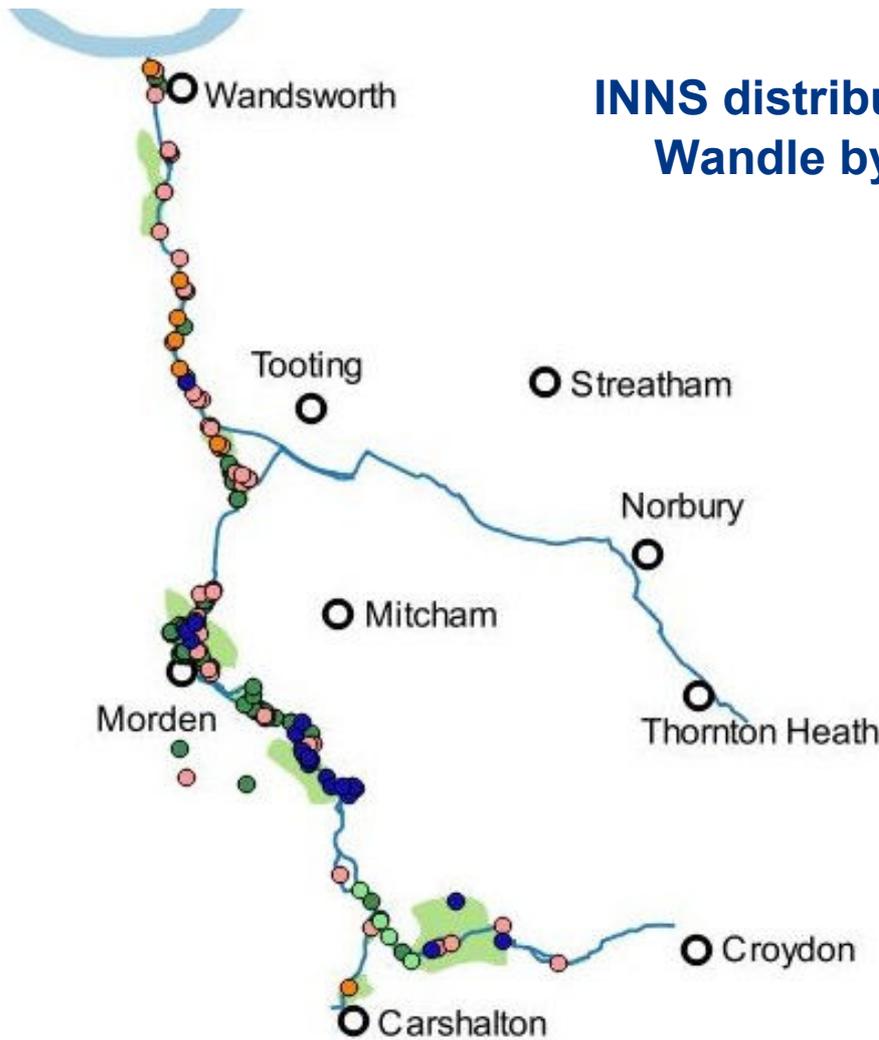


This document outlines the shared Aims for the five key invasive non-native plants which have become established and widespread on the River Wandle: Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed, floating pennywort and parrots feather.

The Aims and Approaches have been agreed as part of the Wandle Invasive Species Project which was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund through the Living Wandle Landscape Partnership.

More information on the biology, ecology and control of these species can be found in the [Wandle Invasive Species Management Plan](#) which you can download from the Wandle Trust website.



## Floating Pennywort (FPW)

### Aims for the Wandle:

- Maintain Ravensbury Park Lake and Watermeads Backwater as open water habitats
- Maintain FPW at manageable levels (restricted, small, single layered rafts) along the river

**Approach:** FPW is well established in the Wandle with the source in Sutton and a significant stronghold at Morden Hall Park. Each year, all known patches to be treated with an integrated approach of manual and chemical removal until the plant only exists as small, manageable patches on the river.



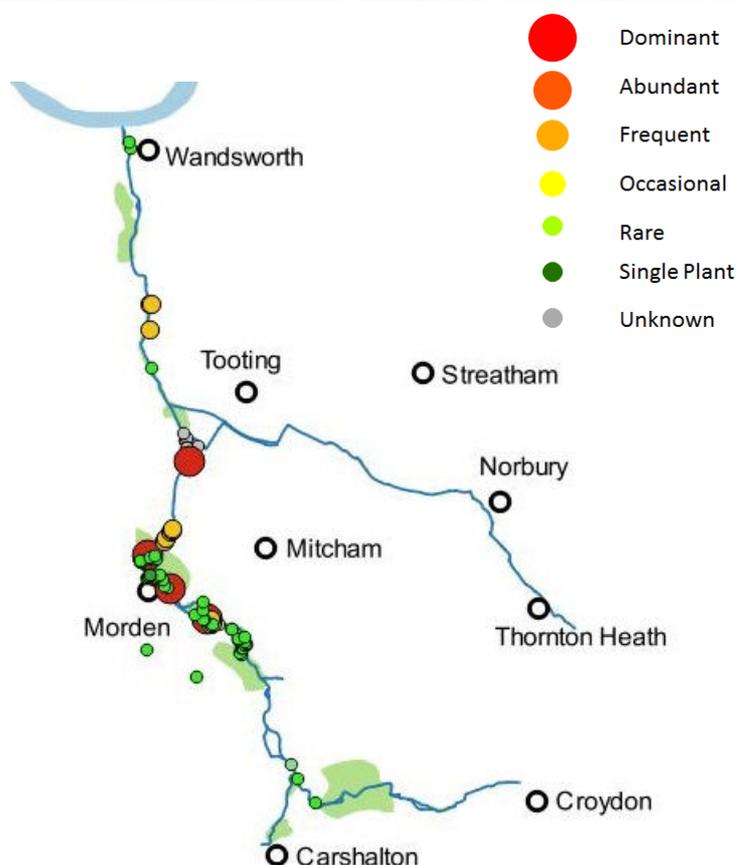
### Current Distribution

FPW is found all along the Wandle in the boroughs of Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth.

The source is a small patch on London Road near Beddington Park.

Significant strongholds for the species are Ravensbury Park, Watermeads Nature Reserve and Morden Hall Park.

Wandle Trust River Rangers survey the river at least once a year for FPW. The latest survey data can be found on the **online map** from the Wandle Trust website.



# Giant Hogweed (GHW)

## Aim for the Wandle:

- Eradicate GHW from the Wandle catchment by 2023.

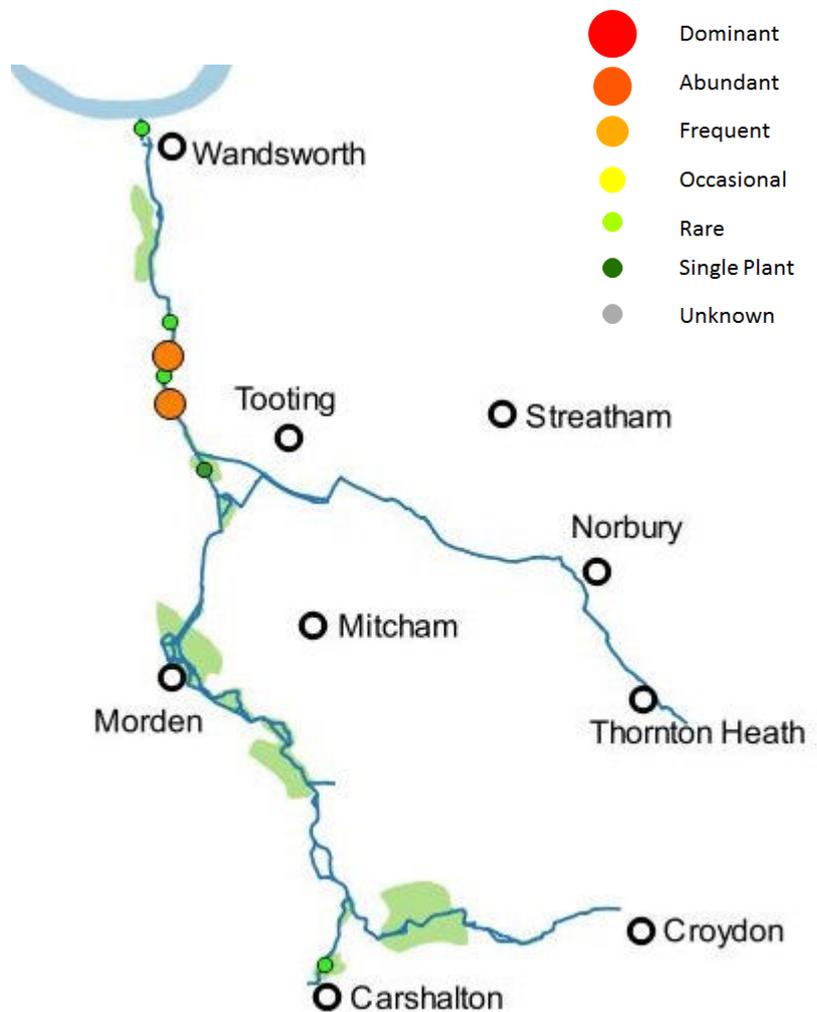
**Approach:** Each year, all known stands of GHW will be micro-mattocked in March/April while the plants are in their rosette phase. If individuals are missed, stem injection and bud removal will be used to ensure no plant runs to seed. Wandle Trust River Rangers will monitor treated sites for regrowth and report any missed or new, developing plants to the Hit Squad for rapid response.



## Current Distribution

GHW is currently found in the boroughs of Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth.

The largest stronghold for the species is along the Wandle Trail between Plough Lane and Trewint Street where large numbers of plants have germinated each year, establishing a substantial seed bank.



## Himalayan Balsam (HB)

### Aims for the Wandle:

- No HB stands on the immediate bank of the River Wandle by 2023

**Approach:** Himalayan balsam is well established in the Wandle along the length of the river and therefore the complete eradication of this species will be difficult. All known patches of HB from Morden Hall Park upstream will be tackled in May and revisited every 3 weeks for regrowth and late germination. This approach will be slowly moved down the river as stands of HB are eliminated.

To reduce biomass on the whole river, any Himalayan balsam stand can be tackled by the landowner to prevent the seed bank increasing any further on that particular site.



### Current Distribution

Himalayan balsam is widespread along the River Wandle, present in the boroughs of Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth.

The source of HB is in Sutton at Richmond Green and in Beddington Park.

After this the main stronghold for the species, and future source for the river, is Morden Hall Park and Watermeads Nature Reserve.



# Japanese Knotweed (JK)

## Aim for the Wandle:

- No regrowth on any treated knotweed stand by 2023

**Approach:** All stands of Japanese knotweed will be stem injected and monitored for regrowth by the landowners and through the River Ranger surveys. Letters will be sent out by the Wandle Trust to smaller, private landowners with JK on their land to recommend treatment.



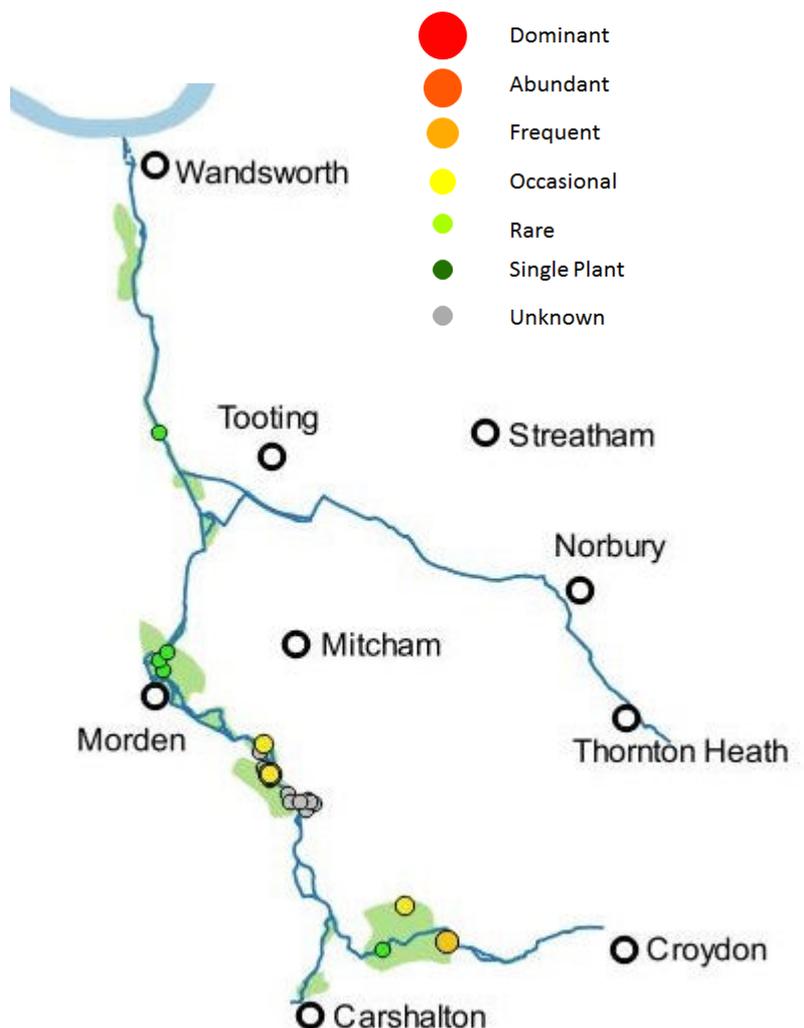
## Current Distribution

Japanese knotweed can be found in the boroughs of Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth.

The upstream source on the Wandle is in Beddington Park where a number of large patches have become established.

Watermeads Nature Reserve, Poulter Park and Morden Hall Park are significant strongholds for the species.

There are a number of private landowners with JK on their land that could become future sources if advice and action isn't taken alongside the collaborative Partnership effort.



## Parrots Feather (PF)

### Aims for the Wandle:

- Eradicate PF from the Wandle catchment
- Have an established system for the early detection and rapid response to this species

**Approach:** With three known sites for Parrots Feather on the Wandle, the eradication of this species is an achievable and important aim. All known patches to be hand-pulled each summer until no regrowth appears.



### Current Distribution

Parrots feather has been present in the Wandle catchment for a number of years, isolated to Manor Pond in Beddington Park.

In 2016, small patches were found further downstream on the Croydon arm of the river at Wilderness Island and at the newly created backwater at Hackbridge.

No other sources in the catchment are known of for this species.

