

**Podcast Lesson:** <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/787021714> – Invasive Species

**1. What invasive species did they talk about in the beginning?**

- Cane toads in Australia,
- Zebra mussels in Nevada - Lake Mead
- Stowaway bivalves native to Russia
- Asian carp
- Brazilian pepper trees
- Hemlock woolly adelgids.

**2. When talking about the Lionfish:**

- What color is it? Can you eat it?
  - It's kind of a sort of this reddish brown (orange-y) and apparently it's delicious.
- Where does it live?
  - It normally lives in coastal areas in the Indian Ocean or along sort of the Southeast Asian coast. Somehow, it got to North Carolina and Florida
- How did it get to Florida?
  - The speculation is people had it in an aquarium and, like, dumped it in the ocean.
- Why is it a problem and how do they plan to kill it?
  - It's eating all kinds of native fish. It's got an incredible appetite. People plan to organize hunting parties to control its number.

**3. When talking about the Burmese Python:**

- How did it get to the everglades?
  - There's the suggestion that Hurricane Andrew hit a breeding facility for Burmese pythons in '92, releasing a bunch of animals. Another theory is people keep them as pets but release them when they can't take care of them.
- Why is the python a problem?
  - It's almost impossible to see due to it being quite sneaky and they're a problem because they eat everything in its habitat.
- Is it easy to kill? Why?
  - They're super hard to kill cause they're stealthy and a bunch of agencies are working together to try and kill them.

**4. When talking about the Tamarisk Tree:**

- Why is it a problem?
- They are very flammable and cause forest fires. They also drink up a lot of water.
- What was the scientist's solution?
  - They got Tamarisk beetles in from Asia to eat them.
- Did it work? How?
  - Yes, they balance the trees out.