

The Sizewell C Project

8.2 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan - Clean Version

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP) seeks to provide clear objectives and general principles for the establishment and longer-term management of the landscape, and ecological mitigation proposals identified for the area within the Sizewell C application boundary (hereafter referred to as the site), following construction of Sizewell C power station. The spatial extent of the oLEMP is the same as the area within the illustrative Landscape Masterplan (Doc Ref 2.5(D)), defined within the Sizewell C Main Development Site Design and Access Statement [APP-585] to APP-587). The aim of the oLEMP is to complement the existing management aims of the Estate as a whole as set out in the Estate Wide Management Plan (Doc Ref. 9.88(A)) (Requirement 5C) and to ensure newly created post-construction habitats are integrated within the surrounding landscape.

Objectives for newly created habitats and areas have been informed and established through a review of existing landscape management plans, ecological survey information, the landscape strategy, policy requirements and in response to site specific mitigation and consultation. Within the site, several areas are currently subject to measures defined within existing management plans and maintenance of these areas, and the newly created habitats, must be in accordance with the **Estate Wide Management Plan** (Doc Ref. 9.88(A)) (Requirement 5C).

The site is located within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths National Character Area (NCA) and is covered by four Landscape Character Types (LCTs) within the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment: Estate Sandlands; Coastal Levels, Ancient Estate Claylands and Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges. The site comprises largely of arable farmland habitat which is of little intrinsic botanical diversity. Away from the arable fields, a diverse range of habitats is present, including broad-leaved woodland, conifer plantation woodland and acid grassland. Habitats within the coastal levels comprise fen meadow, wet woodland, ditches and reedbed. Along the coastline, habitats comprise dune grassland and vegetated shingle.

The overriding intention of the site re-instatement, once Sizewell C has been constructed, is to conserve, restore and enhance landscape character and biodiversity at a landscape scale to provide long-term benefits to the biodiversity of Suffolk as a whole. Where possible, existing landscape features of importance for ecology and visual screening would be retained during construction. Four distinct habitat zones have been selected to complement the four LCTs within the site comprising:

- Zone 1 Estate Sandlands: Farmlands:
- Zone 2 Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands;
- Zone 3 Coastal Levels; and
- Zone 4 Coastal Dunes and Shingle.



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The overall aim is to achieve a transition from a managed farmland landscape along the western edge of the site, which grades into open Sandlings grassland bordered by native woodland and scattered trees/scrub and then the coastal zone along the site's eastern boundary. Once fully established, this habitat 'mosaic' will have a higher biodiversity value than the existing habitats, particularly the extensive arable areas that they replace. The new habitats will contribute to enhancing the landscape character of this section of the Estate Sandlands LCT. They will also minimise the visual impact of the Sizewell C Project in views from the surrounding landscape, minimise impacts on cultural heritage resources, improve access and recreation infrastructure and ensure the long-term sustainability and resilience of the landscape, including resilience to predicted climate change.

Habitat creation approaches and subsequent management proposals for habitats that must be created are outlined within this **oLEMP** including time frames.

Monitoring of newly created and existing habitats will be undertaken to measure the success of the habitat establishment and subsequent management proposals which will be set out in the LEMP approved pursuant to Requirement 14 and to determine if interventions are required. More specific monitoring prescriptions must be detailed in a Monitoring Strategy produced by the contractor as part of the detailed design.

The oLEMP provides the framework for the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) which will provide further details of the management measures and implementation of the habitat created, along with ongoing monitoring arrangements. This is secured by a requirement within **Schedule 2** of the **Draft DCO** (Doc Ref. 3.1(I))

The establishment of an Ecology Working Group prior to construction commencing will enable advice to be provided on management measures as informed by the Monitoring Strategy.

This document builds upon the original oLEMP submitted in the application, setting out management compartments by habitat typology for both relocated facilities options and accounting for the open water and wet woodland habitats. This can be found in section 3.5 of this document.



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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 Level 1 control documents will either be certified under the DCO at grant or annexed to the DoO. All are secured and legally enforceable. Some Level 1 documents are compliance documents and must be complied with when certain activities are carried out. Other Level 1 documents are strategies or draft plans which set the boundaries for a subsequent Level 2 document which is required to be approved by a body or governance group. The obligations in the DCO and DoO set out the status of each Level 1 document.
- 1.1.2 This **oLEMP** is a Level 1 document. A landscape and ecology management plan in general accordance with this **oLEMP** must be submitted to and approved by East Suffolk Council within 6 months of Unit 1 or Unit 2, whichever is earlier, commencing operation under Requirement 14 of the **DCO**. The landscape and ecology restoration works must be carried out in accordance with the approved landscape and ecology management plan. Any updates to this document must be approved by the East Suffolk Council in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule 23 of the DCO.
- 1.1.3 This **oLEMP** requires further documents to be submitted for approval at particular stages of the Sizewell C Project:
 - A landscape and ecology management plan
 - Monitoring strategy
- 1.1.4 Where further documents or details require approval, this document states which body or governance group is responsible for the approval and/or must be consulted. Any approvals by East Suffolk Council, Suffolk County Council or the MMO will be carried out in accordance with the procedure in Schedule 23 of the DCO. The DoO establishes the governance groups and sets out how these governance groups will run and, where appropriate, how decisions (including approvals) should be made. Any updates to these further documents or details must be approved by the same body or governance group and through the same consultation and procedure as the original document or details.
- 1.1.5 Where separate Level 1 or Level 2 control documents include measures that are relevant to the measures within this document, those measures have not been duplicated in this document, but cross-references have been included for context. Where separate legislation, consents, permits and licences are described in this document they are set out in the **Schedule of Other Consents, Licences and Agreements** (Doc Ref. 5.11) [REP3-011].



- 1.1.6 For the purposes of this document the term 'SZC Co.' refers to NNB Nuclear Generation (SZC) Limited (or any other undertaker as defined by the DCO), its appointed representatives and the appointed construction contractors.
- 1.1.7 This **oLEMP** seeks to provide clear objectives and general principles for establishment and longer-term management of the landscape, and ecological mitigation proposals identified for the area within the Sizewell C application boundary (hereafter referred to as the site), following construction of Sizewell C power station. The spatial extent of the **oLEMP** is the same as the area within the **illustrative Landscape Masterplan** (Doc Ref 2.5(D)) defined within the **Main Development Site Design and Access Statement** [APP-585] to APP-587].
- 1.1.8 Those areas outside of the main development site, but within the Estate, are covered by existing management plans, as described in **Section 3.4** and the **Estate Wide Management Plan** (Doc Ref. 9.88(A)) (Requirement 5C).
- 1.1.9 The overarching objective of the **oLEMP** is to provide an overview of how the habitats to be established within the main development site would be created and then managed in the long-term. Objectives for these habitats and areas have been informed and established through a review of existing landscape management plans, ecological survey information, the landscape strategy, policy requirements and in response to site specific mitigation and consultation.
- 1.1.10 Detailed descriptions of the main development site, the proposed development and the different phases of development, are provided in **Volume 2**, **Chapter 2** of the **Environmental Statement (ES)** [APP-180]



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2 DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

- 2.1.1 The structure of this document has been set out as follows:
 - Section 3: sets out the baseline for the existing landscape typologies, habitats and soils types within the Estate and existing management regimes currently in practice;
 - Section 4: sets out the legislative policy for landscape and ecology;
 - Section 5: sets out the landscape and ecological vision of the oLEMP;
 - **Section 6:** sets out broad management prescriptions per habitat type;
 - Section 7: sets out broad monitoring requirements per habitat type; and
 - Section 8: lists the document references.
- In addition to the above, this oLEMP is supported by Figures 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.2.4, 8.2.5 and 8.2.6. These figures also appear in the Design and Access Statement as Figures 14A2.1, 14A2.2 [APP-228], 14A2.3, 14A3.1, 14A3.2 [APP-230] within Chapter 14 of the ES, and Figure 13.5 within Chapter 13, Volume 2 of the ES [APP-220]. Plates 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.5 and 5.1 have been produced specifically for this document.



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3 BASELINE AND PROPOSED HABITATS

- 3.1 Existing habitats and landscape typologies
 - a) Suffolk Sandlings National Character Area
- 3.1.1 The Suffolk Coast and Heaths NCA is situated on the North Sea coast between Great Yarmouth to the north and the port town of Harwich to the south. It forms a long, narrow band extending between 10 kilometres (km) and 20km inland. Its inland western boundary is within the South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands and South Suffolk and North Essex Claylands NCAs, with projections up many small river valleys (Ref. 1.6).
- 3.1.2 The land use within the study area is characterised by varied landcover and land use types. Widespread arable farmland is dominant, with localised areas of improved pasture stereotypically found around villages, farms and river valleys (Ref.1.6).
- 3.1.3 The landscape comprises mostly low-lying areas along valleys and former estuaries that are characterised by open water, drainage ditches, grazing marsh and reed beds interspersed by wet woodland and pasture, with some areas along the coastal plain at or below sea level. Woodland comprises large coniferous plantation forests and widely distributed deciduous and mixed woodlands and shelterbelts (including ancient broadleaved woodland and parkland woodland pasture) that are often closely linked with areas of parkland, farms and settlements (Ref. 1.6).
- 3.1.4 Mosaics of dry semi-natural habitats, comprised of heathland/acid grassland that supports a rich biodiversity, are sporadic with notable larger continuous areas inland from the coast known as the Sandlings, sandy rolling 'upland' between estuaries (Ref. 1.6).
- 3.1.5 Along the coast the shoreline is defined by low, soft crumbling cliffs, structures and sea defences, vegetated dunes/dune grassland and shingle beaches that define the boundary between the land and sea (Ref. 1.6).
 - b) Local landscape character areas/types
- 3.1.6 The site is covered by the following LCTs within the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment, provided in **Figure 8.2.6** (Ref. 1.7):
 - Estate Sandlands:
 - Coastal Levels;



- Ancient Estate Claylands; and,
- Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges.
- 3.1.7 Most of the site lies within the Estate Sandlands LCT. This covers the majority of the site that would be affected by the temporary construction zone, including Goose Hill and the land north of Kenton Hills.
- 3.1.8 The Estate Sandlands runs in a discontinuous band along the coast and corresponds with the area of gently undulating and free-draining light sandy soils. Prior to widespread agricultural intensification and afforestation the area would have supported large expanses of heathland and acid grassland (the 'Sandlings' landscape). Small scattered remnants of this landscape type still survive in the wider area.
- 3.1.9 The Coastal Levels LCT occupies the flat low-lying coastal grazing land adjacent to the coast (much of which was reclaimed from the sea). It supports wet grassland with small areas of fen and woodland 'carr'. The landscape is interspersed with a network of dykes and predominantly grazed by cattle.
- 3.1.10 Only a small area of the Coastal Levels LCT around the main development site lies within the site but there are larger areas within the wider site at Sizewell Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Sizewell Belts and north of Goose Hill extending towards the Minsmere Levels (a very expansive area of Coastal Levels).
- 3.1.11 The Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges LCT extends along a narrow strip adjacent to the coastline (including to the east of the main development site along Sizewell Beach inside the site). This is formed by a series of shingle ridges backed by landward transitions to coastal dunes and saltmarsh. Although affected by coastal defence structures in some places, it is a relatively natural landscape characterised by open expansive views.
- 3.1.12 A small area of the Ancient Estate Claylands LCT falls inside the site boundaries around Upper Abbey Farm and Bridleway 19. This adjoins the Estate Sandlands LCT to the west and is characterised by a gently undulating plateau underlain by glacial till and boulder clay that give rise to more ancient organic landscape than the Estate Sandlands (now characterised by a geometric structure with regular enclosed fields and forestry plantations).
 - c) Main Development Site boundary
- 3.1.13 **Figure 8.2.4** details the broad habitat categories as defined by the Phase 1 habitat categories (Ref. 1.8), present within the main development site.



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Estate Farmland

3.1.14 The site comprises largely of arable farmland habitat which is of little intrinsic botanical diversity, although the margins of the fields support two uncommon arable weeds, Corn Spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*) and Shepherd's Cress (*Teesdalia nudicaulis*). The arable margins are mainly devoid of weed species, with the arable crops being intensively managed and treated with herbicide. Weeds are restricted to small areas where crops have failed to establish. Small Nettle (*Urtica urens*), Fat-hen (*Chenopodium album* agg.) and Scented Mayweed (*Matricaria recutita*) are the dominant weed species recorded. In total, 19 species have been identified, including the species Corn Spurrey and Shepherd's Cress (Ref. 1.9).

ii. Estate Sandlands

3.1.15 Away from the arable fields, a diverse range of habitats are present, including broad-leaved woodland, conifer plantation woodland and acid grassland. A range of bryophyte species characteristic of acidic grassland are present and the bryophyte assemblage comprises common and widespread species. The lichen flora is well developed, with 64 species recorded, the majority being common widespread species (Ref. 1.9).

iii. Coastal Levels

3.1.16 Habitats within the coastal levels comprise fen meadow, wet woodland, ditches and reedbed. The National Vegetation Classification (NVC) surveys identified habitat communities within the portion of Sizewell Marshes SSSI that fall within the site boundary comprises wet woodland (mainly the W5 Alnus glutinosa - Carex paniculata woodland community), reedbed (which comprised a mixture of S4 Phragmites australis swamp and S26 Phragmites australis - Urtica dioica tall-herb fen), fen meadow (largely comprising M22 Juncus subnodulosus - Cirsium palustre fen meadow), and ditches which supported a diverse range of aquatic plant communities (Ref. 1.9), detailed on Figure 8.2.5.

iv. Coastal Dunes and Shingle

- 3.1.17 Habitats comprising dune grassland, vegetated shingle were recorded. A range of bryophyte species characteristic of shingle habitats are present and bryophyte assemblages comprise common and widespread species. The lichen flora is well developed, with 64 species recorded, the majority being common widespread species (Ref. 1.9).
 - Designated sites baseline for the habitat and statutory/non statutory site baseline



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- 3.1.18 The site falls within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The AONB comprised predominantly of farmland., with other main components of the landscape including forestry plantations, low-lying freshwater marshes, intertidal estuaries, heathland, the coast, small villages and iconic coastal market towns.
- 3.1.19 To the north of the main development site are the Minsmere to Walberswick Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site which support internationally important assemblages of breeding and wintering birds. The site supports a mosaic of heath, acid grassland and conifer plantation, with vegetated shingle present at Thorpeness. Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and SSSI is also to the north of the main development site and supports wetland, heathland and coastal vegetation habitats.
- 3.1.20 To the south of the main development site is the Sandlings SPA and Leiston
 Aldeburgh SSSI which supports acid grassland, heath, scrub, woodland, fen, open water and vegetated shingle habitats.
- 3.1.21 Within the site is the Sizewell Marshes SSSI, which supports wet woodland, reedbed and fen meadow habitats, lowland ditch systems, breeding bird assemblages, invertebrate assemblages and vascular plant assemblages.
- 3.1.22 Other habitat types within the main development site include dune and shingle vegetation of the coastal frontage which form part of the Suffolk Shingle Beaches County Wildlife Site (CWS). Habitats of county importance within the main development site boundary include mixed and broadleaved woodland and acid grassland forming the Sizewell Levels and Associated Areas CWS, Leiston Common CWS and Reckham Pits Wood CWS.
- 3.1.23 The locations of the designated sites are detailed on **Figures 8.2.1**, **8.2.2** and **8.2.3**.
- 3.2 Soils

3.2.1 As noted in the above sections, the LCAs present within the main development site are supported by differing soil types.

3.2.2 The Estate Sandlands are formed in deep well drained sandy soils, some of which are highly acidic with bleached subsurface layers forming particularly under heathland or woodland. The Soil Association¹ present here is known as Newport 4. These are typically formed in glaciofluvial drift and have a low natural fertility (due to the coarse sandy texture). A typical profile comprises

¹ A Soil Association represents a group of soil series (soil types which are typically found occurring together in the landscape.



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a dark brown topsoil overlying a brown subsoil over yellowish red or brownish yellow sand.

- 3.2.3 Arable land use on these soils is supported by fertilizer applications to counter the natural low fertility and, in places, irrigation.
- 3.2.4 The Coastal Levels are developed in a mix of deep stoneless non-calcareous and calcareous clayey soils formed in marine alluvium (Wallasea Association) and deep peat soils associated with clayey over sandy soils formed in fen peat and river alluvium (Mendham Association).
- 3.2.5 The Wallasea Association are mapped underlying the majority of Minsmere, extending towards the Sizewell B power station site. The Mendham Association predominantly underlies the Sizewell Marshes SSSI Sizewell Belts area.
- 3.2.6 The Wallasea Association soils have a moderate natural fertility, whilst the Mendham Association can be naturally lime-rich to very infertile.
- 3.2.7 A typical profile of the Mendham Association soils comprises a deep organic layer of humified peat over semi-fibrous (less decomposed) peat overlying light brownish grey sand. A typical Wallasea Association profile comprises stoneless silty clay overlying brownish grey clay with mottles (exhibiting restricted drainage and some waterlogging) over brown stoneless silty clay, again with mottles.
- 3.2.8 Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges are developed in soils described as deep well drained calcareous and non-calcareous sandy soils formed in dune sand and marine shingle (Sandwich Association). These soils typically have very shallow dark brown topsoil (likely to be only 50 millimetres in thickness) overlying light brownish grey sand.
- 3.2.9 Where land under current agricultural use has been surveyed in accordance with the Agricultural Land Classification system² it is mapped as predominantly Grades 3b and 4. It is likely that the organic soils associated with Sizewell Belts SSSI, if surveyed, would be classed as Grade 4 or 5 due to their waterlogged nature.

² The ALC system provides a framework for classifying land according to the extent to which its physical or chemical characteristics impose long-term limitations on agricultural use. The ALC system divides agricultural land into five grades (Grade 1 'Excellent' to Grade 5 'Very Poor'), with Grade 3 subdivided into Subgrade 3a 'Good' and Subgrade 3b 'Moderate'.



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3.3 Proposed habitat types

- 3.3.1 This **oLEMP** provides high level management and monitoring specifications for the following broad landscape types that are proposed to be created or restored following completion of construction within the main development site boundary. The broad habitat types that must be created on the post-construction site (subject to this **oLEMP**) are:
 - mixed woodland;
 - dry Sandlings grassland;
 - semi-improved grassland;
 - reinstated arable land;
 - amenity landscape;
 - wetland habitat (inclusive of marsh, fen and reedbed, wet woodland and open water); and
 - vegetated dunes and shingle beach.

3.4 Proposed habitat types

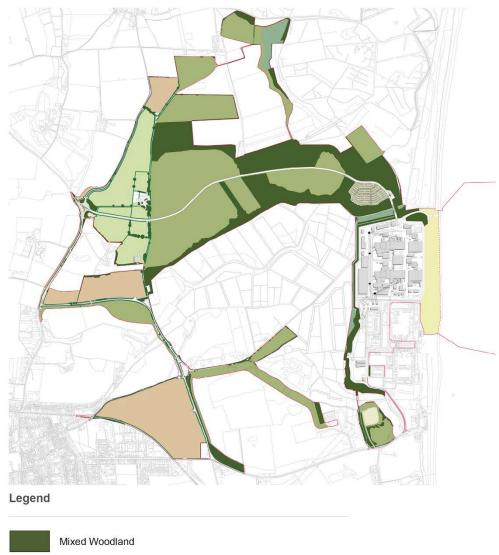
- This **oLEMP** provides high level management and monitoring specifications for the following broad landscape types that are proposed to be created, enhanced or restored following completion of construction within the development site boundary. The detailed management of these habitats must be set out in the landscape and ecology management plan. **Plate 3.2** and **Plate 3.3** illustrates the two proposals of broad habitat types that will be created on the post-construction site within the DCO boundary. The LEMP will specify which of these two proposals will be implemented. This is dependent on whether the relocated facilities works are carried out pursuant to Work No. 1D or Work No.1E. These on-site proposals are described in context of the wider Estate in the **EWMP** (secured pursuant to Requirement 5C) which secures the estate management beyond the DCO boundary.
- 3.4.2 The habitat types are as follows:
 - mixed woodland;
 - dry Sandlings grassland;
 - semi-improved grassland;



- reinstated arable farmland;
- amenity landscape;
- wetland habitat (inclusive of marsh, fen and reed bed, wet woodland and open water); and
- vegetated dunes and shingle beaches.



Plate 3.1: Proposed oLEMP Management Compartments by Habitat Typology – Relocated Facilities referred to as Option 2 within Volume 1, Chapter 2 of the ES Addendum [AS-181]

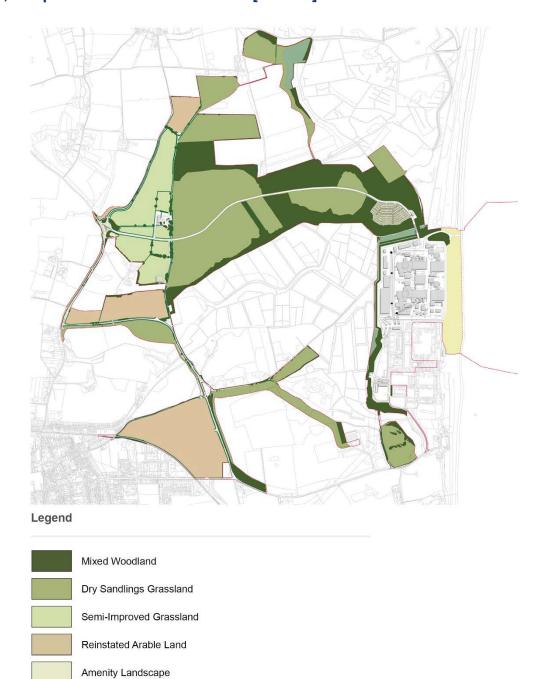






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Plate 3.2: Proposed oLEMP Management Compartments by Habitat Typology – Relocated Facilities referred to as Option 1 within Volume 1, Chapter 2 of the ES Addendum [AS-181]



Wetland Habitat

Vegetated Dunes and Shingle Beach



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4 POLICY

4.1 Landscape and ecology policy

- 4.1.1 The Sizewell C Project design principles have been guided by landscape, biodiversity and amenity principles which have been embedded into the design process at an early stage. By doing so, this minimises the negative effect to the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and ecology designations and ensures the main development site constitutes a good fit in the landscape, providing long-term benefits across the site.
- 4.1.2 There are a number of policies or reports that have been considered in preparing this document that underpin the creation and management of habitats at a landscape scale in relation to the Sizewell C proposals. In summary these are as follows, listed from the national to the local context:
 - Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (NPS EN-1) (Ref. 1.11);
 - National Planning Policy Framework (Ref. 1.12);
 - Environment Bill (Ref. 1.13);
 - Twenty-five Year Plan for the Environment (Ref. 1.14);
 - The Lawton Report (Ref. 1.15);
 - Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites Planning for the future (Ref. 1.16);
 - Suffolk Coast AONB Management Plan (Ref. 1.17);
 - National Character Area: Suffolk Coast and Heaths (Ref.1.6);
 - Suffolk's Nature Strategy (Ref. 1.18); and
 - Sizewell C Joint Local Authority Group (JLAG): Suffolk principles for the management of the Sizewell Estate (Ref. 1.19).
 - e) Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy
- 4.1.3 **Section 5.3.18** of the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) states that "the applicant should include appropriate mitigation measures as an integral part of the proposed development" (Ref. 1.11). In particular, the applicant should demonstrate that:



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- "habitats will, where practicable, be restored after construction works have finished: and
- opportunities will be taken to enhance existing habitats and, where practicable, to create new habitats of value within the site landscaping proposals" (Ref. 1.11).

4.1.4 Plans should:

- distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites;
- allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value;
- where consistent with other policies in this Framework³; take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and
- plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries (Ref. 1.12).
- f) National Planning Policy Framework
- 4.1.5 The National Planning Policy and Framework (NPPF) (Ref. 1.12) states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
 - recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
 - maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate:

³ Where significant development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, areas of poorer quality land should be preferred to those of a higher quality.



- minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
- preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.
- g) Environment Bill (Draft only 2018)
- 4.1.6 In the government's 2019 summer policy statement on the Environment Bill it was confirmed that "we are committed to sustainable development across our country and delivering much-needed housing does not have to come at the expense of vital biodiversity. Through the Bill, we will introduce a mandatory approach to biodiversity net gain. This will require developers to ensure habitats for wildlife are enhanced, with a 10% increase in habitat value for wildlife compared with the pre-development baseline...". (Ref. 1.13). While nationally significant infrastructure projects and marine development will remain out of scope of Biodiversity Net Gain in the Bill, the government are committed to "work to establish potential approaches to achieving biodiversity net gains" (Ref. 1.13) for these developments. Due to the consensus formed over the lengthy consultations around biodiversity net gain, it is likely that this will be implemented across local planning authorities, irrespective of actual legislative status. Net gain is seen as being preferably achieved 'on-site', however there are options to deliver these gains off-site.
- 4.1.7 A Biodiversity Net Gain assessment has been undertaken for the Sizewell C Project proposals using the Biodiversity Metric 2.0 which was issued on 29 July 2019 (Ref. 1.13). The Biodiversity Net Gain report is included within the application (ES Volume 2 Chapter 14 Appendix 14E) and demonstrates that net gain would be achieved if the habitats described within this oLEMP are delivered as proposed.
 - h) Twenty-five Year Plan for the Environment
- 4.1.8 This 25 Year Environment Plan (Ref. 1.14) sets out government action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. **Table 4.1** summarises the commitments made to enhance biodiversity.



Table 4.1: The 25 year environment plan biodiversity commitments summary

summary			
Chapter	Summary		
Chapter 1: Using and managing land sustainably	Embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle for development, including housing and infrastructure		
	 Focusing on woodland to maximise its many benefits: 		
	 Supporting the development of a new Northern Forest 		
	 Supporting larger scale woodland creation 		
	Appointing a national TreeChampion		
Chapter 2:	 Protecting and recovering nature 		
Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of	Publishing a strategy for nature		
landscapes	Developing a NatureRecovery Network		
	 Providing opportunities for the reintroduction of native species 		
	 Exploring how to give individuals the chance to deliver lasting conservation 		
	 Improving biosecurity to protect and conserve nature 		
	 Conserving and enhancing natural beauty. 		
Chapter 3: Connecting people	 Helping people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces 		
with the environment to improve health and wellbeing	 Promoting health and wellbeing through the natural environment 		



Chapter	Summary
	 Greening our towns and cities
	Creating greener infrastructure
	 Planting more trees in and around our towns and cities
Chapter 6: Protecting and	 Providing international leadership and leading by example
improving our global environment	 Protecting and improving international biodiversity

- i) The Lawton Report (2010)
- 4.1.9 'Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological networks' otherwise known as the Lawton Report (2010) (England) (Ref. 1.15). was an independent review, commissioned by the Government of England's wildlife sites and the connections between them, with recommendations to 'help achieve a healthy natural environment that will allow our plants and animals to thrive.'
- 4.1.10 Led by Professor Sir John Lawton, the review was set up to whether wildlife sites are capable of responding and adapting to the growing challenges of climate change and other demands on land. The report states that in order to enhance the resilience and coherence of England's ecological network, five key approaches need to be adopted, which take account of the land around the ecological network. In summary these are:
 - improve the quality of current sites by better habitat management;
 - increase the size of current wildlife sites;
 - enhance connections between, or join up, sites, either through physical corridors, or through 'stepping stones';
 - create new sites: and
 - reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment, including through buffering wildlife sites.
 - j) Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites Programme Report



- 4.1.11 The Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites (Ref. 1.16) recognises the importance of working with other sectors across landscapes to secure a fully functioning protected areas network in England and to create more space for nature. Site Improvement Plans should not exist in isolation and issues such as invasive species, climate change, air pollution and habitat fragmentation all need to be addressed at a national or landscape scale. Landscape scale approaches are required to support habitat management in the wider environment and initiatives to increase connectivity between protected sites (Ref. 1.16).
 - k) Suffolk Coast AONB Management Plan
- 4.1.12 The existing Sizewell A and B power stations and the majority of the site are located within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast.
- 4.1.13 AONBs are statutorily protected landscapes, recognised by government to be of the very highest quality. The statutory framework for AONBs was first established in the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. (Ref. 1.20) They were given further protection by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (Ref. 1.21). The purpose of the AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area. Legislation requires that a relevant authority shall have regard to the statutory purpose of the designation.
- 4.1.14 The Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023 (Ref. 1.17) sets out a series of objectives intended to conserve and enhance the natural beauty and special qualities of the designated landscape. The design response and long-term vision for the site (of which landscape and ecological management are important elements) have been drawn together with consideration for the management objectives of the AONB.
 - National Character Area: Suffolk Coast and Heaths
- 4.1.15 The Suffolk Coast NCA supports the planning of conservation initiatives at a landscape scale, with planned future habitat creation within the area taking place on a landscape scale (e.g. Dunwich Forest, with the creation of 640ha of grazed woodland and heathland habitat linking the internationally important Walberswick and Minsmere and the reconnection of rivers to their flood plains where appropriate, to provide ecological and accessible green infrastructure networks at a landscape scale) (Ref. 1.6).
 - m) Suffolk's Nature Strategy



- 4.1.16 Suffolk's Nature Strategy (Ref. 1.18) recognises the need for ecological restoration at a landscape scale and notes active partnerships in protected landscapes are required to ensure the areas are exemplars of landscape scale conservation. Where development is proposed in these areas, such as the Sizewell C Project, they should work to ensure they are of the highest quality as "environmental exemplars" (Ref. 1.18).
 - n) Sizewell C JLAG: Suffolk Principles for the Management of the EDF Energy Estate
- 4.1.17 Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council in collaboration with Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and SWT have produced a series of principles to guide the management of the site.
- 4.1.18 The document identifies the site as lying within an area of "great significance in terms of landscape and wildlife" (Ref. 1.19) The principles document calls for a management strategy that "balances the moderation of visual impacts, enhancement of natural and cultural heritage, strengthening of landscape character and improvement of public access both on and off the existing estate" (Ref. 1.19).
- 4.1.19 The suggested principles of most relevance to this **oLEMP** area are summarised below:
 - Post-construction, the site should be managed as a mosaic of grass, heath, scrub, woodland and wetland.
 - The site management strategy should form part of a broader strategy that comprises the integrated landscape, heritage and architectural plan.
 - Parts of the existing site are of high ecological and landscape value already and must form the building blocks for the future post construction vision; therefore sufficient investment and resource should be made available to ensure that current features of value are protected throughout the construction phase and subsequently enhanced through the site management strategy.
 - To maximise biodiversity gain, habitat restoration and recreation would need to be achieved via a number of different management approaches. The scrub and woodland mosaic can be achieved via natural regeneration rather than translocating top-soil and seeding. Management of this habitat could be via extensive grazing (although pressure from deer browsing would need to be determined and



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appropriate mitigation provided if necessary), with appropriately sized grazing units, using cattle grids as necessary.

- New semi-natural habitat, created to compensate or offset residual impacts, should prioritise the improvement of ecological networks in order to ensure the maximum potential for functioning ecological connectivity across and adjacent to the site whilst maintaining and enhancing landscape character.
- Adverse land/seascape and visual impacts should be effectively minimised throughout construction and operation, and opportunities to enhance the existing qualities of the environment maximised in line with the Suffolk Design Principles for Sizewell C.
- 4.1.20 These principles have helped inform the outline broad management strategy of the **oLEMP** (Ref. 1.19).



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5 LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGY VISION

5.1 Objectives

- The objectives that underpin this **oLEMP** are designed to contribute towards the overarching vision for the Estate as set out in **Chapter 8** of the **Design** and **Access Statement** (DAS) (Doc Ref. 8.1(B)) (secured pursuant to Requirement 14).
- 5.1.2 The overriding intention to mitigate the effects of the new power station and enhance the character, ecology and amenity of the local landscape. Where possible, existing landscape features of importance for ecology and visual screening will be retained during the construction of the power station, such as the established trees and hedgerows along Bridleway 19.
- 5.1.3 Previous engagement with East Suffolk Council, Suffolk County Council, Natural England, RSPB, Environment Agency and Suffolk Wildlife Trust has led to the refined objectives presented within this **oLEMP**.
- 5.1.4 Inevitably given the scale of development, construction requires the removal of vegetation and habitat loss and fragmentation (but mainly of relatively lower value arable land and plantation woodland). Rather than simply reinstate the previous landscape pattern and features, SZC Co. will create a large area of Dry Sandlings Grassland bordered by native woodland and scattered trees/scrub. Once established, this 'mosaic' will have a higher biodiversity value than the existing habitats they replace. The new habitats will also contribute to enhancing the landscape character of this section of the Estate Sandlands LCT.
- Other design objectives are to create and manage planting to minimise the visual impact of the Sizewell C Project in views from the surrounding landscape. This will minimise impacts on cultural heritage resources, improve access and recreation infrastructure and ensure the long-term sustainability and resilience of the landscape including to predicted climate change.
- 5.1.6 Specific landscape and ecological objectives, which will guide long-term management which must be set out in the landscape and ecology management plan, are as follows:
 - To create a transition from a managed farmland landscape at the western edge of the site, which grades into open Sandlings grassland and then the coastal zone along the site's eastern boundary. This transition from a farmed to a more natural and biodiverse landscape will be subtle and not interrupted by sharp boundaries and will align with



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the approach detailed in the Sizewell C JLAG: Suffolk principles for the management of the site (Ref. 1.19).

- To return areas of the temporary construction area in the west of the site (Land to the East of Eastlands Industrial Estate (LEEIE) and fields around Upper Abbey Farm) to arable and semi-improved pasture agriculture respectively.
- To reinforce and expand existing linear wooded corridors and create others to provide greater long-term connectivity for bats and other species. Specifically, native woodland would be created along the margins of the Sandlings grassland linking existing woodland areas at Kenton Hills, Goose Hill and Ash Wood.
- To create an expansive area of Dry Sandlings Grassland habitat using soils inherited from the construction phase. Seed will be sourced from adjacent areas of acid grassland (such as the restored acid grassland at Retsom's and the Studio Field both within the site). In the longer term, this area will be managed as a diverse mosaic of dry summer parched grassland with patches of neutral grassland, scrub and scattered trees potentially with a similar structure and species assemblage as sites in the surrounding landscape such as Leiston Common and Westleton Common/Walks.
- Within the northern area of the Dry Sandlings Grassland habitat, opportunities will be sought to manage the habitat for the benefit of breeding stone-curlew (*Burhinus oedicnemus*). Management prescriptions at the landscape scale, recommended by the RSPB, are as follows:
 - select fields with sandy, free-draining soils with a high proportion of stone admixed near the surface;
 - provide large areas (at least 0.1km2) of open habitat with short sward (less than 2cm during March – October) of fine-leaved grass species typically associated with acid grassland, preferably grazed by rabbits, but if not possible grazed by sheep (avoiding high densities near nesting areas during incubation period);
 - potential breeding sites to be at least 400m from human access, although any closer human access could be 'screened' by landscape and other natural features if required (but should be avoided if this can be incorporated in design); and
 - ideally, breeding plots to be provided in areas with gently rolling topography, enabling birds to be visually obscured from



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neighbouring pairs when incubating and increasing the density of breeding pairs.

- To re-establish wetland habitats temporarily lost by the realignment of sections of the Sizewell and Leiston drains within the Sizewell Marshes SSSI and minimise long-term severance effects on Sizewell Marshes SSSI.
- To maximise the capacity of wildlife and landscape to cope with climate change, using a planting palate of species resilient to drought and disease that are not reliant on irrigation measures.
- Once established, to integrate the management of the new habitats (coastal, grassland, woodland and wetland) with the management regimes for the existing and retained habitats within the Estate.
- 5.1.7 These management objectives have been designed with the aim of enabling restoration at a landscape scale. The integration of infrastructure and landscape, integration of access (creating a balance between recreation and habitat); and minimising habitat severance and increasing connectivity will provide long-term benefits to biodiversity of Suffolk as a whole rather than at a site level.
 - a) Character Zone
- The landscape strategy, described in the **Main Development Site Design** and **Access Statement** [APP-585 to APP-597], recognises four broad distinct areas that have been used to inform and guide the habitat creation and planting typologies the details of which must be set out in the landscape and ecology management plan. These are illustrated in **Plate 5.1** and comprise:
 - Zone 1 Estate Sandlands: Farmlands;
 - Zone 2 Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands;
 - Zone 3 Coastal Levels; and
 - Zone 4 Coastal Dunes and Shingle.



Plate 5.1 Broad Planting Character Zone







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- These wide character zones broadly correspond to the Suffolk Landscape Character Types (LCT) present within the site the Estate Sandlands LCT, Coastal Levels LCT and Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges LCT. The habitat creation and planting aims to reflect and enhance their key characteristics (e.g. soils, landform and characteristic habitats and species).
 - i. Zone 1 Estate Sandlands: Farmlands
- 5.1.10 Semi-improved Pasture: Following completion of construction, several fields to the west of Bridleway 19 around Upper Abbey Farm will be reseeded with grass and returned to pasture. New hedgerows and trees will be planted along the field boundaries. These fields will be managed in accordance with the measures set out in the LEMP approved pursuant to Requirement 14.
- 5.1.11 Arable Farmland: The LEEIE and a group of fields to the north of Lover's Lane will be restored back to arable agriculture. These fields will be managed in accordance with the measures set out in the LEMP approved pursuant to Requirement 14.
 - ii. Zone 2 Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands

Mixed Woodland

New areas of woodland will be established through a combination of planting and natural regeneration. The new woodland will buffer and link the existing areas of woodland within the site. Unlike the existing site, which has extensive blocks of coniferous plantations at Kenton Hills and Goose Hill, the new woodland will be predominantly native broadleaved with a small component of mixed woodland (to increase climate change resilience). It will have a greater structural and species diversity, and form a closer spatial mosaic with areas of grassland and scrub. Management will be aimed at enhancing biodiversity value rather than commercial timber management and must be set out in the landscape ecology management plan approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14.

Sandlings Grassland

The majority of the post-construction area will be 'Sandlings grassland', which was formerly much more extensive in the local landscape and a characteristic component of the Estate Sandlands landscape character type. This area will not comprise a single habitat type, but form a complex mosaic of dry summer parched grassland, scrub and scattered trees/woodland (particularly around the edges).



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5.1.14 Some flexibility is required at this stage for the creation and management of this area, since there is some uncertainty over the future nature of the post-construction soils. It is anticipated that the area will be underlain by dry and low fertility soils, which will naturally support dry summer parched grassland. This could be created through seeding with seeds harvested from acid grassland/heathland habitats in the local area. Management would primarily comprise mowing/topping during the establishment period, with extensive grazing at a sufficiently low density used once the site becomes established to allow natural colonisation of patches of scrub and woodland – giving the area a more natural and wild quality. Details of the creation and management of this area must be set out in the ecology management plan approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14.

Amenity Grassland

- Areas of amenity grassland will be created to accommodate car parking within the operational car park and the Sizewell B outage car park (if developed pursuant to Article 5 of the **dDCO**). A new area of reed bed and open water habitat will also be created within the area which is already being optimised for marsh harrier foraging in the north-east of the Estate and this new reed bed will enhance this area further for marsh harrier. A marsh harrier implementation plan, approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14C, must set out the landscape and planting details and monitoring and management measures required for marsh harrier compensation. Requirement 14A.
- 5.1.16 As part of the overall habitat compensation provisions associated with land take to the Sizewell Marshes SSSI, areas of wetland habitat have already been created at Aldhurst Farm and new fen meadow habitats must also be created at off-site locations (Requirement 14A).

Wet Woodland

- 5.1.17 A new area of 0.7ha of wet woodland will be created within the marsh harrier foraging in the north-east of the Estate as set out in the **Wet Woodland Strategy** (Doc Ref. 9.8(A)) (Requirement 14B). The new woodland will use natural colonisation by native species (mostly grey willow (Salix cinera) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)) and would help compensate for the loss of wet woodland from the Sizewell Marshes SSSI. Other wet woodlands are being created at off-site locations (Requirement 14B).
 - iii. Zone 4 Coastal Dunes and Shingle.
- 5.1.18 The upper stretch of Sizewell Beach, to the east of the new power station platform, will be affected by the construction of the new coastal defences.



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The 'northern mound' which sits on this alignment and much of the existing vegetated frontage will be removed, before being reinstated later in the construction timeline as secured by the **Construction Method Statement** (Doc Ref. 6.3 3D(D)) (Requirement 8). Restoration of the reinstated beach must recreate the existing coastal habitats above the new sea defences structures. This will using existing surface sediments removed in advance of construction, appropriately stored on site, to protect the seedbank. These sediments will then be re-laid over the defence structures once the defences have been built. The approach used will mirror the approach used successfully to establish similar habitats on the Sizewell B coastal defences.

- Monitoring and management must be set out in the landscape and ecology management plan as approved by East Suffolk Council (Requirement 14). However, management is expected to be minimal following the initial establishment and maintenance period, and the habitat is expected to be self-sustaining and durable. The landscape and ecology management plan must set out the criteria for successional planting to be introduced to maintain long-term screening of lower-level structures within the power station from coastal locations. Monitoring of the establishment of the coastal habitats is set out in the **Terrestrial Ecology Monitoring and Mitigation Plan**.
- 5.1.20 Photographs detailed in **Table 5.1** provide examples of habitats to be created within the site.



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Table 5.1: Habitat examples

Zone: Character Area: Habitat Type Proposed	Photographic Example
Zone 1- Estate Sandlands: Farmlands: Improved Pasture	
Zone 1- Estate Sandlands: Farmlands: Arable	

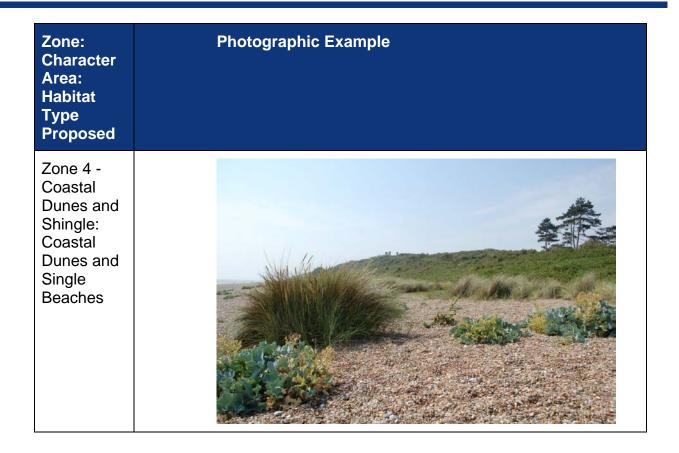


Zone: Character Area: Habitat Type Proposed	Photographic Example
Zone 2- Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grassland: Sandlings Grassland	
Zone 2- Estate Sandlings: Dry Sandlings Grassland: Mixed plantation woodland	



Zone: Character Area: Habitat Type Proposed	Photographic Example
Zone 3- Coastal Levels: Marsh, fen and reed bed habitat	
Zone 3- Coastal Levels: Wet woodland	







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6 MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 **Table 6.1** sets out an overview of the construction phase and preestablishment management proposals for the main development site. **Table 6.2** sets out the management proposals for habitats that will be created where existing management regimes are currently not in practice across the main development site, as detailed in **section 6.2**, and makes reference to the relevant planting zone typology that these proposals are applicable to. **Table 6.3** sets out faunal enhancement management proposals. Details of the management practices across the main development site must be set out in the landscape and ecology management plan approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14.
- 6.1.2 Management proposals to reinstate the habitats relating to the Sizewell Marshes SSSI are detailed within **Table 6.1**. Detail of the reinstatement of SSSI habitats in these areas must be set out in the LEMP.
- 6.1.3 The Public Rights of Way and permissive footpaths within the main development site will by SZC Co. The LEMP approved pursuant to Requirement 14 will set out the appropriate management measures.
- 6.1.4 Establishment and aftercare works will be carried out by an approved landscape sub-contractor in accordance with good horticultural practice and with specific reference to:
 - BS 4428: Code of practice for general landscape operations (Ref. 1.22);
 - BS 7370: Grounds maintenance (Ref. 1.23);
 - BS 8545: Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape recommendations (Ref. 1.24);
 - BS 5837:2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations (Ref. 1.25);
 - The Lowland Grassland Management Handbook (Ref. 1.26);
 - Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils (Ref. 1.27);
 - Safeguarding our Soils: Soil Strategy for England (Ref. 1.28);
 - Good Practice Guide for Handling soils (MAFF, 2000) (Ref. 1.29);



- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Heathland (Ref. 1.30);
- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Wetland Habitats (Ref. 1.31);
- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Woodland Habitats (Ref. 1.32);
- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Vegetated Coastal Shingle Habitats (Ref. 1.33);
- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Sand Dune Habitats (Ref. 1.34);
- Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Grassland Habitats (Ref. 1.35);
- Hedgerow Survey Handbook (Ref. 1.36); and
- Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme (Ref. 1.37).
- 6.1.5 Where relevant, updated versions of the documents will be referred to in the LEMP.
- 6.2 Ground preparation and soil management
- 6.2.1 The availability of soil resources in the right condition will be critical to the establishment of the required habitats. Topsoil and subsoil will be stripped and stockpiled (separately) on site so that it is available for reinstatement as set out in the **Construction Method Statement** (Doc Ref. 6.3 3D(D)) (Requirement 8).
- All soils must be handled in accordance with the **Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)** (Doc Ref. 8.11(E)) (Requirement 2) and the Soil Management Plan which must be approved by East Suffolk Council under the **CoCP** (Doc Ref. 8.11(E))(Requirement 2).. This will set out the ways in which soils will be stripped, transported, stockpiled and restored on the main development site. These will follow published best practice guidance and ensure that reinstated soils have the right physical and chemical characteristics for their required end use.
- 6.2.3 Soil materials with different characteristics will be stockpiled separately as set out in the Part B of the CoCP (Doc Ref. 8.11(E). This is to ensure that the



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soil types which support the different habitats can be recreated in the required locations.

Table 6.1: Construction phase management proposals

Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/ Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
Source and seeding	of stock			
S1	Dry Seed	Dry seed sowing will be the primary means of creating Dry Sandlings Grassland. Seeds will be collected from areas of dry acid grassland from the nearby areas. Seed will be harvested using a brush harvester and all-terrain vehicle, then seeds will be sieved and dried. Dry seed is a good way to establish a wide range of species with a sequential coverage through the seasons including early and late flowering species. Dry seed will be used to establish the area of amenity grassland using an amenity seed mix.	As required 2-3 harvests to ensure a wide range of species (including early and late flowering species) are represented.	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands
S2	Green Hay	In addition to dry seed, green hay will be used to create Dry Sandlings Grassland within smaller areas of the site. Green hay is herbage cut from a meadow at or just before the hay cutting stage. The hay is then collected fresh without drying or turning and transported to the recipient site and spread immediately.	Pre and post construction	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/ Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type		
		The seeds then drop from the hay onto the receptor site and the herbage stalks create a protective mulch. The green hay will be collected from the unaffected areas of the site.				
		Green hay will be cut and hand spread to an even depth across the entire recipient area and will be turned to help seeds to separate from seed heads.				
Watering	,					
W1	Planting and seeding	Planting will be aligned with appropriate seasons (spring and late autumn) to reduce the requirement for watering.	As required	Site wide		
		All new seeding and planting must be monitored for the duration of the agreed establishment period. Any losses will be replanted in the next dormant season.				
Use of Herbicides a	Use of Herbicides and Fertilisers					
HF1	Herbicides and fertilisers	Following reinstatement, herbicides or fertilisers will not be used for any maintenance or management operations if harm to existing land uses (i.e. publicly accessible areas, or agricultural areas) or existing habitats is likely.	Following reinstatement	Site wide		

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Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/ Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type		
Beach Exclusion Fe	Beach Exclusion Fencing					
BEF1	Vegetative cover maintenance	Permanent beach exclusion fencing will be installed and maintained to protect dune grassland vegetation and ground nesting birds. Management of access by putting boardwalks in or controlling activities in vulnerable areas to prevent loss of vegetation cover.	As required	Zone 4: Coastal Dunes and Shingle		

Table 6.2: Proposed management outline proposals for newly created habitats

Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type	
Weed Control					
WC1	Injurious weeds	Weed control relates to infestations of injurious weeds as follows: Broad-leaved Dock (<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>), Curled Dock (<i>Rumex crispus</i>), Common Ragwort (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>),	March-October As required	Site wide	



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
		Creeping Thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) and Spear Thistle (<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>). Injurious weed control will use mechanical means of control. Specialist advice will be sought for any occurrences of invasive species, including Giant Hogweed (<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>) and Japanese Knotweed (<i>Fallopia japonica</i>).		
WC2	Invasive species	In the event that species listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (Ref. 1.38) are found on site during the monitoring, an invasive weeds specialist will develop a management regime for the invasive species specify the treatment methods and measures to prevent the spread of these species.	March-October As required	Site wide
WC3	Herbicide application	Where weed killing is by a selective translocated herbicide, the herbicide will be applied during a period of active growth in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Weed-killing will be achieved by the total die-back of weeds. In the case of selective weed control there will be not more than 5% regrowth during the season.	March-October As required	Site wide



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
WC4	Herbicide application	Where weed control is by spot application, a translocated herbicide will be applied with a device that ensures that the herbicide touches weed species only.	March-October As required	Site wide
WC5	Removal of weeds by hand	Where weed control by pulling/hand-weeding, the work will consist of the removal of the entire weed, including roots, by digging, forking, hoeing or pulling. Weeds will be removed prior to flowering and the arisings removed from site.	March-October As required	Site wide
Dry Sandlings Grass	sland			
DSG1	Grass cutting	The ultimate vision for the areas of Dry Sandlings Grassland (summer parched grassland) is to create broad open areas of neutral and acid grassland / heathland, interspersed with scrub and scattered trees.	Late Summer One per annum	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands
		Rotational cutting regimes will be designed to create a mosaic of grassland sward heights which provide diversity and continuity of grassland habitat types.		
		This will include cutting sections of the site late in the year (to allow species present to set seed), while leaving other sections uncut to provide habitat cover and shelter. Following cutting		



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
		arisings will be left for seven days to dry and allow seeds to set. Any areas which are targeted specifically for heathland will require more specific interventions which must be set out in the LEMP.		
DSG2	Scrub removal	Where required, scrub will be managed or removed outside the breeding bird season to promote an open grassland sward. Scrub will not be removed where it is required for screening, or where it provides a boundary habitat, or is developing into desirable heathland.	September to February inclusive One per annum	
The management of	dry summer par	rched grassland once fully established must be set out in the LEM	IP.	
Semi-improved Past	ure			
IP1	Grazing	Regular grazing maintains sufficient low vegetation sward.	May-September One per annum	Zone 1: Estate Sandlands: Farmland
Sizewell Marshes S	SSI	•		,



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
MFR1	Habitat reinstatement	Areas of habitat within the temporary construction area for the SSSI crossing in the Sizewell Marshes SSSI, which cannot be protected during construction, will be reinstated following construction completion. A detailed re-instatement plan must be included within the LEMP and method statements for works in temporary landtake areas of the SSSI must be submitted and approved by East Suffolk Council pursuant to Requirement 12Dof the dDCO	Post construction establishment	Zone 3: Coastal Levels
Once fully establishe carried out in accord		t of any reinstated SSSI habitats must be set out in the LEMP and oproved plan	d management of these ha	bitats must be
Reed bed				
RB1	Planting	Assess whether reinforcement planting is required annually for first 3 years and implement as necessary	One per annum for the first three years.	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands: Dry
RB2	Water table management	The water table of reed beds must be managed. Seasonal flooding of vegetation will control plant growth. Seasonal drying will help breakdown reed litter, helping to maintain reedbed water levels in the long-term.	September-February One per annum	Sandlings Grasslands



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
		Ditches and open water will be slubbed as required to maintain open water areas and ditches as per the design (but no more frequently than 1 in 5 years), between mid-September and the end of February to avoid breeding birds unless other ecological mitigation measures have been approved by the Ecology Working Group.		
		Only short lengths of ditched and open water must be slubbed rather than whole ditch lengths. Multiple sides of a ditch will not be slubbed at the same time.		
RB3	Removal of weeds	Where weed control by pulling/hand-weeding, the work will consist of the removal of the entire weed, including roots, by digging, forking, hoeing or pulling. Weeds will be removed prior to flowering and the arisings removed from site.	March-October One per annum	
RB3	Reed cutting and removal	The whole area the reedbed will be cut at least once every 10 years. An indicative rotation for wet reed will be to cut one third in year 3, one third in year 5 and one third in year 8, subject to review of development of structure and function (i.e. species supported). However the need for cutting will be kept under review and may not need to commence until at least year 8.	4-7 year rotational basis as required	



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type			
RB4	Scrub removal	Scrub will be managed and will only be removed outside the breeding bird season. Scrub rogueing will be undertaken as required to minimise scrub encroachment. Stumps will be treated with glyphosate if required. Scrub will not be removed where it is required for screening, or where it provides a desirable boundary habitat.	September to February inclusive One per annum				
	Once the reed bed is fully established, management will be undertaken in accordance with the Marsh Harrier implementation plan approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14C						
DG1	Planting	Light planting on the reinstated northern mound and coastal defence of scattered shrubs and trees will be required to help with erosion control and landscape screening.	Construction Phase November to February	Zone 4: Coastal Dunes and Shingle			
DG2	Scrub removal	Scrub shall be managed and should only be removed outside the breeding bird season. Scrub rogueing is to be undertaken as required to minimise scrub encroachment. Stumps to be treated with glyphosate if required.	September to February inclusive One per annum				



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
		Scrub will not be removed where it is required for screening, or where it provides a desirable boundary habitat.		
DG3	Vegetative cover	Permanent beach exclusion fencing will be installed and maintained to protect vegetation and ground nesting birds.	Construction phase	
maintenance	maintenance	Management of access by putting boardwalks in or controlling activities in vulnerable areas to prevent loss of vegetation cover.		
Vegetated Shingle				
	Surface vegetation	Surface disturbance of vegetated shingle will be avoided, in particular where communities are more open. Seasonal temporary exclusion fencing will be installed to protect vegetation and ground nesting birds.	March-August One per annum	Zone 4: Coastal Dunes and Shingle
		Management of access by putting boardwalks in or controlling activities in vulnerable areas to prevent loss of vegetation cover.		
Amenity Grassland	1	1	1	1



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Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
AG1	Grass cutting	Carry out establishment cuts and thereafter cut regularly to maintain a short sward height.	March – October As required.	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands: Dry Sandlings Grasslands
Wet Woodland				
WW1	Planting	0.7ha of wet woodland will be created using natural colonisation of the newly created wetlands, to align with Natural England's preferred approach and as defined in the Wet Woodland Strategy. The approach will be defined further in the final Wet Woodland Plan and the LEMP, but is likely to involve a planted reedbed (see RB above) being allowed to develop into wet woodland, by not intervening (no reedbed management or scrub removal)		Zone 3 - Coastal Levels

Once fully established the wet woodland will form part of the ongoing woodland management design and management will be undertaken in accordance with the final Wet Woodland Plan. .



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
Mixed Plantation Wo	oodland			
MPW1	Planting	Planting will be undertaken in the dormant season (November to February) in random single species groups of 5 – 20 plants at centres varying between 1.4 –2.5m, to avoid excessive overcrowding and shading out problems.	Construction Phase November to February	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands - Dry Sandlings Grasslands
		Planting will be done on a ratio of roughly 40% to 50% canopy trees, 20% to 30% understorey trees and scrub, and c.30% open space.		
		The larger blocks of woodland planting will be protected by installing deer fencing (rather than individual tree guards). The height of the fencing will be a minimum of 1.8m.		
		Tree guards will be used for smaller areas of woodland.		
		Any stakes, guards and ties will be monitored, replaced and adjusted to ensure tree growth is not adversely affected.		
MPW2	Tree replacement	Any trees that fail or become damaged or diseased will be removed and replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species.	To be undertaken in planting season - November to February	



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
			As required	
MPW3	Weeding	All weed growth will be controlled using mechanical means, such as strimming. Chemical treatments will only be used as a last resort and will not be used in areas accessible to the public.	May-October As required	
The management of	the planted tree	es once fully established must be set out in the LEMP.		
Hedgerows				
H1	Planting	Planting of whips will be undertaken in the dormant season (November to February). Whips will be planted in double rows at a spacing of 20—30cm. Any stakes, guards and ties will be monitored, replaced and adjusted to ensure hedgerow growth is not adversely affected.	Construction Phase November to February	Zone 1 Estate Sandlands: Farmland
H2	Hedgerow replacement planting	Any sections of hedgerows that fail or become damaged or diseased will be removed and replaced in the next planting season with similar species.	To be undertaken in planting season - November to February One per annum	

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Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type	
H3	Hedgerow margins	Hedgerow margins of a minimum 2m will be left undisturbed. The margins will be cut either annually or bi-annually in late summer, after the flowers have seeded as further defined in the LEMP.	Main cut late Summer (late July/early August) One per annum		
The management of the hedgerows once fully established must be set out in the LEMP.					

Table 6.3: Faunal enhancement management outline proposals

Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
FE1	Reptile hibernacula	No maintenance is required for the hibernacula. However if the structure is no longer suitable for wildlife (i.e. collapsed such that there are no longer cavities) then it will be replaced with a similar feature of the same quality.	One check per annum	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands - Dry Sandlings Grasslands
FE2	Reptile egg laying	No maintenance is required for the reptile egg laying sites. However if the structure is no longer suitable for wildlife (i.e.	One check per annum	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands - Dry



Management Item Reference	Management Item	Proposed Management	Timeframe/Frequency on Management Actions	Broad Landscape Type
		collapsed such that there are no longer cavities) then it must be replaced with a similar feature of the same quality.		Sandlings Grasslands
FE3	Breeding and wintering bird assemblage of summer parched grassland and scrub mosaic	Management of dry Summer parched grassland and scrub mosaic in accordance with management proposals detailed above.	As required	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands - Dry Sandlings Grasslands
FE4	Invertebrate assemblage of summer parched grassland and scrub mosaic	Management of Dry Sandlings Grassland and scrub mosaic in accordance with management proposals detailed above.	As required	Zone 2: Estate Sandlands - Dry Sandlings Grasslands

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7 MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

7.1 General Monitoring

- 7.1.1 Monitoring proposals are detailed in **Table 7.1**, however specific detailed monitoring prescriptions will be detailed in a Monitoring Strategy for the established habitats which will be submitted to and approved by the Ecology Working Group. The establishment of the new wetland habitats, which are created at an early stage (Y1-Y2) forms part of the onsite marsh harrier strategy, is however already covered by monitoring of these habitats in the **Terrestrial Ecology Monitoring and Mitigaiton Plan** (Doc Ref. 9.4(B)) (Requirement 4) TEMMP.
- 7.1.2 During the initial establishment period of twelve months, inspections must take place by a suitably qualified specialist biannually in spring and late summer. After the first twelve months inspections must be carried out annually in late summer. The results of the monitoring inspections and any proposed interventions required following the results be shared with the Ecology Working Group. Interventions will be required if the results show that the landscape and ecology vision for the Estate (Chapter 8 of the Design and Access Statement [REP5-073] will not be delivered.

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Table 7.1: Monitoring proposals

Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
Establishment	SZC Co.	Various	There is always uncertainty where new habitat is being established. This is impacted by weather conditions, the quality of seed stock or green hay, variations in the conditions of the site, and problems with pernicious weeds. Therefore the management and monitoring of the target habitats will be intensive during the first year and frequent over the subsequent four years to ensure any problems are identified early and resolved quickly.
			Checks will be undertaken by a suitably qualified specialist.
			The inspections will be undertaken to assess the establishment of habitats and the effectiveness of the LEMP and aftercare prescriptions, paying particular attention to:
			 the success of establishment including disease, damage or death of planting;
			 inappropriate use or vandalism;
			 general appearance and condition;
			 the presence of invasive or non-native species that require treatment; and



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
			 any evidence of protected species that could have implications for future management.
			An annual monitoring report will be prepared and submitted to the Ecology Working Group.
Target Communities Detailed LEMP	SZC Co.	Check bi-annually years 0, 1 and 2 Check annually year 3 - 5 Years 5-10 – A review of monitoring requirements would be undertaken in year 5 to detail timings for Years 5-10. If objectives are not met, then the Detailed LEMP would require amendment.	Before and after enhancement, reinstatement or creation a full botanical species list and quality assessment will be carried out to monitor the success of restoration and as a baseline for monitoring, this will include the presence and abundance of species. The National Vegetation Classification will be used to monitor the establishment of the target communities. This will also include monitoring progress towards the desired communities and habitat quality defined in the biodiversity net gain report (Doc Ref. 6.3 14E(A)). Monitoring is essential to track the development of the target habitat(s) and troubleshoot any problems. Target communities will be set for each habitat type for years 1, 2, 5 and 10. Monitoring must be submitted to the Ecology Working Group.
Dry Sandlings Grasslands	SZC Co.	As above	Regular inspections of the newly established areas of grassland will be made during the first five years of establishment.



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
Semi-improved Grassland			Targets will be set for each grassland type according to the desired communities and habitat quality defined in the biodiversity net gain report (Doc Ref. 6.3 14E(A)) and the species list gathered before construction and thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality lowland meadow in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site, as well as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee guidance.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Grassland (Ref. 1.35) which weights desirable species against the injurious ones and will be submitted to the Ecology Working Group.
Hedgerows	SZC Co.	As above	Targets must be set according to thresholds identified for Section 41 of the NERC Act/Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan quality hedgerows in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site.
			Regular checks will be made during the first five years of establishment to replace dead or diseased specimens, control weeds, re-stake plants and check deer/rabbit fencing.
			Monitoring will follow the Hedgerow Survey Handbook (Ref. 1.36) and be submitted to the Ecology Working Group



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
Woodland	SZC Co.	As above	Targets will be set according to thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality woodland in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site.
			Regular checks will be made during the first five years of establishment to replace dead or diseased specimens, control weeds, re-stake plants and check deer/rabbit fencing.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Woodland Habitats (Ref. 1.32). This will weight desirable species against the injurious ones. Monitoring results will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.
Vegetated shingle	SZC Co.	As above	Targets will be set according to thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality vegetated shingle habitat made specific to the site.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Vegetated Coastal Shingle Habitats (Ref. 1.33). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones.
			Shingle coverage will to be monitored on a regular basis. If coverage of shingle become reduced, shingle replenishment will be carried out. Monitoring results and any remedial action will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
Dune grassland	SZC Co.	As above	Targets will be set according to thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality dune grassland habitat made specific to the site.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Sand Dune Habitats (Ref. 1.34). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones. Monitoring results will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.
Dry Sandlings Grassland	SZC Co.	As above	The ultimate vision for the Dry Sandlings Grassland is that it evolves into an acid grassland/heath mosaic. While aspirational targets will be set in the LEMP, targets might require amending depending on the realities of soil pH and structure and water availability. The Ecology Working Group must approve changes to the targets.
			Targets will be set for acid grassland according to the desired communities and habitat quality defined in the biodiversity net gain report (Doc Ref. 6.3 14E(A)) and the species list gathered before construction and thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality lowland meadow in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site, as well as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee guidance. Grassland habitat indicators include the presence and abundance of key herb species present.



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Grassland Habitats (Ref. 1.35). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones.
			Targets will be set for heathland according to the species list gathered before construction and thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality lowland heathland in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site, as well as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee guidance. Heathland habitat indicators include the presence and abundance of key herb species present.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Heathland (Ref. 1.30). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones.
			Monitoring results will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.
Reed bed habitat	SZC Co.	As above	Targets will be set for reed bed according to the species list gathered before construction and thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality lowland wetland habitat in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site, as well as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee guidance. Lowland wetland indicators include the presence and abundance of key herb species present.



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Wetland Habitats (Ref. 1.31). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones.
			Monitoring results will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.
Marsh, Fen and Reed bed	SZC Co.	As above	Targets will be set for wet grassland according to the species list gathered before construction and thresholds identified for Section 41/Biodiversity Action Plan quality lowland wetland habitat in the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Scheme made specific to the site, as well as the Joint Nature Conservation Committee guidance. Lowland wetland indicators include the presence and abundance of key herb species present.
			Regular checks of the newly established area of wet grassland of the SSSI crossing will be made during the first five years of establishment.
			Monitoring will follow the Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Lowland Wetland Habitats (Ref. 1.31). This weights desirable species against the injurious ones.
			Monitoring results will be shared with the Ecology Working Group.
			Monitoring of fen vegetation has been carried out since 1993 by SWT as a means of assessing the success of the management practices adopted at the site. A number of quadrats have been set up and are



Habitat / Feature Type	Party responsible	Timing of Monitoring	Requirements
			visited every two years on a rolling programme. Monitoring will be set out in the fen meadow plan approved by East Suffolk Council under Requirement 14A.
Year five survey and review	SZC Co.	Year 5	More specific monitoring will include botanical surveys of Dry Sandlings Grassland habitats in year 5 following implementation. The following surveys, at a minimum, will be included in the year five review:
			botanical surveys - the species diversity of dry grassland will be assessed with species and assessment of their cover recorded along with tussock cover (estimate of cover assessed within 1m radius of 20 random sample points) and sward height, using a sward stick; and
			protected species surveys as required by protected species licences: monitoring surveys of bat and bird boxes, and the reptile population.
			The results of the surveys will be reviewed to identify any revisions to the management prescriptions deemed to be required to meet the objectives for the medium and long-term. Revised prescriptions will be produced to guide the next five years. This information will be submitted as a 'Five Year Monitoring Report' to the Ecology Working Group.

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