

# **CLEVE HILL SOLAR PARK**

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT** VOLUME 4 - TECHNICAL APPENDIX A8.1a **EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY** 

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# Cleve Farm - Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report



2015

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## 1 Summary

There are seven statutory designated sites for nature conservation within 2 km of the study area. Five of the sites are connected to the boundaries of the study area to the west, north and east. There are also seven non-statutory sites for nature conservation within 2km of the Site.

Cleve Farm (hereafter referred to as the Site) is dominated by large arable fields. Intersecting the fields is an extensive network of drainage ditches with common reed (*Phragmites australis*) dominant in many. Each ditch is associated with wide rough grassland margins along their length. Other habitats include a small reedbed in the south where a ditch widens out and areas of bare ground used for agricultural machines. A variety of other habitats occur adjacent to the Site boundary such as extensive reedbed along the northern boundary and houses, hedgerows, and lines of trees along the southern boundary. Much of the eastern boundary of the Site is adjoined by coastal grazing marsh comprising Swale Special Protection Area (SPA) and SSSI habitat.

The proximity of the Site to the internationally and nationally designated bird interest features of the Swale Estuary is illustrated by the extent of the bird records obtained from the desk study (Appendix A).

During the Phase 1 Habitat survey, no species for which the Swale SPA and Ramsar site is designated were recorded. The breeding species for which these designations exist would not be considered likely to be present on the Site due to the dominant habitat type. Wintering bird species would not be expected to be present at the time of the survey. Several species listed on the NERC Act s41 were noted during the Phase 1 Habitat survey including yellow wagtail (*Emberiza choeniclus*).

Grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) and signs of water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*) were observed during the Phase 1 Habitat survey. The Site contains suitable habitat to potentially support:

- Breeding birds;
- Passage birds;
- Wintering birds;
- Bats (activity);
- · Amphibians including great-crested newts;
- Reptiles;
- Water vole;
- · Badgers; and
- Terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates

## 2 Introduction

AECOM was commissioned in July 2015 by Hive Energy Ltd to undertake an ecological desk study and Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey of the Site, in Graveney, Kent. The purpose of this was to identify any potential constraints or opportunities related to habitats and the presence of protected and/or otherwise notable species in relation to construction and/or operation of the Site.

In addition to the Phase 1 Habitat survey, AECOM was also commissioned by Hive to undertake a suite of species surveys across the site, between 2014 and 2015. Some species surveys, such as badger and wintering birds were undertaken prior to the Phase 1 survey and others, such as water vole, after the Phase 1. Individual results of the various species groups surveyed, are presented within species specific baseline reports.

It is understood that the Site is to be developed for sustainable solar energy. At the time of writing the detailed design regarding the scale and layout of the development has not been determined.

This report is structured as per the following:

- Section 3 of the following report outlines relevant protected species legislation.
- Section 4 details the survey methodology
- Section 5 details the survey results.
- Section 6 contains a discussion of the findings including the potential for ecological enhancement and recommendations for any further survey work that may be required.

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## 3 Species and Legislation

The purpose of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey was to identify habitats and species present at the Site and recorded any potential for the Site to support protected and/or otherwise notable species or species groups, usually via field signs. Some of these species are protected by legislation, details of which can be found in Appendix C.

## 4 Methodology

## 4.1 Ecological Desk Study

The location of statutory designated sites within a 2km radius of the centre of the study area was determined using the Defra Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website.

Existing data of non-statutory designated sites for nature conservation and protected and/or notable species located within 2km of the study area (5km for bats) were obtained from Kent & Medway Biological Records Centre (KMBRC). Species records held by KMBRC arise from a broad range of surveys, including species specific and formal surveys. Records of protected species from within the last 15 years were considered in the baseline.

## 4.2 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

A survey of the Site was undertaken on the 3rd and 4th of August 2015 by experienced ecologists from AECOM. The aim of the survey was to identify the broad type, quality and extent of habitats present within the Site and to identify the potential for these habitats to support protected and/or otherwise notable species.

The survey was conducted according to the standard Phase 1 Habitat survey methodology (JNCC 2010) and in accordance with best practice; any evidence of protected and/or otherwise notable species were recorded (for further details please see individual protected species reports). The survey included a search for invasive species listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, such as Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).

Target notes (TN) were made to provide supplementary information on species composition, features of interest, topography, location of habitats within the boundary of the Site and evidence of management. Notes were also taken of any evidence of the presence of protected or notable fauna. Botanical nomenclature follows Stace (2010).

## 4.3 Limitations

No limitations to the survey were identified.

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## 5 Results

## 5.1 Statutory Designated Sites for Nature Conservation

There are eight statutory designated sites for nature conservation within 2 km of the Site, see Table 1 below and Figure 1. Five of those sites are directly adjacent to the boundaries of the Site to the west, north and east.

## Table 1. Statutory Designated Sites within 2 km of the Site.

Site Name	Designation	Distance from site and orientation	Reason for Designation
The Swale	Ramsar	Borders Site to North, East and West	The Swale Ramsar site is a wetland of international importance comprising intertidal mudflats, shell-beaches, saltmarshes and extensive grazing marshes. It provides breeding and winter habitats for important assemblages of wetland bird species, particularly wildfowl and waders. It provides habitats for important assemblages of wintering waterfowl, and also supports notable breeding bird populations. The Ramsar regularly supports over 20,000 waterfowl with an average peak count of 57,600 birds which includes populations of seventeen species of migratory waterfowl of international and national importance, two of which are dark-bellied brent goose (counts over 2,000) and dunlin (counts over 13,000).
The Swale	Special Protection Area (SPA)	Borders Site to North, East and West	The Swale Special Protection Area is a wetland of international importance, comprising intertidal mudflats, shell-beaches, saltmarshes and extensive grazing marshes. It provides habitats for important assemblages of wintering waterfowl, and also supports notable breeding bird populations. The SPA regularly supports over 20,000 waterfowl with an average peak count of 57,600 birds which includes populations of seventeen species of migratory waterfowl of international and national importance. Two of which are dark-bellied brent goose (counts over 2,000) and dunlin (counts over 13,000). The marshes also support wintering and occasionally breeding short-eared owls.
The Swale	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Borders Site to North, East and West	The Swale includes the largest remaining areas of freshwater grazing marsh in Kent and is representative of the estuarine habitats found on the north Kent coast. The habitats comprise chiefly mudflats, saltmarsh, and freshwater grazing marsh, the latter being intersected by extensive dykes and fleets. The area is particularly notable for

Site Name	Designation	Distance from site and orientation	Reason for Designation
			the internationally important numbers wintering and passage wildfowl and wade and there are also important breed populations of a number of bird specie Associated with the various constitut habitats of the site are outstand assemblages of plants and invertebrates.
Outer Thames Estuary	SPA	Within 2 km North East of Site	The site is designated for red-throated dive and their associated habitat; which winter the Outer Thames Estuary in number European importance (6,466 individue 38% of the GB population, 1989 – 2006/0 Red-throated divers are associated w inshore waters, often occurring with san bays, firths and sea lochs, although op coastline is also frequently used. The bulk red-throated diver distribution is in the east England with 59% of the UK total estima between Kent and North Yorkshire, with least 44% of the UK total in the Grea Thames alone. Liverpool Bay is currently t only other marine area in the UK classifi as an SPA for red-throated divers.
The Swale Estuary	Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (rMCZ)	Borders Site to North and West	The site is considered to be a higi biodiverse area, and is important as spawning and nursery ground for vario species. The main channel of the Swe Estuary is subtidal mud and subtidal mix sediments, which have been identified protection in the rMCZ to complement ti intertidal broad-scale habitats protected The Swale SSSI and SPA. Subtidal san and gravels at The Street in Whitstable ha also been identified for protection. The s also contains intertidal and subtidal Bit Mussel beds, native oysters, peat and ci exposures (specifically of London Cla Rossworm (Sabellaria spinulosa) reef a good examples of sheltered muddy gravels
The Swale	National Nature Reserve (NNR)	1.4 km North	The Swale National Nature Reserve is grazing marsh that supports signific populations of waterfowl. The main habital grazing marsh, coastal areas managed Elmley Conservation Trust (ECT).
South Bank of The Swale	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	Borders Site to the North	Thousands of wildfowl and waders, includi skylarks, reed warblers, breeding redshar and sometimes bearded tits and man harriers.
Oare Marshes	LNR	0.7 km to the West	Adjacent to the internationally importa Swale estuary. Migratory, overwintering a breeding wetland birds. Avocet, redshar

Site Name

Distance from site and

orientation

Reason for Designation

snipe, lapwing, water rail, bearded reedling, common tern and garganey all breed here. Migrating species include black-tailed godwit, ruff, little stint, curlew, greenshank, sandpiper and whimbrel. Overwintering species include brent goose, dunlin, wigeon, merlin, hen harrier, short-eared owl, bittern and twite. The saltmarsh supports a unique set of plants tolerant of the salty conditions including golden samphire, sea lavender, sea purslane, sea clover and thrift. Freshwater dykes contain frogbit, reedmace and water

Common seals are often seen in the Swale

plantain.

Estuary.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering Site / on-site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim	
Common pipistrelle bat	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	2014	On-site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA	
Daubenton's bat	Myotis daubentonii	2014	On-site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA	
Water vole	Arvicola amphibius	2013	On-site	W&CA NERCS41	
Noctule bat	Nyctalus noctula	2014	On-site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41	
Serotine bat	Eptesicus serotinus	2012	On-site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA	
Soprano pipistrelle bat	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	2014	On-site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41	
Badger	Meles meles	2011	Within 2 km	Badger Act	
Common lizard	Zootoca vivipara	2014	On-site	W&CA NERCS41	
Grass snake	Natrix natrix	2014	On-site	W&CA NERCS41	
Smooth newt	Lissotriton vulgaris	2000	On-site	W&CA	
Adder	Vipera berus	2006	Within 2 km	W&CA NERCS41	
Great crested newt	Triturus cristatus	2012	Within 2 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41	
Slow worm	Anguis fragilis	2013	Within 2 km	W&CA NERCS41	
Least lettuce	Lactuca saligna	2011	Bordering Site	W&CA NR	
Fiery clearwing	Pyropteron chrysidiformis	1999	On-site	W&CA	

#### 5.4 Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Habitats

The habitats recorded during the Phase 1 Habitat survey are illustrated in Figure 2 and Target Notes associated with the survey are provided in Appendix B of this report.

Cleve Farm is dominated by arable fields with crops, mainly wheat and beans in 2015. The fields are large and extensive. Intersecting the fields are drainage ditches with common reed (*Phragmites australis*) dominant in many. Each ditch is associated with wide rough grassland margins along their length. Other habitats include a small reedbed in the south where a ditch widens out and areas of bare ground used for agricultural machines. A variety of other habitats occur adjacent to the Site boundary such as extensive reedbed along the northern boundary and houses and horticulture,

#### 5.2 Non-Statutory Designated Sites for Nature Conservation

There are seven non-statutory designated sites for nature conservation within 2 km of the study area. See Table 2 below and Figure 1.

Table 2. Non-Statutory Designated Sites within 2 km of the Site.

Designation

Site Name	Designation	Distance from Site and orientation
South Swale	Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT) Reserve	Adjacent to the Site to the North
Seasalter Levels	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Reserve	0.6 km to the East
Oare Marshes	Kent Wildlife Trust Reserve (KWT)	0.7 km to the West
Abbey Fields, Faversham	Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	0.8 km to the South
Graveney Dykes and Pasture	LWS	1.5 km to the South East
Bysing Wood and Oare Gravel Pits	LWS	1.7 km to the South West
Uplees Lake and Marsh	LWS	2.0 km to the West

#### 5.3 Protected and/or otherwise notable species - desk study

A comprehensive table of desk study data of protected and/or otherwise notable species recorded within 2 km of the study area (5 km for bats) is provided within Appendix A.

A summary table of the key species is provided in Table 3 below.

150 protected and/or otherwise notable bird species had desk study records returned as being present on Site or bordering the Site.

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hedgerows, and lines of trees along the southern boundary. Much of the eastern boundary of the Site is adjoined by coastal grazing marsh comprising Swale SPA habitat, as well as the London Array substation.

The following Phase 1 Habitat types were recorded:

#### Swamp

The Site is dissected by a network of drainage channels which carry run-off from arable fields within and other land adjacent to the Site (Appendix B – Target Note 1). The ditches drain northwards to a major channel, approximately 10m wide that runs inside the sea wall at the northern limits of the Site. This ditch forms part of the South Bank of the Swale LNR and is a major channel lying immediately outside the Site to the north and west.

Elsewhere, water levels entering the Site are controlled by sluice gates. The ditch profiles across the Site are varied, with main ditch channels 2-3m wide and smaller ditches 0.5-1m. In general, the ditches slope steeply from bank to water's edge at angles of approximately 45 degrees and have high banks to accommodate high water levels. Vegetation is dominated by common reed, which occurs as a dominant species along the majority of the length of the network, allowing only limited areas of open water, where management of the ditches has taken place in the form of reed cutting or dredging. The localised species frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) was observed in some of the ditches. This species is characteristic of ditches with muddy substrates.



Plate 1: Typical reed-fringed drainage ditch at Cleve Farm (TN1)

#### Neutral semi-Improved grassland

Semi-improved grassland habitat forms a buffer zone between ditches and arable fields across the majority of the Site, comprising a strip of 4-5m width (Appendix B – Target Notes 2 and 9). Perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) is abundant in this habitat, with frequent false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), crested dog's tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*) and fescue (*Festuca* sp.) species.

Adjacent to the north and west of the Site lies a 20m strip of semi-improved grassland adjacent to the sea wall. The semiimproved grassland strip is cattle-grazed adjacent to the ditch and forms an embankment rising to meet the sea wall. Immediately adjacent to the sea wall this strip is 1-2m wide and forms an official footpath which is frequently used by walkers, cyclists and dog-walkers (Plate 2).



Plate 2: Semi-improved grassland adjacent to sea wall with Swale Estuary LNR adjacent to the north of the Site.

#### Tall Ruderal

In some areas, buffer zones between ditches and arable field are more accurately classified as tall ruderal vegetation (Appendix B – Target Notes 2b and 14) rather than semi-improved grassland. Perennial rye grass is again abundant in places, along with annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*), but there is a high proportion of ruderal plants, with abundant cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvatica*) and common mallow (*Malva sylvestris*) present in places.

#### Arable Field

The Site is dominated by extensive arable fields, which during the survey were cultivated for wheat, barley and broad bean.



Plate 3: Arable field cultivated for broad bean

#### Improved Grassland

Improved grassland is not found within the Site, but forms a narrow strip of habitat between Faversham Creek to the west and the main drainage ditch surrounding the Site to the west and north-west (Appendix B - Target Note 15). Species present includes abundant annual meadow grass, with frequent wild oat (*Avena sativa*), bristly oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*) and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*).

#### Bareground/Tracks

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Although of little ecological value, the track habitat is worthy of recording, due to its extensive nature. The main vehicle access track enters the Site from the south west corner adjacent to Nagden Cottages and winds north between the arable fields and then east along the main ditch at the northern boundary of the Site. A second access track runs from the south of the Site up Cleve Hill Road to Cleve Farm (private access) this track then continues north through the Site and joins with the Nagden Cottages track and also east from Cleve Farm and along the northern boundary of the substation, to the eastern boundary of the Site.



Plate 4: Farm vehicle track along the northern boundary of the Site.

#### Scattered Trees

The Site is entirely devoid of trees, except along the perimeter of the Site to the south, where lines of broadleaved trees (Appendix B – Target Note 20) are noted. Species present includes frequent pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), Italian poplar (*Populus nigra*), silver birch (*Betulus pendula*), Leyland cypress (*Cupressus x leylandii*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).

Adjacent to the minor road leading to Cleve Farm from Graveney is a small group of trees and scrub (location of a dried out former agricultural pond) dominated by crack willow (*Salix fragilis*) (Appendix B – Target Note 11). In the south of the Site, immediately below the small reedbed is a small area of wet woodland dominated by mature crack willow (Appendix B – Target Note 16).



Plate 5: Line of trees forming a southern boundary edge of the Site (TN20)

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A short section of species-poor hedgerow occurs along the southern boundary of the Site, abutting the gardens of Warm House.

The south-eastern boundary of the Site from Cleve Hill Farm to the junction with Seasalter Road (TN12) and along the Site boundary to the south west of Seasalter Road is predominantly a more species rich hedgerow with trees. The overall length of these two hedgerow sections is approximately 500m, and the most frequently encountered species are blackthorn, bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and common elm (*Ulmus minor*).

#### Amenity Grassland

Amenity grassland is not found on Site, but occurs immediately adjacent to the Site at Nagden Farm Cottages in the west and Warm House in the south.

#### Dense Scrub

Small areas of dense scrub occur close to the southern boundary of the Site. These areas were outside of the survey area.

#### Buildings

Buildings are present outside the Site boundary to the south-east. These comprised metal farm buildings and a small row of brick built houses.

#### Standing Water

Standing water within the Site is limited to the ditch network. However, seven ponds were identified within 500m of the Site boundary.

#### 5.5 Protected and/or Otherwise Notable Species

The extended Phase 1 Habitat survey and desk study identified potential for protected and/or otherwise notable species to be present at the Site. These are discussed in further detail below.

#### Birds

The proximity of the Site to the internationally and nationally designated bird interest features of the Swale Estuary is illustrated by the extent of the bird records obtained from the desk study (Appendix A).

During the Phase 1 Habitat survey, species for which the Swale SPA and Ramsar site is designated were not noted – however the breeding species for which these designations exist would not be considered likely to be present on Site. In addition, wintering bird species would not be expected to be present at the time of the survey. Several species listed on the NERC Act s41 were noted during the Phase 1 Habitat survey – including yellow wagtail (*Emberiza citrinella*), skylark and reed bunting.

The network of ditches and the arable fields themselves on Site are considered likely to support breeding bird species.

The field margins may provide habitat suitable for foraging owl species, in particular barn owl (*Tyto alba*) and in winter, possibly short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*).

It is likely that wildfowl and waders for which the adjacent estuary habitats are designated will utilise the arable fields within the Site for resting and potentially foraging during the winter months, particularly around high tide. The geographic location of the Site also makes it a potentially valuable site for passage migrants.

#### Other notable species

A brown hare (Lepus europaeus), a NERC s41 and Kent BAP priority species was observed from within one of the arable fields to the north of the substation during the survey (Appendix B – Target Note 6).

The Site offers little possibility for roosting bats as no buildings and very few mature trees are present on Site, and none were observed as having any potential to support roosting bats as they lacked features that may be used. However the extensive ditch network and open arable fields offer foraging habitat for a range of species.

The open, exposed and potentially windswept nature of the landscape may reduce the value of the Site to foraging bats, however, the network of ditches is likely to provide foraging and commuting opportunities. Desk study records indicate that common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*) and Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*) have been recorded on Site since 2012 with a further four species within 5km of the Site.

#### Amphibian

Records of great-crested newt occur within 2km of the Site, with the most recent record dating from 2012. The network of ditches may offer a very limited potential opportunity to support great crested newt.

Four water-bodies have been identified as occurring within 500m of the Site and these may also offer opportunity for great crested newts to breed.

The Site in general has limited value for newt species during the terrestrial phases of their life cycle. The ditch margins represent a potential route to hibernacula and potential foraging habitat; however no potential hibernacula were observed. One large mound of spoil was noted (Appendix B – Target Note 5). However, this did not present many gaps/crevices for newts to access the feature.

#### Reptile

The numerous ditches crossing and surrounding the Site, and the associated marginal vegetation are considered to represent good quality habitat for reptile species, including grass snake, slow worm and common lizard.

Desk study data includes records of grass snake and common lizard on Site in 2014, with slow worm within 2km in 2013.

A juvenile grass snake was observed during the Phase 1 Habitat survey (Appendix B - Target Note 18).

No hibernacula were observed on the Site apart from one small wooden board. One large mound of spoil was noted (Appendix B – Target Note 5). However, this did not present many gaps/ crevices for reptiles to access the structure.

#### Badger

No sign of badger was encountered during the Phase 1 survey, however this was not a detailed badger survey; AECOM undertook a badger survey of the Site in 2014. No setts or signs of activity were recorded during 2014. Suitable habitat for badger setts is largely restricted to scrub and tree line habitats associated with inland areas of the Site, particularly areas illustrated by Target Notes 11 and 12 in Appendix B and on Figure 2. The arable fields may also offer foraging habitat for badgers with the ditch banks offering potentially suitable habitat for setts. Badgers were recorded in the desk study from within 2km of the Site in 2011.

#### Water vole

Evidence of water vole was observed during the Phase 1 Habitat survey in the form of footprints along a field margin in the northwest of the site. Desk study data indicates presence of water vole on Site as recently as 2011. The ditch profiles appear to be suitable for water vole across the entire Site in terms of bank profile, fresh water with low flow and extensive vegetation cover.

#### Invertebrates

The ditches and marginal habitats were considered to represent good quality habitat for species groups such as *Odonata* (dragonflies and damselflies) that may be associated with such habitats. The location of the Site on the south east coast of England increases the likelihood of uncommon species, more frequently found in continental Europe, being present. Both terrestrial and aquatic habitats are suitable for notable invertebrates.

Away from the ditches, i.e. arable fields, all habitats appear to be of low value to invertebrate species.

Due to the size and nature of the Site, species surveys were undertaken concurrently with the Phase 1 Habitat survey. These included breeding, passage and wintering bird surveys, the details of which can be found in Appendix D. The results from the breeding bird survey are reported in *Cleve Farm – Breeding Bird Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016), results from the passage bird survey are reported in *Cleve Farm – Passage Bird Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016) and results from the wintering bird survey are reported in *Cleve Farm – Wintering Bird Survey Report* 2013/2014 & 2014/2015 (AECOM, 2016). There is anecdotal information that the Site has supported breeding/roosting barn owl in the recent past, and therefore barn owl surveys were undertaken at the Site. The results from these are reported in *Cleve Farm – Breeding Bird Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016).

#### 6.4.2 Bats

The Site has been determined to have potential to support commuting and foraging bats, and surveys for this species group are reported in *Cleve Farm – Bat Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016). Details of the methods used in these surveys can be found in Appendix D.

#### 6.4.3 Amphibians

Seven water-bodies within 500m of the Site were identified as having potential to support great crested newt. The results from these surveys can be found in *Cleve Farm – Amphibian Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016). Details of the methods used can be found in Appendix D.

#### 6.4.4 Reptiles

The Site is considered to have potential to support widespread reptiles and surveys for these species group are reported in *Cleve Farm – Reptile Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016). Details of the methods used can be found in Appendix D.

#### 6.4.5 Badgers

Habitats within the Site are considered to be potentially suitable for foraging habitat and the creation of setts. A survey of the Site was undertaken in 2014, details of which can be found in *Cleve Farm – Badger Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016).

#### 6.4.6 Water vole

Evidence of water vole has been found on Site, and surveys for these species group are reported in *Cleve Farm – Water Vole Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016).

#### 6.4.7 Invertebrates

The network of ditches across the Site has been determined to have potential to support protected and/or notable terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates, and surveys for this species group are reported in *Cleve Farm – Preliminary Invertebrate Survey Report* (AECOM, 2016).

The conclusions reached are based on the assumptions that:

6 Discussion and Recommendations

- the extent of the Proposed Development limited to that shown as a red line boundary in Figure 1 and 2; and
- all habitat contained within the red line boundary could be affected by the development.

Due to the potential for protected species to be present there is the potential for legal offences to occur if works proceed without further ecological survey to establish baseline conditions. The potential presence of protected species represents a material consideration in the planning process and therefore all further surveys recommended should be undertaken in advance of any subsequent planning submission. Failure to include this information is likely to result in the rejection of the application.

#### 6.1 Statutory Designated Sites

The Site lies immediately adjacent to The Swale SPA, Ramsar, SSSI and rMCZ site and the South Bank of the Swale LNR. The habitats themselves are of value and form reasons for designations (e.g. freshwater grazing marsh), however, the primary interest of the SPA, Ramsar, SSSI and LNR lies in supporting populations of wildfowl and waders during winter and on passage and also supporting populations of breeding birds.

There is potential for the proposed works to affect these designations during construction and operation. For the SPA and Ramsar it is recommended that under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010), a project-level Habitats Regulations Assessment should be undertaken including (but not necessarily limited to) the Swale Estuary SPA and Ramsar sites.

#### 6.2 Non-Statutory Designated Sites

Although the South Swale KWT reserve borders the Site to the north, it is overlapped by the South Bank of the Swale LNR designation and therefore any effects on the non-statutory designation should be captured and assessed by consideration of statutory designated sites.

#### 6.3 Habitats

Habitat areas within the Site meet criteria of Habitats of Principle Importance under NERC s41. The habitat types present are:

- reedbed; and
- arable field margins.

Additionally, reedbed is a priority habitat listed under the Kent BAP

Therefore any works that would be likely to result in loss or degradation of these habitats would need to offer mitigation either on the Site or off the Site in the form of like-for-like creation or management of such habitats.

#### 6.4 Species

#### 6.4.1 Birds

The Site is located adjacent to internationally designated wildlife sites where the primary species of concern are birds. During the Phase 1 Habitat survey breeding birds listed as of greatest concern (red listed) under BOCC in the UK were observed to be present and likely breeding, both in arable fields and adjacent ditches.

## 7 References

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Appendix A. Desk Study Data Results

Records requested for 2 km from a central grid reference of TR03916407, with bat records requested for 5 km.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
		М	ammals		
Common pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	2014		On site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
Daubenton's bat	Myotis daubentonii	2014		On site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
Water vole	Arvicola amphibius	2013		On site	W&CA NERCS41
Noctule bat	Nyctalus noctula	2014		On site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41
Serotine bat	Eptesicus serotinus	2012		On site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
Soprano pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	2014		On site	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41
Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus	2014		On site	NERCS41
Badger	Meles meles	2011		Within 2 km	Badger Act
Brown long-eared bat	Plecotus auritus	2014		Within 5 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41
Nathusius' pipistrelle bat	Pipistrellus nathusii	2013		Within 5 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
Natterer's bat	Myotis nattereri	2012		Within 5 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
Whiskered bat	Myotis mystacinus	2014		Within 5 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA
			Birds		1
Aquatic warbler	Acrocephalus paludicola	2007	Winter	On site	BirdsDir; NERCS41; BOCC Red
Bar-tailed godwit	Limosa lapponica	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Black-headed gull	Larus ridibundus	2013	Summer	On site	BOCC Amber

		(Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		2 km / bordering site / on site)	Conservation Aim
			/ Winter		
Cetti's warbler	Cettia cetti	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	W&CA
Curlew	Numenius arquata	2013	Summer / Winter	On Site	NERCS41; BOCC Amber
Dunnock	Prunella modularis	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Amber
Fieldfare	Turdus pilaris	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	W&CA BOCC Red
Gadwall	Anas strepera	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Gannet	Morus bassanus	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Green woodpecker	Picus viridis	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Grey partridge	Perdix perdix	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Greylag goose	Anser anser	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Hen harrier	Circus cyaneus	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Hobby	Falco subbuteo	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	W&CA
House sparrow	Passer domesticus	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Lesser spotted woodpecker	Dendrocopus minor	2002	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber

Nearest record (within

2 km / bordering site /

Date of last record

(Birds – Summer /

AECOM			Page 2		
Common Name	mmon Name Scientific Name Date of last r (Birds – Sun Winter Vis		- Summer /	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
	ostralegus		/ Winter		
Peregrine	Falco peregrinus	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; W&CA
Pink-footed goose	Anser brachyrhynchus	2012	Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Redshank	Tringa totanus	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Redwing	Turdus iliacus	2013	Winter	On site	W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Reed bunting	Emberiza schoeniclus	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Amber
Ruff	Philomachus pugnax	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Red
Savi's warbler	Locustella luscinioides	2007	Summer	On site	W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Short-eared owl	Asio flammeus	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Shoveler	Anas dypeata	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Skylark	Aluada arvensis	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Spotted flycatcher	Muscicapa striata	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Stock dove	Columba oenas	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Swallow	Hirundo rustica	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Swift	Apus apus	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Teal	Anas crecca	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber

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Turdus viscivorus

Haematopus

2013

2012

Summer

/ Winter

Summer

On site

On site

Mistle thrush

Oystercatcher

AECOM

Common Name

Scientific Name

BOCC Amber

BOCC Amber

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Legal Status and

Conservation Aim

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Common Name	(Birds		last record - Summer / r Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Turtle dove	Streptopelia turtur	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Whitethroat	Sylvia communis	2012	Summer / Winter	On site	BOCC Amber
Yellow wagtail	Motacilla flava	2013	Summer / Winter	On site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Arctic skua	Stercorarius parasiticus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Red
Arctic tern	Sterna paradisaea	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Barn owl	Tyto alba	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Barnacle goose	Branta leucopsis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Bearded tit (reedling)	Panurus biarmicus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Bewick's swan	Cygnus columbianus	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Amber
Bittern	Botaurus stellaris	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Black redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Black tern	Chlidonias niger	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Black-necked grebe	Podiceps nigricollis	2011	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Black-tailed godwit	Limosa limosa	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Black-throated diver	Gavia arctica	2008	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim	
Bluethroat	Luscinia svecica	2011	Summer	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA	
Brambling	Fringilla montifringilla	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA	
Common gull	Larus canus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Common sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Common scoter	Melanitta nigra	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Common tern	Sterna hirundo	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber	
Corn bunting	Miliaria calandra	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Crane	Grus grus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber	
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Dartford warbler	Sylvia undata	2006	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber	
Dotterel	Charadrius morinellus	2010	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber	
Dunlin	Calidris alpina	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Red	
Eider	Somateria mollissima	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis	2009	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Garganey	Anas querquedula	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber	
Golden plover	Pluvialis apricaria	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber	
Goldeneye	Brucephala clangula	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Grasshopper warbler	Locustella naevia	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
Great black-backed gull	Larus marinus	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Great northern diver	Gavia immer	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Great skua	Stercorarius skua	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Great white egret	Egretta alba	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir
Green sandpiper	Tringa ochropus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA
Grey plover	Pluvialis squatarola	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Grey wagtail	Mtacilla cinerea	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Guillemot	Uria aalge	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Herring gull	Larus argentatus	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Ноорое	Upapa epops	2012	Summer	Bordering site	W&CA
House martin	Delichon urbica	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Iceland gull	Larus glaucoides	2010	Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Jack snipe	Lymnocryptes minimus	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Knot	Calidris calidris	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Lapland bunting	Calcarius lapponicus	2013	Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red

Common Name Leach's petrel	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
	Oceanodroma leucorhoa	2010	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Lesser black-backed gull	Larus fuscus	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Lesser redpoll	Carduelis cabaret	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Linnet	Carduelis cannabina	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Little egret	Egretta garzetta	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Little grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Little gull	Larus minutus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Little tern	Sterna albirons	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Manx shearwater	Puffinus puffinus	2012	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Marsh harrier	Circus aeruginosus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Mediterranean gull	Larus melanocephalus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Merlin	Falco columbarius	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Montagu's harrier	Circus pygargus	2011	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Pochard	Aythya ferina	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Puffin	Fratercula arctica	2011	Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Purple sandpiper	Calidris maritima	2008	Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Quail	Coturnix coturnix	2011	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber

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Common Name Razorbill	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
	Alca torda	2008	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Red-breasted goose	Branta ruficollis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir
Red-necked grebe	Podiceps grisegena	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Red-necked phalarope	Phalaropes lobatus	2006	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Red
Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Red-throated diver	Gavia stellata	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Ring ouzel	Turdus torquatus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Ringed plover	Charadrius hiaticula	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Ruddy shelduck	Tadorna ferruginea	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir
Sand martin	Riparia riparia	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Sandwich tern	Sterna sandvicensis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Scaup	Aythya marlia	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA NERCS41; BOCC Red
Shag	Phalacrocorax aristotelis	2012	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber
Shore lark	Eremophila alpestris	2012	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber
Slavonian grebe	Podiceps auritus	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Smew	Mergus albellus	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; BOCC Amber
Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)		Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim	
Snow bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis	2013	Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber	
Spotted redshank	Tringa erythropus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Tree pipit	Anthus trivialis	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Twite	Carduelis flavirostris	2012	Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Velvet scoter	Melanitta fusca	2013	Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Amber	
Water pipit	Anthus spinoletta	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	W&CA BOCC Red	
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Whooper swan	Cygnus cygnus	2013	Winter	Bordering site	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber	
Wigeon	Anas penelope	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Willow warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Woodcock	Scolopax rusticola	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella	2013	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	NERCS41; BOCC Red	
Yellow-legged gull	Larus michahellis	2009	Summer / Winter	Bordering site	BOCC Amber	
Baillon's crake	Porzana pusilla	2001	Summer	Within 2 km	BirdsDir	
Barred warbler	Sylvia nisoria	2005	Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir	

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Common Name	Scientific Name	(Birds -	last record - Summer / r Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Ain
Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	2004	Summer	Within 2 km	W&CA
Black-winged stilt	Himantopus himantopus	2008	Summer	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA
Brent goose	Branta bernicla	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; NERCS41 BOCC Amber
Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	NERCS41; BOCC Amber
Common crossbill	Loxia curvirostra	2009	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA
Firecrest	Regulus ignicapillus	2012	Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA BOCC Amber
Glaucous gull	Larus hyperboreus	2005	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Glossy ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	2010	Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir
Goshawk	Accipiter gentilis	2005	Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA
Honey buzzard	Pernis aprivorus	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Kentish plover	Charadrius alexandrius	2002	Summer	Within 2 km	W&CA
Little bittern	Ixobrychus minutus	2000	Summer	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA
Little ringed plover	Charadrius dubius	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA
Meadow pipit	Anthus pratensis	2012	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Nightingale	Luscinia megahynchos	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Pied flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca	2009	Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Pintail	Anas acuta	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Purple heron	Ardea purpurea	2012	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA
Red kite	Milvus milvus	2014	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber

Common Name	Scientific Name	(Birds	last record – Summer / er Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
Red-backed shrike	Lanius collurio	2007	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Red
Sooty shearwater	Puffinus griseus	2009	Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
Spotted crake	Porzana porzana	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Squacco heron	Ardeola ralloides	2007	Summer	Within 2 km	BirdsDir
Temminck's stint	Calidris temminckii	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA
Tree sparrow	Passer montanus	2010	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Tufted duck	Aythya fuligula	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BOCC Amber
White stork	Ciconia ciconia	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir
White-fronted goose	Anser albifrons	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	NERCS41
Wood sandpiper	Tringa glareola	2013	Sumer / Winter	Within 2 km	BirdsDir; W&CA BOCC Amber
Wood warbler	Phylloscopus sibilatrix	2002	Summer	Within 2 km	NERCS41; BOCC Red
Wryneck	Jynx torquilla	2013	Summer / Winter	Within 2 km	W&CA BOCC Red
		ŀ	lerptiles	1	
Common lizard	Zootoca vivipara	2014		On site	W&CA NERCS41
Grass snake	Natrix natrix	2014		On site	W&CA NERCS41
Smooth newt	Lissotriton vulgaris	2000		On site	W&CA
Adder	Vipera berus	2006		Within 2 km	W&CA NERCS41
Common frog	Rana temporaria	2012		Within 2 km	W&CA
Common toad	Bufo bufo	2004		Within 2 km	W&CA NERCS41
Great crested newt	Triturus cristatus	2012		Within 2 km	HabDir; HabRegs; W&CA NERCS41

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
Slow worm	Anguis fragilis	2013	Within 2 km	W&CA NERCS41
		Plants		
Small Alison	Alyssum alyssoides	2012	Within 2 km	W&CA
Least lettuce	Lactuca saligna	2011	Bordering site	W&CA NR
Dwarf eelgrass	Zostera (Zosterella) noltei	2010	On site	NS
Saltmarsh goosefoot	Chenopodium chenopodioides	2014	Within 2 km	NS
Oak-leaved goosefoot	Chenopodium glaucum	2013	Within 2 km	NS
Perennial glasswort	Sarcocornia perennis	2010	On site	NS
Yellow glasswort	Salicornia fragilis	2011	On site	NS
Shiny glasswort	Salicornia nitens	2011	Within 2 km	NS
Glaucous glasswort	Salicornia obscura	2011	Within 2 km	NR
One-flowered glasswort	Salicornia pusilla	2011	Within 2 km	NS
Shrubby sea-blite	Suaeda vera	2005	Within 2 km	NS
Red hemp-nettle	Galeopsis angustifolia	2002	Within 2 km	NS
Small-leaved sweet briar	Rosa agrestis	2011	On site	NS
Divided sedge	Carex divisa	2013	On site	NS
Stiff saltmarsh-grass	Puccinellia rupestris	2011	On site	NS
Bulbous meadow- grass	Poa bulbosa	2003	Within 2 km	NS
Early meadow-grass	Poa infirma	2013	Within 2 km	NS
Bulbous foxtail	Alopecurus bulbosus	2013	On site	NS
Rye brome	Bromus secalinus	2012	Within 2 km	NS
Sea barley	Hordeum marinum	2013	Bordering site	NS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
Dittander	Lepidium latifolium	2011	On site	NS
Grape-hyacinth	Muscari neglectum	2011	Within 2 km	NR
Toothed medick	Medicago polymorpha	2004	Within 2 km	NS
Sea clover	Trifolium squamosum	2013	On site	NS
Marsh-mallow	Althaea officinalis	2013	Within 2 km	NS
Golden-samphire	Inula crithmoides	2013	On site	NS
Slender hare's-ear	Bupleurum tenuissimum	2012	On site	NS
Hog's fennel	Peucedanum officinale	2013	On site	NR
Punctelia jeckeri	Punctelia jeckeri	2014	Within 2 km	NS
		Invertebrates		
Thrift neb	Aristotelia brizella	2005	On site	NN
Shrill carder bee	Bombus (Thoracobombus) sylvarum	2014	On site	NN
Bombardier beetle	Brachinus (Brachinus) crepitans	2012	On site	NN
-	Calathus (Calathus) ambiguus	2012	On site	NN
Sea-wormwood leafhopper	Chlorita viridula	2011	On site	NN
-	Dicheirotrichus obsoletus	2010	On site	NN
-	Enochrus halophilus	2013	On site	NS
-	Hydrovatus clypealis	2013	On site	NS
-	Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) puncticolle	2000	On site	NN
-	Melieria picta	2012	On site	NN
-	Ophonus (Ophonus) ardosiacus	2014	On site	NN

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Hive Energy Ltd

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
-	Pseudaplemonus limonii	2014	On site	NN
Fiery clearwing	Pyropteron chrysidiformis	1999	On site	W&CA
-	Rhantus (Rhantus) frontalis	2010	On site	NS; NN
-	Crypticus quisquilius	2012	Bordering site	NN
Adonis' ladybird	Hippodamia (Adonia) variegata	2011	Bordering site	NN
-	Opatrum sabulosum	2012	Bordering site	NN
Salt-marsh grass- veneer	Pediasia aridella	2001	Bordering site	NN
Long-legged tabby	Synaphe punctalis	2001	Bordering site	NN
-	Volucella zonaria	2014	Bordering site	NN
-	Agabus (Gaurodytes) conspersus	2013	Within 2 km	NS; NN
-	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutuloides	2000	within 2 km	NN
-	Anthracus consputus	2009	Within 2 km	NN
-	Aulonium trisulcus	2010	Within 2 km	NN
-	Badister (Baudia) dilatatus	2011	Within 2 km	NN
Large garden bumble bee	Bombus (Megabombus) ruderatus	2011	Within 2 km	NN
Hill cuckoo bee	Bombus (Psithyrus) rupestris	2013	Within 2 km	NN
-	Carpelimus halophilus	2013	Within 2 km	NN
-	Chaetarthria seminulum	2009	Within 2 km	NS
-	Chrysolina oricalcia	2014	Within 2 km	NN
Sea-aster colletes bee	Colletes (Colletes) halophilus	2013	Within 2 km	NN
-	Colobaea bifasciella	2000	Within 2 km	NN
-	Crossocerus (Crossocerus) distinguendus	2000	Within 2 km	NN

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date of last record (Birds – Summer / Winter Visitor)	Nearest record (within 2 km / bordering site / on site)	Legal Status and Conservation Aim
-	Demetrias (Risophilus) imperialis	2008	Within 2 km	NN
-	Enochrus bicolor	2013	Within 2 km	NS
Long-horned bee	Eucera (Eucera) longicornis	2014	Within 2 km	NN
-	Gyrinus paykulli	2009	Within 2 km	NS
-	Haliplus (Liaphlus) mucronatus	2009	Within 2 km	NS; NN
-	Heterocerus obsoletus	2013	Within 2 km	NS
-	Homoneura tesquae	2005	Within 2 km	NN
-	Hygrotus (Coelambus) parallelogrammus	2013	Within 2 km	NS; NN
-	Lasiochaeta pubescens	2000	Within 2 km	NN
-	Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) malachurum	2005	Within 2 km	NN
-	Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) pauxillum	2005	Within 2 km	NN
-	Liparus coronatus	2012	Within 2 km	NN
-	Longitarsus ballotae	2010	Within 2 km	NN
-	Longitarsus dorsalis	2014	Within 2 km	NN
Stag beetle	Lucanus cervus	2011	Within 2 km	W&CA NN
-	Macropsis glandacea	2005	Within 2 km	NN
-	Microdynerus exilis	2014	Within 2 km	NN
Large velvet ant	Mutilla europaea	2013	Within 2 km	NN
-	Nicrophorus interruptus	2013	Within 2 km	NN
-	Nomada fucata	2005	Within 2 km	NN
-	Nysson trimaculatus	2000	Within 2 km	NN
-	Ochthebius (Ochthebius) pusillus	2009	Within 2 km	NS
Cramp-ball fungus weevil	Platyrhinus resinosus	2010	Within 2 km	NN

Common Name

-

Long-horned soldier

Acronym

Flecked general

Bloody cranesbill

weevil

Key

HabDir

HabRegs

Birds Dir

NERCS41

BOCC Red

NR

NS

NN

BOCC Amber

Badger Act

W&CA

Sulphur pearl

Hive Energy Ltd

Nearest record (within

2 km / bordering site /

on site)

Within 2 km

Legislation Description

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); Schedule 1 (birds), Schedule

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Section 41 Listed

The Birds Directive 2009; Annex 1 Threatened Bird Species

Date of last record

(Birds - Summer /

Winter Visitor)

2012

2010

2009

2014

2005

2013

5 (all other species), Schedule 8 (plants)

Birds of Conservation Concern Red Listed Species

Birds of Conservation Concern Amber Listed Species

Species of Principle Importance

Nationally Rare Species

Nationally Scarce Species

Nationally Notable Species

The Protection of Badgers Act 1992

The Habitats Directive 1994

Scientific Name

Sitochroa palealis

Stenolophus

pusillus

Stratiomys

singularior

Vanoyia tenuicornis

Zacladus exiguous

skrimshiranus Stenus (Stenus) Page 33

Legal Status and

**Conservation Aim** 

NN

NN

NN

NN

NN

NN

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# Appendix B. Phase 1 Target Notes and Species List

#### TN1 - Ditch system with reedbed (off site)

Species		DAFOR
Common name	Scientific name	
Common club rush	(Scirpus lacustris)	R
Corn parsley	(Petroselinum segetum)	R
Common reed	(Phragmites australis)	D
Reedmace	(Typha angustifolia)	0
Frogbit	(Hydrocharis morsus-ranae)	0
Duckweed	(Lemna sp.)	F
Water plantain sp.	(Alisma sp.)	0
Fools watercress	(Apium nodiflorum)	0
Watercress	(Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum)	0

#### TN2 - Semi-improved grassland along ditch networks

The semi-improved grassiand alo	DAFOR	
Common name	Scientific name	
Perennial rye grass	(Lolium perenne)	A
Creeping thistle	(Cirsium arvense)	F
Crested dogs tail	(Cynosurus cristatus)	F
Fescue sp.	(Festuca sp.)	F
Oat grass sp.	(Avenula sp.)	F
Wild carrot	(Daucus carota ssp. Carota)	F
Salsify	(Tragopogon pratensis)	F
Birds foot trefoil	(Lotus corniculatus)	0
Bristly ox tongue	(Helminthotheca echioides)	0
Broad leaved dock	(Rumex obtusifolius)	0
Cocks foot	(Dactylis glomerata)	0
Creeping buttercup	(Ranunculus repens)	0
Curled dock	(Rumex crispus)	0
Fat hen	(Chenopodium album)	0
Red clover	(Trifolium pratense)	0
Small cats tail	(Phleum pratense. ssp. Bertolonii)	0
Soft brome	(Bromus hordeaceus ssp. Hordeaceus)	0
Soft rush	(Juncus effusus)	0
Spear thistle	(Cirsium vulgare)	0
Timothy	(Phleum pratense)	0
Vetch sp.	(Vicia sp.)	0
Wall barley	(Hordeum murinum)	0
Cranesbill sp.	(Geranium sp.)	R
Goat's-beard	(Tragopogon pratensis agg.)	R
Golden melilot	(Melilotus latissimus)	R
Great lettuce	(Lactuca virosa)	R
Scentless mayweed	(Tripleurospermum inodorum)	R
Shepherd's-purse	(Capsella bursa-pastoris)	R
Smooth sow thistle	(Sonchus oleraceus)	R

TN2b - Tall Ruderal vegetation along ditch networks

	Species	DAFOR
Common name	Scientific name	
Annual meadow grass	(Poa annua)	F
Black horehound	(Ballota nigra)	F
Bramble	(Rubus fruticosus)	0
Common mallow	(Malva sylvestris)	0
Common nettle	(Urticia dioica)	0
Cow parsley	(Anthriscus sylvestris)	0
Creeping cinquefoil	(Potentilla reptans)	0
False oat grass	(Arrhenatherum elatius)	0
Field bind weed	(Convolvulus arvensis)	0
Great willowherb	(Epilobium hirsutum)	0
Greater plantain	(Plantago major)	0
Knotgrass sp.	(Polygonium sp.)	0
Oat sp.	(Avena sp.)	0
Rape	(Brassica napus)	0
Ragwort	(Senecio jacobaea)	0
Tufted vetch	(Vicia cracca)	0
Wall barley	(Hordeum murinum)	0
Burdock sp.	(Arctium sp.)	R
Caper spurge	(Euphorbia lathyris)	R
Common field speedwell	(Veronica persica)	R
Common fleabane	(Pulicaria dystenterica)	R
Common orache	(Atriplex patula)	R
Common poppy	(Papaver rhoeas)	R
Fat hen	(Chenopodium album)	R
Field horsetail	(Equisetum arvense)	R
Field maple	(Acer campestre)	R
Great mullein	(Verbascum Thapsus)	R
Hawthorn	(Crataegus monogyna)	R
Hemlock	(Conium maculatum)	R
Hogweed	(Heracleum sphondylium)	R
Meadow vetchling	(Lathyrus pratensis)	R
Mugwort	(Artemisia vulgaris)	R
Redshank	(Persicaria maculosa)	R
Scarlet pimpernel	(Anagallis arvensis)	R
Sea couch grass	(Elymus pycnanthus)	R
Teasel	(Dipsacus fullonum)	R
Traveller's joy	(Clematis vitalba)	R
Weld	(Reseda sp.)	R
White clover	(Trifolium repens)	R
Willowherb sp.	(Epilobium)	R

TN 3 – Arable

Note: Each species below is found in separate fields

Species		DAFOR
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Wheat	(Triticum aestivum)	D
Broad bean	(Vicia faba)	D
Barley	(Hordeum vulgare)	D

TN 4 – Ponds in general

Ponds with great crested newt potential - man made waterfowl scrapes and two new ponds within the sub-station land.

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TN5 – Mound of spoil

Possible reptile/amphibian hibernacula, although seems well sealed with no holes due to weathering.

TN6 – Brown Hare seen

TN7 - Treeline of mature leylandii

TN8 - Treeline of immature silver birch

#### TN9 - Semi-improved grassland strip at end of field

Species		DAFOR	
Common Name	Scientific Name		
Bristly ox tongue	(Helminthotheca echioides)	A	
Hogweed	(Heracleum sphondylium)	A	
False oat grass	(Arrhenatherum elatius)	F	
Great willowherb	(Epilobium hirsutum)	F	
Perennial rye grass	(Lolium perenne)	F	
Yorkshire fog	(Holcus lanatus)	F	
American willowherb	(Epilobium ciliatum)	0	
Black medick	(Medicago lupulina)	0	
Bramble	(Rubus fruticosus)	0	
Broad leaved dock	(Rumex obtusifolius)	0	
Common fleabane	(Pulicaria dystenterica)	0	
Creeping thistle	(Cirsium arvense)	0	
Fescue sp.	(Festuca sp.)	0	
Hard rush	(Juncus inflexus)	0	
Hedge bindweed	(Calystegia sepium)	0	
Ragwort	(Senecio jacobaea)	0	
Scentless mayweed	(Tripleurospermum inodorum)	0	
Vetch sp.	(Vicia sp.)	0	
Wild carrot	(Daucus carota ssp. Carota)	0	
Agrimony	(Agrimonia eupatoria)	R	
Birds foot trefoil	(Lotus corniculatus)	R	
Creeping buttercup	(Ranunculus repens)	R	
Salix sp.	(Salix sp.)	R	
Knotted hedge parsley	(Torilis nodosa)	R	

## TN10 – Overgrown Gappy Hedgerow

Species		DAFOR	
Common Name	Scientific name		
Blackthorn	(Prunus spinosa)	F	
Bramble	(Rubus fruticosus)	F	
Common nettle	(Urticia dioica)	F	
Bristly ox tongue	(Helminthotheca echioides)	0	
Broad leaved dock	(Rumex obtusifolius)	0	
Common mallow	(Malva sylvestris)	0	
Creeping thistle	(Cirsium arvense)	0	
Elder	(Sambucus nigra)	0	
Fat hen	(Chenopodium album)	0	
Hawthorn	(Crataegus monogyna)	0	
lvy	(Hedera helix)	0	
Pedunculate oak	(Quercus robur)	0	
Scentless mayweed	(Tripleurospermum inodorum)	0	
Sow thistle	(Sonchus sp.)	0	
Cut-leaved cranesbill	(Geranium dissectum)	R	

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Dog rose

Crack willow

Burdock sp.

Hogweed

Blackthorn

Bramble

Hawthorn

Dog rose

Cow parsley

Common mallow Bristly ox tongue

Common nettle

Mugwort

Hogweed

Cocks foot

Curled dock

Spear thistle

Black medick

Wall barley

Greater plantain

Pineapple weed

Birds foot trefoil

Creeping cinquefoil

Bramble

Yarrow

Wild oat

False oat grass

Scentless mayweed

Perennial rye grass

Broad leaved dock

Creeping thistle

Ribwort plantain

Lords and ladies

TN14 - Tall Ruderal vegetation

Common Name

Elm

Italian poplar

TN12 - Intact Hedgerow

Common nettle

Ash

Elm

lvy

Doves-foot cranesbill

Common Name

Common Name

TN13 - Mature pedunculate oak with DBH 50 cm

Hive Energy Ltd

Scientific name

Scientific Name

Scientific Name

(Rosa canina)

(Salix fragilis)

(Arctium sp.)

(Urticia dioica)

(Ulmus minor)

(Populus nigra)

(Hedera helix)

(Prunus spinosa)

(Rubus fruticosus)

(Arum maculatum)

(Crataegus monogyna)

(Anthriscus sylvatica)

(Helminthotheca echioides)

(Malva sylvestris)

(Urticia dioica)

(Lolium perenne)

(Artemisia vulgaris)

(Cirsium arvense)

(Rumex obtusifolius)

(Plantago lanceolata)

(Arrhenatherum elatius)

(Tripleurospermum inodorum)

(Dactylis glomerata)

(Rumex crispus)

(Cirsium vulgare)

(Rubus fruticosus)

(Medicago lupulina)

(Achillea millefolium)

(Hordeum murinum)

(Avena sativa)

(Plantago major)

(Potentilla reptans)

(Lotus corniculatus)

(Matricaria discoidea)

(Heracleum sphondylium)

(Ulmus minor)

(Rosa canina)

Species

Species

(Fraxinus excelsior)

(Heracleum sphondylium)

TN11 – Overgrown and dried out farm pond, now with scrub and trees Species

(Geranium molle)

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DAFOR

DAFOR

DAFOR

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#### TN15 - Improved grassland footpath

Species		DAFOR	
Common Name	Scientific Name		
Annual meadow grass	(Poa annua)	A	
Bristly ox tongue	(Helminthotheca echioides)	F	
Wild oat	(Avena sativa)	F	
Yarrow	(Achillea millefolium)	F	
Birds foot trefoil	(Lotus corniculatus)	0	
Cow parsley	(Anthriscus sylvatica)	0	
Creeping buttercup	(Ranunculus repens)	0	
Greater plantain	(Plantago major)	0	
Hawkweed sp.	(Hieracium sp.)	0	
Red clover	(Trifolium pratense)	0	
Red dead nettle	(Lamium purpureum)	0	
Ribwort plantain	(Plantago lanceolata)	0	
Scentless mayweed	(Tripleurospermum inodorum)	0	
Soft brome	(Bromus hordeaceus ssp. Hordeaceus)	0	
Wall barley	(Hordeum murinum)	0	
Autumn hawkbit	(Scorzoneroides autumnalis)	R	
Fennel	(Foeniculum vulgare)	R	
Goats beard	(Tragonpogon dubius)	R	
Wild carrot	(Daucus carota ssp. Carota)	R	

#### TN16 - Wet woodland/scrub at end of large open ditch section

Species		DAFOR
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Crack willow	(Salix fragilis)	A
lvy	(Hedera helix)	F
Italian poplar	(Populus nigra)	F
Pedunculate oak	(Quercus robur)	0

TN17 – Freshly ploughed agricultural field

TN18 - Juvenile grass snake seen

TN19 - Digging in soil, possible badger, but likely rabbit

#### TN20 – Deciduous tree line

Species	
Scientific Name	
(Quercus robur)	F
(Populus nigra)	F
(Prunus spinosa)	F
(Picea abies)	R
(Crataegus monogyna)	0
(Rubus fruticosus)	0
	Scientific Name           (Quercus robur)           (Populus nigra)           (Prunus spinosa)           (Picea abies)           (Crataegus monogyna)

## Key:

The 'DAFOR' scale of abundance is commonly used in botanical surveying and indicates the prevalence of species in the habitats indicated based on percentage cover.

D = Dominant

A = Abundant

F = Frequent

O = Occasional

R = Rare

## Appendix C. Wildlife Legislation

### C.1 Bats

All UK native bat species and their roosts (whether bats are present or not) are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) and under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Taken together, under this legislation it is an offence to:

- · Deliberately, intentionally of recklessly capture, injure or kill a bat;
- Damage/destroy a breeding site or resting place of a bat (N.B. this is an offence whether the Act is deliberate or not);
- · Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat; or
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb access to any structure which a bat uses for shelter or protection.

A bat roost is defined as "any structure or place, which is used for shelter or protection" or a "breeding site or resting place". Because bats commonly use the same roosts at particular times of the year after periods of absence, the roost is protected whether or not bats are resident.

Given the above legislation the potential presence of bats at a site represents a material consideration in the planning process. Even where planning permission is not required there is still a legal responsibility placed on the developer to ensure that a Natural England licence is obtained to cover any works that have the potential to result in an offence under the above legislation.

Seven of the UK bat species are listed as Priority Species under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) (NERC s41), namely, the barbastelle bat (*Barbastella barbastellus*), Bechstein's bat (*Myotis bechsteini*), noctule bat (*Nyctalus noctula*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) and lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*). Soprano pipistrelle and common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) are also listed as a Kent BAP priority species.

#### C.2 Amphibians

#### C.2.1 Great Crested Newt

Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is afforded full protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010).

Through the implementation of these Regulations, it is an offence to deliberately capture, injure, disturb or kill a great crested newt, or to deliberately take or destroy its eggs. It is also an offence to deliberately or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure which a great crested newt uses for shelter or protection. This protection includes both the breeding pond itself and terrestrial habitat utilised for foraging and hibernation which may be distant from the breeding pond.

Great crested newt habitat is widely considered to extend up to 500m (the accepted maximum roaming distance) from a breeding pond where areas of connective suitable habitat exist.

The great crested newt is listed as both a NERC s41 priority species and as a Kent Biodiversity Action Plan (KBAP) priority species.

#### C.2.2 Common amphibians

The four common amphibians, common frog (*Rana temporaria*), common toad (*Bufo bufo*), palmate newt (*Lissotriton helveticus*) and smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*) have no legal protection other than that provided by subsection 9.5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981 as amended) which makes it an offence to sell them. However, general animal welfare guidelines do apply (i.e. causing an animal to suffer unnecessarily).

Common toad is listed as a priority Species under NERC S41 and under the Kent BAP, based on its rapid decline over the last 25 years, with a species action plan prepared.

### C.3 Widespread Reptiles

The four common reptile species with the potential to occur on the Site, namely grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*), common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*) and adder (*Vipera berus*) are all protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to intentionally kill or injure these species.

All four species are listed as priority species under NERC s41 and the Kent BAP.

## C.4 Birds

All birds in the UK are protected under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 2009 (2009/147/EC) and Part 1 Section 1(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This gives protection to all species of wild bird from deliberate;

- killing, injuring or taking birds or their young and keeping in captivity;
- egg collecting or destroying eggs; and
- · taking, damaging or destroying nests in use or being built.

Specially protected birds are listed in Annex 1 of the Directive. Many are afforded protection by designation of land as Special Protection Areas (SPA). Special protection is also afforded to species listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). These birds are rare, endangered, declining or vulnerable species. In addition to the protection afforded to all bird species, it is an offence to cause reckless or intentional disturbance to the specially protected Schedule 1 listed species when they are building nests.

Bird species are also listed as species of principal importance for conservation in England under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) (NERC). Bird species listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act are to be given material consideration during planning.

Birds are also categorised according to their level of conservation concern as indicated by their population status and stability. These are known as the Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) Red, Amber and Green lists (Eaton, M. *et al.* 2015). The lists categorise species according to their level of conservation concern as indicated by their population status and stability. Where these species are present, their conservation status should be taken into account in determining the likely impacts of proposed projects and plans.

#### Red list species are:

- those that are 'Globally Threatened' according to IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) criteria;
- · those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; and
- those that have declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery.

#### Amber list species are:

- those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe;
- those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years;
- · those whose population has declined historically but made a substantial recent recovery;
- those with limited populations and low breeding rates, and;
- those with internationally important or localised populations.

Green list species are not of conservation concern and include all other commonly occurring birds in the UK. Several introduced species are not accorded Red, Amber or Green status.

Skylark (Alauda arvensis), reed bunting (Emberiza schoeniclus), song thrush (Turdus philomelos), linnet (Carduelis cannabina) and turtle dove (Streptopelia turtur) are all listed as Kent BAP priority species.

#### C.5 Badgers

Badgers and their setts receive protection under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under the above legislation it is an offence to:

- wilfully kill, injure or ill-treat a badger;
- cruelly ill-treat a badger, or
- · damage, destroy or obstruct access to a sett or any part thereof

A badger sett is defined in the legislation as any structure or place, which displays signs indicating current use by a badger.

#### C.6 Water vole

Water voles (Arvicola amphibius) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

This legal protection makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take water voles, intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection, and intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles whilst occupying a place used for that purpose.

The water vole is listed as a species of principal importance in England under NERC s41. Water vole is also listed as a Kent BAP priority species.

#### C.7 Invertebrates

Certain species of invertebrates that may be found in coastal grazing marsh and associated ditch habitats receive legal protection under the Schedule 5 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and additionally species listed under NERC s41 are to be given material consideration during planning.

## Appendix D. Further Species Surveys

## D.1 Bird surveys

Breeding bird surveys should be undertaken over two seasons (late March to July), with at least four visits per season, covering the habitats on Site and immediately adjacent to the Site. Surveys would follow an adaptation of the British Trust for Ornithology's Common Birds census (CBC) (Marchant, 1983), recording the presence and behaviour of all birds encountered, followed by mapping of individual territories.

Wintering bird surveys would be undertaken following an adaptation of the BTOs Wetlands Bird Survey and Winter Farmland Bird Survey, with monthly counts over the peak winter period (November to early March), covering two seasons. Each month, three surveys would be undertaken to cover:

- Low tide species utilising the Swale estuary and the Site itself would be observed from vantage points along the sea wall commencing one hour prior to low tide and completing one hour after low tide;
- High tide species utilising the Swale estuary and the Site itself would be observed from vantage points along the sea wall commencing one hour prior to high tide and completing one hour after high tide; and
- Farmland a transect route across the fields would be followed to determine usage of the Site footprint by wintering species.

Passage bird surveys would follow a similar transect route used for breeding and wintering farmland species surveys and would comprise three visits per season for two seasons, undertaken between September and October.

Barn owl surveys involve surveyors positioned at suitable vantage points around the Site, on four occasions between April and July (although barn owls may breed in any month of the year, these are optimal months for survey), in order to observe for presence of hunting owls from one hour before dusk until one hour after dusk.

## D.2 Bat surveys

Transect visits will be undertaken on three separate visits when bats are active between May and September, to include at least one visit during the optimum period of June to August. The current guidelines are that at least one of the three surveys should comprise dusk and pre-dawn surveys within one 24-hour period. Survey will cover the period from 15 minutes before sunset to two hours after sunset. Following one of the dusk surveys surveyors will return to the Site to repeat the transects from two hours before sunrise to sunrise.

The activity survey would involve surveyors walking a predetermined transect route around the Site, incorporating features with potential for use by roosting, commuting or foraging bats. Records of bat activity would be made using bat echolocation detectors (Petterson D-240x time expansion and Batbox Duet frequency division detectors). Any additional activity encountered whilst walking between points would also be noted.

The echolocation calls detected will be recorded to digital MP3 recorders and analysed using BatSound V4.2.1 software.

SM2BAT+ automated bat echolocation detectors should also be placed on Site for a minimum of five nights each month on three occasions between May and September. Data would be recorded onto a SD card for subsequent echolocation call analysis using Analook software.

#### D.3 Amphibian surveys

The seven water-bodies identified during the Phase 1 Habitat survey and a sample of the network of ditches within 500m of these ponds should be subject to survey on four separate visits between mid-March and the end of June, with at least two visits between mid-April and mid-May, in accordance with Natural England's Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature, 2001). A minimum of three out of four available survey methods, namely torchlight search, bottle-trapping, netting and/or egg searching would be employed during each visit, in accordance with the standard methodologies for great crested newt survey. If great-crested newts are encountered a further two survey visits would be required in order to determine population size (of the six total visits, at least three must then be undertaken between mid-April and mid-May).

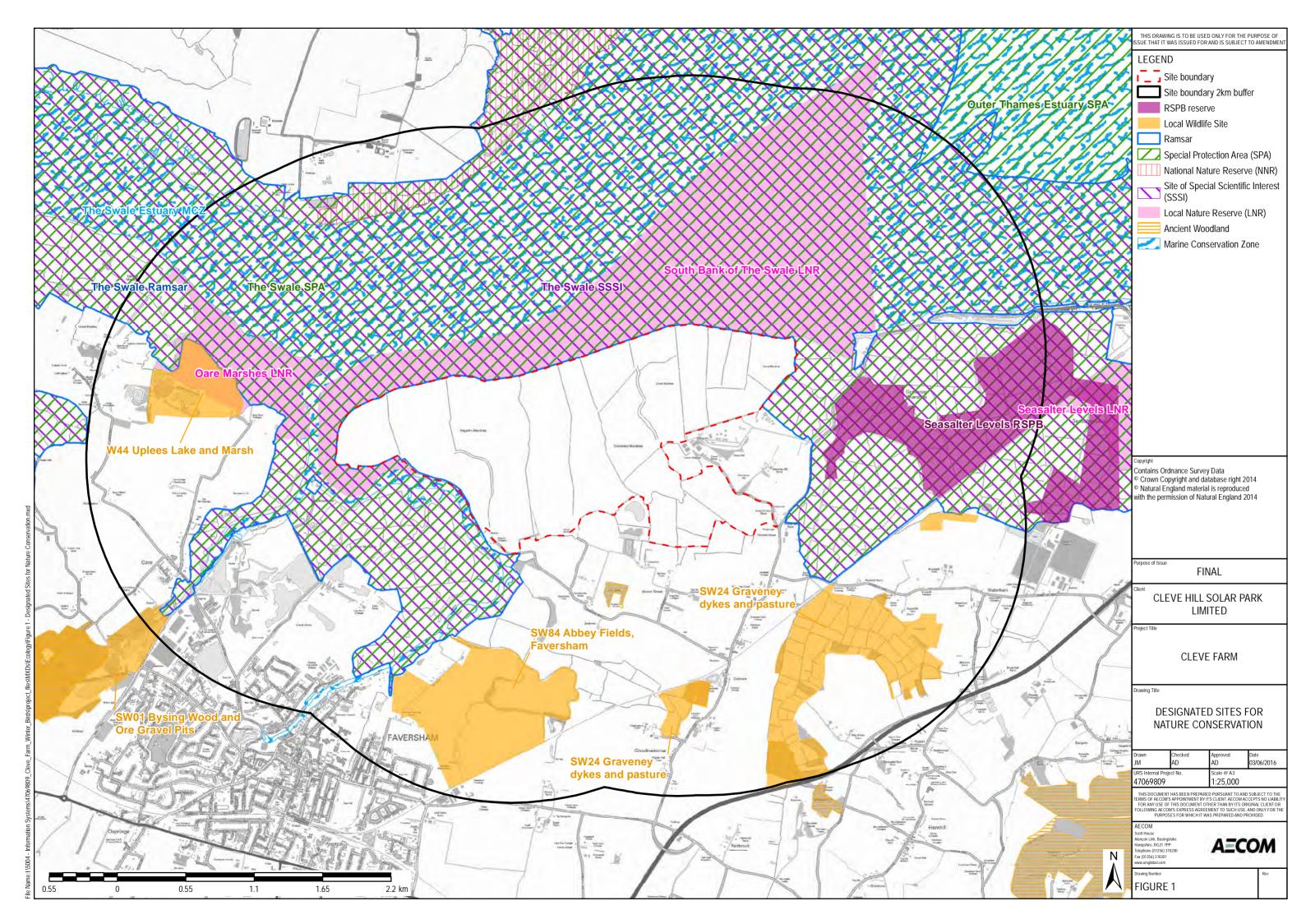
Page D-9

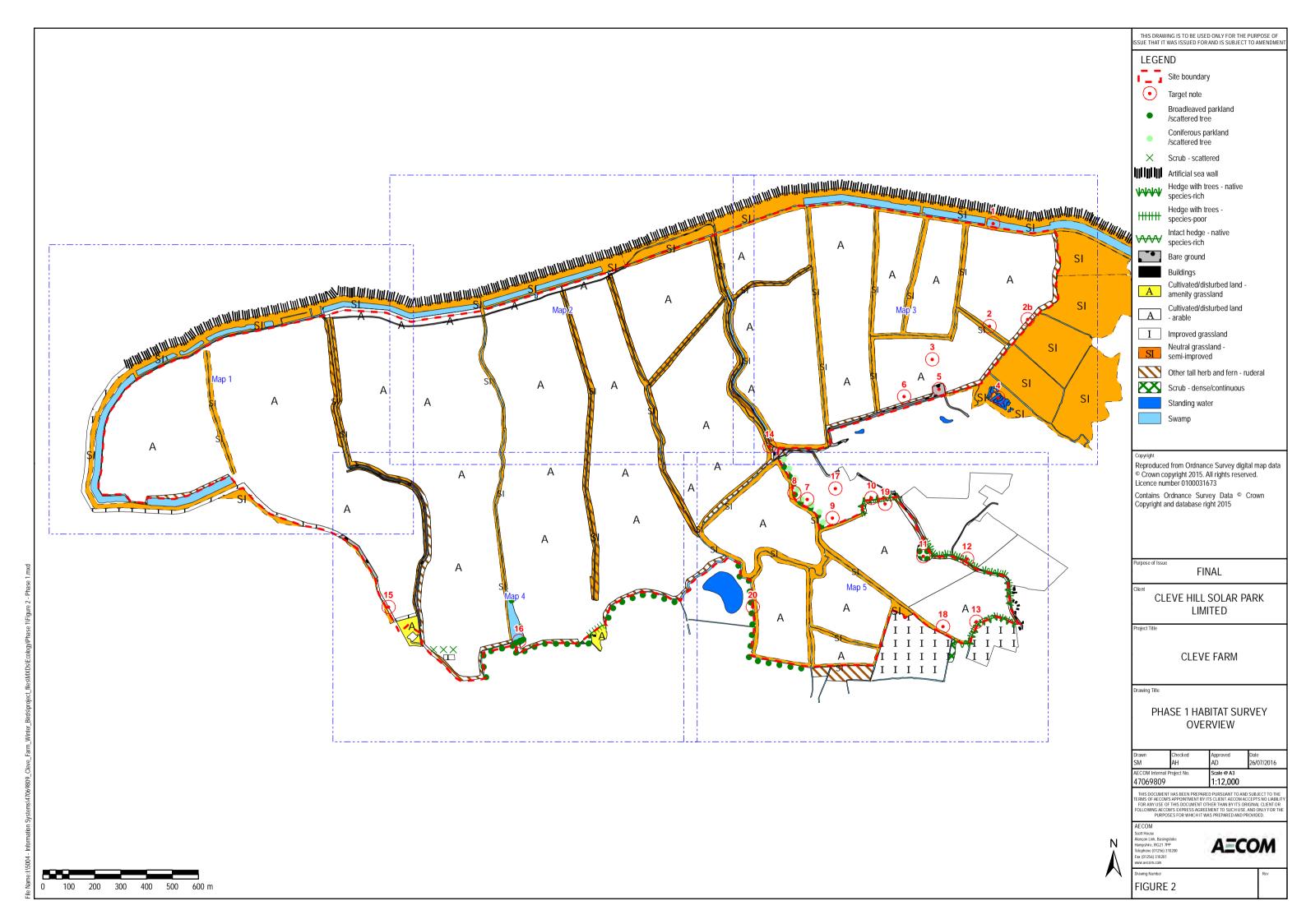
Presence, sex, life stage and numbers would be recorded for great crested newt and also common frog, common toad, smooth newt and palmate newt.

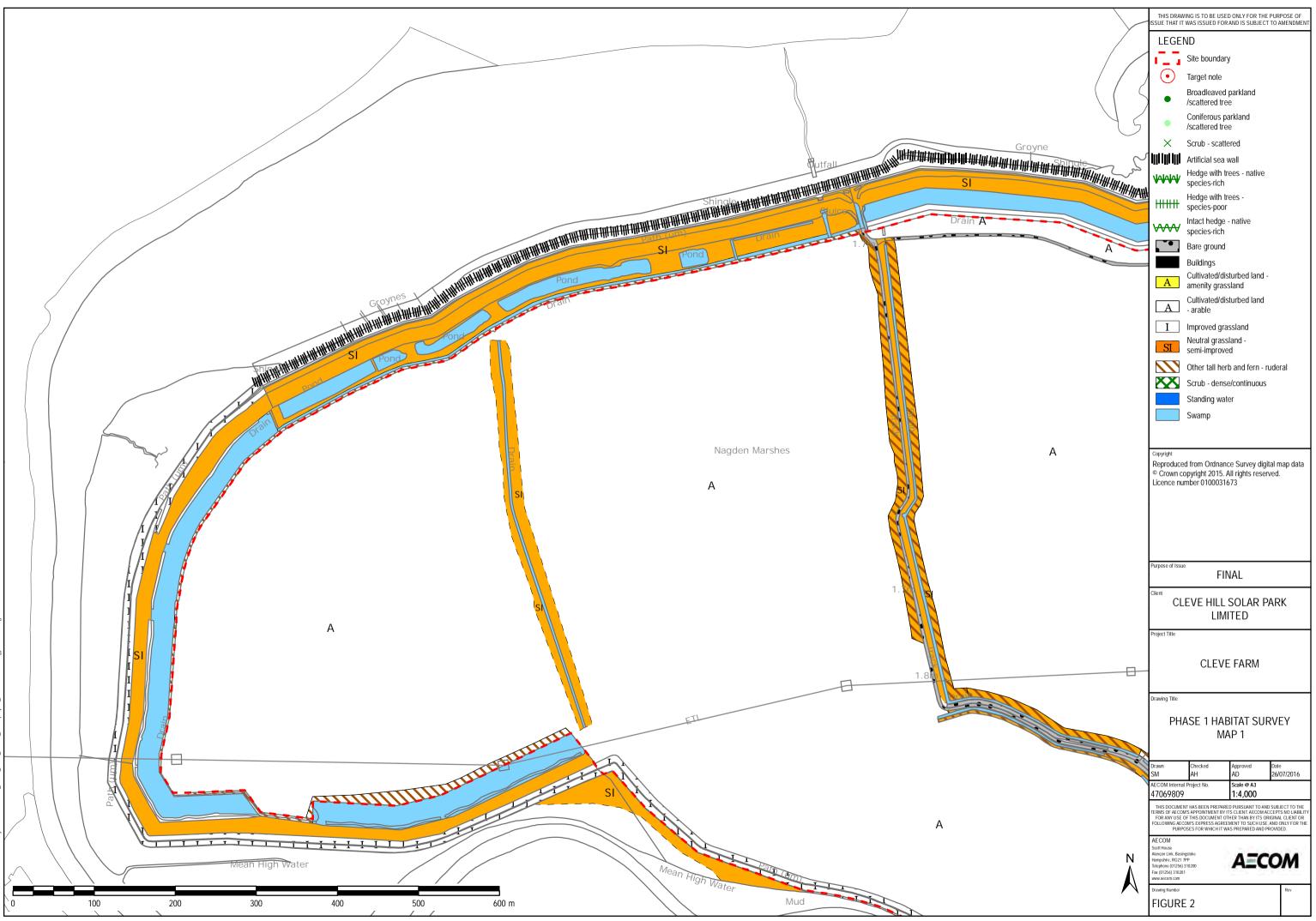
## D.4 Reptile Surveys

The surveys will involve placing artificial reptile refugia (corrugated tin and/or felt mats) at a suitable density around the Site in suitable habitat in accordance with accepted guidance (Froglife, 1999). After a period of two weeks to allow refugia to 'bed in', a series of seven visits would be undertaken to record presence of reptile species sheltering under or basking on the refugia. Visits would be undertaken during April/May or September, when conditions are most favourable for recording reptiles.

Presence, life stage and numbers would be recorded and mapped.

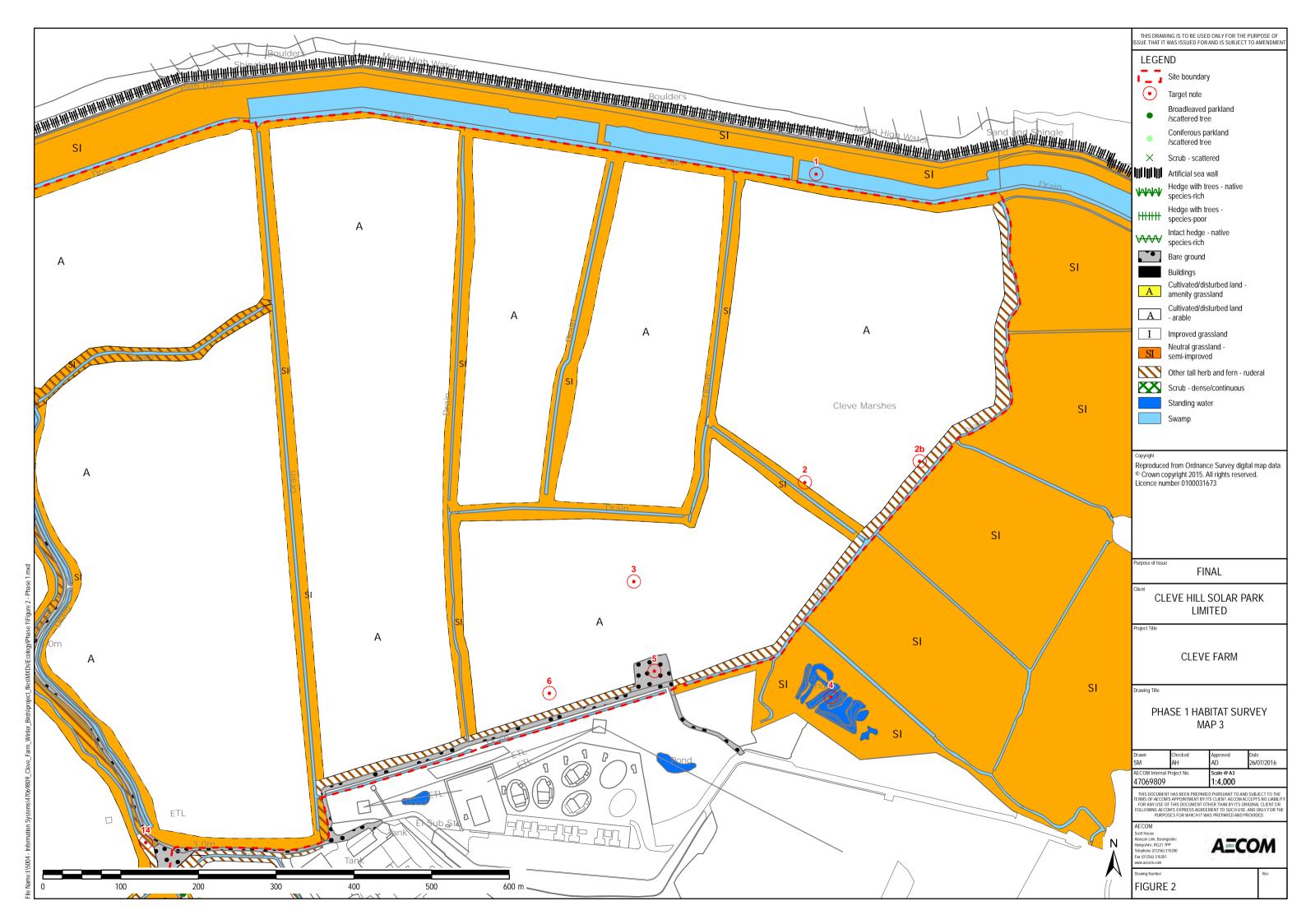


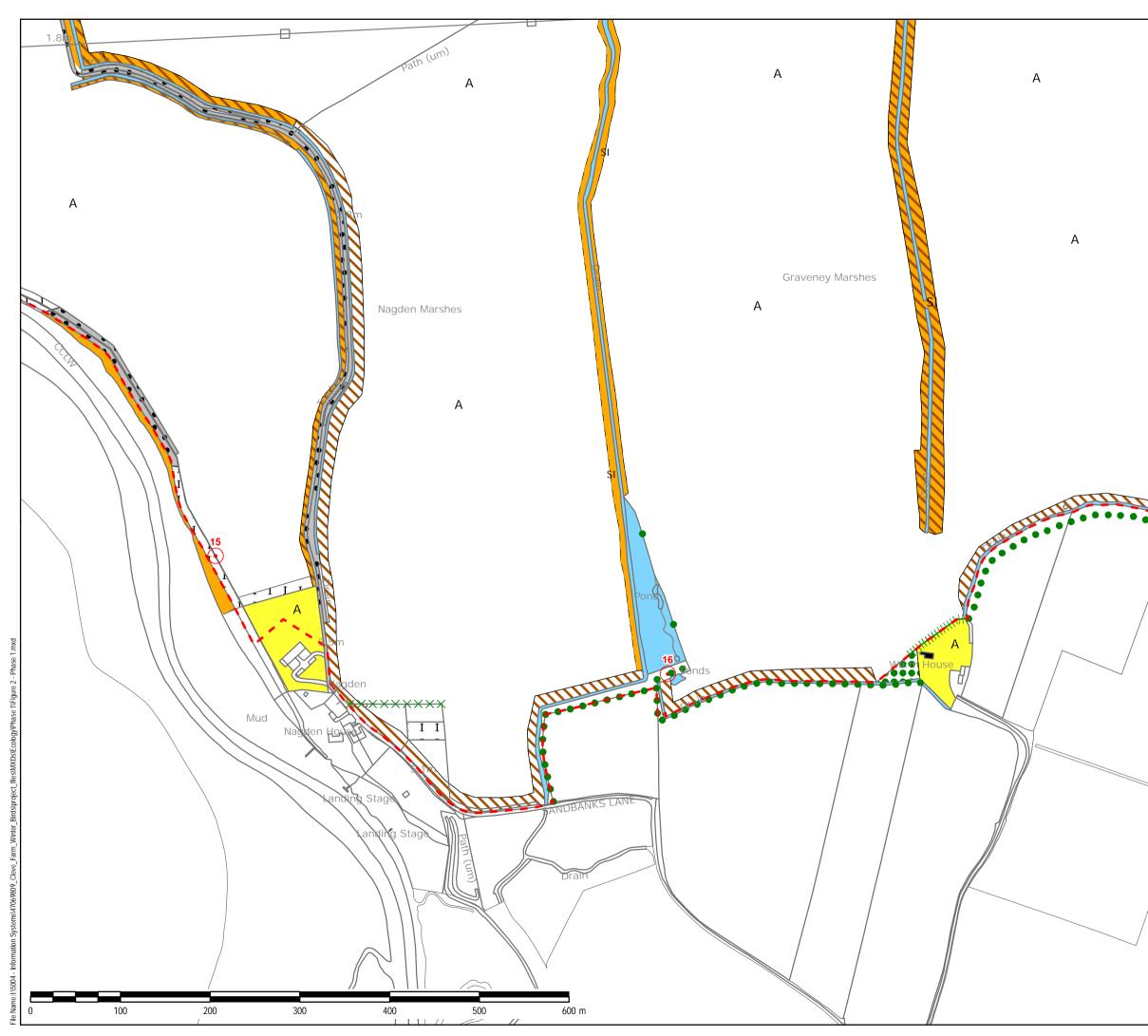




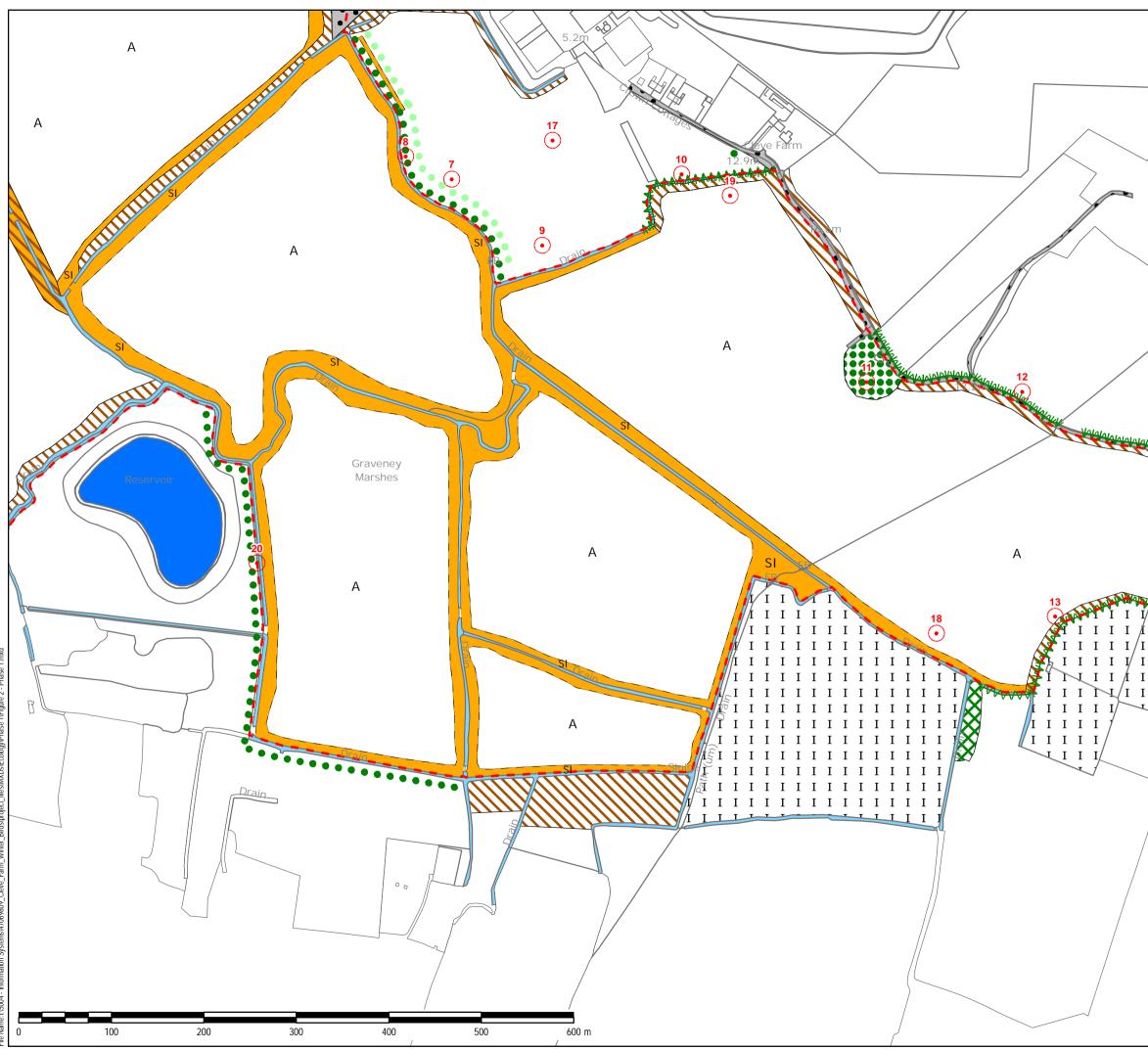
File Name:1:5004 - Information Systems/47069809\_Cleve\_Farm\_Winter\_Birds/project\_files/MXDs/Ecology/Phase 11Figure 2 - Pi







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	LEGEND		
		Site boundary	
	$\bullet$	Target note	
A	•	Broadleaved parkland /scattered tree	
A	•	Coniferous parkland /scattered tree	
	×	Scrub - scattered	
		Artificial sea wall	
		Hedge with trees - species-poor	
	~~~~	Intact hedge - native species-rich	
		Bare ground	
		Buildings	
	A	Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland	
	Α	Cultivated/disturbed land - arable	
	Ι	Improved grassland	
	SI	Neutral grassland - semi-improved	
		Other tall herb and fern - ruderal	
	XX	Scrub - dense/continuous	
		Standing water	
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