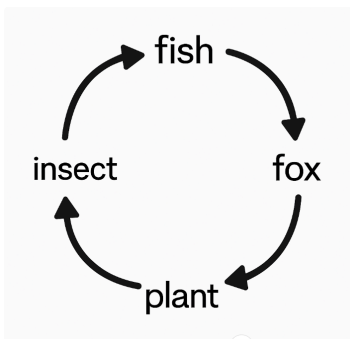


Name: _____

Date: _____

Alberta Invasive Species Stations

Name of Invasive Species	Terrestrial or Aquatic	Where it Originated from and how it got here	Impact on Environment



Using the information collected from the stations, and the food web on the left, complete the following:

a) Select an appropriate invasive species that could possibly affect the food web: _____

b) Describe 3 ways the invasive species would impact the food web:



Name: _____

Date: _____

Invasive Species Stations - Answer Key

Name of Invasive Species	Terrestrial or Aquatic	Where it Originated from and how it got here	Impact on Environment
Curly leaf pondweed	aquatic	Native to Eurasia, Africa, and Australia. Spread by boats, and other water equipment.	Form dense beds which outcompete native aquatic plants. Interfere with recreational activities, increase Phosphorus concentrations in water, which could lead to algal blooms.
Zebra mussels	aquatic	The mussels are native to the Black Sea and Caspian Sea regions of Asia. Arrived in ship ballasts	They clog intake pipes and sink navigational buoys. Increase water transparency, light penetration, and filter out large amounts of phytoplankton, affecting the local food chain
Purple loosestrife	aquatic/terrestrial	European invader introduced to Canada in the 1800s as an ornamental plant for ponds	degrades wetlands, choke out native plants that make up the habitats where fish, birds and animals. In some locations, purple loosestrife has also begun invading dry habitats
Eurasian water milfoil	aquatic	Introduced from Eurasia and Africa. Spread by boats, aquarium dumps and sometimes water birds.	Forms large floating mats that prevent light penetration into water bodies, outshade native plants, reduces biodiversity.
Goldfish	aquatic	Native to eastern Asia. Introduced as a common household pet and released or flushed when unwanted.	Increase water turbidity, feed on fish eggs, larvae, and aquatic plants, reduce biodiversity, outcompete native fish.
New Zealand Mud Snail	aquatic	Native to New Zealand and surrounding islands. Introduced through ballast water, attachment to boats and trailers or other water gear.	Survive digestive traits of fish and birds (does not contribute positively to food chain), out compete native species, disrupt food chain
Himalayan Balsam	Terrestrial	Native to the western Himalayas, came here as ornamental plantings.	Shallow, fibrous root system, can lead to erosion, attracts pollinators away from native species.
Northern Crayfish	Aquatic	Native to North America, but invasive in most watersheds in Alberta.	Impact abundance of aquatic invertebrates, outcompete native species, reduce spawning and nursery habitat for fish bby eating aquatic vegetation.

