



The Sizewell C Project

6.3 Volume 2 Main Development Site Chapter 14 Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology Appendix 14C17B: Natterjack Toad Licence Method Statement (Parts 1 and 2)

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Executive Summary

This document (part 1 of a 2-part method statement) has been prepared as part of a European Protected Species licence (for natterjack toad) and to demonstrate that the proposed work would not have a harmful effect on natterjack toads. It includes details of the proposed work, updated surveys conducted in 2020, impact assessment, mitigation, compensation, and a timetable of work being licensed.

SZC Co. is proposing to build a new nuclear power station at Sizewell which, together with a series of associated developments, is referred to as the Sizewell C Project. To facilitate development a substantial amount of construction material will be transported to the site and a number of off-site associated developments are required during construction and long-term operation. A series of Water Management Zones (WMZs) are required during construction of the Sizewell C Project and one of these would be situated within a c. 14.9ha grazed pasture field known as 'Retsoms Field'. This field is partially situated within the main development site boundary but wholly within the EDF Energy estate. The works to establish the WMZ are the subject of this method statement and these are the only element of the works which are considered to have the potential to impact natterjack toads.

Retsoms Field, into which natterjack toads were introduced in 2005, contains three ponds; they have bred successfully in one pond (N1) since, with a peak population estimate of between 4 and 32 adults. In 2020, a peak count of 12 adults was recorded. EDF have therefore successfully managed the introduction of natterjack to the site over a 15-year period. Of the other two ponds, one no longer holds water (N2) and the other is yet to be found to support breeding (N3). A further pond (N4), was dug immediately to the north of Retsoms in 2018 by the RSPB. However, as of July 2020, no signs of breeding have been recorded in this pond. Since creation, all ponds have been monitored annually by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the RSPB.

None of these ponds will be directly affected by the Sizewell C project, but temporary loss of foraging habitat within Retsoms Field is required during the approximate 10-year construction phase. After this period, the field will be restored to create optimal habitat for natterjack toads. In the absence of mitigation, increased light and noise levels during the construction period have the potential to have a negative impact on natterjack foraging, breeding and predation avoidance. It is possible that vegetation and ground clearance activities will cause incidental injury or mortality. There are not anticipated to be any fragmentation or post-development interference impacts.

To avoid killing or injuring any natterjack toads, it is proposed that the WMZ will avoid the rabbit warren networks that the natterjack toads are known to use and will be ring fenced and a trapping and translocation exercise undertaken. Captured individuals from within the construction working area will be released within a safe location adjacent to the breeding pond (N1) away from the works. Ring fencing will remain *in situ* for the duration of the Water Management Zone operation (10 years) to ensure that any natterjack toads remain excluded from the works area.

To compensate for the temporary loss of foraging habitat, it is proposed that four ponds would be created, comprising the reinstatement of pond N2 and the installation of a three section pond aggregation (pond N5) and landscaping be undertaken to provide foraging, refuge and overwintering opportunities within Retsoms Field. In addition, the management of the terrestrial habitats in Retsoms Field will be reviewed and improved to ensure conditions are of maximum value to the natterjack toad population.

1 Natterjack Toad Method Statement

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document (part 1 of a 2-part method statement) has been prepared as part of a European Protected Species licence (for natterjack toad) and to demonstrate that the proposed work would not have a harmful effect on natterjack toads. It includes details of the proposed work, surveys conducted in 2020, impact assessment, mitigation, compensation, and a timetable of work being licensed.
- 1.1.2 SZC Co. is proposing to build a new nuclear power station at Sizewell which, together with a series of associated developments, is referred to as the Sizewell C Project. A series of Water Management Zones (WMZs) are required during construction of the Sizewell C Project and one of these would be situated within a c. 14.9ha grazed pasture field known as 'Retsoms Field' in which, a confirmed breeding population of natterjack toad are present. This field is partially situated within the site boundary but wholly within the EDF Energy estate. The works to establish the WMZ are the subject of this method statement and these are the only element of the works which are considered to have the potential to impact natterjack toads.
- 1.1.3 Natterjack toads (*Epidalea calamita*) and their habitat are protected under UK and European legislation and are a material consideration when determining applications for development consent. Where development is likely to disturb potential natterjack toads and/or their habitat then, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) which enacts the Habitats Directive into the UK, a licence is required from the Natural England to derogate the terms of this legislation. Before a licence can be granted three tests must be satisfied. This document (which is part 1 of a 2-part document) has been prepared following Natural England's "Application for a Licence: European Protected Species – Method Statement" document (reference: WML-A12.2, September 2017) setting out the information required by Natural England to satisfy one of these tests: '*that the action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned [natterjack toad] at a favourable conservation status in their natural range*'.
- 1.1.4 This document is presented as a method statement and takes into account updated survey results from 2020 and recent discussions held with Natural England's protected species team in 2020 and Suffolk Wildlife Trust and RSPB in 2021. SZC Co. and its consultant ecologists are committed to working with Natural England and other stakeholders to develop further the

approaches outlined within this document to ensure a legally robust approach to mitigation for natterjack toads.

1.1.5 The structure of the document and the headings within it follow a defined template as prescribed by Natural England as part of their formal licensing requirements.

a) Background to activity/development, include a brief summary of why the activity is necessary

1.1.6 SZC Co. is proposing to build a new nuclear power station at Sizewell in East Suffolk, known as Sizewell C. It would be located on the Suffolk coast, approximately halfway between Felixstowe and Lowestoft; to the north east of the town of Leiston. The power station, together with a series of proposed associated developments, is referred to as the Sizewell C Project. As part of the Sizewell C Project, a new power station will be constructed at the main development site, adjacent to the existing Sizewell B power station. To facilitate construction of the Sizewell C Project, material will be transported to the site and a number of off-site associated developments are required during construction and long-term operation. The on-site area includes the main platform and associated power station infrastructure and WMZs. Off-site areas include marsh harrier compensation land, studio fields complex, Kenton Woods, sports facilities in Leiston, Green Rail Route, Darsham Park and Ride, Wickham Market Park and Ride, Sizewell Link Road, Two Village Bypass, other rail improvements other road improvements including Yoxford Roundabout and the Freight Management Facility.

b) Full details of proposed works on site that are to be covered by the licence

i. e.g. barn/loft conversion to new dwelling, demolition of buildings, construction of factory, extraction of clay, landfilling. etc. Include current status of planning permission (if applicable)

1.1.7 To facilitate the construction of the Sizewell C Project a series of WMZs are required. One of these is required to the north of the scheme within a field known as 'Retsoms Field' (Approximate Centroid Grid Ref: TM 4713 6514). The Field is owned in its entirety by EDF Energy but only partially situated within the Sizewell C main development site boundary. It comprises approximately 14.9ha of grazed pasture that is managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) on behalf of EDF Energy. It also forms part of a larger Environmental Stewardship Agreement with EDF Energy which has been live since November 2013 (Agreement Reference: AG00476432; CPH Number: 360730020) and is recognised as Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh on the priority habitat inventory.

1.1.8 Retsoms Field contains three ponds (named N1, N2 and N3), one of which (N1) supports a breeding population of natterjack toads. All ponds are situated outside of the main development site boundary, but approximately 3.55ha of suitable foraging habitat will be lost to the WMZ during the construction phase of Sizewell C (10 years).

1.1.9 Only the proposed works associated with the construction of the WMZ within Retsoms Field are of relevance to this licence application. **Figure B.2**, in **Appendix B**, shows the construction areas relevant to this application.

1.2 Survey and Site Assessment

a) Pre-existing information on the species at the survey site

i. Provide records from local environmental records centres, local wildlife groups, previous survey work by the applicant or others

1.2.1 Desk-study records (within the last 25 years) from the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) database:

- Westleton (TM 452 692) - relates to reintroductions carried out by the RSPB in 1985. Additional reintroductions were started at Mount Pleasant pools, Minsmere in 2005. Situated approximately 3.2km north of the main development site boundary and 4.5km from the Retsoms Field breeding pond (N1).
- Single desk-study record for natterjack toads at Vault Hill, RSPB Minsmere Reserve in 2005; however, this may be an erroneous location as this record is unknown to RSPB staff (RSPB, pers. comm.).

1.2.2 Two ponds (N1 and N2) were created in 2004 at Retsoms Field (see **Figures C.4a** and **C.4b** in **Appendix B**) by SWT, and tadpoles from existing populations in Norfolk introduced in 2005. Subsequently, only N1 has remained as a successful breeding site. The number of tadpoles counted during SWT surveys and the adult population estimates are shown in Table 1 (raw SWT data is provided in F.2). A further pond (N3) was excavated in Retsoms Field in 2015; no natterjack toad sightings have been recorded at this pond to date (SWT, Pers. Comm., Jan 2019). Natterjack toads are also thought to hibernate in rabbit warrens within Retsoms Field (SWT).

1.2.3 In 2018, the RSPB created a new pond/scrape (N4) complex on Minsmere Levels, immediately to the north of Retsoms Field (SWT); however, there have been no signs of breeding in this pond to date.

Table 1. Summary results from SWT natterjack toad surveys – Pond N1

Year	Estimated Natterjack Tadpole Counts	Peak	Spawn Strings	Estimate of Female Numbers	Estimate of Adult Population Size
2005	0		-	-	-
2006	0		-	-	-
2007	0		Large number	-	-
2008	3,000			-	-
2009	3,000		16	16	32
2010	2,500		-	-	-
2011	3,000		Present in April and second brood in July	-	-
2012	5,000		8 in April 4-6 strings in July (but no survival)	8 ¹	16
2013	5,000		-	-	-
2014	8,000		11-13 in May	13	26
2015	5,000+		Present in May and second brood in July	-	-
2016	3,000		2	2	4
2017	0		0	0	0
2018	15,000		8 in May 6 in June	14 ²	28
2019	10,000		7 in May 3 in July	10	20
2020	1 st June: 500 20 th July: 600		6 in May 6 in June 3 in July	4 in May 1 in July	10

¹ Assumed to be same females at start and end of breeding season.

² Assumed to be different females as breeding within one or two months.

b) Status of species at the local, county and regional levels

1.2.4 Rare. Since extinction in the 1950s and 60s, natterjack toads have been re-introduced in Suffolk at a small number of ponds, including the introduction of the population within Retsoms Field. Adults were recorded within N1 during 2006 and 2007 (despite only tadpoles being introduced in 2005 and

natterjack toads typically taking 3-4 years to reach sexual maturity). It is therefore a possibility that the local/Minsmere population is increasing sufficiently to support local recruitment (i.e. the population at Minsmere is a source rather than a sink).

- 1.2.5 Since the creation of N1, it appears that (subject to natural fluctuation) tadpole peak counts have been steadily increasing but the adult population size has remained relatively constant (the low tadpole peak counts observed in 2020 are discussed further below). It is thus assumed that N1 has reached its adult carrying capacity and/or juvenile survival rate is low, presumably due to a lack of suitable terrestrial opportunities (foraging, resting and/or overwintering) and predation. It can however be seen that, through the creation and maintenance of suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat, EDF have successfully managed the introduction of natterjack toads to Retsoms Field.

c) Objectives of the survey

- i. [e.g. to determine presence/absence of species, species usage of site]

- 1.2.6 The natterjack toad population within Retsoms Field is monitored annually by SWT and has been since introduction in 2005. The RSPB monitor N4 to the north.

- 1.2.7 In 2020, Arcadis also monitored the population in N1 along with N2, N3 and N4 on behalf of SZC Co.

- d) Scaled plan/map of survey area of appropriate scale and orientation with integral or separate location map at 1:50,000 or 1:25,000 scale. Aerial photographs are also useful

- 1.2.8 See **Figures C.4a** (on OS mapping) and **C4b** (on aerial photography) in **Appendix B**.

- e) Site/habitat description (relevant to the species concerned), based on day-time visits. Include annotated photographs if helpful

- 1.2.9 Retsoms Field comprises approximately 14.9ha of grazed pasture. It has light, sandy soils, relatively heavy sheep grazing pressure and several rabbit warrens, which provide hibernating opportunities (SWT, pers. comm.) for natterjack toad. Three ponds have been created for natterjack toads within the field as follows:

- N1 (Grid Ref: TM 47136 65112) – created in 2004 and only pond that has successfully supported breeding natterjack toads (to date).

- N2 (Grid Ref: TM 47148 65105) – also created in 2004 but clay lined pond that failed and is now defunct. May however provide terrestrial opportunities within an otherwise structurally poor field.
- N3 (Grid Ref: TM 47350 65191) – created in 2015, this pond is superficially suitable for natterjack toads but as of yet, none have been recorded within it.

1.2.10 Pond N1 is pumped dry in the winter to remove predators and allowed to refill naturally. Images of Retsoms field and the N1 breeding pond are shown in **Table 2**. The location of this field and the ponds are also shown in **Figures C.4a** and **C3.4b** in **Appendix B**.

1.2.11 In the wider area, the RSPB has recently (2018) created N4, a pond/scrape complex on Minsmere Levels, approximately 30m north of Retsoms Field and 265m north east of N1. This pond is separated from Retsoms Field by c. a 3m wide ditch network that supports permanent standing water and may inhibit natterjack toad dispersal. Extensive areas of the Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh and Coastal Sand Dunes priority habitats are situated to the north and east of Retsoms Field, providing a continuous corridor of suitable terrestrial habitat that connects the populations within N1 to those within Minsmere, to the north.

Table 2. Images of the site

		
View of N1, currently the only natterjack toad breeding pond with Retsoms Field	View of N2, failed Retsoms Field pond	View of Retsoms Field
		
View of N3 pond within Retsoms Field	View of N4 pond on Minsmere Levels	View of ditch between N3 and N4

f) Field survey(s)

- i. Include survey method, timings (day/evening), weather conditions (wind, rain, temperature – tabulated for multiple survey visits), personnel involved (provide individual licence numbers, if held), and equipment used

1.2.12 As presented above, SWT have carried out monitoring surveys (counts of spawn strings, toadlets and adults) of the following:

- N1 (Grid Ref: TM 47136 65112) – annually since 2005.
- N2 (Grid Ref: TM 47148 65105) – annually between 2005 and 2007, after which the pond has not held water.
- N3 (Grid Ref: TM 47350 65191) – annually since 2015.

- 1.2.13 In 2020, Arcadis undertook natterjack toad surveys of N1 to N4. RSPB has also carried out surveys of pond N4 (Grid Ref: TM 47438 65200), since its creation in 2018. To date, there have been no signs of natterjack toads breeding within this pond.
- 1.2.14 The survey methodology was in accordance with Natural England (2014) and methodologies detailed in Beebee & Denton (1996):
- Torchlight surveys (night searches) were undertaken between May and July, between dusk and dawn and on mild or warm nights (10 - 15°C) with preference for survey during or after rain.
 - Searches for toads under refugia were carried out during the daytime between Spring and Autumn and during mild weather (in hot weather toads spend more time underground).
 - Spawn string counts were undertaken at least once a week from May to July.
 - Systematic terrestrial habitat searches were undertaken of the survey area, working back and forth, undertaking a visual search for suitable habitat looking for toads foraging, hibernation, and burrows areas. Terrestrial habitat searches were undertaken between May and July, during daylight hours on mild or warm days (10 - 15°C with a preference for survey during or after rain), at least once a week and using an endoscope to look into burrows to look for sheltering toads.
- 1.2.15 The age of captured animals (by measuring them) was assessed and the following parameters were also recorded: weather data at site; animal sex; stage of life; number (tadpoles, spawn strings, etc.); snout-vent length (SVL) measurements; photograph (avoiding females spawning and males in amplexus); and location.
- 1.2.16 [REDACTED] (licence reference number: [REDACTED]) undertook the surveys following the methodology outlined above and was assisted by [REDACTED].
- 1.2.17 Surveys on site commenced in early May 2020. Due to land access restrictions and the need for dynamic workings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the initial April 2020 survey start date was delayed.
- 1.2.18 Given the access notification periods required, surveys were undertaken on pre-arranged dates and so surveys could not always be undertaken during

optimum weather conditions. This may account for the natterjack toad counts recorded during the surveys between late May and June 2020.

g) Survey results

- i. Summarise findings in table form (if appropriate); provide clear, annotated and cross-referenced maps/plans/photographs. Raw data to be appended

1.2.19 The headline results from SWT is presented in **Appendix A**, extracted from SWT (2006 – 2018) and personal communication with SWT for the 2019 and 2020 data.

1.2.20 A summary of the Arcadis' 2020 survey is presented in **Table 3**; raw data is also presented in **Appendix A**. The raw data tables also include the exact number of adult natterjack toads encountered during the surveys as well as measurements taken.

Table 3. Summary results from Arcadis 2020 natterjack toad surveys

Pond	Estimated natterjack tadpole peak counts	Spawn strings	Estimate of female numbers	Estimate of adult population size
N1	600-800	5 in May 1 in June/July ¹	6	12 ²
N2	0	0	0	0
N3	0	0	0	0
N4	0	0	0	0

¹ The spawn string in June/July was not recorded and is based on the presence of tadpoles. Female count assumes May and June/July spawn strings are from different females as breeding within one or two months.

² 5 of the male adults that were recorded within N1 on 14th July were the same individuals recorded on 21st May.

h) Interpretation/evaluation of survey results

- i. Provide count/estimate of species numbers, status and significance of population, constraints on survey (e.g. time of year, cold weather, access problems – justify as necessary)

1.2.21 The estimate of the adult population was determined by the sighting of six adult male natterjack toads and the presence of five spawn strings recorded in May which would have been produced by five individual females and tadpoles recorded in June/July which would have been the result of another individual female producing a spawn string as these breeding accounts were within one-two months of each other.

- 1.2.22 As shown in **Table 5 Appendix B**, it appears that (subject to natural fluctuation) tadpole peak counts within N1 have increased steadily but the adult population size has remained relatively constant. The indicative adult population size for 2020 is estimated at around 12 adult natterjack toads and it is possible (though improbable) that the population within Retsoms Field has some genetic interchange with the natterjack toads present within the Minsmere Estate which was introduced initially into shallow ditches and heathland areas of the reserve in 1985. It is assessed that the population is of national significance.
- 1.2.23 It should be noted that, with the exception of years where breeding has failed (2006-2007 and 2017) the tadpole peak count observed by Arcadis in 2020 were the lowest since recording began. This has been attributed to corvid predation that was recorded this year. N1 is surrounded by stock proof fencing and the supporting posts provided perch locations. It is unclear why the impacts of corvid on tadpoles were so severe in 2020 (this factor had not been noted in previous years), but measures are being explored to prevent this for 2021 which may include netting.
- 1.2.24 Given the survey results the following site assessment status has been concluded, presented in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Site assessment status results

	Level of significance
Quantitative	Minor importance – small population
Qualitative	High – natterjack toads are recorded breeding on site
Functional	Minor importance – population completely isolated
Contextual	Major importance – the natterjack toads present within Retsoms Field are the only known population known locally

- 1.2.25 It is assessed that the population is of national significance.
- 1.2.26 Given the fifteen years of survey data available, it is considered that there are no outlying constraints to the value of the data.
- 1.2.27 Retsoms Field forms part of the Sizewell Levels and Associated Areas County Wildlife Site (CWS); however, natterjack toad is not cited as an interest feature.

- 1.3 Impact assessment in absence of mitigation. Likely impacts of the development on natterjack toads
- a) Short-term impacts: disturbance
- 1.3.1 Increases in light, noise and visual disturbance from construction activities could affect the population of natterjack toads within Retsoms Field by reducing patch quality for foraging and decreasing breeding efficiency by masking mating calls.
- 1.3.2 Vegetation and ground clearance activities prior to construction of the WMZ have the potential to cause incidental injury or mortality to natterjack toads. Note that the construction footprint of the WMZ has been specifically altered to avoid impacts to breeding habitat (i.e. N1) and hibernation sites (i.e. the rabbit warrens) within Retsoms Field.
- b) Long-term impacts: habitat loss or modification
- i. Impact on species population(s) to be taken into account at local, regional and national levels. Note that impacts can be positive or negative as this is in absence of mitigation
- 1.3.3 Development requires the temporary loss of approximately 3.55ha of suitable foraging habitat (c. 24% of the total area) within Retsoms Field. The habitat loss, though temporary, would last for up to ten years throughout construction. After this period, the field will be used to create suitable natterjack toad habitat.
- 1.3.4 The following impacts have been discounted as follows:
- Aquatic habitat would not be affected. N1 is situated approximately 45m north of the WMZ development area.
 - The WMZ has been located to avoid impacts on the few features that provide structural diversity (and thus resting and hibernation opportunities) within Retsoms Field. These include several rabbit warrens and the now-defunct N2.
 - N1 is a lined pond and the sandy nature of Retsoms Field means that impacts from construction related changes to hydrology can be discounted.
- c) Long-term impacts: fragmentation and isolation
- 1.3.5 None anticipated. The works will not separate the population from other populations or suitable foraging resources.

d) Post-development interference impacts

1.3.6 None anticipated.

e) Predicted scale of impact on species status at the site, local county and regional levels

1.3.7 Predicted low impact from temporary loss of foraging resource at a site (and thus local) level, in the absence of mitigation. No perceived impact at regional level.

References

- 1.1 Gov.UK. 2020. Natterjack toads: apply for a mitigation licence (A44). Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/natterjack-toads-apply-for-a-mitigation-licence>
- 1.2 Beebee, T. & Denton, J. 1996. Natterjack toad conservation handbook. English Nature
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- 1.4 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2006. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2005-2006. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.5 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2007. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2006-2007. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.6 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2008. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2007-2008. Ipswich: SWT.
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- 1.10 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2011. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2012. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.11 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2014. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2014. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.12 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2015. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2015. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.13 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2016. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2016. Ipswich: SWT.
- 1.14 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2017. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2017. Ipswich: SWT.

- 1.15 Suffolk Wildlife Trust. 2018. Sizewell Land Management Annual Review 2018. Ipswich: SWT.

APPENDIX A: Raw survey data

Table 5. Summary results for SWT natterjack toad surveys – Pond N1

Year	Estimated Natterjack Tadpole Peak Counts	Adults Seen	Spawn Strings	Toadlets
2005	All the tadpoles disappeared from the pond with the butyl liner			
2006	The clay lined pond was damaged and all tadpoles killed.	1		
2007		Males seen and heard	Large number	Some
2008	3,000			
2009	3,000		16	A number
2010	2,500			None known to have emerged
2011	3,000		First strings in April. Second spawning in late July	Toadlets emerged
2012	5,000		8 in April 4-6 strings in July (but no survival)	
2013	5,000	Toads seen mating		A good number
2014	6-8,000 (more likely 10,000+)		11-13 in May	200+ June/July
2015	5,000+		First strings seen in May. Second brood of strings in July	200+
2016	2,500-3,000	2 adult couplings seen	2	Minimum of 450
2017	0	Single juvenile / small adult (2.5" long)	0	
2018	15,000 (conservative estimate)	Single	8 in May 6 in June	300-500
2019	10,000 in May	Four adults in pond on 3rd May	7 in May 3 in July	Several hundreds in May

Year	Estimated Natterjack Tadpole Peak Counts	Adults Seen	Spawn Strings	Toadlets
		Torch-surveys in mid-June found adults utilising the rabbit warren burrows up to 30+ metres SW of the pond		A few hundred in July
2020	1 st June: 500 20 th July: 600	2 in amplexus (during daytime) and 5 males, 1 female (during night-time) in May, including one individual recorded within rabbit warrens alongside N1. 6 males in June, including the same individual in the rabbit warren recorded in May 3 males in July, including one individual within Retsoms field south of N1.	4 in May 1 in July	5 in June 2 in August

Table 6. Pond N1 2020 survey results

		Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:	9							
Sex/life stage:			Male	Female	Metamorphs	Tadpoles	5	
(1) Date: 21.05.2020	Air temp		6	1	0	0		
	16.2-17°C	Adult totals:	7				0	
(2) Date: 29.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	600-800		
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(3) Date: 01.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	500-700		
	14.1°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(4) Date: 08.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	400-600		
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(5) Date: 15.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	200-400		
	13.1°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(6) Date: 22.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	200	150-200		
	16.2°C	Adult totals:	0				0	Metamorphs leaving the pond were being attacked by corvids and ants.
(7) Date: 29.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	11.8°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(8) Date: 06.07.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	13.8°C	Adult totals:	0				0	
(9) Date: 14.07.2020	Air temp		5	0	0	150-200		
	14.1°C	Adult totals:	5				0	Five male adults in Pond; calling 22.45hrs onwards - all recaptures from 21st May 2020.

SIZEWELL C PROJECT – NATTERJACK TOAD
METHOD STATEMENT PART 1

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

		Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches	Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:	9				
					All animals absent from pond at dawn (except tadpoles).
Peak adult count for this pond in any one visit			7		
Comments and constraints:	Additional spawn string in July was not identified before recording of 150-200 tadpoles that month. Captured SVL: Male EcA – 71mm (recapture from 21.05.2020) Male EcB – 67mm (recapture from 21.05.2020) Male EcC – 68mm (recapture from 21.05.2020) Male EcD – 76mm (recapture from 21.05.2020) Male EcE – 82mm (recapture from 21.05.2020)				

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Table 7. Pond N2 2020 survey results

		Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:								
Sex/life stage:			Male	Female	Metamorphs	Tadpoles	0	Pond dry
(1) Date: 21.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	16.2-17°C	Adult totals:	0					
(2) Date: 29.05.2020	Air temp		0	0		0	0	Pond dry
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(3) Date: 01.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	14.1°C	Adult totals:	0				0	Pond dry
(4) Date: 08.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(5) Date: 15.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	Pond dry
	13.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(6) Date: 22.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	16.2°C	Adult totals:	0				0	Pond dry
(7) Date: 29.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	11.8°C	Adult totals:	0					
(8) Date: 06.07.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	Pond dry
	13.8°C	Adult totals:	0					
(9) Date: 14.07.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	14.1°C	Adult totals:						
Peak adult count for this pond in any one visit							0	
Comments and constraints:								

Table 8. Pond N3 2020 survey results

		Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:	9							
		Sex/life stage:	Male	Female	Metamorphs	Tadpoles	5	Common toad (<i>Bufo bufo</i>) recorded nearby.
(1) Date: 21.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0		
	16.2-17°C	Adult totals:	0					
(2) Date: 29.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(3) Date: 01.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	
	14.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(4) Date: 08.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(5) Date: 15.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	Pond water level 18cm
	13.1°C	Adult totals:	0					
(6) Date: 22.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	Pond water level 10cm
	16.2°C	Adult totals:	0					
(7) Date: 29.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0	Pond water level 8cm
	11.8°C	Adult totals:	0					

SIZEWELL C PROJECT – NATTERJACK TOAD
METHOD STATEMENT PART 1

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

			Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:		9							
(8) Date: 06.07.2020	Air temp			0	0	0	0	0	Pond water level 7cm
	13.8°C	Adult totals:		0					
(9) Date: 14.07.2020	Air temp			0	0	0	0	0	Pond water level 4cm
	14.1°C	Adult totals:							
Peak adult count for this pond in any one visit			0						
Comments and constraints:									

Table 9. Pond N4 2020 survey results

				Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:		9								
Sex/life stage:				Male	Female	Metamorphs	Tadpoles	0	Common toad recorded nearby.	
(1) Date: 21.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0				
	16.2-17°C	Adult totals:	0							
(2) Date: 29.05.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0			
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0							
(3) Date: 01.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0			
	14.1°C	Adult totals:	0							

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

SIZEWELL C PROJECT – NATTERJACK TOAD
METHOD STATEMENT PART 1

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

			Methods:	Terrestrial habitat searches, refugia search and torchlight searches				Spawn strings	Comments
No. of survey visits to this pond:		9							
(4) Date: 08.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	21.1°C	Adult totals:	0						
(5) Date: 15.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	13.1°C	Adult totals:	0						
(6) Date: 22.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	16.2°C	Adult totals:	0						
(7) Date: 29.06.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	11.8°C	Adult totals:	0						
(8) Date: 06.07.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	13.8°C	Adult totals:	0						
(9) Date: 14.07.2020	Air temp		0	0	0	0	0		
	14.1°C	Adult totals:							
Peak adult count for this pond in any one visit			0						
Comments and constraints:									

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

APPENDIX B: Figures

Figure B.2: The construction areas for the proposed SZC development site.

Figure C.4a: The location of the natterjack toad breeding ponds in Retsoms Field (OS mapping).

Figure C.4b: The location of the natterjack toad breeding ponds in Retsoms Field (satellite imagery).



NOTES

KEY

- SIZEWELL C MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE BOUNDARY
- RETSOM'S FIELD BOUNDARY
- EXISTING NATTERJACK TOAD PONDS
- WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE

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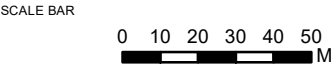


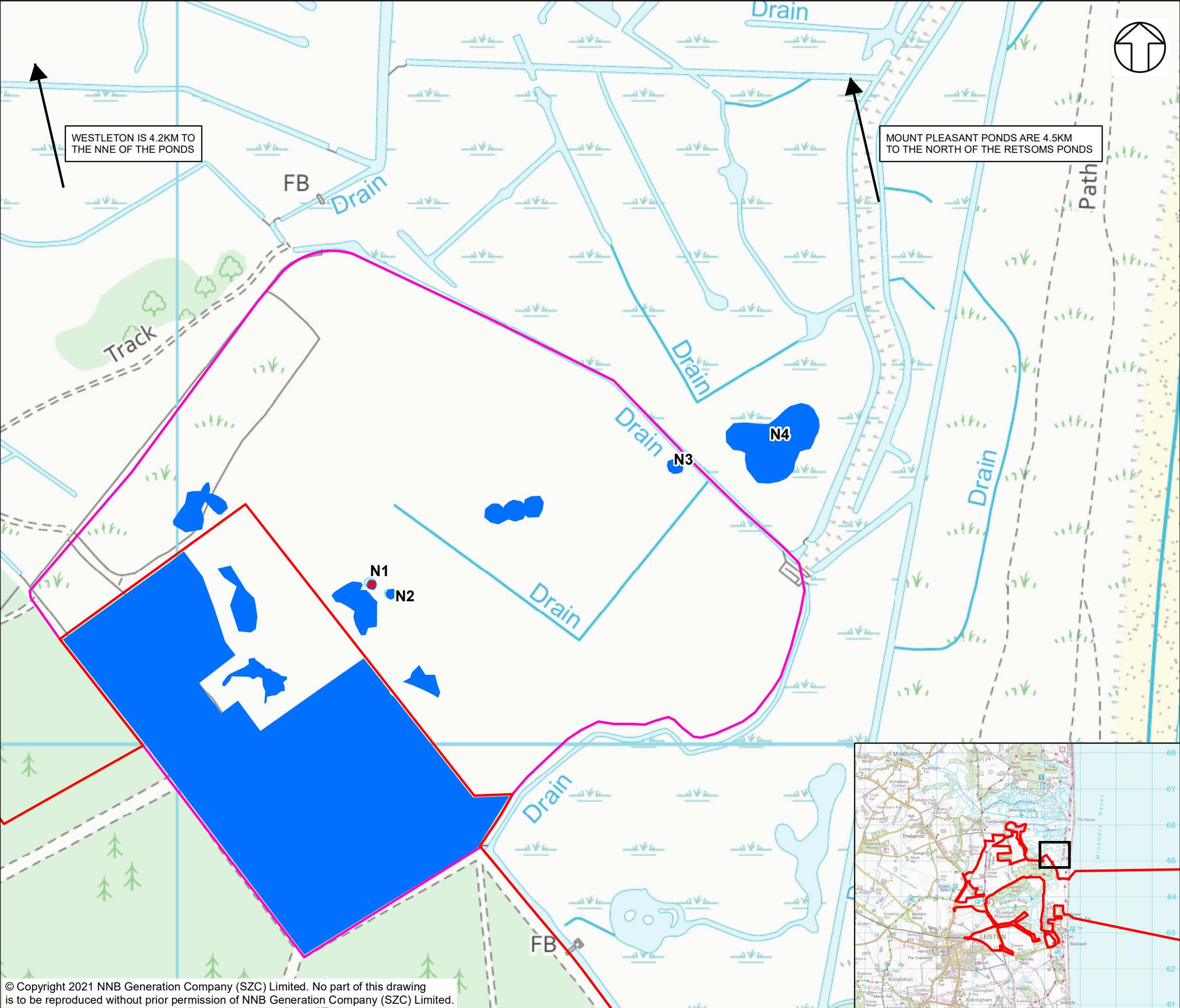
DOCUMENT:
SIZEWELL C
MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE
NATTERJACK TOAD METHOD STATEMENT
DOCUMENT 1 BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING
INFORMATION

DRAWING TITLE:
FIGURE B.2: THE CONSTRUCTION AREAS FOR
THE PROPOSED SZC DEVELOPMENT SITE

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE B.2

DATE: JULY 2021	DRAWN: R.C.	SCALE: 1:2,000 @A3
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NOTES

KEY

- SIZEWELL C MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE BOUNDARY
- RETSON'S FIELD BOUNDARY
- LOCATION OF EXISTING NATTERJACK BREEDING POND
- LOCATIONS OF EXISTING NATTERJACK POND

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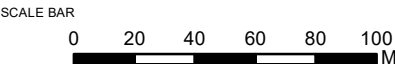


DOCUMENT:
SIZEWELL C
MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE
NATTERJACK TOAD METHOD STATEMENT
DOCUMENT 1 BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING
INFORMATION

DRAWING TITLE:
FIGURE C4C: THE LOCATION OF THE
NATTERJACK TOAD BREEDING PONDS
IN RETSON'S FIELD (OS MAPPING)

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE C4A

DATE: JULY 2021 DRAWN: R.C. SCALE: 1:2,500 @A3





NOTES

KEY

- SIZEWELL C MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE BOUNDARY
- RETSOM'S FIELD BOUNDARY
- LOCATION OF EXISTING NATTERJACK BREEDING POND
- LOCATIONS OF EXISTING NATTERJACK POND

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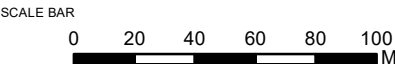


DOCUMENT:
SIZEWELL C
MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE
NATTERJACK TOAD METHOD STATEMENT
DOCUMENT 1 BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING
INFORMATION

DRAWING TITLE:
FIGURE C4B: THE LOCATION OF THE
NATTERJACK TOAD BREEDING PONDS
IN RETSOM'S FIELD (SATELLITE IMAGERY)

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE C4B

DATE: JULY 2021 DRAWN: R.C. SCALE: 1:2,500 @A3



Sizewell C Natterjack Toad Method Statement Part 2

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Figure C: Habitat Creation

Plates

Plate 1 Amphibian grid example (source: wildlife fencing)

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1. Mitigation and Compensation

- 1.1.1 This document (part 2 of a 2-part method statement) has been prepared as part of a European Protected Species licence (for natterjack toad) and to demonstrate that the proposed work would not have a harmful effect on natterjack toads.
- 1.1.2 This document takes into account updated survey results from 2020 and discussions held with Natural England's protected species team, including during a meeting held on 20th July 2020, and correspondence with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in 2021. SZC Co. and its consultant ecologists are committed to working with Natural England and other stakeholders to develop further the approaches outlined within this document to ensure a legally robust approach to mitigation for natterjack toads.
- 1.1.3 The structure of the document and the headings within it follow a defined template as prescribed in Natterjack toads: mitigation licence application form (A44).

1.1 Summary of mitigation strategy

- a) Overview of how the impacts will be addressed in order to ensure no detriment to the maintenance of the population at a favourable conservation status. To include a scaled map or plan that can be compared with the proposals on the survey results plan.
- 1.1.1 To avoid killing or injuring any natterjack toads, the area of the Water Management Zone (WMZ) will be ring fenced and a trapping and translocation exercise undertaken from within the exclusion fencing. Captured individuals will be released within a safe retained location adjacent to the breeding pond (N1). Ring fencing will remain *in situ* to prevent natterjack toads accessing the WMZ for the duration of its operation (10 years).
- 1.1.2 Construction of the WMZ will be undertaken during daylight hours and any lighting required (during construction and operation) will follow best practice to minimise disturbance and sky-glow off site and particularly towards Retsoms Field, as required under the **Sizewell C Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)**. It is unlikely that operational lighting would be required for the WMZ although this would be determined by detailed design.
- 1.1.3 The precise extent of the WMZ is to be determined by ongoing water management studies but the design will be cognisant of the locations of the rabbit warrens within the area, which are close to the breeding pond, and are used as hibernation sites by the natterjack toads. The design layout of the

WMZ will exclude the rabbit warrens and incorporate buffer zones (see **Figure B in Appendix A**).

- 1.1.4 To compensate for the temporary loss of foraging habitat, it is proposed that four new ponds are created, that refuge and overwintering opportunities and terrestrial habitats within parts of Retsoms Field are improved. A long-term terrestrial enhancement schedule is proposed which would include creation of sand banks, scrapes and heather patches. Conservation management of the vegetation within Retsoms will also be optimised to favour natterjack toads (for example to create a more open sward with patches of bare ground). Additionally and subject to agreement with the RSPB, a land bridge linking pond N3 in Retsoms field and N4 in Minsmere would be installed.

1.2 Works to be undertaken by the ecologist or suitably experienced person

- a) Capture and exclusion (if applicable)
- i. Timings, effort, methods to be employed, care of species, release sites etc. Include diagrams and photographs to show capture/exclusion apparatus if non-standard techniques are proposed. Include map to show location of capture and exclusion activities.

- 1.2.1 Amphibian exclusion fencing (as per Figure 4 of the English Nature 2001 Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (GCNMG)) will be installed around the perimeter of the working area of the WMZ within Retsoms Field to exclude and demarcate the trapping and translocation area. 'Permanent' type fencing is proposed as the fencing will remain *in situ* for c. 10 years. An amphibian proof grid will be installed at an access opening along the south of the fencing. This would allow easy access for people and machinery whilst allowing amphibians to exit each end on the outside of the exclusion fence. An example is shown in **Plate 3**.

Plate 3 Amphibian grid example (source: wildlife fencing)



- 1.2.2 The trapping and translocation area will then be compartmentalised with temporary amphibian proof fencing in order to increase capture effort. Pitfall traps will be installed on the inside of perimeter fencing and both sides of internal fencing to ensure a trapping density of 100 traps per hectare. Carpet tiles will also be placed between alternate pitfall traps (i.e. at a density of 50 per hectare) and adjacent to pond N1 to act as sheltering habitat that can be easily checked for translocation.
- 1.2.3 Fencing and traps will be installed by professional and experienced contractors using suitable machinery during the active season (spring – autumn). The ground along the fence line and access tracks will be prepared and hand searched prior to installation and the works will be undertaken under supervision by the licence holder or appointed agent.
- 1.2.4 Pitfall traps, carpet tiles and the amphibian grid will be checked during the active season following installation on a daily basis before 11am and fencing will also be walked at night by torchlight to search for natterjack toads. Any individuals encountered will be translocated to the receptor site adjacent to N1. This process will continue for a minimum of 30 consecutive days/nights and until 5 clear nights of no capture is observed. Following which, internal fencing will be removed, and development works would proceed within. The WMZ area will be subject to staged vegetation clearance after trapping is complete, as per protocol, and there will be a final destructive search during installation of the WMZ, under supervision of the licence holder or appointed agent. With the exception of the access track to the south, perimeter fencing will remain in situ for the duration of the use of WMZ (10 years). During this time, it will be maintained to ensure that it remains amphibian-proof.

- 1.2.5 Fence removal will be undertaken outwith the hibernation period and be under the supervision of the licence holder or appointed agent.
- 1.2.6 **Figure B**, included in **Appendix A**, illustrates the approximate location of perimeter fencing, temporary internal fencing, the receptor site and rabbit warrens (including 10m buffer zones). The warren locations are based on available data and may change in size and extent. Therefore, whilst works within any extension to warren buffer zones will be avoided where possible, it cannot be guaranteed.
- 1.3 Works to be undertaken by the Developer/Landowner
- a) Habitat creation
- i. *In-situ* retention of breeding sites/resting places – providing details of proposed works. Explain how the breeding sites/resting places will be retained. Any enhancements to habitat should also be detailed.
- 1.3.1 Due to the success and active management already in place at N1 it is not proposed that this pond or the adjacent defunct N2 (which may provide terrestrial opportunities) are enhanced as part of these works. Breeding and resting sites (i.e. rabbit warrens and N2) will be safeguarded from the proposed WMZ works by the installation of amphibian proof fencing.
- ii. Modification of existing breeding site/ resting places - dimension details, scale drawings of the proposals.
- 1.3.2 It is proposed that the existing breeding site is enhanced by:
- Pond N2, which is situated approx. 10m south-east of N1, was clay lined and drained in 2006 due to cracking however there is still a hollow where this pond was created. This should be re-lined in a similar manner to N1 to re-instate this waterbody which would be filled by heavy rain over the winter/early spring. Installation of netting over the waterbody, in the similar manner to N1, would reduce bird predation. This would double the available breeding habitat for the natterjack toad population in N1.
- iii. New breeding site/resting place creation – dimension details, location details, materials to be used (where applicable), aspect etc.
- 1.3.3 It is proposed that development is used as an opportunity to supplement natterjack toad conservation. This will be achieved through the following:
- A new pond aggregation (N5) will be created to comprise three sections of slightly differing profiles (N5 a, b and c). Subject to agreement with Natural England and other relevant stakeholders, the proposed pond

would be strategically placed centrally between N1 and N3 with the aim of providing a steppingstone to aid with colonisation of N3 and N4.

- The design consists of a pond aggregation (45m in length) sculpted into three round sections approximately 7-10m in diameter (the diameter recommended for ponds on heathlands in the natterjack toad conservation handbook) with a maximum depth of 50-70cm but allowing for many shallow areas. Each section would consist of slightly different profiles to provide varying pond topography. These sections would be joined by two channels approximately 3m in width. This would result in a waterbody complex of approximately 300m². The pond would be filled by heavy rain over the winter/early spring period but may need to be occasionally supplemented by imported water supply, as is the case for N1.
- Retsoms field gradually slopes downward towards pond N3 and pond N5 would be aligned to the change in gradient, running from west to east. The sections of the pond would follow the gradient change with the section to the west being slightly higher than the middle, which would be slightly higher than the section on the east. Water levels would be managed with the installation of three sluices. These would manage water levels in each section allowing variation in water depth across the whole waterbody and also allow the drainage of the waterbody into a soakaway to the east. This would allow the pond to dry out following the breeding season from mid to late summer and reduce the establishment of predatory species, such as aquatic invertebrates and waterfowl. The ponds would be netted, as N1, and sluices would be fitted with bird spikes to eliminate the chance of corvids perching on the structures.
- The N5 pond aggregation, along with the reinstatement of pond N2 would result in four new waterbodies within Retsoms field.
- N5 would be lined with a black butyl or bentonite liner, which would create similar thermal conditions to pond N1. The west (a) and middle (b) section of pond N5 should be left with the liner exposed, closely mimicking N1 however the liner at the east (c) section should be covered in sediment, which is more similar to N3 and N4. This should provide an important transition in conditions once the natterjack toad population expands into pond N5.
- A berm would be created to buffer the pond for approximately 10m and consist of a 1:10 slope, up to ground level or to the base of the proposed sand banks. This should be landscaped after the pond liner gets installed and would initially be bare sediment however management maybe needed to maintain this bare ground resource.

- Subject to agreement with Natural England and other relevant stakeholders, a series of mound features comprising sand and stone would be created adjacent to N5 that will, in the short term, increase terrestrial opportunities (resting and overwintering) and increase connectivity between N1 and N3/N4. In the long term, these features should aid rabbit warren excavation and further increase overwintering opportunities.
- Two vertical sand banks are proposed (totalling approximately 160m) which run along the north and south edges of the berm. At the eastern extent, the sand banks veer away from the pond to the north and south, cut into the contours of the field gradient. These vertical sand banks would be approximately 50cm high and would provide burrowing opportunities for natterjack toads with patches of uncompacted sediment being supplied by bank erosion. They would also provide attractive habitat for rabbits to dig warrens, provisioning further sheltering and hibernating opportunities for natterjack toads. The vertical nature of these banks mean vegetation colonisation would be limited and could be relatively easily scraped off through management practices.
- The creation of the ponds, berms and sand banks will generate excavated material. This material will be used to install large sand /earth piles in a corridor from N1 to N3 and in the vicinity of N5, adjacent to or outside of the berm boundary or on top of the sand banks. These would be designed with slopes of approximately 1:3 and would be an initial resource for foraging and burrowing natterjack toads. These would be ephemeral and would vegetate over and eventually would provide raised lawns of short turf for rabbits and sheep to graze, which would keep some bare ground resource.
- In addition, it is intended to create some surface fixed refugia, as the originally proposed stone wall or stone linear feature is not considered appropriate or in keeping with the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) setting, the distribution of a small number of concrete flag stones scattered on the surface of the bare sand is proposed. These would also not be as visually intrusive as a dry-stone wall arrangement and would provide suitable conditions to be exploited by the local natterjack toad population.
- There will be terrestrial habitat improvements within Retsoms Field especially in the proposed natterjack corridor running north-east from N1. This will focus on increasing heather patch creation and the diversity of the grassland, opening up the vegetation in places and creating areas of bare ground, whilst minimising risks to the existing vulnerable population. Additional enclosure fencing is likely to be required locally within the field to exclude sheep from the establishing heather patches.

- Subject to agreement with the RSPB, a land bridge between N3 in Retsoms field and N4 in Minsmere would be installed.
- 1.3.4 **Figure C** in **Appendix A** illustrates the approximate location of these features.
- 1.3.5 Habitat creation will begin in winter 2021 (indicative timing subject to current design) and will be undertaken under supervision of the licence holder or appointed agent and in accordance with this licence.
- iv. Scaled maps/plans to show proposals/mitigation outlined above in relation to existing and proposed habitat features.
- 1.3.6 Please see **Figures B** and **C** in **Appendix A**.
- 1.4 **Post-development site safeguard**
- a) **Habitat/site management and maintenance**
- i. To include details of what will be done in terms of habitat management and site maintenance required to ensure long-term security of affected population. Include details of site/structure ownership, and who will be responsible for undertaking the work and who is responsible for funding.
- 1.4.1 It is proposed that the management regime of the remainder of Retsoms Field (i.e. outside of the WMZ construction area) continues as present (i.e. sheep grazing with at least the equivalent animals per hectare as current five year mean average). In addition to sheep grazing, the continued presence of rabbit grazing will keep bare ground patches, particularly on the proposed spoil mounds. N5 will be drained down annually in late summer and allowed to fill naturally over winter (as practiced with N1).
- 1.4.2 Regular checks, management and maintenance will be undertaken to check and repair the amphibian fencing and manage vegetation alongside the fencing. Assurance checks will also be undertaken to ensure quality of work. Stock proof fencing will be installed in conjunction with the amphibian fencing to prevent grazing animals entering the WMZ.
- 1.4.3 Ponds should hold at least 80% of their full capacity of water during the active season and remedial measures, using imported water, as is currently practiced for N1, will be implemented should this drop for more than 2 weeks. The pond liner and sluices should be checked after the active season once the ponds have been drained and any repairs should be undertaken before the next active season. Lined ponds have finite lifespan therefore condition of all ponds should be monitored to influence timing of replacement waterbodies, when needed.

- 1.4.4 After c. 10 years the WMZ would be removed. This section of Retsoms Field will be used to create further suitable natterjack toad breeding or foraging habitat, which will improve local opportunities for natterjack toads.
- 1.4.5 Sizewell C Co. is responsible for funding and will be responsible for undertaking the work.
- b) Population monitoring
- i. To include details of monitoring effort and timing.
- 1.4.6 N5 will be monitored annually, as per appropriate guidance, along with N1, N2 and N3 (it is also assumed that the RSPB will continue to monitor N4; however, monitoring of this pond is not proposed as part of this licence) for the duration of WMZ operation (c. 10 years). Thereafter, monitoring will continue biennially for 6 years (i.e. 3 years of surveys).
- c) Mechanism for ensuring delivery of post-development works
- i. e.g. Section 106 Agreement, to include details of who will undertake the population monitoring, habitat management and site maintenance work and reporting details, other covenants or contractual agreements.
- 1.4.7 Mitigation works as defined above to be secured via way of the Protected Species Licence.
- 1.4.8 Removal of the water management zone, habitat creation, site maintenance and monitoring to be secured by requirement within the Development Consent Order (DCO).
- 1.5 Land ownership
- 1.5.1 Mitigation site(s) (area(s) where any works will be done to offset development impacts, including development plot if applicable). If the mitigation site is not owned by the applicant, you must have consent from the relevant land owner(s). You must have also secured details of how any measures to maintain the population in the long term will be achieved (e.g. a legal agreement).
- a) Mitigation site ownership
- i. Please provide details of who owns the land where mitigation is proposed.
- 1.5.2 SZC Co. / the applicant.

b) E.2 Declaration Statement(s)

1.5.3 Please include the following declarations within your method statement and highlight the appropriate answer – applications that do not include these 3 declarations will result in a ‘further information request’ response.

I confirm that relevant landowner consent/s has/have been granted to accept the European protected species onto land outside the applicant's ownership	Not applicable
I confirm that landownership consent/s has/have been granted to allow the creation of the proposed habitat compensation on land outside the applicant's ownership	Not applicable
I confirm that consent/s has/have been granted by the relevant landowner/s for monitoring and maintenance purposes on land outside the applicant's ownership	Not applicable

1.5.4 Unsecured consents statement: If you have been unable to secure consents for any of the three declarations please explain why and detail any plans you have in place to obtain the consent(s) or provide details of any right(s) or agreement(s) that will enable the lawful implementation of the proposed mitigation, compensation and monitoring. Important Note: Failure to provide the appropriate landowner consents means that the method statement is unlikely to meet the requirements for the FCS test to be met. It is therefore in your interest to ensure that the appropriate consents have been secured before applying for a licence.

1.6 Timetable of works

a) A diagram to include timings of all capture, exclusion, mitigation and construction works.

Pre, mid and post-development (other than monitoring, management and maintenance)		
Activity	Timing	Comments
Receptor site pond creation	Winter 2021/22 (pre-construction)	N5 to be created under non licensed method statement in winter (December - February) 2021/2022 which would include the creation of the berm and installation of sluices.
Receptor site pond enhancement or restoration	TBC	N2 to be created under non licensed method statement in winter (December - February) 2021/2022
Receptor site terrestrial habitat works - general e.g. reseeding, hedge planting	Winter 2021/22 (pre-construction)	Small, dispersed mound features comprising sand and stone under a non-licensed method statement in winter 2021/2022 using spoil from N5 pond and berm creation.

Pre, mid and post-development (other than monitoring, management and maintenance)		
Activity	Timing	Comments
		Further enhancements, such as sand banks, scrapes and heather patches could be installed in the long term.
Receptor site terrestrial habitat works - features e.g. hibernacula, refuges	Winter 2021/22 (pre-construction)	Sand bank to be created alongside digging of berm and mound creation. Concrete slabs to be installed in discrete locations around newly created habitats.
Construction of permanent fences/walls	TBC	'Permanent' amphibian proof parameter/ring fencing, installed as part of translocation, to remain in situ for lifecycle of water management zone. External stock fencing installed in conjunction of this will stop grazing animals entering water management zone.
Construction of underpass/tunnel/culvert (and installation of 'guide' fencing)	N/A	
Amphibian fence installation (to include drift or ring fencing if applicable – specify which)	TBC	'Permanent' amphibian proof perimeter fencing, installed as part of translocation, to remain in situ for lifecycle of water management zone. Internal 'drift' fencing, to compartmentalise trapping area, to be removed on completion of trapping exercise.
Amphibian capture (pitfall trapping etc - outside hibernation/dormancy periods only)	Year 1 of construction/early works.	30-day trapping period with 5 clear consecutive trapping nights to commence on installation of amphibian proof fencing year 1 of construction (spring (March-May)/summer (June - August)/ autumn (September - November)).
Pond draining and pond destruction (please indicate when each will occur)	N/A	
Hand searches	Year 1 of construction/early works.	Hand searched (as/if required) to be carried out by the named ecologist or accredited agent prior to fence installation and during above trapping period.
Destructive searches (following completion of all other capture efforts)	Year 1 of construction/early works.	If required, on completion of the 30 day trapping period (with 5 clear consecutive trapping nights).
Construction period (start and end dates)	TBC	Construction of water management zone will not commence until completion of 30 day trapping period.

Pre, mid and post-development (other than monitoring, management and maintenance)		
Activity	Timing	Comments
Site checks & maintenance during construction	Throughout construction phase (9-12 years)	Weekly (during March to September) or monthly (during October to February) visits to be undertaken by named ecologist or accredited agent throughout construction period, to check the amphibian fence is intact.
Drift fence removal (not to be undertaken during hibernation/dormancy periods)	TBC	To be removed upon completion of 3 days trapping (with 5 clear consecutive trapping nights), alongside destructive search, during active period.
Amphibian fence removal (not to be undertaken during hibernation/dormancy periods)	TBC	Perimeter fencing to be removed upon decommission of water management zone (estimated year 9-12 of construction phase)
Ring fence removal (not to be undertaken during the hibernation/dormancy periods)	N/A	
Habitat reinstatement (for temporary impact schemes only)	TBC	Favourable natterjack toad habitat to be created in sections of Retsom's Field affected by works upon decommission of water management zone (estimated year 9-12 of construction phase)
Post construction mitigation/compensation on development site or other (provide details)	N/A	

Appendix A: Figures



NOTES

KEY

- SIZEWELL C MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE BOUNDARY
- RETSOM'S FIELD BOUNDARY
- PARAMETER FENCE
- DRIFT FENCE
- EXISTING NATTERJACK TOAD PONDS
- APPROXIMATE EXTENT OF RABBIT WARREN BOUNDARY
- 10 METER BUFFER

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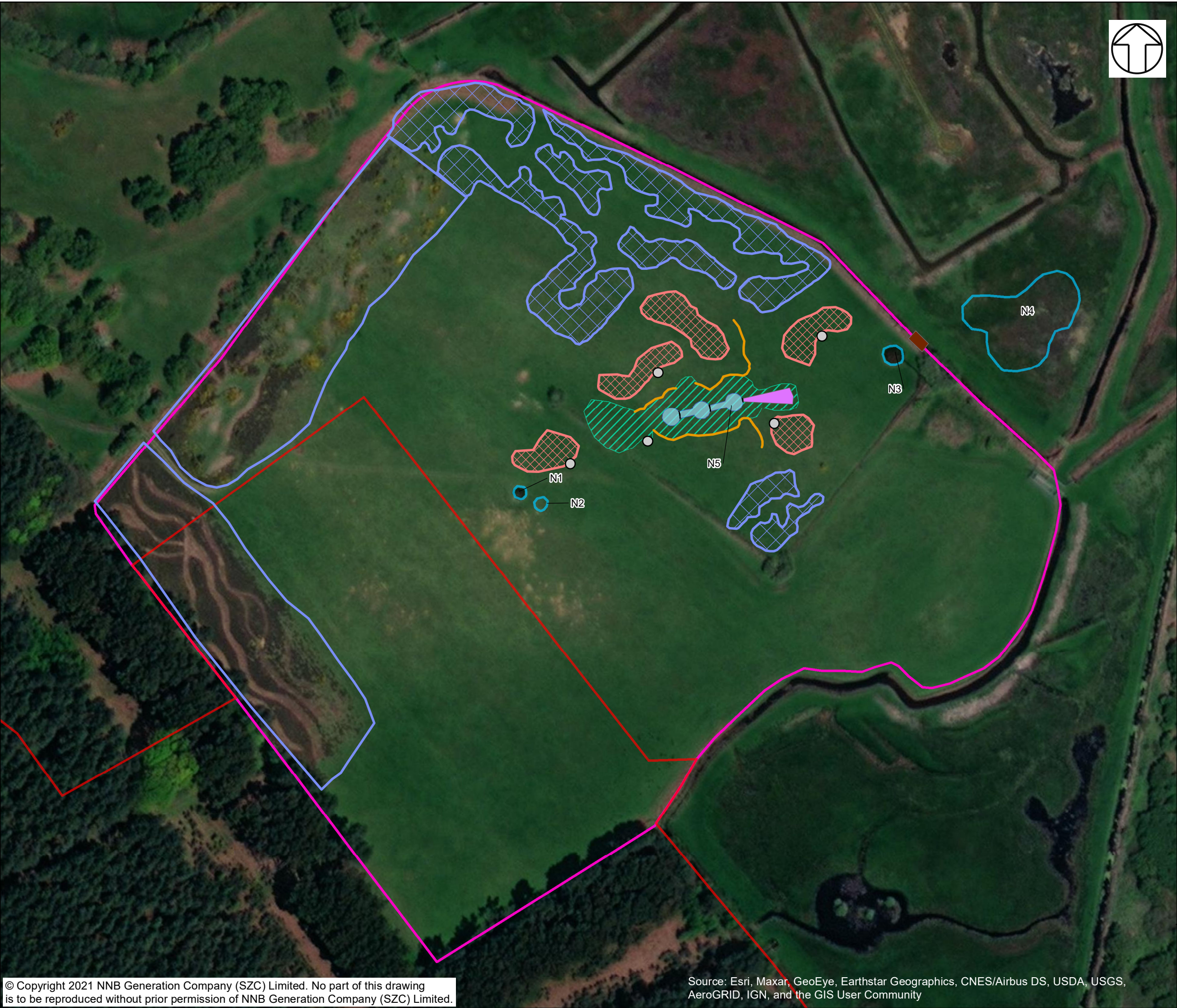
DOCUMENT:
SIZEWELL C
MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE
NATTERJACK TOAD METHOD STATEMENT
DOCUMENT 2 DELIVERY INFORMATION

DRAWING TITLE:
FIGURE B: MITIGATION (SATELLITE MAPPING)

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE B

DATE: JAN 2020 DRAWN: P.N. SCALE: 1:2,000 @A3

SCALE BAR
0 10 20 30 40 50
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NOTES
THE SATELLITE IMAGERY MAPPING USED IS BEFORE THE N4 POND/SCRAPE COMPLEX WAS CREATED IN 2018.

- KEY**
- SIZEWELL C MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE BOUNDARY
 - RETSOM'S FIELD BOUNDARY
 - EXISTING NATTERJACK TOAD PONDS
 - N5 - NEW POND/SCRAPE (300M2)
 - SLUICE
 - SOAKAWAY
 - BERM
 - SANDBANKS
 - SMALL MOUND OF SURPLUS MATERIAL
 - EXISTING HEATHLAND/GRASSLAND MOSAIC
 - PROPOSED HEATHLAND/GRASSLAND MOSAIC
 - PROPOSED LAND BRIDGE
 - CONCRETE FLAG STONE

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DOCUMENT:
SIZEWELL C
MAIN DEVELOPMENT SITE
NATTERJACK TOAD METHOD STATEMENT
DOCUMENT 2 DELIVERY INFORMATION

DRAWING TITLE:
FIGURE C: HABITAT CREATION
(SATELLITE MAPPING)

DRAWING NO:
FIGURE C

DATE: JULY 2021 **DRAWN:** R.C. **SCALE:** 1:2,000 @A3

