

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN MANCHESTER HEATON PARK



ZIP WORLD HEATON
PARK

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DOCUMENT TITLE	INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN	
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SUMMARY

An Extended Preliminary Ecological Assessment was carried out at the Manchester Heaton Park site on behalf of Zip World. Evidence of Himalayan Balsam and Snowberry was recorded on site.

Himalayan Balsam is a Schedule 9 alien invasive plant species which is being managed by site staff.

Snowberry is cited by Natural England as an invasive alien plant species, although it is not on the schedule 9 list.

The management strategies are proposed, as detailed in Section 3.0 of this Management Strategy:

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Management Plan

1.1 This Invasive Species Management Plan has been produced to provide a comprehensive management strategy to control invasive non-native species associated with Manchester Heaton Park (hereby referred to as the 'Site').

Structure of the Management Plan

1.3 Section 2.0 comprises the findings from the site survey and provides a summary of the factors influencing management. Section 3.0 outlines the management strategy and biosecurity best practice, and Section 4.0 sets out how the plan will be monitored.

1.4 Appendix A provides information on current legislation affecting invasive non-native species and their management.

1.5 This Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the Extended Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by David Bentley Entomological and Ecological Services.

Site Location

1.6 The site is located in Heaton park, Manchester.

Site Description

1.7 The Zip World Site is located within the wider setting of the Heaton Park and comprises . It is approximately 2.3ha in size and comprises a sloping area of mature Broad-leaved Plantation Woodland and the existing activity area for Zip World.]

2.0 SITE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Site Survey

2.1 Evidence of Himalayan Balsam and Snowberry was recorded on site. This species, and its location is recorded in the EPEA.

Responsibility for Management

2.2 Zip World Limited will be responsible to treat the invasive non native species.

Ecological Factors

2.3 When undertaking invasive non-native species treatment, care must be taken to prevent disturbance to areas potentially supporting protected habitats and species. In the case of the Site, there are very few features which support the potential for habitat. Any trees must be protected from damage during any mechanical works.

2.4 All ecological constraints are laid out within the Extended Preliminary Ecological Appraisal.

Health and Safety

2.5 Zip World Limited will retain ultimate responsibility for the health and safety of the Site

2.6 The Site will be managed to comply with all relevant health and safety legislation, approved codes of practice (ACOP's) and Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance. Zip World Limited will be responsible for ensuring that risk assessments are undertaken for the Site as required under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, and for monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of control measures implemented as a result of the risk assessment to ensure their effectiveness.

2.7 They will also be responsible for ensuring that accidents and incidents which occur on the Site are reported to the relevant enforcing authority as required by the Reporting of Injuries, Disease and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013.

2.8 The health and safety regime for any work undertaken on the Site will follow the guidelines as laid down in the HSE publications, including HSG65 'Managing for Health and Safety' and HSG268 'How to Control Risks at Work'. As the managing agent will be the instigator and controller of works on the Site, the managing agent will fulfil the landowner's role and the work manager's role. This also places an obligation on the managing agent to ensure that any contractor understands and fulfils their role.

Legal Factors

2.9 Management of the Site must be in line with all legislation relating to health and safety and the environment. A review of the relevant legislation affecting invasive non-native species management is at Appendix A.

3.0 MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE ONGOING REMOVAL OF INVASIVE NON NATIVE SPECIES

REMOVAL OF HIMALAYAN BALSAM.

Excavation and Off-Site Disposal Method

3.1 The Himalayan Balsam will be excavated and disposed of in designated areas, as dictated by Heaton Park management.

3.2 Great care will be taken to excavate the Himalayan Balsam before it seeds and to ensure that the excavated material does not contaminate surrounding soil.

Future Infestations

3.3 Himalayan Balsam is prevalent in other areas of the park, outside of Zip Worlds control and where it is not being controlled this leads to re-infestation. The ongoing pulling and disposal of Himalayan Balsam will continue for the duration of our tenure, or until it is eradicated from park entirely.

Contamination from Other Sources

3.4 There are no landscaping materials being imported, to reduce any risk of importing other invasive non-native species onto the site.

REMOVAL OF SNOWBERRY

Excavation and Off-Site Disposal Method

- 3.5 The Snowberry will be cut back and excavated.
- 3.6 Great care will be taken to remove the entire root system and any nearby roots, to prevent re growth
- 3.7 The plant will be disposed of in designated areas, as dictated by Heaton Park management.

Future Infestations

- 3.8 When removing the Snowberry, care will be taken to ensure seeds are disposed of and not allowed to spread to other areas of the park.
- 3.9 The area where Snowberry is removed should be smothered to prevent light and reduce chances of re growth.

Contamination from Other Sources

- 3.10 There are no landscaping materials being imported, to reduce any risk of importing other invasive non-native species onto the site.

4.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

- 4.1 Zip World Limited, will monitor all invasive species present on-site on an annual basis and undertake any control methods as required.
- 4.2 This Management Plan should be reviewed on an annual basis by Zip World Limited to ensure that the strategies in this plan are effective and responding to the developing needs of the Site.

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Legislation that has an impact on the management of invasive species includes:

- 4.1.1 Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) as amended;
- 4.1.2 The Environmental Protection Act 1990;
- 4.1.3 Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005;
- 4.1.4 Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994;
- 4.1.5 Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986;
- 4.1.6 Water Framework Directive 2000;
- 4.1.7 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014; and
- 4.1.8 The Infrastructure Act 2015.

Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) as amended (WCA 1981)

WCA 1981 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 to the Act, he shall be guilty of an offence. Anyone convicted of an offence under Section 14 of the WCA 1981 may face a fine of £5,000 and/or 6 months imprisonment, or 2 years and/or unlimited fine or indictment.

Environmental Protection Act (1990) (EPA 1990)

EPA 1990 contains a number of legal provisions concerning 'controlled waste', which is set out in Part II. Any invasive species plant material or soil contaminated with invasive species plant material that you discard, intend to discard or are required to discard is likely to be classified as controlled waste. The most relevant provisions are in sections 33 & 34.

Section 33 (1a) and (1b) create offences to do with the deposit, treating, keeping or disposing of controlled waste without a license. Exemptions from licensing are available in some circumstances, and are set out in Schedule 3 to the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 as amended which makes it an offence to keep, treat or dispose of controlled waste in a manner likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health. Anyone convicted is subject to a maximum fine £20,000 and/or 6 months imprisonment and if prosecuted under the Crown court, this escalates to an unlimited fine and/or a maximum of two years imprisonment.

Section 34 places duties on any person who imports, produces, carries, keeps, treats or disposes of controlled waste. Waste must be handled responsibly and in accordance with the law at all stages between its production and final recovery or disposal. Waste must be transferred to an authorised person i.e. either a registered carrier or exempted from registration by the Controlled Waste (Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicle Regulations 1991). A waste transfer note must be completed and signed giving a written description of the waste, which is sufficient to enable the receiver of the waste to handle it in accordance with their own duty of care. The provisions concerning waste transfer notes are set out in the Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991(as amended). Failure to comply with these provisions is an offence, with a penalty of a fine not exceeding £5000 up to an unlimited fine in Crown court

Hazardous Waste Regulations (2005) (HWR 2005)

HWR 2005 contains provisions about the handling and movement of hazardous waste. Consignment notes must be completed when any hazardous waste is transferred, which include details about the hazardous properties and any special handling requirements. If a consignment note is completed, a waste transfer note is not necessary. Material containing invasive species that has been treated with herbicide may be classified as hazardous waste.

Waste Management Licensing Regulations (WMLR 1994)

WMLR state that failure to use a licensed operative could leave you liable to prosecution. The 'waste relevant objectives' are described in paragraph 4 of Schedule 4. These objectives require that waste is recovered or disposed of "without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment and in particular without risk to risk to water, air, soil, plants or

animals; or causing nuisance through noise or odours; or diversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest".

Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986) as amended (CoPR)

CoPR 1986 require any person who uses a pesticide to take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants, safeguard the environment and in particular avoid the pollution of water. For application of pesticides in or near water approval from the Environment Agency should be sought before use.

Water Framework Directive (2000)

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) is the most substantial piece of EC water legislation to date and is designed to improve and integrate the way water bodies are managed throughout Europe. In the UK, much of the implementation work will be undertaken by competent authorities. It came into force on 22 December 2000, and was put into UK law (transposed) in 2003. Member States must aim to reach good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015. It is designed to:

- 4.1.9 enhance the status and prevent further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands, which depend on the aquatic ecosystems promote the sustainable use of water;
- 4.1.10 reduce pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances (see Daughter Directives); and
- 4.1.11 ensure progressive reduction of groundwater pollution.

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014)

This enables community protection notices to be served by local authorities or the Police against individuals who are acting unreasonably and who persistently or continually act in a way that has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality. These powers are designed to be flexible and could be used to add

The Infrastructure Act (2015)

Species Control Orders (SCO) and Species Control Agreements (SCA) were introduced into UK law early in 2015 with the passing of the Infrastructure Bill. The Infrastructure Act 2015 was passed in February. Part 4 introduces new environmental controls of animal and plant species by amending the WCA 1981. They enable a regulator (Natural England for terrestrial issues, Environment Agency for aquatic issues) to either agree or require a landowner to take action against invasive alien species (IAS, such as Japanese knotweed) on their land. An SCA will set out a scope of work for removal of the IAS, including who will do the work, the timescales and any associated payments; and An SCO will be used if a landowner does not comply with an SCA or in other limited circumstances. It will require the landowner to complete the works, give the landowner a right of appeal and will be enforceable through criminal sanctions. The DAISIE website and GB Non-Native Species Secretariat are useful resources for further information.