

1.0 PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name:	Wrexham Technology Park		
TEP Job Ref:	4571	TEP Doc. Ref:	4571.003
Site Location:	Croesnewydd Road, Wrexham	National Grid Ref:	SJ 31739 50438
Date	24/06/2014		
Surveyors:	John Crowder, Ian Holland		
Weather	Warm with clear skies		
Methods:	A survey was carried out to check for any evidence of otter using the site. The section of the River Gwenfro which runs through the site, as well as an additional 50m stretch up and downstream from the site, were surveyed from within the water course. Suitable adjacent habitat was also checked for any signs of otter such as footprints, spraint, holts or slides.		
Drawing Ref:	D4571.003		

2.0 SURVEY DETAILS

2.1 Summary of Desktop Data

Source:	Site / Habitat / Species Data:	km from site:	Direction from site:
Marches Ecology Ecological Impact Assessment (C076/J2EcIA/Final)	Otter signs	Within the site and up to 5km away	Within the site and east/west of site

3.0 SURVEY RESULTS

Aquatic Habitat Descriptions

- 3.1 The location of the section of the River Gwenfro subjected to survey in 2008-2009 by Marches Ecology and in 2014 by TEP is identified on Drawing D4571.003. The table below describes the river.

Waterbody Type	Description
River Gwenfro	The River Gwenfro meanders through the centre of the site and is partially culverted. It passes under a bridge at each end of the site. The banks comprise a mix of habitats including scrub, dense Himalayan balsam and woodland areas. The river is shallow and varies from slow to fast flowing.

Historic Field Evidence

3.2 The table below details the positive field evidence found during the 2008 - 2009 surveys.

Waterbody Type	Evidence															
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)																
River Gwenfro	Marches Ecology undertook four monitoring survey visits for otter between December 2008 and July 2009. The surveys recorded findings on site and within 5km up and down stream of the site. The results of these surveys are summarised in the table below.															
	<table><tr><th>Visit</th><th>Date</th><th>Findings</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>15/12/2008</td><td>19 records of spraint, 9 records of footprints.</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>18/02/2009</td><td>25 records of spraint, 1 record of footprints.</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>26/05/2009</td><td>21 records of spraint, 15 records of footprints, 3 probable lie up sites.</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>31/07/2009</td><td>8 records of spraint.</td></tr></table>	Visit	Date	Findings	1	15/12/2008	19 records of spraint, 9 records of footprints.	2	18/02/2009	25 records of spraint, 1 record of footprints.	3	26/05/2009	21 records of spraint, 15 records of footprints, 3 probable lie up sites.	4	31/07/2009	8 records of spraint.
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Field Evidence 2014

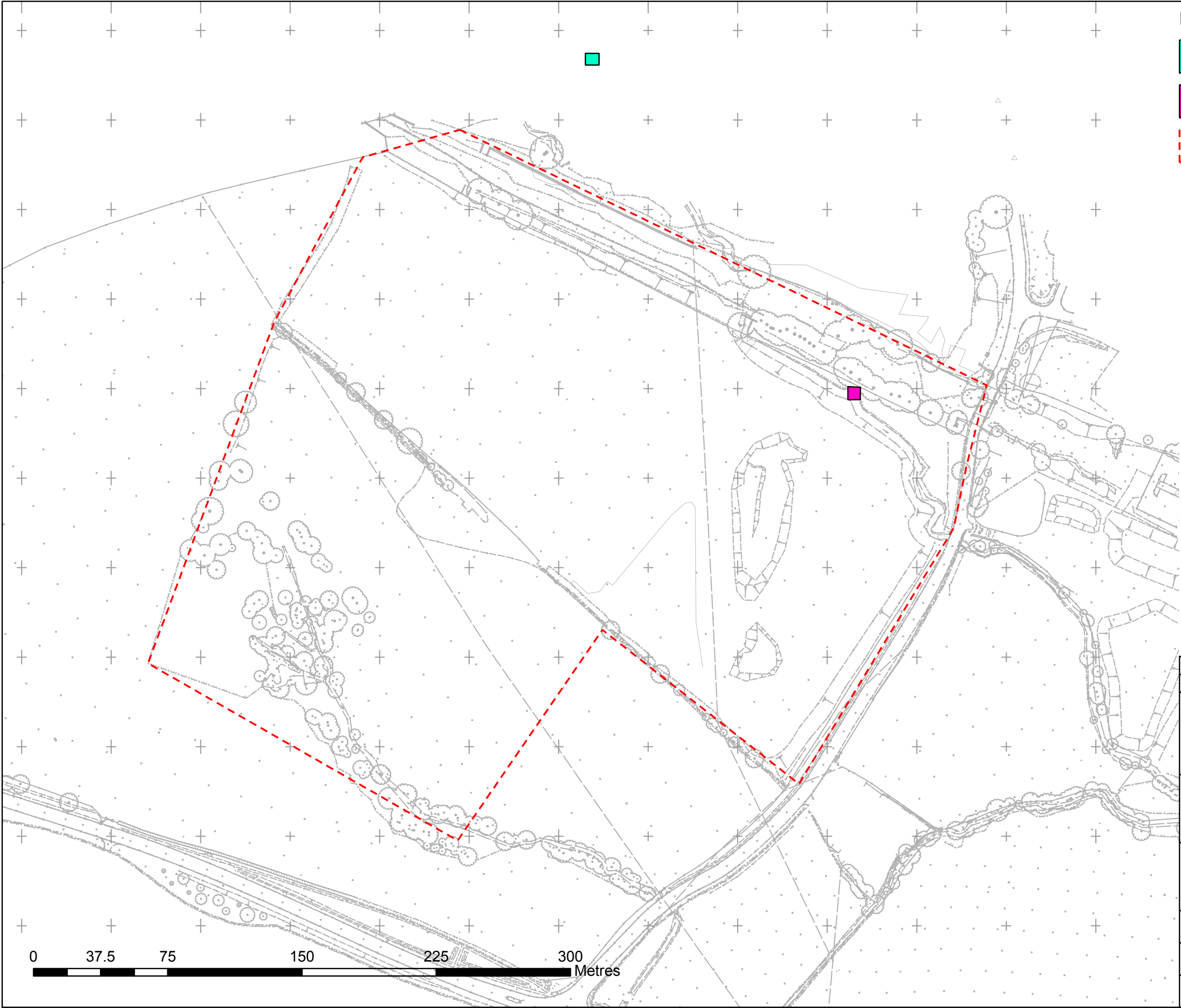
3.2 The table below details the positive field evidence found during the 2014 survey.

Waterbody Type	Evidence
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	
River Gwenfro	A single spraint and small number of footprints were identified during the survey. The location of these signs is shown in drawing G4571.003. The river contains a number of areas on site which may be suitable as resting places for otter, though no holts were identified during the survey.

4.0 SUMMARY

- 4.1 Previous ecological surveys at the site identified the River Gwenfro as suitable to support otter. The river has banks that vary from steep to shallow, the majority of which are densely covered with Himalayan balsam and heavily shaded by dense trees, scrub and hedgerows.
- 4.2 Evidence of otter was observed along the River Gwenfro during the 2008/2009 surveys, both within the section which runs through the site and within 5km in both up and downstream.
- 4.3 During the 2014 survey a single spraint and a number of footprints were identified. This suggests the section of the River Gwenfro which runs through site is used sporadically by the local otter population. A number of areas suitable as resting places for otter were identified, though no holts were identified during the survey.
- 4.4 Otters are European protected species and are provided full protection under *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010* as amended, and the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981(as amended)*. Under this legislation, otters and their resting places are fully protected, making it an offence to deliberately capture, injure or kill them or to damage, destroy or obstruct access to their breeding or resting places. It is also an offence to disturb otters in their breeding or resting places.
- 4.5 Taking into account that otters have large home-ranges, precautionary working methods should be put in place during the site clearance and construction phases of the proposed development to ensure no impacts on the otter population. The design and layout of the site, particularly any drainage plans, will need to consider the potential for any impacts on otter, through either direct or indirect impacts to the banks and water quality, to ensure the current conservation status of the local otter population is not negatively affected. Recommended precautionary working measures are discussed in detail in the Otter Method Statement produced by TEP (4571.002). All recommendations in the Method Statement must be fully

adhered to to avoid any possible contravention of wildlife legislation.



Key

-  Otter Footprints
-  Otter spraint
-  Site-Boundary



Rev	Description	Dwn	Appvd	Date
		Genesis Centre Birchwood Science Park Warrington WA3 7BH Tel 01925 844004 Fax 01925 844002 email tep@tep.uk.com		
Project: Wrexham Technology Park				
Title: Otter Survey Map				
Map No.		G4571.003		
Scale: 1:2,000 @ A3			Date: 22/07/2014	
Drawn: IH		Checked: LS		Approved: LS