



Fosse Green Energy

EN010154

6.3 Environmental Statement Appendices

Appendix 8-H: Non-breeding birds

VOLUME

6

Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

Regulation 5(2)(a)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as
amended)

18 July 2025

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulation 2009 (as amended)

Fosse Green Energy Development Consent Order 202[]

6.3 Environmental Statement Appendices

Appendix 8-H: Non-breeding birds

Regulation Reference	Regulation 5(2)(a)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	EN010154
Application Document Reference	EN010154/APP/6.3
Author	Fosse Green Energy Limited

Version	Date	Issue Purpose
Rev 1	18 July 2025	DCO Submission
Rev 2	02 September 2025	Procedural Decision

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Aims and Objectives	1
2.	Relevant Legislation, Policy and Guidance	2
2.1	Legislation	2
2.2	Species of Principal Importance	2
2.3	Local Priority Species	3
2.4	Birds of Conservation Concern	4
3.	Methods	5
3.1	Characterising the Baseline	5
3.2	Desk Study	6
3.3	Field Survey	7
3.4	Assessment of Biodiversity Importance	8
3.5	Importance of the non-breeding bird population	8
3.6	Assumptions and Limitations	9
4.	Results	10
4.1	Desk Study	10
4.2	Field Survey	10
5.	Evaluation	19
5.2	Specially Protected Species	19
5.3	Species of Conservation Importance	20
5.4	Species Abundance	21
5.5	Species Diversity	22
5.6	Species Distribution	22
6.	Conclusions	23
7.	References	24
	Annex A Survey Metadata	26
	Annex B Figures	27

Tables

Table 1: Bird species listed on the LBAP	3
Table 2: Summed count data and conservation designation of non-breeding bird species recorded utilising the Survey Area (the order of birds is according to the British List (10th edition))	11

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This report forms a technical appendix to the Environmental Statement (ES), specifically to accompany **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1]. This report provides information on the presence and distribution of non-breeding birds, relevant to the Fosse Green Energy project, hereafter referred to as the Proposed Development, including the results of surveys, undertaken within (and up to 200m from) the DCO Site Boundary (see **Section 3.1**).
- 1.1.2 Further information on the Proposed Development is included within **Chapter 3: The Proposed Development** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].

1.2 Aims and Objectives

- 1.2.1 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**).
- 1.2.2 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
 - b. Undertake surveys of non-breeding birds to confirm the presence, assemblage and distribution of non-breeding bird species within the Survey Area (see **Section 3.1**).
- 1.2.3 Combined, this is being used to:
- a. Determine the biodiversity importance of the DCO Site for non-breeding birds; and
 - b. The potential impacts of the Proposed Development on non-breeding birds and any required mitigation (as presented in **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1]).

2. Relevant Legislation, Policy and Guidance

2.1 Legislation

Wildlife and Countryside Act

- 2.1.1 The legislative provisions for the protection of all wild birds in the United Kingdom (UK) are contained primarily in Sections 1-7 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA) (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 but does not include poultry or (except in relation to the power to grant licences and prohibition on certain methods of killing) any game bird.
- 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 through Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (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 their habitat.
- 2.1.4 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (Ref 3) transpose into English law elements of the Birds Directive (Ref 2), and make it clear that the provisions for the designation and protection of European sites (such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are maintained. European sites are a network of core breeding and resting sites that are protected for rare and threatened species and species listed in Annex 1 (Ref 2) 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 distribution.

2.2 Species of Principal Importance

- 2.2.1 In England, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC) (Ref 5) requires the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and

Rural Affairs to publish and maintain a list of habitats and species that are of 'principal importance' for the purpose of conserving biodiversity and are regarded as conservation priorities under the UK Biodiversity Framework 2024 (Ref 6), which supersedes the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) (Ref 7). The UKBAP was launched in 1994 and established a framework and criteria for identifying species (and habitat types) of conservation concern.

- 2.2.2 There are 49 bird species listed as being Species of Principal Importance (SPI) for conservation in England as required by section 41 of NERC (Ref 5). These species are of material consideration during the planning process and are used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies (including local and regional authorities) in implementing their duty under section 40 of NERC.

2.3 Local Priority Species

- 2.3.1 The Proposed Development is located within the county of Lincolnshire. Formerly, the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) (3rd edition) (LBAP) (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 (LNRSs) (Ref 10), 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 LBAP, of which there are 17 priority bird species (see **Table 1**).

Table 1: Bird species listed on the LBAP

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

English (Vernacular) Name	Scientific Name
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>

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

- The loss of permanent and relatively species-rich grassland;
- Increased chemical usage including fertilisers, pesticides and use of broad spectrum and persistent animal treatments;
- Uniformity within crops, offering fewer opportunities for birds to feed;
- The decline of mixed farming;
- Loss of hedgerow trees through old age and removal for safety and other reasons;
- Hedgerow removal and poor management of remaining hedges; and
- A reduction in crop mosaic.

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. The BoCC list was further updated by BoCC 5a (Ref 12), which updates the assessment for seabirds. Collectively within this report, these are referred to as BoCC species.

2.4.3 The criteria for birds being included in the BoCC lists, relevant to the non-breeding season, are as follows:

Red List

- 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 13);

- 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 13));
- 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 which the Proposed Development will be located 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 (Zoi) – the area over which non-breeding birds may be affected by the Proposed Development which, using the criteria below and proportionate to the Proposed Development's impacts, is up to 200m from the DCO Site Boundary (dependent on the sensitivity of the species). Through review of likely impacts of the Proposed Development and results of the desk study, the scope of field surveys was then defined. The Zoi was based on the following criteria, proportionate to the Proposed Development's potential to impact on non-breeding birds:
 - i. the nature of the project (a solar farm, and associated infrastructure), associated project activities, and the potential for effects at all development stages (construction, operational (including maintenance) and decommissioning);
 - ii. the nature of the current land use (predominantly arable) and habitats in the vicinity (majority being arable), their connectivity (e.g. through hedgerows, ditches or grassland margins), and how they may be used by non-breeding birds;
 - iii. the presence and assemblages of non-breeding birds which may be in the area, identified during the desk study and based on the location of the Proposed Development; and
 - iv. the different habits, behaviours and preferences of non-breeding bird species that could be affected, and how these vary both spatially and seasonally.
 - c. Survey Area – the area within which survey work was undertaken. The Survey Area to record the non-breeding bird assemblage included all habitats within the DCO Site Boundary and a survey zone of a minimum of 50m beyond the DCO Site Boundary. 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 DCO Site Boundary.
- 3.1.2 Whilst standardised survey zones for assessing the impacts of development on bird populations do not exist, the Survey Area described above provides information on non-breeding birds both within the DCO Site Boundary and contiguous areas adjacent to the DCO Site Boundary, where birds may potentially be adversely affected. Therefore, these are sufficient to determine the likely impacts of the Proposed Development on non-breeding bird species occurring or likely to occur within the vicinity of the DCO Site.

3.2 Desk Study

- 3.2.1 A desk study was undertaken as part of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) in 2024 and records of protected and notable bird species within a 2km radius of the DCO Site were obtained through Greater Lincolnshire Nature

Partnership (GLNP). 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.

3.3 Field Survey

- 3.3.1 A series of walkover surveys were undertaken between November 2023 and March 2024, based on a transect methodology as detailed in Gilbert, et al. (1998) (Ref 14) and Bibby, et al. (2000) (Ref 15). The method is similar to that used in the breeding bird surveys (as presented in **Appendix 8-G: Breeding birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3]) as birds encountered visually or by sound, either within the Survey Area or flying over the Survey Area, were recorded. The survey method allowed all species to be recorded, including waders, wildfowl and SPI.
- 3.3.2 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, unless these had tramlines, 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.
- 3.3.3 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.
- 3.3.4 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.
- 3.3.5 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.
- 3.3.6 Surveys for non-breeding birds within the DCO Site Boundary were undertaken during the wintering period between November 2023 and March 2024. Owing to the size of the DCO Site, each survey was undertaken over a period of two–three days. Survey Metadata is presented in **Annex A [EN010154/APP/6.3]** of this report.

3.4 Assessment of Biodiversity Importance

- 3.4.1 The biodiversity importance of the Survey Area for non-breeding birds was assessed 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. SPI in the UK (Ref 5) or Lincolnshire (see **Table 1**); or
 - c. Species included in the BoCC Red and Amber Lists (Ref 11, Ref 12).

Species Abundance

- 3.4.2 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 DCO Site 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 non-breeding birds are published in a paper: 'Population estimates of birds in Great Britain and the United Kingdom' (Ref 16). The BTO Bird Atlas 2007–2011 (Ref 17) was also reviewed for species information on a national level.
- 3.4.3 County-level estimates on the non-breeding bird populations of the majority of species in Lincolnshire were obtained from online resources and county avifauna publications, 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

- 3.4.4 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.
- 3.4.5 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).
- 3.4.6 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 DCO Site Boundary, e.g. farmland passerines, with reference to GLNP 'Local Wildlife Site Guidelines for Greater Lincolnshire' (Ref 18).

3.5 Importance of the non-breeding bird population

- 3.5.1 An essential prerequisite step to allow ecological impact assessment of the Proposed Development, as presented in **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1] is an evaluation of the relative

biodiversity importance of the DCO Site for non-breeding birds. This is necessary to set the terms of reference for the subsequent ecological impact assessment (as presented in **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1]).

- 3.5.2 The method of evaluation that was utilised has been developed with reference to the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines (Ref 19). 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 non-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 DCO Site Boundary, which in turn resulted in minor modifications to the Survey Area used during the course of the surveys for non-breeding birds. The survey zone of minimum 50m around the DCO Site Boundary, forming part of the Survey Area was such that it allowed for minor modifications to the Proposed Development without reducing efficacy of the survey. Whilst it is acknowledged that individuals of some species may have been missed, due to small areas of the DCO Site not being surveyed (<1%), any modifications to the Proposed Development are not considered to have significantly altered the conclusions drawn within this appendix. Sufficient representatives of all habitat types have been covered within the entirety of the optimal survey period for non-breeding birds, allowing for a comprehensive assessment of bird species and assemblages present.
- 3.6.2 No surveys for non-breeding birds were undertaken in October 2023 and therefore, to ensure six visits were undertaken within the non-breeding bird period, two surveys were undertaken in January 2024 (one in the middle of the month and another survey at the end of the month). This is not considered to be a limitation or to have affected the efficacy of the surveys as the survey was still within the core non-breeding bird period and representative of species populations using the DCO Site.
- 3.6.3 Therefore, sufficient information has been gathered during the assessment to provide a representative sample of the non-breeding bird population present within the DCO Site Boundary.

4. Results

4.1 Desk Study

- 4.1.1 The data search, undertaken through GLNP, returned records of 50 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 50 species recorded during the desk study is included in **Appendix 8-G, Annex A (Confidential): Breeding Birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3] as the list contains details of specially protected bird species.
- 4.1.2 Of the 50 bird species (some of which are on more than one list):
- 20 are specially protected species that are listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (Ref 2);
 - 6 are SPI in the UK (Ref 5);
 - 10 species are included in the BoCC Red List (Ref 11, Ref 12);
 - 17 species are included in the BoCC Amber List (Ref 11, Ref 12); and
 - No species are listed as LBAP species in Lincolnshire (see **Table 1**).

4.2 Field Survey

- 4.2.1 Eighty-four species were recorded during surveys of non-breeding birds. A summary of the species, count data and conservation designations of the 84 non-breeding bird species recorded is provided in **Table 2**.
- 4.2.2 For species which are widespread throughout the Survey Area (e.g., Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*), are common within the county 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 **Section 2** of this appendix), the count of individuals of these species has not been calculated and these are referred to in **Table 2** as being present (P).
- 4.2.3 From the non-breeding assemblage of 84 species, the following were recorded during field surveys (some of which are on more than one list):
- 10 specially protected species that are listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (Ref 2);
 - 16 species are listed as a SPI in the UK (Ref 5);
 - 26 species are included on the BoCC Red List (Ref 11, Ref 12);
 - 31 species are included on the BoCC Amber List (Ref 11, Ref 12); and
 - 11 species are listed as LBAP species in Lincolnshire (see **Table 1**).



Table 2: Summed count data and conservation designation of non-breeding bird species recorded utilising the Survey Area (the order of birds is according to the British List (10th edition))

Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	-	3	-	14	-	-	-	-
Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Annex 1, SPI, BoCC Red	5	-	-	-	-	-	A small group of five birds was recorded flying over the Survey Area, to the south east of the Principal Site in November 2023.
Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Annex 1, BoCC Amber	-	-	43	36	-	-	Up to 43 birds recorded on flooded fields east of the River Brant, but outside of the DCO Site Boundary.
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	BoCC Amber	347	-	2	-	-	6	Naturalised resident population present in wider area, recorded flying over.
Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	BoCC Amber	85	-	175	1	-	-	Recorded flying over the Survey Area, with single birds recorded in January near the River Brant.
Egyptian Goose <i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	-	-	23	15	4	-	2	-
Gadwall <i>Mareca strepera</i>	BoCC Amber	2	-	-	-	-	-	Recorded close to water bodies.
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	BoCC Amber	1	1	-	3	-	-	Recorded close to water bodies.
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	BoCC Amber	-	-	-	11	15	34	Recorded close to water bodies.
Goosander <i>Mergus merganser</i>	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Red-legged Partridge <i>Alectoris rufa</i>	-	37	30	26	-	38	7	-
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	27	35	36	33	28	27	Coveys (groups) recorded across the Survey Area.
Pheasant <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Annex 1	-	-	-	3	-	-	Recorded close to water bodies and wet ditches on a single occasion in January 2024.
Great White Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	Annex 1, BoCC Amber	-	1	1	-	-	-	Recorded close to the River Brant and associated wet ditches.
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	-	2	1	5	4	6	3	-
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	Annex 1	-	1	-	-	-	1	Single birds recorded flying over the Survey Area.
Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Annex 1, BoCC Amber	-	-	-	1	-	-	Single bird recorded on a single occasion flying over the Survey Area.
Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	BoCC Amber	1	2	2	2	1	2	Regularly recorded hunting over the DCO Site Boundary.
Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>	-	8	16	19	19	10	10	-



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	BoCC Amber	1	1	-	1	-	1	Associated with watercourses.
Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-
Common Crane <i>Grus grus</i>	Annex 1	2	-	-	-	-	-	Recorded flying over the Principal Site in November 2023.
Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Annex 1, BoCC Amber	-	-	-	-	1	-	Recorded flying over the Principal Site in February 2024.
Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Annex 1	6	42	28	1	-	1	Small numbers recorded across the Principal Site.
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	48	60	-	6	200	28	Small numbers recorded across the Survey Area, predominantly in the north of the DCO Site.
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	BoCC Red	2	-	-	-	-	-	Recorded flying over the Principal Site in November 2023.
Green Sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	SPI, BoCC Amber	3	-	-	-	1	1	Associated with wet ditches and watercourses.
Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	BoCC Red	-	1	1	1	3	-	Small numbers recorded near woodland and field margins.
Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	BoCC Amber, LBAP	1	2	6	2	-	34	Small numbers recorded foraging in arable fields.
Black-headed <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Gull BoCC Amber	64	470	24	141	48	283	Associated with fields and wetland areas.



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>	BoCC Red	11	11	60	74	6	6	Associated with fields and wetland areas.
Great Black-backed Gull <i>Larus marinus</i>	BoCC Red	-	-	12	-	-	-	Associated with fields and wetland areas.
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	SPI, BoCC Red	31	3	30	3	105	-	Associated with fields and wetland areas.
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	BoCC Amber	201	-	2	-	4	2	Passage birds in November 2023, mostly recorded flying over and with 2-4 birds seen sporadically.
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	BoCC Amber	23	62	85	95	6	39	Flocks of birds foraging in arable fields across the DCO Site.
Wood Pigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	BoCC Amber	536	193	208	673	354	253	Flocks of birds foraging in arable fields across the DCO Site.
Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>	-	2	1	1	3	-	6	Associated with mature trees
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	-	3	-	4	2	8	5	-
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	BoCC Amber	1	6	14	9	10	5	Single birds recorded across the Survey Area, swelled by passage and over-



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
								wintering birds in January and February 2024.
Peregrine <i>peregrinus</i>	<i>Falco</i> Annex 1	-	-	-	1	-	-	Single bird recorded flying over in January 2024.
Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	-	13	1	6	3	12	4	-
Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Jackdaw <i>monedula</i>	<i>Coloeus</i> -	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Rook <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	BoCC Amber	719	417	741	575	100	49	Present throughout, with flocks foraging in arable farmland and utilising trees for resting.
Carrion Crow <i>corone</i>	<i>Corvus</i> -	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>	-	2	-	4	-	2	3	-
Coal Tit <i>Periparus ater</i>	-	-	-	2	7	2	2	-
Blue Tit <i>caeruleus</i>	<i>Cyanistes</i> -	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Marsh Tit <i>palustris</i>	<i>Poecile</i> BoCC Red	-	-	-	-	1	-	Single bird recorded in scrub in the Principal Site.
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	68	37	55	81	107	141	Associated with arable farmland across the DCO Site.



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	-	26	36	38	12	23	41	-
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-
Nuthatch <i>Sitta europea</i>	-	1	1	1	2	1	2	-
Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	BoCC Amber	29	25	25	2917	37	63	Associated with scrub and hedgerows across the DCO Site.
Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	Associated with trees, scrub and hedgerows.
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	547	951	1,687	1,392	1,120	385	Associated with most habitat types and numbers swelled by migratory overwintering birds in January and February 2024.
Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>	-	45	114	134	119	96	91	-
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	BoCC Red	622	886	878	627	438	1,288	Associated with scrub and hedgerows bearing fruit.
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	BoCC Amber	38	65	155	375	139	73	Associated with scrub and hedgerows bearing fruit.
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	SPI, BoCC Amber	17	27	29	18	22	16	Associated with scrub and hedgerows across the DCO Site.
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	BoCC Red	1	3	1	1	22	1	Unusually large increase of 22 birds in February 2024 are likely to have been on passage.



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	-	1	-	-	2	5	-	-
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	SPI, BoCC Red	-	-	-	-	25	6	Associated with scrub, hedgerows near residential properties and agricultural buildings.
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	-	-	7	-	-	-	Small group associated with hedgerows in the southern end of the Cable Corridor.
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	SPI, BoCC Amber	27	30	48	36	35	60	Associated with scrub and hedgerows.
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	BoCC Amber	1	3	1	1	-	1	Associated with wetland areas.
Pied Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	-	13	55	20	31	25	19	-
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	BoCC Amber	62	203	225	32	35	93	Groups recorded feeding within grassland and arable fields, numbers swelled by passage birds overhead.
Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-



Species (English Name) and Scientific Name	(English Scientific Name)	Conservation Designation (where applicable)	Visit 1 (Nov 2023)	Visit 2 (Dec 2023)	Visit 3 (Jan 2024)	Visit 4 (Jan 2024)	Visit 5 (Feb 2024)	Visit 6 (Mar 2024)	Supporting Notes
Bullfinch <i>pyrrhula</i>	<i>Pyrrhula</i>	SPI, BoCC Amber, LBAP	4	3	2	4	3	2	Associated with scrub and hedgerows.
Greenfinch <i>chloris</i>	<i>Chloris</i>	BoCC Red	40	30	87	5	13	2	Small groups recorded close to scrub, hedgerows and trees.
Siskin <i>Spinus spinus</i>	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	-	14	-	20	2	4	3	-
Linnet <i>cannabina</i>	<i>Linaria</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	229	324	180	132	534	233	Flocks of Linnet recorded within arable farmland across the DCO Site.
Goldfinch <i>carduelis</i>	<i>Carduelis</i>	-	175	65	96	36	59	26	-
Redpoll <i>cabaret</i>	<i>Acanthis</i>	SPI, BoCC Red	11	2	1	-	-	-	Birds recorded predominantly on passage in small groups.
Corn Bunting <i>calandra</i>	<i>Emberiza</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	-	1	1	3	42	34	Recorded in small groups near arable fields.
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	SPI, BoCC Red, LBAP	25	119	201	122	186	229	Recorded in scrub and hedgerows within arable farmland.
Reed Bunting <i>schoeniclus</i>	<i>Emberiza</i>	SPI, BoCC Amber, LBAP	3	55	43	8	35	41	Recorded close to watercourses and within arable farmland.

5. Evaluation

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

5.2 Specially Protected Species

- 5.2.1 The data search returned records of 20 bird species (see **Appendix 8-G, Annex A (Confidential): Breeding Birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3]) listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (Ref 2). Fourteen of these species are absent from the DCO Site during the non-breeding season, as confirmed by field surveys.
- 5.2.2 Six Annex 1 species (Ref 2) were identified through the desk study as occurring within the Study Area and identified as non-breeding species within the Survey Area (Whooper Swan, Little Egret, Marsh Harrier, Avocet, Peregrine, Red Kite). Additionally, Bewick's Swan, Great White Egret, Crane and Golden Plover (Annex 1 species), although not recorded during the desk study, were also recorded during field surveys. Further details of all of these are presented below:
- a. Bewick's Swan – five birds were recorded flying over the Principal Site in November 2023.
 - b. Whooper Swan – up to 43 birds were recorded on flooded fields, east of the River Brant (Cable Corridor), but outside of the DCO Site Boundary and within the 200m Survey Area.
 - c. Little Egret – recorded close to water bodies and wet ditches on a single occasion in January 2024.
 - d. Great White Egret – recorded close to the River Brant (Cable Corridor) in December 2023 and January 2024.
 - e. Red Kite – single birds recorded flying over the Cable Corridor and Principal Site.
 - f. Marsh Harrier – single bird recorded flying over the Principal Site.
 - g. Crane – two birds were recorded flying high over the Principal Site in November 2023.
 - h. Avocet – single bird flying over the Principal Site in February 2024.
 - i. Golden Plover - small numbers recorded within arable habitats across the Principal Site, often associated with Lapwing.
 - j. Peregrine – a single bird flew over the Cable Corridor in January 2024.

5.3 Species of Conservation Importance

Species of Principal Importance (SPI)

- 5.3.1 The desk study identified six SPI (as detailed in **Appendix 8-G, Annex A (Confidential): Breeding Birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3]), none of which were recorded within the DCO Site Boundary during field surveys, either because they are summer visitors in the UK or because the habitat within the DCO Site Boundary is not suitable to support these species during the non-breeding period.
- 5.3.2 Field surveys identified 16 non-breeding bird SPI (Bewick's Swan, Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Herring Gull, Skylark, Starling, Song Thrush, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Dunnock, Bullfinch, Linnet, Redpoll, Corn Bunting, Yellowhammer and Reed Bunting) within the Survey Area during field surveys.
- 5.3.3 Bewick's Swan were not recorded as utilising the DCO Site and were recorded flying over the Survey Area. The other 15 SPI were all utilising the DCO Site for foraging or resting.

Birds of Conservation Concern

- 5.3.4 Inclusion on the BoCC Red or Amber list (Ref 11, Ref 12) 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

- 5.3.5 The desk study identified ten bird species (as listed in **Appendix 8-G, Annex A (Confidential): Breeding Birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3]) that are listed on the BoCC Red List, nine of which were not recorded within the DCO Site during field surveys, either because they are summer visitors in the UK or because the habitat within the DCO Site is not suitable to support these species during the non-breeding period. Fieldfare, a BoCC Red-listed species, was identified as occurring within the Study Area and was recorded using the DCO Site during field surveys.
- 5.3.6 Field surveys identified 20 non-breeding BoCC Red-listed bird species (Ref 11, Ref 12) (Bewick's Swan, Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Dunlin, Woodcock, Common Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Marsh Tit, Skylark, Starling, Fieldfare, Mistle Thrush, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Greenfinch, Linnet, Redpoll, Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer) that were recorded within the Survey Area.
- 5.3.7 Bewick's Swan and Dunlin were not recorded utilising the DCO Site and were flying over the Survey Area. The other 18 BoCC Red-listed species were all utilising the DCO Site for foraging or resting.

Amber list species

- 5.3.8 The desk study identified 17 bird species (as listed in **Appendix 8-G, Annex A (Confidential): Breeding Birds** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.3]) that are

listed on the BoCC Amber list (Ref 11, Ref 12), 11 of which are absent from the DCO Site, as confirmed by field surveys, either because they are summer visitors in the UK or because the habitat within the DCO Site Boundary is not suitable to support these species during the non-breeding period.

- 5.3.9 Field surveys identified 26 non-breeding BoCC Amber-listed bird species (Ref 11, Ref 12) (Whooper Swan, Greylag Goose, Pink-footed Goose, Gadwall, Teal, Mallard, Great White Egret, Marsh Harrier, Sparrowhawk, Moorhen, Avocet, Green Sandpiper, Snipe, Black-headed Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Stock Dove, Wood Pigeon, Kestrel, Rook, Wren, Redwing, Song Thrush, Dunnock, Meadow Pipit, Bullfinch and Reed Bunting) that were recorded within the Survey Area.
- 5.3.10 Whooper Swan, Pink-footed Goose, Great White Egret, Marsh Harrier, Avocet were not recorded utilising the DCO Site and were either flying over the Survey Area or using habitats outside of the DCO Site Boundary, but within the Survey Area. The other 21 BoCC Amber-listed species were all utilising the DCO Site for foraging or resting.

5.4 Species Abundance

- 5.4.1 In addition to evaluating a site based on its populations of non-breeding birds in relation to legal status, rarity and conservation value, consideration has to be given to the value of the DCO Site for the population of individual species that it supports. This can be done by comparing the population present within the DCO Site Boundary with the national and county non-breeding population for certain species.
- 5.4.2 No 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 16).
- 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 DCO Site Boundary are declining in the UK, most remain widespread in Lincolnshire.
- 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.
- 5.4.5 Some species, including Avocet, Crane and Bewick's Swan, are localised species in Lincolnshire and would represent a notable record in both North Kesteven and Lincolnshire. However, all species were recorded flying over the Survey Area and not utilising the DCO Site and therefore the DCO Site does not represent any importance for these species.
- 5.4.6 The summed count of non-breeding farmland bird species across the DCO Site, including Grey Partridge (36), Skylark (141), Linnet (534), Yellowhammer (229) and Corn Bunting (42) are of District importance in North Kesteven. The count of Whooper Swan (43) is also likely to be of District importance in North

Kesteven. The farmland bird species were recorded throughout the DCO Site in arable habitats and the group of Whooper Swans were recorded outside of the DCO Site Boundary, but within the 200m Survey Area, using flooded habitats around the River Brant. The remaining species populations occurring within the Survey Area are considered to be of no more than Local importance.

- 5.4.7 All other species recorded during field surveys of the Survey Area are not present in numbers important at a county scale in Lincolnshire or District scale in North Kesteven 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 non-breeding bird species recorded across the DCO Site was 84 and would place the importance of the DCO Site for species diversity as being of County importance. When factoring non-breeding species that were actually utilising the DCO Site, i.e. not including birds flying over, the number of non-breeding species recorded was 77. This would still be of County 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 DCO Site and the species (and assemblages) that this area supports are unlikely to qualify as a LWS.

5.6 Species Distribution

- 5.6.1 The location of Annex 1 species and farmland bird species (Grey Partridge, , Skylark, Linnet, Yellowhammer and Corn Bunting recorded within the Survey Area (see **Table 2**) are presented in **Figures 8-H-1** and **Figure 8-H-2** in **Annex B [EN010154/APP/6.3]** of this report. In general, concentrations of species were found within the most suitable habitats to support each individual species' needs (e.g., species reliant on woodland habitat were found within woodland habitat).

6. Conclusions

- 6.1.1 Eighty-four bird species were recorded during non-breeding bird surveys for the Proposed Development. Of these 84 bird species, 52 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 DCO Site Boundary 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 summed counts of farmland bird species (including Grey Partridge, Skylark, Linnet, Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer) and Whooper Swan are likely to be of District importance.
- 6.1.3 Species diversity across the DCO Site is of County importance, based on the number of species recorded utilising the DCO Site.
- 6.1.4 The primary purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of the presence or absence of non-breeding birds and their biodiversity importance within the Proposed Development to inform **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of this ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].

7. References

- Ref 1 His Majesty's Stationary Office (HMSO) (1981). Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/6> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 2 European Council (EC) (2009). Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (codified version). EC, Brussels. [online] Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32009L0147> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 3 HMSO (2018). The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. [online] Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1012/contents/made> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 4 HMSO. (2019). The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 5 HMSO (2006). Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 6 Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) on behalf of the Four Countries' Biodiversity Group. (2024). UK Biodiversity Framework. [online] Available at: <https://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/19a729f6-440e-4ac6-8894-cc72e84cc3bb/uk-biodiversity-framework.pdf> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 7 HMSO (1994). Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan. [online] Available at: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7ced59ed915d2017106d17/2428.pdf> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 8 Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership (2011). Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2011-2020 (3rd edition). [online] Available at: <https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/201110-LincolnshireBAP-3rd-edition.pdf> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 9 HMSO (2021). Environment Act 2021. [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 10 Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (2024). [online – in progress] Available at: <https://www.glinclsnrs.org.uk/>. [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 11 Stanbury, A., Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Douse, A., Lindley, P., McCulloch, N., Noble, D and Win, I. (2021) The status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United

- Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. *British Birds* 114: 723-747.
- Ref 12 Stanbury, A., Burns, F., Aebischer, N., Baker, H., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Dunn, T., Lindley, P., Murphy, M., Noble, D., Owens, R. and Quinn, L. (2024) The status of the UK's breeding seabirds: an addendum to the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. *British Birds* 117: 471-487.
- Ref 13 The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2024). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. [online] Available at: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/en> [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 14 Gilbert G., Gibbons D.W. and Evans J. (1998) *Bird Monitoring Methods: A manual of techniques for key UK species*. RSPB, Bedfordshire.
- Ref 15 Bibby, C.J., Burgess, N.D., Hill, D.A. & Mustoe, S.H. (2000). *Bird Census Techniques*: 2nd edition. Academic Press, London.
- Ref 16 Woodward, I., Aebischer, N., Burnell, D., Eaton, M., Frost, T., Hall, C., Stroud, D.A. and Noble, D. (2020). Population estimates of birds in Great Britain and the United Kingdom. *British Birds* 113: 69-104
- Ref 17 Balmer, D., Gillings, G., Caffrey, B., Swann, B., Downie, I. and Fuller, R., (2013). *Bird Atlas 2007-11: The Breeding and Wintering Birds of Britain and Ireland*
- Ref 18 GLNP (2013). *Local Wildlife Site Guidelines for Greater Lincolnshire* (3rd edition). [online] Available at: https://glnp.org.uk/images/uploads/services/5e84eae57f8a5_LWS%20guidelines%203rd%20ed.pdf [Accessed February 2025]
- Ref 19 Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) (2018). *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*, version 1.3. CIEEM, Winchester

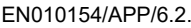
Annex A Survey Metadata

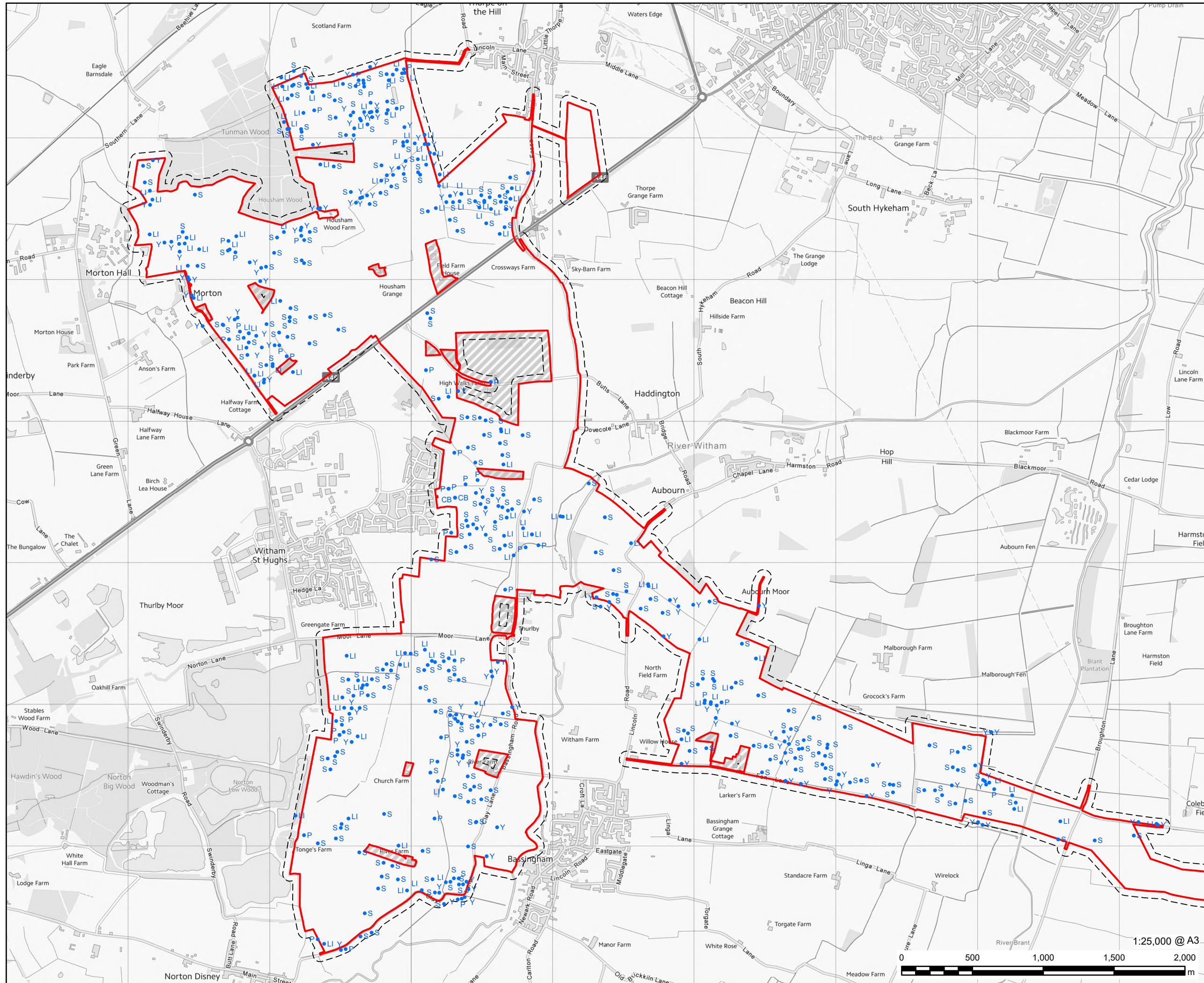
Survey Date	Weather conditions (c = °C)
13/11/2023	Temp. 12c, 100% cloud, wind 10 mph South east, Dry.
14/11/2023	Temp. 14c, 80% cloud, wind 10 mph South east, Dry.
12/12/2023	Temp. 8c, 50% cloud, wind 6mph South east, Dry.
11/12/2023	Temp. 9c, 100%, cloud, wind 5mph West, Dry.
12/12/2023	Temp. 8c, 50%, cloud, wind 6mph South east, Dry.
13/12/2023	Temp. 6c, 100%, cloud, wind 6mph North, Dry.
14/12/2023	Temp. 7c, 80% cloud, wind 10mph South west, Dry.
08/01/2024	Temp. 6c, 2% cloud, wind 5mph North east, Dry.
09/01/2024	Temp. 1-4c, 2% cloud, wind 15mph North-east, Dry.
10/01/2024	Temp. 6c, 20% cloud, wind 8mph North east, Dry.
11/01/2024	Temp. 5c, 100% cloud, wind 10mph North, Dry.
29/01/2024	Temp. 11c, 90% cloud, wind 10mph South, Dry.
30/01/2024	Temp. 8c, 100% cloud, wind 10mph North west, Dry.
01/02/2024	Temp. 9c, 30% cloud, wind 10mph South east, Dry.
02/02/2024	Temp. 10-13c, 50% cloud, wind 10mph South west, Dry.
19/02/2024	Temp. 6-9c, 100% cloud, wind 8mph South, occasional drizzle.
20/02/2024	Temp. 8-11c, 50% cloud, wind 15mph South west, Dry.
22/02/2024	Temp. 11c, 20% cloud, wind 15mph North west, Dry.
23/02/2024	Temp. 3-8c, 50% cloud, wind 12mph South west, Dry.
18/03/2024	Temp. 13c, 80% cloud, wind 5mph South east, Dry.
19/03/2024	Temp. 13c, 50% cloud, wind 5mph South east, Dry.
20/03/2024	Temp. 10c, 100% cloud, wind 5mph South east, Dry.
21/03/2024	Temp. 12c, 100% cloud, wind 5mph South west, Dry.

Annex B Figures

Figure 8-H-1 Distribution of Birds Directive Annex 1 species recorded within 200m of the DCO Site Boundary

Figure 8-H-2 Distribution of farmland bird species of conservation concern within 50m of the DCO Site Boundary





PROJECT

Fosse Green Energy





CLIENT

Fosse Green Energy Ltd

CONSULTANT

AECOM Limited
Sunley House
4 Bedford Park
Surrey, CR0 2AP, UK
www.aecom.com

LEGEND

-  DCO Site Boundary
 Land not included in the DCO Site Boundary
 50m Study Area
 Farmland Species

Species List

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| P | Grey Partridge |
| S | Skylark |
| LI | Linnet |
| Y | Yellowhammer |
| CB | Corn Bunting |

NOTES

Contains OS data © Crown copyright 2025

LEGISLATION

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

ISSUE PURPOSE

DCO Submission

FIGURE TITLE

Non-breeding birds - Distribution of farmland bird species of conservation concern within 50m of the site. Sheet 1 of 2

FIGURE NUMBER

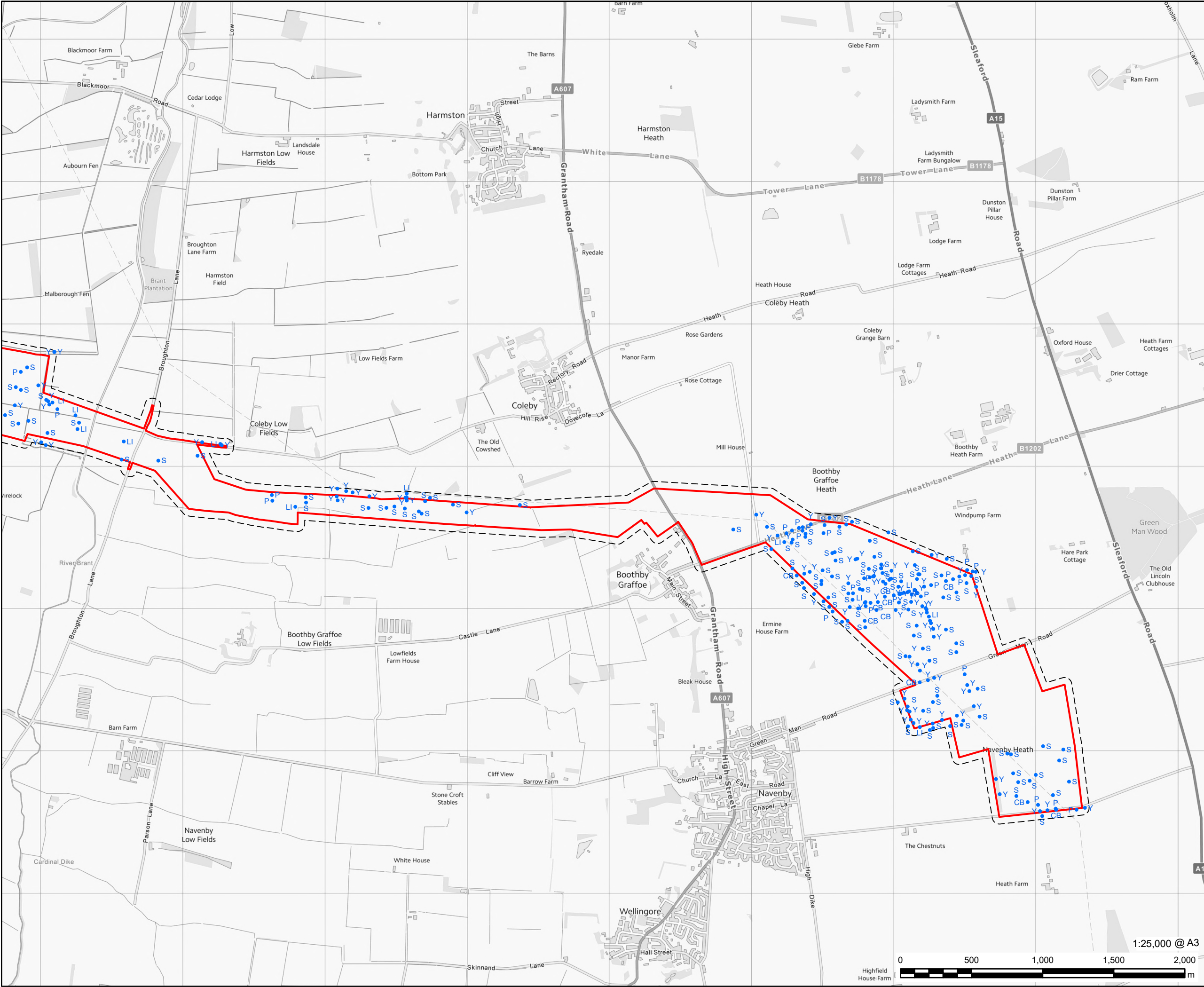
Figure 8-H-2

REV.

02

DOCUMENT REFERENCE

EN010154/APP/6.2.



PROJECT

Fosse Green Energy

CLIENT

Fosse Green Energy Ltd

CONSULTANT

AECOM Limited
Sunley House
4 Bedford Park
Surrey, CR0 2AP, UK
www.aecom.com

LEGEND

- DCO Site Boundary
- Land not included in the DCO Site Boundary
- 50m Study Area
- Farmland Species

Species List
P Grey Partridge
S Skylark
LI Linnet
Y Yellowhammer
CB Corn Bunting

NOTES

Contains OS data © Crown copyright 2025

LEGISLATION

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

ISSUE PURPOSE

DCO Submission

FIGURE TITLE

Non-breeding birds - Distribution of
farmland bird species of conservation
concern within 50m of the site. Sheet 2 of 2

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 8-H-2

REV.

02

DOCUMENT REFERENCE

EN010154/APP/6.2.