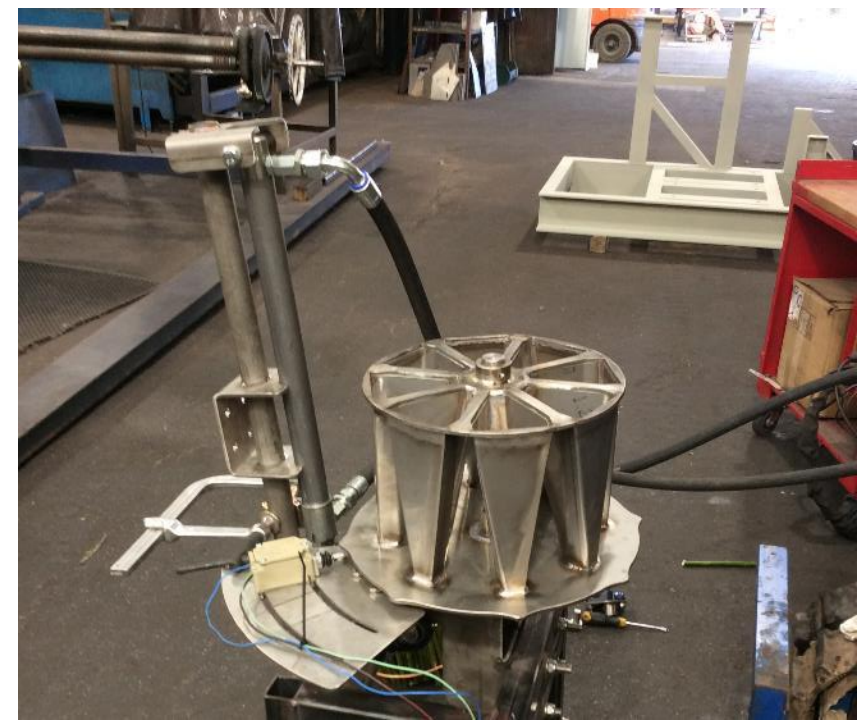




Low Impact Willow Growing

AIM: Use willow to produce a sustainable, renewable product whilst protecting and preserving the peat on SSSI West Sedgemoor

- Trial methods of planting through biodegradable membrane and harvesting on peatland to determine best practice
- Trial different willow varieties for different products on both surface peatland and underlying peat
- Design and develop the machinery needed to plant and harvest the willow efficiently in a shorter time window with minimal soil disturbance
- Develop a pipeline for nutrient stripping in the SSSI (both in-flow & legacy)
- Focus on development of markets for willow products





Progress to Date

Machinery

Planting machinery is now ready for final trials ready for spring planting including laying the membrane and double row planting

Science

Plymouth University are now underway in testing of soils and Willow varieties for Phosphate stripping properties and impact on peat.

Product

Analysis of existing Willow crop being undertaken for production of activated charcoal, kindling and biomass pipeline being developed.

Focus on

Focus on development of harvesting machinery and routes to market.