



Japanese Knotweed Treatment, Fordell

The Client: Private Client

The Challenge: Soilutions were contracted with the treatment of a stand of Japanese Knotweed (JK) which had resulted from fly tipping in the car park of an activity centre. The JK stand was growing at one end of a busy car park and had spread close to the site boundary.

The motivations for treatment were to protect against legal liabilities associated with the spread of JK onto the adjacent property, while removing the risk of contact with site users and passing vehicles which may further spread knotweed on the site or off-site.

Devising an effective treatment presented several challenges JK due to the location of the stand immediately beside an open drainage ditch and amongst mature trees on a steep embankment.

The Solution: An appropriate herbicide which is licenced for use on and near water was selected for the treatment. A combination of application techniques was employed in order to apply the as fast a practical without threatening to the health of the trees. The large stand at the edge of the woodland was scheduled for application using a backpack sprayer, and the JK in the woodland was scheduled for application with a weed-wiper.

A coordinated treatment program was planned for active treatments over the next two annual growing seasons with a further five year monitoring and spot treatment program put in place to protect against re-infestation. Complete eradication is expected with in the three year treatment program.

A proposal was submitted to and approved by SEPA, and the adjacent landowner was informed and involved with the timing of application.

Prior to work commencing the area was isolated with a visual barrier which was left in place until die back had been observed. The JK stand was treated as planned, on schedule, and without any disturbance to other activities on site.

Results: Die back of the treated stands of JK was noted in the weeks subsequent to herbicide application. The client was happy that they were able to remove fencing and allow vehicle access to the entire car park again. Subsequent site visits have noted a significant reduction in the size of stands on site and an impact to the vigour of re-growth with a greatly reduced number of stems many as 'bonsai' plants occurring in place of the previously healthy vegetative spread.

Duration: Total time on site 2 days for survey and herbicide application.

Project duration is anticipated to be up to 8 years



MAIN STAND OF JK TAKEN JUNE 2013



INITIAL SPRAY TREATMENT



MAIN STAND ONE MONTH AFTER TREATMENT



MAIN STAND OF JK TAKEN LATE MAY 2014 WITH MINIMAL RE-GROWTH VISIBLE



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