



STAIRFOOT.

OS REF: SE 366 061.

PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL.

Ref No: 200756/REV2.

Date: 16th September 2020.

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1. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. A planning application is to be submitted for an area of car parking off Oaks Lane, Stairfoot.

1.2. Whitcher Wildlife Ltd has been commissioned to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the site to establish whether there are any issues that may affect the proposed works.

1.3. The site survey was carried out on 15th July 2020 and this report outlines the findings of that survey and makes appropriate recommendations.

1.4. Appendices I and II of this report provide additional information on specific species and are designed to assist the reader in understanding the contents of this report.

2. SURVEY METHODOLOGY.

2.1. Prior to visiting the site, the survey area was cross referenced to maps and aerial photographs to give a general idea of the habitats and potential issues within the area and to identify potential access and walking routes.

2.2. The survey area was walked where access was agreed and public rights of way were used where no access was agreed. All habitats within and immediately around the survey area were documented and the dominant species within that habitat listed in line with the JNCC Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat surveys.

2.3. The survey area and immediate surrounding area was thoroughly searched for evidence of badger (*Meles meles*) activity by looking for the following signs in line with Harris S, Cresswell P and Jefferies D (1989). *Surveying Badgers*. Mammal Society: -

- * Badger setts.
- * Badger latrines or dung pits.
- * Badger snuffle holes and evidence of foraging.
- * Badger paths.
- * Badger prints in areas of soft mud.
- * Badger hairs caught on fencing.

2.4. The survey area was searched for watercourses and where found all watercourses within the survey area and for approximately 100m in each direction were thoroughly searched for evidence of water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) activity by looking for the following signs, in line with Dean M, Strachen R, Gow D and Andres R (2016). *The Water Vole Mitigation Handbook (The Mammal Society Mitigation Guidance Series)*. Eds Fiona Mathews and Paul Chanin. The mammal Society, London: - (2011). *Water Vole Handbook: Third Edition*: -

- * Water vole burrows.
- * Water vole faeces and latrines.
- * Water vole feeding stations.
- * Water vole runs.
- * Water vole prints in areas of soft mud.
- * Water vole lawns.
- * Predator field signs.

2.5. The survey area was searched for watercourses and where found all watercourses within the survey area and for approximately 50m in each direction were thoroughly searched for evidence of otter (*Lutra lutra*) activity by looking for the following signs in line with the P Chanin (2003). *Monitoring the Otter and Conserving Natura 2000 Rivers: Monitoring Series No10 Guidelines*: -

- * Otter prints in soft mud.
- * Otter spraints.
- * Otter Holts.

2.6. The survey area was searched for watercourses and waterbodies. Where found, and where safe to enter the water, all were thoroughly searched for the presence of crayfish, for approximately 50m in each direction of the site, by searching under rocks and logs. Where stated, crayfish traps were also deployed into the watercourse. All survey work was carried out in accordance with the *Conserving Natural 2000 Rivers Monitoring Series No 1, Protocol for Monitoring the White Clawed Crayfish*.

2.7. The survey area was searched for trees and structures and where found these were checked for potential bat roosting sites in line with Collins, J. (ed.) (2016) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd edition)* by looking for the following signs: -

- * Holes, cracks or crevices.
- * Bat Droppings.

2.8. The land immediately adjacent to the survey area was assessed for bat roosting potential and bat foraging potential. Connective routes and flight lines were also assessed whilst on site and using maps of the area.

2.9. The area within 500m of the survey site was cross referenced to maps to highlight all ponds close to the site. Where possible, all ponds identified were accessed using agreed access or public rights of way to assess the potential for great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) to be present.

2.10. The survey area was assessed for the potential for reptiles and suitable reptile habitats. Where applicable the area was also searched for the presence of reptiles.

2.11. Where appropriate, the habitat within and surrounding the survey area was searched for species such as hazel, oak, honeysuckle, bramble and other species which may provide potential habitat for hazel dormice (*Muscardinus avellanarius*). Field signs such as feeding remains and nests were also searched for where possible,

in line with P Bright, P Morris and T Mitchell-Jones *The Dormouse Conservation Handbook 2nd Edition*.

2.12. Where appropriate, the area within and surrounding the survey area was assessed for its potential to house habitat for red squirrels. Field signs of red squirrels were searched for at least every 50m, looking for any dreys, feeding signs or sightings of red squirrels.

2.13. The survey area was searched for all alien invasive plant species as listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The location of all plants identified were recorded and listed within the survey report along with appropriate recommendations to avoid causing the plants to spread in the wild. All species were searched for, but the main species generally found under this category are Japanese knotweed, Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, Cotoneaster, Rhododendron and Japanese Rose.

2.14. All surveys were carried out in line with the Chartered Institute of Ecological and Environmental Management (CIEEM) survey standards and advice.

2.15. This survey was carried out by James Campbell MCIEEM. Since 2003 James has had experience in a professional capacity as a Wildlife Consultant carrying out Ecology Surveys and Phase 1 Habitat surveys and is a full member of CIEEM. James holds licences with several licensing bodies including: -

- Natural England Survey Licences in respect of bats, great crested newts, white clawed crayfish and barn owls.
- Scottish Natural Heritage Licences in respect of bats and great crested newts.
- Countryside Council for Wales Licences in respect of bats and great crested newts.

He has also successfully completed numerous courses run by CIEEM, BCT and FSC regarding protected species and in carrying out Phase 1 Habitat surveys. He is also confined spaces trained and qualified to NVQ Level 2 in tree climbing and aerial rescue.

3. SURVEY RESULTS.

3.1. Data Search Results.

3.1.1. A data search was carried out with South Yorkshire Bat Group and Barnsley Biological Records Centre for records of protected species and designated sites within 2km of the survey area.

3.1.2. There were large numbers of flora and fauna species identified within 2km of the survey area. The most relevant records of protected species are listed below: -

- Pipistrelle from 2016, 509m.
- Soprano Pipistrelle from 2014, 1005m.
- Noctule from 1987, 538m.
- Daubenton's bat from 2010, 922m.
- White Clawed Crayfish from 2010, 583m.
- Grass Snake from 2018, 1221m.
- Otter from 2012, 186m.
- Badger from 2016, 2009m.

3.1.3. Several Local Wildlife Sites were identified within the surrounding area: -

- Cliff Wood Local Wildlife Site, 445m to the north.
- Stairfoot Disused Railway Local Wildlife Site, 640m to the east.
- Sunny Bank, Horse Carr and Storrs Wood Local Wildlife Site 1.8km to the east.

3.1.4. The survey area is within the Dearne Valley Nature Improvement Area, which is a local designation. The proposed works will have an impact on this area.

3.2. The Surveyed Area.

3.2.1. The survey area comprised an area of tarmac, which has previously been used as a car park. The area is partially surrounded by fencing and dense vegetation. The aerial photograph below shows the survey area marked in red.



3.2.2. The vegetation surrounding the survey area mainly comprises areas of dense scrub, introduced shrubs and scattered trees.

3.2.3. The photograph below shows the typical vegetation surrounding the survey area.



3.2.4. The immediate surrounding area was a small area of dense scrub and scattered trees to the east and industrial units and bare ground to the north, west and the south.

3.3. Description of Habitats.

3.3.1. Appendix III of this report contains annotated maps marked up with the varying habitats that are cross referenced to target notes in Appendix IV of this report. The habitats on and adjacent to the site are: -

- Scrub.
- Introduced Shrub.
- Scattered Trees.
- Bare ground.
- Fence.

3.3.1.1. **Scrub.** The vegetation surrounding the site has become overgrown and was penetrating and overhanging the boundary fence. The species include bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*), buddleia (*Buddleja*) and willow (*Salix caprea*)



3.3.1.2. **Introduced Shrub.** Several species were identified growing in overgrown decorative beds in the car park including cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster*) and sea buckthorn (*Hippophae*).



3.3.1.3. **Scattered Trees.**

Several trees were identified overhanging the boundary fence and several were identified within the overgrown decorative beds including ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus*), field maple (*Acer campestre*) and Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*).



3.3.1.4. **Bare ground.** The majority of the site was tarmac.



3.3.1.5. **Fence.** The northern, eastern and southern site boundaries were demarcated by a Palisade fence.



3.4. Description of Fauna.

3.4.1. No badger setts or badger field signs were identified within the survey area.

3.4.2. There were no watercourses identified. Therefore, there was no suitable habitat for water voles, otters or white clawed crayfish.

3.3.3. There were no ponds within 500m of the survey area and there were no existing records of great crested newts in the data search results. Therefore, it is very unlikely that great crested newts will be present on the site.

3.3.4. No structures or trees that provide a suitable opportunity for roosting bats within the survey area.

3.4.4.1. A comprehensive assessment of the bat foraging habitat on the site could not be undertaken during this daytime survey although, the surrounding areas of trees and buildings were assessed to provide a moderate value bat foraging habitat.

3.3.5. The survey area and the surrounding vegetation provides a suitable habitat for nesting birds during the nesting season, which extends from March to September.

3.3.6. The survey area provides limited suitable habitat for reptiles as there was very little refugia and very little feeding habitat. No reptiles were identified.

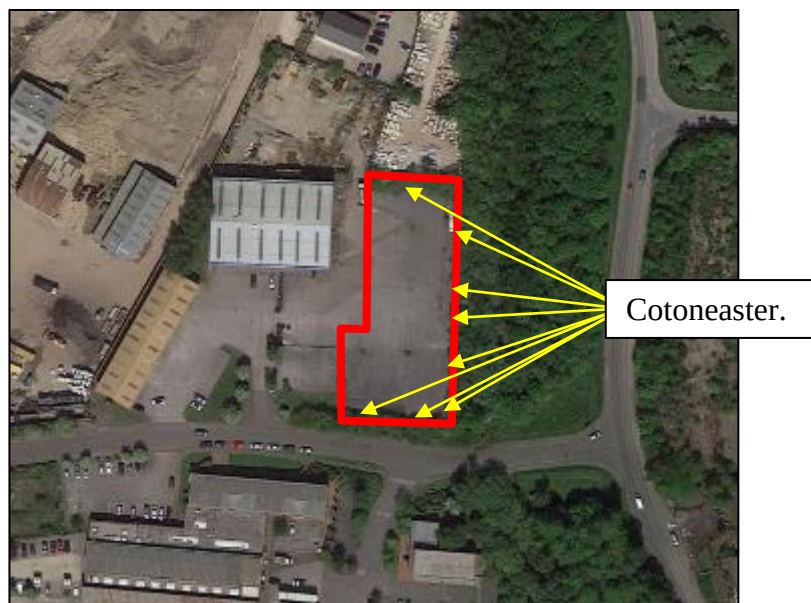
3.3.7. The site does not provide a suitable habitat for dormice as there was a lack of suitable connective habitat and the site lies outside their natural range.

3.3.8. The site does not provide a suitable habitat for red squirrel as there was a lack of suitable connective vegetation. There were no red squirrels or red squirrel field signs identified within the survey area.

3.3.9. Approximately eight clumps of cotoneaster were identified within the survey area. Cotoneaster is a Schedule 9 invasive plant species listed on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The photograph below shows one of the clumps of cotoneaster.



3.3.9.1. The aerial photograph below shows the approximate location of the cotoneaster plants.



4. EVALUATION OF FINDINGS.

4.1. The bare ground and fence have no ecological value and the proposed works will have a **low impact**.

4.2. The introduced shrub, scrub and scattered trees will provide a suitable habitat for nesting birds. The proposed works will have a **low impact**.

4.3. There were no Habitats of Principal Importance under the NERC Act 2006 identified within the survey area. Therefore, there will be **no impact** on any Habitats of Principal Importance.

4.4. No badger setts or other badger field signs were identified within the survey area during this survey. Therefore, there will be **no impact** on badgers during the proposed works.

4.2. There were no watercourses identified within the survey area. Therefore, there will be no suitable habitat for water voles, otters or white clawed crayfish and there will be **no impact** on these species during the proposed works.

4.6. There were no ponds identified within 500m of the survey area and there are no records of great crested newts within the surrounding area. Therefore, the proposed works will have **no impact** on great crested newts.

4.7. There were no structures or trees identified within the survey area that will provide a suitable opportunity for roosting bats. Therefore, there will be **no impact** on roosting bats during the proposed works.

4.7.1. A comprehensive assessment of the bat foraging habitat on the site could not be undertaken during this daytime survey although, the surrounding areas of trees and buildings were assessed to provide a moderate value bat foraging habitat. Nevertheless, the proposed works will not fragment bat foraging habitat and there will be **no impact** on foraging bats.

4.8. The vegetation within the survey area will provide suitable habitat for various species of bird during the nesting season, which extends from March to September each year. The proposed works will have a **high impact** on nesting birds during the nesting season and a **low impact** on nesting birds outside the nesting bird season.

4.9. The survey area does not provide a suitable habitat for reptiles as there was no suitable shelter or foraging habitat within the surrounding area. There will be **no impact** on reptiles during the proposed works.

4.10. The site was outside the natural range of dormice. Therefore, there will be **no impact** on dormice during the proposed works.

4.11. The site provides no suitable habitat for red squirrel. There will be **no impact** on red squirrel during the proposed works.

4.12. Approximately eight clumps of cotoneaster were identified within the survey area. Cotoneaster is a Schedule 9 invasive plant species listed on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. There could be a **high impact** on causing a Schedule 9 invasive plant species to spread during the proposed works.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS.

5.1. The vegetation within the survey area will provide a suitable habitat for nesting birds. All vegetation clearance works should be carried out outside the nesting bird season which extends from March to September. If any of the vegetation is to be affected during the nesting bird season the works should be preceded by a thorough nesting bird survey carried out by a suitably experienced person. If an active nest is identified during this survey the nest should be left undisturbed until the young have fledged.

5.2. As cotoneaster has been identified within the survey area all personnel should be briefed on the identification of Cotoneaster and a toolbox talk on cotoneaster/ has been included at the end of this report to provide further information.

5.2.1. All personnel should be briefed on the location of the plant and the precautions put in place to avoid any accidental spread of the plant.

5.2.2. The plants should be uprooted, and any berries around the plant should be collected and bagged. The bags should then be removed from site and suitably disposed of as a contaminated waste.

6. BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS.

6.1. Under the terms of Dearne Valley Nature Improvement Area, biodiversity enhancement measures should be provided within the development. The following biodiversity enhancement are recommended.

6.2. A variety of bird nesting boxes and bat boxes should be erected in suitable locations around the site to replace the lost habitat in the short term and enhance the biodiversity of the site. The photographs below show two examples of bat and bird boxes mounted on poles.



6.3. Insect boxes and the introduction of wildflowers into grassed areas will provide food shelter and foraging for butterflies and insects.

Prepared by:	
James Campbell MCIEEM.	Date: 16 th September 2020.

Checked by:	
Derek Whitcher. BSc, MCIEEM, MCMI	Date: 16 th September 2020.

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Appendix I. NESTING BIRD INFORMATION.

Ecology

The nesting season will vary according to the weather each year but generally commences in March, peaks during May and June and continues until September. It is also worth remembering that some birds nest in trees and scrub, but others are ground nesting or prefer man-made structures or buildings.

Surveys

Nesting bird surveys search for potential nest sites in vegetation, buildings etc. Potential nesting sites are observed over a suitable period of time for bird movements or calling male birds that would indicate the presence of a nest. The presence of a nest can be identified from the field signs without the necessity to see the nest itself, thereby avoiding any disturbance of the nests. The best way to avoid this issue is to plan for vegetation clearance to be carried out outside the bird-nesting season.

Legislation

Nesting birds are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Part 1. -(1) Of the Act states that: - If any person intentionally: - kills, injures or takes any wild bird; takes, damages or destroys the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; or takes or destroys an egg of any wild bird, he shall be guilty of an offence.

Part 1. -(5) of the Act states that: - If any person intentionally: - disturbs any wild bird included in Schedule 1 while it is building a nest or is in, on, or near a nest containing eggs or young; or disturbs young of such a bird, he shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a special penalty.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 amends the above by inserting after “intentionally” the words “or recklessly”.

Appendix II. INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES INFORMATION.

Ecology

The Government has acknowledged the problems that can be caused by non-native invasive species. In 2008 the Government launched “The Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain”. The strategy provides a framework for a more co-ordinated approach to invasive species management. It seeks to create a stronger sense of shared responsibility across government, key organisations, land managers and the public.

The Non-Native Species Secretariat has been established to oversee the implementation of the strategy. Details of the secretariat including risk assessments and action plans for some species are available at www.nonnativespecies.org.

In general, there are four basic methods of controlling weeds: mechanical, chemical, natural and environmental.

- ***Mechanical control*** includes cultivation, hoeing, pulling, cutting, raking, dredging or other methods to uproot or cut weeds.
Where this method is used all plant material must be considered “controlled waste” and must be disposed of properly.
- ***Chemical control*** uses approved herbicides.
- ***Natural control*** uses pests and diseases of the target weed to weaken it and prevent it from becoming a nuisance.
- ***Environmental control*** works by altering the environment to make it less suitable for weed growth, for example by increasing or decreasing water velocity.

Surveys

A site will be searched for invasive plant species growing on site, from mature plants to new shoots. A site will also be searched for dead stems indicating that plants that may have seasonally died back are present.

Legislation

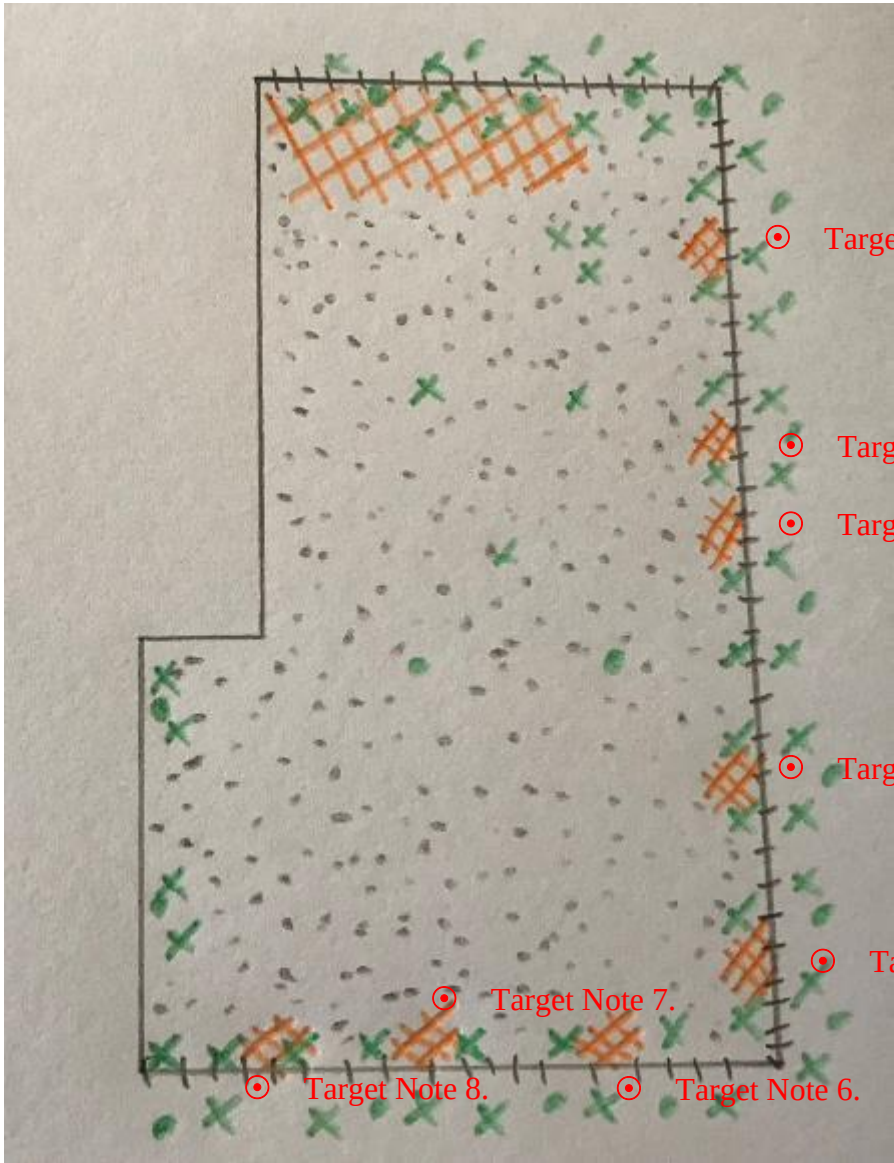
Invasive species listed under Schedule 9 are prohibited from release into the wild. Schedule 9, Section 14(2) prohibits ‘planting’ or ‘causing to grow’ in the wild of any plant listed in Part 2 of Schedule 9.

The following is a list of all the species of plant listed under Schedule 9 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Common Name	Scientific Name	England & Wales	Scotland
Alexanders, Perfoliate	<i>Smyrnium perfoliatum</i>	✓	
Algae, Red	<i>Grateloupia luxurians</i>	✓	
Archangel, Variegated Yellow	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i> subsp. <i>Argentatum</i>	✓	
Azalea, Yellow	<i>Rhododendron luteum</i>	✓	
Balsam, Himalayan	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	✓	
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>	✓	
Cotoneaster, Entire Leaved	<i>Cotoneaster integrifolius</i>	✓	
Cotoneaster, Himalayan	<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	✓	
Cotoneaster, Hollyberry	<i>Cotoneaster bullatus</i>	✓	
Cotoneaster, Small Leaved	<i>Cotoneaster microphyllus</i>	✓	
Creeper, False Virginia	<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i>	✓	
Creeper, Virginia	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	✓	
Dewplant, Purple	<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i>	✓	
False-acacia	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>		✓
Fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	✓	✓
Fern, Water	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	✓	✓
Fig, Hottentot	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	✓	✓
Garlic, Three-Cornered	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	✓	
Hogweed, Giant	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	✓	✓
Hyacinth, water	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	✓	✓
Kelp, Giant	<i>Macrocystis angustifolia</i>	✓	✓
Kelp, Giant	<i>Macrocystis integrifolia</i>	✓	✓
Kelp, Giant	<i>Macrocystis laevis</i>	✓	✓
Kelp, Giant	<i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i>	✓	✓
Kelp, Japanese	<i>Laminaria japonica</i>	✓	✓

Knotweed, Giant	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	✓	
Knotweed, Hybrid	<i>Fallopia japonica</i> x <i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	✓	
Knotweed, Japanese	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	✓	
Knotweed, Japanese	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>		✓
Leek, Few-flowered	<i>Allium paradoxum</i>	✓	✓
Lettuce, water	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	✓	✓
Montbretia	<i>Crocasmia</i> x <i>crocosmiiflora</i>	✓	
Parrot's-feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	✓	
Pennywort, Floating	<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	✓	
Potato, Duck	<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	✓	
Primrose, Floating Water	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	✓	
Primrose, Water	<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	✓	
Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	✓	
Rhubarb, Giant	<i>Gunnera tinctorial</i>	✓	
Rose, Japanese	<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	✓	
Salvinia, Giant	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	✓	✓
Seafingers, Green	<i>Codium fragile</i>	✓	
Seafingers, Green	<i>Codium fragile tomentosoides</i>		✓
Seaweed, Californian Red	<i>Pikea californica</i>	✓	✓
Seaweed, Hooked Asparagus	<i>Asparagopsis armata</i>	✓	✓
Seaweed, Japanese	<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	✓	✓
Seaweeds, Laver (except native species)	<i>Porphyra</i> sp. except - <i>P. amethystea</i> <i>P. leucosticta</i> <i>P. linearis</i> <i>P. miniata</i> <i>P. purpurea</i> <i>P. umbilicalis</i>	✓	✓
Shallon	<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>		✓
Stonecrop, Australian swamp	<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	✓	✓
Wakame	<i>Undaria pinnatifida</i>	✓	✓
Waterweed, Curly	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	✓	✓
Waterweeds	All species of the genus <i>Elodea</i>	✓	

Appendix III. ANNOTATED MAP OF THE SURVEY AREA.



-  Scrub.
-  Introduced Shrub.
-  Bare Ground.
-  Scattered Trees.
-  Fence.

Site: Stairfoot.

Reference: 200756.

Prepared by James Campbell MCIEEM.

Date: 16th July 2020.



Appendix IV. TARGET NOTES.

Target Note 1. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 2. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 3. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 4. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 5. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 6. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 7. Area of cotoneaster.

Target Note 8. Area of cotoneaster.

Toolbox Talk: Nesting Birds

The bird nesting season varies according to the weather each year but generally commences in March, peaks during May and June and continues until September.
A bird's nest is the place in which a bird lays and incubates its eggs. Some species build a nest structure while other species lay their eggs directly onto the ground or on a rocky ledge. Nests can be constructed from a variety of materials and are usually lined with feathers or fur.

Identification.

Some birds construct nests in an area where it can be seen while others construct nests that are hidden from view and are more difficult to identify.

The photograph to the right shows a Moorhen nest which can easily be seen.



Nests can also be identified from field signs without the necessity to see the nest itself. The presence of a nest can be identified by seeing the adult birds leaving and returning to the nest regularly with food to feed the chicks.

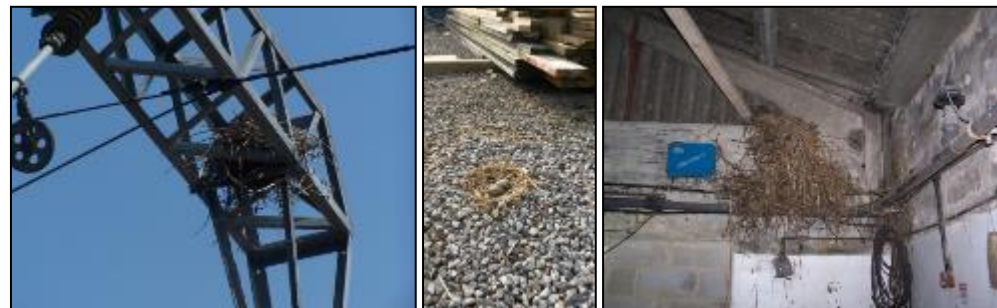
The photograph to the left shows a Wren's nest in overhanging tree roots, which is almost impossible to see.

Care should be taken at any time during the nesting season particularly when regular bird activity is seen, or birds can be heard calling.



Habitat.

Birds regularly nest in a variety of places with some species nesting in buildings or vegetation and others nesting on the ground or on water. However, birds may nest in any habitat or situation if they identify a suitable nest site.



Legislation.

Part 1. -(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 states that:

If any person intentionally or recklessly:

- Kills, injures or takes any wild bird.
- Takes, damages or destroys the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built, or
- Takes or destroys an egg of any wild bird.

He shall be guilty of an offence.

Part 1. -(5) of the Act states that:

If any person intentionally or recklessly:

- Disturbs any wild bird included in Schedule 1 while it is building a nest or is in, on, or near a nest containing eggs or young, or
- Disturbs young of such a bird.

He shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a special penalty.

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If a nest or potential nesting activity is identified during works, stop all works and contact Whitcher Wildlife Ltd directly on 01226 753271 or at info@whitcher-wildlife.co.uk

Toolbox Talk: Cotoneaster species

Cotoneasters are a large group of trees and shrubs with some species being evergreen and some deciduous. The species is becoming naturalised through birds eating the berries and causing the spread of the plant. One of the species is native, Wild Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster cambricus*) which occurs occasionally throughout North Wales.

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Identification.

Cotoneaster species vary although the most common species, Wall cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster horizontalis*) is distinctive with flattened herringbone like branches. Most species have shiny leaves located alternate along the stem.



Habitat and Spreading.

Cotoneaster grows in a variety of habitats. In urban areas the plant is characteristic of disturbed dry sites. Some species are also commonly found in herb-rich limestone grassland, crags and other semi-natural habitats.



Cotoneaster spreads through small red berries that are present on the plant during the later summer and autumn.

The best form of control of the plant is to prevent it from seeding by cutting back or pulling before the berries are present.

Legislation.

Under section 14 and Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence for it to be planted or otherwise caused to grow in the wild. This includes spreading the species by transferring polluted ground material from one area to the other.

If Cotoneaster is identified during works, stop all works and contact Whitcher Wildlife Ltd directly on 01226 753271 or at info@whitcher-wildlife.co.uk