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J C BAMFORD EXCAVATORS LTD

HAREWOOD ESTATE, CHEADLE

INVASIVE NON-NATIVE SPECIES PROTOCOL

FEBRUARY 2018

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HAREWOOD ESTATE, CHEADLE

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FEBRUARY 2018

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DRAWINGS	TITLE	SCALE
ST16225-001	Phase 1 Habitat Survey	1:5,000 @ A3

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Terms of Reference

1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by J C Bamford Excavators Ltd to produce a protocol for the removal of Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* at Harewood Estate, Cheadle, Staffordshire, OS grid reference SJ 999 442.

1.2 Site Context

1.2.1 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the site was carried out by WA in April 2017. The site comprises approximately 38ha of commercial development with associated hardstanding and planting. Habitats recorded included broad-leaved plantation woodland, scattered scrub, tall ruderal vegetation, a variety of grassland habitats, buildings and hardstanding, native hedgerows, ponds, streams and ditches.

1.2.2 A small area of Japanese knotweed was identified within the southern extent of the site by a WA ecologist during an Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey, undertaken on 21 April 2017.

1.2.3 The Japanese knotweed is located adjacent to a tarmac track, as highlighted on Drawing ST16225-001 Phase 1 Habitat Survey. The area of Japanese knotweed was approximately 5 x 5m at the time of survey.

1.2.4 Japanese knotweed is a hardy herbaceous rhizomatous perennial plant. It was introduced to Britain as an ornamental garden plant in the mid-19th century. The plant can die back in winter and the rhizome regenerates the following year, this can result in an absence of plant material above ground in the winter leading to the presumption that eradication has been successful until the plant re-emerges in the following spring. The roots of Japanese knotweed can extend a significant distance from above ground growth and have been known to penetrate hard standing materials such as concrete and tarmac.

1.3 Legislation

1.3.1 Japanese knotweed is listed under Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) and all waste containing Japanese knotweed comes under the control of Part II of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

1.3.2 Section 14(2) of the WCA states that "…if any person plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any plant which is included in Part II of Schedule 9, he shall be guilty of an offence."

1.3.3 The above legal provisions have consequences for a range of people, including anybody involved in the management or disposal of Japanese knotweed. For example, knotweed which is cut down or excavated and removed from a development site must be transferred to an authorised facility and must be disposed of appropriately. Untreated Japanese knotweed is not classed as hazardous waste, but material containing knotweed which has been treated with certain herbicides, may be classified as hazardous waste.

1.3.4 Government guidance regarding Japanese knotweed is available from The Gov.uk website: 'Prevent Japanese knotweed from spreading[1]", published 30 March 2016, updated January 2018.

1.3.5 Whilst it is not illegal to have Japanese knotweed (or any schedule 9) species within a site, it is illegal to allow it to spread into the wild (this includes anywhere off site).

1.4 Relevant Planning Conditions

1.4.1 A planning application (SMD/2017/0400) for car parking, reorganisation of goods in, machine dispatch areas and new machine storage and waste areas, was submitted to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council in June 2017. It was granted planning permission on the 13 November 2017.

1.4.2 Condition 4 States:

> *"Prior to the commencement of the development, an invasive non-native species protocol shall be submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority detailing the containment, control and removal of Japanese knotweed on site. The development shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved protocol."*

1.4.3 In accordance with Condition 4, this document details the protocol for the containment, control and removal of Japanese knotweed on site.

[1] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/prevent-japanese-knotweed-from-spreading

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Biosecurity Measures

2.1.1 All site-specific health and safety procedures are to be strictly adhered for all personnel attending site. Welfare facilities (where required) are to be provided by the client.

2.1.2 All works regarding containment and control of Japanese knotweed must be undertaken in accordance with guidance set out in Treatment and Disposal of Invasive Non-Native Plants: Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) 178[2].

Prior to containment works

2.1.3 Prior to the commencement of containment works, the following ToolBox Talks will be given by a suitably qualified ecologist to personnel involved in the management of the Japanese knotweed:

1. Japanese knotweed – including brief background information on its ecology and identification, methods that can cause it to spread and measures to be implemented to ensure that it is contained.
2. Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) to be adhered to whilst erecting fencing around the Japanese knotweed.

Containment works

2.1.4 Containment will involve the installation of Heras or similar fencing under the direct supervision of personnel who are suitably experienced to recognise above ground Japanese knotweed growth.

2.1.5 A 7m buffer shall be demarcated around the Japanese knotweed, with Heras or similar fencing, however, the eastern extent of the Japanese knotweed lies adjacent to an active plant-testing circular track. It would not, therefore, be appropriate to install a 7m buffer to the east of the Japanese knotweed, as this would encroach onto the operational area of the road. In this location, the fencing will be erected to abut the western boundary of the road.

2.1.6 The fencing will display suitable warning information advising of the presence of Japanese knotweed and stipulating no-entry allowed (other than by appointed personnel involved in the treatment of the Japanese knotweed).

[2] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/treatment-and-disposal-of-invasive-non-native-plants-rps-178

2.2 Control

2.2.1 This will be achieved by the injecting of the Japanese knotweed with targeted systemic (Glysophate-based or other similar suitable alternative) weed-killer during the growing and waning season (March – October). Repeat injections will be required for up to and beyond 3 years, in order to ensure the Japanese knotweed is comprehensively eradicated.

2.2.2 The injections must be undertaken by a suitably qualified individual, who will:

- Hold a certificate of competence for herbicide use (or to work under direct supervision of a certificate holder);
- Carry out a Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) assessment; and
- Get permission from the Environment Agency, as the Japanese knotweed specimens are located near water (however the use of injections will remove the risk of water contamination).

2.2.3 Three courses of treatment will occur in the first three years; in July, August and September.

2.2.4 The ongoing injections and maintenance of suitable fencing around the area containing Japanese knotweed are considered sufficient measures to ensure the control of Japanese knotweed to prevent further spreading until such a time that further action is required.

2.3 Off-site Removal (if required)

2.3.1 If future development within the site requires access or disturbance to the area where Japanese knotweed is present, then off-site removal of Japanese knotweed and associated substrate would be required.

2.3.2 This would involve excavating the area where Japanese knotweed is present (including a suitable buffer to include all subterranean rhizomes) and transport of contaminated waste to landfill by a registered waste carrier.

3 SCHEDULE OF WORKS

Task	Year															
	2018				2019			2020			2021			2022		
	Apr-Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul	Aug	Sep
Erection of fencing and signage	◆															
Control of Japanese knotweed using Glysophate (or suitable alternative) herbicide injections		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Monitoring area of Japanese knotweed for regrowth		☐			☐			☐			☐			☐		
Review of Non-Native Invasive Species Protocol																◆

KEY

◆ Required

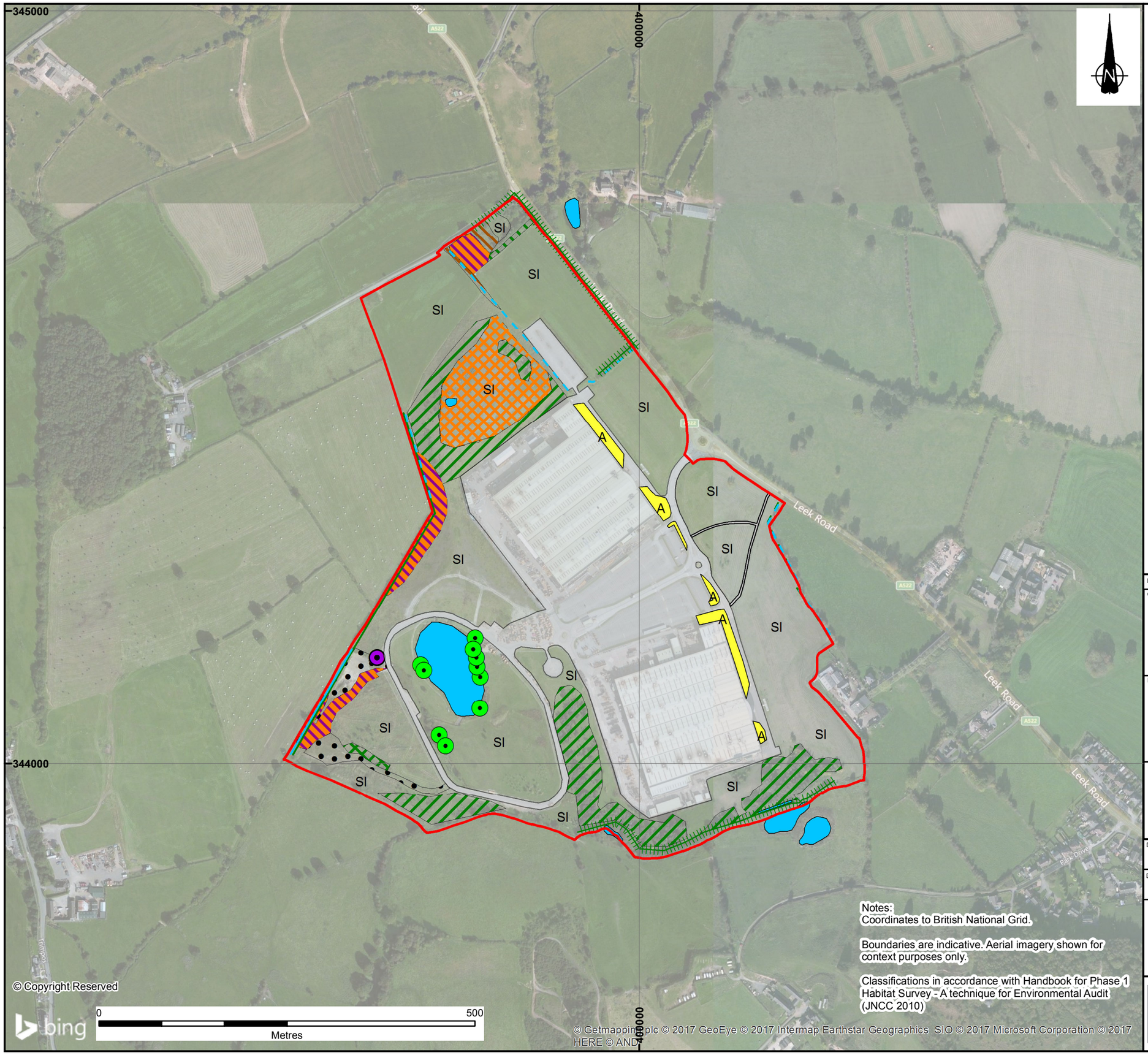
☐ Monitor and undertake if necessary

4 CONCLUSION

4.1.1 The implementation of the procedures contained within this document mean that it is considered likely that Japanese knotweed will be eradicated from site and no further action will be necessary (pending the results of the post-completion check).

4.1.2 The measures described in this report are considered appropriate to successfully eradicate the Japanese knotweed from site.

DRAWINGS



Key

- Site Boundary
- Broadleaved woodland - plantation
- Scrub - dense/continuous
- SI Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
- Marsh/marshy grassland
- SI Poor semi-improved grassland
- Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
- Standing water
- A Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland
- Bare ground
- Buildings/Hardstanding
- Running water
- Intact hedge - species-poor
- Defunct hedge - species-poor
- Hedge with trees - species-poor
- Dry ditch
- Trees
- Japanese Knotweed

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D

CLIENT

JCB Group Central Facilities

PROJECT

Harewood Estate, Cheadle

DRAWING TITLE

Phase 1 Habitat Survey

DRG No	SCALE	DATE
ST16225-001	1:5,000 @ A3	10/05/2017

DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY
JP	CM	CM

Notes:
Coordinates to British National Grid.

Boundaries are indicative. Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.

Classifications in accordance with Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey - A technique for Environmental Audit (JNCC 2010)

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