

Proposed Fishing Platforms on the River Wye Between Greyfriars Bridge and a Pumping Station in Hereford

Construction Ecological Management Plan

A report to:

Hereford & District Angling Association

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REPORT REVIEW/QUALITY ASSURANCE				
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared by Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. for Hereford & District Angling Association. It provides the details of a Construction Ecological Management Plan for 28 new fishing platforms.
- 1.1.2 The site is situated on both riverbanks of the River Wye, between Greyfriars Bridge and a pumping station in Hereford (National Grid Reference SO 505394) (see Figure 1, Appendix 1).
- 1.1.3 The proposed development comprises the construction of 28 new wooden fishing platforms on both river banks (see Figure 1, Appendix 1). Presently there are 22 wooden fishing platforms: 14 on the south bank and 8 on the north bank, between Greyfriars Bridge and Hunderton Bridge. The following works are proposed (as supplied by Lee Harper-Smith, HDAA and included in the Design and Access Statement):

General Information:

- The HDAA has a numbering system for access points on the bank where fishing is available (i.e. Peg numbers). This way HDAA prevents the whole riverbank from becoming eroded and ensures that each person has the same amount of river available to them for fishing.
- Some of the pegs which do not have a fishing platform are becoming eroded, as it is a particularly popular fishing venue in the winter.
- HDAA propose the installation of 28 new bespoke wooden fishing platforms (with access steps and handrails): 4 on the north bank (Pegs 54, 60, 61 and 63) and 2 on the south bank (Pegs 88 and 94) between Greyfriars Bridge and Hunderton Bridge, and add 16 on the north bank (Pegs 38 to 53) between the pump house and Hunderton Bridge and 6 on the south bank (Pegs 73 to 78) between 11 Luard Walk and Hunderton Bridge.
- The proposed fishing platforms will prevent further erosion of the riverbank and provide safety for the anglers.

- The 28 peg locations are already regularly used by anglers, albeit without a formal fishing platform, and therefore the peg locations are already maintained by strimming to enable access for the anglers.
- The number of existing Pegs will not be increased; the capacity will stay the same.
- The existing fishing platforms have prevented further erosion of the riverbank and have allowed the areas under and either side of the platforms to fully recover helping to increase the amount of bankside vegetation cover and undisturbed areas of dense scrub; a valuable habitat for otters (A key objective for Natural England the River Wye SAC).
- It has been advised that the period of installation for the works should be June to August, inclusive.
- It is possible the proposed works may take 2 years to complete.
- It is envisaged that it will take approximately one day on site to construct one platform.
- One area of potential concern is Peg 94, which has bedrock present.
- The fishing platforms will be installed on the riverbank.
- Each platform will follow the contours of the existing riverbank.
- The general design will be a wooden construction of steps down to a main platform (see Figure 2, Appendix 1). The number of steps vary from peg to peg and may require small landing areas to accommodate turns or to reduce their gradient in line with the profile of the riverbank.
- The main platform will have a frontage of 2m in width to accommodate an adult and child fishing together.
- Each platform will be finished with a front rail and handrail for safety purposes.
- The proposed design of the platforms will be like those already installed at the site, being of wooden construction installed into the bank with minimal disturbance to the existing bank profiles.
- The platforms are of wooden construction.

- The wooden 'legs' are hydraulically inserted onto the ground using a digger; the wood has a pointed end and inserted at least 60cm into the ground. Once all the wooden legs are inserted the platform is manually built like decking. This ensures minimal disturbance to the bank.
- Equipment to be used comprises a digger and manual hand tools/small electrical tools.

Contractor Proposed Working Methods:

- Installations of first post into banks by means of a hydraulic hammer attached to suitable sized tracked excavator.
 - Posts to be approx. 125mm x 125mm with 4 x way pointed bottoms.
 - Installations of timber beams and frames approx. 150mm x 50mm to platforms & steps.
 - Installations of hand rails to sides of steps, posts approx. 150mm x 75mm and hand rails approx. 100mm x 50mm.
 - Construction of platforms & steps to be over the top of the existing bank formation where possible due to the bank variations angles and profiles.
- 1.1.4 Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. carried an Extended Phase-1 habitat survey, otter (*Lutra lutra*) survey and water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) survey on 5th September 2023. Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) was consulted for the Ecological Appraisal to provide locations and details of ecological information for the site and to a study area distance of 2km around it.
- 1.1.5 Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. produced an Ecological Appraisal report and an Ecological Enhancement Strategy and Management Plan to support the planning application (Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. December 2023, December 2023a, respectively).
- 1.1.6 This report provides a construction ecological management plan detailing measures to avoid/minimise the risk of damaging/disturbing designated nature conservation sites, habitats and disturbing, harming or injuring faunal species, including common amphibians, reptiles, [REDACTED], bats, nesting birds (including kingfisher) and otter. It is considered there will be no potential adverse impacts to hazel dormouse, water vole and white-clawed crayfish and therefore, these species are not included in this report. Himalayan balsam advice is also included in the report.

- 1.1.7 Habitat enhancement/creation is proposed for the development, including native tree and shrub planting and wildflower sowing. Faunal species enhancements will comprise roosting/nesting boxes for bats, birds and insects and habitats piles for amphibians and reptiles. The proposed habitat enhancement/creation and faunal species enhancements are considered to provide biodiversity benefits for the proposed development.
- 1.1.8 Timing of the proposed development works is only provisional at this stage. It is possible that the works will start in summer 2024 and take approximately 2 years to complete.

1.2 Bat and Otter Legislation

- 1.2.1 Bats and their habitat and otter and their habitat are protected under British law by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and bats and otter are classified as European Protected Species under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).
- 1.2.2 This makes it an offence to kill, injure or disturb a bat or otter and to destroy any place used for rest or shelter by a bat or otter.
- 1.2.3 Under this legislation development work that could affect a bat or otter and their habitat can only be permitted under a licence from Natural England.
- 1.2.4 Licences in respect of European Protected Species affected by development can be granted under Section 55(9) (b) of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), for the purpose of preserving public health or public safety or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment.
- 1.2.5 Under this legislation licences can only be issued if Natural England are satisfied that:
- There is no satisfactory alternative and
 - The action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.
- 1.2.6 Natural England aim to process licence applications within 30 working days of receipt.

1.3 Common Amphibian Legislation

- 1.3.1 Common amphibian species (i.e. common frog *Rana temporaria*, common toad *Bufo bufo*, smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris* and palmate newt *L. helveticus*) are afforded partial legal protection under UK legislation, i.e. Schedule 5, Section 9 (5) of the Wildlife

and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This legislation prohibits: sale, transportation and advertising for sale.

1.4 Badger Legislation

- 1.4.1 Badger is a widespread and generally common species. However, they are legally protected under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992, which is based primarily on the need to protect badgers from baiting and deliberate harm or injury.
- 1.4.2 Under this legislation it is illegal to: Wilfully kill, injure, take, or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so; possess any dead badger or any part of, or anything derived from, a dead badger; intentionally or recklessly interfere with a sett by disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, damaging or destroying a sett, causing a dog to enter a sett, or obstructing access to it.
- 1.4.3 A badger sett is defined in the legislation as *“any structure or place, which displays signs indicating current use by a badger”*.

1.5 Nesting Bird Legislation

- 1.5.1 The bird breeding season generally lasts from early March to September for most species. All birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000. This legislation makes it illegal, both intentionally and recklessly to:
 - Kill, injure or take any wild bird;
 - Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or in use;
 - Take or destroy the eggs of any wild bird; and
 - Possess or control any wild bird or egg unless obtained legally.
- 1.5.2 Birds listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) (e.g. kingfisher) are afforded additional protection, which includes makes it an offence to disturb a bird while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

1.6 Reptile Legislation

- 1.6.1 There are six native species of reptile in the UK: adder (*Vipera berus*), common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*) and smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*), which are afforded varying degrees of protection under UK and European legislation.

- 1.6.2 Adder, common lizard, grass snake and slow-worm are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 against deliberate or reckless killing and injuring and sale. These species are found in Herefordshire. Whilst protection is not extended to their habitat, damage to it may result in an offence if suitable mitigation measures are not implemented.
- 1.6.3 The implications for the proposed development work are that any construction activities should not result in the death or injury of individual reptiles should they occur on site. Hence, precautionary measures to provide for their individual protection are recommended.
- 1.6.4 Licences are not required for works affecting adder, grass snake, common lizard and slow-worm or for handling of these reptiles whilst undertaking survey or mitigation activities.
- 1.6.5 Smooth snake and sand lizard and their habitat are afforded full protection under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The site does not provide habitat for these species.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The site comprises the north and south banks of the River Wye between Greyfriars Bridge and Hunderton Bridge and beyond Hunderton Bridge to the west (see Figure 1, Appendix 1).
- 2.2 The river has steep earth banks (vertical in places) vegetated with tall herbaceous and grass vegetation, with bankside trees and shrubs. There is short grassland on the bank top which is used for amenity purposes as there are public footpaths along the river. The peg locations are in use by anglers and therefore the vegetation around the pegs is already maintained by strimming to enable access for the anglers to the water's edge. Some bank erosion was noted at some of the proposed fishing platform locations.
- 2.3 The site is situated within Hereford. To the south there is a public footpath (laid to tarmac) with adjoining narrow strips of amenity areas on the river bank top (comprised of shortly mown grassland and trees and shrubs), with a large supermarket, primary school and residential properties and gardens beyond. To the north there is also a public footpath (laid to tarmac) with amenity areas on the river bank top (although narrower than the southern side; comprised of shortly mown grassland and trees and

shrubs), with leisure activities beyond, including sea cadets, a rugby club and recreation rounds.

3 SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL RESULTS AND EVALUATION/IMPACTS

3.1 Designated Nature Conservation Sites

- 3.1.1 There are statutory and non-statutory designated nature conservation sites on the survey site (i.e. the River Wye SAC/SSSI/SWS) (Special Area of Conservation, Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Wildlife Site) and a further one SWS and 33 SINCs non-statutory sites (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) (closest SWS is 710m away and closest SINCs adjoin the survey site/bank tops) within the 2km study area.
- 3.1.2 Although the proposed fishing platforms are within a SAC/SSSI/SWS, due to the nature of the proposed development works, it is considered adverse impacts to the SAC/SSSI/SWS will be avoided and there are potential benefits to their installation (full details are provided in the Ecological Appraisal report; Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. December 2023).
- 3.1.3 However, it will be essential that the river is not adversely affected during the construction of the fishing platforms and working methods will need to be followed (see Section 4.2 below). In particular, it is important that no pollution, litter or rubbish enters the river system. Therefore, mitigation is recommended to ensure that adverse impacts to the SAC/SSSI/SWS are avoided (see Section 4.2 below).

3.2 Habitats

- 3.2.1 The site comprises a river, with banks covered in species-poor grassland and tall ruderal vegetation and scattered broadleaved trees and shrubs.
- 3.2.2 The river is of high international and national value being designated SAC/SINC. However, the individual habitats recorded on the river banks on the site are considered to be common low-grade habitats of site ecological value (the habitat of highest relative value in this category is mature tree).
- 3.2.3 Mitigation measures are recommended to avoid/minimise adverse impacts to habitats (see Sections 4.2 below).

3.3 Schedule 9 Plant Species

- 3.3.1 Himalayan balsam was recorded on the site. It is a highly invasive non-native plant which is listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) Schedule 9 Part II. Section 14 prohibits planting in the wild of plants listed in Part II of Schedule 9, or otherwise causing the plants to grow there. It should be noted that it is not an offence to have the plants listed in Schedule 9 growing on your land and there is no legal requirement to control it if it is (unless doing so forms part of a legally binding contract or agreement with another party).
- 3.3.2 To avoid potential breaches of wildlife legislation, we recommend that the Himalayan balsam plants are eradicated from the site (see Section 4.2.11 below).
- 3.3.3 From another ecological consultants' report for a further proposed development at the Sea Cadets site adjoining to the north east, there is Japanese knotweed growing on the river bank in that area; which is another Schedule 9 plant species.

3.4 Faunal Species

3.4.1 Amphibians

- a) The habitats present on the site and in the close vicinity suggest that the site may be used to a very limited degree by any local amphibian populations. There is no potential amphibian breeding habitat on the site and according to the Magic Map website there are no ponds within 500m of the site, although the site provides some limited potential amphibian terrestrial habitat.
- b) There are seven previous records for great crested newt (a specially protected amphibian) from the 2km study area (closest is 1,355m from the site). Therefore, due to the nature of the habitats on and surrounding the site, it is considered the presence of great crested newt on the site is considered unlikely.
- c) As a precaution some best practice measures are recommended for common amphibians (see 4.2.3, 4.2.5, 4.2.7, 4.2.9 and 4.2.10 below).

3.4.2 Badger

- a) [REDACTED] No evidence of badger was found on the site and the site provides limited potential habitat for badger as the banks flood and therefore provides limited potential badger sett building habitat.

b) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

c) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3.4.3 Bats

- a) The site provides some potential bat roosting, foraging and commuting habitat. It is envisaged that no trees or shrubs are to be felled. There may be some light trimming of small branches for access to construct the platforms, particularly on the south western side of the site. As any tree and shrub trimming will be minimal and there will be no new exterior lighting at the site, it is considered adverse impacts to bat foraging and commuting will be avoided.
- b) Best practice measures are recommended for roosting, foraging and commuting bats in the vicinity (see Section 4.2.6 below).
- c) A further bat scoping survey would be required if any trees/shrubs are to be felled, pollarded or large tree limbs removed (see Section 4.2.4 below).

3.4.4 Nesting Birds

- a) The trees, shrubs and bankside vegetation (at the water's edge) on the site and in the vicinity provide potential bird nesting habitat for a limited variety of bird species.
- b) Kingfisher is listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA 1981 (as amended), providing additional protection from disturbance on a nest.
- c) All birds are protected under the WCA 1981 (as amended) whilst breeding. This legislation protects nests, eggs and unfledged young from damage or destruction.
- d) If any trees or shrubs are removed and during any works close to the water's edge, there could be adverse impacts to nesting birds (including kingfisher). Mitigation and a further nesting bird check are recommended (see Sections 4.2.2 and 4.2.4 below).

3.4.5 Otter

- a) There are 79 previous records for otter for the 2km study area (closest is 45m away) and bankside vegetation in the area of the proposed works provides poor potential otter holt habitat, as the sections are well used by the general public and anglers. The

more secluded section on the southern bank on the south western side of the site provides some potential otter laying-up sites; however, the limited proposed works in this area are considered unlikely to adversely affect otter.

- b) However, as an absolute precaution, an otter walk-over survey should be carried out by an ecologist prior to works commencing (see Section 4.2.4 below).

3.4.6 Reptiles

- a) There are several previous records for common lizard, grass snake and slow-worm for the 2km study area, with the closest record being for grass snake approximately 370m away. The longer grassland and tall ruderal vegetation on the river banks on the site provide some potential habitat for reptiles.
- b) However, as only very limited and localised areas of river bank are to be temporarily affected for each proposed fishing platform (and vegetation subsequently allowed to grow back), it is considered no further reptile surveys are required and that instead precautionary mitigation/best practice measures are recommended (see Sections 4.2.3, 4.2.5, 4.2.7, 4.2.9 and 4.2.10 below).

3.5 Main Potential Ecological Issues/Impacts

- 3.5.1 The main potential ecological constraints associated with the proposed development works comprise the following: (i) damage/disturbance to the River Wye SAC/SSSI/SWS, particularly from pollution, (ii) loss/damage/disturbance to bankside habitats, (iii) spreading a Schedule 9 plant Himalayan balsam on and off the site, (iv) harm to nesting birds (including kingfisher), (v) disturbance to otter and (vi) disturbance and harm to common amphibians and reptiles.
- 3.5.2 Pre-works checks/surveys, mitigation and precautionary mitigation are recommended for some faunal species (see Section 4.2 below).
- 3.5.3 There are ecological opportunities through habitat creation, native planting and enhancements for faunal species (see Section 4.3 below).

4. MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT MEASURES

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Proposed development works/activities which may adversely impact on the ecology on the site and adjoining/surrounding the site are as follows:

- Site set up.
- Use of machinery and vehicles on the site.
- Storage of equipment and materials on the site.

4.1.2 The main ecological features to be avoided/disturbance minimised are as follows (see Figures 3 and 4, Appendix 1):

- Designated nature conservation sites on/adjoining the working area).
- Mature trees and shrubs on the site.
- Schedule 9 Himalayan balsam on the site.
- Potential otter habitat on the river bank, including beneath trees and shrubs.
- Potential bat roosts in mature trees and shrubs.
- Potential nesting birds in trees, shrubs and vegetation near the water's edge (and kingfisher in bare earth banks).
- Potential common amphibians and reptiles within bankside grassland and tall ruderal vegetation.
- [REDACTED]

4.1.3 Section 4.2 below provides details of the mitigation measures/working methods recommended to ensure that the construction phase is carried out with no impact on the designated nature conservation site, habitats, Himalayan balsam and faunal species on the site.

4.1.4 Pre-development ecological walk-over surveys will be required (see Section 4.2.4 below).

4.1.5 A brief summary of the enhancement measures for the proposed development is detailed in Section 4.3 below.

4.2 Mitigation Measures and Working Methods

4.2.1 Introduction

- a) The following mitigation measures/working methods are proposed to avoid/minimise the risk of loss/damage/disturbance to the designated nature conservation site, mature trees and shrubs on the site, to avoid the risk of spreading Himalayan balsam on and off the site and also avoid/minimise the risk of disturbance and/or harming faunal species such as otter, bats, nesting birds, [REDACTED] common amphibians and reptiles during the site construction works.
- b) The pre-development ecological walk-over surveys, as stated in Section 4.2.4 below will be carried out prior to the site construction works commencing.
- c) We advise that Natural England and Environment Agency are consulted regarding the proposals. This element of work would be carried out by HDAA.
- d) Damage/disturbance to the River Wye SAC/SSSI must be avoided.

4.2.2 Timing of Fishing Platform Construction Works

- a) Platform construction works can be carried out at any time of year; however, if it is carried out during the nesting bird season (i.e. March to September, inclusive), then firstly a nesting bird check must be carried out by an ecologist (see Section 4.2.4 below).

4.2.3 Pre-development Site Works by HDAA

- a) If the grassland and tall ruderal vegetation is long in the affected areas of the river bank, the HDAA will strim the vegetation, which will also make the affected areas temporarily less suitable for amphibians and reptiles.

4.2.4 Pre-development Ecological Walk-over Survey by Ecologist

- a) An ecological walk-over survey of the site will be carried out by an ecologist the day before the site works commence to check the area and close vicinity for any otter activity. Depending on the results of the survey, further mitigation measures for otter may be required.
- b) If the site works (involving any tree or shrub removal; which is considered unlikely, and works near the water's edge) were carried out during the nesting bird season, i.e. March to September, inclusive, an ecologist will firstly check the vegetation for nesting

birds. If any nests were found works would need to be delayed in that area until all chicks had fledged the nest.

- c) If any trees are to be felled/pollarded/large tree limbs removed due to health and safety reasons etc., then firstly a bat scoping survey will be carried out a licensed bat ecologist.

4.2.5 Temporary Bankside Grassland and Tall Ruderal Vegetation Disturbance

- a) It is envisaged that it will take approximately one day to install one fishing platform.
- b) All equipment and materials will be removed off site after each working day. There will be no temporary storage on the grassland and tall ruderal vegetation on the river banks or near the water's edge.
- c) There will be no loss of grassland and tall ruderal vegetation. Any temporary disturbance will be kept to an absolute minimum and the vegetation will re-grow naturally afterwards.

4.2.6 Trees and Shrubs

- a) All mature trees and shrubs on the site will be retained (as proposed) and protected from disturbance. Only light trimming of tree and shrub small branches may be required to gain access for construction works.
- b) No storage of materials, equipment or plant will take place under the 'drip-zone' of trees (i.e. under their canopy). Best practice will be followed (i.e. BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Construction) to ensure individual trees are not adversely affected.

4.2.7 Temporary Storage of Equipment and Materials

- a) The temporary storage of equipment and materials during the construction of the fishing platforms will be on the short amenity grassland on the bank tops (and not on other grassland/tall ruderal vegetation on the river banks or at the water's edge). This will avoid damaging the river banks and river.

4.2.8 Pollution Prevention Measures

- a) Best practice will be used to ensure that water quality in the River Wye is not affected by leakage of oil or diesel from machinery or tools during construction works. All development works will adhere to UK government guidelines for works near water: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pollution-prevention-for-businesses>

- b) It will be ensured that no litter or rubbish is accidentally dropped into the river or left on the river banks, during the fishing platform construction. All litter and rubbish will be taken away and disposed of off-site in litter bins or taken home for disposal.

4.2.9 Ground Excavations

- a) Any development works excavation holes required will be covered over at night to prevent animals from falling in and being unable to climb out.

4.2.10 Procedure to Follow Should Protected Species be Found During Construction Works

- a) If a mammal hole is observed during the construction works, works will stop in that area and Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. contacted to provide advice (see c) below).
- b) If any common amphibians are found, the site contractor will carefully by hand and with due care and diligence place the animal in areas of tall grassland, outside the proposed works areas.
- c) If any reptiles are found, the site contractor will stop works in that area and telephone Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. for advice (T: Susie Udall 07968 030448/Dwayne Martin 07954 160468).

4.2.11 Himalayan Balsam

- a) We recommend the non-native highly invasive Himalayan balsam plants on the site are eradicated. Japanese knotweed is also known in the close vicinity on the north eastern side of the site; therefore, this plant should also be searched for during eradication of Himalayan balsam.
- b) We recommend that a specialist Schedule 9 plant control company provides further advice regarding eradication and management of the river banks in areas where the plant is known to be present, as there are very strict rules regarding appropriate environmental disposal of the plant (to ensure that legislation is not breached). It is essential the plant is not spread on or off the site during the fishing platform construction works. The specialist company will need to liaise with Natural England as the site is a SAC/SSSI and also provide advice to the contractor on safe working methods.

4.3 Enhancement Measures

- 4.3.1 Enhancements for the proposed development comprise native tree and shrub planting, grassland diversification (by planting native broadleaved herbaceous species), sowing new native wildflower areas and faunal species enhancements (comprising bat roosting boxes, bird nesting boxes, insect boxes and habitat piles for amphibians and reptiles).

5. PLAN OF WORK

Item	Mitigation Measures/Working Methods	Timing	Personnel
Pre-development Grassland & Tall Ruderal Strimming			
1	If the grassland and tall ruderal vegetation is long in the affected areas, strim the vegetation short.	Prior to site construction works	HDAA
Pre-development Ecological Walk-over Survey by Ecologist			
2	Ecological walk-over survey by an ecologist to ascertain if there is any otter activity in the area of the proposed works and also carry out a nesting bird check of the vegetation (if there is to be any tree or shrub removal or works close to the water's edge carried out between March and September, inclusive). If any trees are to be felled/pollarded/large tree limbs removed, firstly a bat scoping survey by a licensed bat ecologist will be carried out.	Prior to construction works commencing	Ecologist
Temporary Bankside Grassland and Tall Ruderal Vegetation Disturbance			
3	All equipment and materials will be removed off site after each working day. There will be no temporary storage on the grassland and tall ruderal vegetation on the river banks or near the water's edge.		Contractor
Trees and Shrubs			
4	Retain all trees and shrubs, particularly mature specimens.	Throughout construction phase	Contractor
5	No storage of materials, equipment or plant will take place under the 'drip-zone' of any trees in the vicinity (i.e. under their canopy). Best practice will be followed (i.e. BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Construction) to ensure individual trees are not adversely affected.	Throughout construction phase	Contractor
Temporary Storage of Equipment and Materials			
6	The temporary storage of equipment and materials during the construction of the fishing platforms will be on the short amenity grassland on the bank tops (and not on other grassland and tall ruderal vegetation on the river banks or at the water's edge). This will avoid damaging the river banks and river.	Throughout the construction phase	Contractor
Pollution Prevention Measures			
7	Best practice will be used to ensure that water quality in the River Wye is not affected by leakage of oil or diesel from machinery or tools. All works will adhere to UK government guidelines for works near water (UK Government guidance).	Throughout construction phase	Contractor
8	It will be ensured that no litter or rubbish is accidentally dropped into the river or left on the river banks, during the fishing platform construction. All litter and rubbish will be taken away and disposed of off-site in litter bins or taken home for disposal.	Throughout construction phase	Contractor
Ground Excavations			
9	Any development works excavation holes required will be covered	Throughout the	Contractor

	over at night to prevent animals from falling in and being unable to climb out.	construction works phase	
Procedure to Follow Should Protected Species be Found During Construction Works			
10	If a mammal hole is observed during the construction works, works will stop in that area and Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. contacted to provide advice (see Item 13 below).	Throughout the construction phase	Contractor
11	If any common amphibians are found, the site contractor will carefully by hand and with due care and diligence place the animal in areas of tall grassland, outside the proposed works areas.	Throughout the construction phase	Contractor
12	If any reptiles are found, the site contractor will stop works in that area and telephone Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. for advice (see Item 13 below).	Throughout the construction phase	Contractor
13	Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. contact details: M: Susie Udall 07968 030448; Dwayne Martin 07954 160468 E: susie@umassociates.co.uk; dwayne@umassociates.co.uk		
Himalayan balsam			
14	We recommend the non-native highly invasive Himalayan balsam plants on the site are eradicated. Japanese knotweed is also known in the close vicinity on the north eastern side of the site; therefore, this plant should also be searched for during eradication of Himalayan balsam.	TBC by specialist contractor/ company	Specialist contractor/ company

6. REFERENCES

Government Pollution Prevention Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pollution-prevention-for-businesses>

MAGIC Site Check Report. Available: www.magic.gov.uk.

Nbn Gateway. Available: www.nbn.org.uk.

Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. December 2023 *Proposed Fishing Platforms on the River Wye Between Greyfriars Bridge and a Pumping Station in Hereford: Ecological Appraisal.* A report under contract to Hereford & District Angling Association.

Udall-Martin Associates Ltd. December 2023a *Proposed Fishing Platforms on the River Wye Between Greyfriars Bridge and a Pumping Station in Hereford: Ecological Enhancement Strategy and Management Plan (2024 to 2029).* A report under contract to Hereford & District Angling Association.

Appendix 1: Figures

Figure 1: Location of Proposed New Fishing Platforms and Survey Area



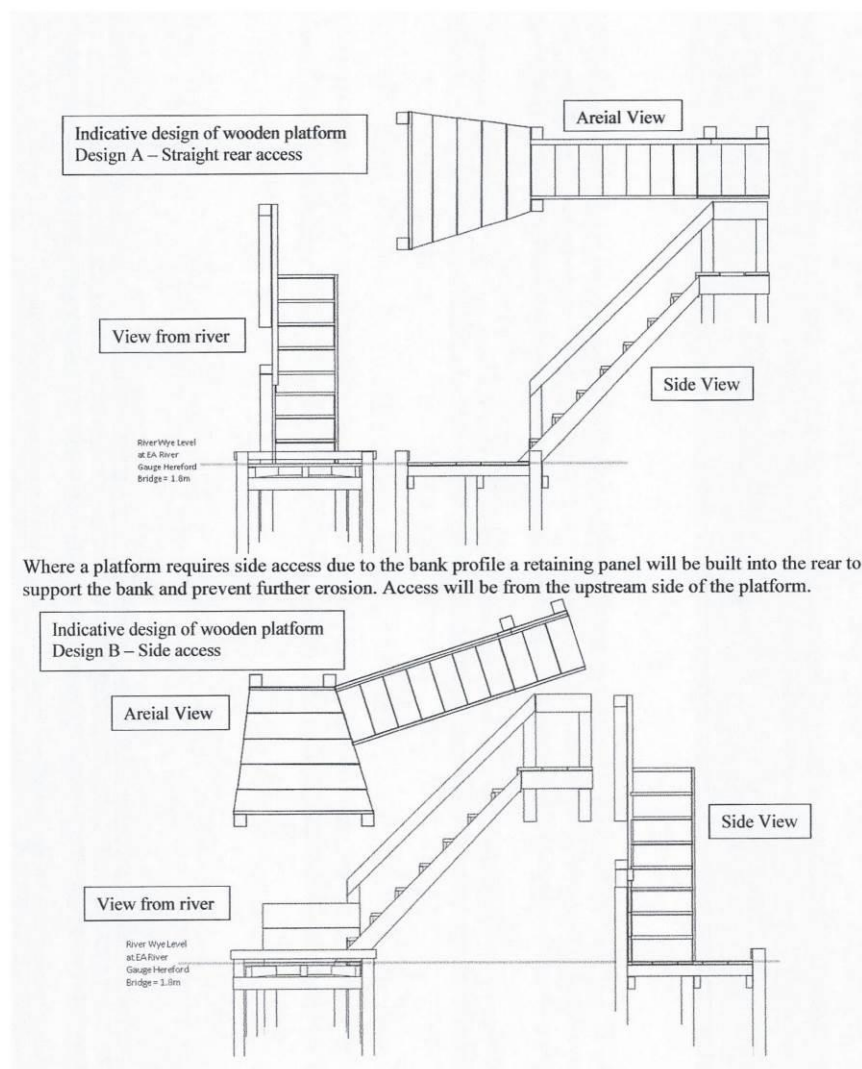
Figure 2: Proposed Fishing Platform General Design

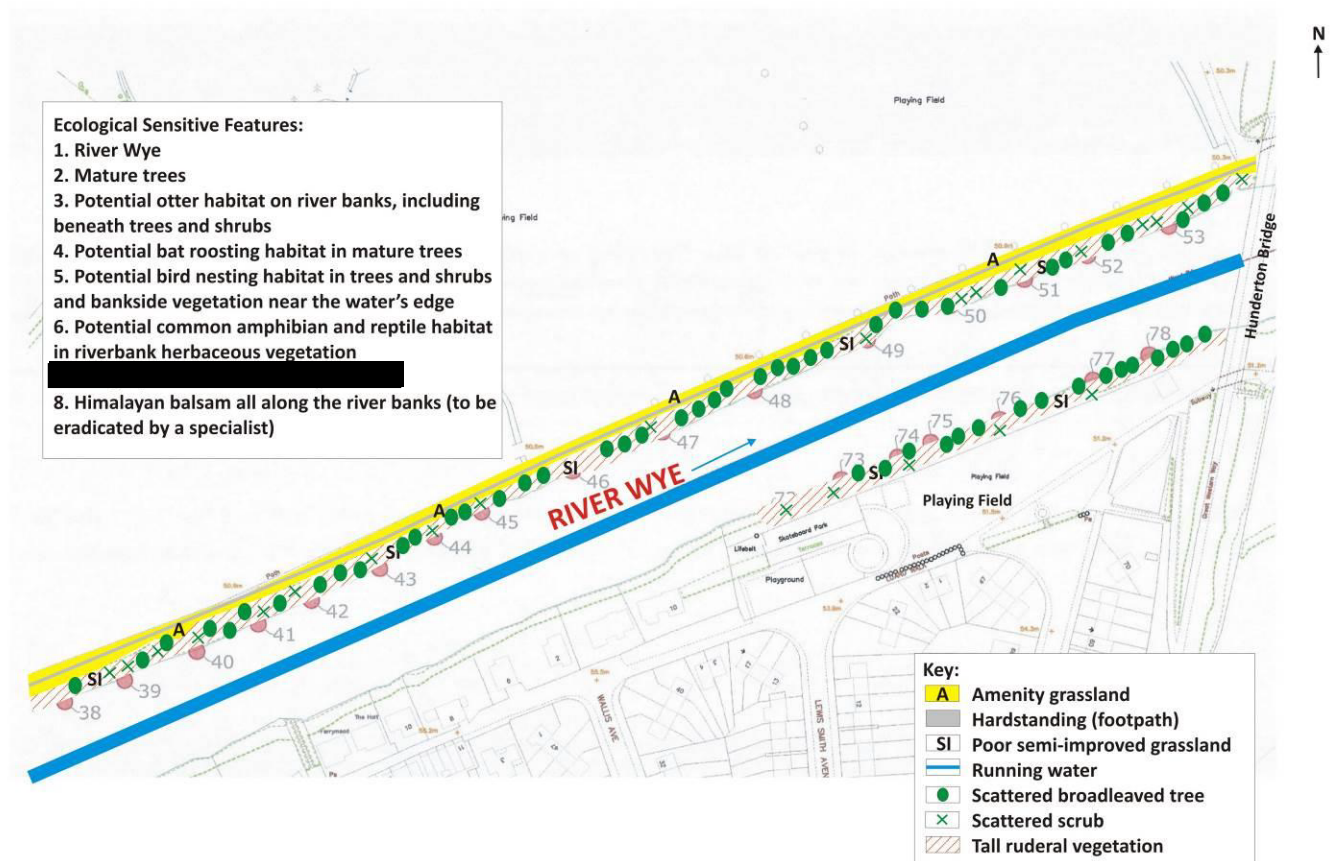
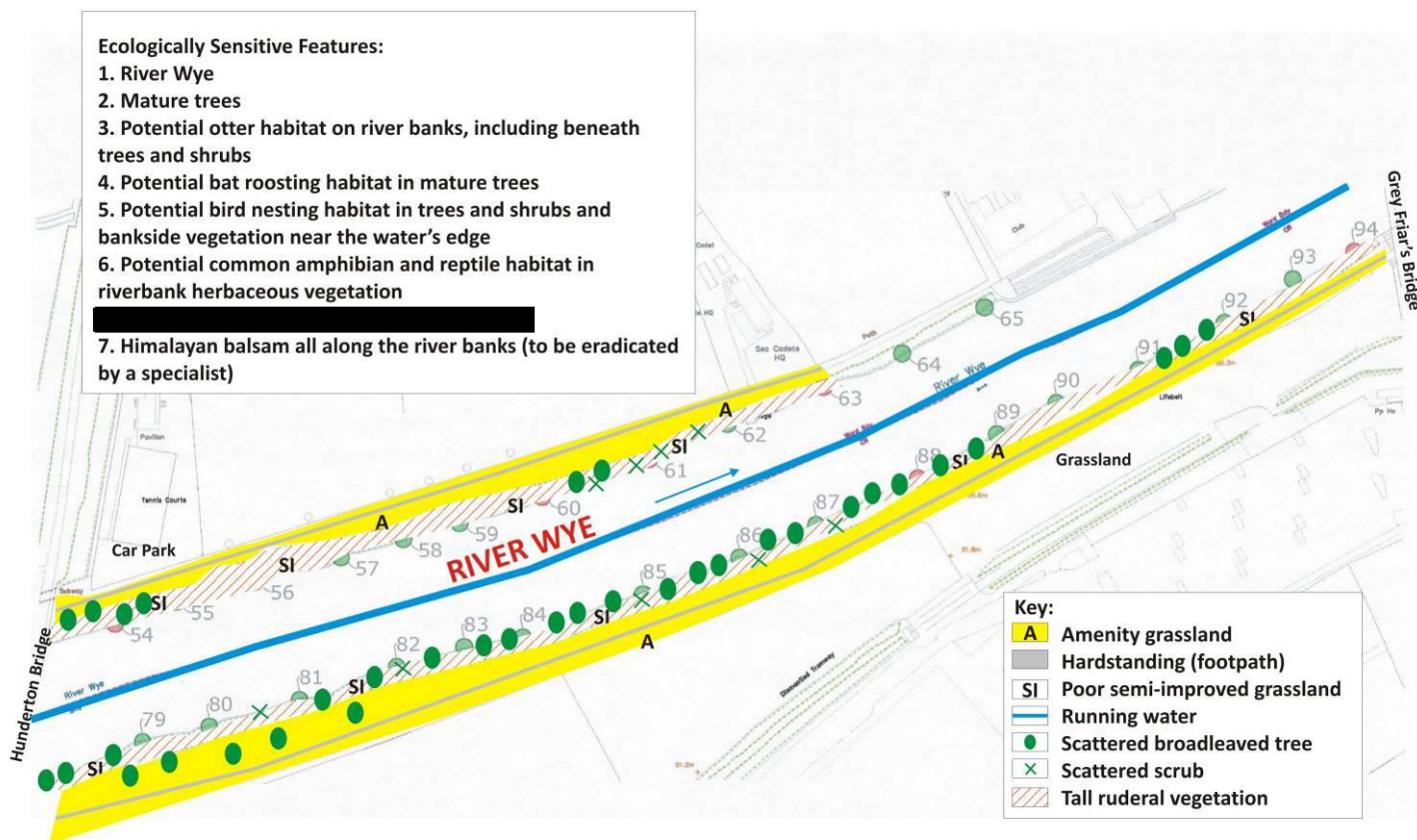
Figure 3: Ecologically Sensitive Features and Mitigation Measures – Western Section

Figure 4: Ecologically Sensitive Features and Mitigation Measures – Eastern Section



Appendix 2: Maps Showing Designated Nature Conservation Sites

