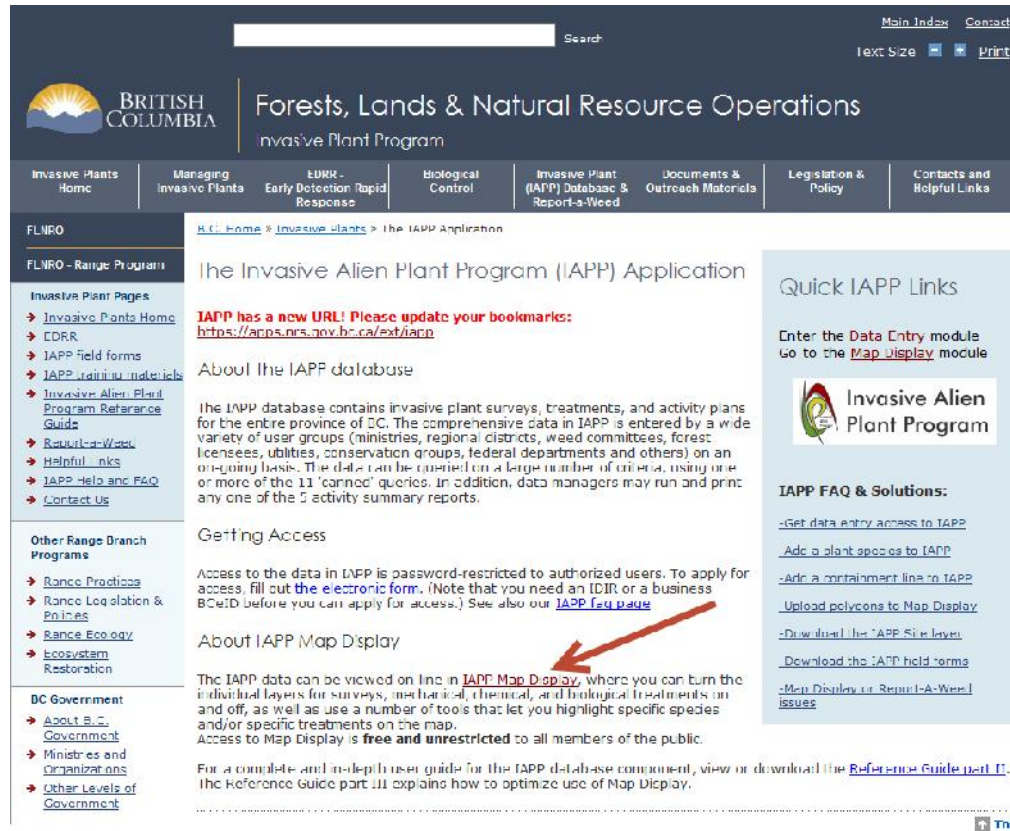
1. Locating Inventoried Invasive Plant Sites

Link to the website above and utilize the following procedures to locate all inventoried invasive plant sites within 5km of the proposed harvest area, or any portion of the related access road proposed for construction.

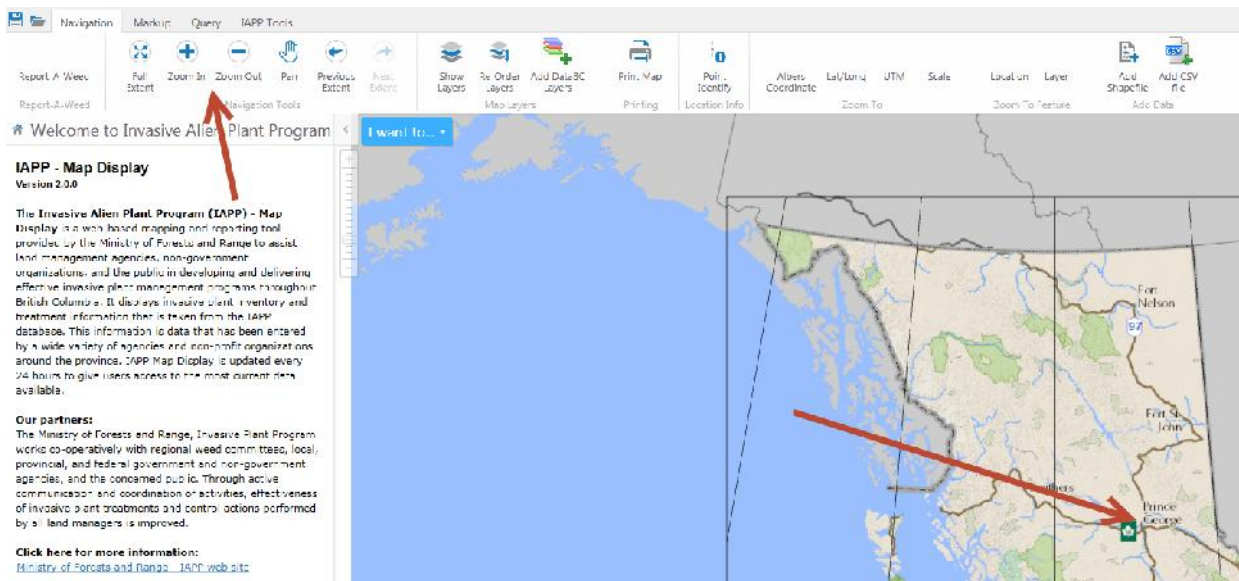
- A. The embedded link should bring you to the FLNRO Invasive Plant homepage and the FLNRO Invasive Alien Plant (IAPP) Application Module:

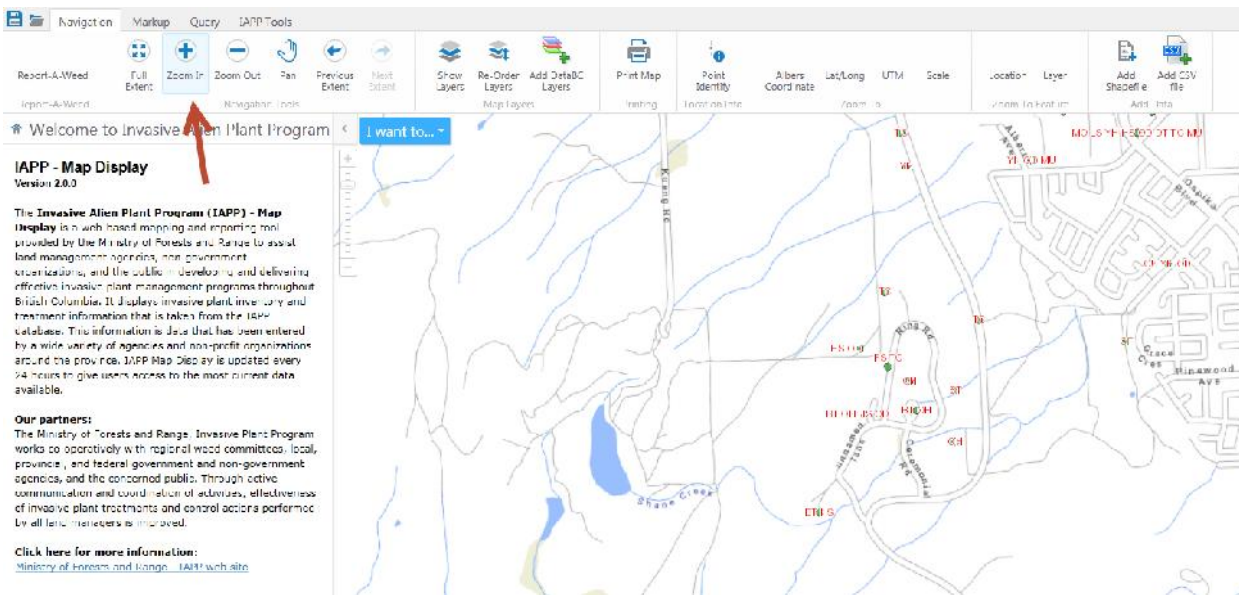
<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/application.htm>

- B. Click on the Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) map display

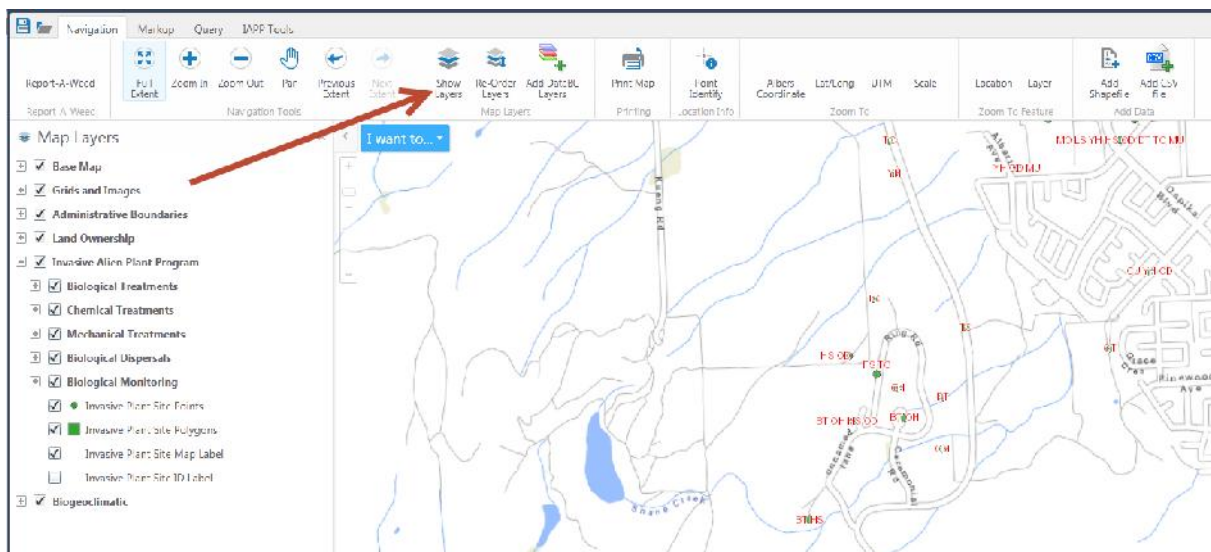


- C. A map display of BC, as indicated below will be generated. Utilize the zoom function on the toolbar to locate the specific area you wish to assess for the presence of known invasive plant sites

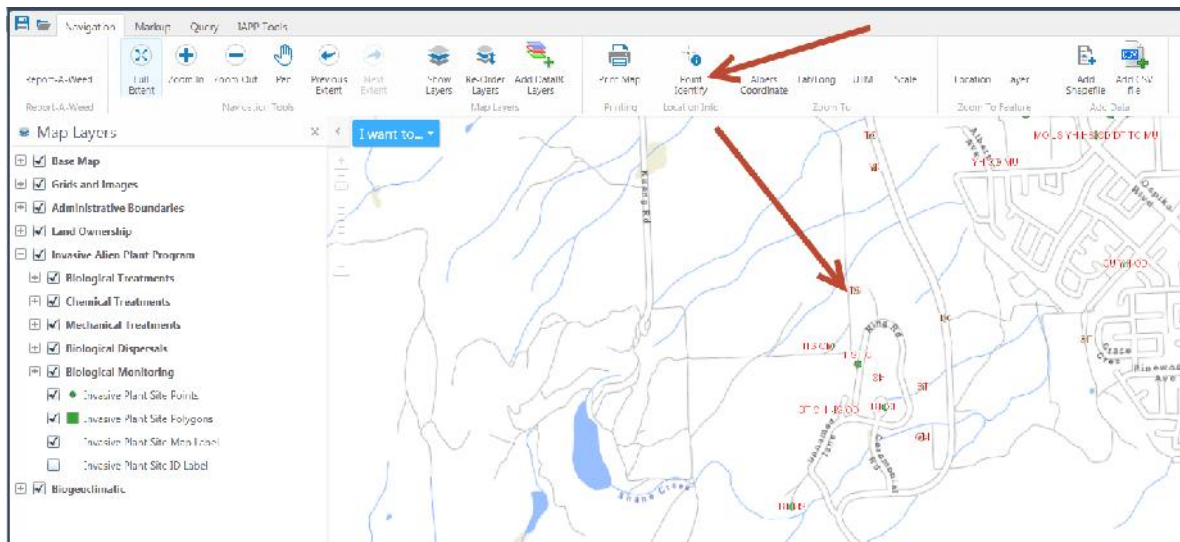




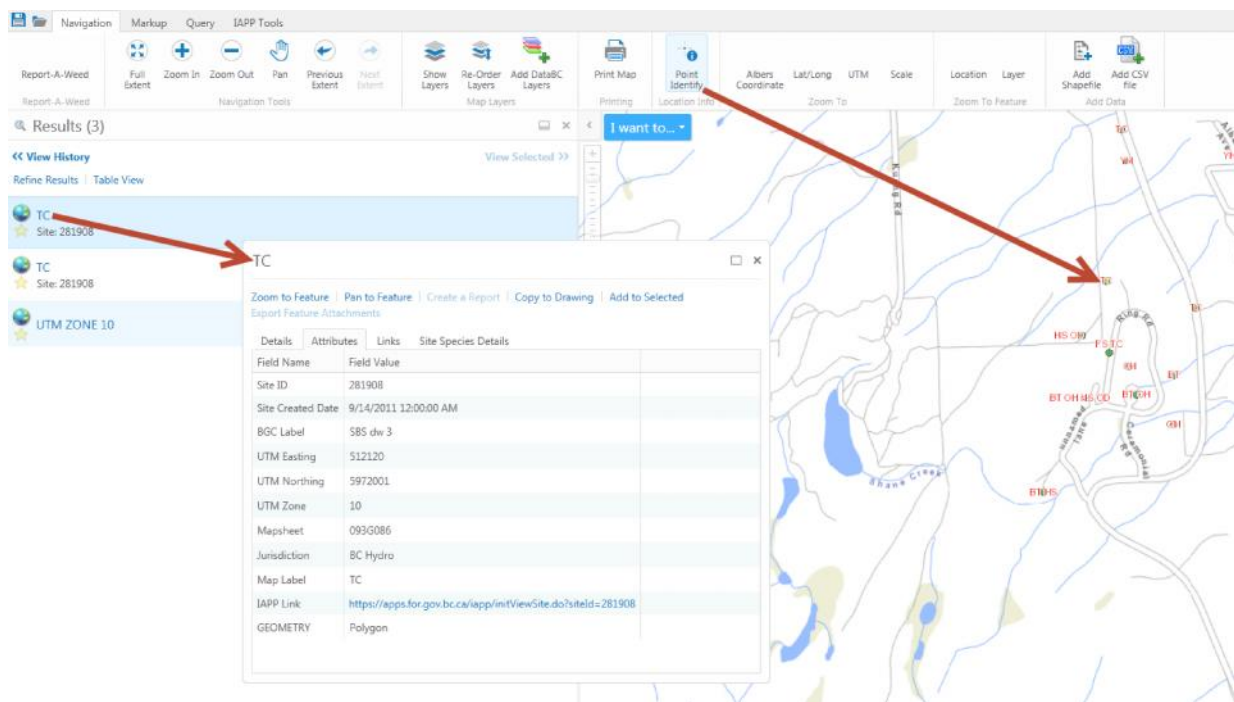
D. By selecting the “Show Layers” tab you can choose the map layers you wish active.



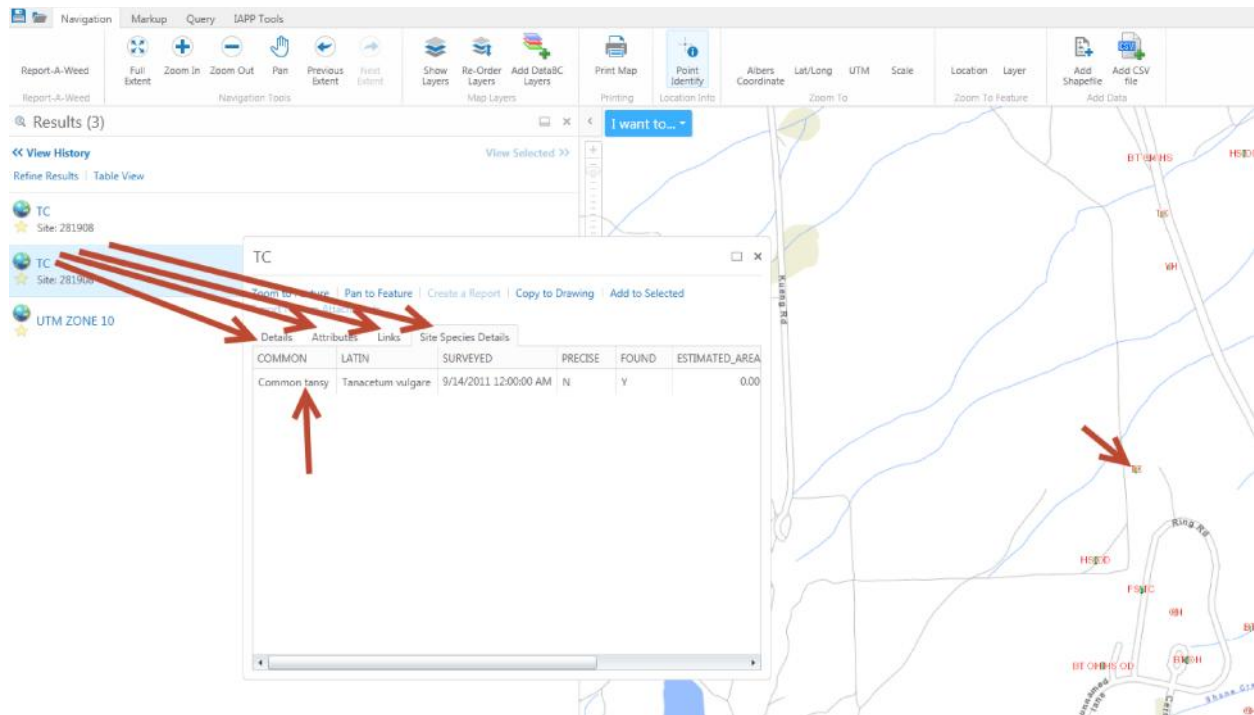
- E. Select the Invasive Plant site indicator on the toolbar and left click on the invasive plant site map label. An invasive plant species label consists of two letters (i.e. OH). A specific site may indicate the presence of several invasive species and thus would be represented by several two letter combinations (i.e. OH CT YT).



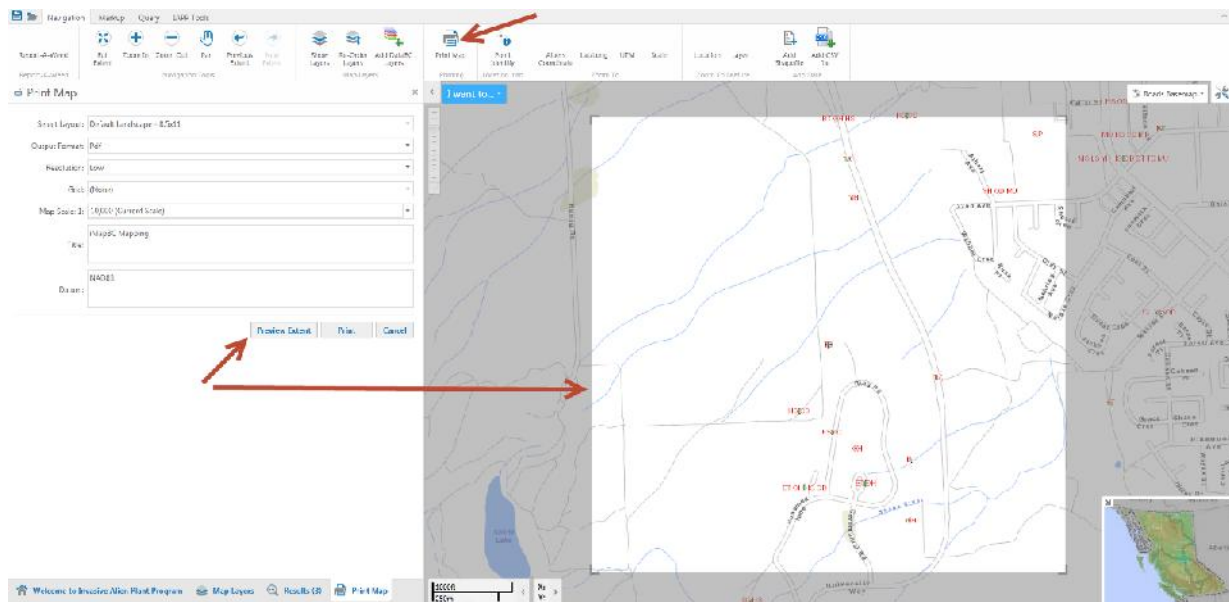
- F. The invasive plant site Id # will be displayed, along with the date recorded, UTM co-ordinates, invasive plant species code etc. Where the site is within 6 km of proposed BCTS development record the Site Id # and map label. Utilize the UTM coordinates to transfer the site location to the SP map base. Once the extent of inventoried site locations is determined.



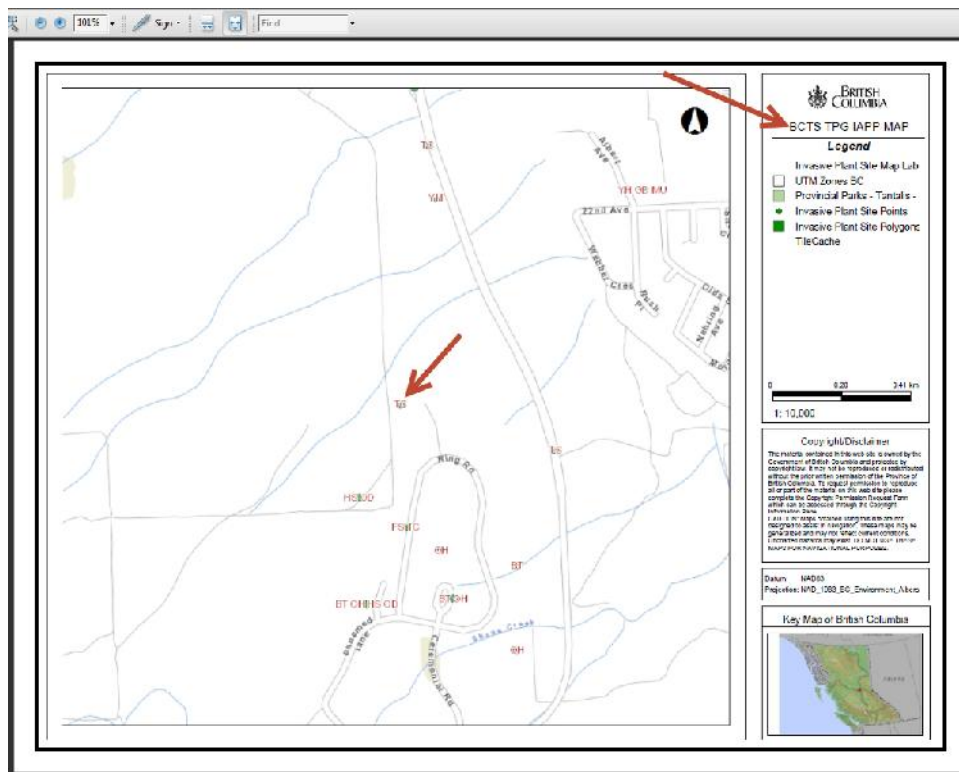
- G. The invasive plant common and scientific names can be obtained from the label and species codes on the map display by clicking on the Species code (a popup table appears and you can subsequently click on tabs to get the data you need).



- H. An IAPP pdf map submission is required to accompany all site plan submissions. Left click on the printer symbol and a pdf legend is generated. Title the IAPP map by mapsheet (applicable to development area) and date created. To ensure use of the most current dataset, create this pdf map within 2 weeks of the final site plan submission.



- I. The hardcopy IAPP map submission serves to document the presence of inventoried invasive plant sites, at the time of development planning.



2. Identifying New Invasive Plant Locations

Invasive Plants are those listed in the Invasive Plants Regulation.

http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/18_2004

The following procedures will be utilized to identify new Invasive Plant Sites within BCTS Operating Areas.

- A. BCTS Planning staff will annually update BCTS operating area/constraint maps with invasive plant site locations, inventoried in the IAPP database.
- B. BCTS staff conducting post-harvest inspections related to BCTS roads, cutblocks and re-vegetation monitoring will conduct cursory inspections related to the presence of invasive plants.
- C. BCTS multi-phase and silviculture contractors will include cursory inspections related to the presence of invasive plants during on-site inspections, assessments and surveys related to development planning.
- D. Invasive Plant descriptions suitable for in-field identification can be obtained through the website links below. BCTS staff and contractors should ensure they are familiar with those species inventoried within the district. <http://www.weedsbc.ca/browse.html> and <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/weeds.htm>
- E. Where Invasive Plants are identified during multi-phase layout, postharvest inspections, re-vegetation monitoring and post-harvest silviculture surveys:
 - Record the name of the specific invasive plant species, its location (preferably via GPS, or detailed map) the date encountered and photo documentation (take a digital photo for later confirmation).
 - Notify the BCTS staff member supervising the contract/project and confirm if an invasive plant (if so the particular species).
 - Notify appropriate planning staff and establish the process of completing a site and invasive plant inventory record form. <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/isb/forms/lib/FS1260.PDF>
 - Return completed inventory form to planning for entry into the IAPP database.
 - If warranted, update appropriate BCTS development maps with the location of the invasive plant location.



Approved by TSM:

Ian Hamann, TSM
Prince George Business Area
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