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Land Adjacent to 33 Abenbury Way,
Wrexham Industrial Estate
SY14 7LH

Biosecurity Risk Assessment

17.09.2025

Produced by Wildbanks Conservation

www.wildbanksconservation.com

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Wildbanks Conservation was commissioned to prepare a Biosecurity Risk Assessment for the development works of the land next to unit 33 Abenbury way Wrexham Industrial Estate, for which planning permission was received on 07/02/2025 (Ref: P/2022/0411).

1.2 Condition 6 of planning permission P/2022/0411 requires this Biosecurity Risk Assessment to be produced and submitted and approved in writing by the Local Authority prior to the commencement of the development. This Biosecurity Risk Assessment will fulfil this planning condition.

1.3 An Ecological Assessment was undertaken by Wildbanks Conservation in December 2022 to support a planning application to develop the Site. For full background and methodology, refer to the *Ecological Appraisal 2022*; this document provides only a summary of that information in relation to the proposed development. A site walkover was undertaken on 06/08/2025. Multiple annual visits have been carried out for the past 7 years as part of the ongoing management and monitoring of the ecological mitigation area established under a previous planning application immediately adjacent to the Site by the same landowner.

1.4 The land (hereafter referred to as the Site) is situated within the commercial sector of Wrexham Industrial Estate. The site is located on a small section of amenity grassland with industrial units to the east and west and concrete parking and roads to the south. To the north is a small area of rough grassland and woodland, with a small brook running East-West within it. Wider habitat around the Site consists of the Wrexham Industrial Estate to the south, north and east with associated buildings, hardstanding, roads. To the west is farmland with associated hedgerows and grassland.

1.5 Development proposals for the Site include building a detached steel industrial unit with associated parking. The footprint of this development will entirely fall on amenity grassland.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 A Visual Assessment and Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) were undertaken on the Site on the 20th of December 2021 by Wildbanks Conservation to inform the planning application and identify any constraints to the proposed works with regards to protected species and provide mitigation measures for the scheme. A Site walkover was completed on 06/08/25 to inform this Biosecurity Risk Assessment. A GCN Reasonable Avoidance Measures - Method Statement (RAMS) has also been prepared to inform contractors as to the precautions to be taken whilst working on site with respect to amphibians and what measures must be in place to protect them.

Great Crested Newts (GCN)

2.2 No ponds are present within the development site, the Site provides poor terrestrial habitat and no hibernation opportunities for GCN. The brook and areas of scrub within the adjacent land to the north provide good foraging and refuge habitat for GCN.

2.3 Great Crested Newts are known to occur within the wider Wrexham Industrial Estate, with previous surveys confirming their presence in multiple locations across the area. Within a 500 m radius of the development site, eleven ponds are recorded, and are assumed to be supporting small populations of GCN. All ponds are located outside the site ownership boundary, and access for direct surveys was not possible. The closest pond lies approximately 80m to the north. Overall, connectivity between the ponds within 250m of the Site is strong, via rough grassland, hedgerows, and associated wet ditches that provide excellent foraging opportunities.

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)

2.4 No evidence of invasive animals or plants listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 were observed at the time of the assessment within the Site. Nor was evidence of INNS noted within the immediate vicinity of the Site. However, it is known that some species listed on Sch. 9 of WCA 1981 are present within the wider area of Wrexham, namely Japanese Knotweed (JKW) (*Fallopia japonica*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and Giant Hogweed (*Heraculeum mantagezzianum*).

2.5 Other invasive non-native species of plants and animals do exist, and a precautionary approach should be taken when bringing materials onto site. Appendix 1 lists all species found within Schedule 9 of the WCA 1981 (as amended).

Disease

2.6 Amphibian disease has become a major cause of the decline in numbers of many amphibian species worldwide. Two main causes for concern are the fungal disease *Chytridiomycosis* and the viral disease *Ranavirus*. Both of these diseases are known to be present within the UK, in a rare but widespread fashion.

3.0 LEGISLATION

3.1 This section summarises the requirements of Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Legislation relevant to the Site and is not to be regarded as a definitive legal opinion. When dealing with individual cases, the client is advised to consult the full texts of the relevant legislation and obtain further legal advice.

Legislation

3.2 Section 14(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act makes it illegal to release or allow to escape into the wild any animal which is not ordinarily resident in Great Britain and is not a regular visitor to Great Britain in a wild state or is listed in Schedule 9 to the Act. It is also illegal to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild any plant listed in Schedule 9 to the Act. The Schedule 9 list of animal and plant species has been amended by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Variation of Schedule 9) (England and Wales) Order 2010. Offences under section 14 carry a maximum penalty of a £5,000 fine and/or 6 months imprisonment on summary conviction (i.e. at Magistrates' Court) and an unlimited fine (i.e. whatever the court feels to be commensurate with the offence) and/or 2 years imprisonment on indictment (i.e. at Crown Court). Appendix 1 gives the full list of plant species in Schedule 9 of the WCA for England and Wales.

3.3 Other relevant legislation:

- EU Regulation (1141/2014) on invasive alien (non-native) species
- Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

4.0 SITE BIOSECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT - METHODOLOGY

4.1 This Biosecurity Risk Assessment has been produced following the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) proforma for Terrestrial Biosecurity Risk Assessment.

4.2 In summary: Activities that may spread Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) and/or animal diseases are listed, and each is assessed on the Severity (S) and Likelihood (L) of spreading INNS/disease according to the below tables and relevant scores. An overall Risk is calculated by multiplying S x L.

Severity of impact (S)

4.3 Non-native species and diseases have the potential to cause harm to the environment, economy and the way that we live. The severity of the impact should be rated according to the following table:

1	Minimal very local and /or very short term
2	Minor changes at a local level
3	Moderately large change at local level
4	Major long-term changes to local area with possible impact at wider level
5	Massive widespread and long-term changes

Likelihood of spread (L)

4.4 This a consideration of how likely the activity is to cause the spread of a non-native species or disease, and should be rated according to the following table:

1	**Very unlikely** – theoretically possible but not expected to occur	1 in 10,000 years
2	**Unlikely** – has not occurred anywhere in living memory	1 in 1,000 years
3	**Possible** – has occurred at least once somewhere but not locally	1 in 100 years
4	**Likely** – has happened on several occasions elsewhere, or at least once locally	1 in 10 years
5	**Very likely** – happens continually and expected to occur	Once a year

4.5 The aim is to reduce the risk rating to as low as is reasonably practicable; a score of 4 or less is usually considered acceptable and a score of 12 or above is unacceptable and the

project/development should be postponed and altered to reduce the risk to acceptable levels.

Severity of impact						
	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
		Likelihood of spread				

4.6 Control measures are then identified and described to reduce the likelihood of INNS / diseases being spread.

4.7 Assign a rating of 1-5 (low to high) for Residual Likelihood (RL) of INNS/disease being spread after control measures have been implemented.

4.8 Recalculate to find the Residual Risk (RR) by multiplying S x RI. The residual risk scale is as follows:

0 –4: Risk are likely to be acceptable.

4 –12: Consider further options for reducing risk, and if not available consider proceeding with caution.

12 +: Risk is too high; do not proceed until further consideration of control options has been taken into account.

5.0 SITE BIOSECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 Activities that might spread INNS/disease through the development.

Activities that might spread INNS	Severity of Impact	Likelihood of Spread	Overall Risk
1. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into Site from external locations, either on vehicles or machinery (on tyres, tracks, buckets, *etc*).	3	3	**9**
2. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into site from external locations, either on footwear or hand-tools.	2	3	**6**
3. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into site within materials (e.g. (top-)soil/ hardcore/aggregate, *etc*.)	3	4	**12**

5.2 Control measures and management tasks have been identified that will reduce the risk level. The Residual Risk is then calculated.

Activity that might spread INNS	Control Measures	Severity of Impact	Residual Likelihood	Residual Risk
1. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into Site from external locations, either on vehicles or machinery (on tyres, tracks, buckets, *etc*).	• Wherever possible, avoid bringing vehicles/ machinery on to site. • All plants to be acquired from reputable suppliers who confirm that they follow appropriate biosecurity measures. • Good site hygiene maintained at all times. No overly dirty vehicles allowed on site; vehicles and machinery to be free from mud or visible dirt prior to entering the site. • If vehicles or machinery is used on another site, then it is to be cleaned of visible dirt and disinfected using one of the approved methods listed below. • All site workers made aware of the Biosecurity Risk Assessment.	1	2	**2**
2. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into site from external locations, either on footwear or hand-tools.	• Keep foot-wear/ hand-tools free from accumulated mud, pay particular attention to the treads on foot-wear. Thoroughly clean foot-wear/ hand-tools before entering site, and at the end of each day or leave on site.	1	2	**2**

	• Good site hygiene maintained at all times. No overly dirty footwear allowed on site; footwear to be free from mud or visible dirt prior to entering the site. • All site workers made aware of the Biosecurity Risk Assessment.			
3. Transportation of seed/stem fragments or disease into site within materials (e.g. (top-)soil/ hardcore/aggregate, *etc*.)	• Where possible no soil or materials will be imported/exported to/from the site. • If procuring quarried or recycled materials such as hardcore, topsoil *etc*. ensure reputable companies are used and ensure materials sourced from uncontaminated areas.	1	2	**2**

5.3 The Residual Risk of any activity that could cause the spread of INNS during the proposed works has been calculated and with the implementation of Control Measures, no risk exceeds a score of 3 and is therefore considered acceptable and the proposed works can proceed without further works with regards to Invasive Non-Native Species/disease.

5.4 However, if the development alters and activities other than those listed above that could cause the spread of INNS/disease are identified, the above process should be repeated for each additional activity and control methods put in place accordingly to maintain a Residual Risk of 4 or below.

A1 APPENDIX 1 – SPECIES LISTED UNDER SCHEDULE 9 OF THE WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (AS AMENDED)

Plants:

Common name	***Scientific name***
False-acacia	*Robinia pseudoacacia*
Fanwort	*Cabomba caroliniana*
Fern, Water	*Azolla filiculoides*
Fig, Hottentot	*Carpobrotus edulis*
Hogweed, Giant	*Heracleum mantegazzianum*
Hyacinth, water	*Eichhornia crassipes*
Kelp, Giant	*Macrocystis angustifolia*
Kelp, Giant	*Macrocystis integrifolia*
Kelp, Giant	*Macrocystis laevis*
Kelp, Giant	*Macrocystis pyrifera*
Kelp, Japanese	*Laminaria japonica*
~~Knotweed, Japanese~~	~~*Polygonum cuspidatum*~~ Name changed in 2010
Leek, Few-flowered	*Allium paradoxum*
Lettuce, water	*Pistia stratiotes*
Parrot's-feather	*Myriophyllum aquaticum*
Pennywort, Floating	*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*
Salvinia, Giant	*Salvinia molesta*
~~Seafingers, Green~~	~~*Codium fragile tomentosoides*~~ Name changed in 2010
Seaweed, Californian Red	*Pikea californica*
Seaweed, Hooked Asparagus	*Asparagopsis armata*
Seaweed, Japanese	*Sargassum muticum*
Seaweeds, Laver (except native species)	*Porphyra spp except -* *P. amethystea* *P. leucosticta* *P. linearis* *P. miniata* *P. purpurea* *P. umbilicalis*
Shallon	*Gaultheria shallon*
Stonecrop, Australian swamp	*Crassula helmsii*
Wakame	*Undaria pinnatifida*
Waterweed, Curly	*Lagarosiphon major*

The following plants were added to Schedule 9 by The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Variation of Schedule 9) (England and Wales) Order 2010:

Common name	***Scientific name***
Alexanders, Perfoliate	*Smyrnium perfoliatum*
Algae, Red	*Grateloupia luxurians*
Archangel, Variegated Yellow	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum*
Azalea, Yellow	*Rhododendron luteum*
Balsam, Himalayan	*Impatiens glandulifera*
Cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster horizontalis*
Cotoneaster, Entire-leaved	*Cotoneaster integrifolius*
Cotoneaster, Himalayan	*Cotoneaster simonsii*
Cotoneaster, Hollyberry	*Cotoneaster bullatus*
Cotoneaster, Small-leaved	*Cotoneaster microphyllus*
Creeper, False Virginia	*Parthenocissus inserta*
Creeper, Virginia	*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*
Dewplant, Purple	*Disphyma crassifolium*
Fanwort (otherwise known as Carolina Water-Shield)	*Cabomba caroliniana*
Fern, Water	*Azolla filiculoides*
Fig, Hottentot	*Carpobrotus edulis*
Garlic, Three-cornered	*Allium triquetrum*
Hyacinth, Water	*Eichhornia crassipes*
Knotweed, Giant	*Fallopia sachalinensis*
Knotweed, Hybrid	*Fallopia japonica x Fallopia sachalinensis*
Knotweed, Japanese	*Fallopia japonica*
Leek, Few-flowered	*Allium paradoxum*
Lettuce, Water	*Pistia stratiotes*
Montbretia	*Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora*
Parrot's Feather	*Myriophyllum aquaticum*
Pennywort, Floating	*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*
Potato, Duck	*Sagittaria latifolia*
Primrose, Floating Water	*Ludwigia peploides*
Primrose, Water	*Ludwigia grandiflora*
Primrose, Water	*Ludwigia uruguayensis*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum x Rhododendron maximum*
Rhubarb, Giant	*Gunnera tinctoria*

Rose, Japanese	*Rosa rugosa*
Salvinia, Giant	*Salvinia molesta*
Seafingers, Green	*Codium fragile*
Stonecrop, Australian Swamp (otherwise known as New Zealand Pygmyweed)	*Crassula helmsii*
Waterweed, Curly	*Lagarosiphon major*
Waterweeds	*All species of the genus Elodea.*

Animals:

Common name	***Scientific name***
Chinese mitten crab	*Eriocheir sinensis*
Egyptian goose	*Alopochen aegyptiacus*
Grey squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*
Muntjac deer	*Muntiacus reevesi*
Signal crayfish	*Pacifastacus leniusculus*
Terrapins - all subspecies including red-eared slider, yellow-bellied slider, Cumberland slider and common slider	*Trachemys scripta*
Asian hornet	*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*
Chinese sleeper/Amur sleeper	*Percottus glenii*
Coati	*Nasua nasua*
Common myna	*Acridotheres tristis*
Coypu	*Myocastor coypus*
Fox squirrel	*Sciurus niger*
Indian house crow	*Corvus splendens*
Marbled crayfish	*Procambarus fallax f. virginalis (Procambarus virginalis)*
Muskrat	*Ondatra zibethicus*

New Zealand flatworm	*Arthurdendyus triangulatus*
North American bullfrog	*Lithobates (Rana) catesbeianus*
Pallas's squirrel	*Callosciurus erythraeus*
Pumpkinseed	*Lepomis gibbosus*
Raccoon	*Procyon lotor*
Raccoon dog	*Nyctereutes procyonoides*
Red swamp crayfish	*Procambarus clarkii*
Ruddy duck	*Oxyura jamaicensis*
Sacred ibis	*Threskiornis aethiopicus*
Siberian chipmunk	*Tamias sibiricus*
Small Asian mongoose / Javan mongoose	*Herpestes javanicus*
Spiny-cheek crayfish	*Orconectes limosus (Faxonius limosus)*
Striped eel catfish	*Plotosus lineatus*
Topmouth gudgeon (also known as stone moroko)	*Pseudorasbora parva*
Virile crayfish	*Orconectes virilis (Faxonius virilis)*