

June 2025 Update

DATE:	19 August 2025	CONFIDENTIALITY:	Internal
SUBJECT:	June 2025 Update		
PROJECT:	Hinkley Point C Nuclear New Build	AUTHOR:	██████████
CHECKED:	██████████	APPROVED:	██████████

PROGRESS IN THE PERIOD

The following surveys were completed during Visit 1, in June 2025:

- Shelduck vessel monitoring on 25/06/2025 (one ornithologist during the morning vessel transit)
- Shelduck distribution and disturbance monitoring on 25/06/2025 (three surveyors);
- Shelduck mitigation monitoring on 26/06/2024 (two surveyors); and
- Shelduck population monitoring on 27/06/2024 (three surveyors).

KEY UPDATES IN THE PERIOD

The key updates this month were:

- The fence line at Wall Common has now been replaced with spaced wooden posts and new signage installed at regular intervals along its length (Figures 1 & 2). However, the fence posts are shorter than the previous fence and there is no wire or rails, providing no consistent physical barrier to prevent members of the public from accessing the mitigation area. Compliance with the signage and public access will continue to be monitored through the mitigation surveys.
- There were no observed breaches of the mitigation at Stert Point, however on three occasions walkers with uncontrolled dogs were recorded crossing the new fence line at Wall Common into the mitigation area, causing level 3 and 4 disturbances to a total of 27 shelduck.

Figure 1. Wall Common mitigation fence line



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Figure 2. Wall Common mitigation signage



- The June population survey allowed for the Behavioural Trigger Point (BTP) figure to be calculated for the vessel transits. The baseline population for late June 2025 was 2,230 individuals and therefore, the BTP figure was 111 individuals.
- A vessel transit was recorded on 25/06/2025. The BTP was not triggered during the first barge delivery as no large flocks were disturbed to over 500m away or for over a 5-minute period. A flock of 200 individuals, however, were disturbed at level 4 for 2 minutes and some minor non-compliance with the mitigation was recorded as crew were seen on deck in high-vis.
- The 2025 June population survey count of 2,230 was the highest recorded since shelduck monitoring surveys commenced in 2012. A similar high population count was last recorded in June 2017 with a peak of 2,137. The June Population Trigger Point (PTP) has therefore not been reached as there was a large increase between June 2024 and June 2025 of 566%. This could indicate an earlier breeding season or more failed breeding birds who are undergoing their moult earlier than last year. This will be monitored as the survey season continues.

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Table 1 – Action

Item	Description	Actions	Who is responsible	Date for completion
H & S observations	There were no H&S incidents recorded during the period	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
Breaches of mitigation measures or notable disturbance observations	<p>Wall Common fence line breached by walkers with dogs of lead</p> <p>During the first delivery crew were observed on deck in hi-vis.</p>	<p>Once June and July updates are finalised these will be used to form discussion with EDF and WWT regarding Wall Common fence line breaches.</p> <p>Updates will also be shared with Natural England.</p>	WSP / EDF	Ongoing.
Wardening	WWT volunteers continue to carry out wardening on an ad-hoc basis.	WSP to continue to provide WWT with vessel delivery schedule, in order to target wardening at the key sensitive locations for wintering waterbirds (e.g. Stockland Reach and Huntspill Sluice) and moulting shelduck (e.g. Wall Common and Stert Point) during vessel delivery days.	WSP / EDF	Ongoing.