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Invasive Non-Native Species Monitoring Plan SeAH Facility, South Bank, Middlesbrough

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This document has been prepared for K2 Consultancy Group by INCA (Industry Nature Conservation Association) by:

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Introduction and Background

Invasive non-native species (INNS) have been identified on a proposed development site at South Bank, Middlesbrough. The development has been assessed for ecological interest and environmental impact which are covered in separate reports. The invasive species element and future monitoring and management are the subject of this report.

Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) and Japanese Rose (*Rosa rugosa*) are both known to be present and are listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Section 14. It is illegal to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild any plant listed in Schedule 9 of the Act.

The removal of the Japanese Knotweed has already taken place in line with environmental regulations. The Japanese Rose is likely to have been removed as part of site remediation works. Planning requirements dictate that a management plan is in place to monitor the future situation with regard to invasive species on site to ensure the removal has been successful, which will be primarily focussed on the Japanese Knotweed.

Site Location and Plan

The development site covers 37.4ha and is centred on NGR NZ538220. The location and layout are shown in Figure 1 below.

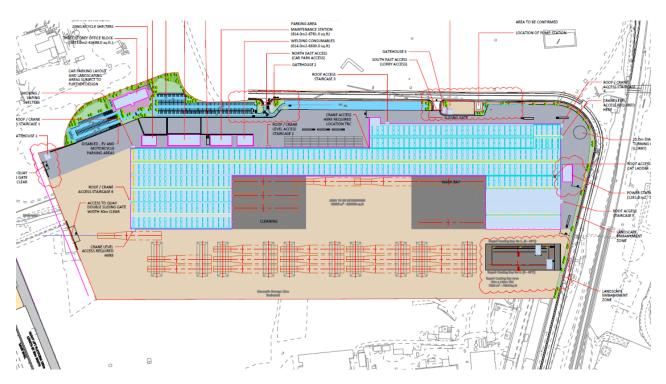


Figure 1 – Location Plan with redline boundary (provided by K2 Consultancy)

Proposed Monitoring

As management of the invasive species has already taken place with an aim of achieving complete eradication, future work on site will be limited to observation of the target species and provision of advice regarding any future management if required.

Ideally two visits to the site per year will be undertaken, commencing in 2022 and continuing for a further two years to monitor for any signs of new growth where management works have taken place. The first visit will be early in the growing season (between April and May) to detect any early signs of regrowth on site followed by a second visit in mid-Summer (mid-July to early August) to confirm if there are any more signs of growth. The second visit is timed to ensure that any further treatment of the species can be undertaken promptly if it is required. A herbicide treatment programme is recommended to treat any new growth in-situ, which will need to be carried out by a suitably qualified contractor.

Each monitoring visit will cover all the locations identified previously as having knotweed present, any new plants growing will be identified and mapped, with grid references taken. The height and health of any new growth will also be recorded. Any other species of Schedule 9 plants observed will also be recorded.

Monitoring visits will take place for at least 2 years initially to detect any new signs of growth from any rhizome which may be present in the ground. A report will be provided at the end of each year, along with interim emails to the client following each site visit. The final report will outline the appropriate actions to be taken to control any new signs of growth, if necessary.

Year 1 Monitoring – First visit in July 2022

Year 2 Monitoring – First visit in May 2023, second visit in July 2023

Year 3 Monitoring – Final visit in May 2024

Action	2022 late	2023 early	2023 late	2024 early
	season visit	season visit	season visit	season visit
Owner	INCA	INCA	INCA	INCA
	Ecologist	Ecologist	Ecologist	Ecologist