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**Risk assessing wider environment planting schemes: juniper case study**

**Introduction**

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire. The purpose of this questionnaire is to understand the usefulness of a decision tree in assessing the suitability of locations for planting schemes in the wider environment, and to identify additional support tools to aid the risk assessment process.

**Case study**

Juniper has widely been planted for conservation purposes to re-invigorate dwindling, native populations. However, the introduced plant pathogen, *Phytophthora austrocedri*, is now causing widespread mortality in juniper populations across the UK. Supplementary juniper planting is a potential pathway by which the pathogen could be introduced or spread. Management guidance for juniper was issued by DEFRA in 2017, including a decision tree to help assess the need and site suitability for supplementary planting. We aim to find out how the decision tree could be made more accessible to inform juniper conservation strategies.

**Juniper management guidance accessibility:**

1. Which factors do you think pose a high risk for infection of juniper with *P. austrocedri*?

Do you already use the decision tree in your work? Yes/ No.

If Yes to Q.1, tell us how you have used it?

If No to Q.1, please explain why.

1. How likely are you to use the decision tree to assess the suitability of planting juniper at a proposed location?

1 – Very likely 2 – Likely 3 – Unsure 4 – Unlikely 5 – Not at all likely

1. Please explain your response to Q.4

Are there other species used in wider environment planting projects that might benefit from a similar decision tree risk assessment tool? Please list them below.

1. In its current presentation, for juniper or any other species, which parts of the decision tree
   1. are additional to any planting decision process or risk assessment you currently use?
   2. are most useful for determining the suitability of planting? Why do you say that?
   3. would you find difficult to assess and why?
2. Do you have any additional comments about the decision tree?

**Maps of *P. austrocedri*, native juniper and planted juniper**

We are developing a range of national level and sub-national level maps (a) showing where *P. austrocedri* has already been recorded in relation to native juniper and planted juniper and (b) predicting where else in the UK landscape conditions are suitable for *P. austrocedri* to establish and spread.

1. Do you already use maps of juniper and/or *P. austrocedri* for management decision-making?
2. If yes, how do you use them?
3. If yes, where are these maps sourced from?
4. If a map of *P. austrocedri* were made available, would you be more or less likely to conduct a site visit to check for the pathogen?

1 – Very likely 2 – Likely 3 – Unsure 4 – Unlikely 5 – Not at all likely

1. Please may you explain your response?

Which scale of geographical information would be most useful to you? (Tick as appropriate)

National [ ] sub-national [ ] other (please specify)

Why do you say this?

1. In your view, how could we keep the juniper planting map up to date?
2. What do you see as the benefits of doing this, if any, to your management?

**Many thanks for your participation in our research.**