



**LAND TO THE SOUTH OF
ELM CLOSE
STURMINSTER NEWTON:
PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL
APPRAISAL**

December 2014

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- RPS Ecology was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of land to the south of Elm Close, Bull Ground Lane, Sturminster Newton, to help inform the proposed re-development of the site.
- The site predominantly consisted of semi-improved grassland bordered by mature species rich and species poor hedgerows and treelines.
- The mature species-rich and species-poor hedgerows and treelines on site offer suitable habitat for common species of nesting birds. It is recommended that any vegetation clearance be carried out outside of the breeding bird season. If this is not possible, any vegetation to be removed should be checked for nesting birds by a suitably qualified ecologist immediately prior to removal. If any nests are found, they would have to be left undisturbed until the chicks had fledged (usually around six weeks).
- The mature species-rich hedgerows and treelines also offer suitable habitat for dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius*, a species known to occur in the hedgerows around Sturminster Newton. Therefore, further survey work to confirm the presence or absence of this species should be conducted in order to ascertain whether dormice represent a constraint to the proposed development.
- A large pedunculate oak tree *Quercus robur* and two large ash trees *Fraxinus excelsior* within the species-rich hedgerow with trees on the southern site boundary (Hedgerow H2) were classified as Category 2 trees under Bat Conservation Trust guidance (Hundt 2012) in terms of their potential to support roosting bats. If these trees are directly or indirectly impacted as a consequence of the proposed development then further surveys work is recommended to ascertain whether bats utilise these trees for roosting and, as such, are a constraint to the proposed re-development of the site. Such surveys will need to be undertaken between May and September when bats are active. If bats are found to be present, the removal of the trees would need to be carried out under licence from Natural England.
- The site was considered to have moderate potential to support foraging/commuting bats. Further surveys to monitor bat activity on site should therefore be undertaken in conjunction with the emergence surveys described above.
- No active badger setts were present at the time of survey. However, the site has the potential to support badgers. Therefore, the site should be monitored for badger activity during January/February, the optimum time to survey for badgers when vegetation is at its least overgrown.
- The site contains suitable habitat to support great crested newt. A Habitat Suitability Index assessment of ponds within 500 m of the site boundary should be conducted to assess the potential of any ponds to support breeding great crested newts.
- The site has habitat which has the potential to support reptiles including mature hedgerows, and semi-improved grassland. Therefore further presence / absence surveys should be conducted to check for reptile presence.

1 INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

- 1.1 RPS was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of land to the south of Elm Close, Sturminster Newton, Dorset (Ordnance Survey grid reference ST 790 141) to help inform the proposed development of the site.

Site Description

- 1.2 The area surveyed is situated adjacent to the eastern edge of the town of Sturminster Newton in the county of Dorset. The site covers an area of approximately 1.42 ha, and predominantly comprises semi-improved grassland bordered by mature species rich and species poor hedgerows and treelines.
- 1.3 The site is situated on the eastern outskirts of the town and is surrounded by agricultural pasture and arable fields to the east and south which are bordered by mature hedgerows. The River Stour lies within 600 m to the east and 500 m to the south of the site.
- 1.4 The wider area comprises of mostly open countryside interspersed with small towns and villages.

Aims and Objectives

- 1.5 The purpose of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was to identify the habitats currently present within and around the site (to Phase 1 standard) in order to obtain baseline ecological information for the site. The Appraisal also assessed the potential for the site and adjoining habitats to be used by species that receive legal protection (at a UK and / or European level) and species that are otherwise notable including Species of Principal Importance and Birds of Conservation Concern.
- 1.6 This report presents the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal information and provides ecological baseline information for the site. It provides an evaluation of the results, recommendations for further survey if required and, also, recommendations for protecting and enhancing the biodiversity of the site.

2 METHODS

Desk study

- 2.1 Records of protected and notable species and information on designated sites within 2 km of the proposal site were requested from the local biological records centre, the Devon Environmental Records Centre (DERC).
- 2.2 Records were screened for relevance and age with only those from the last 10 years and of species that could occur on site considered further.
- 2.3 Aerial photos of the site (Google 2013) were examined to determine habitats surrounding the site and hence species likely to be present in order to make appropriate recommendations in the wider landscape context.

Field Survey

- 2.4 The survey was conducted in accordance with The Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey (JNCC 2003), and included searches for signs of protected species, as described in the Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Assessment (IEEM, 2012).
- 2.5 A walkover of the application site and surrounding area was undertaken on the 23rd September 2014 by an experienced ecologist, Mr Nicholas Deykin GradCIEEM. Habitats within the site were classified, mapped and described, with respect to their structure and floristic composition.
- 2.6 In addition, the habitats within the survey area were assessed for their potential to support legally protected or otherwise notable flora and fauna. Where suitable habitat was identified on site, a search was conducted for signs indicating the presence of protected species such as droppings, burrows, tracks and evidence of feeding. Where species are not specifically evaluated, this indicates that no habitat of potential value for these species was identified during the survey.
- 2.7 Trees were then categorised for their value to roosting bats using BCT's system of categorisation (see Table 2.1 below).

Table 2.1: Categorisation of trees for bat roost potential (Hundt, 2012)

Category	Description
Known or confirmed roost	Trees confirmed to be used by roosting bats
1*	Trees with multiple, highly suitable features capable of supporting large roosts
1	Trees with definite bat roost potential, supporting fewer suitable features than category 1* trees or with potential for use by single bats
2	Trees with no obvious potential, although the tree is of a size and age that elevated surveys may result in roost features being found; or the tree

	exhibits some features which may have limited potential to support roosting bats
3	Trees with no obvious potential to support roosting bats

2.8 Consideration was also given to habitats outside the site, in order to evaluate the ecological context of the site within the wider landscape. Adjacent habitats were also considered with respect to their own ecological value and their potential to enhance the ecological value of habitats within the site.

2.9 Searches were made for invasive non-native plant species focussing on those species currently listed in the revised Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

2.10 The plant species nomenclature follows that of Stace (1997). Plant species observed within each habitat type were recorded using the DAFOR system which stands for Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare.

Constraints

2.11 Due to seasonal behaviour of animals and the seasonal growth patterns of plants, ecological surveys may be limited by the time of year in which they are undertaken. This survey was undertaken in September and, as such, it may not provide a complete list of the plants and animals that may be present, or which may seasonally utilise the site.

2.12 However, the information gathered for this ecological survey has facilitated an evaluation of the habitats on site and the likely use of the site by legally protected and notable species. This survey has also given appropriate baseline data for the determination of the requirement for further surveys and/or mitigation and enhancement works.

3 RESULTS

Desk Study

Designated Sites

- 3.1 There are two statutory designated sites for nature conservation within 2 km of the site including a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These are detailed in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Statutory sites within 2 km of the site.

Site Name	Size / length	Designation
Butts Pond Meadows Sturminster Newton	1.5ha	LNR
Piddles Wood	62.2ha	SSSI

- 3.2 There are no non-statutory designated sites within 2 km of the site.

Protected, rare, threatened and BAP species

- 3.3 The results of the species of conservation concern records received in the desk study are detailed below.

Amphibians

- 3.4 Great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*, smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris*, palmate newt *Lissotriton helveticus*, common frog *Rana temporaria* and common toad *Bufo bufo* have been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years.

Birds

- 3.5 Eighteen birds of conservation concern have been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years. These are detailed in Appendix 1.

Fungi

- 3.6 No fungi of conservation concern have been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years.

Mammals

- 3.7 Fourteen mammals of conservation concern have been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years including brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*, Eurasian badger *Meles meles*, European otter *Lutra lutra*, European water vole *Arvicola amphibious*, hazel dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*, long-eared bat species *Plecotus sp.*, Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri*, Noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula*,

pipistrelle bat species *Pipistrellus sp.*, Serotine bat *Eptesicus serotinus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, and West European hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*.

Invertebrates

- 3.8 Sixteen invertebrates of conservation concern have previously been recorded within 2 km of the site including scarce chaser *Libellula fulva*, white admiral *Limenitis Camilla*, marsh fritillary *Euphydryas aurinia*, wall brown *Lasiommata megera*, garden tiger *Arctia caja*, buff ermine *Spilosoma luteum*, shoulder-striped wainscot *Mythimna comma*, rustic *Hoplodrina blanda*, *Volucella inanis*, mottled rustic *Caradrina Morpheus*, blood-vein *Timandra comae*, grey dagger *Acronicta psi*, lackey *Malacosoma neustria*, pretty chalk carpet *Melanthia procellata*, small phoenix *Ecliptopera silaceata* and white ermine *Limenitis Camilla*.

Plants

- 3.9 Fifteen plants of conservation concern have previously been recorded within 2 km of the site including fountain latic-moss *Cinclidotus riparius*, midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata*, pignut *Conopodium majus*, tubular water-dropwort *Oenanthe fistulosa*, common broomrape *Orobanche minor*, Small Teasel *Dipsacus pilosus*, Cornflower *Centaurea cyanus*, corn chamomile *Anthemis arvensis*, corn marigold *Glebionis segetum*, bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, violet Helleborine *Epipactis purpurata*, and bird's-nest orchid *Neottia nidus-avis*, grove earwort *Scapania nemorea*, short-beaked wood-moss *Hylocomium brevirostre*, and silky forklet-moss *Dicranella heteromalla*.

Reptiles

- 3.10 One reptile species of conservation concern has previously been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years which is the grass snake *Natrix natrix*.

Other protected/notable species

- 3.11 Two lichen species of conservation concern have been recorded within 2 km of the site within the last ten years including *Arthonia anombrophila* and *Chaenotheca hispidula*.

Phase 1 Habitat Survey

- 3.12 The results of the field survey are shown in Figure 3.1, Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map. The habitats present on the site are described below broadly in the order of their extent.

Semi-improved grassland

- 3.13 The majority of the site comprised semi-improved grassland. This area comprised of frequent perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis* with occasional common nettle *Urtica dioica*, cleavers *Galium aparine*, dove's-foot cranes's-bill *Geranium molle*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, white clover *Trifolium repens* and pineapple weed *Matricaria discoidea*.

Hedgerows

- 3.14 Mature hedgerows border much of the site boundary. The hedgerows comprised of frequent hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, elder *Sambucus nigra* and English elm *Ulmus procera* with occasional hazel *Corylus avellana* and dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*. The hedgerows had a species-poor ground flora comprising of

frequent common nettle and broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius* with occasional red campion *Silene dioica* and cleavers. Several mature trees were present within the southern hedgerow including a mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and several ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. A mature field maple *Acer campestre* was present within a defunct hedgerow on the northern site boundary. The hedgerows are summarised in Table 3.1 below. Figure 3.1 shows the locations of the hedgerows.

Table 3.1: Summary of hedgerows present within the site boundary and bordering the site boundary

Hedgerow	Approximate length (m)	Condition	Species Composition	Hedgerow Assessment
H1	60	Untrimmed shrubby hedgerow, continuous - good	Blackthorn, elder, hazel	Species poor
H2	230	Untrimmed shrubby hedgerow with line of trees, continuous - good	Bramble, blackthorn, hazel, hawthorn, pedunculate oak, ash, elder	Species rich
H3	130	Untrimmed shrubby hedgerow, continuous - good	Bramble, elm, elder	Species poor
H4	75	Untrimmed shrubby hedgerow, gappy - poor	Bramble, elder, field maple	Species poor

Protected Species Scoping

Breeding birds

- 3.15 The hedgerows and trees on site provide good foraging and nesting habitat for common species of birds.

Mammals

- 3.16 The hedgerows on site are considered suitable habitat to support dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius*. The hedgerows provide moderately good connectivity to the wider landscape for this species but limited connectivity to woodland. The habitat is therefore considered sub-optimal.
- 3.17 The mature oak tree and the ash trees along the southern site boundary have moderate potential to support roosting bats and were classified as Category 2 trees.
- 3.18 The mature hedgerows and trees were considered to have potential to support commuting and foraging bats and provide good connectivity for bats to the wider landscape.

3.19 Mammal runs through vegetation within hedgerows on the southern and eastern site boundary were recorded of a size large enough to have been caused by badgers. However, no other evidence of the presence of badgers was recorded during the survey.

3.20 Several otter sightings have been recorded to the south and east of the site at the River Stour. However, no evidence of otters, or suitable otter habitat, was discovered within the site boundary during the survey.

Reptiles and amphibians

3.21 A check of the relevant 1:25,000 OS map revealed two water bodies to the south of the site boundary and within a 500 m extent of the site boundary that could potentially support great crested newts. The hedgerows and grassland habitat within the site has potential to provide good terrestrial habitat for great crested newts.

3.22 The hedgerows and grassland habitat within the site has the potential to support common species of reptiles.

Other protected/notable species

3.1 No other habitat that could support protect or otherwise notable species was noted on site.

4 EVALUATION

Habitats

- 4.1 The majority of habitats on site comprised locally-common species and were not legally protected.
- 4.2 Hedgerows are listed on both the Dorset Local BAP and Section 41 of the NERC Act. Four species-rich hedgerows were identified during the survey. Further survey work is recommended in Section 5 to determine whether these are considered 'important' under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

Species

Breeding Birds

- 4.3 Breeding birds are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take the birds or their eggs, or to intentionally destroy or disturb a nest, when it is in use or being built.
- 4.4 The mature hedgerows and trees provide good cover and suitable nesting opportunities for a range of common bird species and will provide a resource for nesting birds in the wider area. However, such habitats are widespread in the local area. Notwithstanding this, recommendations are made in Section 5 should any vegetation clearance be necessary.

Dormice

- 4.5 Dormice receive full protection under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). They are also listed in Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006.
- 4.6 The mature hedgerows and treelines were considered suitable, although marginally optimal, for this species. The data search revealed that there are records for this species within 2 km of the site. Further survey work is therefore recommended in Section 5.

Bats

- 4.7 All species of bat present in the UK receive full protection under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). A number of bat species are also listed in Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006. These include the widespread species Soprano Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and Brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*, and the rarer woodland species such as Bechstein *Myotis bechsteinii* and Barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus*.
- 4.8 The majority of trees on site were not considered suitable for roosting bats. However, a large pedunculate oak tree and two large ash trees within the species rich hedgerow with trees on the southern site boundary (Hedgerow H2) were considered to have some potential (Category 2 – Hundt 2012). If these trees are directly or indirectly impacted as a consequence of the proposed development then further surveys work is recommended to ascertain whether bats utilise these

trees for roosting and, as such, are a constraint to the proposed re-development of the site. Such surveys will need to be undertaken between May and September when bats are active. If bats are found to be present, the removal of the trees would need to be carried out under licence from Natural England.

- 4.9 The mature hedgerows and trees were considered to have potential to support commuting and foraging bats and provide good connectivity for bats to the wider landscape. Therefore, further survey work is recommended in Section 5.

Badgers

- 4.10 Badgers and their setts are protected by the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. This legislation effectively prevents development on a site where Badger activity occurs without mitigation being agreed and carried out prior to construction works. If a sett is likely to be disturbed or destroyed a licence will be required from Natural England and options to minimise impact to the species should be considered.

- 4.11 No evidence of badger activity was recorded during the survey. However, runs through vegetation were recorded which were large enough to have been caused by badgers. Therefore, further survey work is recommended in Section 5.

Otters

- 4.12 Several otter sightings have been recorded to the south and east of the site at the River Stour. However, the habitat within the site boundary is not considered to have the potential to support otters and therefore no further surveys are recommended.

Great Crested Newt

- 4.13 There are habitats within the site boundary, such as the hedgerows and grassland have the potential to provide terrestrial habitat to support GCN. The desk study revealed that there are two ponds to the south of the site within the 500 m defined as the core terrestrial territory of this species. The data search revealed the presence of GCN within 2 km of the proposed development site boundary. It is therefore recommended that the two ponds within 500 metres of the proposed development site are assessed for their potential to support GCN. If suitable, then presence/absence surveys will be required to ascertain whether GCN are present and, as such, are a constraint to the proposed re-development of the site. Therefore, further survey work is recommended in Section 5.

Reptiles

- 4.14 There are habitats present within the site boundary with potential to support reptiles including mature hedgerows and semi-improved grassland. Therefore, further presence/absence survey work is recommended in Section 5.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The site predominantly consisted of semi-improved grassland bordered by mature species-rich and species poor hedgerows and trees.
- 5.2 The species-rich hedgerows on site should be subject to a suitable survey to determine whether any qualify as 'important' under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. Such a survey would need to map the hedgerows according to the Regulations requirements (the number of woody species within a defined proportion of the length of the hedgerow) and the number of associated features (ditches, public rights of way etc.). This is ideally undertaken in May to June.
- 5.3 The species-rich hedge and trees provide potential breeding and foraging habitat for assemblages of breeding farmland birds. However, the small size of the site decreases the potential for the habitats to support larger assemblages of breeding farmland birds and no further site-specific breeding bird survey is considered necessary.
- 5.4 However, in order to protect bird nests and comply with the law protecting them, any hedgerow, tree or scrub removal will take place outside of the breeding bird season, which is generally considered to be from March to August inclusive. If this is not possible, prior to removal, such vegetation should first be checked for the presence of nesting birds by an experienced ecologist. If any nests are found, they will be left undisturbed until the chicks had fledged (usually around six weeks).
- 5.5 The hedgerows on site are considered suitable to support dormice and given that records for this species within 2 km further surveys should be conducted. This will comprise of the setting out of artificial dormouse nest tubes within the hedgerows and treelines during April/early May. These are then checked on a monthly basis between May and September with the presence of any dormice (or other small mammals) recorded. If dormice are identified on site, then habitat clearance would need to be undertaken under licence from Natural England. In order to secure such a licence, the development would need to provide sufficient mitigation for the loss of the habitat.
- 5.6 A large pedunculate oak tree and two large ash trees within the species rich hedgerow with trees on the southern site boundary (Hedgerow H2) were classified as Category 2 trees under Bat Conservation Trust guidance (Hundt 2012) in terms of their potential to support roosting bats. If these trees are directly or indirectly impacted as a consequence of the proposed development then further surveys work is recommended to ascertain whether bats utilise these trees for roosting and, as such, are a constraint to the proposed re-development of the site. Such surveys will need be undertaken between May and September when bats are active. If bats around found to be present, the removal of the trees would need to be carried out under licence from Natural England.
- 5.7 The site was considered to have moderate potential to support foraging/commuting bats. Further surveys to monitor bat activity on site should therefore be undertaken. This would comprise of transect surveys and automated surveys. In line with BCT guidelines (Hundt, 2012) for medium quality bat habitat, one transect survey should be conducted per month from April to October (to include at least one dusk and pre-dawn survey within a 24 hour period) combined with automated

surveys (static automated ultrasound bat detectors left in specific locations) in two locations for three night consecutive periods each month from April to October.

- 5.8 No active badger setts were present at the time of survey. However, the site has the potential to support badgers. Therefore, the site should be monitored for badger activity during January/February, the optimum time to survey for badgers when the vegetation is at its least overgrown and evidence of badger activity is more visible.
- 5.9 The site has habitat which could potentially provide terrestrial habitat for GCN. The two ponds identified to the south of the site should be assessed and a Habitat Suitability Index survey conducted to assess the potential of the ponds to support great crested newt. If the ponds are assessed to have high potential to support great crested newts, further presence / absence surveys will be necessary.
- 5.10 The site has habitat which has the potential to support common species of reptile. Therefore further surveys should be conducted to check for reptile presence. Surveys will involve setting out reptile refugia (square metre sheets of bituminous roofing felt) in areas with highest potential to support reptiles (rough tall grassland, bottom of hedgerows) during April/early-May. The refugia will then be subsequently checked on a monthly basis between May and September with the presence of any reptiles recorded. If reptiles are identified on site, any habitat clearance would need to be undertaken under the direct supervision of a suitably qualified ecologist and implemented under a reptile mitigation strategy. The development would need to provide sufficient mitigation for the loss of the habitat.

6 REFERENCES

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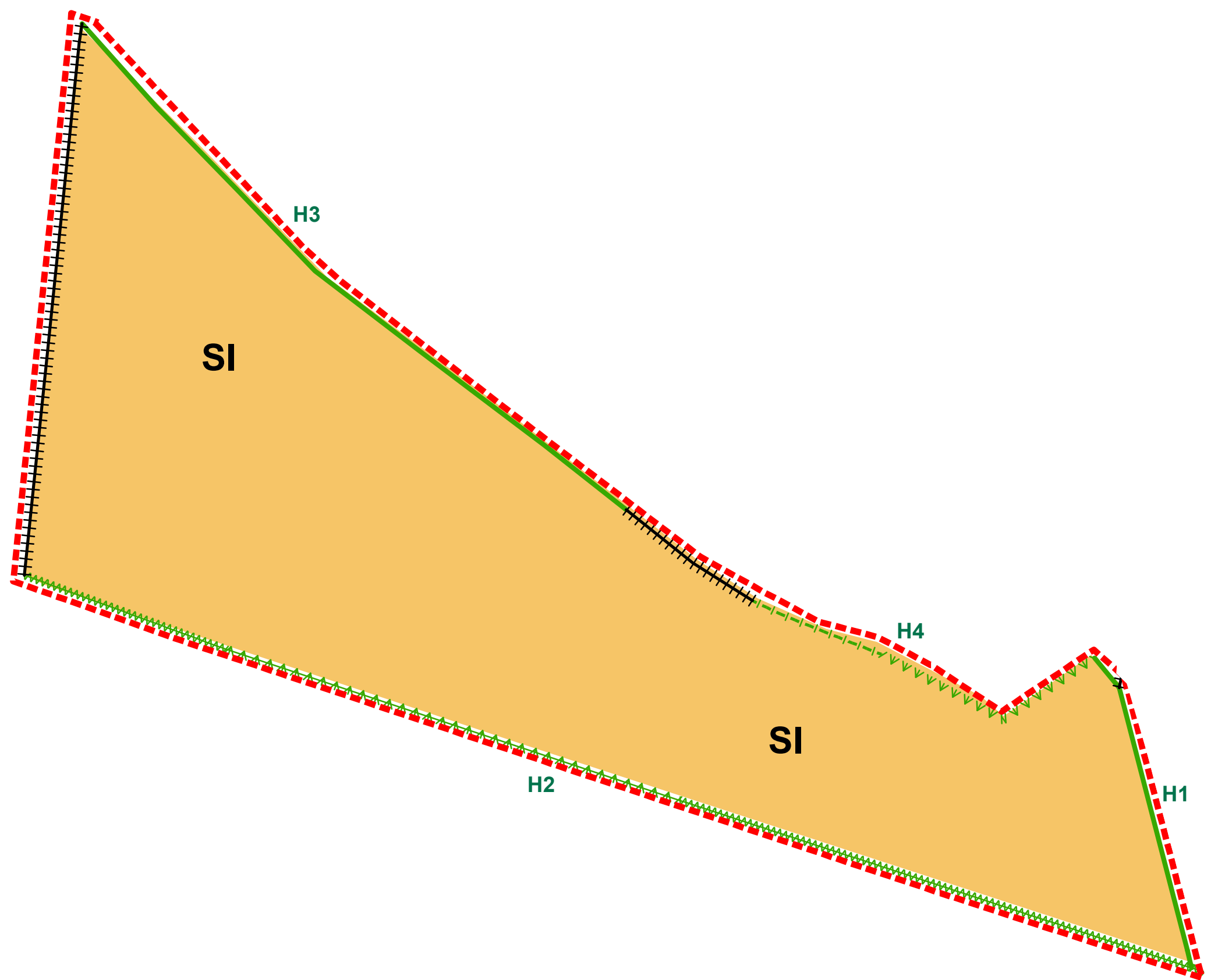
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FIGURE 3.1

Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map

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Legend

- - - Application boundary
- Fence
- SI Semi-Improved Grassland
- ▲▼▲ Species rich hedge with trees
- ▲▲▲ Species rich hedge
- Species-poor hedge
- - - Species-poor defunct hedge
- ▲▼▲ Species poor defunct hedge with tree

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APPENDIX 1

Birds of conservation concern previously recorded within 2 km of the site.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	Birds Dir, Amber
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	Amber
<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Shoveler	Amber
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Kestrel	Amber
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Hobby	WCA
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine	Birds Dir, WCA
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Golden Plover	Birds Dir, Amber
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Lapwing	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	Woodcock	Amber
<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull	Amber
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Cuckoo	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kingfisher	Birds Dir, WCA, Amber
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Skylark	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow	Amber
<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	House Martin	Amber
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Meadow Pipit	Amber
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail	Amber
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Dunnock	NERC, UK, Amber
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Fieldfare	WCA, Red
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Redwing	WCA, Red
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	Amber
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted Flycatcher	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Poecile palustris</i>	Marsh Tit	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	Hawfinch	NERC, UK, Red
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	NERC, UK, Red

Protected Species Status Abbreviations.

Birds Dir: Birds Directive; **Red:** Birds of high conservation concern red list species; **Amber:** Birds of medium conservation concern amber list species; **WCA:** Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); **NERC:** Species of Principle Importance in England, NERC Act (2006), S.41; **UK:** Listed by the UK Steering Group with a UK action plan or species statement