**Ava Waine**

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| **Why did you choose to study with the ONEPlanet DTP? What are you researching?**  ONEPlanet offered a great opportunity to research non-native species within a transdisciplinary framework that links ecologists, policy makers and civil engineers. I was struck by the diversity of the projects and research expertise represented within this DTP, and the ethos of multi-stakeholder collaboration as a way of driving innovation for the benefit of society. |
| **What do you think are the key benefits of your postgraduate study?**  Research in a novel field of study that links with practical applications and end-user requirements, which means there will hopefully be a tangible, practical outcome to the research.  The opportunity to be placed with both the extended DTP network and the university research group means access the a diverse group of people and training opportunities. |
| **How will your current research/study help you achieve your career ambitions?**   * Training to develop practical skills and knowledge that will be applicable to potentially a wide range of careers including in the government, academic or private sector. * Developing expertise in a specific field * Networking and forming collaborative research links * Opportunity to publish |
| **What impact will your current research achieve?**  It will hopefully have a practical application that will benefit the environment – specifically, reducing the impacts of invasive non-native species by inhibiting key pathways of spread.  Raise awareness and highlight areas for further research. |
| **What have you enjoyed most about being a student in Newcastle/Northumbria?**  The supervisory team have been great. I haven’t made it up to Newcastle in person yet but the wider university group and the ONEPlanet cohort seem like a great group of people to work with. |
| **Can you recommend three ‘top tips’ (pieces of advice) to share with new students?**  Set yourself achievable deadlines  Book as many university workshops as you can  Make use of the second/third year students |
| **Anything else you would like to tell us?**  (For example, have you become a student ambassador, gained any work experience, joined any clubs, societies or teams, reached any personal goals, or have any other comments you’d like to make?) |