



**WHITESTONE**  
solar farm

# WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM

## Volume 6: Environmental Statement

### 6.20 Appendix 6.2: UK Habitat Survey Report

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## ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

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**Whitestone Net Zero Ltd**

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### Glossary

Term	Meaning
<i>Cable Corridors</i>	Corridors within which the high voltage cables would be constructed.
<i>Development Consent Order (DCO)</i>	A statutory order made by the relevant Secretary of State pursuant to The Planning Act 2008 to authorise a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which provides consent for the project and means that a range of other consents, such as planning permission and listed building consent, will not be required. A DCO can also include rights of compulsory acquisition.
<i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</i>	A process, undertaken by the Applicant, of identifying and assessing the significant effects likely to arise from a project.
<i>Environment Statement (ES)</i>	Environmental Statement which presents the preliminary environmental information relating to the Proposed Development. The ES has been prepared to present information in accordance with current EIA regulation.

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<i>Long Lane 400kV Substation</i>	The new 400 kilovolt National Grid substation proposed on land immediately east of Long Lane, Brinsworth, S60 4JJ
<i>Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)</i>	<p>NSIPs are large scale major development projects in England or Wales which fall into the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy;</li> <li>• Transport;</li> <li>• Waste;</li> <li>• Waste Water; and</li> <li>• Water.</li> </ul> <p>The primary legislation which applies to NSIPs is called the Planning Act 2008. When these types of development meet the threshold described in the Planning Act 2008, they need a Development Consent Order before they can be built.</p>
<i>Order Limits</i>	Total area comprising the Site and Cable Corridor.
<i>Study Area</i>	This is an area which is defined for bat surveys which includes the Order Limits as well as potential spatial and temporal considerations of the impacts on relevant receptors.
<i>The Applicant</i>	Whitestone Net Zero Ltd
<i>The Application</i>	The Application to be submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order.
<i>The Proposed Development</i>	The proposed Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>The Site</i>	The land planned to be used for solar PV array and associated infrastructure, BESS, substation, and landscaping and habitat enhancement. The Site is split into W1, W2, and W3.
<i>Whitestone 1 (W1)</i>	The northern parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>Whitestone 2 (W2)</i>	The middle parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.
<i>Whitestone 3 (W3)</i>	The southern parcels of the Whitestone Solar Farm.

### Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
<i>AIL</i>	Abnormal Indivisible Load
<i>BESS</i>	Battery Energy Storage System
<i>BNG</i>	Biodiversity Net Gain
<i>DAFOR</i>	Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare
<i>DCO</i>	Development Consent Order
<i>EcIA</i>	Ecological Impact Assessment
<i>ERM</i>	Environmental Resources Management Ltd
<i>ES</i>	Environmental Statement
<i>HPI</i>	Habitats of Principal Importance
<i>JNCC</i>	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
<i>LBAP</i>	Local Biodiversity Action Plans

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Acronym	Meaning
<i>LNR</i>	Local Nature Reserve
<i>LNRS</i>	Local Nature Recovery Strategy
<i>LWS</i>	Local Wildlife Site
<i>MAGIC</i>	Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside
<i>MMU</i>	Minimum Mapping Unit
<i>NERC</i>	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act
<i>NSIP</i>	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
<i>PV</i>	Photovoltaic
<i>SSSI</i>	Site of Special Scientific Interest
<i>UKHab</i>	UK Habitat Classification
<i>W1</i>	Whitestone 1
<i>W2</i>	Whitestone 2
<i>W3</i>	Whitestone 3

### Units

Units	Meaning
<i>ha</i>	Hectares
<i>km</i>	Kilometres
<i>kV</i>	Kilovolt
<i>m</i>	Metres
<i>MW</i>	Megawatt

## 6.2 UK Habitat Survey Report

### Introduction

- 6.2.1 This Appendix has been prepared on behalf of Whitestone Net Zero Ltd ('the Applicant') to set out the survey methodology and results of the habitat survey in relation to the Development Consent Order (DCO) Application for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of Whitestone Solar Farm (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development').
- 6.2.2 This Appendix is supported by the following figures in **ES Volume 3, Figures [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**:
- **Figure 6.1 Land Parcel Reference**
  - **Figure 6.2.1: UK Habitat Classification: The Site;**
  - **Figure 6.2.2: UK Habitat Classifications: Cable Corridor;** and
  - **Figure 6.2.3: Priority Habitats.**
- 6.2.3 This Appendix is also supported by the following annex located at the end of this document:
- **Annex 6.2A: UKHAB Survey Personnel; Timing and Weather Conditions.**

### The Order Limits

- 6.2.1 The extent of the Order Limits are described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: The Site and Surrounding Area [EN0110020/APP/6.3]** and shown in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Order Limits [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**. The Proposed Development is described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: The Proposed Development [EN0110020/APP/6.5]** and shown spatially on the **Works Plans [EN0110020/APP/2.3]**.

### The Proposed Development

- 6.2.2 The Proposed Development involves the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of more than 1000MW of solar photovoltaic (PV) array, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), onsite substations and supporting infrastructure, and grid connection infrastructure. The grid connection infrastructure would connect the Proposed Development to the new National Grid substation at Brinsworth (Long Lane 400kV Substation).
- 6.2.3 As the Proposed Development would have a generating capacity in excess of 100MW, it is considered to be a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008.
- 6.2.4 The Proposed Development would be located within the Order Limits. The Order Limits encompass the total area of the Proposed Development comprising the Site and Cable Corridors. The Site is specifically the land that is planned to be used for solar PV array and associated infrastructure, BESS, substations, landscaping and habitat enhancement. The Site is split into Whitestone 1 (W1), Whitestone 2 (W2) and Whitestone 3 (W3).

- 6.2.5 Highway Works are sections of the highway network that will contain localised improvements, such as improvements to road edge where it is deteriorated, or temporary highway and traffic works required to safely accommodate the Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) deliveries. These areas will support the movement of construction vehicles on narrower sections of the local highway network within parts of the construction vehicle routes to the Site, see **Volume 2, Chapter 13: Traffic and Transport [EN0110020/APP/6.13]**.

### **Purpose of the Report**

- 6.2.6 This report summarises the key findings of the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) field survey undertaken within the Order Limits. It summarises the findings of the habitat survey which formed the baseline used in the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 6.4: Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20]**.
- 6.2.7 Habitat assessments were undertaken across the Site and the Cable Corridor to classify, map, and, where possible, describe the vegetation communities present and to establish their ecological value.
- 6.2.8 This report outlines the methodology and findings of the habitat assessments completed between 6 June 2025 and 19 December 2025.
- 6.2.9 The EclA evaluated potential impacts on ecological receptors resulting from the Proposed Development. Information on protected species is provided within the relevant Appendix and was assessed in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation [EN0110020/APP/6.6]**.

### **Survey Methods**

- 6.2.10 The Study Area comprised the habitats within and directly adjacent to the Order Limits of the Proposed Development.

### **Desk Study**

#### **Protected / Notable Sites**

- 6.2.11 An ecological desk-based study was undertaken to identify protected/ notable habitats within and adjacent to the Order Limits.
- 6.2.12 The desk study included a search for local statutory and non-statutory sites within 2km, national designated sites within 5km and European designated sites within 10km.
- 6.2.13 Information was collected from the following sources:
- The 'MAGIC' (Multi-agency Geographic Information for the Countryside) website<sup>1</sup>;
  - Google Maps satellite imagery; and
  - Local ecological records centres (Rotherham, Sheffield and Derbyshire) data, based on the Proposed Order Limits as defined in July 2025 for the purposes of statutory consultation.

### Priority Habitats

- 6.2.14 MAGIC and Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs)<sup>2 34</sup> were consulted to identify priority habitats and Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI) listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC)<sup>5</sup> within 2km of the Site in July 2025. The Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRs) were being developed at the time of writing.

### Habitat Surveys

#### The Site

- 6.2.15 Habitat field surveys undertaken of the Site were based on the methods described in Version 2 of the UK Habitat Classification User Manual (2023)<sup>6</sup>. This methodology reflects the most up-to-date guidance currently used in the UK and forms the standard approach for informing BNG assessments.
- 6.2.16 The surveys involved mapping and classifying habitats within the Order Limits based on vegetation type, structure, and species composition. This standardised approach allowed for consistent assessment of ecological value, which is essential for evaluating potential biodiversity impacts and informing mitigation under BNG requirements. BNG condition assessments were also made of each habitat during the field survey, these are reported separately, within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 6.4: BNG Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20]**.
- 6.2.17 The alphanumeric UKHab codes follow UKHab Version 2<sup>7</sup>. No Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU) has been applied to the Study Area and professional judgement has been used to define notable habitat parcels.
- 6.2.18 The surveys of the Site were undertaken between 19 June and 2 October 2024, and 2 June and 5 June 2025. Survey personnel, timing, and weather conditions are presented in **Annex 6.2A** of this report.
- 6.2.19 Plants and their frequency of occurrence were recorded using the subjective Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare (DAFOR) scale (dominant, abundant, frequent, occasional or rare)<sup>i</sup>. The nomenclature of vascular plants occurring within the defined Study Area follows Stace (2019)<sup>8</sup>.
- 6.2.20 Any invasive non-native species of plant encountered during the Habitat Surveys, including Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) were recorded to inform the need for further specialist surveys and advice.

#### The Cable Corridor

- 6.2.21 Habitat field surveys were undertaken along accessible sections of the Cable Corridor between 15 and 19 December 2025. Areas that could not be surveyed were assessed through a desk-based study. The desk-based assessment was used to classify habitats across the remainder of the Cable Corridor, drawing on publicly available data sources to identify and categorise habitats in accordance with the most recent version of UKHab (v2). This approach provided a broad

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<sup>i</sup> The DAFOR scale is used for semi-quantitative sampling, to provide a quick estimate of the relative abundance of species (generally plants) in a given area. Abundance (number of individuals) and cover (area coverage) are often used interchangeably in this type of surveying, although they may have very different meanings.

overview of the remaining potential habitat types within the unsurveyed sections of the Cable Corridor, informed by recent aerial imagery, satellite data, and publicly accessible habitat and land cover datasets.

### **Assumptions and Limitations**

- 6.2.22 The time of year that each survey was carried out and other variations will influence the results of the survey. Botanical species vary considerably in their flowering, seeding and fruiting periods, and surveys outside of these periods can confound accurate species identification. Where this is the case plants have been identified to lowest possible taxonomic group, normally genus. The possibility, nonetheless, exists for other species to be present within the Site which were not recorded or otherwise indicated by the survey.
- 6.2.23 The majority of Site surveys were undertaken from mid to late summer, coinciding with the peak flowering period for most botanical species. Surveys of the Cable Corridor were undertaken in December; however, key diagnostic vegetative characteristics remained discernible, and the timing of these surveys was not considered a significant constraint to achieving the objectives of the report.
- 6.2.24 Field surveys were targeted at key sections of the Cable Corridor where more sensitive habitats were considered most likely to occur, with the remaining sections assessed through a desk-based approach. Habitat classifications and condition assessments of areas not subject to field survey should therefore be regarded as indicative. This represents a limitation in terms of the level of detail and certainty achievable when compared with field-based assessment. Nevertheless, the coverage of key areas, together with professional judgement informed by desk-based evidence and local knowledge of the wider Site, was considered sufficient to meet the overall objectives of the study.
- 6.2.25 Only the upper-most habitat in each location was mapped in the UKHab Plan, in line with standard UKHab mapping conventions, with any underlying habitats noted separately for reference or future investigation. For example, only access routes over habitats (such as bridges over rivers) were mapped in the UKHab Plan. However, the locations where habitats such as rivers ran beneath access tracks were noted during fieldwork to support future detailed assessments of these features.
- 6.2.26 The details of this report will remain valid for a period of 18 months from the last date of the surveys, after which the validity of this assessment should be reviewed to determine whether further updates are necessary<sup>9</sup>.

## **Survey Findings**

### **Desk Study**

#### **Protected / Notable Sites**

- 6.2.27 There are no international sites of importance within the 10km Study Area. There are 14 nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within 5km, the nearest being Crabtree Wood SSSI, designated for its mix of woodland, grassland, and wetland habitats that supported rare fauna, located 0.9km south east of W3.
- 6.2.28 A total of 42 locally important designated sites were identified within 2km of the Site. This included:

- Five statutory designated Local Nature Reserves (LNR); the nearest being Firsby Reservoir LNR, designated for its standing open water habitats, located to the south west of W1; and
- 37 non-statutory Local Wildlife Sites (LWS); the nearest being Brampton Common LWS, an area of wet fields and ditches designated for its importance as a breeding and foraging ground for farmland birds and waders, which overlaps within the Order Limits within W2.

6.2.29 Further information on designated sites is presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation [EN0110020/APP/6.6]** including figures showing their locations, presented in **Statutory and Non-statutory Ecological Sites [EN0110020/APP/2.6]**.

### Priority Habitats

6.2.30 The local biological records and a search of the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) database returned the following data on priority habitats within the 2km desk study search area. Results are presented in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.2.3: Priority Habitats [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**.

- Ancient woodland: A small section of the Site south of W1 overlaps the mapped boundary of Ancient Woodland (as shown on MAGIC). The field survey classified the woodland present within the Site as UKHab other broadleaved woodland (w1g), reflecting the current habitat structure and species composition. Ancient Woodland is a designation based on historical evidence rather than a habitat type, and therefore both the designation boundary and the UKHab classification are reported separately for clarity. Several other areas were recorded adjacent to and within close proximity to the Order Limits; and
- Deciduous woodland: Priority Deciduous Woodland was recorded within W1, W2 (adjacent to Anston Brook), and Cable Corridors CRB, CRC, CRE, CRL (adjacent to Chesterfield Canal), and within CRN. Several areas were recorded adjacent to and within 2km of the Order Limits.

6.2.31 No other Priority habitats were identified during the desk study; however, Traditional Orchard, Coastal and Floodplain Grazing and Semi-Improved Grassland Priority Habitats were also, identified within the 2km Study Area of the Order Limits.

6.2.32 The full results, including figures showing their locations, are presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 6: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation [EN0110020/APP/6.6]**.

### Habitat Survey Findings

6.2.33 The habitats are described below broadly in the order listed by classification grouping order as set out in the UK Habitat Classification User Manual (2023), not in order of ecological value.

6.2.34 Each UKHab classification that was recorded within the Site and the Cable Corridor are described in the following sections. **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.2.1: UK Habitat Classification: The Site [EN0110020/APP/6.19]** has been used to describe the locations of the habitats within the Site, while **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.2.2: UK Habitat Classifications: Cable Corridors [EN0110020/APP/6.19]** has been used to describe the locations of the habitats within the Cable Corridor.

**The Site**

**Habitats Overview**

- 6.2.35 **Table 6.2.1** below lists the UKHab habitat types recorded within or directly adjacent to the Site Order Limits during the field surveys, with their locations shown on the UKHab Habitats Plan in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.2.2: UK Habitat Classification: The Site [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**. The table presents either the total area of each UKHab code measured in hectares (ha) or in length measured in kilometres (km), depending on whether the feature was mapped as an area or linear feature.
- 6.2.36 **Table 6.2.1** below reports only the lengths of features recognised as linear habitats under the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. This approach ensures consistency between habitat mapping and subsequent BNG assessment.
- 6.2.37 The **ES Volume 3 Figure 6.2.1: UK Habitat Classification: The Site [EN0110020/APP/6.19]** presents all habitat features recorded during survey, except minor linear features that do not meet the criteria for BNG-eligible linear habitats, such as narrow grassland, bramble, bracken and field margin strips and dry ditches. These habitats fell below the minimum mapping unit.

**Table 6.2.1: UKHab Habitat Classifications Within the Site**

Broad Habitat Type	UKHab Code	Habitat Classification	Area (ha)	Length (km)	Proportion of Site (%)
Grassland	g3c	Other neutral grassland	19.9	-	1.71
	g3c7	Deschampsia neutral grassland	9.5	-	0.82
	g4	Modified grassland	148.4	-	12.78
Woodland and Forest	w, 33 w1, 33 w1g, 33 w1h, 33	Lines of trees	-	4.80	-
	w1d	Wet woodland	3.3	-	0.28
	w1g	Other broadleaved woodland	7.4	-	0.64
	w1h	Other woodland; mixed	0.08	-	0.01
	w1h5	Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved	0.5	-	0.04
	w2a	Native pine woodlands	0.08	-	0.01
Heathland and Scrub	h2 and h2a	Native hedgerow	-	38.65	-
	h2a5	Species-rich native hedgerow	-	12.47	-
	h2a6	Other native hedgerow	-	0.31	-
	h2b	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	-	0.031	-

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Broad Habitat Type	UKHab Code	Habitat Classification	Area (ha)	Length (km)	Proportion of Site (%)
	h3a	Blackthorn scrub	0.05	-	<0.01
	h3d	Bramble scrub	0.6	-	0.05
	h3f	Hawthorn scrub	0.07	-	0.01
	h3h	Mixed scrub	3.9	-	0.34
	h3j	Willow scrub	0.6	-	0.05
Wetland	f2d	Aquatic marginal vegetation	0.06	-	0.01
Cropland	c1a	Arable field margins	1.9	-	0.16
	c1a5	Arable field margins tussocky	2.6	-	0.22
	c1b	Temporary grass and clover leys	11.6	-	1.00
	c1b5	Rye-grass and clover ley	22.3	-	1.92
	c1b6	Legume-rich ley	40.6	-	3.15
	c1c	Cereal crops	509.8	-	43.91
	c1c5	Winter stubble	48.7	-	4.19
	c1c7	Other cereal crops	79.9	-	6.88
	c1c8	Arable fields pollen and nectar	4.6	-	0.40
	c1d	Non-cereal crops	186.6	-	16.07
Urban	c1d8	Other non-cereal crops	34.1	-	2.94
	U1	Built-up areas and gardens	0.07	-	0.01
	U1b	Developed land; sealed surface	0.4	-	0.03
	U1b5	Buildings	0.08	-	0.01
	u1b6	Other developed land	22.4	-	1.93
	u1e	Built linear features	-	-	-
Rivers and Lakes	u1f	Sparsely vegetated urban land	0.02	-	<0.01
	r1b	Other rivers and streams	-	12.24	-
	r1g	Other standing water	0.86	-	0.07
Total Habitat Area			1160.9	-	100

### Grassland

#### Other Neutral Grassland (g3c)

- 6.2.38 A 1.71% area of the Site was classified as other neutral grassland. Small fields were recorded in W1, W2 and W3.
- 6.2.39 Species frequently recorded in all the neutral grassland areas included: false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*), Timothy (*Phleum pratense*), and perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*).
- 6.2.40 Commonly recorded species included broadleaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), greater willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg.*), crested dog's tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), sow thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), and self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*).
- 6.2.41 Among the rarely recorded species were grass vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*), narrow-leaved birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus tenuis*), bush vetch (*Vicia sepium*), musk mallow (*Malva moschata*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), phragmites (*Phragmites australis*), dovesfoot cranesbill (*Geranium molle*), cats ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), and curly-leaved dock (*Rumex crispus*).
- 6.2.42 Field margins also often included pineapple weed (*Matricaria discoidea*), bittersweet nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*), white bryony (*Bryonia dioica*), and wild angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*).
- 6.2.43 All other neutral grassland with a secondary code 'tall forbs' often included species such as foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), burdock (*Arctium spp.*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), rosebay willowherb, greater willowherb, common figwort (*Scrophularia nodosa*), black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), ragwort, common knapweed, curly-leaved dock, broadleaved dock, hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), bittersweet nightshade, and common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*).
- 6.2.44 Damper grassland often with a secondary code 'scattered rushes' often included rush species (*Juncus sp.*), including soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and compact rush (*Juncus conglomeratus*), as well as star sedge (*Carex echinata*), teasel.
- 6.2.45 Notable species included marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*) recorded in the centre of W1.

#### Deschampsia Neutral Grassland (g3c7)

- 6.2.46 Two fields within W2 were recorded as g3c7 Deschampsia neutral grassland. These were adjacent fields, located to the south of Hawk Hill Lane.
- 6.2.47 Species recorded within these habitats included Yorkshire fog, rough meadow grass (*Poa trivialis*), tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), perennial rye grass (*Lolium perennis*), timothy, chickweed (*Stellaria media*), bent grass (*Agrostis capillaris*) and annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*).

### Modified Grassland (g4)

- 6.2.48 This habitat type was recorded extensively throughout the eastern extents of W1 and W2, as well as a few fields within W3. It was most frequently recorded as fields; however, was also recorded within the margins of arable fields.
- 6.2.49 The most frequently recorded species within this habitat included Yorkshire fog, perennial rye grass, creeping buttercup, false oat grass, spear thistle, ribwort plantain, bramble, rosebay willowherb, common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), white clover and broad-leaved dock. Also recorded were Timothy, dandelion (*Taraxacum sp.*), ragwort, red clover and bristly oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*).

### Woodland and Forest

#### Lines of Trees (w, 33; w1, 33; w1g, 33; w1h, 33)

- 6.2.50 Lines of trees were recorded along some field boundaries in all three sections. Species comprised broadleaved woodland species such as pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), willow (*Salix spp.*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), elm (*Ulmus spp.*), and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). Ground flora included wild Angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*), wood avens (*Geum urbanum*), sorrel (*Rumex spp.*), nettles (*Urtica dioica*), wild garlic (*Allium ursinum*), hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*), cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), and cleavers (*Galium aparine*).

#### Wet Woodland (w1d)

- 6.2.51 A stretch of Wet Woodland was recorded in the south east of W2, located adjacent to Anston Brook. Wet Woodland is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat and a habitat of principal importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), 2008)<sup>10</sup>.
- 6.2.52 Species recorded within this habitat were alder crack willow (*Salix fragilis*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), goat willow, oak, ash, field maple, sycamore, elm (*Ulmus spp.*), elder, larch, hawthorn, poplar (*Populus spp.*) and white willow (*Salix alba*). Ground flora included willowherb, bracken and bramble.
- 6.2.53 Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), an invasive non-native species, was also recorded in this habitat.

#### Other Broadleaved Woodland (w1g)

- 6.2.54 Areas of 'Other broadleaved woodland' were recorded in W1 and W2, in the form of several small clusters of trees surrounded by arable fields, as well as lines of trees along field margins. Only three small areas of this habitat were recorded in W3, with one located south of Killamarsh Lane in the western extent, another adjacent to a body of standing water in the northern extent and a third in association with the Broad Bridge Dyke in the north eastern extent.
- 6.2.55 Species frequently recorded within this habitat included pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), often forming the dominant canopy layer. Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), and willow (*Salix spp.*) were also commonly recorded. Other species such as alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), birch (*Betula spp.*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), and sweet chestnut

(*Castanea sativa*) were present but generally less abundant, appearing occasionally throughout the Study Area. Rare records included Wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), goat willow (*Salix caprea*), and horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*).

- 6.2.56 Common ground flora included bramble, ivy (*Hedera helix*), nettle, cleavers (*Galium aparine*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Commonly recorded ancient woodland indicator species included bluebell and wood avens (*Geum urbanum*). Commonly recorded shaded species included hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*) and red campion (*Silene dioica*).

### **Other Woodland; Mixed (w1h, w1h5)**

- 6.2.57 One small area of 'Other woodland; mixed' was recorded within the Order Limits, located in the south east of W2.
- 6.2.58 Tree species recorded within this habitat were alder, aspen (*Populus tremula*), larch (*Larix decidua*), birch species, sycamore and pedunculate oak. Ground flora included bramble, nettle, willowherb (*Epilobium sp.*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*) and bittersweet. Cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), an invasive non-native, was also recorded in this habitat.

### **Other Woodland; Mixed; Mainly Broadleaved (w1h5)**

- 6.2.59 One area of 'Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved' was recorded in the Order Limits, located along the western boundary of W3.
- 6.2.60 This area ran along the entire eastern edge of a large arable field. Species recorded within this habitat were pedunculate oak, field maple, larch, ash and willow.

### **Individual Trees**

- 6.2.61 Scattered individual trees were recorded across the Order Limits, mostly in association with field boundaries. Common species included ash, pedunculate oak, field maple, sycamore and hawthorn. Two ash trees with ash dieback<sup>11</sup> were recorded. A veteran pedunculate oak was recorded within W1, in an arable field (see **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.1: Land Parcel Reference [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**) next to Hilltop Farm in the central northern extent of the W1.

## **Heathland and Scrub**

### **Native Hedgerow (h2a)**

- 6.2.62 Hedgerows were classified as h2a where they had over 80% canopy cover composed of UK native woody species, but which could not be confidently assigned to either species-rich or other native hedgerow categories.
- 6.2.63 Native hedgerows were extensively recorded throughout the Site, most commonly recorded along the edges of arable fields and along roads.
- 6.2.64 The most abundant woody species recorded were hawthorn and blackthorn. Other commonly recorded species included elder, hazel, field maple, and dog rose (*Rosa canina*).
- 6.2.65 Occasional recordings included ash, sycamore, goat willow and crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*).

- 6.2.66 Other species included bramble, ivy, nettle, willowherb, creeping thistle, angelica, and hogweed.

### **Species-Rich Native Hedgerow (h2a5)**

- 6.2.67 Hedgerows assigned to the h2a5 category contained a consistent mix of five or more native woody hedgerow species per 30-metre section. Species-rich native hedgerows were recorded throughout the Site, but most frequently in W1 and W3. These hedgerow habitats were recorded between arable fields and along roadsides.
- 6.2.68 Species recorded in addition to native hedgerow habitats included holly, dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), wych elm, alder, silver birch (*Betula pendula*), viburnum sp., prunus sp., silver birch and English oak and black bryony (*Dioscorea communis*).

### **Other Native Hedgerow (h2a6)**

- 6.2.69 A typical native hedgerow classified under h2a6 consisted of between two and four native woody hedgerow species per 30m section. This habitat was not frequently recorded within the Site and was found only in W2. These hedgerow habitats were recorded between arable fields. Species composition typically comprised hawthorn, with elder and/or blackthorn.

### **Non-Native and Ornamental Hedgerow (h2b)**

- 6.2.70 Only one non-native and ornamental hedgerow was recorded within the Site, located to the east of W2. This hedgerow solely comprised of Leyland cypress (*Cupressus x leylandii*).

### **Blackthorn Scrub (h3a)**

- 6.2.71 This habitat was recorded in several small areas across W2 only. Each area was recorded within arable field margins, often alongside or within native hedgerows. The dominant species within this habitat was blackthorn.

### **Bramble Scrub (h3d)**

- 6.2.72 This habitat was recorded only in W2. It was found along field edges to the west of Ulley, to the south of and along Penny Hill Lane and close to Long Road in the east W2.
- 6.2.73 Bramble scrub habitat was dominated by bramble, with other species recorded in some areas including hawthorn, common nettle, hedge bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*), mugwort, creeping thistle, cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), common hogweed, ash, hazel, and great willowherb.

### **Hawthorn Scrub (h3f)**

- 6.2.74 Two small areas of h3f Hawthorn scrub were recorded in W3 only, located along the southern border. While hawthorn dominated this habitat, ash and bramble were also recorded.

### **Mixed Scrub (h3h)**

- 6.2.75 Small areas of h3h 'Mixed scrub' were scattered across W2, often within field margins or along the road edges. Frequently recorded species included hawthorn, willow, bramble, ash, elder, gorse, elder, silver birch, dog rose, common nettle and field rose (*Rosa arvensis*).

### **Willow Scrub (h3j)**

- 6.2.76 This habitat was found only in W2, as small areas along roads and between arable fields. One larger area was recorded as a wide section of willow scrub between two arable fields to the north of Hardwick.
- 6.2.77 These habitats were dominated by willow species, most frequently grey willow, with occasional records of hawthorn.

## **Wetland**

### **Aquatic Marginal Vegetation (f2d)**

- 6.2.78 Only one small area of f2d 'Aquatic marginal vegetation' was recorded in the centre of a small arable field located in the centre of W2.
- 6.2.79 Species recorded within this habitat were soft rush, hoary willowherb (*Epilobium parviflorum*), hogweed, grey willow, wavy bittercress (*Cardamine flexuosa*), wild angelica, broad leaved willowherb (*Epilobium montanum*), hairy tare (*Vicia hirsuta*), common reed, duckweed (*Lemna sp.*).

## **Cropland**

### **Arable Field Margins (c1a)**

- 6.2.80 Arable field margins are priority habitats.
- 6.2.81 This habitat was recorded on the edges of arable fields within W1 and W2, between Ulley and Hardwick, and close to the M18 at Winthrop Park.
- 6.2.82 Species included neutral grassland species as well as chamomile (*Chamaemelum nobile*), orache (*Atriplex spp.*), scented mayweed (*Matricaria recutita*), mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*), pineapple weed, ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), creeping thistle, knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), burdock, teasel, chicory, redshank (*Persicaria maculosa*), goosefoots (*Chenopodium spp.*), broadleaf dock, sow thistle, creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), and common poppy (*Papaver rhoas*).
- 6.2.83 Several cultivated or non-native species, such as rapeseed (*Brassica napus*), sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), sweetcorn (*Zea mays*), and fiddlenecks (*Phacelia tanacetifolia*), were also observed, reflecting the influence of nearby arable land and disturbed soils.

### **Arable Field Margins Tussocky (c1a5)**

- 6.2.84 This habitat was recorded on the edges of arable fields in W1, W2 and W3.
- 6.2.85 Species recorded were similar to the above but comprised of clump-forming patches, typically made up of coarse grasses and herbs.

### **Temporary Grass and Clover Leys (c1b)**

- 6.2.86 This habitat was recorded within W2, as three fields next to Pocket Handkerchief Lane, Todwick.
- 6.2.87 Species recorded in this habitat included perennial rye grass, red clover, mugwort, ragwort, cock's-foot grass, alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), common nettle, bramble, ribwort plantain, teasel (*Dipsacuss p.*), black knapweed, hogweed, geranium (*Geranium sp.*) and common poppy.

### **Rye-Grass and Clover Ley (c1b5)**

- 6.2.88 One field within Section W3 and three fields within W2 were recorded as c1b5 Rye-grass and clover ley habitats.
- 6.2.89 Species recorded in this habitat included perennial rye grass, red clover, ragwort, creeping thistle, chicory and musk mallow.

### **Legume-Rich Ley (c1b6)**

- 6.2.90 Three fields of c1b6 Legume-rich ley habitat were recorded within the Study Area, two in the north of W1 and one in the east of W3.
- 6.2.91 Species recorded within this habitat were broad bean (*Vicia faba*), oat (*Avina sativa*), scented mayweed and black twitch (*Alopecurus myosuroides*).

### **Cereal Crops (c1c)**

- 6.2.92 This habitat was recorded extensively throughout the Study Area. A large number of cereal cropped fields were present in throughout the Site.
- 6.2.93 The most frequently recorded species within this habitat was wheat (*Triticum sp.*), followed by barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) then oat.

### **Winter Stubble (c1c5)**

- 6.2.94 This habitat was only recorded in W3 as three large fields in the west and centre.
- 6.2.95 These areas were noted as having harvested cereal crops.

### **Other Cereal Crops (c1c7)**

- 6.2.96 This habitat was recorded within W2, to the centre and east.
- 6.2.97 Species recorded within this habitat were wheat, tare (*Vicia spp.*), sow thistle, flax (*Linum usitatissimum*), pineapple weed, cranesbill (*Geranium spp.*), shepherd's purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*), and groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*).

### **Arable Fields Pollen and Nectar (c1c8)**

- 6.2.98 Two areas of this habitat were recorded in W2 only, to the north of Penny Hill Lane by Ulley.
- 6.2.99 Species recorded in this habitat included chicory, ragwort, greater willowherb, broad-leaved dock, scentless mayweed, creeping thistle, common nettle, red clover, creeping buttercup, bush vetch and bird 's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*).

### **Non-Cereal Crops (c1d)**

- 6.2.100 Non-cereal crop fields were recorded frequently throughout both W1 and W2.
- 6.2.101 The most frequently recorded crop was oilseed rape, followed by broad bean, flax then artichoke (*Cynara cardunculus*).

### **Other Non-Cereal crops (c1d8)**

- 6.2.102 Two large areas of other non-cereal crops were recorded in W2 only, located in the west close to Treeton and north of Ulley, respectively.
- 6.2.103 Crops within these habitats were oilseed rape and flax, with willowherb and perennial rye grass also noted within field margins.

### **Urban**

- 6.2.104 Small areas of the Site comprised urban habitats of low biodiversity value, including Built-up areas and gardens (U1), Developed land; sealed surface (U1b), Other developed land (U1b5), Other Developed Land (u1b6), Built Linear Features (u1e) and sparsely Vegetated Urban Land (u1f).
- 6.2.105 Two areas of sparsely vegetated urban land were recorded in W2 and were the footprints of individual wind turbines located between Hardwick and Ulley. Species included black medick (*Medicago lupulina*), white clover, herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), Yorkshire fog, hawkweed (*Hieracium spp.*), annual meadow-grass, and euphorbia (*Euphorbia spp.*).

### **Rivers and Lakes**

#### **Ponds**

- 6.2.106 Seven ponds were identified within the Order Limits Site, including three small ponds within W1, three small ponds within W2, and one larger pond within W3, which included common reed (*Phragmites australis*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), and sedge species (*Carex spp.*).

#### **Ditch**

- 6.2.107 Ditches were commonly recorded along the margins of the arable fields, with the majority of them being classified as dry.
- 6.2.108 One wet ditch was recorded within the eastern extent of W2. Species present included angelica (*Angelica sylvestris*), greater willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), horsetail (*Equisetum spp.*), nettle (*Urtica dioica*), reed canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg.*), and creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*).

#### **Other Rivers and Streams (r1b)**

- 6.2.109 The following r1b habitats were identified within the Site, including Anston Brook, Chesterfield Canal, Firsby Brook, Helleby Brook, Pich Mill Brook, Ulley Brook and various other unnamed brooks. More details are provided in the River Condition

Assessment within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 6.4: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN0110020/APP/6.20]**.

## The Cable Corridor

6.2.110 **Table 6.2.2** lists the UKHab habitat types recorded within or adjacent to the Cable Corridor with their locations illustrated in **ES Volume 3, Figure 6.2.2: UK Habitat Classification: Cable Corridor [EN0110020/APP/6.19]**.

**Table 6.2.2: UKHAB Habitat Classifications within the Cable Corridor**

Broad Habitat Type	UKHab Code	Habitat Classification	Area (ha)	Length (km)	Proportion of Site (%)
Grassland	g	Grassland	10.33	-	3.16
	g3c	Other neutral grassland	5.7	-	1.74
	g4	Modified grassland	49.59	-	15.74
Woodland and forest	w1	Broadleaved and mixed woodland	0.4	-	0.12
	w1f	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	0.2	-	0.06
	w1g	Other broadleaved woodland	11.8	-	3.61
	w1h	Other woodland; mixed	0.9	-	0.28
Heathland and scrub	h2	Hedgerows	-	2.1	-
	h2a	Native hedgerow	-	16.9	-
	h2a6	Other native hedgerow	-	0.3	-
	h3	Bramble scrub	0.04	-	0.01
	h3h	Mixed scrub	3.4	-	1.04
	h3f	Hawthorn scrub	0.3	-	0.09
	h3j	Willow scrub	0.3	-	0.09
Cropland	c1	Arable and horticulture	17.4	-	5.32
	c1a	Arable field margins	1.6	-	0.49
	c1b	Temporary grass and clover leys	36.5	-	11.17
	c1c	Cereal crops	140.3	-	42.92
	c1c5	Winter stubble	1.7	-	0.52
	c1d	Non-cereal crops	29.6	-	9.05
	c1d8	Other non-cereal crops	0.7	-	0.21
Urban	u1b	Developed land; sealed surface	5.6	-	1.71
	u1b5	Buildings	0.02	-	0.01

## ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Broad Habitat Type	UKHab Code	Habitat Classification	Area (ha)	Length (km)	Proportion of Site (%)
	u1c	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	0.4	-	0.12
	u1e	Built linear features	9.8	-	3.00
	u1f	Sparsely vegetated urban land	0.4	-	0.12
Sparsely vegetated land	s	Sparsely vegetated land	0.05	-	0.02
Rivers and Lakes	r2	Rivers and streams	-	0.7	-
	r2b	Other rivers and streams	-	1.8	-
Total Habitat Area			326.9	28.3	100

6.2.111 Habitat descriptions are consistent with those provided in the Site Description section and are therefore not repeated here. In addition, the habitat assessment was undertaken largely through desk-based review.

## Priority and Irreplaceable Habitats

### The Site

6.2.112 Whilst most of the extensively recorded habitats on Site were generally common and widespread within the UK, a number of Priority Habitats were identified within the Site, including:

- Native hedgerows
- Wet woodland
- Ancient Woodland; and
- Arable field margins.

### Native Hedgerows

6.2.113 Hedgerow Priority Habitats are defined as “any boundary line of trees or shrubs over 20m long and less than 5m wide, and where any gaps between the trees or shrub species are less than 20m wide..., consisting predominantly (i.e. 80% cover or more) of at least one woody UK native species” (any bank, wall, ditch or tree within 2m of the centre of the hedgerow is considered to be part of the hedgerow habitat, as is the herbaceous vegetation within 2m of the centre of the hedgerow)<sup>12</sup>.

6.2.114 The 51.43km total of Native hedgerows, Species-rich native hedgerows, and Other native hedgerows recorded within the field margins throughout the Site broadly fall into this classification.

6.2.115 Hedgerow Priority Habitats are of high intrinsic ecological value and provide habitats suitable for a range of protected species, including amphibians and reptiles (shelter and dispersal), nesting birds, invertebrates, foraging/commuting bats, and small mammals. An assessment under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997

has been undertaken to determine whether any 'important hedgerows' as defined in the regulations are present and will be affected by the development and has been presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 6.12 Hedgerow Regulations Assessment Survey Report [EN0110020/APP/6.20]**.

### **Wet Woodland**

- 6.2.116 Wet Woodland Priority Habitat occurs on poorly drained or seasonally wet soils, usually with alder, birch and willows as the predominant tree species, but sometimes including ash, oak, pine and beech on the drier riparian areas. These can be found on floodplains and in other low-lying or hydrologically dynamic areas.
- 6.2.117 Wet woodland is a highly valuable habitat that integrates features of several ecosystems, supporting a wide range of species. The consistently high humidity encourages the growth of bryophytes, and the damp, decaying conditions support a rich invertebrate community. The frequent presence of deadwood, often in association with standing or slow-moving water, creates niche habitats not typically found in drier woodland types. Additionally, wet woodland provides essential cover and breeding habitat for species such as otter.
- 6.2.118 The small stretch of Wet woodland recorded in the southeast of W2, adjacent to the Anston Brook, broadly falls into this category.

### **Ancient Woodland**

- 6.2.119 As noted in Section 6.2.30, a small section along the southern boundary of W1 overlaps the mapped Ancient Woodland boundary shown on MAGIC. While this was recorded as w1g during the field survey, it should still be treated as Ancient Woodland for the purposes of assessment, as the designation reflects long-established woodland continuity rather than current habitat structure. This ensures that the ecological value and statutory sensitivity of Ancient Woodland are fully acknowledged in the appraisal.

### **Arable Field Margins**

- 6.2.120 Arable field margins are herbaceous strips or blocks positioned along the edges of arable fields, typically 2 – 12 metres wide and managed to support wildlife. These margins are ecologically important, providing habitat, breeding sites, and foraging resources for a wide range of farmland species, including declining birds and pollinators. Their structural and botanical diversity enhances the ecological value of intensively farmed landscapes by creating essential refuges and strengthening overall farmland biodiversity<sup>12</sup>.
- 6.2.121 Arable field margins were recorded within the Site, located adjacent to arable fields at Moat Farm and Kingsforth Field in the north of W2; Turnshaw Commons in the centre of W2; and Higham, south of W3, fall within this category.

### **The Cable Corridor**

- 6.2.122 The following priority habitats were identified within the Cable Corridor during the desk-based assessment:
- Native hedgerows – 19.3km within the field boundaries of Cable Corridor

- Arable field margins – in the northwest, west and south west of Cable Corridor CRB; and
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland - in COB, to the south of Bawtry Road.

### **Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland**

- 6.2.123 Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland is a Priority Habitat typically found on base-rich to moderately acidic soils and is characterised by a diverse canopy of native broadleaved species such as oak, birch, hazel, field maple and ash, often with an understorey of hawthorn, blackthorn and holly. These woodlands often represent long-established or semi-natural woodland cover. Their structural complexity ranges from mature trees and coppice stools to a varied shrub layer and species-rich ground flora, supporting a wide range of wildlife. Ancient woodland indicator species, deadwood habitats and varied light conditions contribute to high biodiversity value, providing foraging, nesting and overwintering opportunities for birds, bats, invertebrates and ground flora specialists.
- 6.2.124 A small section of this habitat was recorded in CRB, to the south of Bawtry Road.

# Summary and Conclusions

## General Description of Habitats

### The Site

- 6.2.125 The total habitat area assessed was 1160.9ha. The predominant broad habitat type recorded was cropland, covering approximately 81.2% of all three sections (circa 82% of W1, 75% of W2, 87% of W3). This included a mix of cereal crops, non-cereal crops, winter stubble, legume-rich leys, and other arable land types (not including priority habitat). The cropland formed a patchwork of fields distributed throughout all three sections of the Site.
- 6.2.126 The second most recorded broad habitat type was grassland, which covered approximately 15.3% of all areas. Most of which was modified grassland, predominantly located within the eastern extents of W1 and W2.
- 6.2.127 Woodland accounted for 0.98% of the Site, predominantly comprising other broadleaved woodland, but also other woodland mixed; mainly broadleaved, other woodland mixed, native pine woodlands, other lowland mixed deciduous and Wet Woodland Priority Habitat.
- 6.2.128 The desk study revealed a small section of Ancient Woodland Priority Habitat along the southern border of W1. While this section was recorded as w1g during the field survey, it was considered part of an adjacent Ancient Woodland area according to MAGIC.
- 6.2.129 Approximately 4.80km of Lines of trees were recorded throughout the Site, mainly positioned along field boundaries. Several individual trees were also recorded along field boundaries in each of the sections, including one veteran tree, a pedunculate oak in the north of W1.
- 6.2.130 Heathland and shrub habitats such as Mixed scrub, Willow scrub, Bramble scrub, Blackthorn scrub, Hawthorn scrub and Other blackthorn scrub, accounted for less than 1% of the total Site area. However, Native hedgerow linear habitats (including Species-rich native hedgerows) were extensively recorded along field boundaries across all sections.
- 6.2.131 Rivers and lake habitat areas accounted for less than 1% of the Site, including seven ponds (recorded as other standing water). Several rivers crossed the Site in all three sections.
- 6.2.132 Urban habitat areas, which comprise tracks, buildings, and sparsely vegetated urban land, accounted for less than 1% of the Site.

### The Cable Corridor

- 6.2.133 Overall, the UKHab habitats identified within the Cable Corridor were similarly comprised as the Site, with cropland being the predominant habitat type, covering approximately 69.68% of the Cable Corridor, followed by grassland (20.07%) with small patches of Woodland (4.07%). The Cable Corridor also crosses several rivers.
- 6.2.134 Native Hedgerow Priority Habitat was recorded throughout the field boundaries of the Cable Corridor, as well as small areas of Arable Field Margin and Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat.







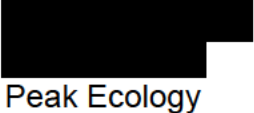
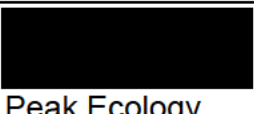

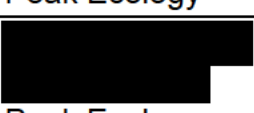

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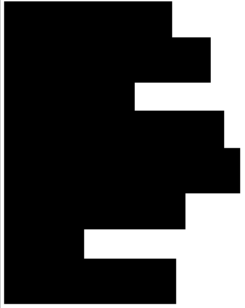

## Annex 6.2A: UKHAB Survey Personnel, Timing and Weather Conditions

Date	Personnel	Approx. Survey Start/End Time	Weather			
			Rain	Temp.	Wind	Cloud Cover
19 June 2024	[REDACTED] ERM	9:00 – 16:00	None	20	1	50%
20 June 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	21	4mph	Scattered clouds
21 June 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	22	6-9mph	Sunny / Scattered clouds
27 June 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	21	10-14mph	Overcast
28 June 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	18	13mph	Overcast
02 July 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	18	5-8mph	Overcast
04 July 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-14:00	None	18	13-16mph	Sunny / Overcast
05 July 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-14:30	None	20	8mph	Overcast
08 July 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	20	3-5mph	Overcast
09 July 2024	[REDACTED] Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	Light showers	21	8-11 mph	Overcast

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT**

Date	Personnel	Approx. Survey Start/End Time	Weather			
			Rain	Temp.	Wind	Cloud Cover
15 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	Light showers	21	3-8mph	Sunny / Overcast
16 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	Drizzle	19	3-6mph	Overcast
18 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	25	4-8mph	Sunny
19 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	29	4-9mph	Sunny
23 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	22	4mph	Overcast
24 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-15:00	None	21	4-9mph	Overcast
30 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-15:00	None	26	3-6mph	Overcast
31 July 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-15:00	None	27	4-6mph	Sunny
01 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	25	3mph	Overcast
02 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-14:00	None	25	3-9 mph	Passing clouds
06 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-15:00	None	22	6-8mph	Overcast

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT**

Date	Personnel	Approx. Survey Start/End Time	Weather			
			Rain	Temp.	Wind	Cloud Cover
07 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-15:00	None	20	9-13mph	Overcast
13 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	24	5-9mph	Sunny
14 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	20	3-4mph	Overcast
19 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	18	6-10mph	Overcast
20 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	10:00-13:00	Light rain	19	11-13mph	Overcast
21 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	18	10-12mph	Scattered cloud/ overcast
22 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	21	11-16mph	Overcast
28 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	24	3-8mph	Overcast
29 August 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	20	7-9mph	Sunny
03 September 2024	 Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	20	3-6mph	Overcast

## ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Date	Personnel	Approx. Survey Start/End Time	Weather			
			Rain	Temp.	Wind	Cloud Cover
04 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	16	4mph	Overcast
10 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	16	11mph	Overcast
11 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	13	9-11mph	Scattered clouds
12 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	14	5mph	Overcast
13 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	15	4-7mph	Sunny
17 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	19	3-6mph	Sunny
18 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	None	19	3-6mph	Overcast/sunny
26 September 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00-16:00	Light rain	16	4mph	Overcast
01 October 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	10:00-14:00	Light rain	12	8-14mph	Overcast
02 October 2024	██████████ Peak Ecology	10:00-14:00	None	14	9-11mph	Overcast
02 June 2025	██████████	9:00 - 16:00	None	19	8mph	Scattered clouds

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT**

Date	Personnel	Approx. Survey Start/End Time	Weather			
			Rain	Temp.	Wind	Cloud Cover
	Peak Ecology					
03 June 2025	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00 - 16:00	None	18	11-15mph	Scattered clouds
04 June 2025	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00 - 16:00	Light rain at 14:00	17	9-12mph	Sunny
05 June 2025	██████████ Peak Ecology	9:00 - 16:00	Light rain 9:00-11:00	17	6-8mph	Overcast
15 December 2025	ERM	9:00 - 16:00	None	7-10	10–15mph	Overcast
16 December 2025	ERM	9:00 - 16:00	Light rain	7-9	12-17mph	Overcast
17 December 2025	ERM	9:00 - 16:00	Light rain	6-8	13-18mph	Overcast
18 December 2025	ERM	9:00 - 16:00	Light rain	7-9	12-16 mph	Overcast
19 December 2025	ERM	9:00 - 14:00	None	4	10-14 mph	Overcast



**WHITESTONE**  
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## Contact

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