Meridian Solar Farm

EN010169

Volume 6

Environmental Statement

6.3 ES Appendix 9-5: Wintering Bird Survey Report 2023-2024 (Rev 1) (Tracked)

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

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

September 2026

This report was issued with the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (April 2025) and uses the Scheme terminology and extents defined at that stage. Since the preparation of the PEIR, there have been minor updates to the Scheme, however, these do not impact on the conclusions of this report.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

The following abbreviations and acronyms are used throughout this report.

Term	Definition
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology
CBC	Common Bird Census
CIEEM	Chartered Institute Ecology and Environmental Management
CWS	County Wildlife Site
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMS	European Marine Sites
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
IIWS	Internationally Important Wildlife Site
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LNRS	Local Nature Recovery Strategies
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPS	National Policy Statement
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SINC	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPI	Species of Principal Importance
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
WBS	Winter Bird Survey
WBBS	Waterways Breeding Bird Surveys

Executive Summary

Temple was commissioned by Meridian Solar Farm Limited in September 2023 to carry out a suite of wintering bird surveys at Meridian Solar Farm, Lincolnshire to provide baseline ecological data.

The aim of the wintering bird surveys was to provide robust data on the assemblage of wintering birds to inform the evolving design for the development and to be incorporated into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), to be submitted with the DCO application. This report provides the baseline data only and an impact assessment has not been carried out.

Suitable habitats were surveyed on six occasions along five transects between October 2023 and March 2024 to determine the wintering bird assemblage associated with the PV Area and adjacent fields. The main findings were as follows:

- A total of 83 species were recorded during the surveys, including four Internationally Important Wildlife Site (IIWS) qualifying species; 14 species listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) Red-list, 31 species listed on BoCC Amber-list and 11 Species of Principal Importance (SPI). Twelve Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species were also recorded, including species considered locally rare or scarce.
- The PV Area does not support greater than 10% of the county population of any species and as such does not qualify as being of County importance. Similarly, the PV Area does not qualify for selection as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) when compared against the criteria published by the County Wildlife Sites (CWS) Partnership (2013).

  The highest concentrations of birds were located on the flooded fields to the east of the River Welland; and also along the watercourse to the east of the Site.
- Using the nature conservation evaluation for notable bird species assemblages (CIEEM, 2018), the wintering bird assemblage recorded within the Study Area during surveys is considered to be **of local importance**.

Consideration needs to be given to the layout of the Scheme in relation to the patterns of use of the Site by wintering birds.

1 Introduction

BACKGROUND

1.1 Temple was commissioned by Meridian Solar Farm Limited in September 2023 to carry out a suite of wintering bird surveys on land near Spalding, Lincolnshire (referred to as the 'PV Area'), to provide baseline ecological data.

1.2 The surveys covered land within a target survey area (referred to as the 'Study Area') to include the anticipated development area, as shown in Appendix 1, Figure A1.1, and adjacent land. The area surveyed excludes the Grid Connection and Inter-Array Areas.

1.3 This report updates the initial 2022-23 Wintering Bird Report (Temple 2023a), conducted from Public Rights of Way only. The survey was updated to provide more detailed baseline data to inform the design evolution of the Scheme within the PV Area. Scope of the report

1.4 This report details the methods and findings of the wintering bird surveys undertaken by Temple between October 2023 and March 2024. The aim of the surveys was to identify and categorise the wintering bird assemblage within the Study Area and to map the distributions of 'notable bird populations', defined as:

- Qualifying species of relevant Internationally Important Wildlife Sites (IIWS) and other statutory and non-statutory nature conservation designations;
- Species of Principal Importance (SPI);
- Species listed on the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) (Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership, 2011); and
- Wintering Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC), Red-listed and Amber-listed.

1.5 This report has been prepared with reference to best practice guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2017 and 2018) and as detailed in British Standard 42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Biodiversity and Development (BSI, 2013).

PV AREA CONTEXT AND STATUS

1.6 The PV Area is located within an area of land approximately 1,100ha in size, centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid reference TF 30070 13907, approximately 12km west of Wisbech and 11km south of Holbeach (see Appendix 1, Figure A1.1). This includes the PV Area but excludes the Grid Connection and the Inter-Array Areas. Vantage Point surveys undertaken to cover the Grid Connection Corridor potential routing area are covered in a separate report (Temple, 2024).

1.7 The Study Area comprised arable farmland, ditches and isolated pockets of plantation woodland, hedgerows (totalling 2.5km) and small parcels of scrub. Landscape features within the wider landscape consist of steep man-made agricultural drainage ditches typically bordering arable field boundaries with isolated pockets of plantation. The River Welland is located to the western boundary and the A16 intersects the PV Area.

SCHEME DESCRIPTION

1.8 The Scheme would comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a solar PV electricity generating facility with associated infrastructure including co-located Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) within a PV Area (Appendix 1, Figure 1). An Inter-Array Connection would link the separate and parcels that form the PV Area. A Grid Connection from the PV Area would run approximately 13km north towards a point of connection (PoC) to the proposed Weston Marsh B National Grid substation to the north of Weston.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND PLANNING POLICY

1.9 The following key pieces of nature conservation legislation are relevant to this assessment. A more detailed description of legislation is provided in Appendix 4:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended);
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006; and
- The Environment Act (2021).

1.10 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2023) requires local authorities to avoid and minimise impacts on biodiversity and should provide net gains in biodiversity when taking planning decisions.

1.11 The Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1), National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) and National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) set out the Government's energy policy, the need for new infrastructure and guidance for determining an application for a DCO. The NPSs include specific criteria and issues which should be covered by applicants' assessments of the effects of their scheme, and how the decision maker should consider these impacts. For example, NPS (EN-3), paragraph 2.4.2, which underlines the importance of good design for energy infrastructure in design of the project to mitigate impacts such as noise and effects on ecology.

1.12 Other planning policies at the local level which are of relevance to the Scheme include the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan (2019) and the Lincolnshire BAP.

2 Methodology

DESKTOP STUDY

2.1 A search was made on MAGIC (MAGIC, 2024) for IIWS, including Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites relevant to birds within 15km of the PV Area. In line with professional judgment, a 15km buffer was chosen given the scale and nature of the works and potential impact pathways for qualifying species of the IIWS. A search of up to 2km was made for other statutory and non-statutory designated sites including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNR) and Local Nature Reserves (LNR). Information obtained from the previous Wintering Bird Survey was also used to inform the selection of the transects.

2.2 Ornithological data for a 15km buffer was obtained from the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership, the local Biological Records Centre. This buffer was chosen given the nature of the Scheme and proximity to IIWS.

FIELD SURVEY

2.3 The Wintering Bird Surveys were undertaken by a team of surveyors, all proficient in bird identification, survey techniques and the assessment of wintering bird populations (see Table 2.1 below).

Table 2.1: Ornithological Surveyors

Name	Qualification	CIEEM	Ornithological Experience
TD	MSc/BSc (Hons)	Pending MCIEEM	18 years
LV	BSc (Hons)	MCIEEM	15 years
AS	HND	Pending ACIEEM	15 Years

Name	Qualification	CIEEM	Ornithological Experience
JW	MSc/BSc (Hons)	Pending ACIEEM	10 years
KJ	BSC (Hons)	MCIEEM	12 years
BS	MSc/BSc (Hons)	Pending ACIEEM	10 years
BH	BSC (Hons)	MCIEEM	8 years

2.4 This assessment and report was compiled by a Principal Ecologist and full member of CIEEM, with over 40 years ornithological experience in field survey, assessment and reporting.

2.5 Surveys were carried out using five pre-defined transects (as shown on Appendix 1, Figure A1.2). The transects were designed to cover land up to 100m of the PV Area as far as reasonably practical, covering key habitat features. Given the open character of the landscape and to minimise the risk of disturbance, 100m is judged to be appropriate in this case based on professional experience. The transect routes were similar areas to those in the 2022/23 but were amended based on additionally available land access.

2.6 Six survey visits were carried out once a month between October 2023 and March 2024 in line with current best practice (Bird Survey Guidelines, 2023) on all but WT13, which was added to the PV Area in November to take account of additional access; five surveys were carried out on WT13. During each of the visits, the transect routes were walked slowly and methodically. The direction and start point of the transects was alternated to minimise temporal bias. All birds seen within or adjacent to the Study Area were recorded using the standard British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) species codes. Stopping points were also incorporated on an *ad hoc* basis to record flocking species such as winter thrushes, starlings, waterfowl and waders, and to avoid double counting.

2.7 The surveyors used 8x or 10x magnification binoculars and a 20-60x magnification zoom telescope to assist with bird identification, and scaled field maps to record the registrations/numbers of each bird species observed. Details of the weather, as well as constraints and details of any disturbance were all recorded for each survey.

Survey Details

2.8 The times, dates and weather conditions of all survey visits are detailed in Table 2.2 below.

Table 2.2: WBS dates, times and weather conditions

Transect	Date	Start Time	Temp	Cloud Cover (oktas)	Max Wind (Beaufort Scale)	Rain	Comment
WT7 – land parcels B-1 & B-3.	17/10/2023	07:30	14°C	3/8	2/12	None	Good visibility
	14/11/2023	07:30	11°C	8/8	6/12	None	Fair, overcast
	06/12/2023	08:00	0°C	1/8	1/12	None	Bright, cold
	09/01/2024	08.00	4°C	1/8	3/12	None	
	06/02/2024	13:00	12°C	8/8	5/12	None	Good visibility, windy
	05/03/2024	06:00	9°C	8/8	2/12	None	
WT8 – land parcels B-1 & B-2	18/10/2023	07:30	14°C	8/8	4/12	Light drizzle	Fair and intermittent rain
	15/11/2023	07:15	8°C	0/8	4/12	None	

Transect	Date	Start Time	Temp	Cloud Cover (oktas)	Max Wind (Beaufort Scale)	Rain	Comment
	07/12/2023	07:50	6°C	8/8	7/12	Light rain	Strong gusts with clearing rain
	10/01/2024	08:00	- 5°C	1/8	2/12	None	Bright with a light breeze
	07/02/2024	09:00	4°C	8/8	1/12	None	Cloudy, good visibility
	06/03/2024	07.30	5°C	7/8	1/12	None	Low cloudy with hazy mist
WT9 – land parcels C-1 & C-2	31/10/2023	10:30	9°C	6/8	4/12	None	
	16/11/2023	07:30	8°C	8/8	1/12	None	Overcast with low cloud
	08/12/2023	08:05	5°C	1/8	3/12	None	Bright and breezy
	11/01/2024	08.00	3°C	8/8	3/12	None	
	07/02/2024	09:00	4°C	8/8	1/12	None	Good visibility
	07/03/2024	07.30	5°C	8/8	2/12	None	Low cloud, hazy
WT10 – land parcels D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-	27/10/2023	09:00	10°C	8/8	2/12	Light drizzle	Cloud lifting and clearing
	15/11/2023	07:30	11°C	5/8	4/12	None	Good visibility

Transect	Date	Start Time	Temp	Cloud Cover (oktas)	Max Wind (Beaufort Scale)	Rain	Comment
5, D-6 and D-7 I	06/12/2023	08:00	1°C	1/8	2/12	None	Clear, cold with very good visibility
	09/01/2024	08:25	1°C	0/8	3/12	None	Cold
	07/02/2024	08:04	2°C	1/8	2/12	None	Clear, bright, calm. Clouding over during survey
	19/03/2024	07:00	10°C	3/8	4/12	None	Bright and breezy
WT13	14/11/2023	07:45	7°C	7/8	4/12	None	
	08/12/2023	08:30	6°C	1/8	3/12	None	Very good visibility
	10/01/2024	08:00	0°C	0/8	2/12	None	Very good visibility
	08/02/2024	08:00	3°C	8/8	6/12	Heavy Rain	Persistent rain turning to sleet, gusty winds
	21/03/2024	06:55	8°C	8/8	4/12	Light drizzle	Light rain, cool

2.9 Upon completion of the surveys, information obtained from each visit was transferred to a separate map and digitised using ArcGIS software.

NATURE CONSERVATION EVALUATION RELATING TO BIRDS

Assessment criteria

2.10 In line with CIEEM (2018), the overall evaluation of the wintering bird assemblage recorded within the PV Area was assessed against criteria for international, national, county, local, site and negligible nature conservation importance (see Table 2.3).

2.11 Criteria for the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) (Stanbury *et al.*, 2021), which identifies the Red-list and Amber-list species is provided in Appendix 3.

Table 2.3: Nature Conservation Evaluation of sites for birds

Nature conservation importance	Definition
International	Site meets SPA qualifying population criteria: Site used regularly[1] by 1% of the national population of an Annex 1 species of the EC Birds Directive[2]; Site used regularly by 1% of the biogeographical (international) population of a regularly occurring migratory species (other than those listed in Annex I of the EC Birds Directive) in any season; Site used regularly by over 20,000 waterfowl or 20,000 sea birds in any season. The regular occurrence of a globally rare species (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
National	Site used regularly by 1% of the national population (taken from Baker *et al.*, 2006 and Musgrove *et al.*, 2011) of a species (not listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive) The site meets SSSI or NNR designation criteria for birds (Joint Nature Conservation Committee JNCC).
County	Site used regularly by 1% of the county population of a species or Site meets County Wildlife Site or Sites for Important Nature Conservation SINC criteria for birds in Lincolnshire.

[1] Regularly is taken to mean that the site is used during a life stage of a bird population, such as breeding or migration, where (i) the mean of the maxima of that population over five years for the seasons in which the site is used meets the qualifying criteria or (ii) the requisite number of birds is known to have occurred in two thirds of the seasons for which adequate data area available (the total number of seasons being not less than three).
[2] The Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe

Nature conservation importance	Definition
Local	Site used regularly by a species whose status is scarce within the county[3]. Site supports a population of a species, or a species assemblage of birds, notable for their protected or conservation concern status (Schedule 1 of Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) for breeding species, Annex 1 of EC Birds Directive, SPI as listed in Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, Local BAP, Red-list BoCC (Stanbury *et al.*, 2021).
Site	Site used regularly by an assemblage of birds, or large numbers of an individual species whose status is common within the county[4].
Negligible	Site supports no notable species or assemblages of birds.

NOMENCLATURE

2.12 Common names only are used throughout the text of this report, with scientific names for all species included in Appendix 5. The naming convention follows the Natural History Museum Species Dictionary (2024).

LIMITATIONS AND SURVEY CONSTRAINTS

2.13 The desk study for this report has been restricted to publicly available data due to sensitivity regarding communicating details of the Scheme to biological recorders or other third parties at the early stages of detailed design. A more detailed review of data sources will be carried out as part of wider environmental assessment of the Scheme and included within the Ecological Impact Assessment to be submitted as part of the DCO application.

2.14 Every effort has been made to provide robust and comprehensive data on the wintering bird assemblages within the PV Area. However, the following limitations apply:

[3] Scarce as defined by the relevant county ornithological society/county bird recorder
[4] Common as defined by the relevant county ornithological society/county bird recorder

- Individual birds and different bird species vary in their behaviour and detectability, and it is unlikely that registrations were detected for all birds during each survey visit. With professional judgement, it is considered that the wintering bird assemblage was recorded over the course of the surveys and the data collected are considered sufficiently robust for evaluating the wintering bird assemblage present within the PV Area.

- On one survey (WT13 on 8 February), wind gusts were above what would normally be acceptable for the surveys. However, given that the gusts were in short durations and not for the full duration of the surveys, this is not considered to be a limitation as the observations showed no change in the level of activity or presence.

- Access for WT13 was not possible until November. However, due to the survey covering the main wintering periods, this is not considered to be a material limitation to the baseline or assessment.

- Due to inclement weather conditions on the morning of the 6 February 2024, the survey on WT7 commenced in the afternoon. As wintering bird surveys can take place at any time during the day, this is not considered to be a limitation.

3 Results

DESKTOP STUDY

Statutory Designated Sites

3.1 The following IIWS, for which the qualifying features include wintering birds, lie within 15km of the Study Area (refer to Appendix 1, Figure 2 for the locations of these sites and Appendix 2 for citations):

- The Nene Washes Ramsar site; and
- The Nene Washes SPA.

3.2 There are no SSSI or other statutory sites for nature conservation within a 2km buffer of the Study Area.

Non-statutory Designated Nature Conservation Sites

3.3 The Study Area contains a single non-statutory nature conservation designation, Slys Connection Local Wildlife Site (LWS), which runs through the site across parcels D2 and D3. Three non-statutory Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) with birds listed amongst their qualifying features/description are present within 2km of the Study Area.

3.1 Further details of the desk-top study for Statutory and Non-statutory Designated Sites are detailed in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Temple, 2023b).

Species Data

3.2 The desk-top study for bird records returned 942 records of 41 notable species. The data set is contained in Appendix 3. Table 3.1 provides a summary of the desk-top study. Species in bold were recorded during the course of the surveys and are covered in detail in this report.

Table 3.1: Summary of Desk-top Data

Common Name	No of Records	Last Year Recorded
barn owl	53	2021
Bewick's swan	15	2021
bittern	1	2018
black redstart	2	2011
black-tailed godwit	1	2007
brambling	2	2011
bullfinch	2	2009
Canada goose	18	2021
Cetti's warbler	1	2021
corn bunting	5	2005
crane	1	2011
curlew	1	2010
fieldfare	45	2021
goldeneye	6	2021
green sandpiper	4	2019
grey partridge	10	2021
greylag goose	78	2021
hen harrier	6	2020
house sparrow	94	2021
kingfisher	5	2021
lapwing	131	2021
lesser redpoll	4	2021
linnet	15	2021
little egret	59	2021
long-tailed duck	2	2017

Common Name	No of Records	Last Year Recorded
marsh harrier	35	2021
merlin	3	2018
peregrine	8	2021
red kite	13	2021
redshank	13	2019
red-throated diver	2	2021
redwing	23	2021
reed bunting	23	2021
skylark	33	2021
snipe	4	2021
song thrush	13	2021
starling	108	2021
swift	23	2021
tree sparrow	28	2020
whooper swan	40	2021
yellowhammer	12	2020

SITE HABITATS

3.4 The Study Area predominantly comprised agricultural land, mainly used for crop production (cereal, root crop and brassicas), with field boundaries consisting mainly of a network of ditches with occasional hedgerows, and small copses.

3.5 During the winter of 2023 / 2024, the River Welland flooded land near to Crowland and adjacent to WT13.

FIELD SURVEY

3.6 A total of 83 species were recorded during the surveys, including 23 notable species: four IIWS qualifying species; seven species listed on BoCC Red-list, 16 species listed on

BoCC Amber-list and 11 SPI. Twelve Lincolnshire BAP species were recorded at within the PV Area during surveys. Peak counts of notable species for the Study Area are detailed below in Table 3-2. BoCC species that are listed because of their breeding criteria only are excluded from the above figures.

3.7 A list of the species recorded during the surveys is provided in Appendix 6; Appendix 6 includes the numbers for each transect and peak counts. Maps for notable wildfowl and farmland birds are contained in Appendix 7.

Table 3-2: Notable species recorded during WBS visits of WT7-10, WT12 and WT13

Species*	IIWS Qualifying Species	BoCC	SPI	Peak count
black-headed gull		Amber		240
common gull		Amber		120
corn bunting		Red	Yes	1
dunlin		Red		9
dunnock		Amber	Yes	1
gadwall	Yes	Amber		45
great black-backed gull		Amber		1
greylag goose		Amber		24
herring gull		Red	Yes	40
knot		Amber		1
lapwing		Red	Yes	500
linnet		Red	Yes	430
mallard		Amber		160
oystercatcher		Amber		2
pink-footed goose		Amber		400
pintail	Yes	Amber		150
shelduck		Amber		2

Species	IIWS Qualifying Species	BoCC	SPI	Peak count
skylark		Red	Yes	70
snipe		Amber		26
teal	Yes	Amber		300
whooper swan		Amber		250
wigeon	Yes	Amber		800
yellowhammer		Red	Yes	30

*It is noted that any wetland bird species is also considered to form part of the Waterbird Assemblage for The Wash.

CONSERVATION STATUS OF NOTABLE SPECIES RECORDED WITHIN THE SITE

3.8 The following section provides more details on the conservation status of notable bird species recorded within the PV Area during winter 2023/24. Winter visitors whose conservation status relates only to the UK breeding population have not been considered further within this report.

3.9 Background information on the status of species is quoted from the BTO Website (BTO, 2023) except where alternative references are cited. Details of BoCC status are taken from Stanbury *et al.* (2021). The Lincolnshire status for each species is taken from the Birds of Lincolnshire (Lincolnshire Bird Club, 2021).

IIWS species

3.10 Four IIWS species were recorded along the flooded land adjacent to the River Welland along WT13. The peak count and relevant Nene Washes 5-year average (2018/2019 to 2022/2023) and Lincolnshire wintering population levels are given in Table 3-3.

Table 3-3: IIWS Species recorded and population levels

Species	Peak Count	Nene Washes WeBS 5 -year average		Lincolnshire Population	
		Population[5]	% of population	Population[6]	% of population
gadwall	45	355	12.68	1200	3.75
pintail	150	489	30.67	500	30
teal	300	980	30.61	8,600	3.5
wigeon	800	9,761	8.20	18,000	4.4

Gadwall

3.11 The winter distribution of gadwall is wider than in the breeding season due to dispersal from natal areas and the arrival of migrants from Iceland, the Netherlands, Scandinavia and central Europe. WeBS trends show a 19% short term increase and 139% long-term increase, with 2% increase at Nene since 1991/1992 (14% decline since 2016/2017). Gadwall is a fairly common, but localised breeding species and winter visitor in Lincolnshire, with three figure counts recorded at several sites.

3.12 The peak count of gadwall occurred during the February survey on WT13, with a peak count of 45 birds, just over 12% of the number stated in the 5-year mean for the Nene Washes and 3.75% of the County wintering population. In addition, 15 gadwall were recorded in the eastern ditch on the perimeter of WT10 during the November 2023 survey and six in the December 2023 Survey. The population of gadwall associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **at least County importance.** In addition, at least during wetter winters, it is likely to be functionally linked with the Nene Washes population. It is considered that these numbers are especially high due to the flooding event. Appendix 8, Figures A8.1 to A8.4 show the location of the records for this species.

[5] Taken from BTO WeBS Reports
[6] Taken from Casey, C., Clarkson, J.R., Espin, P, & Hyde, P.A. (2021)

Pintail

3.13 The winter distribution map reveals preferences for grazing marshes, river floodplains, sheltered coasts and estuaries while the relative abundance map confirms the importance of estuaries throughout most of Britain and Ireland for this species. WeBS Alerts show a 41% decrease in the English wintering population over the medium term and a 42% decline over the long term (since the winter of 2011/12). With a 56% decline on the SPA suite over the same period. For the Nene Washes SPA, this is a 46% decline in population size. Pintail is a fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor to Lincolnshire, three figure counts are occasionally recorded around The Wash.

3.14 The maximum count of 150 birds was recorded on WT13 in February 2024. This represents just over 30% of the number stated in the 5-year mean for the Nene Washes and 30% of the county wintering population. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **at least County importance**. In addition, at least during wetter winters, it is considered likely functionally linked with the Nene Washes population. Appendix 8 Figures A8.1 to A8.4 show the location of the records for this species.

Teal

3.15 Although much more abundant as a winter visitor, The UK supports and internationally important wintering population of teal, hence its inclusion on the Amber-list. Teal has shown a 28% increase in England with a 35% increase for the Nene Washes since 1991/92. Teal is a common migrant and winter visitor in Lincolnshire with four figure counts recorded at several sites.

3.16 The maximum count of 300 was recorded WT13 in February 2024. This figure represents 30% of the population cited for the classification of the Nene Washes SPA (1992) and 3.5% of the county wintering populations. In addition, 85 teal were recorded in the eastern ditch on the perimeter of WT10 during the February 2024 survey and four in the March 2024 Survey. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **at least County importance.** During wetter winters, it is considered that the population is likely functionally linked with that of the

Nene Washes. Appendix 8 Figures A8.1 to A8.4 show the location of the records for this species.

Wigeon

3.17 In winter, there are concentrations of wigeon in the Northern Isles, the inner Moray Firth, parts of central Scotland, the Irish Sea coastal fringe, major river valleys in eastern England, estuaries of south and south-east England and the rivers, lakes and turloughs of the west midlands of Ireland. The species has shown a 33% increase and Nene itself 49% since 91/92 although short term decline noted of 28% since 16/17. Wigeon is a very common winter visitor in Lincolnshire, especially around The Wash and the Humber.

3.18 The maximum count of 800 was recorded on WT13 in February 2024. This figure represents 8.2% of the number stated in the 5-year mean for the Nene Washes and 4.4% of the county wintering population. In addition, 64 wigeon were recorded in the eastern ditch on the perimeter of WT10 during the March 2024 survey. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **at least County importance**. In wetter winters, it is considered likely that the population is functionally linked with that of the Nene Washes. Appendix 8 Figures A8.1 to A8.4 show the location of the records for this species.

RED-LISTED BIRD SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN / SPECIES OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE

Corn bunting

3.19 Following an earlier, historical decrease, corn buntings declined very steeply between the mid-1970s and mid-1980s, with local extinctions across large sections of their former range. Subsequently the decline has continued, but at a reduced rate. There has been widespread moderate decline across Europe since 1980 (BTO, 2018). Similar to skylark, changes in farming practice are believed to have been responsible for declines, through impacts on reduced seed and/or invertebrate abundance, most notably the lack of invertebrate food for chicks (Brickle *et al.,* 2000). Corn bunting is also an SPI.

3.20 The species is fairly common in Lincolnshire with wintering flocks of over 50 birds recorded at four sites in 2020. A single corn bunting was recorded along WT9 during the October 2023 visit. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **negligible importance**.

Herring Gull

3.21 Herring gull is widely distributed throughout lowland areas of Britain, with the highest concentrations near the coast. In Ireland, the distribution is more coastal. Herring gull is a common passage migrant and winter visitor in Lincolnshire with an estimated 8,500 wintering. The peak count of 40 birds was recorded on WT10 in December 2023 and in March 2024. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **negligible importance**.

Lapwing

3.22 In Britain, wintering concentrations of lapwing are highest in the Somerset Levels, Fens, north-west England, the Uists, Caithness and Orkney. The former core area in central England is less dominant, with fenland and the east coast now more prominent than in the 1981–84 Winter Atlas. National surveys in England and Wales showed a 49% population decline between 1987 and 1998 (Wilson *et al*., 2001). The 2009 review moved this species from amber to the UK Red-list, for which it continues to qualify on the strength of its UK decline, which has been shown to be 59% (1967–2020) (Woodward *et al*., 2020). WeBS alerts show a 15% decline in England

3.23 Lapwing is a very common winter visitor in Lincolnshire, with approximately 25-30,000 recorded at the top 10 wintering sites. The maximum count was 500 on WT13 in February 2024 on the flooded land adjacent to the River Welland. The site therefore held a population which is in excess of 1% of the county population. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be up to **County importance**.

Linnet

3.24 Linnet abundance fell rapidly in the UK in the late 1960s, and again between the mid-1970s and mid-1980s, but decrease has been followed by a long period of relative stability. Linnet is a very common resident in Lincolnshire with three figure counts recorded at several sites. The maximum count of 430 was recorded on WT9 in January 2023, with 150 concurrently present on WT10; three figure counts were recorded on several dates. The Study Area supports a population of this Red-list species that is common within the County. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **site importance**. Appendix 8 Figures A8.5 to A8.8 show the location of the records for this species.

Skylark

3.25 Skylark declined rapidly from the mid-1970s until the mid-1980s, when the rate of decline slowed. BBS data show further decline, with fluctuations in Scotland and Wales. There has been a 15% decrease (1995–2020) in the UK population.

3.26 Skylark is a very common resident in Lincolnshire with three figure counts recorded at several sites. The maximum count of 70 was recorded on WT9 in November 2023. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **site importance** due to presence of a wintering population of the SPI that is common within the County. Appendix 8 Figures A8.9 to A8.12 show the location of the records for this species.

Yellowhammer

3.27 Yellowhammer abundance began to decline on farmland in the mid-1980s. The BBS map of change in relative density between 1994-96 and 2007-09 indicates that in Britain there was a sharp divide between decrease over that period in the east and south and limited increase in the north-west; the population in Northern Ireland has also declined. Recent BBS data confirms that the earlier downward trends have continued, with a moderate decrease since 1995 recorded in England and a steep decrease in Wales, contrasting with shallow increase in Scotland. The breeding

population has declined by 62% (1967–2020) The species has been on the Red-list since 2002.

3.28 Yellowhammer is a very common resident in Lincolnshire with three figure counts recorded at some sites. The maximum count of 30 was recorded on WT8 in February 2024. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **site importance** for this species as the species is a Species of Principal Importance. Appendix 8 Figures A8.11 and A8.12 show the location of the records for this species.

AMBER-LISTED BIRD SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN

3.29 Note that Amber-listed species do not normally contribute as individual species to the site's importance for wintering birds at higher than local level but may contribute to the overall assemblage.

3.30 The assemblage associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **local importance**, with the exception of whooper swan, which is considered further below:

- black-headed gull - peak count of 240 along WT9 in January 2024;
- common gull - peak count of 120 along WT10 in October 2023.
- dunnock - a single dunnock was recorded on WT7, WT8 and WT9 on several surveys;
- greater black-backed gull - single birds on WT10 in November 2023 and on WT9 in January 2024;
- greylag goose - peak count of greylag goose of 24 on WT13 in February 2024;
- knot - a single knot on WT10 in November 2023;
- mallard – peak count of 160 on WT13 in February 2024;
- oystercatcher - two birds were present on WT13 in March 2024;
- pink footed goose - up to 400 were present on WT9 in November 2023 (Appendix 8 Figure A8.1to A8.3 shows the location of the records for this species).
- shelduck - recorded on one occasion with two on WT8 in March 2024; and

- snipe – peak count of 26 on WT10 in November 2023.

Whooper swan

3.31 The maximum count of 250 was recorded on WT10 feeding on the arable fields in November 2023. This number represents 13% of the 5-year average count for the Nene Washes and 25% of the county wintering population. The threshold for national importance is 200 birds. Whooper swans have been recorded using fields in the wider landscape as identified in the desk-top study. The population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of **up to national importance**. Appendix 8 Figures A8.1 to A8.3 shows the location of the records for this species.

4 Discussion And Conclusion

IIWS

4.1 Wintering species listed as qualifying features for the Nene Washes SPA/Ramsar site may, on occasion, occur within the Study Area, particularly during wetter winters. Teal, gadwall, pintail and wigeon were recorded (peak counts of 300, 45, 150 and 800 respectively), with birds present on flooded areas of WT13 where the banks of the River Welland had broken. Smaller numbers of teal, gadwall and wigeon were also recorded along the ditch to the east boundary of WT10. The populations associated with the Study Area are therefore of **at least County importance** and should be avoided through the design of this Scheme.

4.2 The area to the west of the Study Area, adjacent to River Welland of the Site may be functionally linked to the IIWS, however given that this is outside the PV Area, disturbance here may be restricted to those created during the construction period. The population of birds associated with the flooded fields in this area are unlikely to find alternative areas for grazing in the immediate area, as (at the time of the survey) this was the only in which flooding was recorded. Given the numbers of species associated with this area that are listed in the citations for the IIWS, this land is considered to possibly be functionally linked, as a consequence, further analysis of the possible impact pathways will be required to inform at least a Stage 1 (Screening) Habitats Regulations Assessment if these areas cannot be avoided through the design process.

The land around WT10 may also be functionally linked to the IIWS, given that species for which the IIWS are designated are present in the ditch systems. These ditch systems form many of the field boundaries within the wider area, which may also support a similar assemblage of species, or which birds within the PV Area could relocate to if disturbed. this land is considered to possibly be functionally linked, as a consequence, further analysis of the possible impact pathways will be required to

inform a Habitats Regulations Assessment if these areas cannot be avoided through the design process.

Whooper Swan

4.3 The population of whooper swan within the survey is of **up to national importance**, with the number recorded in November 2023 exceeding the threshold for national importance. The species is not listed within the citations for the Nene Washes SPA or Ramsar site, although they now hold an international important wintering population of the species. The desk-top study also returned records of whooper swans from the fields to the west of the River Welland in the wider landscape.

4.4 Given the features within the PV Area that are relevant to the IIWS, and the nationally important population of whooper swan (it is likely that the birds are moving east / west across the site and commuting from the Nene Washes to the south of the Study Area.) Work in these areas should be avoided to minimise and / or avoid impacts. This could be achieved by timing the works to avoid the sensitive winter periods or designing the Solar PV Arrays and supporting infrastructure to reduce or avoid impacts. Consideration also needs to be given to retaining the area of flooding adjacent to the River Welland, although this is outside the control of the Client.

Overall Assemblage

4.5 The presence of a number of notable species suggest that the population associated with the Study Area is therefore considered to be of up to **local importance** using the criteria stated in Table 2.3. The species recorded are generally typical of the habitats within the Study Area that provide roosting and feeding opportunities for a variety of wintering passerine species, and is similar to the surrounding landscape.

Additional Considerations

4.6 Although the boundary hedgerows within the PV Area vary in quality and structure, they still provided optimal winter foraging and refuge for species associated with hedgerows including notable species, linnet, house sparrow and dunnock.

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Appendix 1: Study Area Maps

Confidential

Figure A1.1: Scheme, Study Area and Transects

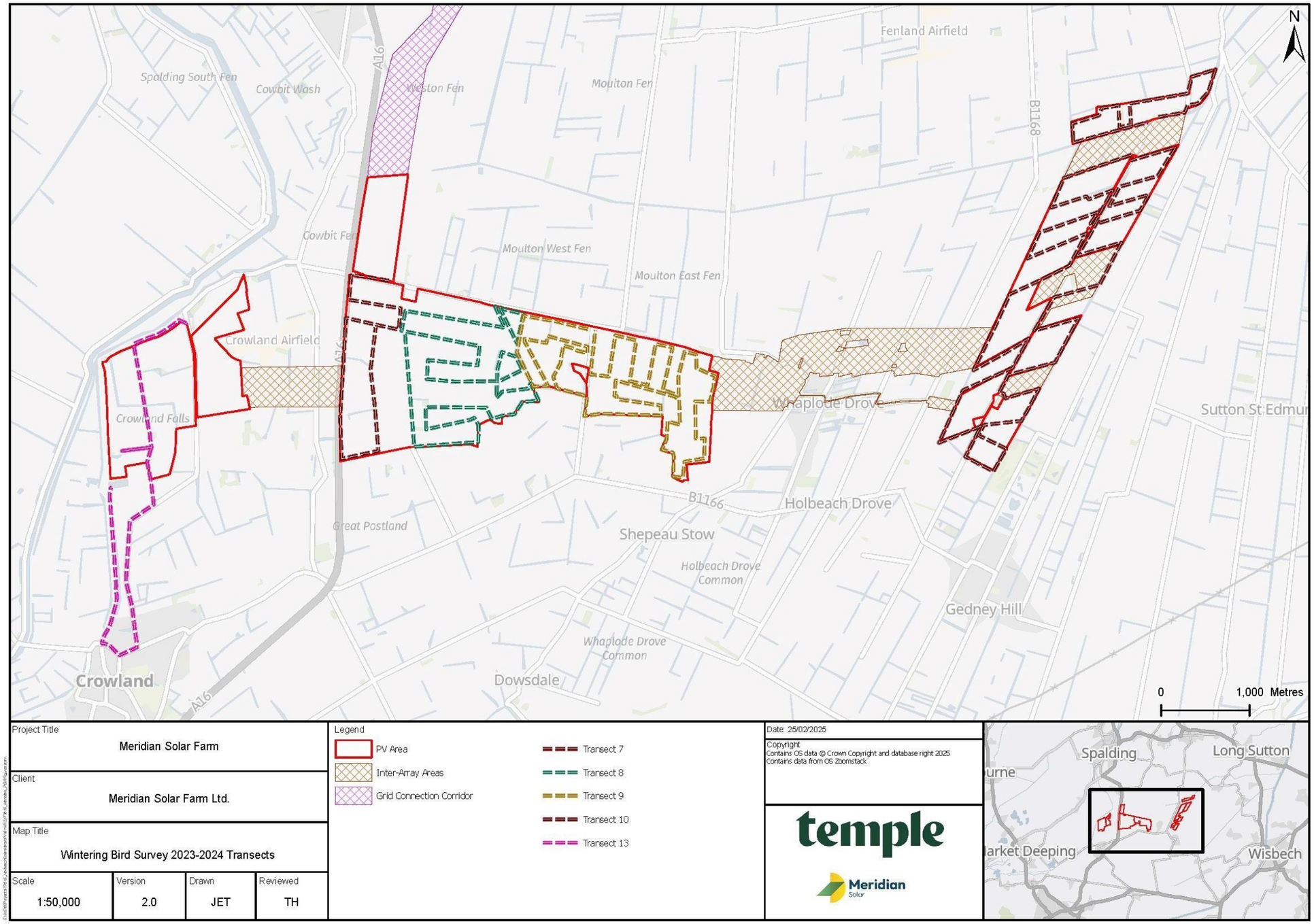
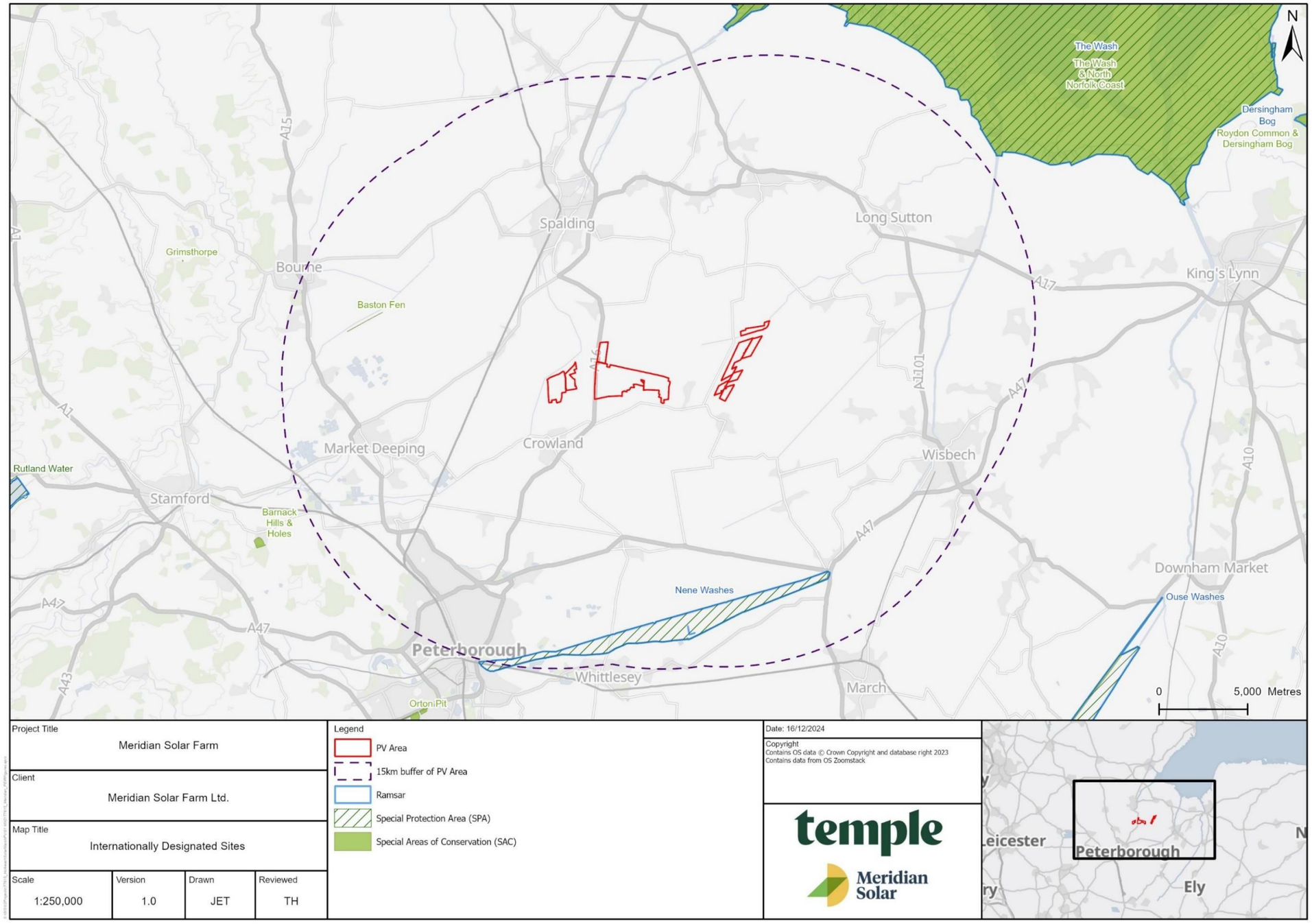


Figure A1.2: Internationally Designated Sites within 15km



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Appendix 2: Designated Sites Citations

EC Directive 79/409 on the conservation of wild birds: Special Protection Area

Nene Washes (Cambridgeshire)

The Nene Washes is an area of seasonally flooding grassland and grazing marsh in the lower reaches of the River Nene, Cambridgeshire. The boundaries of the site follows those of the Nene Washes (Whittlesey) SSSI.

The site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the EC Birds Directive by regularly supporting, in winter, an internationally important wintering population of Bewick's swan *Cygnus columbarius bewickii* (1,300 individuals: over 7% of the north-west European population wintering population: average of peak counts for the five year period 1987/88 to 1991/92).

Nene Washes qualifies also under Article 4.2 by supporting, in summer, in recent years, nationally important breeding populations of regularly occurring migratory species: 25 pairs of gadwall *Anas strepera* (5% of British): five pairs of garganey *Anas querquedula (10%* of British), 36 pairs of shoveler *A. clypeata* (3% of British), and 16 pairs of black-tailed godwits *Limosa limosa* (30% of British), as well as several other rare birds.

The site further qualifies under Article 4.2 by supporting, in winter, nationally important wintering populations of five migratory species (average peak counts for the most recent five year period for which data is available (1984/5 - 1985/86 and 1988/89 - 1990/91): 3,640 wigeon *Anas penelope* (over 1 % of the British wintering population): 980 teal *A. crecca* (1% of British), 95 gadwall *Anas strepera* (over 1% of British): 440 Pintail *Anas acuta* (over 1% of British) and 110 shoveler *Anas clypeata* (over 1% of British).

The Nene Washes is also of importance for a diverse assemblage of breeding birds of wet grasslands, including: redshank *Tringa totanus*, snipe *Gallinago gallinago*, lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, mute swan *Cygnus olor*, sedge warbler *Acrocephalus shoenobaenus* and yellow wagtail *Motacilla flava.* The site has an important role in maintaining the range of several of these species which have been affected by changes in habitat elsewhere in Britain.

Also notable is an assemblage of wintering waterfowl including, in addition to species listed above, mute swan, whooper swan *C. cygnus*, mallard *Anas platyryhnchus,* pochard *Aythya ferina*, tufted duck *Aythya fuligula*, shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* and coot *Fulica atra.* A wide range of raptors occur through the year on the Nene Washes, including merlin *Falco columbarius*, hobby *F. subbuteo.* peregrine *F. peregrinus*, marsh harrier *Circus aeruginosus*, hen harrier *C. cyaneus*, sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*, short-eared owl *Asio flammeus*, long-eared owl *A. otus*, and barn owl *Tyto alba.*

During severe winter weather elsewhere, the Nene Washes can assume even greater national and international importance as wildfowl and waders from many other areas arrive, attracted by the relatively mild climate, compared with continental European areas, and the abundant food resources available. It can also assume greater importance at times on deep flooding on the nearby Ouse Washes when it holds displaced birds.

The continued international importance of this site is dependant on the maintenance of a winter flooding regime and a high, but controlled summer water table.

SPA Citation
DAS June 1992

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS)

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 (1990), as amended by Resolution VIII.13 of the 8th Conference of the Contracting Parties (2002) and Resolutions IX.1 Annex B, IX.6, IX.21 and IX. 22 of the 9th Conference of the Contracting Parties (2005).

Notes for compilers:

1. The RIS should be completed in accordance with the attached *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines for completing the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*. Compilers are strongly advised to read this guidance before filling in the RIS.

2. Further information and guidance in support of Ramsar site designations are provided in the *Strategic Framework for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 7, 2nd edition, as amended by COP9 Resolution IX.1 Annex B). A 3rd edition of the Handbook, incorporating these amendments, is in preparation and will be available in 2006.

3. Once completed, the RIS (and accompanying map(s)) should be submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat. Compilers should provide an electronic (MS Word) copy of the RIS and, where possible, digital copies of all maps.

1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD MM YY

Designation date | Site Reference Number

Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Monkstone House
City Road
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire PE1 1JY
UK
Telephone/Fax: +44 (0)1733 – 562 626 / +44 (0)1733 – 555 948
Email: RIS@JNCC.gov.uk

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:
Designated: 05 March 1993

3. Country:
UK (England)

4. Name of the Ramsar site:
Nene Washes

5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

This RIS is for: Updated information on an existing Ramsar site

6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

a) Site boundary and area:

** Important note: If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:

7. Map of site included:

Refer to Annex III of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines*, for detailed guidance on provision of suitable maps, including digital maps.

a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:

i) **hard copy** (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List): *yes* ✓ -or- *no* □;
ii) **an electronic format** (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image) Yes
iii) **a GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables** *yes* ✓ -or- *no* □;

b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:

e.g. the boundary is the same as an existing protected area (nature reserve, national park etc.), or follows a catchment boundary, or follows a geopolitical boundary such as a local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of a waterbody, etc.

The site boundary is the same as, or falls within, an existing protected area.

For precise boundary details, please refer to paper map provided at designation

8. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude):

52 34 41 N 00 04 33 W

9. General location:

Include in which part of the country and which large administrative region(s), and the location of the nearest large town.

Nearest town/city: Peterborough

The site extends for 21 km east from Peterborough, in eastern England.

Administrative region: Cambridgeshire; City of Peterborough

10. Elevation (average and/or max. & min.) (metres): **11. Area** (hectares): 1517.49

Min. 1
Max. 6
Mean 2

12. General overview of the site:

Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

This site is an extensive area of seasonally-flooding wet grassland (washland) of importance for national and international populations of breeding and wintering waders and wildfowl. During severe winter weather elsewhere, the site can attract waterfowl from other areas due to its relatively mild climate (compared with continental Europe) and abundant food resources available. The site is also notable for the diversity of plant and associated animal life within its network of dykes.

13. Ramsar Criteria:

Circle or underline each Criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar site. See Annex II of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines* for the Criteria and guidelines for their application (adopted by Resolution VII.11).

2, 6

14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:

Provide justification for each Criterion in turn, clearly identifying to which Criterion the justification applies (see Annex II for guidance on acceptable forms of justification).

Ramsar criterion 2

The site supports an important assemblage of nationally rare breeding birds. In addition, a wide range of raptors occur through the year. The site also supports several nationally scarce plants, and two vulnerable and two rare British Red Data Book invertebrate species have been recorded.

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation):

Species with peak counts in winter:

Tundra swan , *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*, NW Europe	694 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Black-tailed godwit , *Limosa limosa islandica*, Iceland/W Europe	482 individuals, representing an average of 1.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3 - spring peak)

Species with peak counts in winter:

Northern pintail , *Anas acuta*, NW Europe	1848 individuals, representing an average of 3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Contemporary data and information on waterbird trends at this site and their regional (sub-national) and national contexts can be found in the Wetland Bird Survey report, which is updated annually. See www.bto.org/survey/webs/webs-alerts-index.htm.

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15. Biogeography (required when Criteria 1 and/or 3 and /or certain applications of Criterion 2 are applied to the designation):

Name the relevant biogeographic region that includes the Ramsar site, and identify the biogeographic regionalisation system that has been applied.

a) biogeographic region:

Atlantic

b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation):

Council Directive 92/43/EEC

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16. Physical features of the site:

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

Soil & geology	acidic, basic, neutral, clay, alluvium, peat
Geomorphology and landscape	lowland, floodplain
Nutrient status	eutrophic
pH	circumneutral
Salinity	fresh
Soil	mainly organic
Water permanence	usually seasonal / intermittent

Summary of main climatic features	Annual averages (Cambridge, 1971–2000) (www.metoffice.com/climate/uk/averages/19712000/sites/cambridge.html) Max. daily temperature: 14.1° C Min. daily temperature: 6.1° C Days of air frost: 41.9 Rainfall: 553.5 mm Hrs. of sunshine: 1501.2

General description of the Physical Features:

The Nene Washes are an extensive area of seasonally-flooding wet grassland ('washland') lying along the River Nene.

17. Physical features of the catchment area:

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, general land use, and climate (including climate type).

The Nene Washes are an extensive area of seasonally-flooding wet grassland ('washland') lying along the River Nene.

18. Hydrological values:

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

Flood water storage / desynchronisation of flood peaks

19. Wetland types:

Human-made wetland, Inland wetland

Code	Name	% Area
4	Seasonally flooded agricultural land	100

20. General ecological features:

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Ramsar site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

A mixture of largely arable land and agriculturally-improved, floristically-poor grassland. The latter being dominated by species such as *Elymus repens*, *Poa trivialis* and *Deschampsia cespitosa*. Areas of more structurally-diverse grassland exist containing a range of grasses, sedges and rushes. Species of frequent occurrence include *Eleocharis palustris*, *Glyceria fluitans*, *Glyceria maxima*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Alopecurus geniculatus* and *Juncus effusus*. A couple of small semi-natural grassland areas are also present. The washlands are used for the seasonal uptake of floodwaters and traditionally, cattle grazing in summer months. The mosaic of rough grassland and wet pasture provide a variety of habitats for breeding and feeding birds. Many of the ditches hold a rich flora and several nationally scarce plants including fringed water-lily *Nymphoides peltata*, hair-like pondweed *Potamogeton trichoides* and marsh dock *Rumex palustris*.

Ecosystem services

21. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in **12**. Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g. which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

Nationally important species occurring on the site.

Higher Plants.
Nymphoides peltata, Potamogeton trichoides, Rumex palustris, Potamogeton friesii, Alisma lanceolatum, Hordeum marinum.

22. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in **12**. Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g. which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc., including count data. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

Birds

Species currently occurring at levels of national importance:

Species with peak counts in winter:

Whooper swan , *Cygnus cygnus*, Iceland/UK/Ireland	80 individuals, representing an average of 1.3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Eurasian wigeon , *Anas penelope*, NW Europe	9651 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Eurasian teal , *Anas crecca*, NW Europe	2015 individuals, representing an average of 1% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Northern shoveler , *Anas clypeata*, NW & C Europe	343 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Common pochard , *Aythya ferina*, NE & NW Europe	1795 individuals, representing an average of 3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
European golden plover , *Pluvialis apricaria apricaria*, P. a. altifrons Iceland & Faroes/E Atlantic	2949 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Ruff , *Philomachus pugnax*, Europe/W Africa	98 individuals, representing an average of 14% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species Information

Nationally important species occurring on the site.

Invertebrates.
Valvata macrostoma, Agabus undulatus, Libellula fulva, Anasimyia interpuncta.

23. Social and cultural values:

Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values.

Aesthetic
Livestock grazing
Non-consumptive recreation
Sport hunting

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning? No

If Yes, describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

i) sites which provide a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland:

ii) sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:

iii) sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:

iv) sites where relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland:

24. Land tenure/ownership:

Ownership category	On-site	Off-site
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	+	
Private	+	+
Private	+	+

25. Current land (including water) use:

Activity	On-site	Off-site
Nature conservation	+	
Recreation	+	
Permanent arable agriculture	+	+
Permanent pastoral agriculture	+	+
Hay meadows	+	
Flood control	+	
Transport route		+

26. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:

Explanation of reporting category:

1. *Those factors that are still operating, but it is unclear if they are under control, as there is a lag in showing the management or regulatory regime to be successful.*
2. *Those factors that are not currently being managed, or where the regulatory regime appears to have been ineffective so far.*

NA = Not Applicable because no factors have been reported.

Adverse Factor Category	Reporting Category	Description of the problem (Newly reported Factors only)	On-Site	Off-Site	Major Impact?
No factors reported	NA				

For category 2 factors only.

What measures have been taken / are planned / regulatory processes invoked, to mitigate the effect of these factors?
Is the site subject to adverse ecological change? NO

27. Conservation measures taken:

List national category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site; management practices; whether an officially approved management plan exists and whether it is being implemented.

Conservation measure	On-site	Off-site
Site/ Area of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI/ASSI)	+	
Special Protection Area (SPA)	+	
Land owned by a non-governmental organisation for nature conservation	+	
Management agreement	+	
Site management statement/plan implemented	+	
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	+	

b) Describe any other current management practices:

The management of Ramsar sites in the UK is determined by either a formal management plan or through other management planning processes, and is overseen by the relevant statutory conservation agency. Details of the precise management practises are given in these documents.

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

No information available

29. Current scientific research and facilities:

e.g. details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

Fauna.

Numbers of migratory and wintering wildfowl and waders are monitored annually as part of the national Wetland Birds Survey (WeBS) organised by the British Trust for Ornithology, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

Annual breeding bird survey.

30. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:

e.g. visitor centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.

Occasional guided walks are provided by RSPB warden.

31. Current recreation and tourism:

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

Wildfowling and sport hunting annually from September to February.

32. Jurisdiction:

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Dept. of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.

Head, Natura 2000 and Ramsar Team, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, European Wildlife Division, Zone 1/07, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB

33. Management authority:

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland. Wherever possible provide also the title and/or name of the person or persons in this office with responsibility for the wetland.

Site Designations Manager, English Nature, Sites and Surveillance Team, Northminster House, Northminster Road, Peterborough, PE1 1UA, UK

34. Bibliographical references:

Scientific/technical references only. If biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied (see **15** above), list full reference citation for the scheme.

Site-relevant references

Cranswick, PA, Waters, RJ, Musgrove, AJ & Pollitt, MS (1997) *The Wetland Bird Survey 1995–96: wildfowl and wader counts*. British Trust for Ornithology, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds & Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Slimbridge

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Folkard, N, Ausden, M & Kitchen, C (1998) *Conservation management of the Nene Washes RSPB Reserve*. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy

McLeod, CR, Yeo, M, Brown, AE, Burn, AJ, Hopkins, JJ & Way, SF (eds.) (2004) *The Habitats Directive: selection of Special Areas of Conservation in the UK*. 2nd edn. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. www.jncc.gov.uk/SACselection

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Stroud, DA, Chambers, D, Cook, S, Buxton, N, Fraser, B, Clement, P, Lewis, P, McLean, I, Baker, H & Whitehead, S (eds.) (2001) *The UK SPA network: its scope and content*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough (3 vols.) www.jncc.gov.uk/UKSPA/default.htm

Please return to: **Ramsar Secretariat, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland**
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Appendix 3: Ornithological Data

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
barn owl	n/a	TF338167	2009	n/a n/a
barn owl	n/a	TF381174	24/01/2009	n/a
barn owl	n/a	TF293136	24/01/2009	n/a
barn owl	Crowland Common	TF2414	25/01/2017	n/a
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	04/08/2019	1
barn owl	Whaplode Fen	TF	09/11/2020	1
barn owl	Great Postland	TF21	07/01/1999	1
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	05/08/2000	3
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	20/08/2000	1
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	03/10/2000	1
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/10/2000	1
barn owl	Holbeach Fen	TF	31/10/2000	1
barn owl	Holbeach Fen	TF	09/02/2000	2
barn owl	Great Postland	TF21	06/01/2000	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	25/08/2001	2
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	27/08/2001	1
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	28/10/2001	1
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	03/02/2002	1
barn owl	Holbeach Fen	TF	09/11/2003	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	22/12/2007	1
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	06/11/2007	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	14/01/2008	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	04/02/2008	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	12/11/2009	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	25/02/2010	1
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	23/02/2011	1
barn owl	Moulton Chapel	TF21	22/02/2012	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	10/01/2013	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2013	1
barn owl	Holbeach Fen	TF	02/01/2017	1
barn owl	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	09/01/2021	3
barn owl	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	18/02/2021	1
barn owl	Whaplode Fen	TF	22/02/2021	1
barn owl	n/a	TF2414	07/01/2017	n/a
barn owl	n/a	TF251148	07/06/2011	n/a
barn owl	Sutton St James	TF	08/07/2000	3
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	17/03/2002	1
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	02/04/2002	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	20/04/2007	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	10/05/2007	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	31/05/2007	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	01/06/2007	1
barn owl	Gedney Hill	TF31	21/03/2007	2
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	19/03/2008	1

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	04/06/2008	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	13/05/2009	1
barn owl	Cowbit	TF21	25/06/2010	1
barn owl	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	2
barn owl	Cowbit Wash	TF21	03/03/2021	1
bittern	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/11/2018	1
black redstart	Holbeach Drove	TF31G	12/04/2011	1
black redstart	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/04/2011	1
black-tailed godwit	Cowbit	TF21	30/04/2007	2
brambling	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	16/12/2001	1
brambling	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	13/10/2011	1
bullfinch	n/a	TF318130	2009	n/a
bullfinch	Gedney Hill	TF31	11/04/2007	2
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/10/2020	5
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	11/01/2020	6
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2020	4
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	08/03/2020	60
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/07/2010	4
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/04/2011	2
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	07/04/2012	4
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2013	20
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/03/2014	8
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	17/05/2014	17
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	06/12/2014	5
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/07/2014	2
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/08/2015	3
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	19/07/2015	3
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	16/03/2018	22
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/04/2018	2
Canada goose	Cowbit	TF21	11/08/2018	11
Canada goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	n/a
Cetti's warbler	Crowland Falls	TF2414	31/12/2021	n/a
corn bunting	n/a	TF251152	May 1996	n/a
corn bunting	n/a	TF253155	May 1996	n/a
corn bunting	n/a	TF21P	2005 - 2010	n/a
corn bunting	n/a	TF21N	2005 - 2010	n/a
corn bunting	n/a	TF21P	2004 - 2009	n/a
crane	Great Postland	TF21	18/09/2011	1
cuckoo	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	07/05/1994-12/06/1994	n/a
cuckoo	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	1
cuckoo	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
cuckoo	Cowbit	TF21	23/04/2007	1

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
cuckoo	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	07/05/2011	1
cuckoo	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	03/07/2011	1
cuckoo	Gedney Fen	TF	05/05/2013	1 (Est.)
cuckoo	Sutton St James	TF	24/04/2014	1
cuckoo	Sutton St James	TF	26/04/2014	1
cuckoo	Sutton St James	TF	06/06/2017	1
cuckoo	Sutton St James	TF	22/05/2017	1
cuckoo	Sutton St James	TF	25/05/2017	2
cuckoo	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	1
cuckoo	n/a	TF254174	04/07/2014	n/a
cuckoo	n/a	TF248147	29/05/2022	n/a
curlew	Cowbit	TF21	13/12/2010	2
fieldfare	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF2514	22/10/2010	
fieldfare	Whaplode Fen	TF	09/11/2020	3
fieldfare	Whaplode Fen	TF	16/12/2020	23
fieldfare	Sutton St Edmund	TF31R	17/12/2020	20
fieldfare	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	03/11/2020	
fieldfare	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	27/10/2020	
fieldfare	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	21/03/2020	12 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach Fen	TF	01/01/1999	1
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2002	1 (Est.)
fieldfare	Shepeau Stow	TF31A	23/12/2002	50 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2003	1 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2006	1 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	11/02/2006	150 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2007	45 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	05/03/2007	4
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	06/01/2007	3
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	04/01/2008	125 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	20/01/2009	110 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	25/04/2011	1
fieldfare	Gedney Fen	TF	21/05/2011	1
fieldfare	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	02/03/2011	50 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	23/11/2011	6
fieldfare	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	24/11/2011	90 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/12/2011	90 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach Drove	TF31G	01/04/2011	20 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	01/04/2012	12
fieldfare	Fleet Fen	TF	30/03/2013	20 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2013	225 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	20/01/2014	100 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	18/01/2015	70 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2015	6
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	12/01/2018	100 (Est.)

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	02/02/2018	300 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	22/02/2018	400 (Est.)
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	17/12/2018	50
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	01/02/2019	15
fieldfare	Cowbit	TF21	08/01/2019	150 (Est.)
fieldfare	Holbeach Fen	TF	17/11/2019	1 (Est.)
fieldfare	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	07/01/2021	n/a
fieldfare	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	n/a
fieldfare	Whaplode Fen	TF	21/02/2021	27
fieldfare	Cowbit Wash	TF21	20/12/2021	100
fieldfare	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/03/2021	21
fieldfare	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/04/2021	20
fieldfare	Cowbit Wash	TF21	30/04/2021	27
goldeneye	Cowbit	TF21	18/12/2011	1
goldeneye	Cowbit	TF21	12/02/2012	2
goldeneye	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2013	1
goldeneye	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	3
goldeneye	Crowland	TF2414	31/12/2021	n/a
goldeneye	Cowbit Wash	TF21	20/12/2021	1
green sandpiper	Cowbit	TF21	11/03/2006	1
green sandpiper	Cowbit	TF21	25/03/2008	1
green sandpiper	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/11/2018	1
green sandpiper	Sutton St James	TF	05/02/2019	1
grey partridge	Whaplode Fen	TF	16/12/2020	6
grey partridge	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	25/04/2020	2
grey partridge	Fleet Fen	TF	02/04/2010	14
grey partridge	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	24/11/2011	14
grey partridge	Crowland Falls	TF21L	27/11/2021	9
grey partridge	n/a	TF21V	2005 - 2010	n/a
grey partridge	n/a	TF31I	2003 - 2008	n/a
grey partridge	n/a	TF21M	2003 - 2008	n/a
grey partridge	n/a	TF21M	2004 - 2009	n/a
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	08/03/2020	6
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	03/11/2020	
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	27/10/2020	
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	14/10/2020	
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	28/01/2020	
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	17/01/2010	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	20/02/2010	6
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/05/2010	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/04/2010	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/09/2010	2
greylag goose	Holbeach Fen	TF	13/05/2010	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	13/12/2010	200

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/07/2010	13
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	16/08/2010	5
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/07/2011	67
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/06/2011	31
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	13/05/2011	24
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/03/2011	66
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/02/2011	42
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/04/2011	16
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2012	18
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2012	1
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	07/04/2012	34
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2012	13
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/07/2012	26
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2012	90
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2013	5
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	14/04/2013	3
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/07/2013	60
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/05/2013	11
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	14/06/2014	17
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	11/10/2014	7
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	06/12/2014	13
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/03/2014	40
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	17/05/2014	9
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	20/04/2014	11
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/07/2014	13
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	13/12/2015	4
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	19/07/2015	9
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/10/2015	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/12/2016	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/12/2016	6
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/02/2016	6
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	12/03/2016	10
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	24/07/2016	6
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	08/05/2016	15
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	10/04/2016	2
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	10/02/2017	1 (Est.)
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	11/03/2017	12
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	09/04/2017	15
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	14/05/2017	12
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	13/02/2017	19
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	18/02/2018	14
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2018	8
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	14/07/2018	6

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2018	12
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	15/04/2018	16
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	16/03/2018	37
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	17/06/2018	15
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	19/05/2019	14
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	17/02/2019	18
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	21/04/2019	8
greylag goose	Cowbit	TF21	22/03/2019	24
greylag goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	01/02/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Crowland	TF2414	31/12/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/11/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	27/02/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/02/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	18/02/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	05/03/2021	n/a
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/04/2021	4
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	11/01/2021	14
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	03/03/2021	7
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/11/2021	1
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/03/2021	4
greylag goose	Cowbit Wash	TF21	30/04/2021	9
hen harrier	Great Postland	TF21	05/10/2020	1
hen harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	27/02/2011	1
hen harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/04/2011	1
hen harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	14/04/2011	1
hen harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	23/03/2012	1
hen harrier	Holbeach Fen	TF	19/03/2014	1
house sparrow	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	29/09/1977	8
house sparrow	n/a	TF318130	2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF338167	2009	n/a
house sparrow	River Welland, Borough Fen	TF254151	25/07/2011	n/a
house sparrow	New River	TF257179	20/08/2012	n/a
house sparrow	South Holland Main Drain, West	TF365175	09/08/2012	n/a
house sparrow	South Holland Main Drain, West	TF373182	09/08/2012	n/a
house sparrow	Lambert Drain	TF3211	09/06/2014	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF294110	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF388161	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF266184	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF369135	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF306121	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF318121	26/01/2008	n/a

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
house sparrow	n/a	TF328126	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF316124	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF322126	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF343162	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF345182	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF266176	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF347183	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF337110	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF263176	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF326123	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF366119	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF340117	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF343157	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF387156	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF265160	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF339111	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF292136	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF303120	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF262180	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF319121	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF321139	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF280181	26/01/2008	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF306122	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF312139	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF339111	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF381174	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF319122	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF328127	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF293136	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF320121	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF366119	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF389162	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF263175	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF263180	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF343111	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF345183	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF265161	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF266176	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF341117	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF327125	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF264177	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF348183	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF327124	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF322140	24/01/2009	n/a

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
house sparrow	n/a	TF309122	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF323127	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF334167	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF304121	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF388157	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF272181	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	n/a	TF281181	24/01/2009	n/a
house sparrow	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	1
house sparrow	Cowbit	TF264173	29/11/2019	n/a
house sparrow	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
house sparrow	Whaplode Drove	TF31B	07/01/2020	10
house sparrow	Whaplode Fen	TF	09/11/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Crowland Falls	TF2414	22/03/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Cowbit	TF2518	08/10/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Cowbit Wash	TF2618	09/10/2020	n/a
house sparrow	Gedney Hill	TF31	11/04/2007	2
house sparrow	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	27/02/2021	n/a
house sparrow	Whaplode Fen	TF	21/01/2021	n/a
house sparrow	Whaplode Fen	TF	02/01/2021	n/a
house sparrow	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	n/a
house sparrow	Whaplode Fen	TF	30/01/2021	23
house sparrow	Cowbit Wash	TF21	08/05/2021	20
house sparrow	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	3
house sparrow	Cowbit Wash	TF21	10/06/2021	2
kingfisher	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	1
kingfisher	Cowbit	TF21	10/02/2017	2
kingfisher	Cowbit	TF21	06/10/2017	1
kingfisher	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/11/2018	1
kingfisher	Cowbit Wash	TF21	17/02/2021	1
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	29/09/1977	3
lapwing	River Welland, Borough Fen	TF256162	25/07/2011	n/a
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/10/2020	820
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	08/03/2020	71
lapwing	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	150
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	03/11/2020	n/a
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	30/10/2020	n/a
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	27/10/2020	n/a
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	14/10/2020	n/a
lapwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	28/01/2020	n/a
lapwing	Great Postland	TF2712	09/10/2020	100 (Min.)

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
lapwing	Crowland Falls	TF2414	22/03/2020	n/a
lapwing	Shepeau Stow	TF31A	09/02/2000	500 (Est.)
lapwing	Holbeach Fen	TF	14/03/2010	15 (Est.)
lapwing	Gedney Hill	TF31	19/06/2010	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	11/10/2010	103
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	01/08/2010	28
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	20/02/2010	200
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/05/2010	2
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	17/05/2010	2
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	23/05/2010	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/04/2010	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	14/03/2010	3
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	19/03/2010	8
lapwing	Holbeach Fen	TF	19/03/2010	15
lapwing	Holbeach Fen	TF	06/05/2010	2
lapwing	Holbeach Fen	TF	07/05/2010	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/09/2010	50
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	13/11/2010	300
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/09/2011	200
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	19/11/2011	120
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/06/2011	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/07/2011	7
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/12/2011	65
lapwing	Sutton St James	TF	12/04/2011	4
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	22/04/2011	4
lapwing	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/06/2011	43
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/02/2011	16
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	16/01/2011	36
lapwing	Holbeach Fen	TF	17/04/2011	14
lapwing	Sutton St James	TF	23/02/2011	70 (Est.)
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	16/10/2011	25
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/07/2012	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	16/11/2012	12
lapwing	Sutton St James	TF	24/02/2012	50 (Est.)
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/08/2012	130
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	14/10/2012	267
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/02/2012	4
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2012	2
lapwing	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	25/03/2012	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2012	120
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/09/2013	200
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2013	218
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2013	50
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	400

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	24/08/2013	35
lapwing	Gedney Fen	TF	29/03/2013	20 (Est.)
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/05/2013	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	06/12/2014	1050
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	14/06/2014	4
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/07/2014	20
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	09/08/2014	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	06/09/2014	82
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	11/10/2014	1025
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	08/11/2014	360
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	16/02/2014	25
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/03/2014	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/05/2014	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	19/07/2015	17
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/10/2015	623
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/09/2015	162
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/09/2016	300
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/12/2016	220
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/12/2016	394
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	08/05/2016	3
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	24/07/2016	13
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/08/2016	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	13/11/2016	400
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/02/2016	394
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	12/03/2016	70
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	09/12/2017	15
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	19/11/2017	7
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	11/03/2017	19
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	14/01/2017	97
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2018	208
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/04/2018	2
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/06/2018	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2018	50
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	24/02/2018	8
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/12/2018	1 (Est.)
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	09/09/2018	300
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	21/04/2019	1
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	19/05/2019	3
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/02/2019	160
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/11/2019	157
lapwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/09/2019	145
lapwing	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	01/02/2021	
lapwing	Crowland	TF2414	31/12/2021	
lapwing	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/11/2021	

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
lapwing	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	07/01/2021	n/a
lapwing	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	13/02/2021	n/a
lapwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/04/2021	6
lapwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	n/a
lapwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	1
lapwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/11/2021	8
lapwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/03/2021	2
lapwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	12/06/2021	3
lapwing	n/a	TF21R	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21P	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21N	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21M	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21L	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21T	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31N	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31I	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31H	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31G	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31U	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31T	2005 - 2010	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31U	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31N	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF31I	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21L	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21L	2001 - 2006	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21T	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21R	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21P	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21N	2004 - 2009	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21N	2003 - 2008	n/a
lapwing	n/a	TF21M	2004 - 2009	n/a
lesser redpoll	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	2
lesser redpoll	Whaplode Fen	TF	28/01/2021	4
lesser redpoll	Whaplode Fen	TF	30/01/2021	2
lesser redpoll	Whaplode Fen	TF	22/02/2021	4
linnet	South Holland Main Drain, West	TF309155	01/08/2012	n/a
linnet	Lambert Drain to Highstock Drain Connection	TF31	24/09/2013	70
linnet	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	1
linnet	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	4
linnet	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	25/04/2020	10 (Min.)
linnet	Gedney Hill	TF31	11/04/2007	2
linnet	Cowbit	TF21	27/04/2008	1

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
linnet	Gedney Hill	TF31	19/07/2010	1
linnet	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	4
linnet	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/11/2018	30
linnet	Holbeach Fen	TF	17/11/2019	1 (Est.)
linnet	Gedney Fen	TF	22/05/2019	1 (Est.)
linnet	Crowland	TF260126	13/10/2020	n/a
linnet	Whaplode Fen	TF	25/02/2021	18
linnet	Cowbit Wash	TF21	12/06/2021	4
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	11/01/2020	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2020	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	17/11/2020	1
little egret	Whaplode Drove	TF31B	07/01/2020	1
little egret	Sutton St Edmund	TF31R	17/12/2020	4
little egret	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	28/01/2020	
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	11/02/2006	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	17/01/2010	1
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/08/2011	1
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/08/2011	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	19/11/2011	1
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	07/10/2011	1
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/10/2011	2
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	27/02/2011	3
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	15/09/2012	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2012	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	16/11/2012	3
little egret	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	17/01/2012	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	12/01/2013	8
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	06/01/2014	3
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	13/12/2015	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	15/11/2015	3
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2015	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	17/01/2016	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	13/11/2016	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	21/12/2016	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	17/09/2016	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	21/02/2016	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	13/02/2017	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2018	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	23/01/2018	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	12/01/2018	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	22/02/2018	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2018	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	17/11/2019	1

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	20/01/2019	1
little egret	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/11/2021	n/a
little egret	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/02/2021	n/a
little egret	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	n/a
little egret	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	13/02/2021	n/a
little egret	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	1
little egret	Cowbit Wash	TF21	11/01/2021	1
little egret	Cowbit Wash	TF21	20/12/2021	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	08/03/2020	2
little egret	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	20/03/2020	2
little egret	Great Postland	TF21	10/03/2009	1
little egret	Gedney Fen	TF	16/04/2011	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2012	1
little egret	Sutton St James	TF	26/03/2013	1 (Est.)
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	07/03/2013	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	15/03/2014	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	21/04/2015	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	12/03/2016	7
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	08/05/2016	2
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	16/03/2018	1
little egret	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2018	1
little egret	Gedney Fen	TF	10/04/2019	1 (Est.)
little egret	Cowbit Wash	TF21	03/03/2021	1
long-tailed duck	Cowbit	TF21	13/02/2017	1
long-tailed duck	Cowbit	TF21	11/03/2017	1
marsh harrier	Moulton Chapel	TF21	08/10/2020	2
marsh harrier	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	2
marsh harrier	Moulton Chapel	TF21	08/10/2020	3
marsh harrier	Weston Fen	TF2716	08/10/2020	3
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	05/08/2002	2
marsh harrier	Great Postland	TF21	17/10/2008	1
marsh harrier	Great Postland	TF21	11/01/2008	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	04/09/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/09/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/09/2011	2
marsh harrier	Sutton St James	TF	12/08/2013	1
marsh harrier	Gedney Fen	TF	18/09/2013	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2013	1
marsh harrier	Moulton Chapel	TF21	18/11/2013	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	21/08/2016	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2018	1
marsh harrier	Whaplode Fen	TF	28/01/2021	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	22/07/1999	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	2

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	27/07/2011	3 (Est.)
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	25/04/2011	4 (Est.)
marsh harrier	Holbeach Fen	TF	21/06/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	05/05/2011	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	13/05/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	04/05/2011	2
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	17/05/2011	2
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	12/03/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	04/04/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/04/2011	1
marsh harrier	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	30/07/2011	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	20/05/2012	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	21/04/2014	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	17/06/2018	1
marsh harrier	Cowbit	TF21	15/04/2018	1
marsh harrier	Gedney Fen	TF	10/04/2019	1 (Est.)
merlin	Cowbit	TF21	09/12/2008	1
merlin	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	04/09/2011	1
merlin	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2018	1
peregrine	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/09/2011	1
peregrine	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	05/10/2011	1
peregrine	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	03/12/2011	2
peregrine	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/02/2011	1
peregrine	Whaplode Fen	TF	24/02/2021	1
peregrine	Whaplode Fen	TF	27/02/2021	1
peregrine	Fleet Fen	TF	08/03/2011	1
peregrine	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	05/03/2011	1
red kite	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	27/10/2020	
red kite	Cowbit	TF21	19/11/2017	1
red kite	Cowbit	TF21	17/02/2019	1
red kite	Crowland	TF2414	31/12/2021	n/a
red kite	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	15/10/2021	1
red kite	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
red kite	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	21/03/2020	1
red kite	Cowbit	TF21	15/03/2014	1
red kite	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	08/06/2017	2
red kite	Sutton St James	TF	08/06/2017	2
red kite	Cowbit	TF21	14/07/2018	1
red kite	Gedney Fen	TF	22/05/2019	2
red kite	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	1
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2002	3
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	17/01/2010	15
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	18/04/2010	1
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	18/12/2011	2

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2012	2
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2012	12
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	09/02/2013	6
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2013	2
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2013	2
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	12/01/2013	17
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2013	3
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	06/01/2014	3
redshank	Cowbit	TF21	17/02/2019	1
red-throated diver	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	1
red-throated diver	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	13/02/2021	1
redwing	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF2514	22/10/2010	n/a
redwing		TF338167	2009	n/a
redwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	09/11/2020	n/a
redwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	27/11/2020	7
redwing	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	27/10/2020	n/a
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2002	1
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2003	1 (Est.)
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2006	1 (Est.)
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	06/01/2007	3
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	09/03/2008	9
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	20/01/2009	1
redwing	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	14/10/2011	50 (Est.)
redwing	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	23/11/2011	1
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	08/02/2013	4 (Est.)
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	18/01/2015	70 (Est.)
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2015	1
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	02/02/2018	1 (Est.)
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	17/12/2018	2
redwing	Cowbit	TF21	08/01/2019	20 (Est.)
redwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	24/03/2021	6
redwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	02/01/2021	7
redwing	Whaplode Fen	TF	05/01/2021	2
redwing	Cowbit Wash	TF21	20/12/2021	50
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	07/05/1994-12/06/1994	n/a
reed bunting	New River	TF253148	23/08/2012	n/a
reed bunting	New River	TF2616	05/06/1995	n/a
reed bunting	Fleet Drain	TF342131	12/09/2013	n/a
reed bunting	Fleet Drain	TF347140	12/09/2013	n/a
reed bunting	Fleet Drain	TF356157	12/09/2013	n/a

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
reed bunting	Lambert Drain to Highstock Drain Connection	TF31	09/06/2014	n/a
reed bunting	Lambert Drain	TF3111	09/06/2014	n/a
reed bunting	n/a	TF339111	24/01/2009-25/01/2009	n/a
reed bunting	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	1
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	25/04/2020	6 (Min.)
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	25/04/2020	6
reed bunting	Cowbit	TF21	25/02/2006	60
reed bunting	Gedney Hill	TF31	10/05/2007	1
reed bunting	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	6
reed bunting	Sutton St James	TF	01/04/2012	5
reed bunting	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/11/2018	12
reed bunting	Holbeach Fen	TF	17/11/2019	1 (Est.)
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	27/02/2021	n/a
reed bunting	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	18/02/2021	n/a
reed bunting	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	1
reed bunting	Cowbit Wash	TF21	10/06/2021	1
skylark	Lambert Drain	TF319110	13/09/2013	
skylark	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	2
skylark	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	2
skylark	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	
skylark	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	3
skylark	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
skylark	Whaplode Fen	TF	31/12/2020	2
skylark	Whaplode Fen	TF	09/11/2020	2
skylark	Whaplode Fen	TF	27/11/2020	1
skylark	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	30/10/2020	
skylark	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	21/03/2020	
skylark	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	20/03/2020	
skylark	Gedney Hill	TF31	07/05/2010	3
skylark	Gedney Fen	TF	13/03/2010	1
skylark	Gedney Fen	TF	19/03/2010	2
skylark	Sutton St James	TF	28/03/2010	2
skylark	Gedney Fen	TF	01/08/2010	1
skylark	Sutton St James	TF	12/04/2011	2
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	05/10/2011	4
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	6
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	06/10/2011	7
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	04/10/2011	10 (Est.)
skylark	Sutton St James	TF	01/04/2012	16
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	25/03/2012	3 (Est.)
skylark	Sutton St James	TF	31/03/2013	1 (Est.)

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
skylark	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	12/11/2018	40
skylark	Gedney Fen	TF	22/05/2019	1 (Est.)
skylark	Gedney Fen	TF	10/04/2019	1 (Est.)
skylark	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/02/2021	n/a
skylark	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	n/a
skylark	Whaplode Fen	TF	28/01/2021	2
skylark	Whaplode Fen	TF	25/02/2021	1
snipe	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2002	4
snipe	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	24/04/2011	1
snipe	Cowbit	TF21	24/08/2013	1
snipe	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/03/2021	1
song thrush	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	29/09/1977	n/a
song thrush	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	07/05/1994-12/06/1994	n/a
song thrush	n/a	TF318130	2009	n/a
song thrush	n/a	TF338167	2009	n/a
song thrush	n/a	TF304121	25/01/2009	n/a
song thrush	n/a	TF263180	25/01/2009	n/a
song thrush	n/a	TF328127	25/01/2009	n/a
song thrush	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	2
song thrush	Whaplode Fen	TF	16/12/2020	1
song thrush	Cowbit	TF21	01/01/2006	1 (Est.)
song thrush	Gedney Hill	TF31	11/04/2007	1
song thrush	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	13/10/2011	3
song thrush	Whaplode Fen	TF	05/01/2021	1
starling	Brotherhouse Bar Pit	TF256148	29/09/1977	75
starling	n/a	TF318130	2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF338167	2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF294110	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF388161	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF266184	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF369135	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF306121	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF318121	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF328126	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF316124	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF322126	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF266176	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF347183	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF337110	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF263176	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF326123	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF319121	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF366119	26/01/2008	n/a

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
starling	n/a	TF340117	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF343157	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF387156	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF345182	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF265160	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF292136	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF303120	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF262180	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF321139	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF280181	26/01/2008	n/a
starling	n/a	TF306122	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF327124	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF263180	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF369136	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF272181	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF293136	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF389162	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF263175	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF264177	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF328127	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF312139	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF320121	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF345183	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF266176	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF339111	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF341117	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF327125	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF381174	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF348183	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF322140	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF309122	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF343111	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF323127	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF388157	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF281181	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF343157	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	n/a	TF304121	24/01/2009	n/a
starling	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	1
starling	Cowbit	TF264173	29/11/2019	n/a
starling	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	n/a
starling	Cowbit	TF21	09/10/2020	n/a
starling	Moulton Fen	TF	08/10/2020	50
starling	Welland Farm	TF2517	07/06/2020	300
starling	Whaplode Drove	TF31B	07/01/2020	2

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
starling	Sutton St Edmund	TF31R	17/12/2020	20
starling	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	30/10/2020	n/a
starling	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	14/10/2020	n/a
starling	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	21/03/2020	n/a
starling	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	20/03/2020	n/a
starling	Cowbit	TF2518	08/10/2020	n/a
starling	Crowland Falls	TF2414	22/03/2020	n/a
starling	Gedney Hill	TF31	31/05/2007	15 (Est.)
starling	Gedney Hill	TF31	20/04/2007	1
starling	Gedney Hill	TF31	10/05/2007	3
starling	Sutton St James	TF	27/10/2007	50 (Est.)
starling	Sutton St James	TF	05/11/2007	70 (Est.)
starling	Gedney Fen	TF	01/08/2010	6
starling	Sutton St James	TF	13/03/2010	40 (Est.)
starling	Sutton St James	TF	16/03/2010	15 (Est.)
starling	Gedney Fen	TF	19/03/2010	20 (Est.)
starling	Sutton St James	TF	28/03/2010	20 (Est.)
starling	Gedney Hill	TF31	07/05/2010	10 (Est.)
starling	Holbeach Fen	TF	19/03/2010	14
starling	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	27/08/2011	350 (Est.)
starling	Fleet Fen	TF	02/04/2013	60 (Est.)
starling	Gedney Fen	TF	22/04/2013	1 (Est.)
starling	Fleet Fen	TF	30/03/2013	30 (Est.)
starling	Cowbit	TF21	17/12/2018	25
starling	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	01/02/2021	n/a
starling	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21M	27/02/2021	n/a
starling	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/11/2021	n/a
starling	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	05/03/2021	n/a
starling	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/02/2021	n/a
starling	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	27/02/2021	n/a
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	24/10/2021	50
starling	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	3
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	20/12/2021	2
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	08/05/2021	2
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	12/06/2021	25
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	05/06/2021	25
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	27/03/2021	100
starling	Cowbit Wash	TF21	10/06/2021	255
swift	Cowbit	TF2618	2003	10-12
swift	n/a	TF318130	2009	n/a
swift	South Holland Main Drain, West	TF359165	01/08/2012	n/a
swift	Brotherhouse Bar	TF21S	13/06/2020	1
swift	Cowbit	TF21	30/04/2007	1

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
swift	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	10/05/2011	2
swift	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	26/08/2011	2
swift	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	30/07/2011	30
swift	Cowbit	TF21	07/05/2012	2
swift	Cowbit	TF21	02/05/2013	1
swift	Gedney Fen	TF	22/05/2019	2
swift	Cowbit Wash	TF21	10/06/2021	5
swift	Cowbit Wash	TF21	12/06/2021	2
swift	n/a	TF343157	2010	6
swift	n/a	TF346120	2010	10
swift	n/a	TF338172	29/06/2013	3
swift	n/a	TF300115	23/07/2016	5
swift	n/a	TF273180	22/06/2017	3
swift	n/a	TF273180	11/07/2018	5
swift	n/a	TF255165	24/06/2020	40
swift	n/a	TF259150	28/07/2020	14
swift	n/a	TF346120	2010	2 Nest
tree sparrow	n/a	TF338167	2009	n/a
tree sparrow	Brickyard Wood	TF2611	08/05/1976	1
tree sparrow	Whaplode Drove	TF31B	07/01/2020	1
tree sparrow	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/12/2011	3
tree sparrow	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	22/06/2011	1
tree sparrow	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	07/09/2011	1
tree sparrow	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	20/02/2011	13
tree sparrow	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	09/09/2011	4
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21N	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21V	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31I	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31Z	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31U	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31S	2005 - 2010	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31Z	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31U	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31R	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31H	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31G	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31J	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31I	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF31I	2003 - 2008	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21L	2001 - 2006	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21K	2004 - 2009	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21K	2003 - 2008	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21K	2001 - 2006	n/a
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21U	2004 - 2009	n/a

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
tree sparrow	n/a	TF21W	2004 - 2009	n/a
tundra swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	07/12/2020	24
tundra swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	05/12/2020	12
tundra swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	03/12/2020	8
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	05/01/2008	2
tundra swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	05/03/2011	80
tundra swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	06/03/2011	60
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	12/02/2012	4
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	10/03/2012	10
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	07/04/2012	2
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	15/01/2012	2
tundra swan	Cowbit	TF21	31/01/2019	1
tundra swan	Shepeau Stow	TF3012	19/01/2021	40
tundra swan	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	01/02/2021	11
tundra swan	Dowsdale	TF21V	19/01/2021	40
tundra swan	Crowland Falls	TF21L	27/11/2021	4
whooper swan	Great Postland	TF21	21/11/2020	88
whooper swan	Crowland Falls	TF21L	03/12/2020	96
whooper swan	Crowland Falls	TF21L	03/12/2020	137
whooper swan	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	30/10/2020	n/a
whooper swan	Brotherhouse Bar	TF2515	20/03/2020	1
whooper swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	07/12/2020	88
whooper swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	05/12/2020	153
whooper swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF3417	03/12/2020	191
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	05/01/2008	3
whooper swan	Fleet Fen	TF	02/12/2011	4
whooper swan	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	21/02/2011	13
whooper swan	Fleet Fen	TF	08/03/2011	6
whooper swan	Fleet Fen	TF	29/11/2011	6
whooper swan	Fleet Fen	TF	28/11/2011	62
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	15/12/2012	1
whooper swan	Sutton St James	TF	05/11/2013	9
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	20/01/2014	6
whooper swan	Sutton St James	TF	13/03/2016	50 (Est.)
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	14/01/2017	22
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	11/03/2017	3
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	27/10/2018	5
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	03/11/2018	30
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	10/11/2018	32
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	21/01/2018	8
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	31/01/2019	7
whooper swan	Cowbit	TF21	01/02/2019	14
whooper swan	Shepeau Stow	TF3012	19/01/2021	54
whooper swan	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	01/02/2021	120 (Est.)

common name	Location	Grid Ref	Date	Quantity
whooper swan	Crowland	TF2414	31/12/2021	75
whooper swan	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/11/2021	40 (Est.)
whooper swan	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	24/02/2021	n/a
whooper swan	Deeping High Bank	TF2515	05/03/2021	n/a
whooper swan	Cowbit Wash	TF21	25/10/2021	3
whooper swan	Holbeach Fen	TF	27/02/2021	11
whooper swan	Whaplode Fen	TF	28/01/2021	3
whooper swan	Whaplode Fen	TF	01/01/2021	n/a
whooper swan	Crowland Falls	TF21L	22/11/2021	4
whooper swan	Cowbit Wash	TF21	11/01/2021	5
whooper swan	Crowland Falls	TF21L	27/11/2021	176
whooper swan	Dowsdale	TF21V	19/01/2021	54
yellowhammer	n/a	TF293136	24/01/2009	
yellowhammer	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	1
yellowhammer	Great Postland	TF21	09/10/2020	2
yellowhammer	Holbeach Fen	TF	01/01/1999	1
yellowhammer	Gedney Hill	TF31	20/04/2007	5
yellowhammer	Cowbit	TF21	05/01/2008	3
yellowhammer	Gedney Hill	TF31	19/06/2010	2
yellowhammer	Gedney Fen	TF	24/07/2010	2
yellowhammer	Gedney Fen	TF	01/08/2010	2
yellowhammer	Holbeach St Johns	TF31P	28/08/2011	1
yellowhammer	Gedney Fen	TF	24/02/2012	20 (Est.)
yellowhammer	Gedney Fen	TF	22/05/2019	1 (Est.)

NOTE:

n/a Data not available within the database provided by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership.

Appendix 4: Conservation Assessment Criteria

NON-STATUTORY CONSERVATION CRITERIA

Birds of Conservation Concern

The UK's leading bird conservation organisations have worked together on the fifth quantitative review of the status of the birds that occur regularly here published in 2021, updating the last review in 2021 (Stanbury *et al.,* 2021). A total of 245 species have been assessed against a set of objective criteria to place each on one of three lists – green, amber and red – indicating an increasing level of conservation concern. There are 70 species on the Red-list, 103 on the Amber-list and 72 on the Green list. The Red-list has increased by three species since 2015. The Amber-list has increased by seven since 2015.

The UK's birds can be split in to three categories of conservation importance - red, amber and green.

Red is the highest conservation priority, with species needing urgent action. Amber is the next most critical group, followed by Green.

Birds in the Red and Amber Lists would be subject to at least one of the relevant factors listed below.

Red list criteria

- Globally threatened;
- Historical population decline in UK during 1800–1995;
- Severe (at least 50%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years, or longer-term period (the entire period used for assessments since the first BoCC review, starting in 1969); and/or,
- Severe (at least 50%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years, or the longer-term period.

Amber list criteria

- Species with unfavourable conservation status in Europe (SPEC = Species of European Conservation Concern);
- Historical population decline during 1800–1995, but recovering; population size has more than doubled over last 25 years;
- Moderate (25-49%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years, or the longer-term period;
- Moderate (25-49%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years, or the longer-term period;
- Moderate (25-49%) decline in UK non-breeding population over last 25 years, or the longer-term period;
- Rare breeder; 1–300 breeding pairs in UK;
- Rare non-breeders; less than 900 individuals;
- Localised; at least 50% of UK breeding or non-breeding population in 10 or fewer sites, but not applied to rare breeders or non-breeders; and/or,
- Internationally important; at least 20% of European breeding or non-breeding population in UK (NW European and East Atlantic Flyway populations used for non-breeding wildfowl and waders respectively).

Green list

Species that occur regularly in the UK but do not qualify under any or the above criteria.

Appendix 5: Legislation and Planning Policy

Important Notice: This section contains details of legislation applicable in England and Wales only (i.e. not including Scotland, the Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland or the Channel Islands) and is provided for general guidance only. While every effort has been made to represent the current (at the time of writing) situation with respect to the UK's position outside of the EU and to ensure accuracy throughout, this section should not be relied upon as a definitive statement of the law.

Over the past few years, three important bills have been published which are intended to shape how growing pressures on the environment post-Brexit (post-transition period) are tackled. Both the Agriculture Bill and Fisheries Bill gained Royal Assent in November 2020 and are now the Agriculture Act 2020 and Fisheries Act 2020 respectively; and, more recently, the Environment Bill was passed into law in November 2021, becoming the Environment Act 2021. *Note as an environment policy is a devolved matter, most of this Act applies to England only.*

LEGISLATION AFFORDED TO SITES AND HABITATS

Habitats and sites can be protected directly through the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and The Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) through the notification, classification or designation of various protected sites as detailed below.

In addition, The Environment Act 2021 and the Water Framework Directive indirectly afford protection to non-designated habitats through the duties placed on public and private bodies to promote nature conservation and biodiversity, for example, the creation of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) and associated Species Conservation and Protected Site strategies, and to reduce or avoid harmful activities. Many of these duties and targets form the basis for national and local planning policy and wider conservation strategies and are not covered in detail here.

STATUTORY SITE DESIGNATIONS: NATIONAL

Nationally important areas of special scientific interest, by reason of their flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features, are notified by the countryside agencies as statutory **SSSI** under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and latterly the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). As well as underpinning other national designations (such as **National Nature Reserves** which are declared by the countryside agencies under the same legislation), the system also provides statutory protection for terrestrial and coastal sites which are important within a European context (formerly referred to as part of the Natura 2000 network and recently amended to the National Site Network in line with the UK's departure from the EU) and globally (such as Wetlands of International Importance) - see subsequent sections for details of these designations. Improved provisions for the protection and management of SSSI have been introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) also provides for the making of **Limestone Pavement Orders**, which prohibit the disturbance and removal of limestone from such designated areas, and the designation of **Marine Nature Reserves**, for which byelaws must be made to protect them.

STATUTORY SITE DESIGNATIONS: INTERNATIONAL

Special Protection Areas (SPAs), together with **Special Areas of Conservation** (SACs) form the basis of the **National Site Network** (until recently, these were part of the Natura 2000 network whilst the UK was part of the EU). SPAs are identified and classified by the Government under the EC Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/147/EC (formerly 79/409/EEC)) on the Conservation of Wild Birds) via the mechanisms set out in the Habitats Regulations (as applicable at the time of classification).

SPAs are areas of the most important habitat for rare (listed on Annex I of the Directive) and migratory birds within the European Union. Protection afforded SPAs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles (nm) is given by The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The 'Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) provide a

mechanism for the classification and protection of European Marine Sites (EMS) (SPAs and SACs) in UK offshore waters (from 12-200 nm).

SACs are identified and designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora) via the mechanisms set out in the Habitats Regulations (as applicable at the time of designation). These are areas which have been identified as best representing the range and variety of habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive within the European Union. SACs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles are protected under The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The 'Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) provide a mechanism for the designation and protection of European marine sites or EMS (SACs and SPAs) in UK offshore waters (from 12-200 nm).

Ramsar sites are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, agreed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. The Convention covers all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, in particular recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are globally important for biodiversity conservation. Wetlands can include areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water and may be natural or artificial, permanent or temporary. Wetlands may also incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands. Ramsar sites are underpinned through prior notification as SSSI and as such receive statutory protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with further protection provided by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. Policy statements have been issued by the Government highlighting the special status of Ramsar sites. This effectively extends the level of protection to that afforded to sites in England and Wales which have been designated under the EC Birds and Habitats Directives as part of the Natura 2000 network and now the National Site Network (e.g. SACs and SPAs).

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT 2006 (NERC)

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act came into force on the 1 October 2006. Section 40 of the Act requires all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation when carrying out their functions. This is commonly referred to as the 'biodiversity duty'.

Section 41 of the Act (Section 42 in Wales) requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of 'principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity.' This list is intended to assist decision makers such as public bodies in implementing their duty under Section 40 of the Act. Under the Act, these habitats and species are regarded as a material consideration in determining planning applications. A developer must show that their protection has been adequately addressed within a development proposal.

PLANNING POLICY

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) replaced Planning Policy Statement 9 in 2012 and emphasises the need for sustainable development. The NPPF specifies the need for protection of designated sites and priority habitats and priority species. An emphasis is also made for the need for ecological networks via preservation, restoration and re-creation (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021). The protection and recovery of priority species (widely taken to mean (SPI under S41 of the NERC Act) is also listed as a requirement of planning policy. In determining planning application, planning authorities have a duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity by ensuring the following:

- Designated sites are protected from adverse harm;
- There is appropriate mitigation or compensation where significant harm cannot be avoided;
- Opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments are encouraged; and
- Planning permission is refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats including aged or veteran trees and also ancient woodland.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL BAPS

The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)[7] identifies 17 species as needing targeted action to secure their status. The Lincolnshire Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership, a partnership including 49 representatives, ensures the monitoring and implementation of the objectives associated with these plans.

[7] CHttpHandler.ashx (southkesteven.gov.uk)

Appendix 6: Bird Species List

english name	Scientific Name	BOCC5	S41	LBAP
blackbird	*Turdus merula*			
black-headed gull	***Chroicocephalus ridibundus***	**Amber**		
blue tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*			
brambling	***Fringilla montifringilla***			
buzzard	*Buteo buteo*			
Canada goose	*Branta canadensis*			
carrion crow	*Corvus corone*			
Cetti's warbler	***Cettia cetti***			
chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*			
chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*			
coal tit	*Periparus ater*			
common gull	***Larus canus***	**Amber**		
coot	*Fulica atra*			
cormorant	*Phalacrocorax carbo*			
corn bunting	***Emberiza calandra***	**Red**	**Yes**	
dunlin	***Calidris alpina***	**Red**		**Yes**
dunnock	***Prunella modularis***	**Amber**	**Yes**	
fieldfare	***Turdus pilaris***	**Red**		
gadwall	***Mareca strepera***	**Amber**		
goldcrest	*Regulus regulus*			
golden plover	*Pluvialis apricaria*			
goldfinch	*Carduelis carduelis*			
great black-backed gull	***Larus marinus***	**Amber**		
great spotted woodpecker	*Dendrocopos major*			
great tit	*Parus major*			
green woodpecker	*Picus viridis*			
greenfinch	***Chloris chloris***	**Red**		
grey heron	*Ardea cinerea*			
grey partridge	***Perdix perdix***	**Red**	**Yes**	**Yes**
grey wagtail	***Motacilla cinerea***	**Amber**		
greylag goose	***Anser anser***	**Amber**		
herring gull	***Larus argentatus***	**Red**	**Yes**	
jack snipe	*Lymnocryptes minimus*			
jackdaw	*Coloeus monedula*			
jay	*Garrulus glandarius*			
kestrel	***Falco tinnunculus***	**Amber**		
kingfisher	***Alcedo atthis***			
knot	***Calidris canutus***	**Amber**		
lapwing	***Vanellus vanellus***	**Red**	**Yes**	**Yes**
lesser black-backed gull	***Larus fuscus***	**Amber**		
lesser redpoll	***Acanthis cabaret***	**Red**	**Yes**	
linnet	***Linaria cannabina***	**Red**	**Yes**	**Yes**
little egret	*Egretta garzetta*			
little grebe	*Tachybaptus ruficollis*			
long-tailed tit	*Aegithalos caudatus*			
magpie	*Pica pica*			

english name	Scientific Name	BOCC5	S41	LBAP
mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*	Amber		
meadow pipit	*Anthus pratensis*	Amber		
mistle thrush	*Turdus viscivorus*	Red		
moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	Amber		
mute swan	*Cygnus olor*			
oystercatcher	*Haematopus ostralegus*	Amber		
peregrine	*Falco peregrinus*			
pheasant	*Phasianus colchicus*			
pied wagtail	*Motacilla alba*			
pink-footed goose	*Anser brachyrhynchus*	Amber		
pintail	*Anas acuta*	Amber		
raven	*Corvus corax*			
red kite	*Milvus milvus*			
red-legged partridge	*Alectoris rufa*			
redwing	*Turdus iliacus*	Amber		
reed bunting	*Emberiza schoeniclus*	Amber	Yes	Yes
robin	*Erithacus rubecula*			
rook	*Corvus frugilegus*	Amber		
shelduck	*Tadorna tadorna*	Amber		
short-eared owl	*Asio flammeus*	Amber		
skylark	*Alauda arvensis*	Red	Yes	Yes
snipe	*Gallinago gallinago*	Amber		Yes
song thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	Amber		Yes
sparrowhawk	*Accipiter nisus*	Amber		
starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	Red	Yes	Yes
stock dove	*Columba oenas*	Amber		
stonechat	*Saxicola rubicola*			
swallow	*Hirundo rustica*			
teal	*Anas crecca*	Amber		
wheatear	*Oenanthe oenanthe*	Amber		
whooper swan	*Cygnus cygnus*	Amber		
wigeon	*Mareca penelope*	Amber		
woodcock	*Scolopax rusticola*	Red		
woodpigeon	*Columba palumbus*	Amber		
wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	Amber		
yellowhammer	*Emberiza citrinella*	Red	Yes	Yes

Appendix 7: Transect Results

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
Blackbird							
WT07	1	1	1	2			2
WT08	1		6	2	1		6
WT09	1	6	1	2	1	1	6
WT10	1	1	3	5	1		5
WT13		1	2		1	1	2
Black-Headed Gull							
WT07	3			2		2	3
WT08	4						4
WT09		240		9		31	240
WT10	30	100	70	12	14	66	100
WT13		6	8	6	14	9	14
Blue Tit							
WT07	1		1				1
WT08	1			2	1		2
WT09		1	1	1	2		2
WT10	1		2	3	1		3
WT13		4	3	1			4
Brambling							
WT13			1				1
Buzzard							
WT07		1		1		1	1
WT08		2		1	1	1	2
WT09	1	1	2	2	1	1	2
WT10	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
WT13		1	1	1		2	2
Carrion Crow							
WT07		2	1	3	2		3
WT08		8	2	1	50		50
WT09		6	1	4	6	6	6
WT10	24	60	25	3	34	1	60
WT13		60	6	4	1	1	60
Cetti's Warbler							
WT13		1					1
Chaffinch							
WT07				1			1
WT08		1	1		1		1
WT09		1	1	2	1		2
WT10	60		10	30	70	25	70
WT13		1	3				3
Chiffchaff							
WT07	2						2
WT08	8						8
Coal Tit							
WT10				1			1

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
WT13		1					1
Common Gull							
WT07				6			6
WT08				1			1
WT09		12	3	1			12
WT10	120			1	78	2	120
WT13		3			35		35
Coot							
WT13		10					10
Cormorant							
WT07						1	1
WT10		3	1	1	12	1	12
WT13		1			5	1	5
Corn Bunting							
WT09	1						1
Dunlin							
WT10				9			9
Dunnock							
WT07	1						1
WT08	1				1		1
WT09	1	1			1		1
Fieldfare							
WT07		1		18	20		20
WT08		36	60	30	120		120
WT09	350	15	20	12	21	15	350
WT10		100	26	80	40	60	100
WT13		200	18	14	36	400	400
Gadwall							
WT10		15	6				15
WT13					45		45
Goldcrest							
WT07		1					1
WT10					1		1
Golden Plover							
WT07			150				150
WT08				70			70
WT09		2					2
WT10	3			320		22	320
WT13		17			450	110	450
Goldfinch							
WT07		2	20				20
WT08		1	40				40
WT09		16	8				16
WT10	40	25	10	60	4		60
WT13					18		18

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
Great Black-Backed Gull							
WT09				1			1
WT10		1					1
Great Spotted Woodpecker							
WT08				1	1		1
WT10			1		1	1	1
Great Tit							
WT07				1			1
WT08		1	1		2		2
WT09		3			1		3
WT10	4			1	13		13
WT13				3			3
Green Woodpecker							
WT08			1	1			1
WT10					1	1	1
WT13		1					1
Greenfinch							
WT08		2			20		20
WT09		4	4	1			4
WT13		5					5
Grey Heron							
WT08						1	1
WT09			1			1	1
WT10	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
WT13			1		1		1
Grey Partridge							
WT10		4					4
Grey Wagtail							
WT10					1		1
WT13					1		1
Greylag Goose							
WT10						2	2
WT13					24		24
Herring Gull							
WT07				1	4		4
WT09				1		1	1
WT10			40	1	2	40	40
WT13		2		4			4
Jack Snipe							
WT07			1				1
WT10		1					1
Jackdaw							
WT07					20	4	20
WT08				5	3		5
WT09		40	9				40

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
WT10	20			1	4		20
WT13		60				3	60
Jay							
WT09					1		1
WT10	2	1	1	1			2
WT13					1		1
Kestrel							
WT07		1		1	1		1
WT08		1	1	1	1		1
WT09		1	1	1	1	1	1
WT10	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
WT13		1			1	1	1
Kingfisher							
WT13						1	1
Knot							
WT10		1					1
Lapwing							
WT07				18			18
WT08			1	50			50
WT09		6				2	6
WT10	200	4	60	90	56	2	200
WT13					500	1	500
Lesser Black-Backed Gull							
WT07	18		2	1	2		18
WT08	10	1	7				10
WT09		25	1				25
WT10		5			3	7	7
WT13			4				4
Lesser Redpoll							
WT10			4				4
Linnet							
WT07		1		50			50
WT08		1	25		4	15	25
WT09	75	150	100	430	10		430
WT10	40	100	150	150	120	10	150
WT13		2					2
Little Egret							
WT07			1				1
WT10			2		1		2
Long-Tailed Tit							
WT07		2					2
WT08		8	1	3			8
WT10	8		8		14		14
WT13		10					10
Magpie							

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
WT07					1		1
WT08		2		1	2		2
WT09					2	3	3
WT10		1	2	1			2
WT13		6				2	6
Mallard							
WT07	1					1	1
WT08		1		2	2	3	3
WT09				6		4	6
WT10	16	30			40	20	40
WT13		24			160		160
Meadow Pipit							
WT07		4	2	2	3		4
WT08		4	2	12	15	2	15
WT09	2	1	1	3		1	3
WT10	14	20	2		12	4	20
WT13		14			20	2	20
Mistle Thrush							
WT13					1		1
Moorhen							
WT07	1						1
WT13		1					1
Mute Swan							
WT09	1						1
WT10	2	10	28	25	18		28
WT13		1			2	8	8
Oystercatcher							
WT07			1				1
WT13						2	2
Peregrine							
WT08		1	1				1
Pheasant							
WT07	3		4	6	4		6
WT08	2	2	15	30	11	1	30
WT09	9	2	30	15	2	30	30
WT10	10	20	35		23		35
WT13		2	3	2	2		3
Pied Wagtail							
WT07		1					1
WT09		1			1		1
WT10	1	1	25	1	2		25
WT13					12		12
Pink-Footed Goose							
WT09		400					400
WT10		160					160

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
Pintail							
WT13					150		150
Red Kite							
WT07		1					1
WT08			1				1
WT09	1			1		1	1
WT10						1	1
WT13		1				1	1
Red-Legged Partridge							
WT07	3						3
WT08	3						3
WT09		8					8
WT10	8						8
WT13		8		3			8
Redwing							
WT09	1				6		6
WT10		10	6	3			10
WT13		60	10	2			60
Reed Bunting							
WT07	3		55	120			120
WT08	1	1	1				1
WT09	6	16	160	70		4	160
WT10	12	1			5	4	12
WT13		2				1	2
Robin							
WT08	1				2		2
WT09					1		1
WT10	1				1	1	1
WT13		20		1	1		20
Rook							
WT07				2			2
WT08			2				2
WT09	12	30	10		14		30
WT10	60					3	60
WT13		30					30
Shelduck							
WT08						2	2
Short-Eared Owl							
WT08		1					1
WT09	1						1
Skylark							
WT07			12	4			12
WT08		12	6	24	3	2	24
WT09	2	70	30	20		1	70
WT10	30	10	20	3	12	5	30

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
WT13		6				3	6
Snipe							
WT08			9	4			9
WT09			3	1			3
WT10	1	26			12	17	26
Song Thrush							
WT07	1						1
WT08					1		1
WT09					1		1
WT10					1		1
Sparrowhawk							
WT08				1			1
WT09		1					1
WT10	1			1	1		1
Starling							
WT07	14	16	8	1			16
WT08	11	50	25		70	200	200
WT09	600	800	60	200	14	300	800
WT10	200	120	400	200	1500	18	1500
WT13		150					150
Stock Dove							
WT07					7		7
WT08			1		2	10	10
WT09		12	2	10			12
WT10	4	20	10		10	8	20
Stonechat							
WT07		2					2
WT10					1		1
Swallow							
WT07				1			1
WT10				2			2
Teal							
WT10					85	4	85
WT13		40			300		300
Wheatear							
WT07	1						1
WT08	1						1
Whooper Swan							
WT07			2	3			3
WT08		30					30
WT09		24	8			20	24
WT10		250					250
WT13		10			18		18
Wigeon							
WT10						64	64

Species/ Transect	Monthly Peak Count						Peak Count
	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	
WT13					800		800
Woodcock							
WT07			1				1
WT08						2	2
Woodpigeon							
WT07	8	20	10	30	50		50
WT08	6	100	17	55	180	500	500
WT09	210	80	300	60	18	30	300
WT10	300	500	500	8	1000	400	1000
WT13		13	45	6	4	150	150
Wren							
WT07		1	1	1	1		1
WT08		1	1	1	1		1
WT09	1	1		1	1		1
WT10	1	2	1		1		2
WT13		1	1		1		1
Yellowhammer							
WT08		1					1
WT09		5		10			10
WT10	3				30		30
WT13		6					6

Appendix 8: Survey Results Maps

Figure A8.1: Notable Wildfowl observed from WT13

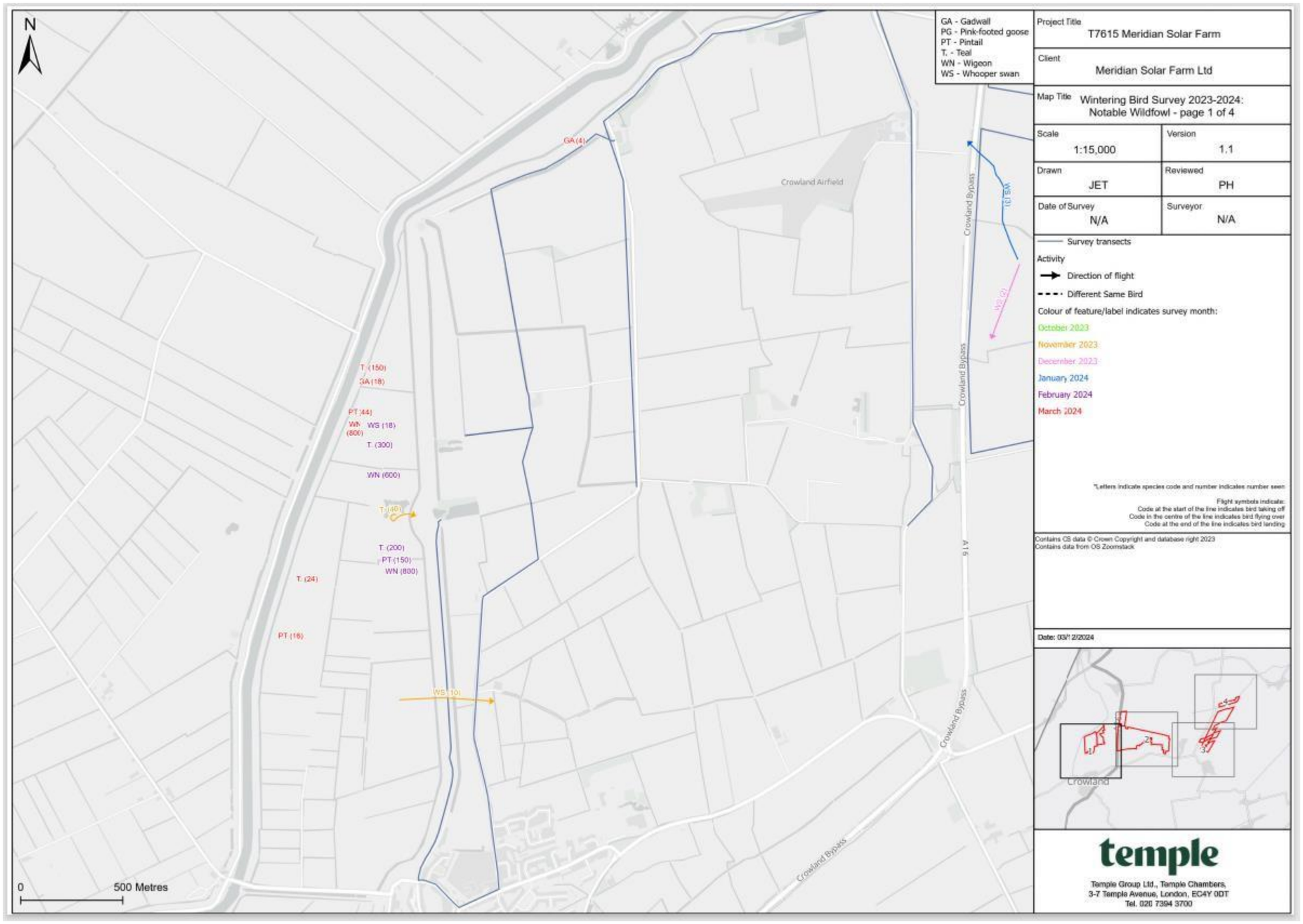


Figure A8.2: Notable Wildfowl observed from WT8 and WT9

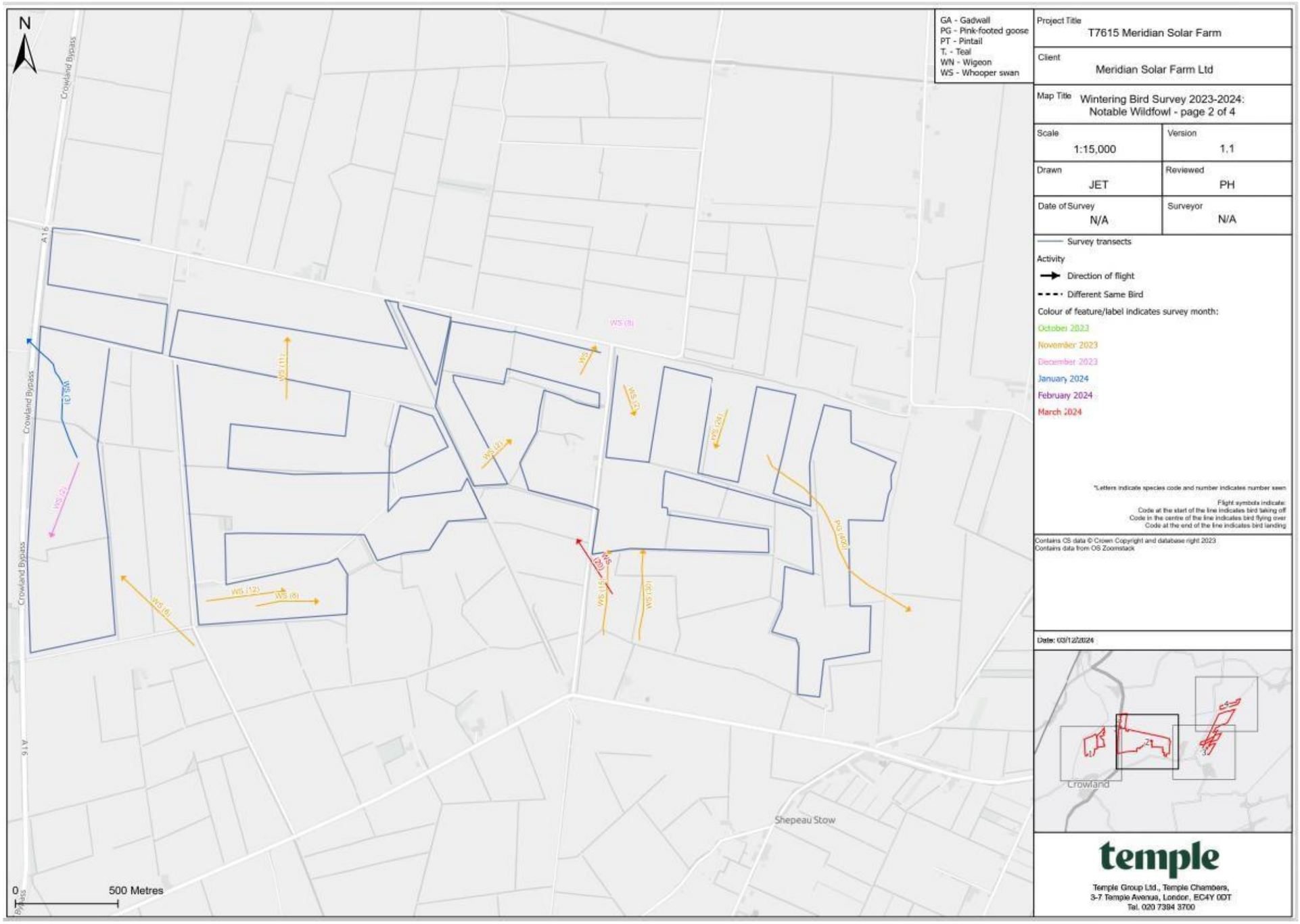


Figure A8.3: Notable Wildfowl observed from the north of WT10

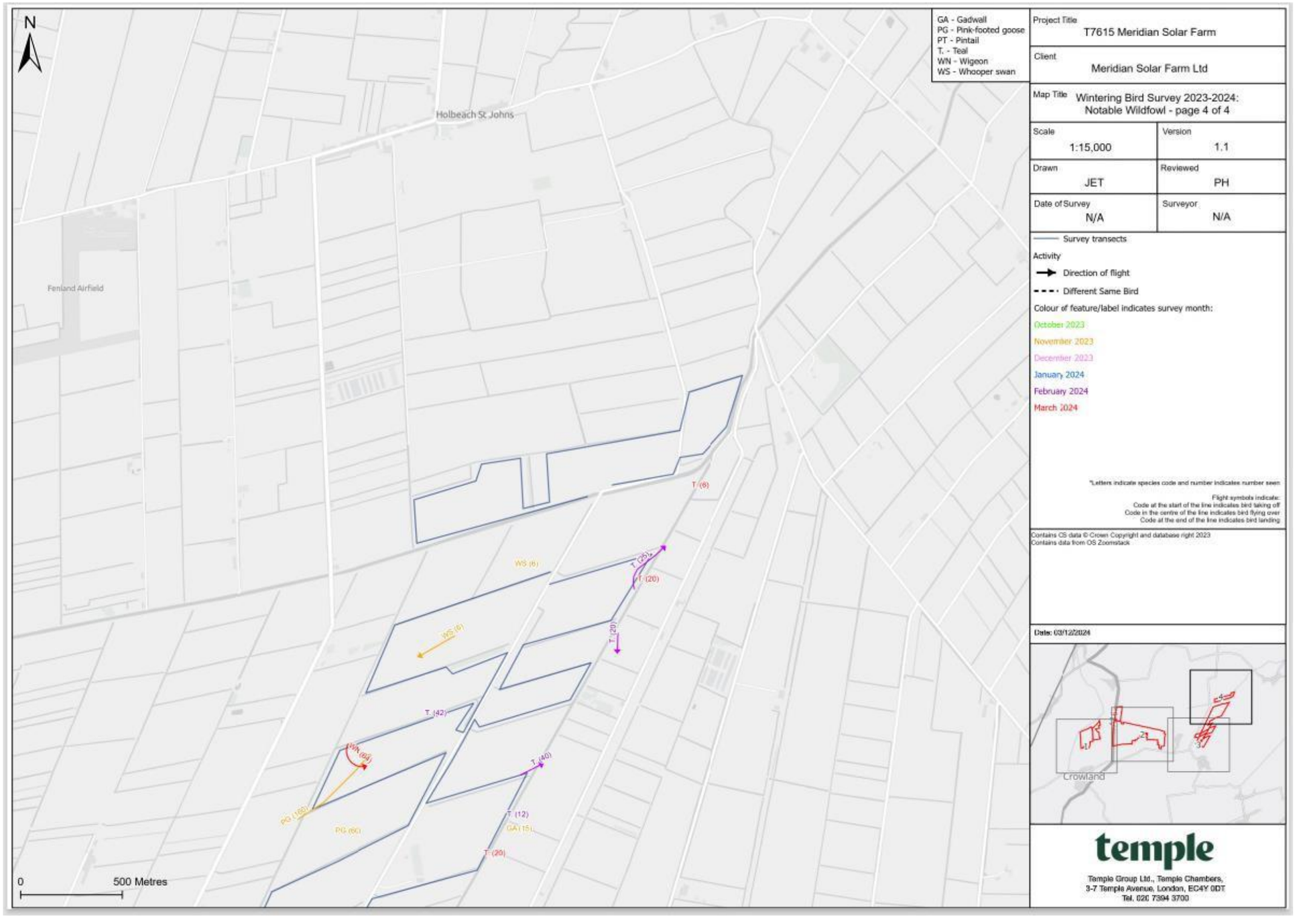


Figure A8.4: Notable Wildfowl observed from the south of WT10

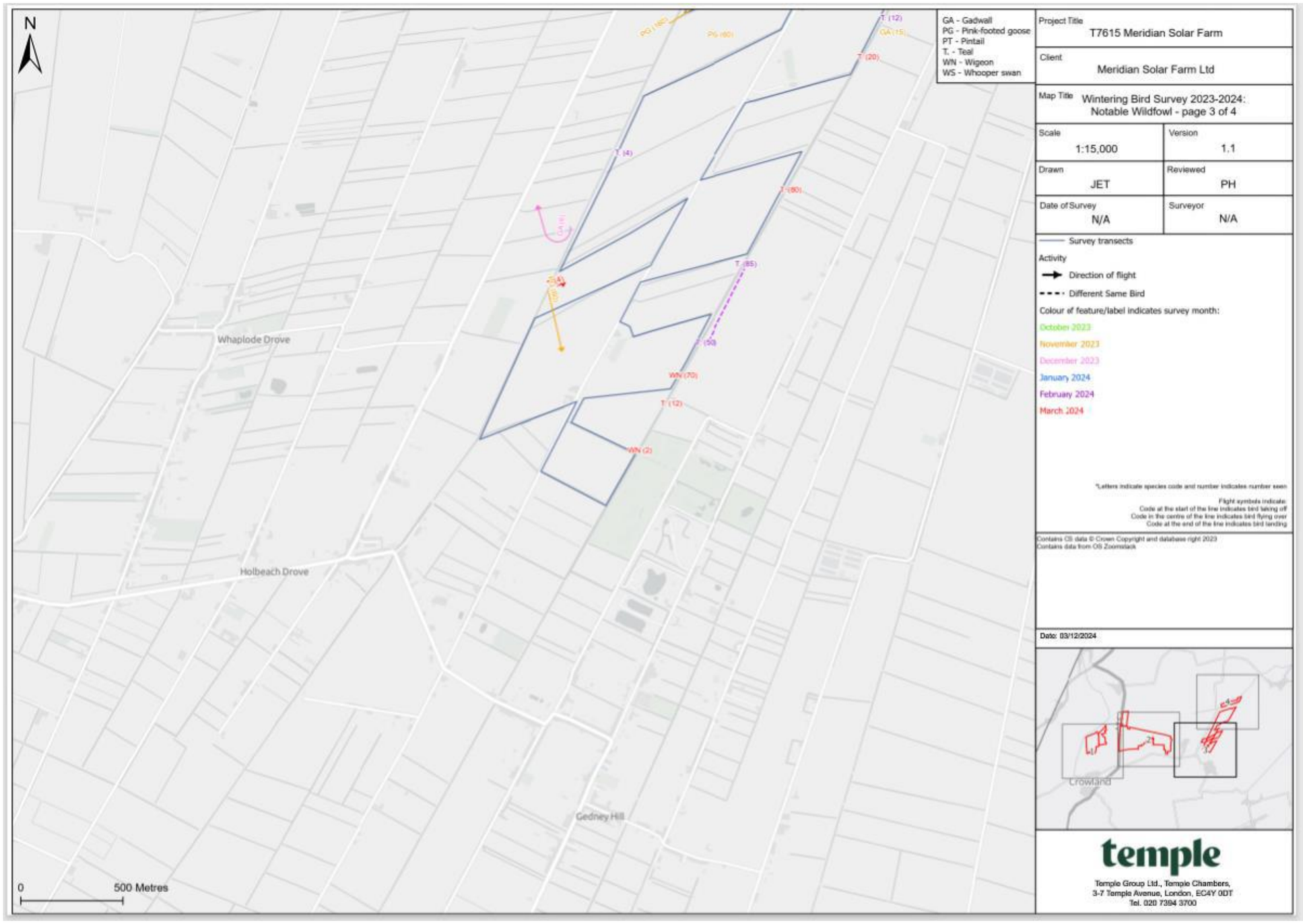


Figure A8.5: Linnet observed from WT113

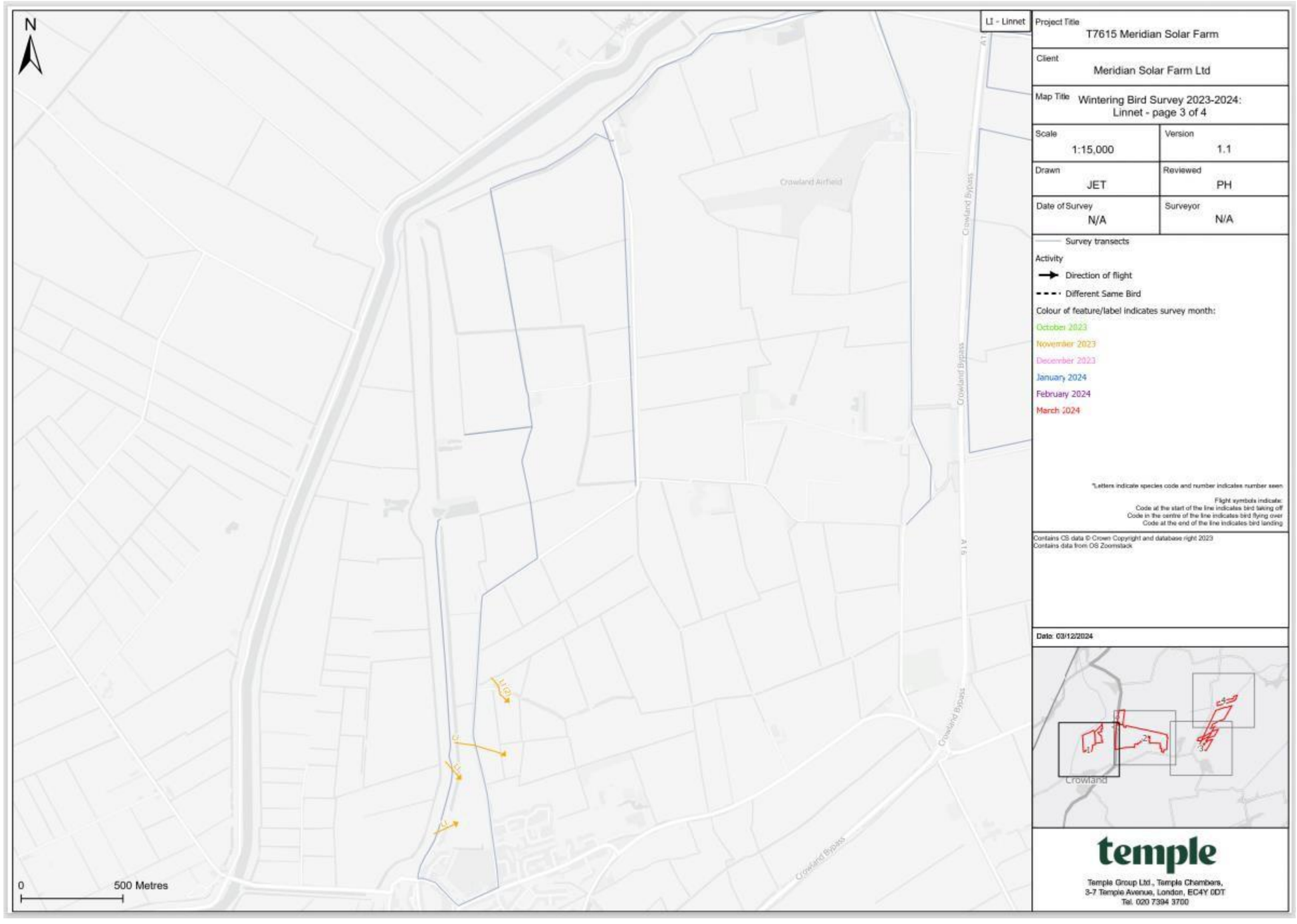


Figure A8.6: Linnet observed from WT8 and WT9

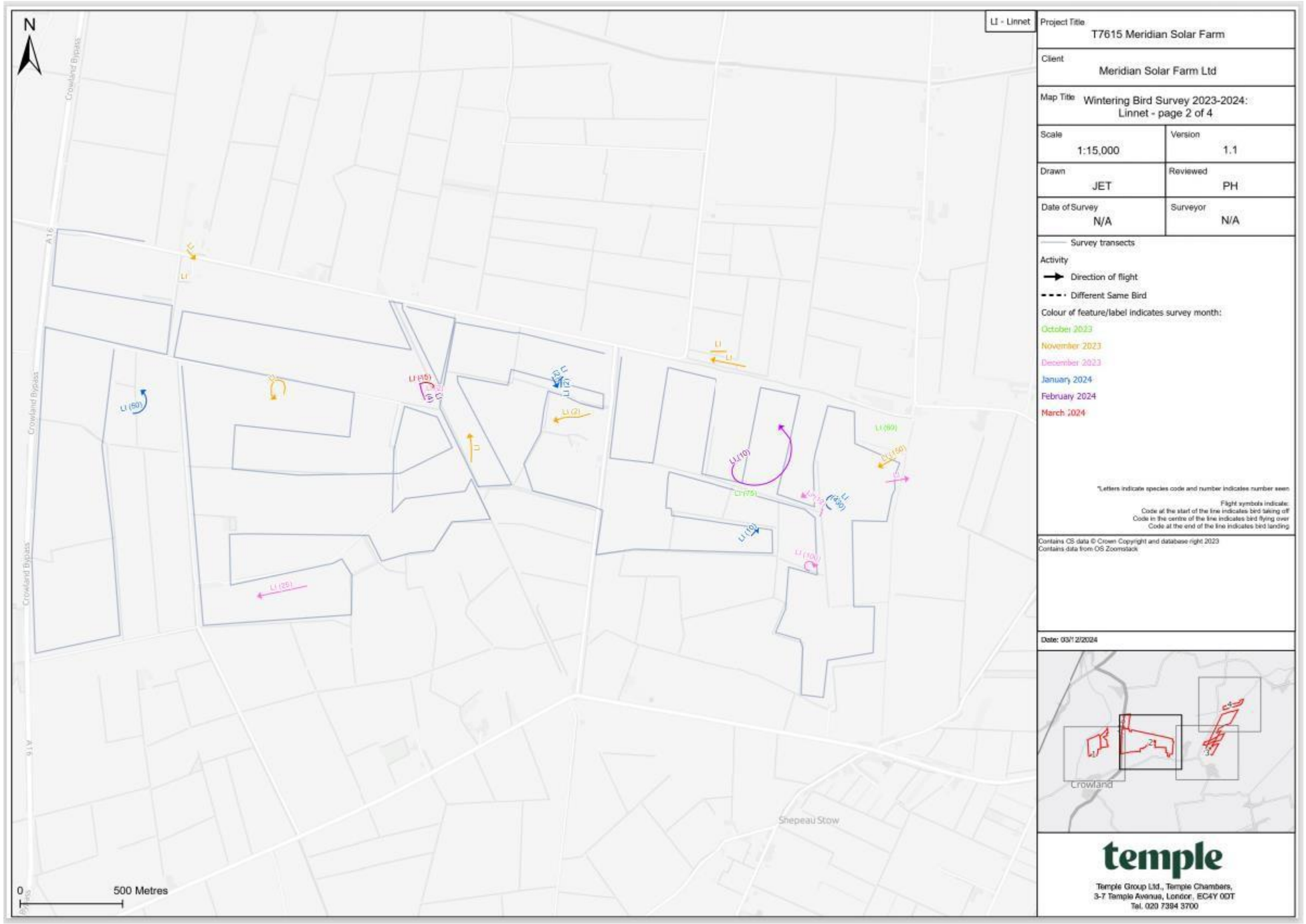


Figure A8.7: Linnet observed from the north of WT10

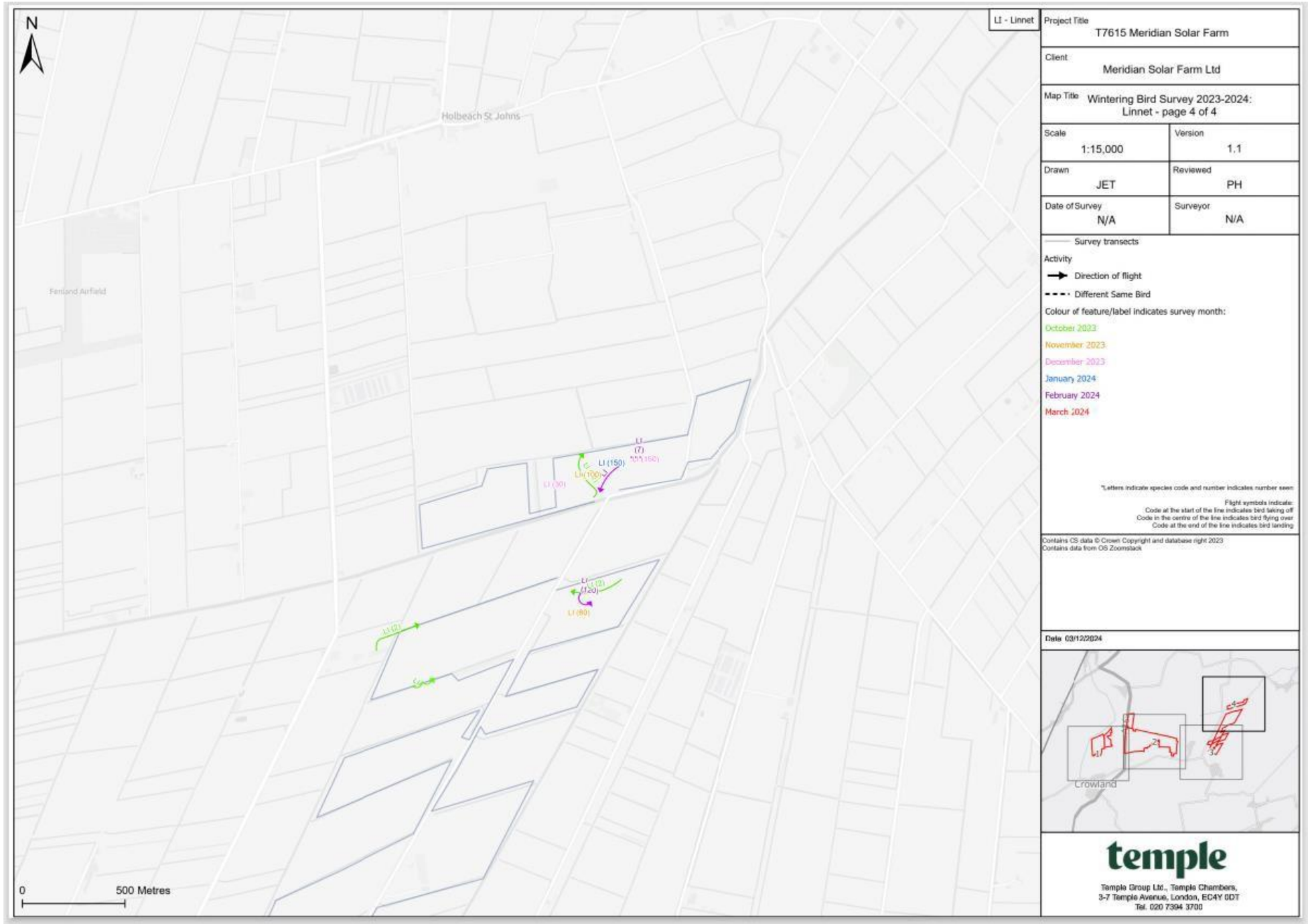


Figure A8.8: Linnet observed from the south of WT10

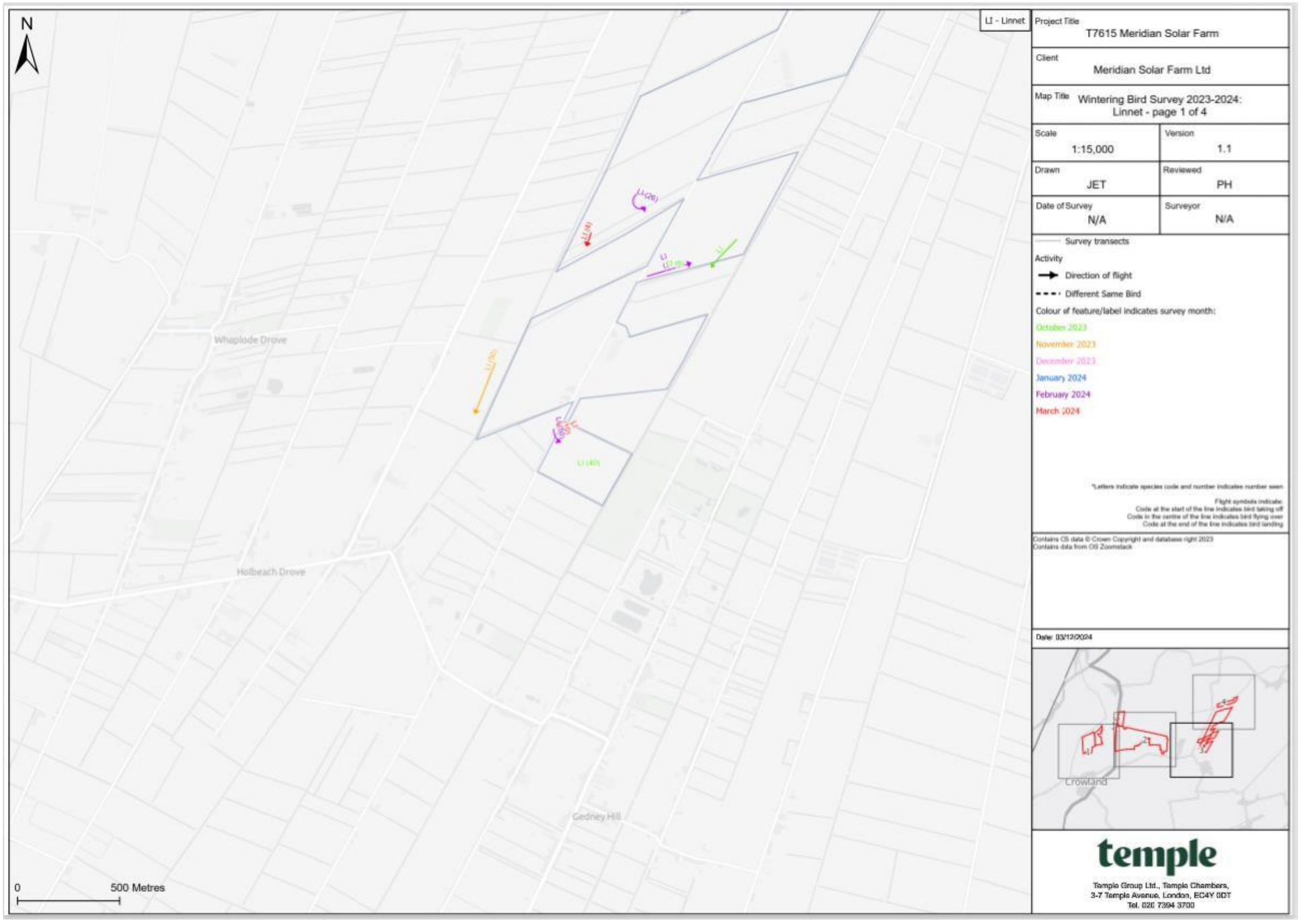


Figure A8.9: Skylark observed from WT13

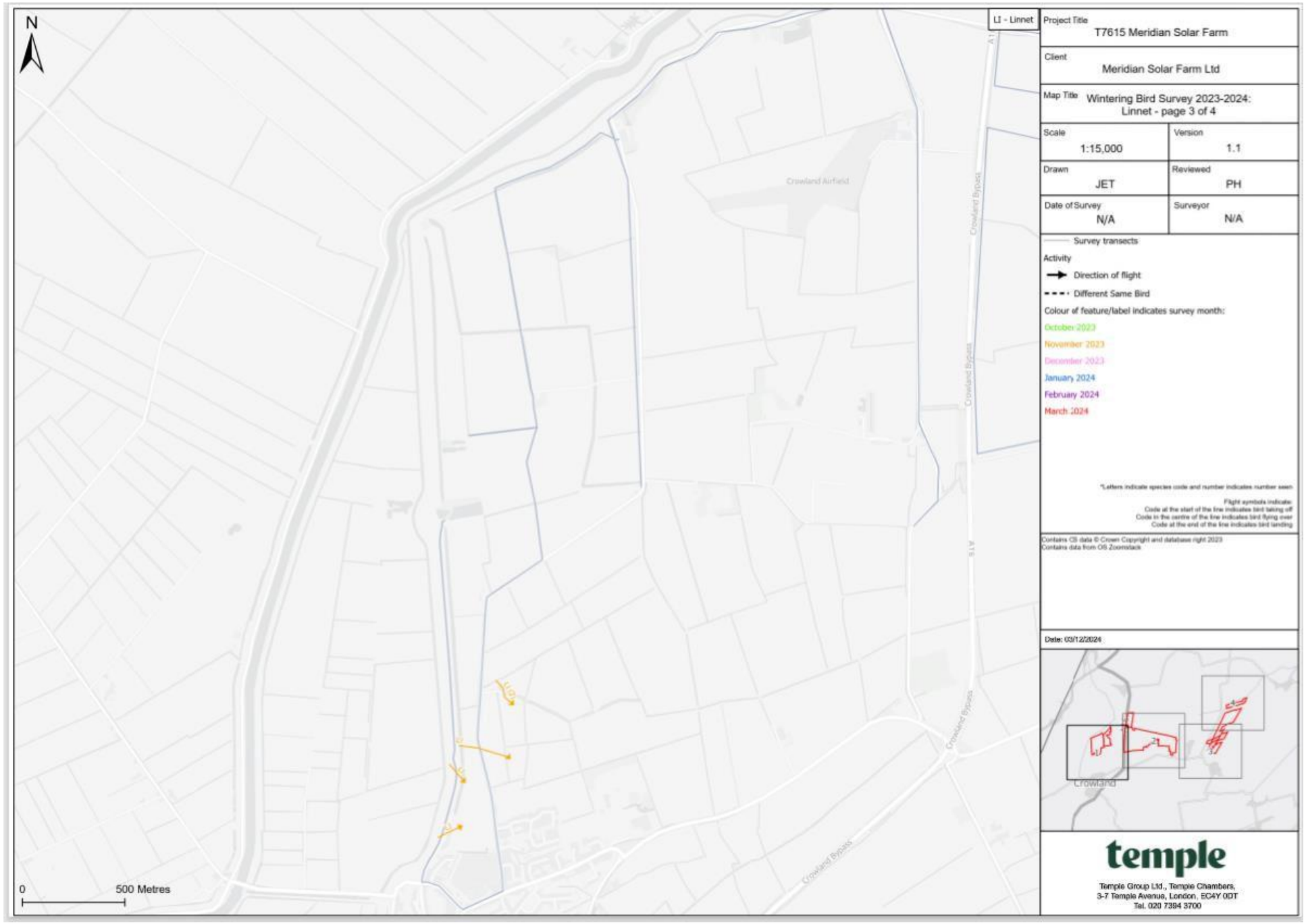


Figure A8.10: Skylark observed from WT8 and WT9

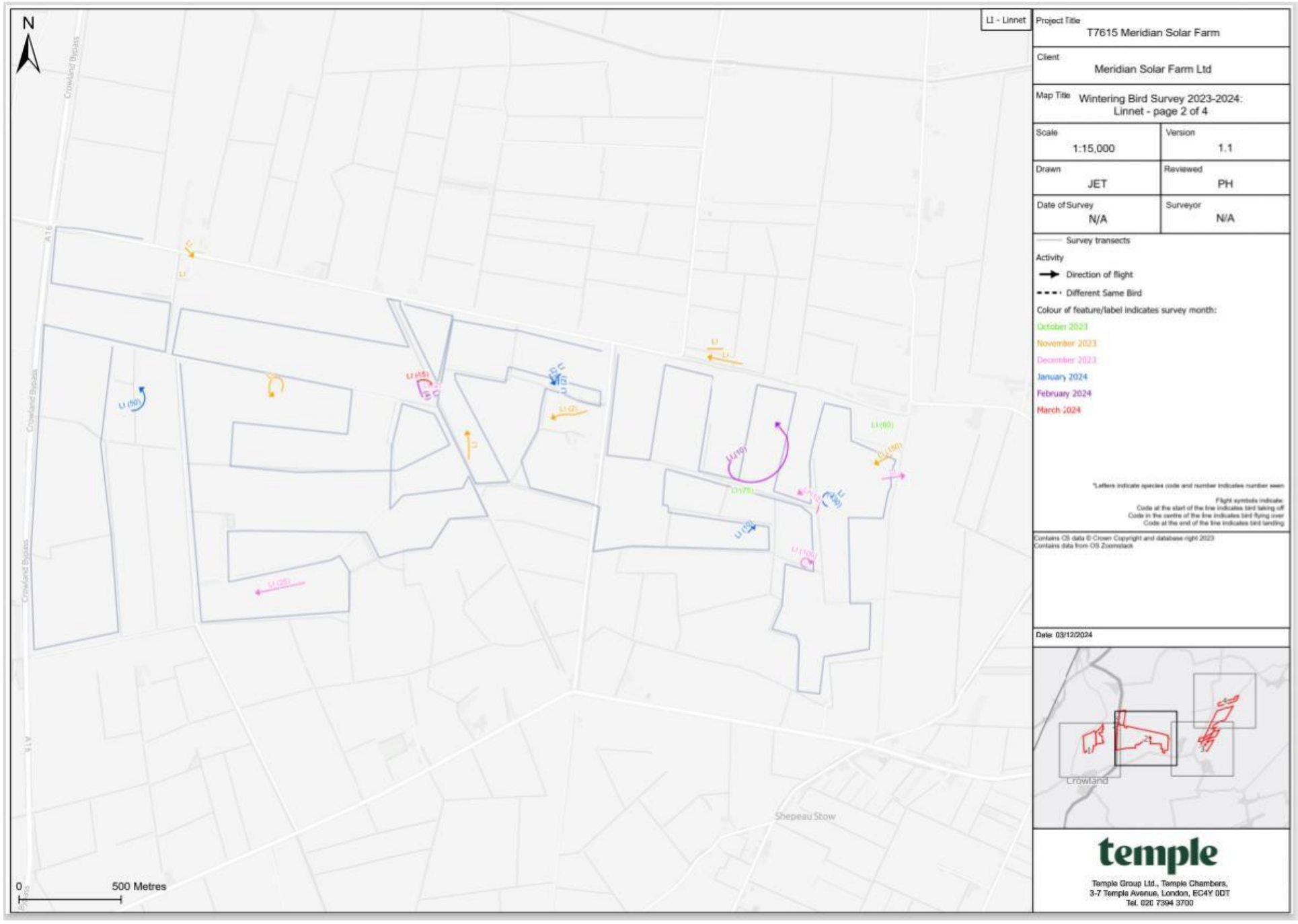


Figure A8.11: Skylark observed from the north of WT10

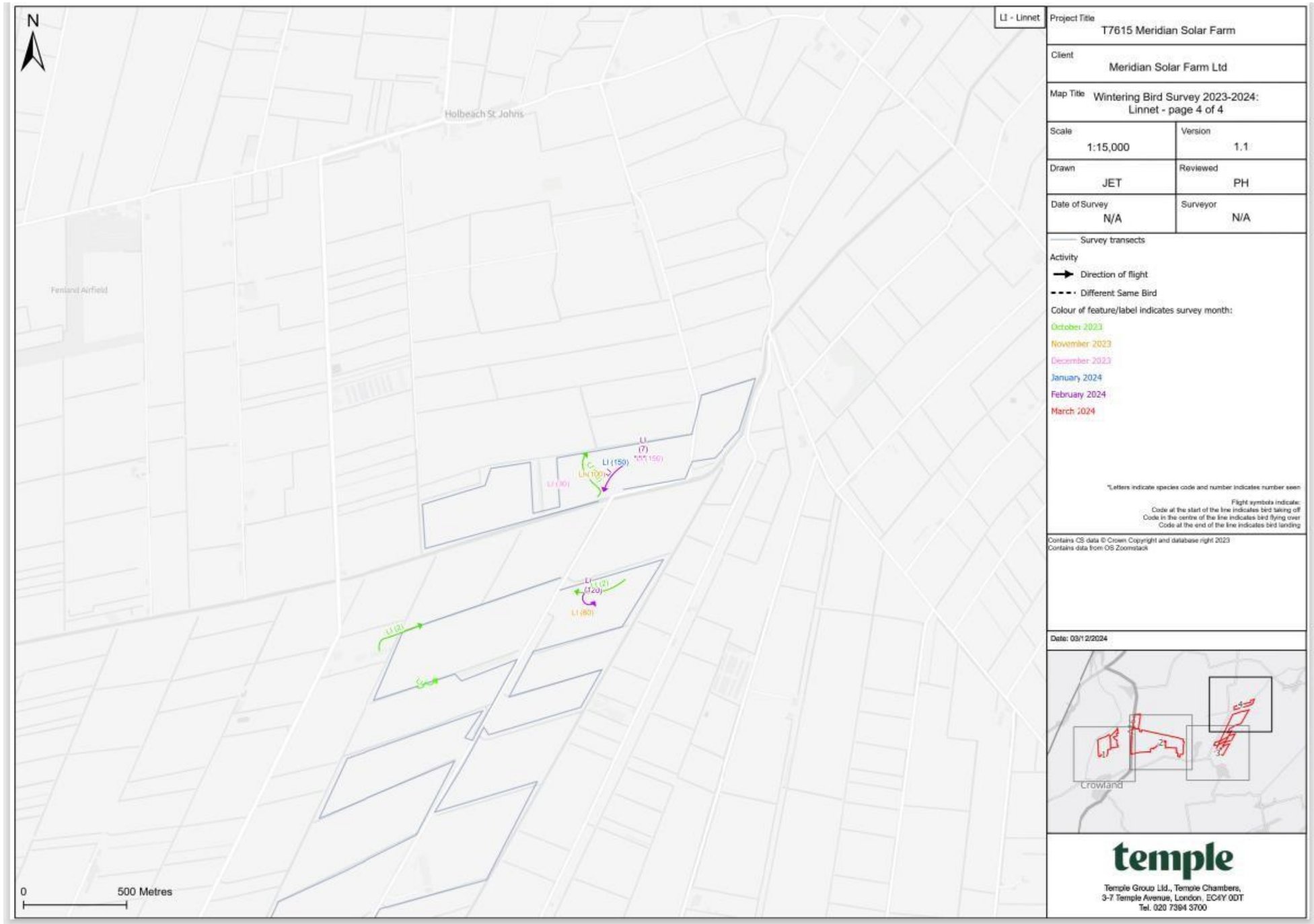


Figure A8.12: Skylark observed from the south of WT10

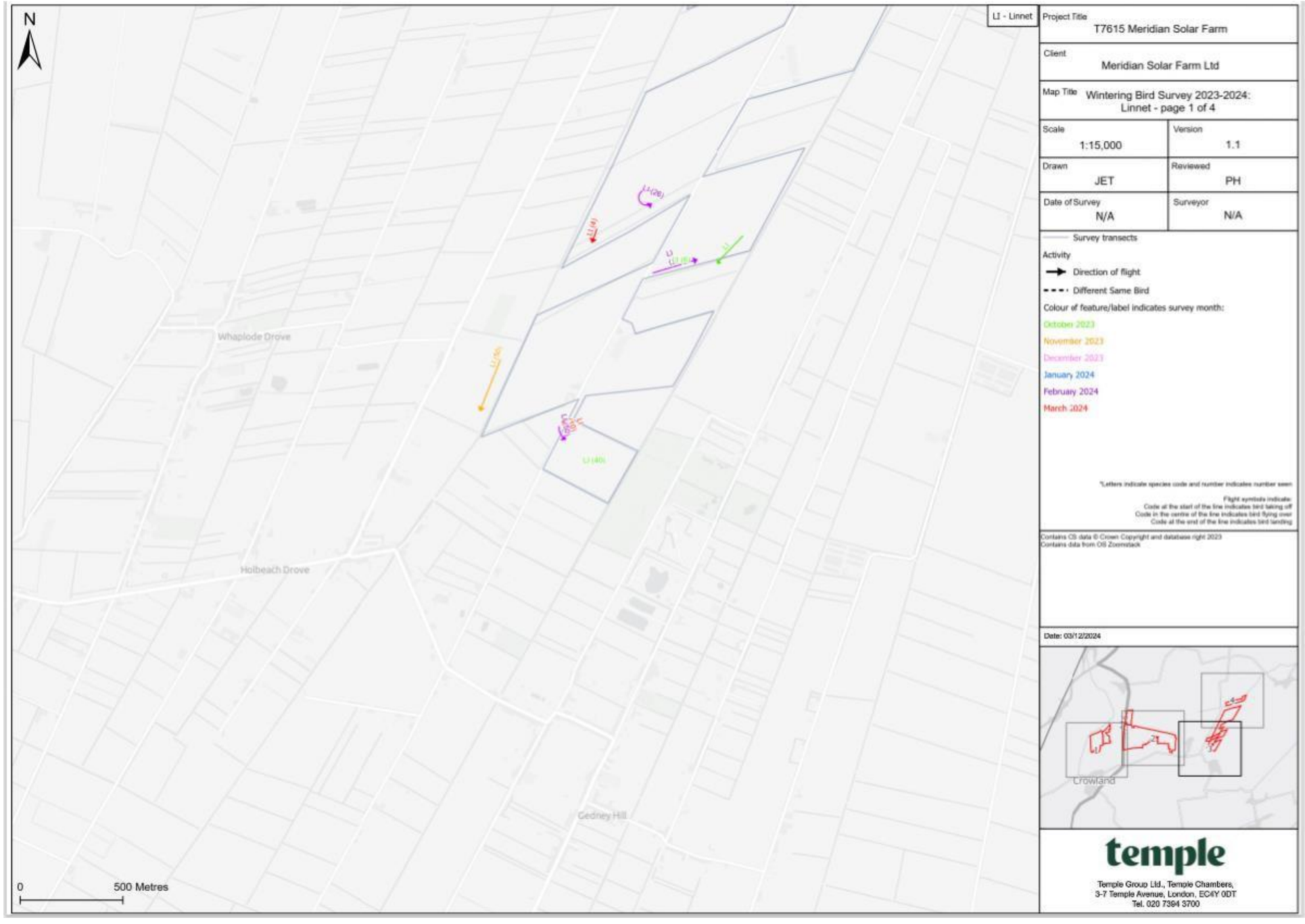


Figure A8.13: Yellowhammer observed from WT13

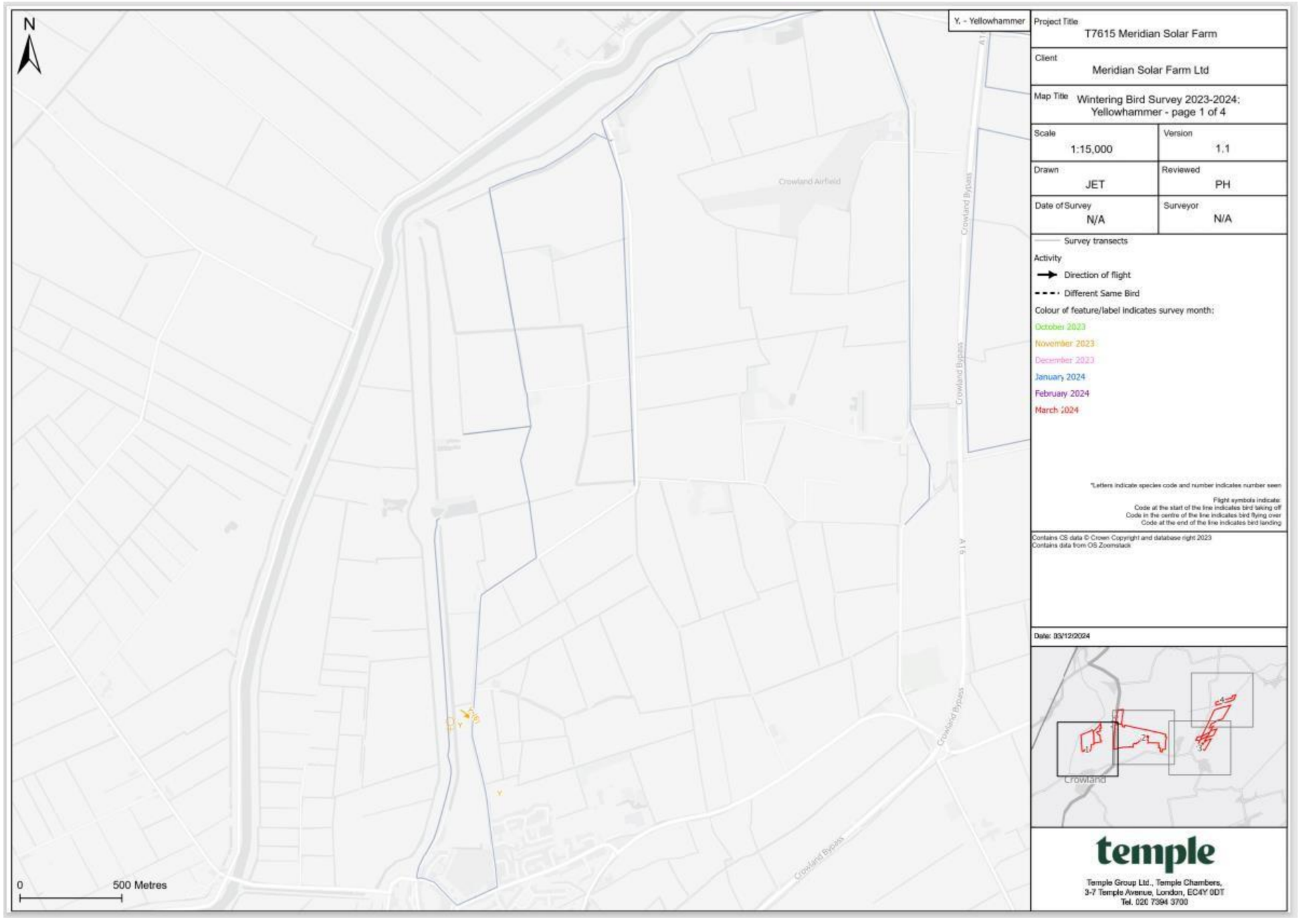


Figure A8.14: Yellowhammer observed from WT8 and WT9

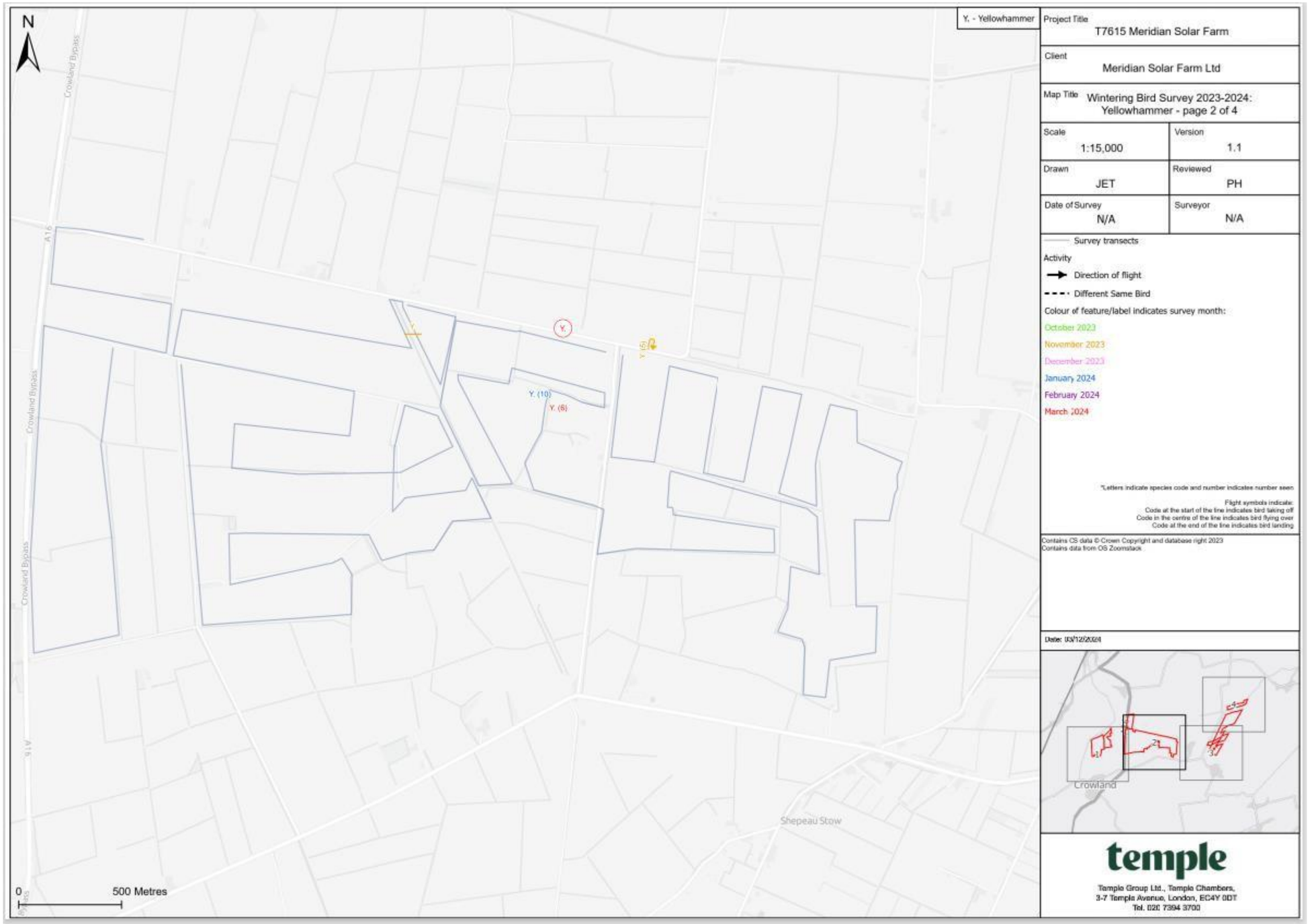


Figure A8.15: Yellowhammer observed from north of WT10

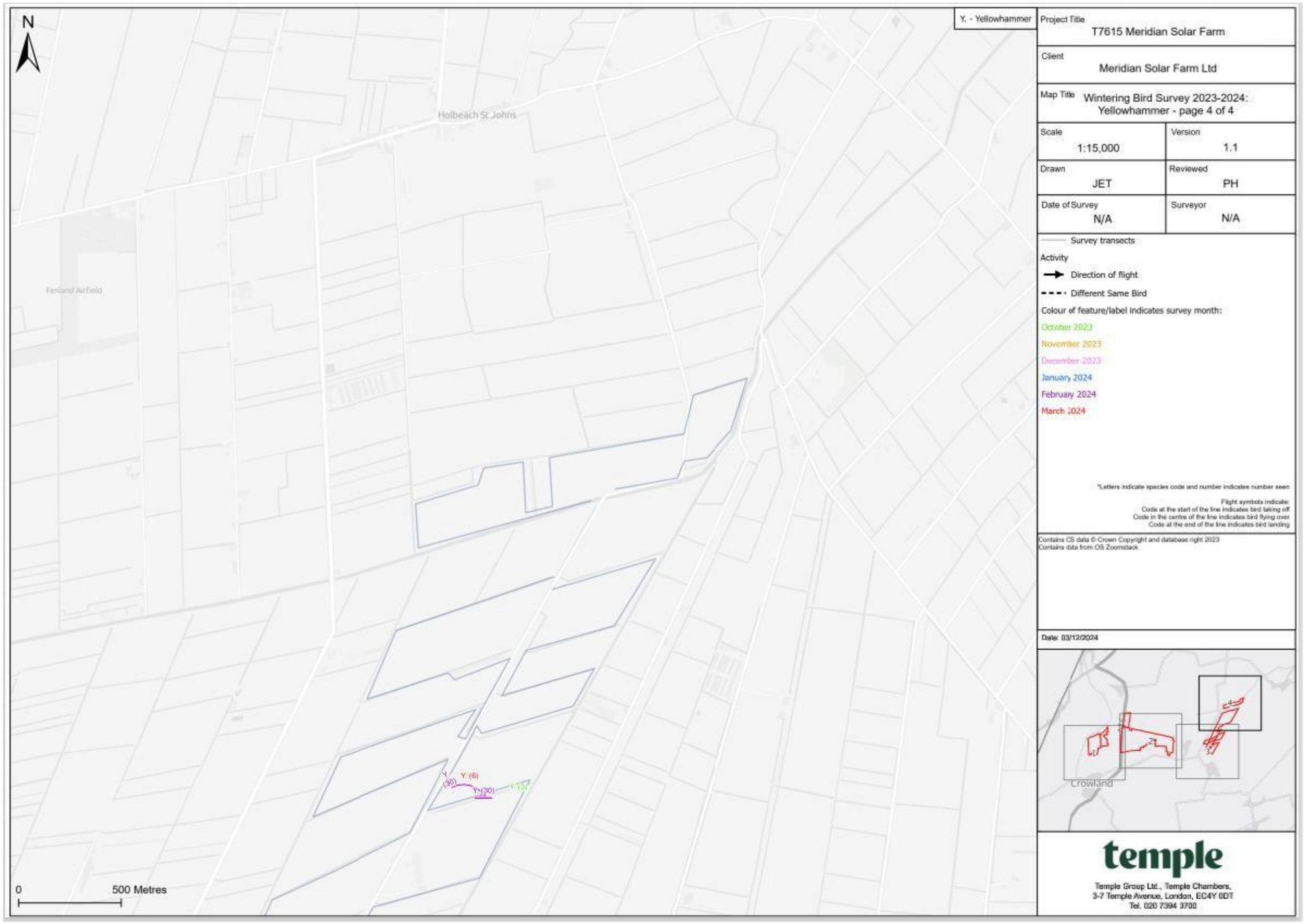
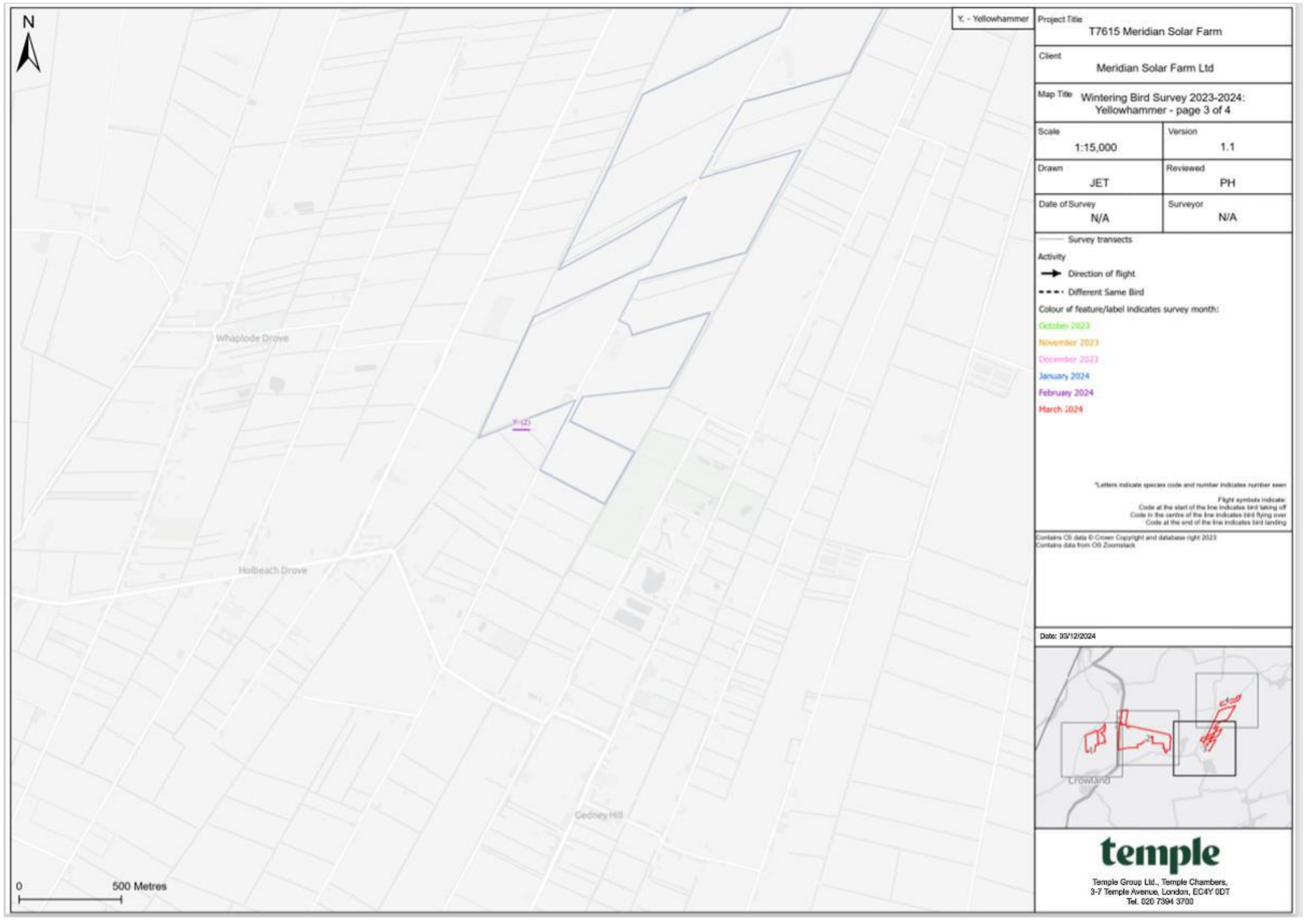


Figure A8.15: Yellowhammer observed from south of WT10



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