

**LAND EAST OF CROFTON CEMETERY AND WEST
OF PEAK LANE, STUBBINGTON, FAREHAM**

**SHADOW HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT
ADDENDUM IN RESPECT OF NEW FOREST
SPA/SAC AND RAMSAR SITE**

Final Document

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Preliminary Ecological Appraisals • Protected Species Surveys and Licensing • NVC • EclA • HRA • Management Plans
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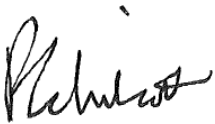


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LAND EAST OF CROTON CEMETERY, STUBBINGTON

SHADOW HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM IN RESPECT OF NEW FOREST SPA/SAC AND RAMSAR SITE

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 Ecological Survey & Assessment Limited (ECOSA) have been appointed by Persimmon Homes Limited to prepare an addendum to the Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to support the planning appeal associated with the redevelopment of Land East of Crofton Cemetery and West of Peak Lane, Stubbington, Fareham PO14 2EB (hereafter referred to as the “appeal site”).
- 1.2 ECOSA has undertaken a range of ecological survey work at the appeal site with an extended Phase 1 ecological assessment originally undertaken in February 2014 (ECOSA, 2015) and subsequent protected species surveys including bat activity, reptile surveys and great crested newt surveys undertaken in 2015 (ECOSA, 2015). A suite of wintering bird surveys was also undertaken between 2014 and 2016 (ECOSA, 2015) (ECOSA, 2015) (ECOSA, 2016). Given the length of time since the completion of this initial survey work, ECOSA were subsequently instructed to undertake an updating Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the appeal site in 2017 (ECOSA, 2018), and a subsequent update of the original ecological survey work was undertaken in 2018 (ECOSA, 2020).
- 1.3 A planning application was submitted, including the 2018 ecological survey data, for the development of the appeal site for 261 residential dwellings was submitted to Fareham Borough Council on 14th March 2019 (reference P/19/0301/FP, hereafter referred to as the “2019 application”). The planning application was subsequently refused on 22nd August 2019 on a number of grounds, some of which were relevant to ecology.
- 1.4 Subsequent to this the proposals for the appeal site were revised and a new planning application for 209 residential units was submitted in June 2020 (application reference number P/20/0522/FP). This planning application was supported by an Ecological Impact Assessment (ECOSA, 2020), Biodiversity Impact Calculator (ECOSA, 2020), Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (ECOSA, 2020) and Ecological Management Plan (ECOSA, 2020). These documents were updated as the planning process developed, following comments received by Natural England and Fareham Borough Council.
- 1.5 The planning application was recommended for approval by officers but subsequently refused at committee on 17th February 2021 with the subsequent decision notice issued on 18th February.

- 1.6 The appellant has subsequently appealed the decision with the appeal due to be heard at inquiry commencing 19th October 2021 (reference APP/A1720/W/21/3275237)¹.
- 1.7 During the course of the appeal the appellant has also submitted an outline planning application at the appeal site for the development of up to 180 residential units (Fareham Borough Council Reference P/21/1211/OA), hereafter referred to as the “Outline Application”. During the consultation period for the Outline Application, Natural England provided a consultation response in relation to potential recreational impacts on the New Forest Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar site as a result of the Outline Application (see **Appendix 1**). This consultation response was based on new evidence from a study undertaken by Footprint Ecology which highlighted potential recreational impacts as a result of residential development within 13.8 kilometres of the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site (see **Map 1** for relative location of New Forest, 13.8 kilometre buffer and the appeal site).
- 1.8 Given that the appeal has yet to be determined the competent authority, in this case the inspector, will need to consider this additional evidence highlighted in Natural England’s comments on the Outline Application.
- 1.9 Therefore, this document has been prepared to support the appeal to consider potential recreational impacts on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site. This document serves as an addendum to the Shadow HRA prepared in order to support the appeal scheme (ECOSA, 2020) and does not re-consider impacts on any other internationally designated sites. This document should be read in conjunction with the previously submitted Shadow HRA which contains further background on the HRA process and planning policy context.

The Appeal Site

- 1.10 The appeal site is located in Stubbington, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SU 5536 0454.
- 1.11 The appeal site comprises two agricultural fields with boundary vegetation and a small copse to the south-west of the site. The appeal site is bounded to the south and east by existing residential development, to the north-east by Peak Lane, and to the north by agricultural fields, including the area of land proposed for the construction of the consented Stubbington Bypass. Crofton Ditch with associated vegetation and Crofton Cemetery bounds the west of the appeal site whilst a ditch is also present in the south

¹ The full details of the reasons for refusal and how they have been addressed in the appeal are set out in the relevant appeal statements.

of the appeal site. The northern and southern parcels of land are bisected by Oakcroft Lane.

- 1.12 The wider landscape comprises Stubbington to the south and Fareham to the north and east. To the west lies open countryside comprising agricultural fields with associated boundary vegetation, occasional areas of woodland and the River Meon. The Solent lies towards the south and west (approximately 0.32 kilometres west at its nearest point) separated from the appeal site by open countryside and existing residential development.

Aims and Scope of Report

- 1.13 This Shadow HRA addendum aims to assess the Likely Significant Effects of the potential recreational impacts upon the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site and their qualifying features in light of the new information from the Footprint Ecology study. The objectives of this assessment are:

- Identify any aspects of the proposed development that would have a Likely Significant Effect on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site, either in isolation or in-combination with other plans and projects with specific reference to potential increases in recreational pressure.
- To advise on appropriate mechanisms for delivering mitigation where such effects are identified.

Site Proposals

- 1.14 The proposals for the appeal site are for “*development comprising 206 dwellings, access road from Peak Lane maintaining link to Oakcroft Lane, stopping up of a section of Oakcroft Lane (from Old Peak Lane to Access Road), with car parking, landscaping, sub-station, public open space and associated works*”).

2.0 ASSESSMENT METHODS

Introduction

- 2.1 This section presents the methodology employed during the addendum to the Shadow HRA. The assessment method utilised within this document largely follows those set out in the original Shadow HRA to support the planning application, with these adapted to consider the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Methodology

- 2.2 Currently there is only limited guidance on HRA screening methodology, namely Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment guidance (DCLG, 2006) and Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans: Guidance for Plan-making Bodies in Scotland (David Tyldesley and Associates, 2012). These documents have been used for the purpose of this exercise, along with supporting guidance (Infrastructure Planning Commission, 2011). This HRA exercise has been completed in the following stages:

- Identification of the Zone of Influence with specific consideration to the potential recreational impacts on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site;
- The vulnerabilities and potential development effects on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site, both alone and in combination have been established;
- The development proposals have been screened for likelihood of significant effect on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site; and
- Measures are introduced to avoid any identified Likely Significant Effect which have been considered as part of the Appropriate Assessment.

- 2.3 The results of the Screening exercise are presented in Section 3.0. Following the completion of the screening exercise the Appropriate Assessment is detailed in Section 4.0.

Consultation Resources

- 2.4 This report has involved consultation of the following resources to identify the potential recreational impacts on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site:
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) (DEFRA, 2021);
 - Consultation response received by Natural England dated 31st August 2021 on the Outline Application (see **Appendix 1**);

- New Forest visitor survey undertaken by Footprint Ecology 2018/2019 (Liley, et al., 2020);
- New Forest telephone survey undertaken by Footprint Ecology of residents within 25 kilometres of the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site (Liley & Panter, 2020);
- Report on implications of housing changes on visitor numbers to the New Forest by Footprint Ecology (Liley, et al., 2020); and
- Report on impacts of recreation and potential mitigation approaches by Footprint Ecology (Lake, et al., 2020).

Zone of Influence

2.5 Plans and projects have the potential to impact on European sites beyond the confines of the individual sites themselves. Guidance on Ecological Impact Assessment (CIEEM, 2018) states that potential impacts should be investigated which occur within the zone of influence that arises during the whole lifespan of the proposed plan or project. The potential zone of influence is defined as:

- Areas outside a European site which could be used by individuals of a species qualifying as a primary ecological feature of that site and potentially associated with that site;
- Areas directly within the land take for the proposed development or plans;
- Areas which will be temporarily affected;
- Areas likely to be impacted by hydrological disruption; and
- Areas where there is a risk of pollution and disturbance (e.g. noise).

2.6 The Zone of Influence for this project was previously assessed as being up to 5.6 kilometres to take into account potential recreational impacts associated with the Solent SPAs. However, based on the most recent research provided by Footprint Ecology, and consultation responses provided by Natural England, the Zone of Influence specifically in relation to the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site has been determined as being 13.8 kilometres. No other European sites within this expanded Zone of Influence are relevant to the assessment.

In Combination Scope

2.7 The impacts and effects of any plan being assessed are not considered in isolation but in combination with other plans and projects that may also be affecting the European sites in question. In practice, 'in combination assessment' is of greatest importance

when a plan or project would otherwise be screened out because the individual contribution is inconsequential.

- 2.8 For the purposes of this assessment, we have determined that, due to the nature of the identified impacts, the most recent research and Natural England’s current advice, the key plans and projects that are likely to result in ‘in-combination’ effects with the proposed development relate to additional housing allocations within 13.8 kilometres of the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site. These housing allocations are not individually discussed within this document as this potential in combination effect has already been identified as part of previous research/consultation responses (see Paragraph 3.15 and (Lake, et al., 2020)). .

3.0 SCREENING

Introduction

- 3.1 This section details the screening for Likely Significant Effects process and a discussion of the findings to establish how the Likely Significant Effect outcome was determined.

Relevant European Sites

- 3.2 The scope of this Shadow HRA addendum has been restricted to the sites associated with the New Forest which are as follows:

- New Forest SPA - located approximately 11.3 kilometres to west of the appeal site;
- New Forest SAC - located approximately 11.3 kilometres to west of the appeal site; and
- New Forest Ramsar site - located approximately 11.3 kilometres to west of the appeal site.

Effects

- 3.3 The European sites within the zone of influence are vulnerable to a range of direct and indirect effects. Those activities associated with development projects causing specific harm to habitats or species within, or originating from the European site that are primary reasons for designation, would cause direct effects.

- 3.4 Article 6(2) of the Habitats Directive defines the two main effects upon European sites as habitat deterioration and species disturbance.

- 3.5 Habitat deterioration can occur when: the extent of a qualifying habitat decreases; or the structure and functions of that habitat that are necessary for its long-term maintenance no longer exist or are threatened; or the conservation status of its typical species is no longer favourable, as a result of a process or event. Consideration of the sources of deterioration, the likelihood of these occurring and whether those effects would be significant are considered.

- 3.6 A process or event contributing to the long-term decline of a species population on a site can be considered a significant disturbance, defined as species disturbance.

Characteristics of the European Sites

- 3.7 A summary of qualifying features of the New Forest SPA/SAC/Ramsar site can be found in the section below. **Appendix 2** provides citations for each site considered.

New Forest SPA/SAC/Ramsar site

- 3.8 The New Forest is an area of semi-natural vegetation including valley mires, fens and wet heath within catchments whose uncultivated and undeveloped state buffer the

mires against adverse ecological change. The site meets three Ramsar criteria and is the largest concentration of intact valley mires of this type in Britain.

- 3.9 The site supports a diverse assemblage of wetland plants and animals including several nationally rare species. Seven species of nationally rare plant are found on the site, as are at least 65 British Red Data Book species of invertebrate. The mire habitats are of high ecological quality and diversity and have undisturbed transition zones. The invertebrate fauna of the site is important due to the concentration of rare and scarce wetland species. The whole site complex, with its examples of semi-natural habitats is essential to the genetic and ecological diversity of southern England.
- 3.10 The site also supports breeding populations of European importance of the Annex I bird species Dartford warbler *Sylvia undata*, nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*, woodlark *Lullula arborea* and honey buzzard *Pernis apivorus* and overwintering populations of hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*.
- 3.11 The qualifying features of the New Forest SAC, SPA and Ramsar site are detailed in **Table 1** to **Table 3**, respectively.

Table 1: New Forest SPA qualifying features

	Species	Proportion of National Population (%) ²
During the breeding season (Annex I species)	Dartford Warbler	538 pairs representing at least 33.6% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.
	Nightjar	300 pairs representing at least 8.8% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.
	Woodlark	177 pairs representing at least 12.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.
	Honey Buzzard	2 pairs representing at least 10.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.
During the breeding season (qualifying individual species not listed on Annex I)	Wood Warbler	350 pairs representing at least 3.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.
	Eurasian Hobby	25 pairs representing at least 3.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.

² Taken from Natural England's most recent Conversation Objectives (Natural England, 2019).

	Species	Proportion of National Population (%) ²
Over Winter (Annex I species).	Hen Harrier	15 individuals representing at least 2.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain at time of the SPA classification.

Table 2: New Forest Ramsar site qualifying features

Ramsar Criteria	Importance
Ramsar Criterion 1 Site contains representative, rare or unique wetland types	Valley mires and wet heaths are found throughout the site and are of outstanding scientific interest. The mires and heaths are within catchments whose uncultivated and undeveloped state buffer the mires against adverse ecological change. This is the largest concentration of intact valley mires of their type in Britain.
Ramsar Criterion 2 Site supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities	The site supports a diverse assemblage of wetland plants and animals including several nationally rare species. Seven species of nationally rare plant are found on the site, as are at least 65 British Red Data Book species of invertebrate.
Ramsar Criterion 3 Site supports populations of plant/animal species important for maintaining regional biodiversity	The mire habitats are of high ecological quality and diversity and have undisturbed transition zones. The invertebrate fauna of the site is important due to the concentration of rare and scarce wetland species. The whole site complex, with its examples of semi-natural habitats is essential to the genetic and ecological diversity of southern England.

Table 3: New Forest SAC qualifying features that are primary reasons for selection

Category	Qualifying Features
Annex I habitats that are primary reason for the selection of the site	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>
	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i>
	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>
	European dry heaths
	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils <i>Molinion caeruleae</i>
	Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i>

Category	Qualifying Features
	<p>Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with <i>Ilex</i> and sometimes also <i>Taxus</i> in the shrublayer (<i>Quercion robori-petraeae</i> or <i>Illici-Fagenion</i>)</p> <p><i>Asperulo-Fagetum</i> beech forests</p> <p>Old acidophilous oak woods with <i>Quercus robur</i> on sandy plains</p> <p>Bog woodland</p> <p>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p>
Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site	<p>Transition mires and quaking bogs</p> <p>Alkaline fens</p>
Annex II species that are primary reason for the selection of the site	<p>Southern Damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i></p> <p>Stag Beetle <i>Lucanus cervus</i></p>
Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection	<p>Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></p>

Potential Effects on European Sites

- 3.12 The only pathway of impact identified between the appeal site and the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site is the potential for increases in recreational pressure as a result of additional visits to the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site from residents of the new development.

Recreational Activities

- 3.13 A range of research has been undertaken on existing visitor numbers to the New Forest and potential increases in visitor numbers by Footprint Ecology commissioned by Test Valley Borough Council on behalf of a partnership of local authorities. The key reports produced which form the evidence base for this area as follows (collectively these are hereafter referred to collectively as the “Footprint Ecology Study”):

- Recreation use of the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar: New Forest visitor survey 2018/19 (Liley, et al., 2020);

- Recreation use of the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar: Results of a telephone survey with people living within 25km (Liley & Panter, 2020);
- Recreation use of the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar: Impacts of recreation and potential mitigation approaches (Lake, et al., 2020); and
- Recreation use of the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar: Overview of visitor results and implications of housing change on visitor numbers (Liley, et al., 2020).

3.14 The increases of recreation and associated impacts on designated sites are well founded with similar potential recreational impacts identified on the Solent SPAs (Bird Aware Solent, 2017) which are discussed in more detail in the original Shadow HRA to support the planning application (ECOSA, 2020). The Footprint Ecology Study specifically discusses the potential impacts on recreation in the New Forest which include:

- Disturbance to breeding birds resulting in losses of suitable breeding habitat and reduced breeding success;
- Fire resulting in direct mortality, loss of habitat and changes to vegetation structure;
- Contamination (for example litter, nutrient enrichment, pollution, dog fouling);
- Trampling/wear/erosion;
- Harvesting (e.g. removal of deadwood);
- Impact on grazing animals (e.g. road mortality) which are fundamental to the function of the eco system of the New Forest; and
- Visitor expectations including pressure for greater facilities, public perception of management which conflict with management requirements for the objectives of the designated sites.

3.15 The Footprint Ecology Study was based on three surveys which included a Visitor Survey over 2018/19 which involved interviewers speaking to visitors to the New Forest across 60 different locations with 40 hours of survey work covering a weekend day and weekday on each of the autumn/winter, spring and summer. This was supported by a vehicle count at identified formal and informal parking locations across 15 surveys dates across a whole year from October 2018 to September 2019 and finally a telephone survey of 2,000 randomly selected residents from within 25 kilometres of the New Forest. The key findings of this study in relation to the appeal site were as follows:

-
- Day trips to the New Forest in the visitor surveys accounted for 83% of all visits whilst the telephone survey that those who lived within the 0-5 kilometre band make an average of 122 visits per annum. For the borough of Fareham this was an average of 15.33 visits per annum per interviewee in the telephone survey.
 - The visitor surveys identified that 75% of all short visits/day trip from home came from within 13.8 kilometres of the New Forest;
 - 62% of interviewees on the visitor survey were from within five kilometres of the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site. Visits from Fareham borough accounted for just 1% of all interviewees;
 - Total visits to the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site per annum were estimated to be around 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 excluding people walking from campsites, other holiday accommodation and town/village centres.
 - The increase in 129,222 houses within 25 kilometres of the New Forest would represent approximately an increase of 16.4% in housing numbers over the baseline and a 11.4% increase in number of predicted visits from within this 25 kilometre radius.
- 3.16 The proposals for the appeal site are for 206 residential dwelling. Using the estimated population numbers within the previous Shadow HRA when considering potential impacts on other SPAs (2.4 persons per dwelling) the estimated population arising from the proposals would be 494.4.
- 3.17 Given that the average of 15.33 visits per annum from telephone interviewees from Fareham in the telephone survey this could be approximated to be 7579.15 additional trips resulting from the proposals. When the broad brush figure of between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 visits per annum is taken this is a maximum estimate of 0.2% increase in total visits to the New Forest directly resulting from the proposals. This figure is acknowledged to be crude based on an extrapolation of the telephone data but provides a rough indication of the number of visits this individual development may generate alone.
- 3.18 There is insufficient information available to determine whether an increase in visits of 0.2% would result in a likely significant effect alone. However, the Footprint Ecology Study indicated that existing residential development within 13.8 kilometres of the New Forest currently accounts for 75% of all visits to the New Forest. It is fundamental to the HRA process to consider potential in-combination effects with other plans and projects.

- 3.19 On the basis of these findings Natural England have identified that residential development within 13.8 kilometres of the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site has the potential to contribute to in-combination recreational impacts on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site. This has been represented by Natural England's consultation response on the Outline Application (see **Appendix 1**) and also their consultation response on Fareham Borough Council's emerging Local Plan which is reflected in their Statement of Common Ground between Natural England and Fareham Borough Council (Fareham Borough Council, 2021). Therefore, at the screening stage it is not possible to rule out potential effects on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site as a result of increases in recreational pressures.

Conclusion

- 3.20 Potential effects as a result of the development either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects have been identified as part of the screening exercise. In accordance with current case law (People Over Wind and Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta - Case C323/17, 2018) it is not possible to consider proposed mitigation measures as part of the screening stage of Habitats Regulation Assessment. Therefore, in conclusion, it is not possible to screen out likely significant effects on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site at the screening stage.

4.0 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Introduction

- 4.1 This section presents the Appropriate Assessment and sets out relevant mitigation in order to address the likely significant effects on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site identified as part of the screening stage.

Summary of Likely Significant Effects

- 4.2 In summary, the potential likely significant effects identified as part of the screening process is the increase in recreational pressure on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site, in-combination with other plans or projects.

Proposed Mitigation

Recreational Activities

- 4.3 At the time of preparation of this Shadow HRA no formal strategy for addressing the potential in-combination recreational impacts on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site has yet to be devised on a borough level in Fareham Borough. It is understood that Fareham Borough Council and Natural England are progressing a strategy as set out in the Statement of Common Ground on the emerging local plan (Fareham Borough Council, 2021).
- 4.4 Therefore, in the interim the approach to mitigate for the impact can only be based on current best practice measures and guidance provided by Natural England in their consultation response on the outline planning application (see **Appendix 1**). This is the most up to date consultation provided by Natural England on a scheme on this site. Within this response they state the following:
- 4.5 *“This development site falls within the 13.8km zone and we consider it is likely to contribute to recreational impacts on the sites in-combination with other development coming forward across the area.....*
- 4.6 *The resultant recommendations from the recent research highlight that a package of mitigation measures will resolve the issues presented by housing growth in the area, but this will require a ‘strategic, proportionate, and co-ordinated approach, [through] partnership working across a range of local authorities and stakeholders’. Natural England are committed to working with affected local authorities to develop a strategic approach to addressing recreational impacts from new development on the New Forest designated sites.*
- 4.7 *Until such a strategic approach is adopted it is advised at this time that alternative and appropriate mitigation measures are sought to address impacts on the protected sites.*

It is considered that a financial contribution, based on a robust and agreed methodology, directed towards measures at the designated sites e.g. via the New Forest National Park Authority's Habitat Mitigation Scheme, is a means that will enable the Authority to deliver site specific mitigation measures on behalf of the applicant. Such an approach would provide a certain and robust means to addressing the effects of recreational disturbance via direct measures at the protected sites. Some detail on how this money will be used as part of the Scheme is advised to ensure you as competent authority can be satisfied the recreational impact from this development will be appropriately addressed and secured in perpetuity."

- 4.8 The New Forest National Park Authority Habitat Mitigation Scheme referred to in the consultation response is set out in a Supplementary Planning Document dated July 2020 (New Forest National Park Authority, 2020). This is a package of strategic measures which delivers the following:
- Access management in the New Forest;
 - Alternative recreational greenspace sites and routes outside the designated sites;
 - Education, awareness and promotion;
 - Monitoring and research; and
 - In perpetuity mitigation and funding.
- 4.9 In order to deliver these measures a contribution of £3,512.00 per dwelling is made by developers to the National Park Authority to deliver the strategy. This funding is used to provide immediate mitigation measures and to deliver in perpetuity funding to the package of mitigation measures. Similar approaches are also adopted in Test Valley Borough Council (Test Valley Borough Council, 2014) and New Forest District Council (New Forest District Council, 2021). A similar contribution based strategy is also in place in order to mitigate potential impacts on the Solent SPAs (Bird Aware Solent, 2017) which covers a wide range of measures across the entire Solent.
- 4.10 Whilst the New Forest National Park Authority strategy is designed to mitigate the relatively high visits associated with development in the National Park (which accounted for 20% of all visitors in the Visitor Survey or 211.3 visits per annum in Telephone Survey), this does provide a suitable template by which to determine appropriate contributions for schemes in other local authorities where a strategic package is not currently secured, as suggested by Natural England in their 31st August consultation response on the Outline Application.
- 4.11 The average number of visits from Fareham Borough per year based on the telephone survey was 15.33 visits per annum. The proportion of visits from Fareham Borough per

year based on the on-site visitors survey was 1% of all visitors. Therefore, it is proposed that an approach in terms of financial contributions would need to be proportionate to the relative number of visits in comparison with those from the New Forest National Park Authority.

- 4.12 The figure of 15.33 visits per annum from the telephone surveys or 1% of all visitors during the visitor survey is only approximately 7% and 5% respectively when compared to the number of existing visits generated by visitors from within the New Forest National Park (20% of all visits to the New Forest). It could be considered that a proportionate financial contribution would be between 7% and 5% of that of the New Forest Park Authority Habitat Mitigation Strategy. This information is summarised in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Relative Proportion of Visits

Survey Type	Fareham Borough (A)	New Forest National Park Authority (B)	Relative Percentage (B/A)
Telephone Survey	15.33 Visits Per Annum	211.3 Visit Per Annum	7%
Visitor Survey	1% Total Visits	20% Total Visits	5%

- 4.13 However, it is acknowledged that there are inherent limitations in the telephone survey and visitor survey as set out in the respective reports in the Footprint Ecology Study. Therefore, on a precautionary, but proportionate basis, it is proposed that securing a contribution of 10% of the value of the New Forest National Park Authority Scheme (or £351.20 per dwelling) would be appropriate when considering relative number of increases in visits likely as a result of this scheme. This would result in a total contribution of £72,347.20 for proposed development based on 206 dwellings.
- 4.14 As set out in Natural England’s consultation response to the Outline Application an outline of how this contribution would be spent would need to be set out and agreed with Fareham Borough Council. It is proposed that this contribution be transferred to support the New Forest National Park Recreation Mitigation Strategy. The methods proposed within this strategy are well established and agreed with Natural England and proposed within the Footprint Ecology report on proposed mitigation measures. This would be secured as part of a Unilateral Undertaking.
- 4.15 In addition, and as proposed as part of the mitigation for the Solent SPAs, in order to provide further education and advise to new residents a wildlife awareness leaflet, with specific focus on minimising disturbance to wildlife will be distributed to new residents within the development. This previously proposed leaflet will be expanded to take into account wider measures beyond the Solent. It will also include reference to other

suitable recreational resources within easy travelling distance of the proposed development in order to direct new residents to those resources over the New Forest.

In-Combination Effects

Recreational Activities

- 4.16 The New Forest Recreational mitigation scheme is designed to deliver a contribution on a per dwelling basis to allow the individual impact of each dwelling to be mitigation at the SPA/SAC and Ramsar site. Therefore, no in-combination effects are anticipated as a result of the proposals.

Conclusion

- 4.17 Following the implementation of the mitigation measures set out in this section to be secured as part of a Unilateral Undertaking and the Appropriate Assessment undertaken, **no adverse effects** on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site will result from the proposed development either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The screening stage of the shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment concluded that there would be a likely significant effect as a result of the proposals on New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site when considered in-combination with other plans or projects. Therefore, an Appropriate Assessment was required in order to determine whether the proposals would have an effect on the integrity of the site.
- 5.2 Following the incorporation of appropriate mitigation, specifically financial contributions to the New Forest National Park Authority Mitigation Strategy through a Unilateral Undertaking, it has been concluded that there would be no adverse impact on site integrity either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects on the New Forest SPA/SAC and Ramsar site.

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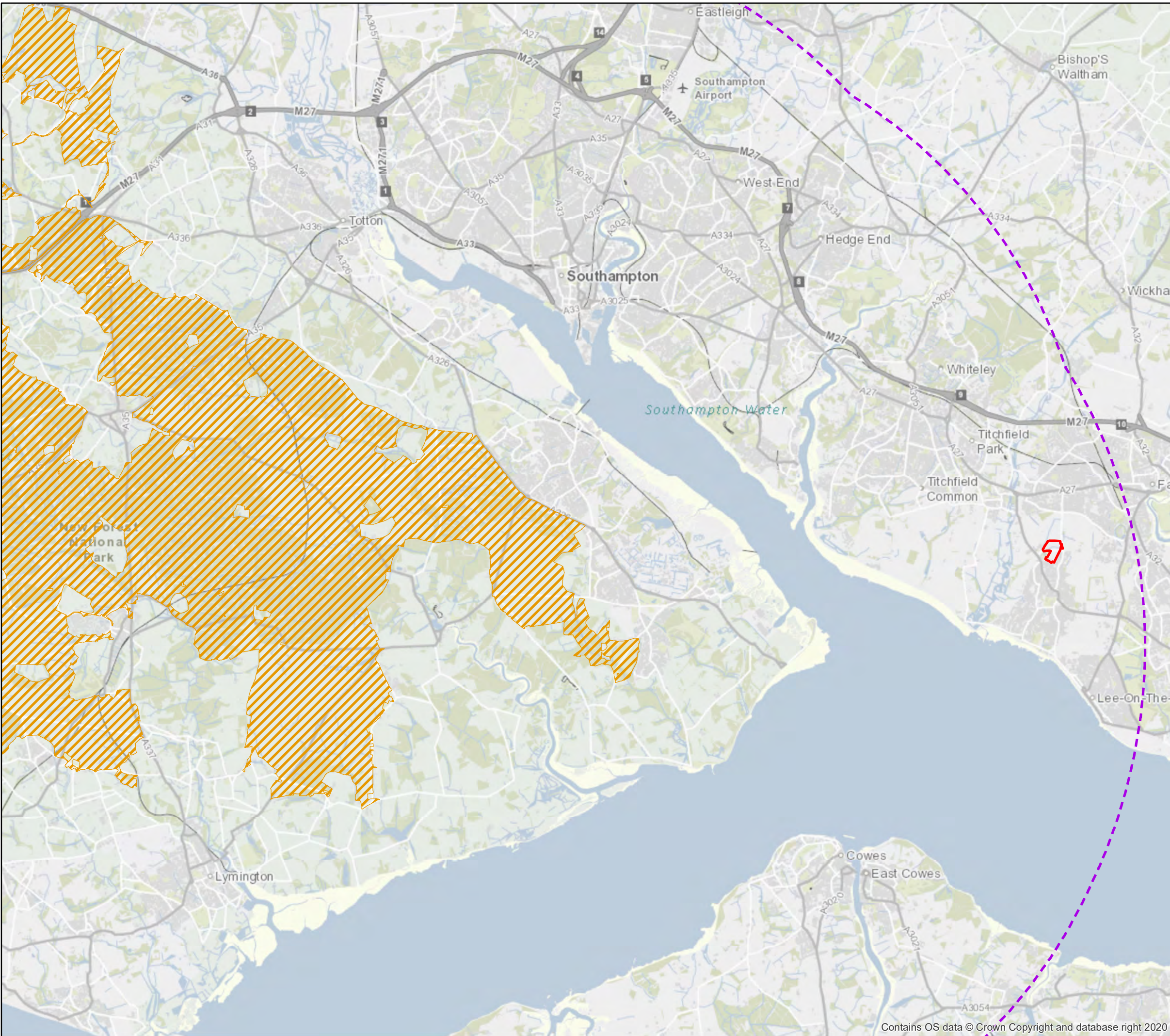
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Map 1 Site Location in Relation to New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar site and 13.8km Buffer



LAND EAST OF CROFTON CEMETERY AND WEST OF PEAK LANE, STUBBINGTON, FAREHAM

SHADOW HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM IN RESPECT OF NEW FOREST SPA/SAC AND RAMSAR SITE

Map 1 - Site Location in Relation to New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar Site and 13.8km Buffer

Client:	Persimmon Homes Limited
Date:	October 2021
Status:	Final

KEY

- New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar Site
- New Forest Designated Sites 13.8km Buffer

Scale at A3: 1:100,000

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Metres

ECOSA
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Appendix 1 Natural England's Response on P/21/1211/OA dated 31st August 2021

Date: 31 August 2021
Our ref: 364387
Your ref: P/21/1211/OA



Peter Kneen
Fareham Borough Council

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Peter,

Planning consultation: Outline Application for Up To 180 Dwellings (South Of Oakcroft Lane) & Ecological Enhancement Area (North Of Oakcroft Lane), All Matters Reserved Except Access
Location: Land East of Crofton Cemetery West of Peak Lane Stubbington Fareham

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 13 August 2021 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IMPACTS ON DESIGNATED SITES

As submitted, the application could have potential significant effects on the New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar sites. Natural England requires further information in order to determine the significance of these impacts and the scope for mitigation.

The following information is required:

- An assessment of New Forest recreational impacts with details of suitable mitigation
- An updated Monitoring and Management Plan for the proposed Enhanced Ecological Area (EEA)
- A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)

Without this information, Natural England may need to object to the proposal.

Please re-consult Natural England once this information has been obtained.

Natural England's further advice on designated sites/landscapes and advice on other issues is set out below.

Additional Information required

The consultation documents provided by your authority do not include information to demonstrate that the requirements of Regulations 63 and 64 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 ('the Habitats Regulations') have been considered by your authority, i.e. the consultation does not include a Habitats Regulations Assessment.

In advising your authority on the requirements relating to Habitats Regulations Assessment, it is Natural England's advice that the proposal is not necessary for the management of the European site. Your authority should therefore determine whether the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on any European site, proceeding to the Appropriate Assessment stage where significant effects cannot be ruled out.

New Forest Recreational Impacts

As recently raised in our response to the Fareham local plan, [recent research and analysis](#) by Footprint Ecology (a national leader in this area of expertise) identified that planned increases in housing around the New Forest designated sites will result in a marked increase in use of the sites and exacerbate recreational impacts. It found that the majority of visitors to the New Forest designated sites on short visits/day trips from home originated from within a 13.8km radius of the site.

This development site falls within the 13.8km zone and we consider it is likely to contribute to recreational impacts on the sites in-combination with other development coming forward across the area. It is advised your authority's appropriate assessment is updated to include an in-combination assessment of the development with other plans/projects either within the authority area or in neighbouring areas. Competent authorities will be aware of recent CJEU decisions regarding the assessment of elements of a proposal aimed toward mitigating adverse effects on designated sites and the need for certainty that mitigating measures will achieve their aims.

The resultant recommendations from the recent research highlight that a package of mitigation measures will resolve the issues presented by housing growth in the area, but this will require a 'strategic, proportionate, and co-ordinated approach, [through] partnership working across a range of local authorities and stakeholders'. Natural England are committed to working with affected local authorities to develop a strategic approach to addressing recreational impacts from new development on the New Forest designated sites.

Until such a strategic approach is adopted it is advised at this time that alternative and appropriate mitigation measures are sought to address impacts on the protected sites. It is considered that a financial contribution, based on a robust and agreed methodology, directed towards measures at the designated sites e.g. via the New Forest National Park Authority's Habitat Mitigation Scheme, is a means that will enable the Authority to deliver site specific mitigation measures on behalf of the applicant. Such an approach would provide a certain and robust means to addressing the effects of recreational disturbance via direct measures at the protected sites. Some detail on how this money will be used as part of the Scheme is advised to ensure you as competent authority can be satisfied the recreational impact from this development will be appropriately addressed and secured in perpetuity. Natural England would be happy to advise further via our Discretionary Advice Service (DAS).

Nutrient Budget

The nutrient budget has been calculated in line with Natural England's Advice on Achieving Nutrient Neutrality in the Solent (version 5 June 2020). Provided the competent authority is assured and satisfied that the site areas used in the calculation are correct and that the existing land uses are appropriately precautionary, then Natural England raises no concerns with regard to the nutrient budget.

This budget calculates a negative nitrogen burden, and therefore no further mitigation measures are proposed.

Within the nutrient budget calculation, the N loading rate of 5kgTN/ha/yr has been applied for the proposed EEA, in alignment with Natural England's suggested rate for public open space. It is understood that public access to this area will be prohibited and therefore it is advised that effective access/management measures are imposed at the site to dissuade any unauthorised use of the site, particularly for dog walking which may affect the nutrient loading of the site. It is advised that habitat management for the purposes of nutrient mitigation should prohibit the use of fertilisers, ploughing or subsoiling. Any future proposal to change the management, such as the introduction of grazing, would require consideration of nutrient loading for the site and consultation with Natural England should be sought.

It is advised the water consumption value used within the nutrient calculation of 110 L/person/day is appropriately secured with any granting of permission.

SPA Functionally Linked Land

Section 7 of the Ecological Management Plan by Ecosa, dated July 2021, sets out detail with regard to the monitoring of the mitigation delivery for the first 10 years. As the EEA forms mitigation to address impacts on European sites, including SPA functionally linked land and nutrients, it is Natural England's advice that a longer-term management and monitoring strategy will be required over the lifetime of the development, i.e. in perpetuity (usually 80-125 years).

It is understood that following the establishment of the Ecological Enhancement Area it is proposed that the land will be transferred to Fareham Borough Council for long-term management. "A commuted sum will be provided to Fareham Borough Council for the management of the land for the first 20 years pre-construction with the following 80 years being managed out of Fareham Borough Council's maintenance budget... The exact sum associated with the delivery of the Ecological Management will be secured as part of the Section 106 agreement attached to any planning consent." Ecosa Shadow HRA, July 2021. This position was agreed with Natural England as part of the previous planning application at the site (P/20/0522/FP).

The mitigation area will need to be operational at the time it is required. Essentially, 'in time' to offset the adverse effects which are being addressed. We advise these the mitigation land is implemented prior to commencement.

We advise that the above details are included in the Appropriate Assessment and appropriately secured with any planning approval.

Recreational disturbance - Solent Special Protected Areas (SPAs)

This application is within 5.6km of the Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area and may lead to an increase in residential accommodation through additional bedrooms in the construction of the new dwellings. Natural England is aware that Fareham Borough Council have adopted planning policy to mitigate against adverse effects from recreational disturbance on the Solent SPA sites, as agreed by the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP), also known as Bird Aware Solent.

Provided that the applicant is complying with the policy and the Bird Aware Definitive Strategy, Natural England are satisfied that the applicant has mitigated against the potential adverse effects of the development on the integrity of the European site(s), and has no objection to this aspect of the application.

Please note, your authority's appropriate assessment should reflect the current developer contribution rates, which are updated every April in line with the Retail Price Index.

Surface Water Drainage

It is understood the development is likely to drain into Crofton Ditch, which flows into Titchfield Haven Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and National Nature Reserve (NNR), approximately 500m downstream. Titchfield Haven also forms part of the Solent and Southampton Water SPA. There is potential for poor water quality in surface drainage to negatively impact on these watercourses and the features for which the protected sites are designated (e.g. hydrocarbons, oils, grit salts and other chemical pollutants associated with traffic, garden chemicals such as enriching fertilisers or herbicides/insecticides, household detergents etc.).

Therefore it is our advice that best practice SuDS are designed in accordance with the requirements in the CIRIA SuDS Manual (C753) for this development. It should be noted that Step 3 under Section 26.7.1 of the SuDS manual outlines that the requirement for extra treatment should be considered in relation to discharge to environmentally protected sites. It states that 'an additional treatment component (i.e. over and above that required for standard discharges), or other equivalent protection, is required that provides environmental protection in the event of an unexpected pollution event or poor system performance'.

This application is supported by a Flood Risk Assessment and Development Drainage Strategy by MJA Consulting, dated 9th June 2021. This outlines a number of SuDs components including:

- Deep trap gullies and Beanie kerbs for development roads
- Permeable paving for driveways
- A cellular attenuation tank
- Main attenuation basin with permanently wet area

It is noted that roof runoff will discharge to the main piped system. Driveways and parking areas will be constructed using a permeable block paving or traditional deep trapped gullies discharging into a permeable type stone sub base which will facilitate the removal of urban pollutants prior to discharging downstream to the main drainage system.

The above document includes a SuDs management and maintenance plan (dated 13th March 2019). The competent authority should satisfy itself that this plan will enable the SuDS system to operate effectively for the lifetime of the development. Also that the strategy details appropriate funding, responsibilities and mechanisms to ensure compliance for the lifetime of the development, with consideration given to site compliance checks, monitoring, securing corrective measures and replacement facilities, as necessary. This plan should be agreed with the local authority.

With regards to the funding of the SuDS, your authority will need to be satisfied that financial arrangements are in place that will guarantee the provision of sufficient funds to ensure the full delivery of an agreed management and maintenance plan for the 80-125 year period. If a resident service charge is to be applied then your authority will need to be satisfied that the charge is legally robust and ring fenced for the purpose of delivering the agreed management plans. Robust financial arrangements are likely to be needed to avoid any problems with claiming monies or shortfalls in payments etc. Legal step-in rights for your authority may be required where the management plan should fail.

Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)

Natural England advises a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be submitted to and approved in writing by the district ecologist/biodiversity officer that identifies the steps and procedures that will be implemented to avoid or mitigate constructional impacts on species and habitats. The CEMP should include the following impacts:

- Storage of construction materials/chemicals and equipment;
- Dust suppression
- Chemical and/or fuel run-off from construction into nearby watercourse(s)
- Waste disposal

- Noise/visual/vibrational/lighting impacts

The approved CEMP should be secured via an appropriately worded condition attached to any planning consent and shall be adhered to at all times, unless otherwise first agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

With regards to the adjacent SWBGS Secondary support site 'F17C', it is advised an appropriately worded condition is attached to any permission:

- Wherever possible, percussive piling or works with heavy machinery (i.e. plant resulting in a noise level in excess of 69dbAmax – measured at the sensitive receptor) should be avoided during the bird overwintering period (i.e. October to March inclusive). If such a condition is problematic to the applicant than Natural England will consider any implications of the proposals on the SPA bird interests on a case by case basis through our Discretionary Advice Service.

Note: The sensitive receptor is the nearest point of the SPA or any SPA supporting habitat.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Please note that if your authority is minded to grant planning permission contrary to the advice in this letter, you are required under Section 281 (6) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to notify Natural England of the permission, the terms on which it is proposed to grant it and how, if at all, your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice. You must also allow a further period of 21 days before the operation can commence.

Further general advice on the protected species and other natural environment issues is provided at Annex A.

Should the applicant wish to discuss the further information required and scope for mitigation with Natural England, we would be happy to provide advice through our [Discretionary Advice Service](#).

Please consult us again once the information requested above, has been provided.

Yours sincerely

Mary Andrew
Sustainable Development Lead Adviser
Natural England- Thames Solent Team

Annex A – Additional Advice

Natural England offers the following additional advice:

Landscape

Paragraph 174 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) highlights the need to protect and enhance valued landscapes through the planning system. This application may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes, including any local landscape designations. You may want to consider whether any local landscape features or characteristics (such as ponds, woodland or dry stone walls) could be incorporated into the development in order to respect and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness, in line with any local landscape character assessments. Where the impacts of development are likely to be significant, a Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment should be provided with the proposal to inform decision making. We refer you to the [Landscape Institute Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment](#) for further guidance.

Protected Species

Natural England has produced [standing advice](#)¹ to help planning authorities understand the impact of particular developments on protected species. We advise you to refer to this advice. Natural England will only provide bespoke advice on protected species where they form part of a SSSI or in exceptional circumstances.

Local sites and priority habitats and species

You should consider the impacts of the proposed development on any local wildlife or geodiversity sites, in line with paragraphs 175 and 179 of the NPPF and any relevant development plan policy. There may also be opportunities to enhance local sites and improve their connectivity. Natural England does not hold locally specific information on local sites and recommends further information is obtained from appropriate bodies such as the local records centre, wildlife trust, geoconservation groups or recording societies.

Priority habitats and Species are of particular importance for nature conservation and included in the England Biodiversity List published under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Most priority habitats will be mapped either as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, on the Magic website or as Local Wildlife Sites. List of priority habitats and species can be found [here](#)². Natural England does not routinely hold species data, such data should be collected when impacts on priority habitats or species are considered likely. Consideration should also be given to the potential environmental value of brownfield sites, often found in urban areas and former industrial land, further information including links to the open mosaic habitats inventory can be found [here](#).

Environmental enhancement

Development provides opportunities to secure net gains for biodiversity and wider environmental gains, as outlined in the NPPF (paragraphs 8, 73, 104, 120, 174, 175, 179 and 180). We advise you to follow the mitigation hierarchy as set out in paragraph 180 of the NPPF and firstly consider what existing environmental features on and around the site can be retained or enhanced or what new features could be incorporated into the development proposal. Where onsite measures are not possible, you should consider off site measures. Opportunities for enhancement might include:

- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.
- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Designing lighting to encourage wildlife.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

² <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

- Adding a green roof to new buildings.

You could also consider how the proposed development can contribute to the wider environment and help implement elements of any Landscape, Green Infrastructure or Biodiversity Strategy in place in your area. For example:

- Links to existing greenspace and/or opportunities to enhance and improve access.
- Identifying opportunities for new greenspace and managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips)
- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network or using the opportunity of new development to extend the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition or clearing away an eyesore).

Access and Recreation

Natural England encourages any proposal to incorporate measures to help improve people's access to the natural environment. Measures such as reinstating existing footpaths together with the creation of new footpaths and bridleways should be considered. Links to other green networks and, where appropriate, urban fringe areas should also be explored to help promote the creation of wider green infrastructure. Relevant aspects of local authority green infrastructure strategies should be delivered where appropriate.

Rights of Way, Access land, Coastal access and National Trails

Paragraphs 100 and 174 of the NPPF highlights the important of public rights of way and access. Development should consider potential impacts on access land, common land, rights of way and coastal access routes in the vicinity of the development. Consideration should also be given to the potential impacts on the any nearby National Trails. The National Trails website www.nationaltrail.co.uk provides information including contact details for the National Trail Officer. Appropriate mitigation measures should be incorporated for any adverse impacts.

Biodiversity duty

Your authority has a [duty](#) to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of your decision making. Conserving biodiversity can also include restoration or enhancement to a population or habitat. Further information is available [here](#).

Appendix 2 New Forest SPA/SAC/Ramsar site Citations

STANDARD DATA FORM for sites within the 'UK national site network of European sites'

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are classified and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated under:

- the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales (including the adjacent territorial sea) and to a limited extent in Scotland (reserved matters) and Northern Ireland (excepted matters);
- the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in Scotland;
- the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) in Northern Ireland; and
- the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in the UK offshore area.

Each SAC or SPA (forming part of the UK national site network of European sites) has its own Standard Data Form containing site-specific information. The information provided here generally follows the same documenting format for SACs and SPAs, as set out in the [Official Journal of the European Union recording the Commission Implementing Decision of 11 July 2011 \(2011/484/EU\)](#).

Please note that these forms contain a number of codes, all of which are explained either within the data forms themselves or in the end notes.

More general information on SPAs and SACs in the UK is available from the [SPA homepage](#) and [SAC homepage](#) on the JNCC website. These webpages also provide links to Standard Data Forms for all SAC and SPA sites in the UK.

<https://jncc.gov.uk/>



NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE UK9011031
SITENAME New Forest

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- [5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS AND RELATION WITH CORINE BIOTOPES](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code UK9011031	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

New Forest

1.4 First Compilation date 1993-09	1.5 Update date 2020-12
--	-----------------------------------

1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation: Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Address: Joint Nature Conservation Committee Monkstone House City Road Peterborough
PE1 1JY
Email:

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	1993-09
National legal reference of SPA designation	Regulations 12A and 13-15 of the Conservation Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/490/contents/made) as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/625/contents/made).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:**Longitude**

-1.6561

Latitude

50.8256

2.2 Area [ha]:

27968.96

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name**NUTS level 2 code****Region Name**

UKJ3

Hampshire and Isle of Wight

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)Atlantic (100.0
%)**3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION****3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them**

Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D		A B C	
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	300	300	p		G	B		C	
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			w	15	15	i		G	C		C	
B	A099	Falco subbuteo			r	25	25	p		G	B		C	
B	A246	Lullula arborea			r	177	177	p		G	A		B	
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			r	2	2	p		G	B		B	
B	A314	Phylloscopus sibilatrix			r			p			B		C	
B	A302	Sylvia undata			r	538	538	p		G	A		B	

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))
- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N09	17.6
N16	28.9
N23	0.7
N07	5.9
N10	2.1
N08	27.3
N17	17.3
N06	0.2
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

1 Terrestrial: Soil & Geology: acidic,peat,nutrient-poor,sand,clay 2 Terrestrial: Geomorphology and landscape: lowland,hilly

4.2 Quality and importance

ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC) During the breeding season the area regularly supports: *Caprimulgus europaeus* 8.8% of the GB breeding population Count as at 1991 *Lullula arborea* 29.5% of the GB breeding population No count period specified. *Pernis apivorus* 12.5% of the GB breeding population No count period specified. *Sylvia undata* 33.6% of the GB breeding population No count period specified. Over winter the area regularly supports: *Circus cyaneus* 2% of the GB population No count period specified. ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC) During the breeding season the area regularly supports: *Falco subbuteo* 5% of the population in Great Britain No count period specified. *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* at least 2% of the population in Great Britain No count period specified.

4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
H	J02		B
H	K02		I
H	H04		B
H	F02		I

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
H	A04		I
H	A02		I
H	D05		I
H	B02		I

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification,
T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions
i = inside, o = outside, b = both

4.5 Documentation

Conservation Objectives - the Natural England links below provide access to the Conservation Objectives (and other site-related information) for its terrestrial and inshore Natura 2000 sites, including conservation advice packages and supporting documents for European Marine Sites within English waters and for cross-border sites. See also the 'UK Approach' document for more information (link via the JNCC website).

Link(s): <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/6490068894089216>

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/3212324>

http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Natura2000_StandardDataForm_UKApproach_Dec2015.pdf

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

[Back to top](#)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
UK04	100.0	UK01	1.0		

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

[Back to top](#)

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	<u>Natural England</u>
Address:	<u></u>
Email:	<u></u>

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

For available information, including on Conservation Objectives, see Section 4.5.

7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).

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EXPLANATION OF CODES USED IN THE SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION (SAC) AND SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA) STANDARD DATA FORMS

The codes in the table below generally follow those explained in the [official European Union guidelines for the Standard Data Form](#) (also referencing the relevant page number).

1.1 Site type

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	SPA (classified Special Protection Area)	53
B	cSAC, SCI or SAC (candidate Special Area of Conservation, Site of Community Importance, designated Special Area of Conservation)	53
C	SPA area/boundary is the same as the cSAC/SCI/SAC i.e. a co-classified/designated site (Note: this situation only occurs in Gibraltar)	53

3.1 Habitat code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	57
1130	Estuaries	57
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	57
1150	Coastal lagoons	57
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	57
1170	Reefs	57
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	57
1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	57
1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	57
1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts	57
1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	57
1320	Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>)	57
1330	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)	57
1340	Inland salt meadows	57
1420	Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea fruticosi</i>)	57
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	57
2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes")	57
2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")	57
2140	Decalcified fixed dunes with <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>	57
2150	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)	57
2160	Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	57
2170	Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)	57
2190	Humid dune slacks	57
21A0	Machairs (* in Ireland)	57
2250	Coastal dunes with <i>Juniperus</i> spp.	57
2330	Inland dunes with open <i>Corynephorus</i> and <i>Agrostis</i> grasslands	57
3110	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)	57
3130	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i>	57
3140	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.	57
3150	Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> - type vegetation	57

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
3160	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	57
3170	Mediterranean temporary ponds	57
3180	Turloughs	57
3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation	57
4010	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	57
4020	Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with Erica ciliaris and Erica tetralix	57
4030	European dry heaths	57
4040	Dry Atlantic coastal heaths with Erica vagans	57
4060	Alpine and Boreal heaths	57
4080	Sub-Arctic Salix spp. scrub	57
5110	Stable xerothermophilous formations with Buxus sempervirens on rock slopes (Berberidion p.p.)	57
5130	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	57
6130	Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae	57
6150	Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	57
6170	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	57
6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites)	57
6230	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)	57
6410	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	57
6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	57
6510	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	57
6520	Mountain hay meadows	57
7110	Active raised bogs	57
7120	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	57
7130	Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	57
7140	Transition mires and quaking bogs	57
7150	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	57
7210	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	57
7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	57
7230	Alkaline fens	57
7240	Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae	57
8110	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	57
8120	Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii)	57
8210	Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	57
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	57
8240	Limestone pavements	57
8310	Caves not open to the public	57
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	57
9120	Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with Ilex and sometimes also Taxus in the shrublayer (Quercion roburi-petraeae or Ilici-Fagenion)	57
9130	Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests	57
9160	Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the Carpinion betuli	57
9180	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	57
9190	Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains	57
91A0	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	57
91C0	Caledonian forest	57
91D0	Bog woodland	57
91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	57
91J0	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	57

3.1 Habitat representativity (abbreviated to 'Representativity' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent representativity	57
B	Good representativity	57
C	Significant representativity	57
D	Non-significant presence representativity	57

3.1 Relative surface

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	> 15%-100%	58
B	> 2%-15%	58
C	≤ 2%	58

3.1 Degree of conservation (abbreviated to 'Conservation' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent conservation	59
B	Good conservation	59
C	Average or reduced conservation	59

3.1 Global assessment (abbreviated to 'Global' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent value	59
B	Good value	59
C	Significant value	59

3.2 Population (abbreviated to 'Pop.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	> 15%-100%	62
B	> 2%-15%	62
C	≤ 2%	62
D	Non-significant population	62

3.2 Degree of conservation (abbreviated to 'Con.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent conservation	63
B	Good conservation	63
C	Average or reduced conservation	63

3.2 Isolation (abbreviated to 'Iso.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Population (almost) Isolated	63
B	Population not-isolated, but on margins of area of distribution	63
C	Population not-isolated within extended distribution range	63

3.2 Global Grade (abbreviated to 'Glo.' or 'G.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent value	63
B	Good value	63
C	Significant value	63

3.3 Other species – essentially covers bird assemblage types

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
WATR	Non-breeding waterbird assemblage	UK specific code
SBA	Breeding seabird assemblage	UK specific code

BBA	Breeding bird assemblage (applies only to sites classified pre 2000)	UK specific code
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4.1 Habitat class code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
N01	Marine areas, Sea inlets	65
N02	Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	65
N03	Salt marshes, Salt pastures, Salt steppes	65
N04	Coastal sand dunes, Sand beaches, Machair	65
N05	Shingle, Sea cliffs, Islets	65
N06	Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	65
N07	Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	65
N08	Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	65
N09	Dry grassland, Steppes	65
N10	Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	65
N11	Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	65
N14	Improved grassland	65
N15	Other arable land	65
N16	Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	65
N17	Coniferous woodland	65
N19	Mixed woodland	65
N21	Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including Orchards, groves, Vineyards, Dehesas)	65
N22	Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	65
N23	Other land (including Towns, Villages, Roads, Waste places, Mines, Industrial sites)	65
N25	Grassland and scrub habitats (general)	65
N26	Woodland habitats (general)	65

4.3 Threats code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A01	Cultivation	65
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	65
A03	Mowing / cutting of grassland	65
A04	Grazing	65
A05	Livestock farming and animal breeding (without grazing)	65
A06	Annual and perennial non-timber crops	65
A07	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals	65
A08	Fertilisation	65
A10	Restructuring agricultural land holding	65
A11	Agriculture activities not referred to above	65
B01	Forest planting on open ground	65
B02	Forest and Plantation management & use	65
B03	Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth	65
B04	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals (forestry)	65
B06	Grazing in forests/ woodland	65
B07	Forestry activities not referred to above	65
C01	Mining and quarrying	65
C02	Exploration and extraction of oil or gas	65
C03	Renewable abiotic energy use	65
D01	Roads, paths and railroads	65
D02	Utility and service lines	65
D03	Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions	65
D04	Airports, flightpaths	65
D05	Improved access to site	65
E01	Urbanised areas, human habitation	65
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	65

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
E03	Discharges	65
E04	Structures, buildings in the landscape	65
E06	Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities	65
F01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture	65
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	65
F03	Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching, predator control, accidental capture (e.g. due to fishing gear), etc.)	65
F04	Taking / Removal of terrestrial plants, general	65
F05	Illegal taking/ removal of marine fauna	65
F06	Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above	65
G01	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities	65
G02	Sport and leisure structures	65
G03	Interpretative centres	65
G04	Military use and civil unrest	65
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	65
H01	Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	65
H02	Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources)	65
H03	Marine water pollution	65
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	65
H05	Soil pollution and solid waste (excluding discharges)	65
H06	Excess energy	65
H07	Other forms of pollution	65
I01	Invasive non-native species	65
I02	Problematic native species	65
I03	Introduced genetic material, GMO	65
J01	Fire and fire suppression	65
J02	Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	65
J03	Other ecosystem modifications	65
K01	Abiotic (slow) natural processes	65
K02	Biocenotic evolution, succession	65
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	65
K04	Interspecific floral relations	65
K05	Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression	65
L05	Collapse of terrain, landslide	65
L07	Storm, cyclone	65
L08	Inundation (natural processes)	65
L10	Other natural catastrophes	65
M01	Changes in abiotic conditions	65
M02	Changes in biotic conditions	65
U	Unknown threat or pressure	65
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	65

5.1 Designation type codes

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
UK00	No Protection Status	67
UK01	National Nature Reserve	67
UK04	Site of Special Scientific Interest (GB)	67
UK05	Marine Conservation Zone	67
UK06	Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area	67
UK86	Special Area (Channel Islands)	67
UK98	Area of Special Scientific Interest (NI)	67
IN00	Ramsar Convention site	67
IN08	Special Protection Area	67
IN09	Special Area of Conservation	67

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name:	The New Forest
Unitary Authority/County:	Hampshire, Wiltshire
SAC status:	Designated on 1 April 2005
Grid reference:	SU225075
SAC EU code:	UK0012557
Area (ha):	29262.36
Component SSSI:	Landford Bog SSSI, Langley Wood and Homan's Copse SSSI, Loosehanger Copse and Meadows SSSI, Roydon Woods SSSI, The New Forest SSSI, Whiteparish Common SSSI

Site description:

The New Forest embraces the largest area of 'unsown' vegetation in lowland England and includes the representation on a large scale of habitats formerly common but now fragmented and rare in lowland western Europe. The intimate mosaic of habitats owes much to the local geology and traditional commoning grazing system, a situation which is uncommon in lowland England. The habitats include lowland heath, valley and seepage step mire, or fen, and ancient pasture woodland, including riparian and bog woodland. Nowhere else do these habitats occur in combination and on so large a scale. Within the matrix of habitats are pasture woodland and scrub dominated by oak, beech and holly; heathland and associated grassland; wet heath, valley mire-fen and plantations dating from various periods since the early 18th century, and a range of acid to neutral grasslands.

The New Forest contains the most extensive areas of active wood-pasture in north west Europe comprising mature, semi-natural beech *Fagus sylvatica*, which represent Atlantic beech forests in the most southerly part of the habitat's range, together with old oak *Quercus* spp. This mosaic, with other types of woodland and heath, has allowed unique and varied assemblages of epiphytic lichens and saproxylic (dead wood) invertebrates – in particular the stag beetle, *Lucanus cervus* – to be sustained in situations where the woodland is open and the tree trunks receive sunlight.

Occasionally in wet hollows, birch – willow *Betula* – *Salix* stands occur over valley bog vegetation, with fringing alder *Alnus* – *Sphagnum* stands where there is some water movement. These stands of bog woodland appear to have persisted for long periods in stable association with the underlying *Sphagnum* bog-moss communities. The rich epiphytic lichen communities and pollen record provide evidence for the persistence of this association.

The Forest also contains many streams and small rivers some of which are less affected by drainage and canalisation than those in any other comparable area in the lowlands of England. Associated with many of the streams, particularly those with alkaline and neutral groundwater, are areas of alder *Alnus glutinosa* woodland which, collectively, form an extensive resource with a rich flora. In places there are examples of transitions from open water through reedswamp and fen to alder woodland. In other places there are transitions to oak woods and beech forests with holly and sometimes yew in the shrub layer.

The site contains the most extensive stands of lowland northern Atlantic wet heaths in southern England, mainly of the *Erica tetralix* – *Sphagnum compactum* type; *Schoenus nigricans* – *Narthecium ossifragum* mire is also found on this site. The wet heaths are

important for rare plants, such as marsh gentian *Gentiana pneumonanthe* and marsh clubmoss *Lycopodiella inundata*, and a number of dragonfly species, including the scarce blue-tailed damselfly *Ischnura pumilio*, southern damselfly *Coenagrion mercuriale* and small red damselfly *Ceriagrion tenellum*.

The largest area of lowland dry heathland in the UK is also found in the Forest. It is particularly important for the diversity of its habitats and the range of rare and scarce species it supports. The dry heaths of the New Forest comprise two main communities; the *Calluna vulgaris* – *Ulex minor* heath type, and *Ulex minor* – *Agrostis curtisii* heath type. There are a wide range of transitions between dry heath and wet heath, *Molinia* grassland, fen, acid grassland and various types of scrub and woodland. The New Forest *Molinia* meadows are unusual in the UK in terms of their species composition and management. The healthy form of *Molinia caerulea* – *Cirsium dissectum* fen-meadow occurs in areas of heavy grazing by ponies and cattle in areas known locally as ‘lawns’, often in a fine-scale mosaic with wet heaths and other mire and grassland communities. These lawns occur on flushed soils on slopes and on level terrain on the floodplains of rivers and streams. The grasslands are species-rich, and particular features are the abundance of small sedges such as carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, common sedge *C. nigra* and yellow-sedge *C. viridula* ssp. *oedocarpa*, and the more frequent occurrence of mat-grass *Nardus stricta* and petty whin *Genista anglica* compared to stands elsewhere in the UK.

Hatchet Pond, and associated ponds, are examples of oligotrophic (nutrient-poor) waterbodies amidst wet and dry lowland heath developed over fluvial deposits. It contains shoreweed *Littorella uniflora* and isolated populations of northern species such as bog orchid *Hammarbya paludosa* and floating bur-reed *Sparganium angustifolium*, alongside rare southern species such as Hampshire-purslane *Ludwigia palustris*. This pond is important as a southern example of this lake type where northern species, more common in the uplands of the UK, co-exist with southern species.

The site also contains nutrient-poor vegetation on the edge of large temporary ponds, shallow ephemeral pools and poached damp hollows in grassland, which support a number of specialist species in a zone with toad rush *Juncus bufonius*. These include the two nationally scarce species coral-necklace *Illecebrum verticillatum* and yellow centaury *Cicendia filiformis*, often in association with allseed *Radiola linoides* and chaffweed *Anagallis minima*. Continuous grazing pressure is of prime importance in the maintenance of the outstanding flora of these temporary pond communities. Temporary ponds occur throughout the Forest in depressions capable of holding water for part of the year. Most ponds are small (between 5-10m across) and, although great in number, amount to less than 10ha in total area. Many of these contain great crested newt, *Triturus cristatus*.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:


- Alkaline fens. (Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens)
- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*). (Alder woodland on floodplains)*
- *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests. (Beech forests on neutral to rich soils)
- Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with *Ilex* and sometimes also *Taxus* in the shrublayer (*Quercion robori-petraeae* or *Ilici-Fagenion*). (Beech forests on acid soils)
- Bog woodland*
- Depressions on peat substrates of the *Rhynchosporion*
- European dry heaths
- *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*). (Purple moor-grass meadows)
- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*. (Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath)
- Old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains. (Dry oak-dominated woodland)
- Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoeto-Nanojuncetea*. (Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels)
- Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains: *Littorelletalia uniflorae*. (Nutrient-poor shallow waters with aquatic vegetation on sandy plains)
- Transition mires and quaking bogs. (Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface)

Qualifying species: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following species listed in Annex II:

- Great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*
- Southern damselfly *Coenagrion mercuriale*
- Stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (*).

This citation relates to a site entered in the Register of European Sites for Great Britain.
Register reference number: UK0012557
Date of registration: 14 June 2005

Signed: 

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs

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:

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD MM YY

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Designation date

--	--	--	--	--	--

Site Reference Number

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

Designated: 22 September 1993

3. Country:

UK (England)

4. Name of the Ramsar site:

The New Forest

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):

50 49 32 N 01 39 22 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: Southampton

Central southern England

Administrative region: Hampshire; Wiltshire

10. Elevation (average and/or max. & min.) (metres): **11. Area** (hectares): 28002.81

Min.	9
Max.	125
Mean	54

12. General overview of the site:

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

The New Forest is an area of semi-natural vegetation including valley mires, fens and wet heath within catchments whose uncultivated and undeveloped state buffer the mires against adverse ecological change. The habitats present are of high ecological quality and diversity with undisturbed transition zones.

The suite of mires is regarded as the *locus classicus* of this type of mire in Britain. Other wetland habitats include numerous ponds of varying size and water chemistry including several ephemeral ponds and a network of small streams mainly acidic in character which have no lowland equivalent in the UK. The plant communities in the numerous valleys and seepage step mires show considerable variation, being affected especially by the nutrient content of groundwater. In the most nutrient-poor zones, *Sphagnum* bog-mosses, cross-leaved heath, bog asphodel, common cottongrass and similar species predominate. In more enriched conditions the communities are more fen-like.

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).

1, 2, 3

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 1

Valley mires and wet heaths are found throughout the site and are of outstanding scientific interest. The mires and heaths are within catchments whose uncultivated and undeveloped state buffer the mires against adverse ecological change. This is the largest concentration of intact valley mires of their type in Britain.

Ramsar criterion 2

The site supports a diverse assemblage of wetland plants and animals including several nationally rare species. Seven species of nationally rare plant are found on the site, as are at least 65 British Red Data Book species of invertebrate.

Ramsar criterion 3

The mire habitats are of high ecological quality and diversity and have undisturbed transition zones. The invertebrate fauna of the site is important due to the concentration of rare and scarce wetland species. The whole site complex, with its examples of semi-natural habitats is essential to the genetic and ecological diversity of southern England.

See Sections 21/22 for details of noteworthy species

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

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, neutral, sand, clay, alluvium, peat, nutrient-poor, gravel
Geomorphology and landscape	lowland, hilly
Nutrient status	oligotrophic
pH	acidic, alkaline
Salinity	fresh
Soil	mainly mineral
Water permanence	usually permanent, usually seasonal / intermittent

Summary of main climatic features	Annual averages (Everton, 1971–2000) (www.metoffice.com/climate/uk/averages/19712000/sites/everton.html) Max. daily temperature: 14.0° C Min. daily temperature: 7.0° C Days of air frost: 32.5 Rainfall: 763.7 mm Hrs. of sunshine: 1750.7
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General description of the Physical Features:

The New Forest comprises a complex mosaic of habitats overlying mainly nutrient-poor soils over plateau gravels. The major components are the extensive wet and dry heaths with their rich valley mires and associated wet and dry grasslands, the ancient pasture woodlands and inclosure woodlands, the network of clean rivers and streams, and frequent permanent and temporary ponds.

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 New Forest comprises a complex mosaic of habitats overlying mainly nutrient-poor soils over plateau gravels. The major components are the extensive wet and dry heaths with their rich valley mires and associated wet and dry grasslands, the ancient pasture woodlands and inclosure woodlands, the network of clean rivers and streams, and frequent permanent and temporary ponds.

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, Maintenance of water quality (removal of nutrients)

19. Wetland types:

Inland wetland

Code	Name	% Area
Other	Other	92.5
U	Peatlands (including peat bogs swamps, fens)	5.3
Xf	Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands	0.8
W	Shrub-dominated wetlands	0.6
M	Rivers / streams / creeks: permanent	0.4
Xp	Forested peatland	0.4

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.

The New Forest valley mires and fens include the following community types:

M21a *Nartheicum ossifragum*–*Sphagnum papillosum* mire, *Sphagnum auriculatum*–*Rhynchospora* sub-community; M6di *Carex echinata*–*Sphagnum recurvum* mire, *Juncus acutiflorus* sub-community; M29 *Hypericum elodes*–*Potamogeton polygonifolius* soakway; M1 *Sphagnum auriculatum* bog pool; M14 *Schoenus nigricans*–*Nartheicum ossifragum* mire, and other marl bogs.

Alder carr: W4 *Betula pubescens*–*Molinia caerulea* and W5 *Alnus glutinosa*–*Carex paniculata*.

Wet heath: M16a *Erica tetralix*–*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Succisa pratensis*–*Carex panicea* sub-community, and M16c *Erica tetralix*–*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Rhynchospora alba*–*Drosera intermedia* sub-community.

Other inundation communities of note are: MG8; MG11; MG13; M22 and M23.

Bog woodland – rich in relict lichen communities.

Residual floodplain woodland.

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.

Pulicaria vulgaris, *Eriophorum gracile*, *Mentha pulegium*, *Ludwigia palustris*, *Pilularia globulifera*, *Elatine hexandra*, *Eleocharis acicularis*, *Gentiana pneumonanthe*, *Illecebrum verticillatum*, *Lycopodium inundatum*, *Carex montana*, *Cicendia filiformis*, *Deschampsia setacea*, *Thelypteris palustris*, *Hammarbya paludosa*, *Eleocharis parvula*, *Galium debile*, *Gentiana pneumonanthe*, *Impatiens noli-tangere*, *Myosurus minimus*, *Oenanthe pimpinelloides*, *Parentucellia viscosa*, *Polygonum monspeliensis*, *Polygonum minus*, *Ranunculus tripartitus*, *Rhynchospora fusca*, *Thelypteris palustris*, *Utricularia intermedia*.

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.*

Species currently occurring at levels of national importance:

Species regularly supported during the breeding season:

Dartford warbler, *Sylvia undata*, Europe 538 pairs, representing an average of 33.6% of the GB population (Source period not collated)

Species with peak counts in winter:

Hen harrier, *Circus cyaneus*, Europe 15 individuals, representing an average of 2% of the GB population (Source period not collated)

Species Information

Species occurring at levels of international importance.

Invertebrates.

Coenagrion mercuriale, *Lucanus cervus*

Nationally important species occurring on the site.

Amphibians.

Triturus cristatus

Fish.

Lampetra planeri, *Cottus gobio*

Invertebrates.

Scientific Name	Common Name	GB Status
<i>Amara famelica</i>	A ground beetle	pRDB3

<i>Bagous frit</i>	A weevil	pRDB3
<i>Buckleria paladum</i>	A plum moth	pRDB3
<i>Caloptilia falconipennel</i>	A micro moth	pRDB3
<i>Cantharis fusca</i>	A soldier beetle	pRDB3
<i>Coniocleonus nebulosus</i>	A weevil	pRDB3
<i>Crambus silvella</i>	A pyralid moth	pRDB3
<i>Dieckmaniellus gracilis</i>	A seed weevil	pRDB3
<i>Euplectus punctatus</i>	A short-winged mould	pRDB3
<i>Lampronia fuscata</i>	A longhorn moth	pRDB3
<i>Leptura fulva</i>	A longhorn beetle	pRDB3
<i>Microscydmus minimus</i>	A small ant-like beetle	pRDB3
<i>Paraphotistus nigricorni</i>	A click beetle	pRDB3
<i>Procrærus tibialis</i>	A click beetle	pRDB3
<i>Telmatophilus brevicolli</i>	A silken fungus beetle	pRDB3
<i>Tenthredopsis friesei</i>	A sawfly	pRDB3
<i>Acritus homoeopathicus</i>	A carrion beetle	RDB3
<i>Ampedus cinnabarinus</i>	A click beetle	RDB3
<i>Aradus corticalis</i>	a flat bark bug	RDB3
<i>Arctosa fulvolineata</i>	A wolf spider	RDB3
<i>Brachyopa bicolor</i>	A hoverfly	RDB3
<i>Callicera aurata</i>	A hoverfly	RDB3
<i>Catocala promissa</i>	Light Crimson Underwing	RDB3
<i>Chorthippus vagans</i>	Heath Grasshopper	RDB3
<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	Southern Damselfly	RDB3
<i>Colydium elongatum</i>	A narrow timber beet	RDB3
<i>Corticeus unicolour</i>	A darkling beetle	RDB3
<i>Diodontus insidiosus</i>	A solitary wasp	RDB3
<i>Enochrus isotae</i>	A scavenger water beetle	RDB3
<i>Grammoptera ustulata</i>	A longhorn beetle	RDB3
<i>Haematopota grandis</i>	A horse fly	RDB3
<i>Haliphus variegatus</i>	A crawling water beetle	RDB3
<i>Halpodrassus umbratilis</i>	A ground spider	RDB3
<i>Heliothis maritima</i>	Shoulder-striped Clover	RDB3
<i>Heterogenea asella</i>	Triangle	RDB3
<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	Medicinal Leech	RDB3
<i>Hydrothassa hannoveriana</i>	A leaf beetle	RDB3
<i>Leptothorax interruptus</i>	An ant	RDB3
<i>Leptura sexguttata</i>	6 spotted longhorn	RDB3
<i>Malachius aeneus</i>	A malachine beetle	RDB3
<i>Mesosa nebulosa</i>	A longhorn beetle	RDB3
<i>Microrhagus pygmaeus</i>	A false click beetle	RDB3
<i>Moma alpium</i>	Scarce merveille du jour	RDB3
<i>Nysius helveticus</i>	A ground bug	RDB3
<i>Ortholomus punctipennis</i>	A ground bug	RDB3
<i>Orthoperus brunnipes</i>	A minute fungus beetle	RDB3
<i>Pachybrachius luridus</i>	A ground bug	RDB3
<i>Paederus caligatus</i>	A rove beetle	RDB3
<i>Pelecocera tricincta</i>	A hoverfly	RDB3
<i>Psen spooneri</i>	A solitary wasp	RDB3
<i>Thyridanthrax fenestratu</i>	A bee fly	RDB3
<i>Tipula (Yamatipula) marginata</i>	A crane fly	RDB3
<i>Triplax lacordairii</i>	A shiny fungus beetle	RDB3
<i>Aderus brevicornis</i>	An aderid beetle	pRDB2
<i>Donacia bicolora</i>	A leaf beetle	pRDB2

<i>Gnorimus nobilis</i>	A dung beetle or chafer	pRDB2
<i>Limonia (Mewtalimnobia)</i>	A crane fly	pRDB2
<i>Neompheria bimaculata</i>	A fungus gnat	pRDB2
<i>Trachys minuta</i>	A jewel beetle	pRDB2
<i>Xyletinus longitarsis</i>	A wood boring beetle	pRDB2
<i>Zeugophora flavicollis</i>	A leaf beetle	pRDB2
<i>Agabus brunneus</i>	A water beetle	RDB2
<i>Argynnis adippe</i>	High Brown Fritillary	RDB2
<i>Brachypeza armata</i>	A fungus gnat	RDB2
<i>Catocala sponsa</i>	Dark Crimson Underwing	RDB2
<i>Diaperis boleti</i>	A darkling beetle	RDB2
<i>Graptodytes flavipes</i>	A water beetle	RDB2
<i>Helophorus laticollis</i>	A scavenger water beetle	RDB2
<i>Lymexylon navale</i>	A timber beetle	RDB2
<i>Pachythelia villosella</i>	A bagworm moth	RDB2
<i>Pocota personata</i>	A hoverfly	RDB2
<i>Solva maculata</i>	A fly	RDB2
<i>Stenoptilia graphodactyl</i>	A plume moth	RDB2
<i>Stethophyma grossum</i>	Large Marsh Grasshopper	RDB2
<i>Thanatus formicinus</i>	A running crab spider	RDB2
<i>Anthicus tristis</i>	An antlike beetle	pRDB1
<i>Chrysops sepulchralis</i>	A horse fly	pRDB1
<i>Cicadette montana</i>	New Forest Cicada	pRDB1
<i>Endophloeus markovichian</i>	A narrow timber beetle	pRDB1
<i>Euheptaulacus sus</i>	a dung beetle	pRDB1
<i>Gasterophilus nasalis</i>	A bot fly	pRDB1
<i>Heptaulacus testudinariu</i>	A dung beetle or chafer	pRDB1
<i>Lagria atripes</i>	A darkling beetle	pRDB1
<i>Lebia cyanocephala</i>	A ground beetle	pRDB1
<i>Manda mandibularis</i>	A rove beetle	pRDB1
<i>Platydema violaceum</i>	A darkling beetle	pRDB1
<i>Pseudopomyza atrimana</i>	A fly	pRDB1
<i>Pterostichus kugelanni</i>	A ground beetle	pRDB1
<i>Silvanoprus fagi</i>	A beetle	pRDB1
<i>Strangalia revestita</i>	A longhorn beetle	pRDB1
<i>Tachinus bipustulatus</i>	A rove beetle	pRDB1
<i>Tachys edmondsi</i>	A ground beetle	pRDB1
<i>Tachys walkerianus</i>	A ground beetle	pRDB1
<i>Acylophorus glaberrimus</i>	A rove beetle	RDB1
<i>Andrena ferox</i>	A solitary bee	RDB1
<i>Anthaxa nitidula</i>	A jewel beetle	RDB1
<i>Apalus muralis</i>	An oil beetle	RDB1
<i>Aphodius niger</i>	A dung beetle or chafer	RDB1
<i>Bagous brevis</i>	A weevil	RDB1
<i>Bagous czwalinai</i>	A weevil	RDB1
<i>Bagous longitarsis</i>	A weevil	RDB1
<i>Batrissodes delaporti</i>	A short-winged mould	RDB1
<i>Caliprobola speciosa</i>	A hoverfly	RDB1
<i>Chrysomela tremula</i>	A leaf beetle	RDB1
<i>Cryptocephalus nitidulus</i>	A leaf beetle	RDB1
<i>Emus hirtus</i>	Hairy Rove-beetle	RDB1
<i>Eucnemis capucina</i>	A false click beetle	RDB1
<i>Eutheia linearis</i>	A small antlike beetle	RDB1
<i>Formica transcaucasica</i>	The Bog Ant	RDB1

<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Field Cricket	RDB1
<i>Homonotus sanguinolentus</i>	A spider-hunting wasp	RDB1
<i>Longitarsus nigerrimus</i>	A leaf beetle	RDB1
<i>Megapenthes lugens</i>	A click beetle	RDB1
<i>Melandrya barbata</i>	A false darkling beetle	RDB1
<i>Paromalus parallelepiped</i>	A carrion beetle	RDB1
<i>Potamia setifemur</i>	A muscid fly	RDB1
<i>Pterostichus aterrimus</i>	A ground beetle	RDB1
<i>Triops cancriformsi</i>	Apus	RDB1
<i>Velleius dilatatus</i>	Hornet Rove-beetle	RDB1
<i>Anergates atratulus</i>	Dark Guest Ant	RDB K
<i>Atomaria lohsei</i>	A silken fungus beetle	RDB K
<i>Ptenidium turgidum</i>	A featherwing beetle	RDB K
<i>Aleochara fumata</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Atheta nannion</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Atheta puberula</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Biblopectus tenebrosus</i>	A short-winged mould	pRDBK
<i>Cryptophagus micaceus</i>	A silken fungus beetle	pRDBK
<i>Eutheia plicata</i>	A small antlike beetle	pRDBK
<i>Gyrophana poweri</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Hister quadrimaculatus</i>	A carrion beetle	pRDBK
<i>Leiodes macropus</i>	A round fungus beetle	pRDBK
<i>Leiodes nigrita</i>	A round fungus beetle	pRDBK
<i>Leiodes triepkii</i>	A round fungus beetle	pRDBK
<i>Limotettix atricapillus</i>	A leafhopper	pRDBK
<i>Mordellistena humeralis</i>	A tumbling flower beetle	pRDBK
<i>Onthophagus fracticornis</i>	A dung beetle or chafer	pRDBK
<i>Phyllodrepa salicis</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Ptinella limbata</i>	A featherwing beetle	pRDBK
<i>Scydomoraphes sparshalli</i>	A small antlike beetle	pRDBK
<i>Sitona puberulus</i>	A weevil	pRDBK
<i>Stenichnus poweri</i>	A small antlike beetle	pRDBK
<i>Stenus morio</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Tabanus miki</i>	A horse fly	pRDBK
<i>Zyras cognatus</i>	A rove beetle	pRDBK
<i>Agathidium confusum</i>	A round fungus beetle	RDB I
<i>Amarochara bonnairei</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Atomaria sahlbergi</i>	A silken fungus beetle	RDB I
<i>Cassida nebulosa</i>	A leaf beetle	RDB I
<i>Euconnus denticornis</i>	A small antlike beetle	RDB I
<i>Euplectus decipiens</i>	A short-winged mould	RDB I
<i>Euryusa optabilis</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Ityocara rubens</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Lithocharis obsoleta</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Medon castaneus</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Planeustomus flavicollis</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Stenus asphaltinus</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Stichoglossa semirufa</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Tachnnus scapularis</i>	A rove beetle	RDB I
<i>Tychobythinus glabratus</i>	A short-winged mould	RDB I
<i>Bidessus unistriatus</i>		
<i>Formica candida</i>		
<i>Longitarsus ferrugineus</i>		
<i>Lymnaea glabra</i>		

Biblioplectus tenebrosus
Helophorus laticollis
Hydroporus rufifrons
Phaonia jaroschewskii
Eristalis cryptarum
Chirocephalus diaphanous
Eyndyas nigripes
Helophorus longitarsus
Hydrochus elongates
Hygropona cunctans
Aleochara discipennis
Athetis palustris
Pelosia muscerda
Dolichopus andalusiacus
Tetanocera freyi
Bagous collignesis
Telmaturgus tumidulus
Tabanus bovinus

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
Archaeological/historical site
Environmental education/ interpretation
Forestry production
Livestock grazing
Non-consumptive recreation
Scientific research
Sport fishing
Sport hunting
Tourism

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)	+	+
Local authority, municipality etc.	+	+
National/Crown Estate	+	+
Private	+	
Other	+	+

25. Current land (including water) use:

Activity	On-site	Off-site
Nature conservation	+	+
Tourism	+	+
Recreation	+	+
Current scientific research	+	
Commercial forestry	+	+
Cutting/coppicing for firewood/fuel	+	+
Cutting of vegetation (small-scale/subsistence)	+	
Fishing: recreational/sport	+	+
Bait collection		+
Shifting arable agriculture		+
Livestock watering hole/pond	+	
Grazing (unspecified)	+	+
Rough or shifting grazing		+
Permanent pastoral agriculture	+	+
Hay meadows	+	+
Hunting: recreational/sport	+	+
Sewage treatment/disposal	+	+
Flood control	+	+
Mineral exploration (excl. hydrocarbons)	+	+
Transport route	+	+
Urban development		+
Non-urbanised settlements		+
Military activities	+	

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?
Commercial-scale forest exploitation	1		+	+	+
Drainage/land-claim: (unspecified)	1		+	+	+
Introduction/invasion of non-native plant species	1		+		
Recreational/tourism disturbance (unspecified)	1		+	+	

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)	+	+
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	+	+
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.

Contemporary.

Environment.

SSSI monitoring.

Flora and Fauna.

Research into the effects of disturbance of ground-nesting birds has been discussed and once methodologies have been agreed resources will be sought.

Completed.

Flora and Fauna.

Vegetation and Invertebrate Surveys of selected sites.

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.

Facilities include Minstead Study Centre and the Countryside Education Trust which is available for local schools and institutions. A ranger/recreation Service is provided by the Forestry Commission.

31. Current recreation and tourism:

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

Activities, Facilities provided and Seasonality.

Camping, informal walking, horse-riding, cycling, bird-watching, shooting, etc - all year.

No evidence that current levels of recreational activities threaten site. Recreational facilities are now under review.

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

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