

**Flattened
crab**

*Halicarcinus
planatus*

Climate change is warming
sea water and may make
crab invasions more likely.



Common earwig
Forficula auricularia

This insect will eat almost
anything, including native
plants and invertebrates.

**11-spot
ladybird**

*Coccinella
undecimpunctata*

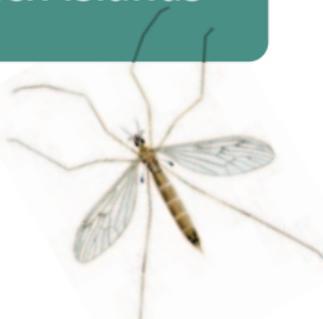


Established on the Falkland Islands, individuals
were detected on South Georgia in 2023. Subsequent
surveys at that location have not found this species.



Annual bluegrass
Poa annua

Widespread on South
Georgia. One of the most
invasive plants on Earth,
this grass can quickly crowd
out native species.



Winter crane fly

Trichocera maculipennis

This introduced fly can survive
at low temperatures and could
outcompete native insects.



Carabid beetles

e.g., *Trechisibus antarcticus*

Established at some sites on South
Georgia, these predatory beetles
eat native invertebrate species and
could cause local extinctions.



Chilean mussel

Mytilus chilensis

These shellfish can create
large mussel beds
and squeeze out
native species.



This mini guide shows seven species that are present or have the potential to invade South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. If you see any of these species, or anything similar, please take photographs and report your findings to your tour operator or upload on *iNaturalist*.

Factfile

- Non-native species are living organisms that have arrived in a new region, often as a consequence of human activity. Those that have negative impacts on the native biodiversity are termed invasive species. In comparison to many islands there are very few established non-native species on South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.
- Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity, alongside climate change, habitat destruction and, in the sea, overfishing.
- Non-native species can arrive in South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands in many different ways. They can be introduced on cargo, fresh foods or associated with visitors' clothing, footwear and personal equipment. Marine non-native species can be introduced as biofouling on ship hulls or in ship ballast water.
- Eradicating non-native species can be difficult or impossible. It is better to prevent their introduction in the first place by using effective biosecurity measures, like cleaning and careful checking of clothing and footwear.



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