

**Tillbridge Solar Project
EN010142**

**Volume 6
Environmental Statement**
Appendix 9-8: Baseline report for non-breeding birds
Document Reference: EN010142/APP/6.2

**Regulation 5(2)a
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

**April 2024
Revision Number: 00**

tillbridgesolar.com

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Executive Summary

The objective of this assessment for non-breeding birds was to determine the presence and assemblage of non-breeding bird species within the Study Area, with emphasis on species of conservation concern.

A desk study was undertaken as part of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal in July 2022 (Ref 13) to gather records of protected and notable bird species occurring within a 2km radius of the Order limits, through Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP) and Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre (NBGRC). Only records up to ten years old were considered within the assessment, as any records older than ten years are unlikely to be still representative of bird species in the local area. This desk study returned records of 99 bird species.

As set out in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description** of this **ES [EN010142/APP/6.1]**, the Scheme has worked collaboratively with Gate Burton Energy Park, Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project to minimise environmental impacts along the Cable Route Corridor by using a shared route, where practicable. To minimise disturbance to wildlife and landowners, through repeated access by multiple schemes, where relevant, the Applicant has collaborated with the other proposed developments to 'share' data and data was received from these schemes on the presence and location of breeding bird species within the Cable Route Corridor.

Monthly field surveys were undertaken between October 2022 and March 2023 (six survey visits). These surveys recorded 65 species, of which 39 species meet at least one of a range of criteria relating to conservation importance, as listed in section 2 of this report.

No peak counts of any species form a significant proportion (i.e. 1% or more) of the national wintering population estimates.

The non-breeding population of Golden Plover (445), Skylark (182) and Yellowhammer (265) are likely to be of District importance within the Order limits. No other species recorded in the Survey Area were recorded in a figure approaching 1% of the non-breeding bird population estimates in Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire.

The total number of species recorded across the Order limits was 65 and would place the importance of the species diversity occurring within the entirety of the Order limits as being of District importance.

Concentrations of species were found within the most suitable habitats to support each individual species' needs (i.e. species reliant on waterbodies were found in the Order limits close to water, species that require woodland habitat, were found within woodland habitat within the Order limits).

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This report forms a technical appendix to the Environmental Statement (ES) [EN010142/APP/6.1], specifically to accompany **Chapter 9: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010142/APP/6.1].
- 1.1.2 This report provides information on the presence, distribution and abundance of non-breeding bird species, relevant to the Tillbridge Solar Project, hereafter referred to as the Scheme, including the results of surveys undertaken within the Order limits.

1.2 Site Description

- 1.2.1 The Scheme is located approximately 5 kilometres (km) to the east of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire and approximately 13km to the north of Lincoln. The Scheme comprises two distinct parcels, which are:
- a. 'the Principal Site', which is the location where ground mounted solar PV panels, electrical sub-stations, and BESS will be installed; and
 - b. 'the Cable Route Corridor', which will comprise the underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the Principal Site to National Grid Cottam Substation.
- 1.2.2 The Principal Site (is located within the administrative district of West Lindsey. The Cable Route Corridor tracks south of the Principal Site, to the east of Willingham by Stow before tracking west towards the River Trent and to the south of Gate Burton. The Cable Route Corridor crosses into Nottinghamshire (within the administrative district of Bassetlaw) before connecting to National Grid Cottam Substation.
- 1.2.3 This report is based on the administrative county of Lincolnshire whilst recognising that key aspects of biodiversity are coordinated and managed within the geography of Greater Lincolnshire, for example the Nature Strategy for the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership (GLNP).
- 1.2.4 The Order limits covers an area of approximately 1,670 hectares (ha) and is dominated by arable fields (minimum 80% of the Order limits). There are numerous mature trees and hedges within the Order limits, with woodlands and small wooded copses. It is surrounded by mainly arable and improved grassland livestock fields.
- 1.2.5 The location of the Scheme is presented in **Figures 9-8-1 to 9-8-4**, included in **Annex A** of this survey report.

1.3 Aims and Objectives

- 1.3.1 The aim of this report is to determine the presence, assemblage and distribution of non-breeding bird species within the Survey Area (see **Section 3.1**).
- 1.3.2 The objectives, therefore, are to:

- a. review existing ecological data to identify any records of non-breeding birds occurring within the Study Area (see **Section 3.1**); and
- a. undertake surveys of non-breeding birds to confirm the presence, assemblage and distribution of non-breeding bird species.

1.3.3 Combined, this is being used to determine:

- a. the nature conservation value of the Order limits for non-breeding birds; and
- b. the potential impacts of the Scheme on non-breeding birds and any required mitigation.

2. Relevant Legislation, Policy and Guidance

2.1 Legislation

Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981

- 2.1.1 The legislative provisions for the protection of wild birds in the UK are contained primarily in Sections 1–7 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA), 1981 (as amended) (Ref 1). Under the WCA, a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species that occurs in a wild state as a resident or a visitor to the European Territory of any member state.
- 2.1.2 Reference is not made in this report to species afforded protection under Schedule 1 of the WCA, as the protection measures under the WCA only apply to bird species within the breeding season.

Directive of the Conservation of Wild Birds

- 2.1.3 A number of bird species recorded within the UK (including those that are resident, overwintering and migratory) are protected under European legislation under the Directive of the Conservation of Wild Birds (European Union (EU) Birds Directive) (Ref 2), which lists 193 species, or sub-species, of birds in Annex 1 which are:
- a. in danger of extinction;
 - b. are rare, or have restricted local distribution;
 - c. are vulnerable to specific changes in their habitat; or
 - d. require particular attention for reasons of the specific nature of habitat.
- 2.1.4 The Birds Directive was most recently transposed into English law by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (Ref 3). Although the UK is no longer a member state of the EU, the 2019 amendments (Ref 4) to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (Ref 3) make it clear that provisions regarding the protection and designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are maintained. Species listed in Annex 1 are those for which the UK government takes special conservation measures; including the designation of land as SPAs to ensure the survival and reproduction of these species throughout their distributions. These sites are automatically included within the National Site Network; a network of core breeding and resting sites that are protected for rare and threatened species.

2.2 Priority Species

- 2.2.1 In addition to the above legislation, 49 bird species are listed as being Species of Principal Importance for conservation in England under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 (Ref 5). These species are of material consideration during the planning process.

- 2.2.2 The NERC list of Species of Principal Importance (Ref 5) is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in implementing their duty under Section 40 of the NERC Act 2006 (in this context, the Secretary of State). Under Section 40, every public authority (e.g. a local authority or local planning authority) must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity, including restoring or enhancing a population or a habitat.
- 2.2.3 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) (Ref 6) was launched in 1994 and established a framework and criteria for identifying species (and habitat types) of conservation concern. From this list, action plans for Priority Species of conservation concern were published and have subsequently been succeeded by the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (July 2012) (Ref 7), which is relevant in the context of Section 40 of the NERC Act. These species are identified as those of conservation concern, due to their rarity or a declining population trend.

2.3 Local Biodiversity Action Plan

- 2.3.1 The Scheme is located within the counties of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. Formerly, the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (3rd edition) (Lincolnshire BAP) (Ref 8) provided context to inform identification of threatened or uncommon species of local relevance, alongside priorities for conservation and enhancement targeted at a local level in Lincolnshire. However, under the Environment Act 2021 (Ref 9), these are being replaced by Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRs), which are a system of spatial strategies for nature which will support delivery of biodiversity net gain (BNG) and provide more focussed action for nature recovery. Whilst this is still being developed for Lincolnshire and with no specific habitat or species plans currently in place, this report references those species formerly included on the Lincolnshire BAP, of which there are 17 priority bird species (see **Table 1**).
- 2.3.2 The Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan (Nottinghamshire BAP) (Ref 10) continues to provide context to inform identification of threatened or uncommon species of local relevance and identifies priorities for conservation and enhancement and are a mechanism for enabling national targets at a local level. However, it confers no legislative or policy protection to the species identified, although in some cases this is provided through related legislation and local planning policy. The Nottinghamshire BAP lists three priority bird species, as presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Priority bird species listed on the Lincolnshire (Lincs) and Nottinghamshire (Notts) BAP

English (Vernacular) Name	Scientific Name	Lincs BAP	Notts BAP
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	-	✓
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	✓	-
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	-

English (Vernacular) Name	Scientific Name	Lincs BAP	Notts BAP
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	✓	-
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	✓	-
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓	-
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	-
Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	✓	✓
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓	-
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	✓	-
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	✓	-
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	✓	-
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	-
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	-
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	✓	-
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>	✓	✓
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	✓	-
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	-

2.3.3 The following threats to farmland birds in Lincolnshire, relevant to non-breeding birds, were identified in the Lincolnshire BAP (Ref 8):

- a. the loss of permanent and relatively species-rich grassland;
- b. increased chemical usage including fertilisers, pesticides and use of broad spectrum and persistent animal treatments;
- c. uniformity within crops, offering fewer opportunities for birds to feed;
- d. the decline of mixed farming;
- e. loss of hedgerow trees through old age and removal for safety and other reasons;
- f. hedgerow removal and poor management of remaining hedges; and
- g. a reduction in crop mosaic.

2.3.4 The Nottinghamshire BAP (Ref 10) provides specific action plan for Barn Owl and identifies the following threats to this species, relevant to the non-breeding season:

- a. loss of habitats such as rough grassland and hedgerows to development and agricultural intensification, with a consequent decline in prey species populations;
- b. lack of long grass in field margins and roadside verges as a habitat for small mammals;

- c. a lack of old trees for roosting;
 - d. demolition or conversion of old agricultural buildings;
 - e. poisoning by rodenticides and insecticides;
 - f. road deaths;
 - g. disturbance to nesting and roosting sites (often unintentionally) by people; and
 - h. hard winters leading to Barn Owls dying of starvation.
- 2.3.5 The Nottinghamshire BAP action plans for Willow Tit and Nightjar have not been included within this report as neither species was recorded during the surveys for non-breeding birds and therefore the action plans are not relevant in the context of the Scheme.

2.4 Birds of Conservation Concern

- 2.4.1 The Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) is an assessment of the conservation status of all regularly occurring British birds. The lists (Red, Amber and Green) that indicate the level of conservation importance for each species are derived from quantitative assessments from standardised criteria and are drawn together by the UK's leading bird conservation organisations, including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and British Trust for Ornithology (BTO).
- 2.4.2 The most recent assessment, BoCC 5 (Ref 11), was published in December 2021 and is based on the most up-to-date evidence available and includes conservation status at global and European levels and, within the UK: historical decline, trends in population and range, rarity, localised distribution and international importance.
- 2.4.3 The criteria for birds being included in the BoCC lists, relevant to the non-breeding season, are as follows:

Red List

- a. species that are globally threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable, but not Near Threatened) under International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List guidelines (Ref 12);
- b. species that have suffered a severe (>50%) non-breeding population decline within the UK in either the last 25 years or the longer-term (since 1969); or
- c. species whose UK range in the non-breeding season has declined by more than 50% between respective non-breeding atlases.

Amber List

- a. species that are threatened in Europe (Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable, but not Near Threatened as per IUCN Red List Guidelines (Ref 12));

- b. species that were previously red-listed for historical population decline, followed by an increase of at least 100% over 25 years or the longer-term period;
- c. species that have suffered a moderate (>25% but <50%) non-breeding population decline within the UK in either the last 25 years or the longer-term (since 1969);
- d. species whose UK range in the non-breeding season has declined by more than 25% but less than 50% between respective non-breeding atlases;
- e. non-breeding rarities (UK population < <900 non-breeding individuals);
- f. non-breeding localisation whereby more than 50% of the UK population was found at ten or fewer sites in the non-breeding season; or
- g. non-breeding international importance whereby the UK holds at least 20% of the European population in the non-breeding season of a particular species.

Green List

- a. species that are not showing moderate or severe declines and do not qualify under any of the above criteria.

2.4.4 Although the BoCC lists confer no legal status in themselves, they are useful in evaluating the conservation significance of bird assemblages, and for assessing the potential significance of impacts and informing appropriate levels of mitigation with respect to bird populations that may be affected by a plan or project.

3. Methods

3.1 Characterising the baseline

3.1.1 Within this report, the following terminology is used when referring to the geographic areas within which assessments were made:

- a. Study Area – the area within the Order limits and a 2km radius which was subject to collection of background information e.g. desk study records for birds to supplement the findings of the survey work;
- b. Zone of Influence (Zol) - the area over which non-breeding birds may be affected by the Scheme which, using the criteria below and proportionate to the Scheme's impacts, is up to 50m from the Order limits (dependent on the sensitivity of the species). Through review of likely impacts of the Scheme and results of the desk study, the scope of field surveys was then defined; and
- c. Survey Area – this is the area within which survey work was undertaken. For species of greater conservation value and/ or higher sensitivity, e.g. those listed on Annex 1 of the EU Birds Directive (Ref 2) and sensitive to potential noise or visual disturbance, where any such species were recorded, the Survey Area was extended up to 200m from the Order limits.

3.1.2 The Zol is based on:

- a. the nature of the project (a solar farm scheme), project activities and the potential for effects at all development stages (construction, operation and decommissioning);
- b. the nature of the land use (minimum 80% arable) and habitats in the vicinity (majority being arable), their connectivity within and outside of the Order limits and how they may be used by non-breeding birds;
- c. the presence and assemblages of non-breeding bird species in the wider area, based on the location of the Order limits and desk study data; and
- d. the habits, behaviours and preferences of different bird species during the non-breeding season and whether these could be affected both spatially and temporally.

3.1.3 Whilst standardised survey buffers for assessing the impacts of development on bird populations do not exist, the geographic areas described above provide information on non-breeding birds both within the Order limits and the area immediately surrounding the Order limits, including areas contiguous with the Order limits, where birds may potentially be adversely affected. Therefore, these are sufficient to determine the likely impacts of the Scheme on non-breeding bird species occurring or likely to occur within the vicinity of the Order limits.

3.2 Desk Study

3.2.1 A desk study was undertaken as part of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal in July 2022 (Ref 13). Records of protected and notable bird species within a

2km radius of the Order limits were obtained through the GLNP and the Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre (NBGRC).

- 3.2.2 Only records up to ten years old were considered within the assessment, as any records older than ten years are unlikely to still be representative of bird species in the local area.

3.3 Collaborative Dataset

- 3.3.1 As set out in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description** of this ES [EN010142/APP/6.1], the Scheme has worked collaboratively with Gate Burton Energy Park, Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project to minimise environmental impacts along the Cable Route Corridor by using a shared route, where practicable. As a result, a wealth of ecological information has been collected along this corridor. To minimise disturbance to wildlife and landowners, through repeated access by multiple schemes, where relevant, the Applicant has collaborated with the other proposed developments to 'share' data. Where this has been the case, it is clearly described in this report. In addition, the Applicant has undertaken surveys to ground truth these data, where relevant.
- 3.3.2 Wider ecological survey data for these schemes was reviewed as part of the desk study and informed the assessment of non-breeding birds in the wider landscape (Gate Burton Energy Park (Ref 14); Cottam Solar Project (Ref 15); and West Burton Solar Project (Ref 16)).

3.4 Field Survey

- 3.4.1 A series of walkover surveys were undertaken between 2022 and 2023 based on a transect methodology as detailed in Bibby, et al. (2000) (Ref 17) and Gilbert, et al. (1998) (Ref 18). The method is similar to that used in the breeding bird surveys as birds encountered visually or by sound, either within the Survey Area or flying over the Survey Area, were recorded. The survey methodology allowed all species to be recorded, including waders, wildfowl and Priority Species.
- 3.4.2 Survey routes followed the majority of hedgerows, fence lines and field margins (including paths, tracks and roads). Deviations into areas of set-aside, stubble fields, scrub, woodland and other uncultivated habitats were made, where possible. The routes did not include walking through ploughed or cultivated fields, due to the possibility of trampling and damaging crops. Fields containing livestock were avoided for safety reasons but could be surveyed from the field boundary for any large non-breeding bird assemblages.
- 3.4.3 Regular stopping points were included at various locations around the Survey Area to record any species that may be passing through the Survey Area and to survey birds that were audible or visible within any inaccessible areas. Survey routes were mapped, and the direction walked alternated on each visit, to ensure that all areas were covered at various times of day (ranging from just before sunrise to just after sunset) across the duration of the survey but also including coverage of the period up to two hours after dusk.

- 3.4.4 On each survey visit, the route was walked at a slow pace with start and finish times noted. Prior to approaching a field, the observer undertook an initial scan to determine the presence of any species already present.
- 3.4.5 All birds seen and heard were recorded directly onto paper maps and then later digitised onto a 1:10,000 scale Ordnance Survey base map of the Survey Area or recorded onto an ArcGIS base map using 'Field Maps' software on hand-held Samsung Tablet devices, with a 1:10,000 scale Ordnance Survey base map of the Survey Area. Registrations of birds were recorded using standard BTO two letter species codes.
- 3.4.6 Monthly surveys for non-breeding birds within the Principal Site were undertaken between October 2022 and March 2023. Owing to the size of the Principal Site, each survey was undertaken over a period of between two-three days. The monthly survey dates were:
- a. 25 – 26 October 2022;
 - b. 15 - 17 November 2022;
 - c. 6 - 8 December 2022;
 - d. 11 - 13 January 2023;
 - e. 15 - 16 February 2023; and
 - f. 7- 8 March 2023.

3.5 Assessment of ornithological importance

- 3.5.1 The assessment of the ornithological importance of the Survey Area during the non-breeding season was made by evaluating any species afforded special statutory protection or those included on one, or more, of the lists of species of conservation interest, as detailed in **Section 2** of this report. These include:
- a. species listed on Annex 1 of the EU Birds Directive (Ref 2);
 - b. priority bird species in the UK (Ref 5, Ref 6), Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire (see Table 1); and
 - c. species included in the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) Red and Amber Lists (Ref 11).

Species abundance

- 3.5.2 In addition to evaluating a site based on its populations of non-breeding birds in relation to legal status, rarity and biodiversity importance, consideration has to be given to the value of the Survey Area for the population of individual species that it supports. This can be done by comparing the population present within the Survey Area with the national and county non-breeding population for certain species. National estimates for breeding birds are published in a paper: 'Population estimates of birds in Great Britain and the United Kingdom' (Ref 19). The BTO Bird Atlas 2007-2011 (Ref 20) was also reviewed for species information on a national level.

- 3.5.3 County-level estimates on the non-breeding bird populations of species in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire were obtained from online resources and county avifauna reports, where this information was available. However, professional judgement was applied when determining the geographic importance of species where population estimates were not available.

Species diversity

- 3.5.4 The number of species recorded in an area is a simple measure of diversity that can indicate its importance at each season of the year.
- 3.5.5 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) (or County Wildlife Sites (CWS)) are amongst the most important places for wildlife in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, together with legally protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).
- 3.5.6 In Lincolnshire, CWSs are selected for their habitats and subsequently has no specific criteria for birds. Therefore, species diversity in Lincolnshire has been measured using professional judgement, considering species presence within distinct habitat types within the Order limits, e.g. farmland passerines, with reference to GLNP 'Local Wildlife Site Guidelines for Greater Lincolnshire' (Ref 21).
- 3.5.7 As stated in the Nottinghamshire LWS Handbook (Ref 22), a LWS in Nottinghamshire can be selected based on the following specific criteria for birds (Ref 22):

“Criterion 5: Any site that has a regular wintering bird assemblage with a score that is equal to or exceeds the Threshold Value for the site’s habitat; and

Criterion 6: Any site that regularly supports 0.5% or more of the UK wintering population of a water bird or wading bird species”.

Importance of the non-breeding bird population

- 3.5.8 An essential prerequisite step to allow ecological impact assessment of the Scheme was an evaluation of the relative biodiversity importance of the Survey Area for non-breeding birds. This is necessary to set the terms of reference for the subsequent ecological impact assessment.
- 3.5.9 The method of evaluation that was utilised has been developed with reference to the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines (Ref 23). This gives guidance on scoping and carrying out environmental assessments and places appraisal in the context of relevant policies and at a geographical scale at which feature matters (i.e. international, national, regional, county, district, local or site). Data received through desk study and field-based surveys were used and evaluated on species rarity, abundance and diversity within the Survey Area to assess the biodiversity importance of the breeding bird populations recorded during the field surveys. Professional judgement was also applied where necessary. Relevant published national and local guidance and criteria can be used, where available, to inform the assessment of biodiversity importance and to assist consistency in evaluation.

3.6 Assumptions and limitations

- 3.6.1 There were a number of modifications to the Order limits, which in turn resulted in minor modifications to the Survey Area used during the course of the survey for non-breeding birds. The buffer around the Order limits, forming the Survey Area was such that it allowed for minor modifications to the Scheme without reducing efficacy of the survey. Whilst it is acknowledged that individual registrations of some species may have been missed, due to small areas of the Order limits not being surveyed, any modifications to the Scheme are not considered to have significantly altered the conclusions drawn within this report. Sufficient representatives of all habitat types have been covered within the entirety of the optimal survey period, allowing for a comprehensive assessment of bird species and assemblages present.
- 3.6.2 Therefore, it is considered that sufficient information has been gathered during the assessment to provide a representative sample of the non-breeding bird population present within the Order limits.

4. Results

4.1 Desk study

- 4.1.1 The data search, undertaken through GLNP and NBGRC, returned records of 99 bird species, including specially protected or notable bird species (see section 2) from within the Study Area and from the preceding ten years from the request date. A list of the 99 species recorded during the desk study is included in **Annex B**.
- 4.1.2 Of these 99 bird species:
- a. 20 are specially protected species listed on Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (Ref 2);
 - b. 14 species are listed as a Priority Species in the UK (Ref 5, Ref 6);
 - c. 20 species are included on the BoCC Red List (Ref 11);
 - d. 40 species are included on the BoCC Amber List (Ref 11);
 - e. eight species are listed as Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan species (**Table 1**); and
 - f. one species is listed as a Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan species (**Table 1**).

4.2 Collaborative Dataset

- 4.2.1 The Gate Burton Solar Farm (Ref 14) dataset returned records of 42 species occurring within the Cable Route Corridor, between the A1500 (just east of Marton) and Cottam Power Station.
- 4.2.2 No datasets were received on the presence of and distribution of non-breeding birds from the West Burton and Cottam Solar Projects, between the Principal Site and the A1500 at Marton. However, a review was undertaken of publicly available information on the planning portal for the Cottam Solar Project (Ref 15) and West Burton Solar Project (Ref 16)), for information related to the presence (or otherwise) of non-breeding birds within the vicinity of their schemes that lie adjacent to the Cable Route Corridor. Whilst no information was provided on the presence of non-breeding birds within the Cable Route Corridor itself, using professional judgement, species that are considered likely to occur within this section of the Cable Route Corridor (as similar habitat is present to that within the Principal Site or within neighbouring schemes) have been included within this assessment.

4.3 Field Survey

- 4.3.1 Sixty-five species were recorded within the Principal Site during the non-breeding bird surveys undertaken for the Scheme in 2022/2023. The 65 species, along with their respective peak counts and conservation status are presented in **Table 2**.
- 4.3.2 For species which are widespread throughout the Principal Site (e.g. Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*), are common within Lincolnshire and the UK and are

not of conservation concern (i.e., not listed on one or more of the lists of conservation concern as detailed in this report), the number of individuals of these species (including probable or possible) have not been calculated and these are referred to in **Table 2** as being present (P).

Table 2. Peak count data and conservation status of non-breeding birds recorded

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	BoCC Amber	4	-
Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	BoCC Amber	90	A single flock flying high over the Survey Area in October 2022.
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	BoCC Amber	7	Recorded widely across the Survey Area, predominantly associated with watercourses and water bodies within the Principal Site.
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	BoCC Amber	23	Recorded within watercourses and water bodies within the Principal Site.
Red-legged Partridge <i>Alectoris rufa</i>	-	14	-
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	42	Recorded within arable and grassland margin habitats throughout the Principal Site.
Pheasant <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	-	10	-
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	-	5	-
Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	BoCC Amber	3	-

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Annex 1, BoCC Amber	1	Recorded flying over the western half of the Principal Site in December 2022 and again in February 2023.
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	Annex 1	7	Records widely distributed across the Survey Area with individuals recorded flying over the Principal Site in October and November 2022 and again in January and February 2023.
Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>	-	12	-
Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	BoCC Amber	1	Recorded within close proximity to water bodies within the Principal Site.
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	228	A group of 200 was recorded in a ploughed field to the east of Glentworth Grange on a single date in October 2022 and a group of 150 were on the banks of the agricultural reservoir south of Harpswell Grange on a single date in February 2023. The species was then sporadically recorded throughout the survey period, with records widely distributed across the Survey Area and groups likely to be utilising the wider landscape outside the Survey Area.
Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Annex 1	445	A group of 440 was recorded in a ploughed field to the east of Glentworth Grange on a single date in October 2022. The species was then sporadically recorded throughout the survey period, with groups of no more than 50 being observed in flight on a number of occasions, with the occasional group settled on the

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
			ground. Records were widely distributed across the Survey Area, with groups likely to be utilising the wider landscape outside the Survey Area.
Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	BoCC Red	3	-
Jack Snipe <i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	-	1	-
Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	BoCC Amber, Lincs BAP	5	-
Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	BoCC Amber	55	-
Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>	BoCC Amber	3	-
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red	12	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	BoCC Amber	2	-
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	BoCC Amber	36	-
Woodpigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	BoCC Amber	1458	-

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	-	25	-
Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	-	1	-
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	-	2	-
Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>	-	1	-
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	BoCC Amber	6	-
Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Annex 1	1	Recorded flying over the Survey Area in November 2022 and again in March 2023.
Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	-	2	-
Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>	-	5	-
Jackdaw <i>Coloeus monedula</i>	-	27	-
Rook <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	BoCC Amber	84	-

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Carrion Crow <i>Corvus corone</i>	-	15	-
Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	-	20	-
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	-	10	-
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	182	Groups of birds scattered across the Order limits, predominantly where winter stubbles were present. The peak survey count was recorded in January 2023.
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	-	19	-
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	-	2	-
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	-	5	-
Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	BoCC Amber	26	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	-	1	-
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	370	-

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>	-	65	-
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	BoCC Red	471	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	BoCC Amber	211	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Amber	9	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	BoCC Red	3	-
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	-	31	-
Stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	-	1	-
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red	89	Recorded close to residential properties adjacent to the Principal Site.
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	2	-
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Amber	18	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Pied Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	-	6	-
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	BoCC Amber	20	-
Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	-	224	-
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	-	6	-
Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Amber, Lincs BAP	4	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Greenfinch <i>Chloris chloris</i>	BoCC Red	8	Associated with woodland and scrub habitat.
Linnet <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	76	An even distribution of this species, throughout the Principal Site, associated with cover crop habitats.
Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	-	53	-
Corn Bunting <i>Emberiza calandra</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	28	A flock of 28 recorded in February 2023 towards the centre of the Principal Site, associated with cover crops.

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Status (where applicable)	Peak Count	Supporting Notes
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Red, Lincs BAP	265	Groups scattered across the Order limits, predominantly associated with more mature hedgerows and cover crops/field margins. The peak survey count was recorded in February 2023.
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	Priority Species, BoCC Amber, Lincs BAP	86	An even distribution of this species, throughout the Principal Site, associated with cover crop habitats.

5. Evaluation

- 5.1.1 The desk study, collaborative datasets and field surveys were used to determine the importance of the Order limits for non-breeding birds and this is presented in the following sections.

5.2 Specially Protected Species

- 5.2.1 The data search, undertaken through GLNP and NBGRC, returned records of 20 bird species listed on Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (Ref 2). Of the 20 species recorded within the Study Area, six species (Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*, Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*, Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*, Honey-buzzard *Pernis apivorus*, Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* and Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*) are summer visitors to the UK and therefore would not occur within the Order limits during the non-breeding season (further evidenced from their absence during field surveys). A further eight species (Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*, Great White Egret *Ardea alba*, Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*, Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus*, Merlin *Falco columbarius*, Ruff *Calidris pugnax*, Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* and Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*) are absent from the Order limits, confirmed by field surveys.
- 5.2.2 Six species that were also identified as occurring within the Study Area during the desk study (Little Egret, Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, Golden Plover, Kingfisher and Peregrine) listed on Annex 1 of the EU birds Directive (Ref 2) were recorded within the Principal Site during field surveys or identified (through the collaborative datasets) as occurring within the Cable Route Corridor (see **Figure 9-8-1** in **Annex A** of this report). Marsh Harrier, Red Kite and Peregrine were all recorded flying over the Principal Site. Little Egret and Kingfisher, both recorded on single occasions in peripheral watercourses, were identified within the Cable Route Corridor through the Gate Burton Energy Park (Ref 14) dataset.

5.3 Species of conservation importance

Priority Species

- 5.3.1 The desk study identified 14 bird species (see **Annex B**) that are listed as Species of Principal Importance prepared under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 (Ref 5). Of these 14 species, Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*, Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* and Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* are all summer visitors to the UK and therefore would not occur within the Order limits during the non-breeding season (further evidenced from their absence during field surveys). A further four species (Bittern, Black-tailed Godwit, Common Scoter and Scaup) are unlikely to occur in the Order limits, as the habitat within the Order limits is not suitable to support these species (further evidenced from their absence during field surveys).

- 5.3.2 Fourteen priority species, including six species identified during the desk study as occurring within the Study Area, (Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Herring Gull, Skylark, Starling, Song Thrush, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Dunnock, Bullfinch, Linnet, Corn Bunting, Yellowhammer and Reed Bunting) were recorded within the Principal Site during field surveys or identified (through the collaborative datasets) as occurring within the Cable Route Corridor.

Birds of Conservation Concern

- 5.3.3 Inclusion on the Birds of Conservation Concern Red or Amber list does not confer any statutory protection. However, the species reported below are all of conservation importance and considered to be under varying levels of threat in a UK context.

Red List species

- 5.3.4 The desk study identified 20 bird species (see **Annex B**) that are listed on the Red List of BoCC 5 (Ref 11). Of these, 13 species (Black-tailed Godwit, Corncrake, Common Scoter, Cuckoo, Curlew, Grasshopper Warbler, Hen Harrier, House Martin, Montagu's Harrier, Ring Ouzel, Ruff, Scaup and Turtle Dove) were not recorded within the Order limits, either because the species is a summer visitor to the UK or because the habitat within the Order limits is not suitable to support these species.
- 5.3.5 Fourteen species (including seven species identified during the desk study as occurring within the Study Area) that are included on the BoCC Red List (Ref 11) (Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Woodcock, Herring Gull, Skylark, Starling, Fieldfare, Mistle Thrush, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Greenfinch, Linnet, Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer) were recorded within the Principal Site during field surveys or identified (through the collaborative datasets) as occurring within the Cable Route Corridor.

Amber list species

- 5.3.6 The desk study identified 40 bird species (see **Annex B**) that are listed on the Amber list of BoCC 5 (Ref 11). Seventeen of these 40 species were not recorded within the Order limits during field surveys. However, 23 species, included on the BoCC Amber List (Ref 11), were recorded within the Principal Site during field surveys or identified as occurring within the Cable Route Corridor, these being: Greylag Goose, Pink-footed Goose, Mallard, Teal, Sparrowhawk, Marsh Harrier, Moorhen, Snipe, Black-headed Gull, Bullfinch, Common Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Stock Dove, Wood Pigeon, Kestrel, Rook, Wren, Redwing, Song Thrush, Dunnock, Meadow Pipit, Bullfinch and Reed Bunting.

Lincolnshire BAP

- 5.3.7 The desk study identified eight bird species (see **Annex B**) that are listed on the Lincolnshire BAP (Table 1) and for which action plans have been prepared within the Lincolnshire BAP (see Table 1). Of these eight species, Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Reed Bunting, Skylark, Snipe and Tree Sparrow were recorded within the Principal Site during field surveys or identified

(through the collaborative datasets) as occurring within the Cable Route Corridor.

Nottinghamshire BAP

- 5.3.8 The desk study identified one bird species (Barn Owl, see **Annex B**) that is listed on the Nottinghamshire BAP (Table 1) and for which a species action plan has been prepared. However, the collaborative datasets did not record this species within the section of the Cable Route Corridor that is within Nottinghamshire, although Barn Owl was recorded as being formerly present in a nest box (pellets recorded) within this Scheme location.

5.4 Species abundance

- 5.4.1 In addition to evaluating a site based on its populations of wintering birds in relation to legal status, rarity and conservation value, consideration has to be given to the value of the Order limits for the population of individual species that it supports. This can be done by comparing the population present within the Order limits with the national and county non-breeding population for certain species.
- 5.4.2 No peak counts of any species form a significant proportion (i.e. 1% or more) of the national non-breeding population estimates as detailed in Woodward, et al. (2020) (Ref 11).
- 5.4.3 Current county population estimates for some of the species afforded special statutory protection and, or, of conservation importance are not available. However, whilst the majority of species of conservation importance that were recorded within the Order limits are declining in the UK, most remain widespread.
- 5.4.4 Therefore, using professional judgement, the majority of individuals of species recorded were all relatively low and are unlikely to represent significant proportions (i.e. 1 % or more) of the county populations in Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire. The peak counts of Golden Plover (445), Skylark (182) and Yellowhammer (265) are likely to be of District importance. The remaining species populations occurring within the Order limits are considered to be of no more than local importance.
- 5.4.5 All other species recorded during field surveys of the Principal Site or identified (through the collaborative datasets) as being present within the Cable Route Corridor, are not present in numbers important at a county or district scale in Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire and are of Local importance only.

5.5 Species Diversity

- 5.5.1 Professional judgement was used to evaluate the number of species recorded within the Survey Area and in each discrete habitat type to assess species diversity.
- 5.5.2 The number of species recorded across the Order limits was 65 and would place the importance of the Order limits for species diversity as being of District importance.

5.5.3 There are no specific criteria for evaluation of the breeding species assemblage and numbers recorded during surveys, with respect to criteria for selection of Local Wildlife Sites (of County value) in Lincolnshire. Therefore, using professional judgement, the Principal Site and the species (and assemblages) that this area supports is unlikely to qualify as a LWS. Furthermore, evaluation of the Nottinghamshire LWS selection criteria (see section 3.5.7) against the data received through the collaborative datasets, the Cable Route Corridor is also unlikely to qualify as a LWS.

5.6 Species Distribution

5.6.1 The location of Annex 1 species and BoCC Red and Amber-listed bird species, (see **Table 2**) are presented in **Figures 9-8-1 to 9-8-4** in **Annex A** of this report. In general, concentrations of species were found within the most suitable habitats to support each individual species' needs (i.e., species reliant on woodland habitat were found within woodland habitat in the Order limits, etc.).

6. Conclusions

- 6.1.1 A total of 65 bird species were recorded during non-breeding bird surveys for the Scheme. Of these 65 bird species, 39 species meet at least one of a range of criteria relating to conservation importance (see Table 2), as detailed in **Section 2** of this report.
- 6.1.2 The majority of species populations within the Order limits are of local importance as they do not meet the thresholds as being significant (i.e. 1% or more) of the county or national populations when evaluated against published data. However, the peak counts of Golden Plover (445), Skylark (182) and Yellowhammer (265) are likely to be of District importance.
- 6.1.3 Species diversity across the Order limits is of District importance, based on the number of species recorded.

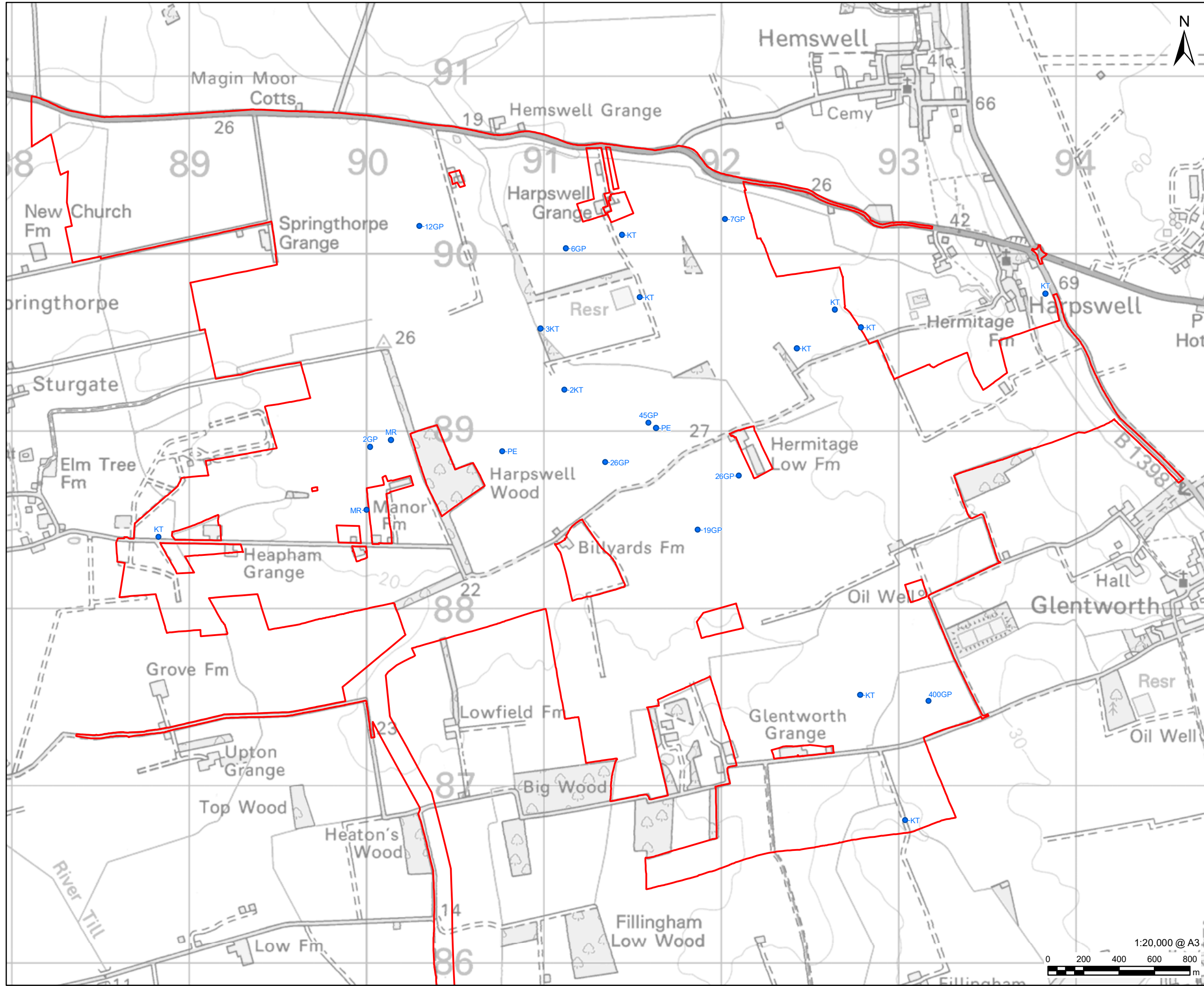
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Annex A Figures

Figure 9-8-1 to 9-8-4. Distribution of non-breeding bird species of conservation concern



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LEGEND
Order Limits
Bird Survey Record, Conservation Species

Species List
MR - Marsh Harrier
KT - Red Kite
GP - Golden Plover
PE - Peregrine

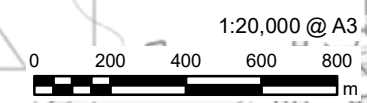
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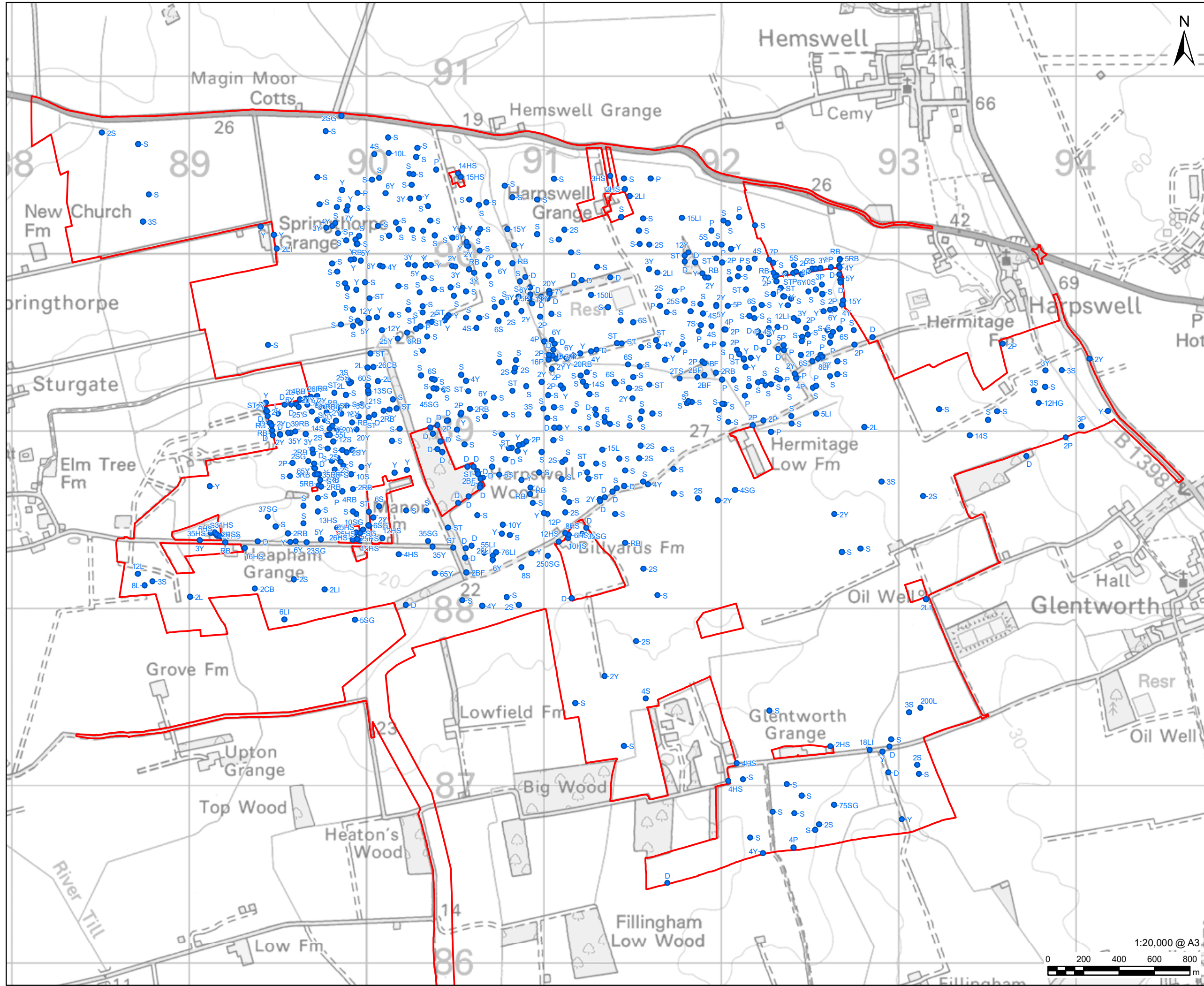
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60677969

FIGURE TITLE
Distribution of Non-breeding Bird
Species of Conservation Concern
Annex 1 Species

FIGURE NUMBER
Figure 9-8-1



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- Species List**
- P - Grey Partridge
 - L - Lapwing
 - HG - Herring Gull
 - S - Skylark
 - SG - Starling
 - ST - Song Thrush
 - HS - House Sparrow
 - TS - Tree Sparrow
 - D - Dunnock
 - BF - Bullfinch
 - LI - Linnet
 - CB - Corn Bunting
 - Y - Yellowhammer
 - RB - Reed Bunting

NOTES

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ISSUE PURPOSE
DCO Submission

PROJECT NUMBER
60677969

FIGURE TITLE
Distribution of Non-breeding Bird Species of Conservation Concern Priority Species

FIGURE NUMBER
Figure 9-8-2

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Annex B Records of Bird Species Returned through GLNP and NBGRC

Common Name	Scientific Name	Year of most recent record	Conservation Designation
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	2018	BoCC Amber, Annex 1
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	2020	WCA Sch 1, Notts BAP
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	2014	BoCC Amber, Annex 1, Priority Species, Sch 1 WCA
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	2016	BoCC Amber, WCA Sch 1
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	2018	BoCC Red, Priority Species, WCA Sch 1
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	2018	Annex 1
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	2013	-
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	2019	Sch 1 WCA
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2016	-
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	2014	-
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	2018	BoCC Amber
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	2018	BoCC Amber
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	2017	WCA Sch 1
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	2019	-
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	2018	BoCC Red, Priority Species, WCA Sch 1
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	2019	-
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	2019	-
Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	2015	BoCC Red, Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	2018	WCA Sch 1
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	2013	BoCC Red, Priority Species
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	2018	BoCC Red, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	2020	WCA Sch 1, BoCC Red
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	2019	-

Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	2014	Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	2017	BoCC Red, Priority Species
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	2015	BoCC Amber
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	2019	-
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	2019	-
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	2013	-
Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2019	Annex 1, BoCC Amber
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	2020	BoCC Amber
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	2015	-
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2019	-
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	2017	BoCC Red, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	2018	BoCC Amber
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	2020	BoCC Amber
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	2019	BoCC Red, Annex 1
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	2020	WCA Sch 1
Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	2015	BoCC Amber, Annex 1
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	2019	BoCC Red
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	2019	-
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	2018	Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	2016	BoCC Red, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	2019	-
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	2020	Annex 1
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	2015	-
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	2016	-
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	2019	-
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	2015	BoCC Amber
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber, Annex 1
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>	2012	BoCC Amber, Annex 1, Sch 1 WCA
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	2020	Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	2013	BoCC Red, Annex 1

Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	2019	-
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	2018	BoCC Amber, Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	2017	BoCC Amber
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	2020	Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	2015	-
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	2015	BoCC Amber
Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	2018	BoCC Amber
Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	2018	BoCC Amber, WCA Sch 1
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2017	-
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	2018	-
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	2020	Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	2020	Sch 1 WCA, BoCC Amber
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Ring-necked Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	2019	-
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	2019	BoCC Red
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	2019	-
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	2019	BoCC Red, Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	2019	-
Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	2016	BoCC Red, Priority Species, WCA Sch 1
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	2016	BoCC Amber
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	2018	BoCC Amber, Annex 1
Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	2016	BoCC Amber
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	2019	BoCC Red, Priority species, Lincs BAP
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	2014	BoCC Amber, Lincs BAP
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	2013	BoCC Amber
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	2014	BoCC Amber
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	2019	-
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	2015	BoCC Amber
Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	2015	BoCC Amber
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	2015	BoCC Red, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	2019	-

Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	2016	BoCC Red, Priority Species, Lincs BAP
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	2016	-
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	2014	BoCC Red, WCA Sch 1
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	2018	BoCC Red
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber, Annex 1, WCA Sch 1
Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	2019	BoCC Amber
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	2019	BoCC Amber, Priority Species, Lincs BAP