

Yukon Invasive Species Council Strategic Plan 2027–2031

Mission

Our mission is to prevent the introduction, establishment, and spread of invasive species in the Yukon through education, science, advocacy, and partnerships.

Our Vision

Our vision is a Yukon where people, ecosystems, and the economy are protected from the harmful effects of invasive species.

Guiding Principles

Our decisions are guided by the following principles:

1. **Prevention First:** We prioritize actions that prevent invasive species from arriving, establishing, or spreading (e.g. early detection and rapid response).
2. **Evidence Based:** We use the best available science, local knowledge, experience, and evaluation to guide our work and improve over time.
3. **Shared Responsibility:** We recognize that invasive species prevention requires coordinated action across governments, First Nations, communities, industries, organizations, and individuals.
4. **Practical Impact:** We direct our resources toward realistic actions that produce meaningful and measurable results.
5. **Responsible Stewardship:** We use our financial, human, and organizational resources carefully, transparently, and with long-term impact in mind.

Strategic Priorities

YISC will focus on:

1. Integrating Invasive Species Prevention into Decision-Making

YISC will help ensure that invasive species risks and prevention measures are considered in policy, planning, and land-management decisions across the Yukon.

Objectives:

- Provide timely, practical, and evidence-based advice.
- Contribute to relevant policy, land-use, assessment framework processes, and project-planning processes.

- Develop and share valuable tools and guidance that organizations can apply in their work.
- Identify emerging invasive species risks and communicate them to relevant stakeholders.
- Share Yukon knowledge and lessons regionally and nationally.

Intended Results:

- Decision-makers seek and use YISC's expertise.
- Invasive species risks are considered in planning processes.
- Prevention measures are incorporated into policies, plans, and projects.
- YISC guidance is used by governments, industries, communities, land managers, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Yukon experiences contribute to broader invasive species practice.

2. Preventing New Introductions and Establishment

YISC will focus on preventing invasive species from becoming established through education, early detection, and behaviour change.

Objectives:

- Deliver accessible, evidence-based education.
- Maintain and grow the Spotters Network.
- Target outreach activities to increase awareness.
- Support early detection through community observations.
- Maintain and improve effective core prevention programs.

Intended Results:

- More Yukoners recognize invasive species risks.
- Increase of early detection observations.
- Prevention behaviours become more common.
- Core programs remain effective and sustainable.

3. Building Partnerships that Multiply Our Impact

YISC will build partnerships that help organizations integrate invasive species prevention into their own work.

Objectives:

- Strengthen relationships with governments, First Nations, industry, educators, and environmental organizations.
- Build collaborative relationships that support coordinated territorial action.

- Develop collaborative programs.
- Share knowledge across sectors and jurisdictions.

Intended Results:

- YISC is included in relevant planning and decisions.
- YISC supports partners to deliver prevention messaging through their own work.
- YISC supports partners to coordinate their efforts and resources more effectively.
- More projects are developed and delivered collaboratively.

4. Building a Strong and Sustainable Organization

YISC will strengthen its governance, people, finances, and systems to support long-term conservation work.

Objectives:

- Maintain strong governance and clear priorities.
- Support staff, volunteer, and leadership development.
- Diversify revenue and strengthen financial management.
- Improve systems, evaluation, and succession planning.

Intended Results:

- Stable leadership and sustainable workloads.
- Resilient financial systems and diverse funding.
- An engaged Board and strong volunteer network.
- Clear priorities and reliable organizational systems.

Moving Forward

This strategic plan establishes YISC's direction and priorities for 2027–2031. It is intended to guide annual planning, resource allocation, partnerships, and organizational decision-making throughout the five-year period.

The plan will be reviewed annually and amended as needed to reflect emerging priorities, changing conditions, organizational capacity, and lessons learned.

Annual work plans, budgets, and performance measures will identify the specific activities, responsibilities, targets, and resources required to advance these priorities.