

The background of the slide is a photograph of a railway track, taken from a low angle and looking down the length of the tracks. The tracks are dark and appear to be made of steel, with a strong sense of perspective as they recede into the distance. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

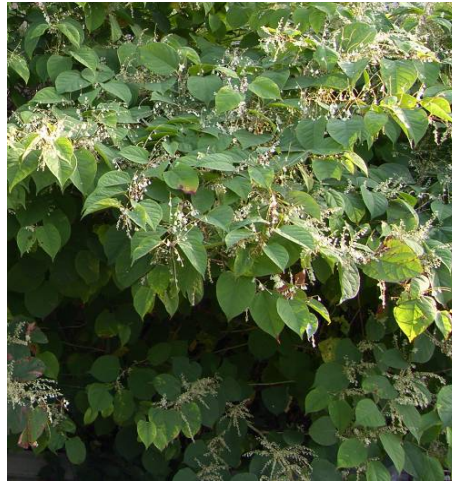
Invasive and Injurious Weeds

Environmental Library

What are they?

- **Invasive weeds** are weeds that spread fast and cause damage
- **Injurious weeds** are weeds that under certain conditions can cause harm to humans and animals
- These are widespread on the Railway Infrastructure
- We all have a **legal duty to prevent the spread** of them

Japanese knotweed - Invasive



Giant Hogweed - Injurious



Giant Hogweed – Injurious

Danger of photodermatitis from bristles and sap



Other examples -Ragwort, Thistles & Docks



What are the issues?

- A threat to native plant and animal species
- A threat to human health
- Can damage buildings and infrastructure
- Effect land value
- Be expensive to treat and control

Management Controls

- **Presence considered as part of the overall risk assessment process**
- **Vegetation may be treated and eradicated before you get to site or if it does not need to be disturbed, it will be fenced off to avoid disturbance and hence spreading**
- **Any control measures will be in the WPP and task briefings**

What do you need to do?

Follow control measures set out in the WPP
and your task briefing

▶ If you have any concerns whilst working...

STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY

and tell your supervisor