

## 8. Utilise covering with mulch as a means to combat IAS on rarely visited control sites



*On control sites that have rough terrain or are otherwise difficult to access, it may be reasonable to consider covering the growth with a mulch material, durable cover or fabric that deprives the target species of sunlight and water and suffocates it during heat waves.*

### Do this

Map and choose a suitable control method for each IAS target site.

Choose the covering method for sites where it is possible to leave the cover on for several years.

The cover material should be resistant to weather and UV light but any covers and fasteners containing plastic must be removed from the nature after use.

### Benefits of the action

Covering may be a cheaper control method than mowing or other mechanical means because covered sites only require 1–2 check-up and procedural visits per year.

### More information

Get to know covering as a method to combat invasive hogweeds, Japanese rose and Asian knotweeds on the IAS control guide book of Natural Resources Institute Finland (2022).

[IAS control management guide](#) (pdf, in Finnish)

