

HOGWOOD FARM, FINCHAMPSTEAD

**NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN – LAND SOUTH OF PARCEL 15
(SPORTS HUB LAND)**

Prepared for CALA Homes Thames Ltd

by

Hankinson Duckett Associates

HDA ref: 868.1

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site location and summary description

1.1.1 This Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan describes the approach to minimising the risk of spread of invasive, non-native species listed on Schedule 9 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) in relation to the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) area of the development of approximately 110ha of land at Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead. The Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) development area comprises approximately 7.12ha of land, hereinafter referred to as 'the site'. The site centre is located by National Grid Reference SU 775 639. The Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan was commissioned by CALA Homes Thames Ltd in May 2024.

1.1.2 The Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) development parcel is located to the north-west of the village of Finchampstead, Berkshire. In general terms, it comprises part of two modified grassland fields with small areas of scrub, intersected by a track and ditch with associated scrub and scattered trees. In addition, the site includes a line of scrub and trees with a dry ditch bordering Park Lane. The Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) site is bordered to the south by Park Lane with fields beyond; to the east by Park Lane, industrial units, grassland fields and woodland; to the north by a construction site associated with Parcels 14 and 15; and to the west by ancient woodland and a grassland field associated with a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and farmland.

1.1.3 The Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) site is part of a larger area covering a total of 110ha, hereinafter referred to as the 'wider site'. The wider site includes residential properties associated with Parcel 1 and a construction site associated with Parcel 2 in the north-west and a SANG in the south which comprises a mix of wetland, species-rich grassland, scrub and woodland habitats. In general terms, the western area of the wider site is comprised of three fields of disturbed ground dominated by short ruderal vegetation with scattered areas of tall ruderal vegetation and large spoil heaps bordered by mature trees and woodland with scrub field margins. The central and eastern areas of the site are comprised of areas of hardstanding and construction/disturbed ground bordered by mature treelines and woodland. Woodland shaws and copses are located in the northern, western and central areas of the site, including mixed, broadleaved and broadleaved plantation woodland types, some of

which are included on Natural England's Inventory of Ancient Woodland. Wetland habitats within the site include drainage ditches and small streams associated with the field boundaries and several ponds in poor condition are located across the site. The wider site is bordered to the north by a construction site, the Bohunt School and the Hogwood Industrial Estate; to the east by Park Lane beyond which lie residential dwellings and park homes; to the south by Park Lane and farmland; and to the west by A327 Reading Road and Sheerlands Road beyond which lie farmland and woodland. The wider area is dominated by agricultural land interspersed with woodland and residential properties.

- 1.1.4 Further information on the extent and composition of habitats across the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) site and the wider site is provided in the Phase 1 Habitat Survey and Target Notes (HDA, 2024).

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 A Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan is a key tool in preventing the spread of non-native, invasive plant species either on to or from a site. It is required to identify the biosecurity measures needed to minimise the risk of spreading invasive, non-native species across the site and the wider area. The Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan considers the risks posed by a species, based on the information available at the time of preparation.

1.3 Development proposals

- 1.3.1 Planning permission (O/2014/2179 and 140764) was granted in January 2017 for a hybrid application. This comprises:
- Outline permission for demolition of all existing buildings on site; up to 1,500 new dwellings; employment floor space; a Neighbourhood Centre; a primary school; sports pitches and associated pavilion building; highways infrastructure; associated landscaping, public realm, open/green space and sustainable urban drainage systems; and
 - Full permission for a 29.7ha Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in the south of the site.

The hybrid planning permission was subsequently amended by a Section 73 application (181194) which was approved in November 2018.

1.4 Scope and purpose of report

- 1.4.1 This Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan has been prepared in response to the identification of non-native invasive plant species within the site and wider site including Rhododendron and an unidentified Cotoneaster species during the initial Phase 1 habitat survey (HDA, 2018) and invasive species walkover survey¹ (HDA, 2022). In addition, during consultation with Natural England Japanese Knotweed was identified in the wider area (Royal Haskoning, 2014) and during an updated Phase 1 habitat survey Variegated Yellow Archangel was recorded from the wider site boundary (HDA, 2018). Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, Entire-leaved Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster integrifolius*, Himalayan Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster simonsii*, Hollyberry Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster bullatus*, Small-leaved Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster microphyllus*, Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*, Variegated Yellow Archangel *Lamium galeobdolon* and Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica* are all listed under Schedule 9 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended). It is an offence to release, plant or cause to grow in the wild any plant included on this schedule of the Act.
- 1.4.2 Condition 30 of the planning consent for the development of the site, subsequently requires that:
“All Reserved Matters applications for any sub phase of the development shall include a detailed non-native invasive species management plan for that phase of the development. The detailed non-native invasive species management plans shall be implemented in accordance with the submitted plans unless otherwise approved in writing by the local planning authority.”
- 1.4.3 An unidentified Cotoneaster species was identified in a hedgerow associated with the southern boundary of the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) development parcel, adjacent to Park Lane (HDA, 2022). The location of the recorded unidentified Cotoneaster species is shown in *Appendix A*. No other non-native plant species were recorded within the site, during either the 2014, 2017 or 2023 Phase 1 habitat surveys

¹ The optimal season for surveys of invasive plant species listed under Schedule 9 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) is between May and August. As the survey was carried out in December and January, invasive plant species may have been absent or inconspicuous which increases the uncertainty with regards to presence/likely absence as some species. Although in combination with previous site work it is considered the walkover survey allows an indication of the likely presence/absence of invasive species within the Parcel 14 and 15 (and Sports Pitches and Allotments site) development areas, the survey should not be regarded as confirmation of distribution of those species recorded or absence of species not recorded. Further certainty with regards to the presence/likely absence of invasive plant species could be achieved through multiple visits across the growing season.

(HDA, 2018; HDA, 2024) or 2021 invasive species walkover survey (HDA, 2022) however this should not be regarded as confirmation of absence or of the distribution of those species recorded.

- 1.4.4 The objective of this Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan is to identify, reduce and minimise the risk of spreading invasive, non-native plant species within the Sports Pitches and Allotments site, the wider site and the wider environment.

2 NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 2.1 The Non-native Invasive Species Management Plan tabulates those species that have been identified as being on the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) development site or where current knowledge suggests there is reasonable risk of potential to be imported during construction. In view of the identified presence of an unidentified *Cotoneaster* species within the site, *Rhododendron* and an unidentified *Cotoneaster* species within the wider site and Variegated Yellow Archangel and Japanese Knotweed within the wider area, precautionary preventative measures are also given to prevent their spread within and from the wider site. The likely pathways and operational mitigation have also been identified. This document will be appended to the contractor's Construction Method Statement for use on site for construction of the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) area of the development. A guide to the identification of key non-native invasive plant species known to be present in the site, wider site and its surrounds is provided in *Appendix B*.

- 2.2 This Management Plan has been based on current knowledge of the extent of non-native invasive plant species present within the Land South of Parcel 15 (Sports Hub Land) development site and its surrounds. Prior to development commencing however, an updated survey of the site will be undertaken at an optimal time of year (between May and August) to identify the presence, location and area covered by any non-native invasive species listed on Schedule 9 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended), not previously identified on site. If any plant species listed on Schedule 9 are identified during the update survey, this Management Plan will be updated accordingly and submitted to the local planning authority.

Table 1. Biosecurity Risk Assessment for Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead

Species	Potential contamination route	Likelihood of risk	Operational Procedure
Cotoneaster sp. (Wall Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>, Entire-leaved Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster integrifolius</i>, Himalayan Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>, Hollyberry Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster bullatus</i> and Small-leaved Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster microphyllus</i>)	Species present within site along southern boundary along Park Lane (see <i>Appendix A</i> for location) and wider site. Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> High. Species is known to be present in site and wider site. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what the non-native invasive Cotoneasters looks like and its identified presence in the site and wider site (see www.nonnativespecies.org) (see <i>Appendix A</i> and <i>B</i>). For the identified plant a methodology for the removal of this plant has been given in the <i>Summary of Phases 14 and 15 Invasive Species Walkover Survey Findings</i> (HDA, 2022). If any further suspected plants are identified within the site, contact the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). These seedling plants should be hand pulled and burnt on site. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.
Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Species present within wider site. Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Moderate. Species is known to be present in wider site. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what Rhododendron looks like and its identified presence in the wider site (see www.nonnativespecies.org) (see <i>Appendix B</i>). If any suspected plants are identified within the site, contact the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). These seedling plants should be hand pulled and burnt on site and/or managed by application of a glyphosate-based herbicide to the foliage during the spring or summer. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.

Species	Potential contamination route	Likelihood of risk	Operational Procedure
Variegated Yellow Archangel <i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	Species present within wider area. Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Moderate. Species is known to be present in wider area. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what Variegated Yellow Archangel looks like and its identified presence in the wider area (see www.nonnativespecies.org). If any suspected plants are identified inform the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). These should be pulled up and left to dry before the seeds set (July/August) and/or managed by application of a glyphosate-based herbicide to the foliage during the spring or summer. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.
Japanese Knotweed <i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Species present within wider area. Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Moderate. Species is known to be present in wider area. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what Japanese Knotweed looks like and its identified presence in the wider area (see www.nonnativespecies.org). If any suspected plants are identified inform the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175) and refer to the Environment Agency's Japanese Knotweed Code of Practice². If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.

² https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/296930/LIT_2695_df1209.pdf

Species	Potential contamination route	Likelihood of risk	Operational Procedure
Himalayan Balsam <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Low. Not recorded as present on site or in vicinity of site. Albeit likely to occur in the wider area. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what Himalayan Balsam looks like (see www.nonnativespecies.org). If any suspected plants are identified inform the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). These should be pulled up and left to dry before the seeds set (July/August) and/or manage by application of a glyphosate-based herbicide to the foliage during the spring or summer. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.
Virginia Creeper <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Low. Not recorded as present on site or in vicinity of site. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what Virginia Creeper looks like (see www.nonnativespecies.org). If any suspected plants are identified, contact the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). These should be pulled up (using gloves as the sap in the plant can cause irritation to skin) and burnt on site and/or manage by application of a glyphosate-based herbicide to the foliage during the spring or summer. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.

Species	Potential contamination route	Likelihood of risk	Operational Procedure
False Acacia* <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> * Note: False Acacia is not currently a Schedule 9 species in England. It is however invasive and can displace native vegetation.	Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Low. Not recorded as present on site or in vicinity of site. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	Ensure contractors know what False Acacia looks like (see www.nonnativespecies.org). If any suspected plants are identified, contact the project ecologist (HDA: 01491 838175). It should be noted that this plant 'suckers' from the roots and may arise some distance from the trunk of a tree. Any suckers or saplings should be managed by applications of glyphosate based herbicides to the foliage during the spring or summer. If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.
Garden escapes (e.g. Crocosmia and Spanish Bluebell)	Spread of species via construction machinery/movement of soil. Introduction of seed material via contaminated soil.	<i>Export/spread risk:</i> Low. None of these species are known to be present on site or in the vicinity of the site. <i>Import risk:</i> Low. If possible soil will not be imported.	If there is a requirement to import soil, the soil will be to the BS 3882:2015 standards. All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site.

Species	Potential contamination route	Likelihood of risk	Operational Procedure
Water Fern <i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Dispersal of species through movement of construction machinery. Introduction via aquatic planting of the waterbodies to be constructed on site.	Export/spread risk: Low. None of these species are known to be present on site or in the vicinity of the site. Import risk: Moderate. Many of these species are sold by plant suppliers.	All construction and appropriate operational staff to familiarise themselves with the species (see www.nonnativespecies.org). Contractor is to provide detail on where construction machinery has been previously used and confirmation that appropriate cleaning/antifouling has been carried out if machinery has been used in or around water within the past 3 months (or unknown). All construction machinery tyres/wheels and soil/vegetation carrying equipment will be cleaned prior to entering and leaving the site. Plants for planting of the SuDS features to be of native stock and checked for presence of alien species prior to planting.
Parrot's-feather <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>			
Floating Pennywort <i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>			
New Zealand Pigmyweed/Australian Swamp-stonecrop <i>Crassula helmsii</i>			
(Also sold as <i>Tillaea recurva</i> , <i>Tillaea helmsii</i> , or <i>Crassula recurva</i>)			
Water Hyacinth <i>Eichornia crassipes</i>			
Water Primrose <i>Ludwigia peploides</i>			
(Also sold as <i>Jussiaea grandiflora</i> , <i>Ludwigia uruguayensis</i>)			
Canadian Waterweed <i>Elodea canadensis</i>			
Curly Waterweed <i>Lagarosiphon major</i>			
Nuttall's Waterweed <i>Elodea nuttallii</i>			
Waterweeds (other <i>Elodea</i>) <i>Elodea</i> spp			

REFERENCES

HDA (2018) *Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead: Phase 1 Habitat Survey Plan with target notes*. Hankinson Duckett Associates, Wallingford.

HDA (2022) *Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead: Summary of Phases 14 and 15 Invasive Species Walkover Survey Findings*. Hankinson Duckett Associates, Wallingford.

HDA (2024) *Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead: Phase 1 Habitat Survey Plan with target notes*. Hankinson Duckett Associates, Wallingford.

NNSS (2020) *GB non-native species secretariat*. Website accessed on 2nd December 2020: <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/home/index.cfm>

Royal Haskoning (2014) *Hogwood Garden Village, Arborfield SDL, Hybrid Planning Application: Environmental Statement*. Royal Haskoning DHV.

Royal Haskoning (2014) *Hogwood Garden Village, Arborfield SDL, Hybrid Planning Application: Environmental Statement. Appendix I: Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey*. Royal Haskoning DHV.

HDA Document Control and Quality Assurance Record

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Commissioning Party: CALA Homes Thames Ltd

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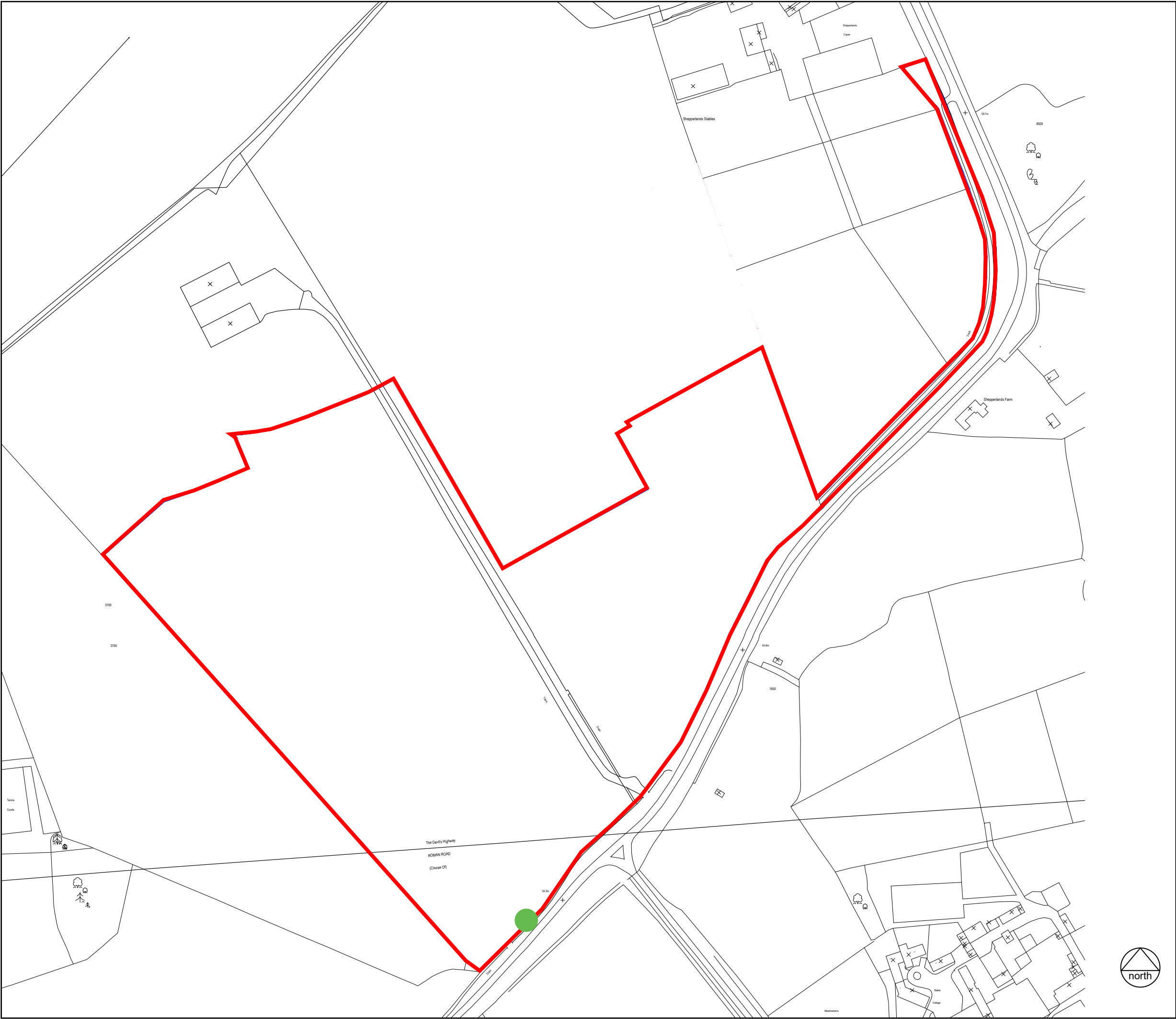
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Appendix A

Recorded location of Cotoneaster sp.



KEY



Site boundary



Cotoneaster

CLIENT:
CALA Homes (Thames) Ltd
PROJECT:
Hogwood Farm, Finchampstead
TITLE:
Recorded location of Cotoneaster sp.
SCALE AT A3: NTS
DATE:
November 2024

868.01 / 101

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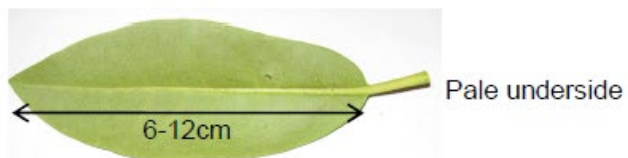


Appendix B

Key identification features of the invasive, non-native species recorded on the site, wider site or wider area

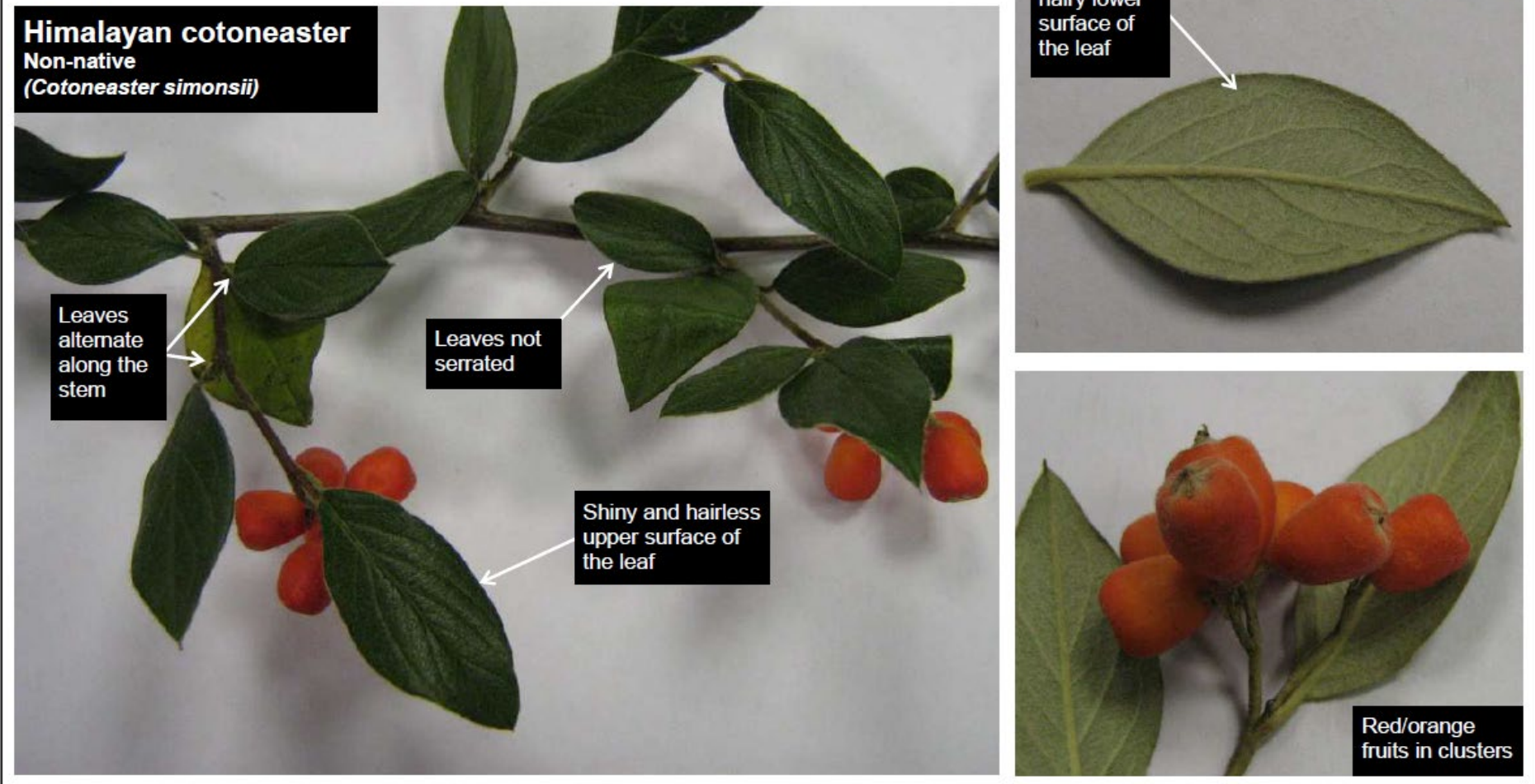
Rhododendron (www.nonnativespecies.org)

Key ID Features



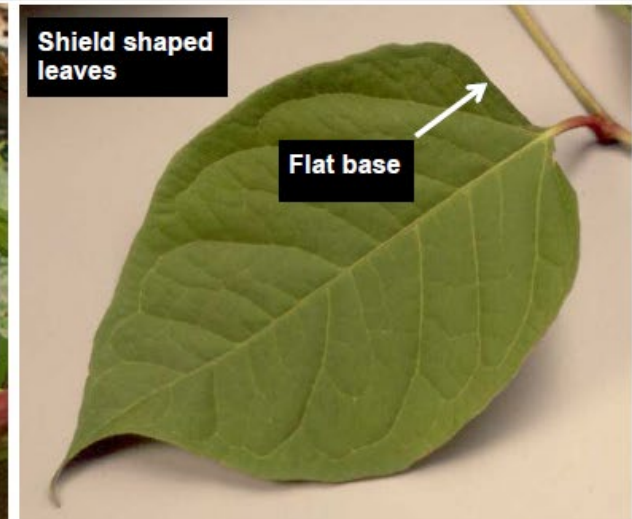
Cotoneaster (www.nonnativespecies.org)

Key ID Features



Japanese Knotweed (www.nonnativespecies.org)

Key ID Features



Identification throughout the year

Spring



Summer

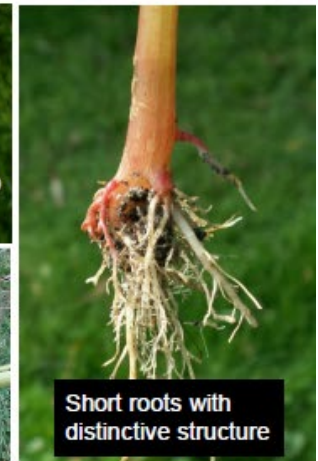
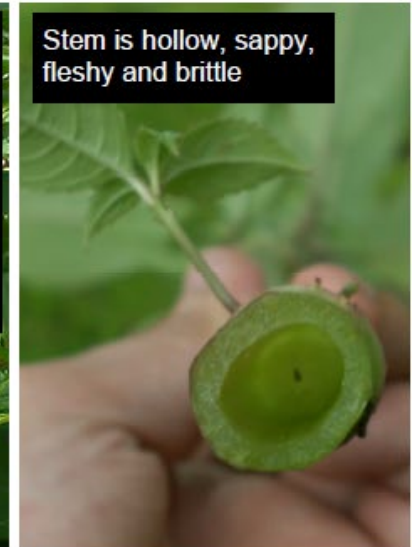
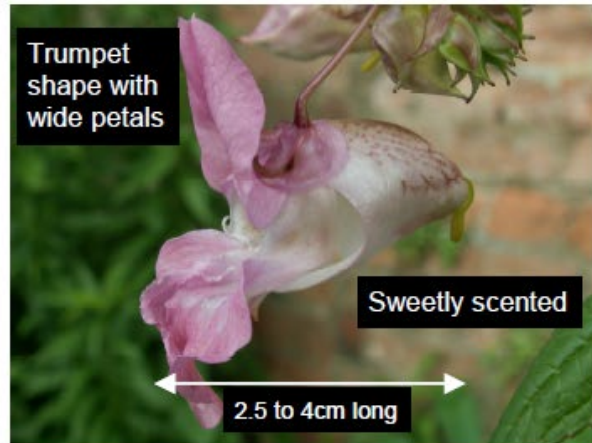


Winter



Himalayan Balsam (www.nonnativespecies.org)

Key ID Features



Variegated Yellow Archangel (www.nonnativespecies.org)

- Erect hairy perennial. The green variegated leaves have characteristic and distinctive silvery patches, they are hairy with toothed edges, growing in opposing pairs to a length of 4-7cm.
- Yellow flowers which are lipped and hooded, flowering from April to June.



