





Volume 3, Appendix 21.09: Invertebrate Study

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Environmental Statement

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SLR Project No.: 410.V05356.00013

Client Reference No: 05356

1 March 2024

Revision: V1.0

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
01	1 March 2024	SLR	GoBe	ODOW

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronyms and Abbreviations	Description			
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan			
CIEEM	The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management			
DCO	Development Consent Order			
ECC	Export Cable Corridor			
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment			
EPS	European Protected Species			
ES	Environmental Statement			
GLNP	Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership			
ISIS	Invertebrate Species-habitat Information System			
LBAP	Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan			
LWT	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust			
MAGIC	Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside			
NERC	Natural Environment and Rural Communities			
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project			
ODOW	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (The Project)			
ОМН	Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land			
os	Ordinance Survey			
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report			
SAT	Species Assemblage Type			
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest			
UK	United Kingdom			

Terminology

Term	Definition					
400kV cables	High voltage cables linking the OnSS to the NGSS.					
400kV cable corridor	The 400kV cable corridor is the area within which the 400kV cables connecting the onshore substation to the NGSS will be situated.					
Baseline	The status of the environment at the time of assessment without the development in place.					
Connection Area	An indicative search area for the NGSS.					
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).					
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. It involves the collection and consideration of environmental information, which fulfils the assessment requirements of the EIA Regulations, including the publication of an Environmental Statement (ES).					



Environmental Statement (ES)	The suite of documents that detail the processes and results of the EIA.				
Export cables	High voltage cables which transmit power from the Offshore Substations (OSS) to the Onshore Substation (OnSS) via an Offshore Reactive Compensation Platform (ORCP) if required, which may include one or more auxiliary cables (normally fibre optic cables).				
Impact	An impact to the receiving environment is defined as any change to its baseline condition, either adverse or beneficial.				
Intertidal	The area between Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS).				
Landfall	The location at the land-sea interface where the offshore export cables and fibre optic cables will come ashore.				
Mitigation	Mitigation measures are commitments made by the Project to reduce and/or eliminate the potential for significant effects to arise as a result of the Project. Mitigation measures can be embedded (part of the project design) or secondarily added to reduce impacts in the case of potentially significant effects.				
Onshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC)	The Onshore Export Cable Corridor (Onshore ECC) is the area within which, the export cables running from the landfall to the onshore substation will be situated.				
Onshore Infrastructure	The combined name for all onshore infrastructure associated with the Project from landfall to grid connection.				
Onshore substation (OnSS)	The Project's onshore HVAC substation, containing electrical equipment, control buildings, lightning protection masts, communications masts, access, fencing and other associated equipment, structures or buildings; to enable connection to the National Grid.				
Order Limits	The area subject to the application for development consent, the limits shown on the works plans within which the Project may be carried out.				
Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW)	The Project.				
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	The PEIR was written in the style of a draft Environmental Statement (ES).				
Receptor	A distinct part of the environment on which effects could occur and can be the subject of specific assessments. Examples of receptors include species (or groups) of animals or plants, people (often categorised further such as 'residential' or those using areas for amenity or recreation), watercourses etc.				
Study Area	Area(s) within which environmental impact may occur – to be defined on a receptor-by-receptor basis by the relevant technical specialist.				
The Applicant	GT R4 Ltd. The Applicant making the application for a DCO.				
	The Applicant is GT R4 Limited (a joint venture between Corio Generation, Total Energies and Gulf Energy Development (GULF)), trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. The Project is being developed by Corio Generation (a wholly owned Green Investment Group portfolio company), Total Energies and GULF.				
The Planning Inspectorate The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationa Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).					



The Project	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind, an offshore wind generating station together
	with associated onshore and offshore infrastructure.



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21 Invertebrates Study

21.1 Introduction

- Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW) is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken, the findings of which are presented within an Environmental Statement (ES), which accompanies the Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008.
- 2. SLR Consulting was commissioned by GoBe Consultants, whom has been instructed by GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) (the Applicant), to undertake a suite of ecological surveys of those relevant parts of the project site that may be affected by the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning, of the onshore aspects of the Project.
- 3. This report presents the findings of the terrestrial invertebrate habitat assessment undertaken in 2023 and supports Volume 1, Chapter 21: Onshore Ecology (document reference 6.1.21).

21.2 The Project

- 4. The Project will include both offshore and onshore infrastructure including an offshore generating station (windfarm) located approximately 54km from the Lincolnshire coastline, export cables to landfall, onshore cables, an onshore substation, connection to the electricity transmission network, and ancillary and associated development (see Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description 6.1.3 for full details).
- 5. The ES references the Project's 'Order Limits' which comprises the extent of the land for which the DCO application has been made. Onshore it reflects the landfall, an approximate 80m wide corridor around a centre line totalling approximately 70km in length in reference to the footprint of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC), the Onshore substation (OnSS), and a 400kV cable corridor to the National Grid connection area.
- 6. .Due to the linear footprint of the Project, the Survey Area for some receptors is relatively large-scale, therefore to assist with the interpretation and explanation of associated data, the Order Limits have been split into segments. The extent of these segments has been



aligned with key geographical features such as roads or rivers which cross the Order Limits.

7. The segment names along the route are shown in Table 21.1 below.

Table 21.1: Onshore Segment Names

Segment Name					
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe					
ECC 2: A52 – Hogsthorpe to Marsh Lane					
ECC 3: Marsh Lane to A158 - Skegness Road					
ECC 4: A158 – Skegness Road to Low Road					
ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River					
ECC 6: Steeping River to Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank					
ECC 7: Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank to Broadgate					
ECC 8: Broadgate to Ings Drove					
ECC 9: Ings Drove to Church End Lane					
ECC 10: Church End Lane to The Haven					
ECC 11: The Haven to Marsh Road					
ECC 12: Marsh Road to Fosdyke Bridge					
ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove					
ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove to the Connection Area					

21.3 Purpose of this Report

- 8. This report sets out the results of the Terrestrial Invertebrate study for the proposed Order Limits and surrounding habitats, and the nature conservation value of the area to Terrestrial Invertebrates with the potential to be affected by the proposed development. The main purposes of the report are:
 - to describe the data collection and assessment methods used;
 - to summarise the results of the Terrestrial Invertebrate study; and,
 - to begin to identify potentially significant ecological constraints relating to terrestrial invertebrates associated with the development.

21.4 Legislation

Three species of invertebrate are protected as European Protected Species (EPS), these are:



- 1 March 2024 SLR Project No.: 410.V05356.00013
- large blue butterflies (*Phengaris arion*) (eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises and adults);
- Fisher's estuarine moths (Gortyna borelii) (eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises and adults); and,
- little ramshorn whirlpool snails (Anisus vorticulus).
- 10. These are protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) where it is an offence to:
 - deliberately kill, injure, disturb or capture them;
 - deliberately destroy their eggs;
 - damage or destroy their breeding sites and resting places (even when invertebrates are not present); and,
 - possess, control or transport them (alive or dead).
- 11. Many other invertebrate species are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. For any species listed in Schedule 5, it is an offence to intentionally:
 - kill, injure or take them; and,
 - possess or control them (alive or dead).
- 12. It is also an offence to intentionally or recklessly:
 - damage or destroy a structure or place used for shelter or protection;
 - disturb them in a place used for shelter or protection; and
 - obstruct access to a place used for shelter or protection.
- 13. A number of invertebrates are listed as rare and most threatened species under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006).

21.5 Methodology

14. An EIA Scoping Report (ODOW, 2022) was prepared and submitted to The Planning Inspectorate in July 2022. The Scoping Opinion (Case Reference EN010130, The Planning Inspectorate 2022) provided by the Planning Inspectorate in response to the Scoping Report, contained comments from Natural England regarding the need to carry out invertebrate studies across all SSSIs within the scoping area along the Lincolnshire Coast, plus any linked land around these sites.



- 15. In May 2022, the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) was submitted. Following the submission, the PEIR Boundary was revised to the Order Limits, which covers a smaller area within the PEIR Boundary.
- 16. The scope of the invertebrate survey has been refined to suit this scope and is set out below.

21.5.1 Desk Study

- 17. In August 2023, a desk study was undertaken for the Order Limits and land within a 2km surrounding radius. The desk study involved a review of the following sources of information for terrestrial invertebrates:
 - Information on statutory designated sites for nature conservation and geological interest and priority habitats, for the Order Limits and 2km radius, was obtained from the Multi-Agency Geographical Information System (MAGIC) website managed by Natural England; and,
 - Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) for information regarding protected and notable species, and locally designated sites with invertebrate interest.

21.6 Study Area

- 18. A study to identify habitats of potential importance to terrestrial invertebrates was undertaken based on Dobson, J.R., (2021) and Dobson, J.R., (2011). Targeted locations were identified following review of UK Habitat survey data collected in 2023, aerial photography and Ordinance Survey (OS) maps. Areas were identified with the likelihood to contain features of importance to invertebrate species (as outlined in Kirby, P., 2013): Habitat Management for Invertebrates). Habitats known to be suitable for invertebrates listed in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan or Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) were also targeted, with the locations of all habitats of potential importance detailed on Figure 21.10.1.
- 19. The study area for terrestrial invertebrates has been determined as 100m from the Order Limits due to the lack of mobility and strong habitat fidelity of the majority of notable and endangered invertebrate species. This has been extended to 500m where there are sites of known invertebrate importance to ensure that connectivity between these sites and the project has been accounted for.



- 20. Habitat information from UK Habitat Surveys, aerial photographs, and maps were reviewed and compared with broad habitat types from Pantheon (Webb, J. *et al.*, 2018) (a database tool developed by Natural England and the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology to analyse invertebrate sample data) to evaluate associated habitats and resources, assemblage types (adapted from the Invertebrate Species-habitat Information System [ISIS]), and habitat fidelity scores. The broad habitat types and habitat information were also assessed to identify the potential Species Assemblage Types (SATs) likely to be associated which are an indicator of Invertebrate Assemblages of Importance.
- 21. SATs are assemblages of invertebrates characterised by ecologically restricted species and have generally been derived from sites with conservation value for invertebrates and these have been characterised into twenty-six types. Typically, SATs have a varied number of invertebrate species associated with them. However, each SAT has a specific default target number of species to achieve favourable condition (and therefore potentially meet the criteria for designation as a site of conservation value for invertebrates) since relatively few if any sites will contain all species associated with the SAT.

21.7 Limitations

- 22. This report does not identify features and habitats with the potential to support aquatic Invertebrate Assemblages of Importance or assess the likelihood of significant rare or endangered aquatic invertebrate species to be present.
- 23. Record searches which result in a lack of species records within an area may not reflect an actual absence of that species but could simply be a function of limited recording/survey effort in that area.
- 24. No specific surveys for invertebrate species were undertaken. As no habitat was found that was impacted significantly this is not considered a significant limitation.



21.8 Results

21.8.1 Desk Study Results

21.8.1.1 Designated Sites

25. The desk study identified eight statutory designated sites with invertebrate interest, the closest being Sea Bank Clay Pit SSSI directly adjacent to the Project. The statutory designated sites identified are listed in Table 21.2.

Table 21.2: Statutory Designated Sites within the Survey Area

Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment	Compass Direction	Area of Designation (ha)	Description	
Sea Bank Clay Pits SSSI	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	ENE	17	Supports a rich aquatic invertebrate fauna, notably beetles, including several nationally scarce species and others new to the County.	
Gibraltar Point SSSI/Ramsar	4.2	ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River	E	581	Ramsar: Gibraltar Point has an appreciable assemblage and number of rare wetland invertebrate species, representing an important habitat of a number of Red Data Book invertebrates four of which are listed as endangered including, the moth <i>Gymnacyla canella</i> and fungus gnat <i>Rhymosia connexa</i> and eight species listed as rare including marsh moth <i>Athetis pallustris</i> and scarce pug <i>Eupithecia extensaria</i> . Gibraltar point supports a notable number of dragonfly species with up to 13 being recorded notably hairy dragonfly <i>Brachytron pratense</i> . SSSI: Gibraltar Point supports important communities of invertebrates, notably Lepidoptera, Diptera and Coleoptera, including 12 species which are nationally rare.	
Bratoft Meadows SSSI	3.1	ECC 4: A158 Skegness Road to Low Road	WNW	2.2	The site as a whole attracts large numbers of butterflies and 18 species of terrestrial mollusc are recorded.	



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Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment	Compass Direction	Area of Designation (ha)	Description
Candlesby Hill SSSI	6.5	ECC 3: Marsh Lane to A158 - Skegness Road	WNW	1.81	Butterflies are present in large numbers and 17 species of mollusc have been recorded.
Hoplands Wood SSSI	6.6	ECC 2: A52 - Hogsthorpe to Marsh Lane	W	14.4	Of two hundred species of moths recorded the buttoned snout <i>Hypena rostralis</i> is notable.
Saltfleetby- Theddlethorpe Dunes SSSI	12.1	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	NNW	972	Ten species of dragonfly breed in the open water provided by ponds and dykes. Invertebrates recorded include several notable moths and nationally rare species from the moth and beetle families.
Calceby Marsh SSSI	13.4	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	W	10.8	Over past years, Calceby Marsh has been very well surveyed for moths, and at least four notable species have been recorded here. The site is one of the few stations in the county, outside the Cambridgeshire Fens, where the marsh moth occurs.
Swaby Valley SSSI	14.1	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	WNW	3.5	Scattered hawthorn scrub provides structural diversity and sheltered conditions favourable to some fifteen species of butterfly

26. A further 15 non-statutory designated sites were identified, in addition to six Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust (LWT) Reserves. The closest were seven sites either within the Order Limits or directly adjacent to it. The non-statutory designated sites and LWT Reserves identified are listed in Table 21.3.



Table 21.3: Non-Statutory Designated Sites and LWT Reserves withing the Survey Area

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Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment of the ECC	Compass Direction	Area/Length of Site (ha/km)	Description
Chapel Six Marshes	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	E	12.9ha	Main Habitats: Coarse or rank grassland, lake, reedbed, scrub - scattered/dense (also ditch, marsh/fen, non-native plantation - on ancient/new, pond and scrub - scattered/dense) A 750 m stretch of coast and is partly a LWT Reserve. Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sufficiently diverse with brackish water and dunes that presence of notable invertebrates is likely. Fauna recorded includes green-veined white (<i>Pieris napi</i>), small tortoiseshell (<i>Aglais urticae</i>), and common darter (<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>).
Hogsthorpe Pit	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	SW	1.4ha	Main Habitat: Standing water, willow carr and grassland. Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sufficiently diverse with wetland habitats that presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Common dragonflies have been recorded.
Marsh Yard to Anderby Creek Dunes	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	N	16.8ha	Main Habitat: coarse or rank grassland, scrub — scattered/dense (also semi-improved, neutral grassland, non-native plantation and reedbed) Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but dunes and other habitats suggest presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Invertebrates noted included common blue (<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>), brown argus (<i>Aricia agestis</i>), meadow brown (<i>Maniola jurtina</i>), gatekeeper (<i>Pyronia Tithonus</i>), peacock (<i>Aglais io</i>), and common darter.



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Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment of the ECC	Compass Direction	Area/Length of Site (ha/km)	Description
Wolla Bank South	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	ENE	5ha	Main Habitat: Coarse or rank grassland, semi-improved, neutral grassland and reedbed (also drain and pond). Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but habitats suggest presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Invertebrates noted include common blue, ringlet (Aphantopus hyperantus), small skipper (Thymelicus sylvestris), shaded broad-bar (Scotopteryx chenopodiata), common blue (Enallagma cyathigerum) & blue-tailed (Ischnura elegans) damselfly, common darter, and four-spotted chaser (Libellula quadrimaculata).
Havenside	0	ECC 10: Church End Lane to The Haven	W	33.1ha	Main Habitat: Coarse or rank grassland (also new-native plantation, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, improved grassland, ditch, pond, coastal grazing marsh, marsh and reedbed). The mosaic of woodland, grassland and wetland is very valuable in the local context and of significant value to local invertebrate populations. The linear nature of the site provides a good wildlife corridor through Boston.
Risegate Eau	0	ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove	W	9km	Main Habitat: Coarse or rank grassland, drain, linear reedbed, scrub. A good diversity of insects include: Essex skipper (Thymelicus lineola), common blue, gatekeeper, shaded broad bar, blood vein (Timandra comae), silver Y (Autographa gamma), Roesel's bush-cricket (Metrioptera roeselii), common carder bee (Bombus pascuorum), brown hawker (Aeshna grandis) and common darter. Leslie Hebdon's records show that there is an excellent selection of bees, wasps, and



Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment of the ECC	Compass Direction	Area/Length of Site (ha/km)	Description
					other insects west of Allen's Bridge. One of these, the large garden bumblebee, or ruderal bumblebee (<i>Bombus ruderatus</i>), is a nationally notable UK BAP species, while the nationally rare tawny longhorn beetle (<i>Paracorymbia fulva</i>) is listed as RDB3. The abundance of dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>) and white dead-nettle (<i>Lamium album</i>) is important in providing food for bees immediately after they emerge from hibernation.
Moulton Marsh	0	ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove to Weston Marsh NG Substation	NE	28.3ha	Main Habitat: native plantation, reedbed, saltmarsh and saline lagoon (also coarse grassland, drain) Frequently flooded, saltmarsh. Two, large saline ponds with little aquatic or marginal vegetation but some important invertebrate species typical of saline lagoons of SSSI quality.
South Bank Fosdyke	0.05	ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove	NNE	1.9km	Main Habitat: Coarse or rank grassland, saltmarsh (also scattered scrub, unimproved neutral grassland, mudflat). Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sufficiently diverse with saltmarsh habitats that presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Abundant snail, grasshopper and butterfly species observed.
Frampton Hall	0.3	ECC 11: The Haven to Marsh Road	WNW	21.3ha	Main Habitat: Parkland (including a mosaic of semi- natural woodland, scrub, semi- improved neutral grassland, semi-improved calcareous grassland, improved grassland, coarse or rank grassland, ditch, pond) Veteran trees are abundant and include horse chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum), pedunculate oak (Quercus robur) and walnut (Juglans regia). Some mature exotic species as well. Not



Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment of the ECC	Compass Direction	Area/Length of Site (ha/km)	Description
					specifically noted for invertebrate interest but veteran trees in a parkland habitat suggest that presence of notable deadwood invertebrates is likely.
Chapel Point Dunes, North	0.3	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	ESE	3.4ha	Main Habitats: Coarse or rank grassland, sand dune, scrub – scattered/dense. Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but dunes and other habitats suggest presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Invertebrates recorded include common blue, ruddy darter (Sympetrum sanguineum) and common darter.
Surfleet Bank	0.5	ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove	SW	0.8km	Main Habitat: Neutral grassland (also scrub, coarse or rank grassland, semi-improved calcareous grassland) A 540m long strip of sandy embankment and adjacent flat pasture on the north-western side of the tidal River Welland. Good quality neutral grassland, especially on the northwest facing slope, supporting a selection of butterflies and day flying moths, as well as many soil mounds created by black ants (Lasius niger).
Surfleet Seas End Saltmarsh	0.7	ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove to Weston Marsh NG Substation	WSW	1.7km	Main Habitat: River, marsh, calcareous grassland (also saltmarsh, mudflat, anthills, steep slopes, seasonally wet/damp areas. Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sufficiently diverse with saltmarsh habitats that presence of notable invertebrates is possible.
Vernatt's Drain	0.7	ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove to Weston Marsh NG Substation	SW	10.7km	Main Habitat: Drain, calcareous grassland, neutral grassland, reedbed, coarse grassland (also scattered non-planted trees, tussocky vegetation, steep slopes. South-facing



Site Name	Distance from the Order Limits (km)	Nearest Segment of the ECC	Compass Direction	Area/Length of Site (ha/km)	Description
					slopes, earthworks/hummocky ground). Amongst the invertebrates present are small skipper, small heath (<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>), ringlet, meadow brown, gatekeeper, smoky wainscot moth (<i>Mythimna impure</i>), common blue damselfly and Roesel's bushcricket.
Chapel Point Dunes, South	1.0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	SE	7.7ha	Main Habitat: Sand dune Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sand dune habitats suggest that presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Amongst the invertebrates recorded are cinnabar (<i>Tyria</i> jacobaeae), brown-tail moth (<i>Euproctis chrysorrhoea</i>), orange tip (<i>Anthocharis</i> cardamines), and most notably several green hairstreak (<i>Callophrys rubi</i>).
Huttoft Carr Terrace to Marsh Yard Dunes	1.4	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	N	10.4ha	Main Habitat: Coarse or rank grassland, sand dune, scrub – scattered/dense (also native plantation) Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but sand dune habitats suggest that presence of notable invertebrates is possible. Invertebrates noted include Essex skipper, painted lady (Vanessa cardui), red admiral (Vanessa Atalanta), and cinnabar.
Anderby Marsh LWT Reserve	0	ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	NNE	24ha	Main Habitat: Traditional coastal grazing marsh Not specifically noted for invertebrate interest but dunes, grazing marsh and other habitats suggest presence of notable invertebrates is possible.
Chapel Six Marshes	0	ECC 1: Landfall to	E	2.2ha	Main Habitat: coarse or rank grassland, lake, reedbed, scrub – scattered/dense



21.8.2 Priority Habitats

Reserve

27. Priority habitats identified within the study area included coastal sand dunes, mudflats, reedbeds, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, deciduous woodland, hedgerows and Rivers, Canals, and Drains.

Marsh Road

28. Coastal sand dunes were assessed as having high potential for terrestrial invertebrates due to the Potential SATs of sandy beaches to be present, assemblages which contain highly specialised species that are adapted to an extreme environment.



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The reserve is part of the most

mature saltmarsh in The Wash and is exceptionally rich in

invertebrates.

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- 29. Mudflats were assessed as having low potential for terrestrial invertebrates as these are more associated with marine invertebrates.
- 30. Reedbeds were assessed as having high potential for terrestrial invertebrates due to the Potential SATs of reed-fen and pools to be present. This assemblage type is characterised by a number of groups, but especially two-winged flies and beetles. The larvae of *Donacia*, *Notiphila*, and *Erioptera squalida* are closely associated with emergent wetland plants. Many of the *sciomyzid* parasitoids and predators of wetland snails require shallow water or fluctuating water levels that bring potential prey within reach of ovipositing females. Shallow water, either submerging bottom sediments or over dense submerged plants is also essential for most of the fly larvae which respire through 'rat-tails' (*Ptychoptera*) or floating posterior spiracles (*Odontomyia*, *Oplodontha*).
- 31. Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh were assessed as having high potential for terrestrial invertebrates due to the Potential SATs of saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh to be present. This assemblage type is characterised by species in several different taxonomic groups, but mainly beetles and two-winged flies. Species such as *Bembidion ephippium* and *Pogonus littoralis* occupy patches of low vegetation dominated by *Salicornia, Limonium,* and *Aster* etc which contain temporary saline pools. Species such as *Brachygluta helferi* and *Melieria picta* occupy higher areas of coarse grass and accumulations of tidal litter at the high-water mark. Areas of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh which were heavily grazed, drying out or otherwise not functioning as the habitat were assessed as having low potential.
- 32. Deciduous woodland was assessed as having low potential for terrestrial invertebrates as these areas lacked sufficient deadwood, epiphyte fauna or fungal fruiting bodies to qualify them as SATs.
- 33. Hedgerows were assessed as having low potential for terrestrial invertebrates as these areas lacked areas where scrub or woodland grades into, or is interspersed with open areas of grassland, heathland or early successional vegetation types to qualify them as SATs. The juxtaposition of open vegetation with woody development is important to insects with complex life cycles that require different microhabitats at different stages of development.
- 34. Rivers, Canals, and Drains were assessed as having low potential for terrestrial invertebrates as these areas lacked areas of shingle or sand and marginal vegetation to



qualify them as SATs for terrestrial invertebrates, although these may be important for aquatic invertebrates.

35. Areas of Priority Habitats within each segment, along with their importance for terrestrial invertebrates, are detailed in Table 21.4.

Table 21.4: Priority Habitats within the Study Area

Priority Habitat	Total within Order Limits	Total for Habitat survey area (100m buffer)	Potential for Terrestrial Invertebrate Interest	
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 - Hogstho	rpe			
Coastal sand dunes (ha)	6.70	N/A	High	
Mudflats (ha)	2.50	N/A	Low	
Reedbeds (ha)	3.05	N/A	High	
Hedgerows (km)	2.55	4.81	Low	
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	14.36	22.97	Low	
ECC 2: A52 - Hogsthorpe to Mars	n Lane			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	6.77	N/A	Low	
Hedgerows (km)	2.53	4.74	Low	
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	13.60	21.66	Low	
ECC 3: Marsh Lane to A158 - Ske	gness Road			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	3.07	N/A	Low	
Hedgerows (km)	0.80	1.87	Low	
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	5.52	10.49	Low	
ECC 4: A158 - Skegness Road to	Low Road			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	3.02	N/A	Low	
Hedgerows (km)	0.14	0.74	Low	
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	7.60	13.07	Low	
ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping Riv	er			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	14.37	N/A	Low	
Deciduous woodland (ha)	0.43	N/A	Low	
Hedgerows (km)	0	3.66	Low	
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	0	50.04	Low	
ECC 6: Steeping River to Fodder	Dike Bank/Fen Bank			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	1.54	N/A	Low	



Priority Habitat	Total within Order Limits	Total for Habitat survey area (100m buffer)	Potential for Terrestrial Invertebrate Interest
Hedgerows (km)	0	1.21	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	0	30.22	Low
ECC 7: Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank	to Broadgate		
Hedgerows (km)	0	1.95	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	0	38.30	Low
ECC 8: Broadgate to Ings Drove			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	0.16	N/A	Low
Hedgerows (km)	0	3.07	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	0	51.07	Low
ECC 9: Ings Drove to Church End L	ane		
Hedgerows (km)	0	3.90	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	0	31.57	Low
ECC 10: Church End Lane to The H	aven		
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (ha)	2.36	N/A	Low
Mudflats (ha)	0.77	N/A	Low
Hedgerows (km)	0.74	1.53	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	6.79	11.84	Low
ECC 11: The Haven to Marsh Road			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	1.60	N/A	High
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (ha)	0.01	N/A	Low
Mudflats (ha)	0.90	N/A	Low
Hedgerows (km)	0.63	1.52	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	7.79	15.57	Low
ECC 12: Marsh Road to Fosdyke Br	idge	_	
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (ha)	0.79	N/A	High
Coastal saltmarsh (ha)	2.07	N/A	High
Mudflats (ha)	1.06	N/A	Low
Hedgerows (km)	0.55	1.38	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	10.15	15.61	Low
ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh	OnSS/Marsh Drove)	
Hedgerows (km)	0.53	0.90	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	9.41	14.72	Low



Priority Habitat	Total within Order Limits	Total for Habitat survey area (100m buffer)	Potential for Terrestrial Invertebrate Interest
ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Mars	h Drove to Weston	Marsh NG Substatio	on
Coastal saltmarsh (ha)	3.46	N/A	Low
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (ha)	0.53	N/A	Low
Lowland calcareous grassland (ha)	4.14	N/A	Low
Mudflats (ha)	2.02	N/A	Low
Hedgerows (km)	1.56	3.92	Low
Rivers, Canals, and Drains (km)	12.35	21.38	Low

21.8.3 Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan

36. The LBAP lists 19 invertebrate species as being of importance in the county. These are listed along with habitat associations in Table 21.5.

Table 21.5: LBAP invertebrate species with habitat and assemblage associations

Common Name	Species	Order	Broad biotope	Habitat	Specific assemblage type	Specific Assemblage Name
Mire pill- beetle	Curimopsis nigrita	Coleoptera	Wetland	acid & sedge peats	W312	Sphagnum bog
Brush- thighed seed-eater	Harpalus froelichii	Coleoptera	Open habitats	short sward & bare ground	F111	Bare sand & chalk
Set-aside downy- back	Ophonus laticollis	Coleoptera	Open habitats	short sward & bare ground	F111	Bare sand & chalk
Oolite downy- back	Ophonus stictus	Coleoptera	Open habitats	short sward & bare ground	F111	Bare sand & chalk
Yellow pogonus	Pogonus Iuridipennis	Coleoptera	Coastal	saltmarsh	M311	Saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh
Hazel pot beetle	Cryptocephalus coryli	Coleoptera	Open habitats; tree- associated	arboreal; tall sward & scrub	F001	Scrub edge



21.8.4 Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership Records

Odonata

Anaciaeschna

isoceles

Burgundy

Norfolk

hawker

37. No records of invertebrates were returned in the data set provided by GLNP within the Order Limits or the surrounding 2km study area.

habitats

Wetland

& scrub

acid &

sedge

peats

W314



Reed-fen &

pools

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21.9 Habitat Survey

- 38. The study completed in September 2023 identified Pantheon habitats and assemblages of potential importance to terrestrial invertebrates or habitats likely to be used by LBAP invertebrate species. Locations of habitats are shown in Figure 21.10.1 and detailed with Pantheon Habitat and potential SATs present in Table 21.6.
- 39. The following details the Pantheon Habitats present in each segment of the route. Each Pantheon Habitat is described at first occurrence only.

21.9.1 ECC 1: Landfall to A52 - Hogsthorpe.

- 40. C21 Saltmarsh. A habitat dominated by plants and covered by saltwater at high tide. They are restricted to less exposed shorelines, characterised by net deposition of fine sediment. However, they are still defined by levels of salinity and tidal disturbance. Potential for saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh SAT to be present in this habitat.
- 41. C23 Sandy Beach. A habitat which includes the drift line and immediate upper intertidal and supralittoral zones of seashore dominated by sand and, to a lesser extent, shingle. The habitat is saline and subject to tidal disturbance, augmented by storm surges at irregular intervals. Potential for sandy beaches SAT to be present in this habitat.
- 42. C24 Brackish Pools & Ditches. A habitat influenced by both saline and fresh water. This often means that the water is saline but less saline than the sea. Such habitats occur in pools and ditches in the upper saltmarsh or alongside freshwater seepages. Potential for saltmarsh and transitional brackish marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 43. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Tall sward and scrub species are associated with areas of dense herbage or partial shade where a humid microclimate is maintained at ground level. Dominance by woody plants is limited by exposure, grazing or cutting of vegetation, but they often form an important component of the habitat. Potential for rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.
- 44. F22 Short Sward and Bare Ground. In lowland areas, short sward and bare ground habitat is where disturbance removes vegetation to create areas of bare or sparsely vegetated ground. Potential for open short sward, rich flower resource, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.



45. W24 Marshland. Marshland habitat is associated with still open water bodies and littoral areas on mineral substrates that may be subject to repeated disturbance, for example by flooding or grazing. Floodplain sites may be inundated for varying periods, either by surface run-off or by rising groundwater. Potential for reed-fen and pools, undisturbed fluctuating marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.

21.9.2 ECC 2: A52 - Hogsthorpe to Marsh Lane.

- 46. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Potential for rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.
- 47. F22 Short Sward and Bare Ground. Potential for open short sward, rich flower resource, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 48. Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land. Potential SATs present in Open Mosaic Habitat include open short sward, rich flower resource, scrub edge, bare sand and chalk, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments.

21.9.3 ECC 3: Marsh Lane to A158 - Skegness Road

49. No habitats identified.

21.9.4 ECC 4: A158 Skegness Road to Low Road

- 50. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Potential for rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.
- 51. F22 Short Sward and Bare Ground. Potential for open short sward, rich flower resource, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 52. Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land. Potential SATs present in Open Mosaic Habitat include open short sward, rich flower resource, scrub edge, bare sand and chalk, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments.

21.9.5 ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River

53. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Potential for rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.



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- 54. F22 Short Sward and Bare Ground. Potential for open short sward, rich flower resource, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 55. W24 Marshland. Potential for reed-fen and pools, undisturbed fluctuating marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 56. Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land. Potential SATs present in Open Mosaic Habitat include open short sward, rich flower resource, scrub edge, bare sand and chalk, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments.

21.9.6 ECC 6: Steeping River to Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank

57. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Potential Sfor rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.

21.9.7 ECC 7: Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank to Broadgate

58. F21 Tall Sward and Scrub. Potential for rich flower resource SAT to be present in this habitat.

21.9.8 ECC 8: Broadgate to Ings Drove

59. No habitats identified.

21.9.9 ECC 9: Ings Drove to Church End Lane

60. No habitats identified.

21.9.10 ECC 10: Church End Lane to The Haven

61. C24 Brackish Pools & Ditches. Potential for saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.

21.9.11 ECC 11: The Haven to Marsh Road

62. F22 Short Sward and Bare Ground. Potential for open short sward, rich flower resource, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments to be present in this habitat.

21.9.12 ECC 12: Marsh Road to Fosdyke Bridge

63. C21 Saltmarsh. Potential for saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh SAT to be present in this habitat.



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- 64. C24 Brackish Pools & Ditches. Potential for saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.
- 65. C25 Saline Lagoon. A relatively rare aquatic habitat heavily influenced by sea water but not wave action. Subjected to evaporation or precipitation makes them vary between hyper-saline and weakly saline throughout the season. Potential for saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh, and open water on disturbed mineral sediments SAT's to be present in this habitat.

21.9.13 ECC 13: Fosdyke to Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove

66. No habitats identified.

21.9.14 ECC 14: Surfleet Marsh OnSS/Marsh Drove to Weston Marsh NG Substation

67. No habitats identified.

Table 21.6: Land parcels with habitat quality for Invertebrates, Pantheon Habitats, and potential SATs present.

Section	Land Parcel ID	Assessed Habitat Quality for Invertebrates	Pantheon Habitats Present	Potential SATs Present
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	5093	M	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	5104	M	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	5116	M	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	7301	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	7390	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	7804	Н	C24: Brackish pools & Ditches F21: Tall Sward & Scrub F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground	Saltmarsh and transitional brackish marsh Rich flower resource Open short sward



Section	Land Parcel ID	Assessed Habitat Quality for Invertebrates	Pantheon Habitats Present	Potential SATs Present
				Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	7941	М	C21: Saltmarsh	Saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8272	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8279	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8290	M	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8292	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8293	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8465	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8487	М	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8496	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8499	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8501	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	8752	Н	C24: Brackish pools & Ditches W24: Marshland	Saltmarsh and transitional brackish marsh Open water on disturbed mineral sediments Reed-fen and pools, undisturbed fluctuating marsh
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	9516	М	C23: Sandy Beach	Sandy beaches



Section	Land Parcel ID	Assessed Habitat Quality for Invertebrates	Pantheon Habitats Present	Potential SATs Present
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	9534	М	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	12278	М	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	12280	М	W22: Lake	Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 1: Landfall to A52 – Hogsthorpe	18560	Н	C24: Brackish pools & Ditches F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Saltmarsh and transitional brackish marsh Open water on disturbed mineral sediments Rich flower resource
ECC 2: A52 - Hogsthorpe to Marsh Lane	7410	M	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground F21: Tall Sward & Scrub W22: Lake	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 4: A158 Skegness Road to Low Road	9748	M	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River	6154	М	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River	6290	М	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 5: Low Road to Steeping River	19097	M	W22: Lake W24: Marshland	Reed-fen and pools, undisturbed fluctuating marsh Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 6: Steeping River to Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank	23854	М	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 7: Fodder Dike Bank/Fen Bank to Broadgate	24727	Н	F21: Tall Sward & Scrub	Rich flower resource
ECC 10: Church End Lane to The Haven	8720	М	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground C24: Brackish pools & Ditches	Rich flower resource Open short sward



Section	Land Parcel ID	Assessed Habitat Quality for Invertebrates	Pantheon Habitats Present	Potential SATs Present
				Open water on disturbed mineral sediments Saltmarsh and transitional brackish marsh
ECC 11: The Haven to Marsh Road	7100	М	F23: Short Sward & Bare Ground	Rich flower resource Open short sward Open water on disturbed mineral sediments
ECC 12: Marsh Road to Fosdyke Bridge	6885	М	C25: Saline Lagoon C21: Saltmarsh	Open water on disturbed mineral sediments Saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh
ECC 12: Marsh Road to Fosdyke Bridge	6890	М	C24: Brackish pools & Ditches C21: Saltmarsh	Saltmarsh & transitional brackish marsh Open water on disturbed mineral sediments



21.10 Conclusion

- 68. The majority of the study area was found to be of low value for terrestrial invertebrates, with the majority being agricultural, or heavily grazed land with other habitats being small in area, or heavily fragmented.
- 69. A total of eight designated and 15 non-designated sites were found to have important assemblages or notable and endangered invertebrate species present.
- 70. Priority habitats of coastal sand dunes, reedbeds and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh were found to be important habitats for terrestrial invertebrates although degraded areas of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh were assessed as having low potential and unlikely to be important for terrestrial invertebrates.
- 71. No protected species of terrestrial invertebrate are likely to be present within the habitats of the Order Limits.
- 72. A total of 19 species were found to be identified as locally important in the LBAP. Habitat associations of these suggest they will be present in areas identified as having medium or high terrestrial invertebrate quality, including short sward and bare ground, saltmarsh, tall sward and scrub, and brackish pools and ditches.
- 73. A total of 34 land parcels were identified as having importance for terrestrial invertebrates, four of these being assessed as high quality, the remainder as medium quality. These included areas also designated for nature conservation or as Priority habitat which is not degraded.
- 74. There are likely to be a range of other notable and endangered species present in the wider area, however it is unlikely that habitats are of sufficient quality or size to hold significant populations of these species, and loss of individuals is likely to be quickly made up from populations in more suitable habitats.



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