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| **CAL-HS-PD-0001** |
| **Invasive Species Procedure** |
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| **Procedure** |
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| Issue Number: 01 |

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| Revision History | | | | | |
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# PURPOSE

1. This method statement outlines the biosecurity measures that should be implemented to prevent the spread of non-native, invasive plants in Scotland.
2. These measures are crucial for protecting native ecosystems, biodiversity, and agricultural lands from the detrimental impacts of invasive species.

# RISK ASSESSMENT

1. Conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify areas or activities that may pose a higher risk of introducing or spreading non-native, invasive plants.
2. Consider factors such as proximity to known infestations, human activity patterns, and transportation routes.

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1. Provide education and training to relevant stakeholders, including landowners, land managers, staff, and the public, about the identification, impacts, and prevention of invasive plants.
2. Promote awareness of biosecurity measures and the importance of early detection and reporting.

# SITE ACCESS MANAGEMENT

1. Implement measures to control and manage access to sites vulnerable to invasion by non-native, invasive plants. T
2. his may include signage, fencing, or gates to restrict unauthorized entry or activities that could facilitate the spread of invasive species.

# EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE HYGIENE

1. Ensure that all equipment, machinery, and vehicles used on sites are free from soil, plant material, or seeds that may carry invasive species. Implement cleaning protocols, such as pressure washing or brushing, to remove any potential contaminants before and after site visits.

# SEED AND PLANT MATERIAL CONTROL

1. Implement strict controls on the sourcing and use of seeds, plants, and other propagules to minimize the risk of introducing invasive species.
2. Ensure that all plant material is certified as non-invasive and sourced from reputable suppliers.

# WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Develop and implement appropriate waste management procedures to prevent the accidental spread of invasive plant materials.
2. This includes properly disposing of any plant waste, seeds, or soil that may harbor invasive species, ensuring it does not contaminate other areas.

# SITE MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE

1. Establish a regular monitoring and surveillance program to detect the presence of non-native, invasive plants in vulnerable areas.
2. Train staff and volunteers to identify key invasive species and report any sightings promptly to the appropriate authorities.

# RAPID RESPONSE AND CONTROL

1. In the event of an invasive plant infestation, develop a rapid response plan that outlines the steps to be taken for containment, control, and eradication.
2. Coordinate efforts with relevant organizations and utilize appropriate control methods to minimize the spread and impact of the invasive species.

# REPORTING AND COLLABORATION

1. Foster collaboration among stakeholders, including landowners, conservation organizations, government agencies, and the public, to encourage the reporting of invasive plant sightings and facilitate a coordinated response.
2. Establish clear reporting mechanisms and encourage information sharing.

# REVIEW AND ADAPTATION

1. Regularly review and update the biosecurity measures based on feedback, emerging best practices, and the latest scientific research.
2. Adapt the strategies and protocols as needed to ensure their effectiveness in preventing the spread of non-native, invasive plants.

# COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

1. Establish clear guidelines and regulations regarding biosecurity measures and enforce compliance to ensure that all stakeholders are actively participating in invasive plant prevention efforts.
2. Impose appropriate penalties or fines for non-compliance to deter negligent or intentional spread of invasive species.

# SUMMARY

1. By implementing these biosecurity measures, we can significantly reduce the risk of non-native, invasive plant species spreading in Scotland and protect the native ecosystems and agricultural lands from their harmful impacts.

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