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| **[LAG Name]****Strategic Action Plan** |

Purpose and scope

*Purpose of your LAG – overarching reason for creating your LAG*

The purpose of [LAG name] is to:

1. Tackle invasive species in [area]

Aims

*Set out the aims for your LAG – identify targets that your group wants to achieve (aims). Your aims and objectives can vary depending on the purpose of your group. You can have multiple aims under the same purpose.*

The aim(s) of [LAG name] is/are to:

1. Eradicate Himalayan balsam from [area] in [number] years

Action plan

*Use your aims and determine how your group with achieve these targets (objectives). Identify priorities for action, tasks that need to be carried out in order to achieve the objectives.*

Your objectives should be ‘SMART’:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S**pecific | **M**easurable | **A**chievable | **R**esults orientated (realistic and relevant)  | **T**ime bound |

***Aim 1 – Eradicate Himalayan balsam from [area] in [number] years.***

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| **Objective 1** | Map the presence of Himalayan balsam from the top of the [area] working our way downstream by June 1st.  |
| **Attainment measures 1** | Will have produced a map and/or database of all sites in [area] containing Himalayan balsam by the June 1st.  |
| **Tasks to achieve objective 1** | **Timeline**  | **Resources required**  | **Estimated cost**  | **Estimated worker hours** |
| 1. Print off and provide volunteers with maps and pens at the start of the Himalayan balsam season to map the distribution and estimate abundance (e.g. categorise as abundant, patchy or scattered).
 | May 1st  | Printing out maps for each section of [area]Coloured pensVolunteers  | £ |  |
| 1. Provide all volunteers with an overview of health and safety, ensuring they always work in pairs or groups, also provide with a risk assessment before they begin any survey work.
 | May 1st  | Risk assessment Volunteers  | £ |  |
| 1. Assign pairs or groups of volunteers with a specific section of [area] to survey by June 1st
 | June 1st  | Volunteers  | £ |  |
| 1. Carry out Himalayan balsam surveys starting at the top of [area] and work downstream. Where possible also identify the landowners of any sites that contain Himalayan balsam.
 | May 1st – June 1st  | Volunteers  | £ |  |
| 1. Assign someone to retrieve maps and collate information, producing a spreadsheet of all mapped sites.
 | May 1st – June | Volunteers  | £ |  |
| **Total** | **£** | **X hours**  |

Regularly check-in with volunteers to see how they are getting on and keep everyone motivated, thus ensuring that objectives are met on time. If any volunteers are struggling, see if anyone else can help them out. Try to build in contingencies, allowing deadlines to be altered and pushed back if necessary.

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| **Objective 2** | Identify priority sites for management and control actions, developing a phased plan for eradicating Himalayan balsam from [area] in [number] years by July 1st. |
| **Attainment measures 2** | Will have developed a phased plan for eradicating Himalayan balsam. Plan will contain priority sites for action (working downstream from the top of the catchment) by July 1st |
| **Tasks to achieve objective 2** | **Timeline**  | **Resources required**  | **Estimated cost**  | **Estimated worker hours** |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
| **Total** | **£** | **X hours**  |

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| **Objective 3** | Annually implement management actions (e.g. hand pulling) before plants seed (August/September) to remove and eradicate Himalayan balsam from [area], following the phased plan developed in Objective 2. |
| **Attainment measures 3** | Will annually remove Himalayan balsam plants from sites in [area] following the phased plan developed in Objective 2. Will update the Himalayan balsam site database with any management actions undertaken. |
| **Tasks to achieve objective 3** | **Timeline**  | **Resources required**  | **Estimated cost**  | **Estimated worker hours** |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
| **Total** | **£** | **X hours**  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Objective 4** | Annually survey [area] for Himalayan balsam, identify new sites and estimate abundance to monitor management success. |
| **Attainment measures 4** | Will annually update Himalayan balsam site database with any new sites discovered and categorise abundance for all sites, allowing management to be monitored.  |
| **Tasks to achieve objective 4** | **Timeline**  | **Resources required**  | **Estimated cost**  | **Estimated worker hours** |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
| **Total** | **£** | **X hours**  |

***Aim 2 –***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Objective 1** |  |
| **Attainment measures 1** |  |
| **Tasks to achieve objective 1** | **Timeline**  | **Resources required**  | **Estimated cost**  | **Estimated worker hours** |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
|  |  |  | £ |  |
| **Total** | **£** | **X hours**  |