KJ Ecology Ltd

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment for Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow

March 2025

Client :
Julie Coulson,
Home Hill Farm,
South Carr Lane,
Hibaldstow,
Brigg,
DN20 9BF.

Tel.
e-mail

Prepared by :
Kevin Johnson MCIEEM,
KJ Ecology Ltd,
17, The Meadow,
Caistor,
Lincs,
LN7 6XD.

Tel. 07807 655237
e-mail kevin@kjecology.co.uk

This report is for the sole use of the client (Julie Coulson) and its' reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by KJ Ecology Ltd. Any use of this report by an unauthorised third party is at their own risk and KJ Ecology Ltd accepts no liability for any loss resulting from errors, omissions or misrepresentation made by others. Any findings, opinions or recommendations stated in this report are based on conditions as they existed at the time KJ Ecology Ltd undertook the work on the 3rd March 2025. Nothing in this report constitutes a legal opinion.

Document Control Sheet

Version	Report Information	Name	Date
1.1	Written	Kevin Johnson	20th March 2025
	Approved	Bill Meek	24th March 2025
	Issued	Kevin Johnson	24th March 2025

Contents

Appendices

Executive Summary

Julie Coulson are applying to create a new cattle barn at their site at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow. To comply with planning procedures Julie Coulson commissioned Kevin Johnson of KJ Ecology Ltd to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Biodiversity Net Gain assessment on the 6th February 2025.

The proposed development site is South-east of Hibaldstow on the South side of South Carr Lane at Home Hill Farm at Grid Ref SE 9889 0157.

There are no boundaries to the site and the area consists of grassfield.

Between the 3rd and 20th March 2025, the following methodologies were carried out at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow:

1. Desk top study – To establish what protected habitats and species are within the area;
2. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Used to identify the likelihood of any protected species been found on the site, identify any features, habitats or species which would constitute potential constraints to any development which might take place, and to make recommendations for mitigation and/or further survey work, as appropriate;
3. Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment to establish if the proposals will leave the site in a better ecological state then they started out with.

The surveys found that:

1. The desk top study revealed that there are no statutory sites and two non-statutory sites including New River Ancholme LWS within 2kms of the proposed development. There are numerous protected and priority species recorded within 2kms of the planned development, including Brown Long-eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*);
2. The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal found no signs of protected species on site but there is potential for nesting birds in the adjacent hedge and amphibians from the ponds to the South-east to forage in the area;
3. The Biodiversity Net Gain calculation using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (July 2024) revealed that the initial baseline gave 0.09 habitat units and the new scheme will create 0.00 habitat units. This is a -0.09 habitat unit loss according to the Biometric or -100.00% net loss. The off-site area gave 0.05 habitat units and the new scheme produces 0.14 habitat units. This is a 0.09 habitat unit gain or 210.08% net gain. Combined this produces a 0.01 habitat unit gain or 10.44% net gain. This means that the plans have reached the required 10% net gain in area habitats.

From these survey results, KJ Ecology Ltd has no objections to the proposed creation of a new cattle barn at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow, as long as the following recommendations are followed:

1. As there is potential for nesting birds in the adjacent hedge, which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), then if the works are to start in the bird nesting season (March to August) then a nesting bird survey will be required before works commence. If a nesting bird is found, then no works will proceed until the chicks have fledged and the ecologist has given the all clear;
2. As there are two ponds to the South-east of the site that have the potential to support GCN, then an eDNA survey will be required between mid-April and mid-June. If eDNA does establish the presence of GCN, then traditional methods will be required to establish numbers;
3. As there is potential for amphibians on site, then a precautionary method statement needs to be applied to prevent amphibians being killed or injured as all amphibians are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This includes:
   a. All materials to be stored off the ground (for example on pallets) to minimise the likelihood of amphibians accessing them for refugia;

   b. All spoil/waste materials to be removed from site at the end of each working day or stored in a skip;
   c. The site should be maintained as sub-optimal prior to the commencement of works;
   d. All involved in the construction should be aware of the possible presence of amphibians and know what they look like;
4. As there is potential for Hedgehogs within the area, then any trenches need to be covered at night during construction to prevent them from falling in;
5. The wildflower area needs planting up with wildflowers in the Springtime with a suitable mix from a reputable supplier. The wildflower meadow area will require cutting in late August time with the vegetation being moved off site and a second cut in November time on the wildflower meadow to reduce the vigour of the grasses. Some reseeding may be required to reach the stated target.

Main Report

1 Introduction

1.1 Terms of Instruction

Julie Coulson are applying to create a new cattle barn at their site at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow. To comply with planning procedures Julie Coulson commissioned Kevin Johnson of KJ Ecology Ltd to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Biodiversity Net Gain assessment on the 6th February 2025.

The purpose of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal is to identify the likelihood of any protected species been found on the site, identify any features, habitats or species which would constitute potential constraints to any development which might take place, and to make recommendations for mitigation and/or further survey work, as appropriate.

In addition to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal a Biodiversity Net Gain assessment for the proposed development is to be carried out. Biodiversity Net Gain is an approach to development that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than beforehand. This means protecting existing habitats and ensuring that lost or degraded environmental features are compensated for by restoring or creating environmental features that are of greater value to wildlife and people. It does not change the fact that losses should be avoided where possible, a key part of adhering to a core environmental planning principle called the mitigation hierarchy (DEFRA, 2018).

1.2 Site Location

The proposed development site is South-east of Hibaldstow on the South side of South Carr Lane at Home Hill Farm at Grid Ref SE 9889 0157, as shown in Map 1 (Appendix 1).

1.3 Site Description

There are no boundaries to the site and the area consists of grassfield (Photo 1, Appendix 2).

The immediate vicinity consists of dwelling with garage and garden, track, grassfields, hedges with trees and ditches.

1.4 Proposed Development

It is proposed to create a new cattle barn at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow as per planning application.

1.5 Report Limitations

This report is for the sole use of the client and its' reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

The ecological data in this report is only valid for 18 months from the survey date of 3rd March 2025, as wildlife, especially Protected Species move about and natural conditions can change over time.

1.6 Background to KJ Ecology Ltd

On the 6th February 2025 KJ Ecology Ltd was appointed to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Biodiversity Net Gain assessment at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow End. KJ Ecology Ltd is an independent Ecological Consultancy run by Kevin Johnson BSc Pgd PGCE MCIEEM (Member of the Charted Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management) and has several years of experience in environmental consultancy work. This work has ranged from working on the rail, roads, airports, house building projects, barn conversions and pipeline work. Kevin Johnson was initially an Ecology and Environmental Lecturer at various colleges and taught students how to carryout surveys and about the environment. Kevin Johnson then went on to work for a number of ecological consultancies such as Penny Anderson Associates, which is one of the original environmental consultancy companies and is well respected.

2 Methodology

2.1 Desk top study

The purpose of a desk study is to identify any statutory and non-statutory sites of nature conservation importance (such as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and County Wildlife Sites (CWSs)) and Protected Species within reasonable distance of the site.

The sources of information used in the desk top study included:

- Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre;
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC).

2.2 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out to Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines on the 3rd March 2025 by Kevin Johnson of KJ Ecology Ltd who has numerous years' experience in carrying out Preliminary Ecological Appraisals. The perimeter of the site, then the area imbetween was walked in a zig-zag fashion as much as possible, so that as much wildlife information could be recorded about the site. The immediate area around site was also surveyed for signs of wildlife and how they may influence the proposed development. One hour was spent on the site looking for signs of wildlife and any species seen were recorded using the DAFOR scale. The DAFOR scale is a way of quantifying the abundance of species on the site as a percentage of the area. All fauna were

given a Rare recording unless there were a lot of them. The DAFOR scale used was:

Dominant	Most common species within the survey area >75%
Abundant	Really very common in the survey area.
Frequent	Found the species in several places in the survey area and there was usually more than just a few individuals in each of these places. Also if a species was very common in that part, with many individuals and covered a substantial area.
Occasional	Species that occur in several places in the survey area, but whose populations are usually not very big. Can be used if very common in one small area of habitat within the survey area, but occupies just a small area.
Rare	Species that occur as a small number of individuals in the survey area. This small number of individuals may be located in one place, or scattered over several different locations.

The survey also included:

2.2.1 Habitat and Plant Assessment

The habitat on site was assessed for its ability to support protected species and whether it is of National/ Local importance. Any rare species of plant were noted as were any Invasive Non-natives under Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

2.2.2 Amphibian Survey

There are two ponds (Photos 2 and 3, Appendix 2) to the South-east of the site within 250m of the proposed development. Pond 1 is 150m to the South-east of the site and is surrounded by trees. Pond 2 is 345m to the South-east of the site and is a reservoir. The nearest records for Great Crested Newt (GCN) (*Triturus cristatus*) are at least 1km away (Appendix 4) and are over 30 years old. The ponds on site were assessed for GCN. This was done using the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) Assessment as per ARG UK Advice Note 5: GCN HSI May 2010 guidelines. In summary the HSI scoring system is based upon ten habitat variables for the pond including water quality, pond's flora and fauna, and the immediate surrounding habitat. Each variable was scored between 0 and 1 where 0 is very poor habitat (minimal probability of newts been present), and 1 optimal habitat (high probability of newts occurring). The HSI score can be categorised to show the ponds' suitability for newts and if further survey work is required.

HSI Score	Pond Suitability
<0.5	Poor
0.5 – 0.59	Below Average
0.6 – 0.69	Average
0.7 – 0.79	Good
>0.8	Excellent

2.2.3 Badger Survey

A Badger (*Meles meles*) survey was undertaken and carried out as per The Mammal Society: Surveying Badgers booklet 1989. Any signs of Badger were recorded including sett holes (used, partially used, dis-used), the type of sett (as per table below), trails, footprints, latrines, hairs, snuffle holes, feeding remains, bedding and scratching posts were all recorded.

Sett Characterization

Type of sett	Sett Properties
Main sett	These usually have a large number of holes with conspicuous spoil heaps, and the sett generally looks very active. There are well used paths to and from the sett and between entrances. Normally the breeding sett is in continuous use, but it is possible to find a disused main sett in areas of low Badger density.
Annexe sett	These are close to the main sett, normally less than 150m away, and are usually connected to the main sett by obvious well-worn paths. They usually have several holes, but may not be in use all of the time.
Subsidiary Sett	These often have only a few holes (average of three to five). They are usually at least 50m from a main sett, and do not have an obvious path connecting with another sett. They are not continuously active.
Outlying Sett	These usually have only one or two holes, often have little spoil outside the hole, have no obvious path connecting with another sett, and are only used sporadically. When not in use by badgers, they may be taken over by Foxes or even Rabbits.

2.2.4 Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

There were no trees or buildings on site, so a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment was not required.

2.2.5 Nesting Bird Survey

A nesting bird survey was carried out which involved looking out for signs of nests and other indications were also used such as families (adult birds with accompanying juveniles), juvenile birds, adults carrying food, adults carrying nesting material, and piles of droppings/ food remains.

2.2.6 Invertebrate Survey

The potential development site was assessed for its suitability to support a variety of invertebrates. No specific surveys were undertaken, but if a known species was seen, it was recorded.

2.2.7 Other Mammals Survey

Evidence of small mammals was searched for such as Shrews and Voles as they are the basis of the food chain for many other species from Kestrels (*Falco tinnunculus*) to Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*). Other mammals and their signs were also noted from Moles (*Talpa europaea*) to deer.

2.2.8 Reptile Survey

The area was searched for reptiles and suitable features for reptiles. As reptiles are ectotherms so need an external source to heat them up, basking areas were searched for including short grass area – embankment/ paths, woodland edges – base of trees, logs, stones or artificial e.g. corrugated metal sheets. Suitable refugia and hibernacula were also searched for.

2.2.9 Water Vole Survey

There are no ditches or ponds next to the site, so a Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) survey was not required.

2.3 Biodiversity Net Gain

On the 3rd March 2025 a baseline assessment was done for the site and the baseline map is shown in Map 2, Appendix 1. For each habitat identified as per UK Habitat Classification – Habitat Definitions V2(July 2023), the area was then measured; a condition assessment was carried out as per Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology, (July 2024) and finally the strategic significance of the site. These values are then added to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (July 2024) which automatically calculates the habitat units on site.

The proposed illustrative Masterplan was then used to enter the data for the new proposed habitats into the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (July 2024). This included any retained or enhanced habitats. For each habitat type, the area was taken, the target condition for each habitat was assessed using Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology, (July 2024), the strategic significance of the site and finally if the habitat is going to be created in advance or delayed. Using this data and the baseline data, the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (July 2024) would then calculate if there has been any Biodiversity Net Gain. If the required minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain has not been reached, then further discussions with the client are required until an agreed motion forward has been reached.

2.4 Survey Constraints

There were no survey constraints when the survey was carried out on the 3rd March 2025. When the site was assessed, the weather was cool (12C) with 50% cloud cover and a Gentle South-westerly breeze.

3 Survey Results

3.1 Desk top study

The desk top study revealed the following results:

3.1.1 Habitats

The desk top study revealed that there are no statutory sites and two non-statutory sites including New River Ancholme LWS within 2kms of the proposed development as shown in Appendix 4.

The only habitats in the immediate vicinity are a dwelling with garage and garden, track, grassfields, hedges with trees and ditches.

3.1.2 Protected Species

There are 29 protected and 40 priority species recorded within 2kms of the planned development, including Brown Long-eared Bat, (*Plecotus auritus*) as shown in Appendix 4. The Birds of Conservation Concern 5 (2021) Red Data list for the area includes species such as Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) which is also a Schedule 1 species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The records for the area in the last decade show that there are the following protected species as shown in Appendix 4:

- Amphibians – Toad (*Bufo bufo*);
- Plants - Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*);
- Reptiles – None;
- Invertebrates - None.

Other species can utilise the site such as Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*) which are on the Birds of Conservation Concern Amber list. Other declining species have been recorded within the area and include the Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*).

3.2 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out on the 3rd March 2025 by Kevin Johnson BSc Pgd PGCE MCIEEM, who has numerous years' experience in carrying out survey work. The species results of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal can be found in Appendix 3 and a UK habitat map was produced (Map 2, Appendix 1).

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal found the following results:

3.2.1 Habitat and Plant Assessment

The main site is part of a grassfield which is predominantly Ryegrass (*Lolium sp*.) with False Oat Grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*). This has been classed as Modified grassland, because even though it has species such as False Oat grass and Cocksfoot in, it does not meet the criteria for Other neutral grassland. The grassfield has less than 20% cover for broadleaved herbs and sedges and less than 8 species per m^2. In the UK habitat definitions under Other neutral grassland exclusions it states "Species poor swards that in previous classifications were included

within ‘semi-improved neutral grassland’ (see g4 (Modified grassland)).”

There were no rare or Invasive Non-natives plants on site.

3.2.2 Amphibian Survey

A GCN Risk Assessment of the ponds (Photos 2 and 3, Appendix 2), as per Section 2.2.1, gave the following result:

Pond	SI										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score
1	1.0	0.98	0.5	0.33	0.2	1.0	0.67	0.65	1.0	0.3	0.58
2	1.0	0.92	0.9	0.33	0.2	1.0	0.67	0.65	1.0	0.3	0.61

This HSI scores gave Pond 1 a categorisation of Below Average for its suitability to support newts, while Pond 2 was Average. There were few aquatic plants in the Pond 1 and none in Pond 2. The habitat is suitable for amphibians around the ponds. An eDNA survey will be required to establish the presence or not of GCN.

3.2.3 Badger Survey

No signs of Badger were found on site.

3.2.4 Nesting Bird Survey

No nesting birds were seen and the only potential is in the hedges nearby.

3.2.5 Invertebrate Survey

The weather was cool (12C) with some clouds, so would not be suitable for any invertebrates. There was a very limited range of flora that could support a few invertebrates on site, so most would pass through.

3.2.6 Other Mammals Survey

The only signs of mammal seen on site was Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), but the habitat does suggest that there will be mice, shrews and voles on site and the surrounding area. None of them will affect the proposed development.

3.2.7 Reptile Survey

There were no signs of reptiles on site and there are no opportunities to support them.

3.3 Biodiversity Net Gain

The results can be seen in the accompanying Excel spreadsheet – Home Hill Farm Hibaldstow - Metric Calc. The site was taken to have a strategic significance of ‘Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy’. None of the habitats are irreplaceable.

3.3.1 Area Habitats

3.3.1.1 On-Site Habitat Baseline

The baseline map (Map 2, Appendix 1) gave the following measurements:

Feature	Classification	Area (ha)	Condition	Habitat units delivered	Area retained	Area enhanced
Grassfield	Grassland – Modified grassland	0.0428	Poor	0.09		

The modified grassland needed a habitat assessment carrying out on it and the results of the assessment can be seen in the accompanying spreadsheet - Home Hill Farm Hibaldstow - Cond Assess Sheet.

Overall there are 0.09 habitat units on site.

3.3.1.2 On-Site Habitat Creation

The proposed layout of the site is shown in the accompanying proposed site layout plan. A summary of the results is shown below.

Feature	Classification	Area (ha)	Condition	Habitat units delivered
New Cattle Shed	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	0.0428	N/A - Other	0.00

The new cattle shed will be built on the land and the new wildflower area will be created in an area of the field where it will not be disturbed.

Overall the new plans will generate 0.00 habitat units.

3.3.2 Off-Site Area Habitats

3.3.2.1 Off-Site Habitat Baseline

There is pasture land to the North-east of the site (Photo 4, Appendix 2) which is part of this field and can be used as an offset. This gave the following measurements:

Feature	Classification	Area (ha)	Condition	Habitat units delivered	Area retained	Area enhanced
Grassfield	Grassland - Modified grassland	0.0225	Poor	0.05		0.0225

The habitat condition of the grass area being used for compensation is shown in the accompanying spreadsheet - Home Hill Farm Hibaldstow - Cond Assess Sheet.

This gives an off-site baseline of 0.05 habitat units.

3.3.2.2 Off-Site Habitat Enhancement

As per plans part of this paddock will be converted into wildflower meadow with the results shown below:

Feature	Classification	Area (ha)	Condition	Habitat units delivered
New wildflower meadow	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	0.0225	Moderate	0.14

In the 30 years of the biometric, this meadow should reach a moderate habitat condition.

Overall the off-site area produces 0.14 habitat units.

3.3.3 Headline Results

The initial baseline gave 0.09 habitat units and the new scheme will create 0.00 habitat units. This is a -0.09 habitat unit loss according to the Biometric or -100.00% net loss. The off-site area gave 0.05 habitat units and the new scheme produces 0.14 habitat units. This is a 0.09 habitat unit gain or 210.08% net gain. Combined this produces a 0.01 habitat unit gain or 10.44% net gain. This means that the plans have reached the required 10% net gain in area habitats.

4 Evaluation and Recommendations

4.1 Evaluation

From the Desktop Ecological Assessment there are no statutory sites and two non-statutory sites including New River Ancholme LWS within 2kms of the proposed development. This proposed development will have no effect upon the protected site due to the distance between the development site and the protected site, and the small scale of the development.

The desktop study revealed that there a several protected species within 2kms of the site such as Brown Long-eared bat. There were no signs of protected species found during the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal on the 3rd March 2025 but there is the possibility of nesting birds in the nearby hedge. If the works are to start in the bird nesting season - March and August, then a nesting bird survey will be required. This is because all nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) – See Section 5.1.4. If a nest is found then the area will be cordoned off and works cannot commence in that area until the chicks have fledged.

The ponds to the South-east of the site have the potential to support GCN even though the nearest records are 1km away. There is also optimal habitat and hibernacula around the ponds with the hedgerow and trees. The site itself will be good for GCN to forage. To establish

if GCN are present then an eDNA survey will be required between mid-April and mid-June. If eDNA does establish the presence of GCN, then traditional methods will be required to establish numbers.

As there is potential for amphibians such as Frogs (*Rana temporaria*) to be on site, due to ponds being close by, then some precautionary methods are required. All amphibians are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (see Section 5.1.2) and as building works are unsuitable for amphibians, some Reasonable Avoidance Measures should be followed including:

1. All materials to be stored off the ground (for example on pallets) to minimise the likelihood of amphibians accessing them for refugia;
2. All spoil/waste materials to be removed from site at the end of each working day or stored in a skip;
3. The site should be maintained as sub-optimal prior to the commencement of works;
4. All involved in the construction should be aware of the possible presence of amphibians and know what they look like.

The only other possibility for wildlife are Hedgehogs which are a priority species, so measures need to be in place to allow free movement of Hedgehogs within the area. Hedgehogs are partially protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) - may not be trapped without a licence from Natural England. To comply with this all trenches should be covered at night to prevent Hedgehogs falling in.

The Biodiversity Net Gain calculation using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (July 2024) revealed that the initial baseline gave 0.09 habitat units and the new scheme will create 0.00 habitat units. This is a -0.09 habitat unit loss according to the Biometric or -100.00% net loss. The off-site area gave 0.05 habitat units and the new scheme produces 0.14 habitat units. This is a 0.09 habitat unit gain or 210.08% net gain. Combined this produces a 0.01 habitat unit gain or 10.44% net gain. This means that the plans have reached the required 10% net gain in area habitats.

To reach the required biodiversity units, an appropriate wildflower mix needs planting. The soil is Freely draining lime-rich loamy soils, so the wildflower mix should be for this soil type such as Loam & Alluvial Soils Wildflower Seed BS4P from Boston Seeds. The wildflower seeds need to be bought from a reputable UK seed merchant such as:
https://www.wildflower.co.uk
https://www.bostonseeds.com
https://britishwildflowermeadowseeds.co.uk

The wildflower area will need sowing in Springtime and will require cutting in late August/early September time with the vegetation being moved off site. If possible a second cut in November time on the wildflower area is required to reduce the vigour of the grasses. Some reseeding of flower species may be required to attain the moderate habitat condition.

4.2 Recommendations

KJ Ecology Ltd has no objections to the proposed creation of a new cattle barn at Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow, as long as the following recommendations are followed:

1. As there is potential for nesting birds in the adjacent hedge, which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), then if the works are to start in the bird nesting season (March to August) then a nesting bird survey will be required before works commence. If a nesting bird is found, then no works will proceed until the chicks have fledged and the ecologist has given the all clear;
2. As there are two ponds to the South-east of the site that have the potential to support GCN, then an eDNA survey will be required between mid-April and mid-June. If eDNA does establish the presence of GCN, then traditional methods will be required to establish numbers;
3. As there is potential for amphibians on site, then a precautionary method statement needs to be applied to prevent amphibians being killed or injured as all amphibians are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This includes:
    a. All materials to be stored off the ground (for example on pallets) to minimise the likelihood of amphibians accessing them for refugia;
    b. All spoil/waste materials to be removed from site at the end of each working day or stored in a skip;
    c. The site should be maintained as sub-optimal prior to the commencement of works;
    d. All involved in the construction should be aware of the possible presence of amphibians and know what they look like;
4. As there is potential for Hedgehogs within the area, then any trenches need to be covered at night during construction to prevent them from falling in;
5. The wildflower area needs planting up with wildflowers in the Springtime with a suitable mix from a reputable supplier. The wildflower meadow area will require cutting in late August time with the vegetation being moved off site and a second cut in November time on the wildflower meadow to reduce the vigour of the grasses. Some reseeding may be required to reach the stated target.

5 Legislation and Policy Guidance

In the 1960s and 1970s concerns were raised about the loss of wildlife habitats and species. This led to The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats 1979 (Berne Convention) which came into force in 1982. The aim of this Convention is to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats; Promote cooperation between countries in their conservation efforts and, give particular emphasis to endangered and vulnerable species including migratory species.

In the UK this Convention was implemented by the creation of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This Act was further strengthened by the Countryside and Rights Of Way Act 2000.

The UK has signed up to the EEC Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna 1992 (Habitats Directive). The aim of the Habitats Directive is to contribute towards ensuring bio-diversity by means of the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States. The UK transposed the Habitats Directive into The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. To consolidate all the various amendments made to this Act, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 has been introduced.

The UK has also signed up to The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory species of Wild Animals 1979 (The Bonn Convention) which came into force in 1983 and so is therefore party to various agreements.

5.1 Protected Species

5.1.1 European Protected Species

Water Voles (*Arvicola amphibius*), Otters (*Lutra lutra*), Bats and Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*) are classed as European Protected Species. All European Protected Species are protected under Schedules 5 and 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and are also protected under Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2012. They are listed under Appendix III of the Bern Convention and Annex IV of the EC Habitats Directive. These species also have their habitats listed under Appendix II of The Bonn Convention and therefore the UK has an obligation to protect their habitat, including links to important feeding areas.

In relation to a development these laws and regulations make it illegal for a person to:

- Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take a European Protected Species;
- Intentionally or recklessly -
  - Damage or destroy any structure or place which any European Protected Species uses for shelter or protection;
  - Disturbs any such European Protected Species while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection; or
  - Obstructs access to any structure or place which any such European Protected Species uses for shelter or protection;
- Deliberately or recklessly disturbs wild animals of any species in such a way as to be likely significantly to affect :
  - The ability of any significant group of animals to survive, breed, or rear or nurture their young; or
  - The local distribution or abundance of that species;
- Possess or transport European Protected Species or any part of a them, unless acquired legally;
- Sell (or offer for sale) or exchange European Protected Species, or parts of European Protected Species.

This legislation applies, regardless of the life stage (including eggs). A European Protected Species Licence is required to carry out any activity that would otherwise involve committing an offence.

5.1.2 Amphibians

All amphibians are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended). Under Section 9(4b and c) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to :

- Disturb any GCN while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection; or
- Obstructs access to any structure or place which a GCN uses for shelter or protection.

Under Section 9(5a and b) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to:

- Possess or transport all Amphibians or any part of a them, unless acquired legally;
- Sell (or offer for sale) or exchange Amphibians, or parts of Amphibians.

GCN and Pool Frog (*Rana lessonae*) are also protected under Schedule 2 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. To avoid prosecution under these laws during development of the site, all precautions have to be taken to ensure that no intentional harm is done to these species and any disturbance or obstruction of access is done under licence.

5.1.3 Badgers

Badgers (*Meles meles*) are fully protected in the UK by the Protection of Badgers Act, 1992 and by Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981(as amended). This makes it an offence to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly treat a badger;
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett;
- Disturb a badger while it is occupying a sett. (*Disturbance could include digging or scrub clearance within 30m of the sett, and therefore advice should be sought before carrying out such activities*).

5.1.4 Birds

All wild birds are protected under Part 1: 1(1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 which states that:

1 Protection of wild birds, their nests and eggs.

(1)Subject to the provisions of this Part, if any person intentionally or recklessly —

(a) kills, injures or takes any wild bird;

(b) takes, damages, destroys or otherwise interferes with the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; or

(ba) at any other time takes, damages, destroys or otherwise interferes with any nest habitually used by any wild bird included in Schedule A1;

(bb) obstructs or prevents any wild bird from using its nest;

(c) takes or destroys an egg of any wild bird,

they shall be guilty of an offence.

To avoid committing an offence no works should be carried out on a structure/ feature that is being used by nesting birds. Nesting is deemed to be over when the young have fully fledged.

Certain species which are listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act receive special protection. In these cases any form of intentional or reckless disturbance when they are nesting or rearing dependant young, constitutes an offence.

5.1.5 Plants

Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) lists a range of rare plants that need protection such as Early Spider Orchid (*Ophrys sphegodes*) and wild plants exploited for commercial reasons for example English Bluebells. Section 13 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) states that it is illegal to:

1(a) Intentional picking, uprooting or destruction of plants on Schedule 8;

1(b) Unauthorised (by landowner) intentional uprooting of any wild plant not included in Schedule 8;

2(a) Selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale, any plant (live or dead, part or derivative) on Schedule 8;
2(b) Advertising for buying or selling such things.

5.1.6 Reptiles

Common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), Slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*), Adder (*Vipera berus*) and grass snake are all protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 against intentional injuring, killing or selling. For development sites in England, Wales or Scotland, to avoid prosecution under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), wherever works will impact on Slow Worms, Common Lizards, Adders and/or Grass-snakes there must be evidence that every reasonable effort was made to avoid breaking the law – including proof of adequate surveys and mitigation plans. Mitigation measures should, ideally, be agreed with Natural England.

Only the Sand Lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) and Smooth Snake (*Coronella austriaca*) are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (Section 9) and Regulation 9 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 against :

- Killing, injuring or capture;
- Damaging or destroying a breeding or resting site;
- Intentionally obstructing access to a place used for shelter;
- Keeping, transporting or selling.

This means that not only are the animals themselves protected but so are their habitats.

5.2 Invasive Non-natives

Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) prevents Invasive Non-native animals and plants being released into the wild which may cause ecological, environmental, or socio-economic harm. Section 14 states:

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Part, if any person releases or allows to escape into the wild any animal which –
(a) Is of a kind which is not ordinarily resident in and is not a regular visitor to Great Britain in a wild state; or
(b) Is included in Part I of Schedule 9,
he shall be guilty of an offence
(2) Subject to the provisions of this Part, if any person plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any plant which is included in Part II of Schedule 9, he shall be guilty of an offence.

This includes plants such as Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*). Japanese Knotweed is controlled by other Acts and Regulations including:

- Environmental Protection Act 1990 - Waste containing Japanese Knotweed is classified as 'controlled waste'. As such, you must observe the appropriate duty of care for its proper handling and disposal as per Section 33 and 34. The movement of Japanese Knotweed is also covered by the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 and The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005;
- Community Protection Notices can be issued to the owners of land with Japanese knotweed by the relevant local authority, by a person or body authorised by the local authority, or by a constable;
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 - Notice can be given requiring someone to control or prevent the growth of Japanese knotweed or other plants capable of causing serious problems to communities;
- The Infrastructure Act 2015, contains powers to compel landowners to control or eradicate invasive non-native species and permits authorised persons to enter land to carry out species control operations at the landowner's expense.

5.3 National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on the 27th March 2012 and has several updates with the latest being 20th July 2021. The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. As this is an ecological report, the ecological side of the NPPF will be dealt with here. One part of the NPPF is in achieving sustainable development (Chapter 2) and how to secure net gains through the implementation of plans and the application policies with applications in presumption on favour of sustainable development.

Paragraph 8 (iii) states - **An environmental objective** – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

To achieve sustainability and Biodiversity Net Gain, planning policies should make effective use of land, and conserve, and enhance the Natural Environment. Effective use of land can be achieved by:

- Supporting developments of underutilised land and buildings;
- Recognising the multiple benefits from both urban and rural land;
- Developments that would enable new habitat creation or improve public access to the countryside;
- Recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production.

To conserve and enhance the Natural Environment, leading to Biodiversity Net Gain, planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- Protecting and enhancing the intrinsic value and beauty of the countryside e.g. Areas of Outstanding Beauty and Nature Reserves (Local and National);
- Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. These include Wildlife Corridors, the Stepping Stones that connect them and areas identified by national, and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation;
- Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

5.4 Biodiversity

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, updated by Section 103 of the Environment Act 2021, places a legal responsibility on public authorities in England to have policies to protect habitats and species of great conservation importance, whilst protecting all biodiversity. These are then published as required by Section 41 under the NERC Act 2006. A total of 56 habitats and 943 species of principal importance are included on the Section.
Biodiversity net gain is a way of creating and improving biodiversity by requiring development to have a positive impact ('net gain') on biodiversity.

In England, biodiversity net gain is required under Schedule 7A (Biodiversity Gain in England) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This legislation was inserted into the 1990 Act by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021, and was amended by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023. The Biodiversity Gain (Town and Country Planning) (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2024 made consequential amendments to other parts of the 1990 Act.

Under the statutory framework for biodiversity net gain, subject to some exceptions, every grant of planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition that the biodiversity gain objective is met ("the biodiversity gain condition"). This objective is for development to deliver at least a 10% increase in biodiversity value relative to the pre-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat. This increase can be achieved through onsite biodiversity gains, registered offsite biodiversity gains or statutory biodiversity credits.

6 References

Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK (May 2010) ARG UK Advice Note 5: Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index, [Online], ARG. Available at: www.arguk.org/advice-and-guidance/view-category

Barker, J. Hoskin, R. & Butterworth, T. (2019) Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for development – A Practical Guide, CIRIA, London

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2012) Technical Guidance Series : Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, [Online], CIEEM. Available at: http://www.cieem.net/ [Members only]

Clough et al (2017) Code of Practice : Managing Japanese Knotweed, London, INNSA

Collins, J (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists : Good Practice Guidelines – 4th Edition, London, BCT

Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, Bern, 19.IX.1979, Brussels, EC

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, UNEP/CMS, Bonn

Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 (c.37) London: HMSO

DEFRA (2025) MAGIC, [Online] DEFRA. Available at: http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx [accessed 20th March 2025]

Gilbert G, Gibbons DW, Evans J. (1998) *Bird Monitoring Methods: Breeding Bird Survey* (pages 389-393). RSPB

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2010) Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey: A technique for environmental audit, JNCC, Peterborough

LandIS (2025) Soilscapes Viewer, [Online] Cranfield Environment Centre. Available at: https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ [accessed 20th March 2025]

Langton et al, (2001) Great Crested Newt Conservation Handbook, Froglife, Halesworth

Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (2025) 2km radius of SE 98890 01573. Available at: https://search.glnp.org.uk/ [accessed 20th March 2025]

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework, Available at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework [accessed 1st August 2021]

Natural England (2024) Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool - macro-enabled, [Online], Natural England. Available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-biodiversity-metric-tools-and-guides [accessed 25th July 2024]

Natural England (2024) The Statutory Biodiversity Metric - Technical Annex 1 - Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology, [Online], Natural England. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-biodiversity-metric-tools-and-guides [accessed 25th July 2024]

Oldham et al, (2000) Evaluating the suitability of habitats for Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*), Herpetological Journal, Vol. 10, pp. 143-155.

Ordnance Survey (2025) OSmap, [Online] Ordnance Survey. Available at: https://getamap.ordnancesurvey.co.uk [accessed 20th March 2025]

Property Care Association (2018) Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese Knotweed, Huntingdon, PCA

Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (c.51) London: HMSO

Stanbury et al (2021) The status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for GB. British Birds 114:723-747. Available at https://britishbirds.co.uk/content/status-our-bird-populations [accessed 13th November 2021]

Strachan et al (2011) Water Vole Conservation Handbook: Third Edition, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Abingdon

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (No. 1012) London: HMSO

UKHabLtd (2023) UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0. Available at: https://www.ukhab.org [accessed 30th September 2023]

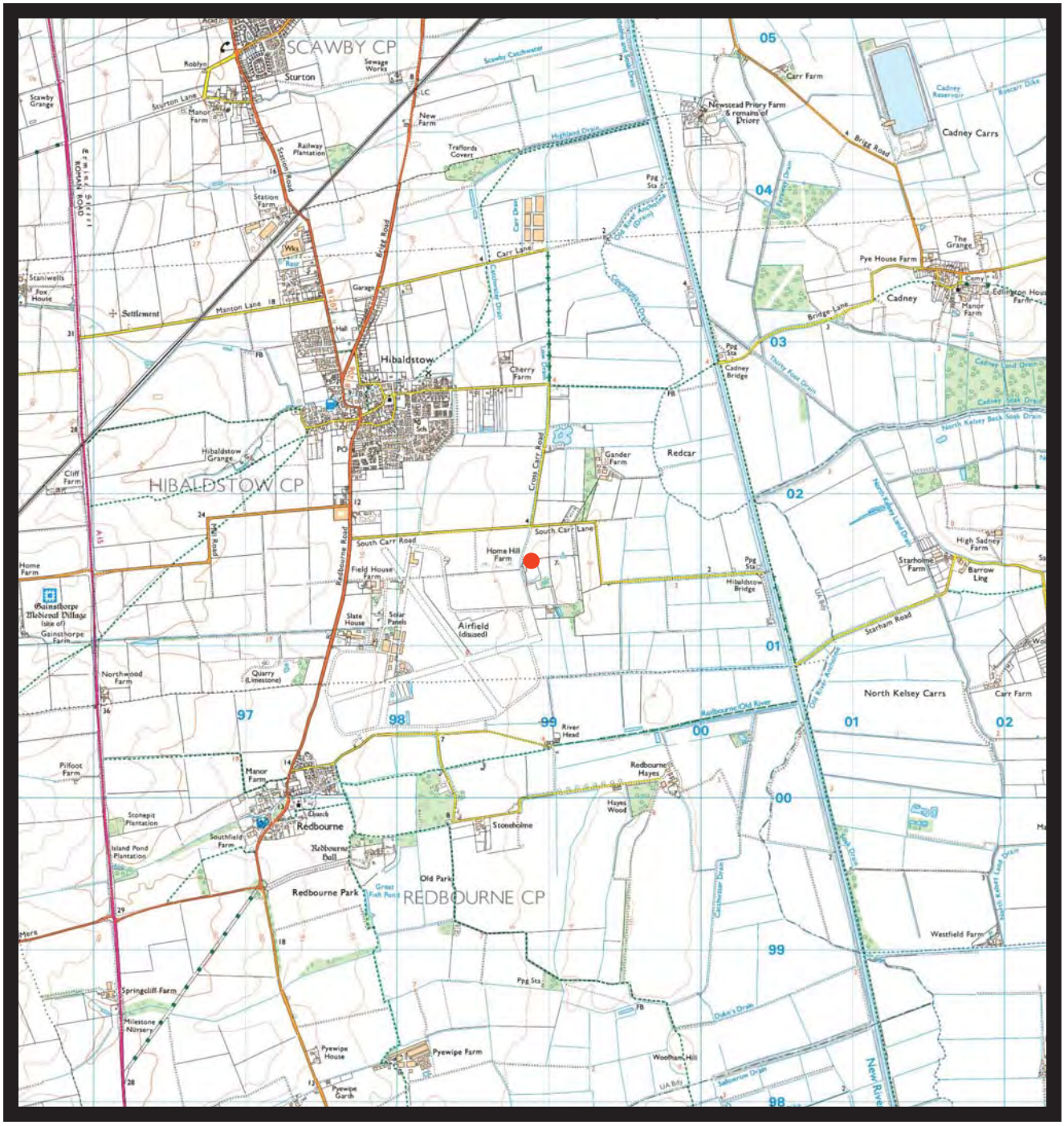
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) 2004 (c.39) London: HMSO

Appendices

Appendix 1

Maps

Map 1: Location map for Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow.



0 0.5 1km

Site Plan 1:40,000

Legend

Location of site

KJ Ecology Ltd
Drawn by : KJ
Date : 21/03/2025

Map 2: Habitat map for Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow.

0 25 50m

Legend

Modified grassland

Site Plan 1:3,200

KJ Ecology Ltd
Drawn by : KJ
Date : 21/03/2025

Appendix 2

Photos

Photos for Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow.

Photo 1: Area where the new cattle shed will be

Photo 2: Pond 1

Photo 3: Pond 2

Photo 4: View of compensation area

Appendix 3

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Results

Survey results for Home Hill Farm, Hibaldstow.

Common Name	Scientific Name	DAFOR
Shrubs		
Bramble (On off-set area)	*Rubus fruticosus agg.*	R
Herbaceous plants		
Common Mouse-ear	*Cerastium holosteoides*	R
Common Ragwort	*Senecio jacobaea*	R
Creeping Buttercup	*Ranunculus repens*	O
Creeping Cinquefoil (on off-set area)	*Potentilla reptans*	R
Daisy	*Bellis perennis*	R
Dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale agg*	R
Foxglove (on off-set area)	*Digitalis purpurea*	R
Goosegrass (on off-set area)	*Gallium aparine*	R
Greater Plantain	*Plantago major*	R
Ribwort Plantain	*Plantago lanceolata*	R
Salad Burnet	*Poterium sanguisorba*	R
Spear Thistle	*Cirsium vulgare*	R
White Clover	*Trifolium repens*	O
Yarrow	*Achillea millefolium*	R
Grasses		
Cocksfoot	*Dactylis glomerata*	F
False Oat Grass	*Arrhenatherum elatius*	F
Ryegrass sp.	*Lolium sp.*	A
Tufted Hair-grass (on off-set area)	*Deschampsia cespitosa*	O
Mosses		
Springy Turf-moss	*Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*	O
Mammals		
Rabbit (signs)	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	R
Birds		
Blue Tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*	R
Carrion Crow	*Corvus corone*	R
Dunnock	*Prunella modularis*	R
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	R
Skylark (next field)	*Alauda arvensis*	R
Woodpigeon	*Columba palumbus*	R
Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	R

Appendix 4

LERC Search Summary Report

LERC Search Summary Report

Grid Reference: SE 98890 01573
Buffer: 2km

Date of publication: 20/03/2025
Expires: 20/03/2026

Achieving more for nature

GLNP
GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE NATURE PARTNERSHIP

Report Details

Produced for	Kevin Johnson, KJ Ecology Ltd
Search area	

Terms and conditions

1. The data and reports provided by LERC are only to be used for the specific purpose they were produced.
2. The data and any copyright remains the property of GLNP, its licensors and/or the data providers (as applicable), and the data products and services remain the copyright of GLNP.
3. Permission to use the data and reports provided by LERC expires 12 months following supply.

For full terms and conditions see https://search.glnp.org.uk/terms-and-conditions

This report summarises a search of statutory sites, non-statutory sites, other sites, habitats and species within the specified area; where no information is returned for a section, it is excluded from this summary report.

About the Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre

The Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (LERC) collates wildlife and geological information for Greater Lincolnshire from various sources and makes it available for various uses. This data is crucial to aid conservation management of sites, to help organisations prioritise action, and to understand the distribution of species and trends over time. For more information on LERC or to request a data search, visit the website at https://glnp.org.uk/partnership/lerc/

an ALERC accredited LERC
Association of Local Environmental Records Centres

Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre is an ALERC accredited LRC, meeting the standard level criteria.
For more information on acceditation, see the ALERC website at http://www.alerc.org.uk/alerc-accreditation.html

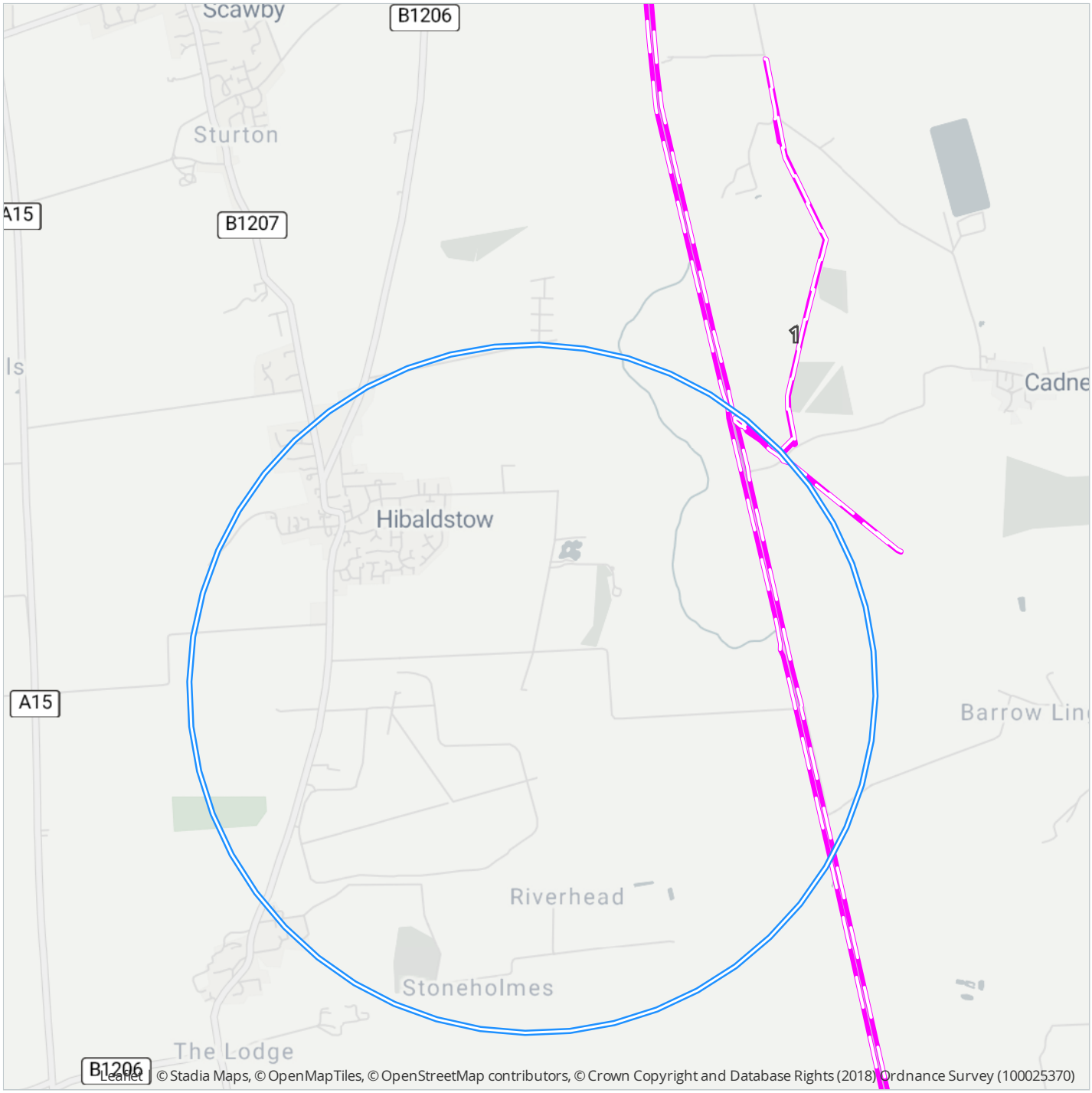
Non-statutory sites

The GLNP works directly with local authorities to coordinate the Local Sites system in Greater Lincolnshire. Sites are selected by the Nature Partnership, based on recommendations made by its expert working groups known as the LWS Panel and LGS Panel. The Register of Local Sites is then submitted for inclusion within local authority planning policy.

These sites are recognition of wildlife or geological value and are a testament to the land management that is already being undertaken on them. Identifying these sites helps local authorities meet their obligations under legislation and government guidance, including reporting on the number of sites in positive management for Single Data List Indicator 160-00.

Code	Designation	Status	Name
1	LWS	Selected	Faraway and Thirty Foot Drains
2	LWS	Selected	New River Ancholme

Non-statutory sites within the search area



Space restrictions on the map may result in some sites not being labelled. Please refer to the site citations for details.

Local Wildlife Site

Search area

Habitats

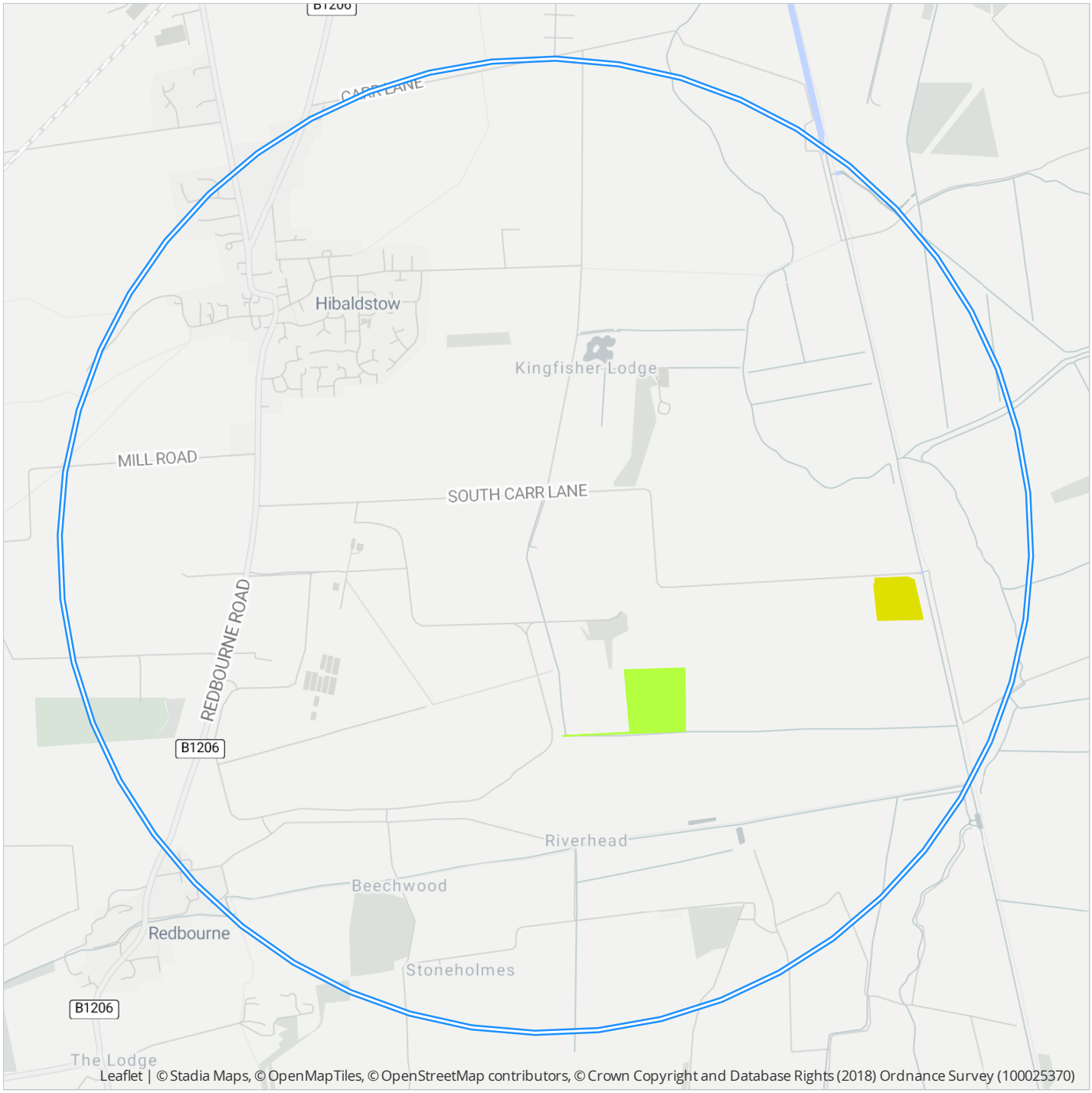
Priority habitats are those identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action in the UK. The most-recent list of UK priority species and habitats was published in August 2007 following a 2-year review of the process and priorities, representing the most comprehensive analysis of such information ever undertaken in the UK.

The data presented is the most up-to-date of the data collated by the GLNP and mostly comes from surveys of Local Sites; further historic data and non-Priority habitat data may also be available. Absence of information doesn't mean that the Priority habitat isn't present merely that no information is held.

A number of different datasets have been consulted to produce this report - a summary of attribution statements is available at https://glnp.org.uk/images/uploads/services/lincolnshire-environmental-records-centre/habitat%20attribution.pdf.

Type	Habitat	Survey Date	Area (ha)
Priority Habitat	Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	2020	6.25
Priority Habitat	Lowland meadows	2024	3.02
Priority Habitat	Rivers	2000	6.19

Habitats within the search area



Space restrictions on the map may result in some sites not being labelled.

Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh

Lowland meadows

Rivers

Search area

Species

Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre holds records on the following species within or overlapping the search area. Data shown is as held by LERC; past records of presence of a species does not guarantee continued occurrence and absence of records does not imply absence of a species, merely that no records are held. Confidential data, zero abundance records, data at poorly defined geographic resolutions and data pending validation and/or verification are also excluded from this report. A number of different datasets have been consulted to produce this report - a summary of attribution statements is available at https://glnp.org.uk/images/uploads/services/lincolnshire-environmental-records-centre/species%20attribution.pdf

Amphibian (4 taxa)

Common Frog, *Rana temporaria*	3	1976 - 1995	Protected
Common Toad, *Bufo bufo*	7	1976 - 2017	Protected, Priority
Great Crested Newt, *Triturus cristatus*	2	1976 - 1994	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Smooth Newt, *Lissotriton vulgaris*	2	1994 - 1995	Protected, Local Priority

Bird (31 taxa)

Barn Owl, *Tyto alba*	17	1998 - 2022	Protected, Local Priority
Canada Goose, *Branta canadensis*	2	2022 - 2023	Non-native
Corn Bunting, *Emberiza calandra*	14	2003 - 2008	Local Priority
Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus*	3	1999 - 2022	Priority
Curlew, *Numenius arquata*	10	2005 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority
Fieldfare, *Turdus pilaris*	71	2004 - 2022	Protected
Goldeneye, *Bucephala clangula*	4	2021 - 2022	Protected
Grey Partridge, *Perdix perdix*	83	2003 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority
Greylag Goose, *Anser anser*	33	2020 - 2022	Protected
Hen Harrier, *Circus cyaneus*	1	2007 - 2007	Protected
House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*	21	2007 - 2012	Priority, Local Priority
Kingfisher, *Alcedo atthis*	8	1973 - 2021	Protected
Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*	41	2004 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority
Linnet, *Linaria cannabina*	49	2008 - 2022	Local Priority
Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*	2	2021 - 2024	Protected
Marsh Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus*	1	2005 - 2005	Protected
Merlin, *Falco columbarius*	1	2020 - 2020	Protected
Perdix perdix perdix, *Perdix perdix perdix*	1	2022 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority
Redshank, *Tringa totanus*	1	2021 - 2021	Local Priority
Redwing, *Turdus iliacus*	2	2008 - 2021	Protected
Reed Bunting, *Emberiza schoeniclus*	243	2012 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority
Skylark, *Alauda arvensis*	67	2020 - 2022	Local Priority
Snipe, *Gallinago gallinago*	2	2022 - 2022	Local Priority

Bird (31 taxa)			
Song Thrush, *Turdus philomelos*	41	2007 - 2022	Local Priority
Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*	68	2008 - 2022	Local Priority
Swift, *Apus apus*	10	2015 - 2021	Local Priority
Tree Sparrow, *Passer montanus*	18	2003 - 2021	Priority, Local Priority
Turtle Dove, *Streptopelia turtur*	5	2004 - 2019	Priority, Local Priority
Whooper Swan, *Cygnus cygnus*	4	2009 - 2020	Protected
Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava*	15	2004 - 2022	Local Priority
Yellowhammer, *Emberiza citrinella*	139	2007 - 2022	Priority, Local Priority

Bony Fish (Actinopterygii) (2 taxa)			
European Eel, *Anguilla anguilla*	37	1989 - 2002	Priority, Local Priority
Spined Loach, *Cobitis taenia*	28	1979 - 2011	Priority, Local Priority

Crustacean (3 taxa)			
Chinese Mitten Crab, *Eriocheir sinensis*	1	2020 - 2020	Non-native
Crangonyx pseudogracilis/floridanus, *Crangonyx pseudogracilis/floridanus sens. lat.*	277	1986 - 2019	Non-native
Signal Crayfish, *Pacifastacus leniusculus*	2	1992 - 2022	Non-native

Flowering Plant (9 taxa)			
Basil Thyme, *Clinopodium acinos*	1	1988 - 1988	Priority
Bluebell, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	4	1983 - 2017	Protected
Butterfly-bush, *Buddleja davidii*	3	2005 - 2012	Non-native
Canadian Waterweed, *Elodea canadensis*	17	1988 - 2017	Non-native
Giant Hogweed, *Heracleum mantegazzianum*	1	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Himalayan Balsam, *Impatiens glandulifera*	6	1981 - 2011	Non-native
Nuttall's Waterweed, *Elodea nuttallii*	78	1993 - 2015	Non-native
Wall Cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster horizontalis*	5	1983 - 1999	Non-native
Winter Heliotrope, *Petasites fragrans*	1	2019 - 2019	Non-native

Insect - Butterfly (1 taxa)			
Wall, *Lasiommata megera*	3	1987 - 2010	Priority

Insect - Moth (1 taxa)			
Blood-vein, *Timandra comae*	1	2017 - 2017	Priority

Mollusc (2 taxa)			
Dreissenidae, *Dreissenidae*	17	1989 - 1998	Non-native
Zebra Mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*	30	1973 - 2005	Non-native

Reptile (1 taxa)			
Grass Snake, *Natrix helvetica*	1	1976 - 1976	Protected, Priority

Terrestrial Mammal (7 taxa)			
American Mink, *Neovison vison*	3	2011 - 2018	Non-native
Brown Hare, *Lepus europaeus*	36	1976 - 2018	Priority
Eastern Grey Squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*	8	1974 - 1994	Non-native
European Water Vole, *Arvicola amphibius*	17	1973 - 2010	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Feral Ferret, *Mustela putorius subsp. furo*	1	2013 - 2013	Protected, Priority
Harvest Mouse, *Micromys minutus*	2	1968 - 1994	Priority
West European Hedgehog, *Erinaceus europaeus*	28	1976 - 2022	Priority

Terrestrial Mammal (bat) (5 taxa)			
Bat, *Chiroptera*	12	1997 - 2014	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Brown Long-eared Bat, *Plecotus auritus*	4	2007 - 2023	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Common Pipistrelle, *Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu stricto*	3	2012 - 2013	Protected, Local Priority
Myotis Bat species, *Myotis*	1	2013 - 2013	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Pipistrelle Bat species, *Pipistrellus*	1	2010 - 2010	Protected, Priority, Local Priority

Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership
Banovallum House
Manor House Street
Horncastle
Lincolnshire
LN9 5HF

Tel: 01507 528398
Email: info@glnp.org.uk
Web: www.glnp.org.uk

Achieving more for nature

GLNP
GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE
NATURE PARTNERSHIP