

SALE ISSUE 7 APR 7
~~001396254 Abstract #5~~

Wilder, Gina Email Vincent Wildlife Trust to ~~AMEC~~ AMEC (FOI)

From: Hemingway, Lori
Sent: 10 March 2010 11:12
To: Nowell, Richard
Cc: Payne, Andrew
Subject: FW: Development on Crown Estate Land

(1)

Hi Richard

Please see the enquiry below which was received via our website, grateful if you would please deal, copying me in on your reply.

Thanks

Lori Hemingway
Project Manager

**THE CROWN
ESTATE**

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Please think - do you need to print this email?

From: Colin Morris [<mailto:colinmorris@vwt.org.uk>]
Sent: 10 March 2010 10:31
To: Enquiries
Subject: Development on Crown Estate Land

Dear Sir, or Madam.

I am writing to ask if you have any information regarding a proposed development on Crown Estate and near Blandford Forum. Dorset.

You may not be aware that the proposed development of as many as 750 new homes in the period beyond 2016 of Bryanston Deer Park, Blandford Forum is likely to have a detrimental effect on a colony of greater horseshoe bats (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) living in a building adjacent the flood plain. The site has been afforded SSSI status.

The Vincent Wildlife Trust has contributed to a great extent financially to the survival of this colony. Initially purchasing and renovating the building they use, the provision and enhancement of alternative hibernacula and have embarked on a long-term project with local landowners to restore important hedgerows connecting outlying feeding habitat. Grazed pasture is of vital importance to young greater horseshoe bats that feed almost exclusively within two kilometers of their nursery during the latter part of the summer and early autumn. And, as grazed pasture in this area is at a premium every little bit is of significant importance. The slow attrition of suitable habitat is not only difficult to monitor but the general deterioration of those places that are available, practically impossible.

As well as by domestic legislation, bats are also protected under several international Conventions, Directives or Agreements. Where these place obligations on the UK government, they have been translated into the domestic legislation described below.

This is only a general and simplified guide to the main provisions of the law. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 should be consulted for further details.

European Union Directive and the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (habitats and Species Directive)

This Directive places a legal requirement on all Member States of the European Union to protect specified habitats and species through their own domestic legislation. In the UK this has been implemented by the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994.

All species of bats are on Annex IV (European protected species of animal'), which requires that they are given full protection. Four species (greater horseshoe, lesser horseshoe, Bechstein's and barbastelle) are also on Annex II, which requires the designation of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) to ensure that the species is

maintained at a favourable conservation status. In the UK, this is being done through the designation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (S.S.S.I's).

The site at Blandford is a S.S.S.I. This international network of sites is known as Natura 2000.

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention).

This convention, *to which the UK is a signatory*, places obligations on member states to protect threatened or endangered species and their habitats and to ban the use of many unselected methods of capture. It is translated into domestic legislation through the Wildlife and Countryside Act. All species of bats, except the pipistrelle, are on Appendix II, which requires that they are given special protection. The pipistrelle is on Appendix III, which requires the regulation of its exploitation.

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention).

This global Convention is intended to encourage co-operation between member parties in the conservation of species that move between range states. It provides for the protection of some migratory species, but its main intended method of operation is to encourage range states to set up Agreements to benefit species listed on Annex II, which includes all European bats. One such agreement is the *Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe*, which came into force in 1994. Its main provisions are to restrict the killing or capture of bats; the protection of key bat habitats; the co-ordination of research and conservation experience and increasing public awareness of bat conservation.

Thank you for your time.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Morris.

Colin Morris
Nature Reserves Manager
The Vincent Wildlife Trust
C/o C and O Tractors
Blandford Heights
Blandford Forum