

NEVER RELEASE A PET INTO THE WILD

WHAT ARE NON-NATIVE SPECIES?

Non-native species or introduced species are species found outside their normal range because of human activity. Not all of these are invasive.

WHAT ARE INVASIVE SPECIES?

Invasive species are species outside their normal ranges that have a negative impact on naturally occurring organisms or environments

An invasive species is an animal or plant that harms an environment after being introduced to it by humans.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO PREVENT IT?

Never release pets into wild habitats or anywhere outside.

If you can no longer keep a pet for any reason, re-home them responsibly or contact your local pet store or re-homing centre for advice

Let others who may be considering releasing a non-native species know the importance of not doing so, and help them find a suitable re-homing service or advice.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Often, an introduced species can breed very quickly and if left unchecked they dominate habitats and smother native wildlife

In many parts of the world, native species only occur in a very small area or even in one single place, so the introduction of a non-native species could result in native species going extinct

Ecosystems rely on their native species to play crucial roles, losing just one species or tipping the species balance can devastate entire ecosystems and risk affecting wildlife and humans alike!