



Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

Studley Solar Farm, Atworth, Melksham

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PREPARED FOR
Melksham Calne Green Limited

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Site Address	Studley Farm, Atworth, Melksham, Wiltshire
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Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

Studley Solar Farm, Atworth, Melksham

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

This Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) sets out a framework for the planting, management and monitoring of landscaping, including that created for ecological mitigation and enhancement associated with the proposed installation of a solar farm and battery storage facility with associated infrastructure ('the Development') at land at Studley Farm, Atworth, Melksham, Wiltshire (the 'Site'), on behalf of Melksham Calne Green Ltd (the 'Client'). This LEMP covers works which will be necessary during both the construction and operational phases and has been developed in accordance with BS 42020:2013 Section 11.1.1.

This LEMP accompanies the Construction Ecology Management Plan (Antea UK, June 2025) which describes measures to avoid, reduce and mitigate likely adverse effects on ecological receptors resulting from the construction phase of the Development, and the Landscape and Ecology Monitoring Scheme (Antea UK, June 2025) which details the post-construction monitoring program and criteria.

1.2 OVERVIEW OF THE SCHEME

The Development received conditional planning consent from Wiltshire Council in June 2022 (reference PL/2021/08690) for a photovoltaic solar park and associated infrastructure.

2.0 ECOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The baseline for this report has been prepared from information provided within the following ecological surveys/reports:

- Ecological Assessment Report, Studley Solar Farm and Battery Storage (August 2021) Avian Ecology.
- Bat Activity Report 2021, Studley Solar Farm (December 2021) Avian Ecology.
- Water Vole and Otter Survey Report, Studley Solar Farm (September 2021) Avian Ecology.
- Ecological Constraints Report, Studley Solar Farm (July 2024) Antea Group UK.
- Badger Walkover Survey Report, Studley Solar Farm (July 2024) Antea Group UK.
- Water Vole Survey Report, Studley Solar Farm (July 2024) Antea Group UK.

2.1 DESIGNATED SITES

No impacts were anticipated on any statutory or non-statutory designated sites within the zone of influence.

2.2 HABITATS AND PROTECTED SPECIES

The Site comprises a mixture of improved grassland and arable fields, with boundary hedgerows, ditches and trees. Ponds are also present both within, and close to, the Site. Habitats outside the development footprint, including hedgerows ditches, field boundary trees and ponds, are to be retained.

The results of ecological baseline for faunal species are summarised in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1: FAUNAL SPECIES ON, OR WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR AT THE SITE

Fauna	Opportunities on-Site / Evidence
Birds	Vegetated habitats across the Site provide opportunities for arboreal and ground nesting birds, as well as foraging opportunities. Both arboreal and ground nesting bird species were recorded on-Site, with the breeding bird assemblage recorded to be typical of farmland habitats.
Reptiles	The Site overall offers limited suitable habitat and connectivity for reptile species, being dominated by arable and modified grassland. However, the boundary hedgerows and ditch network offer limited resources, if present in the local area. No previous evidence of reptiles recorded on-Site.
Amphibians	Previous surveys concluded great crested newts to be likely absent from the Site and given the suitability of the ponds on-Site and immediately adjacent to the Site boundary in 2024, this is likely to remain so. Given the limited water, heavy overshadowing, and lack of aquatic and marginal vegetation, the ponds and field boundary ditches are not considered optimal to support other species of amphibian, however, the hedgerow bases and bankside vegetation provide suitable terrestrial habitat, and their presence cannot be ruled out.
Bats	Several mature trees occur within the field boundary hedgerows, containing features suitable to support roosting bats such as deadwood, limb breakouts and ivy cover. None of the trees identified as containing features suitable to support roosting bats are anticipated to be directly impacted by the development proposals. The ditch network, hedgerows and trees across the Site provide suitable foraging and commuting corridors for bats.

	Previous bat activity surveys recorded low levels of activity of at least 11 species of bat, including barbastelle and horseshoe bats which are considered to be nationally uncommon or rare.
Water Vole	No conclusive evidence of water vole presence was recorded in 2024 such that the population has either suffered an extinction event since positive field signs were recorded in June 2021, or the population occurs in very low numbers such that detectability is reduced, or the Site forms part of a wider resource for the population and is used only during periods of population expansion.
Otter	No evidence of otter has been recorded. The Site offers sub-optimal aquatic habitat but has connectivity and suitable terrestrial habitat in the form of woodland copses, dense scrub and hedgerows. The presence of otter is considered unlikely but cannot be ruled out.
Hazel Dormice	Whilst the Site offers a network of hedgerows, overall habitat suitability is considered to be limited. No evidence of dormice previously recorded.
Brown Hare and Hedgehog	Whilst no evidence was recorded, the Site provides suitable habitat for brown hare and hedgehog.

2.3 DESCRIPTION OF FEATURES TO BE MANAGED AND GENERAL PLANTING SPECIFICATION

The landscaping and the proposed management regime have been developed in order to maximise biodiversity and to provide resources for locally occurring wildlife, whilst being appropriate to the nature and setting of the Site. Implementation of the landscaping scheme should be undertaken in accordance with the details provided by Briarwood Landscape Architects and should be completed by a competent person. It is understood that all soft landscape planting will be undertaken during the first available planting season, immediately after completion of construction. All works associated with the implementation of this LEMP must be undertaken by experienced contractors.

Any imported topsoil will accord with BS 3882 Specification for Topsoil. All supplying nurseries will be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme and plant material should be of certified British provenance. All plants will be packed and transported in accordance with the Code and Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE.

All plant material will conform with BS:3936 Specification for nursery stock bulbs, corms and tubers and BS:4428 Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces), or the most up to date and current British Standards and in accordance with seed supplier's technical advice.

The following habitats will be created at the Site:

2.3.1 GRASSLAND

Once the solar array has been installed, the land beneath the panels, within the security fence will be sown with a species-rich seed mix (Emorsgate EG27 Special Old Fashioned Grazing Mixture). Outside the security fence, between the security fence and the existing/proposed hedgerows, a meadow seed mix (Emorsgate EM1 Basic

General-Purpose Meadow Mixture) will be sown. Around newly created ponds, a wildflower mix (EM2F Standard General Purpose Wildflowers) is proposed.

A longer-term approach to the establishment of the grassland meadow habitat is being adopted, through suitable management practices and the avoidance of fertilizers and herbicides to establish an increasingly species and structurally varied grassland across the Site.

Seeding

Prior to seeding (after construction of the solar panels, access tracks and other associated infrastructure), unwanted vegetation growth within the fields will be removed by scraping the surface to a depth of 150 mm. The ground shall then be thoroughly broken up and cultivated and fine graded to even running falls, before raking and cross raking. The grass seed mixes shall be sown in accordance with good practice and in line with the supplier's guidance.

Seeding will usually take place in September, to allow establishment prior to winter. If the soils and seed bed have been prepared before September, any weed growth that has established in the meantime will be sprayed (avoiding areas in proximity to watercourses), and the seedbed will be re-prepared.

Seeds shall be broadcast by approved lightweight machinery and following seeding the area will be subject to rolling to incorporate the seed with the growing substrate.

2.3.2 HEDGEROWS, SHRUBS, AND TREES

The existing hedgerows and trees on the Site will be retained as part of the solar development and new native species hedgerow and trees will be introduced. New hedgerow plants will be planted as 1 + 1 transplants at a minimum 40-60 cm height.

Planting will not be carried out when the ground is wet/waterlogged or frost bound, or during periods of excessive cold drying winds.

All bare-root planting stock will be kept covered until actually planted in order to minimise water-loss and prevent the stock from drying out. Bare root stock shall be planted while dormant (during winter months). Container sided and rootballed stock will be used where necessary, as advised by the supplier.

Ground Preparation

Where necessary existing weeds will be manually / hand removed or treated with a suitable herbicide.

Any extraneous matter such as plastic, large pieces of wood and metal will be removed from Site to a registered waste disposal facility.

2.3.3 POND CREATION

Three new ponds will be constructed to provide additional aquatic habitat for a range of species including amphibian species and invertebrates. The ponds will be designed in line with the Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature 2001), achieving a surface area of between 100m² and 300m².

The ponds will be constructed to provide a range of depths and will have an irregular shape. A shallow wetland shelf of less than 30cm will encourage a diversity of pond plants which in turn provides for invertebrates and egg laying substrate for newts. A bentonite liner will be used to provide a permanent waterbody, if required.

2.4 ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

In addition to habitats listed above, the following ecological enhancements will be carried out, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ecological Assessment.

2.4.1 BIRDS

The inclusion of 10 bird boxes and an owl box erected on semi-mature/mature trees at the Site will provide additional nesting opportunities for local species. Precise locations will be subject to confirmation during the installation depending on tree condition at that time.

Bird boxes should ideally be installed in autumn (September to November) following the cessation of construction works, by the appointed contractor under advice of the suitably competent ecologist. Boxes should be erected at an appropriate height of between 1 to 5 metres. Boxes should be angled so that they face away from the prevailing wind or in a semi sheltered environment. Positioning within or close to hedgerows will increase chances of occupation. Bird boxes will be suitable for a variety of farmland bird species.

Box specifications are provided below:

- 5 x Schwegler 1B 32 mm Bird Box
- 2 x Schwegler 2H Open Front Bird Box
- 3 x Schwegler 3S Starling Nest Box
- 1 x Barn Owl Nest Box

2.4.2 BATS

The inclusion of 10 bat boxes on suitable trees at the Site will provide additional roosting opportunities for local species. Boxes will be erected at an appropriate height (ideally above 3 m) and with clear flight paths to utilise the site boundary features. Precise locations will be agreed with the project ecologist and will be subject to confirmation during the installation depending on tree condition at that time. The bat boxes are to be orientated in an easterly/ westerly/ south-easterly/ south-westerly direction.

Box specifications are provided below:

- Schwegler 2F Bat Box

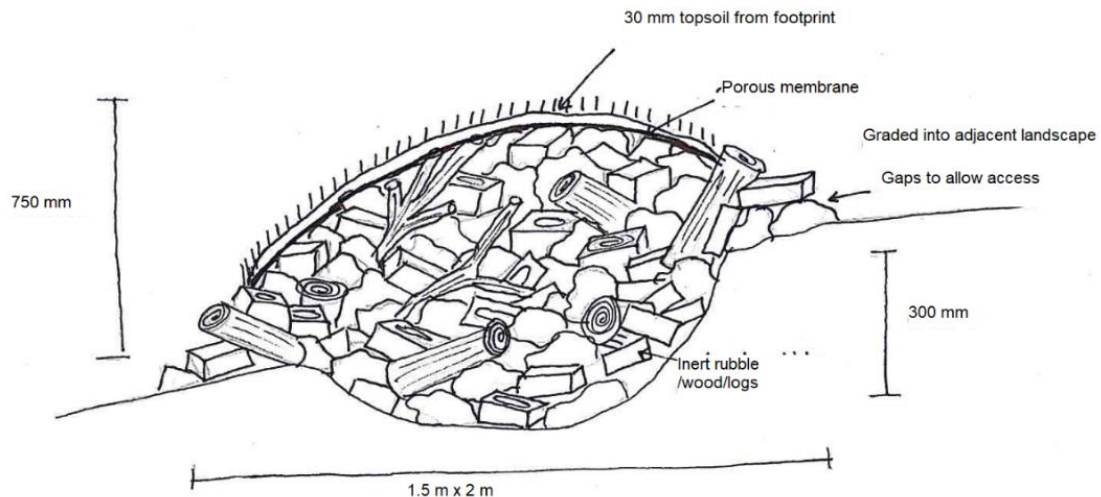
2.4.3 LOG PILES AND HIBERNACULA

Log piles and hibernacula will be constructed along the Site boundaries and around ponds. In combination with the creation of new hedgerows and varied grassland management, these will provide additional terrestrial refuge and foraging opportunities for amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates and small mammals.

Precise location of the hibernacula will be subject to confirmation during the installation but will be focussed within sheltered and undisturbed locations along boundary features such as hedgerows and scrub and in close proximity to ponds.

Hibernacula will be built largely above the ground but dug to a depth of up to 300 mm and back filled with a mix of inert rubble, timber logs and dead wood to a height of up to 750 mm above ground. The hibernacula will be covered with a Terram membrane and capped with approximately 30 mm layer of the topsoil removed from the footprint of the hibernacula prior to its creation. Where possible, removal of the topsoil will be undertaken to provide blocks of turf in which to reinstate on top of the hibernacula, minimising soil disturbance as much as possible to retain current vegetation cover and reduce the risk of colonisation of bare earth by undesirable ruderal species. Alternatively, the bund will be seeded and managed to promote desired vegetation growth. Rubble and logs will be exposed at ground level to maintain gaps for reptile access. The hibernacula will be at

least 1.5 m wide by 2 m long and will run along in a predominately east-west direction to maximise basking habitat. The design principles are shown in the diagram below.



2.4.4 HEDGEHOGS

The provision of five hedgehog boxes at the Site will provide shelter and hibernation opportunities for this species.

Precise locations will be subject to confirmation during the installation but will be focussed within sheltered and undisturbed locations along boundary features such as hedgerows and scrub. The entrance should be placed so it is sheltered from adverse weather, ideally facing east to south

Boxes can be installed any time of year but should ideally be installed in the spring or summer following the cessation of construction works, by the appointed contractor under advice of the suitably competent ecologist.

2.4.5 INVERTEBRATES

The provision of 10 insect hotels/boxes at the Site will provide opportunities for a range of species. Precise locations will be subject to confirmation during the installation depending on the box/hotel and condition of trees (if required).

Insect hotels can be installed any time of year and should follow the cessation of construction works, by the appointed contractor under advice of the suitably competent ecologist.

Boxes should be erected at sheltered undisturbed locations and be angled so that they face away from the prevailing wind. A selection of boxes/hotels will be suitable for a variety of insect species.

Box specifications are provided below:

- Schwegler Clay & Reed Insect Nesting Aid

2.4.6 MAMMAL GATES

Gaps will be created at intervals within the security fencing in order to provide continued access for mammals
[REDACTED] These gaps will be created by cutting strategic holes within the wire fence and edging with a wooden from. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3.0 MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

A schedule of management and monitoring is appended as follows:

- A - Establishment Maintenance (Year One Post Implementation)
- B - Establishment Maintenance Years 2-5
- C - Long-Term Management

This document should also be read in conjunction with the Landscape and Ecology Monitoring Scheme (Antea UK, June 2025).

3.1 ECOLOGICAL TRENDS AND CONSTRAINTS THAT MAY INFLUENCE MANAGEMENT

3.1.1 WATER

Key considerations for landscape management are the sustainable and responsible use of water, such that a balance must be struck between watering plants to help them establish and conserving water in times of drought. Therefore, close liaison between the Client/ management team and contractor will ensure a satisfactory outcome is achieved.

3.1.2 PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES

Due to a number of reasons, including in part the globalisation of trade and impact of climate change, there has been an increase in pests and diseases in recent years. Therefore, biosecurity measures will be put in place that include planting a range of different plant genera and species, specifying the use of only British provenance stock and requesting full documentation of plant origin, consignment details, impact of pest / disease and/or plant passports.

3.1.3 TIMING OF OPERATIONS

Hedgerow and tree works will take place outside of the bird nesting season and active dormouse season, i.e. from October to February. In order to maximise the opportunity for birds and small mammals to forage on berries, hedgerow trimming will ideally take place in January / February.

3.2 MANAGEMENT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall landscape management objectives are as follows:

- **Objective O1: To manage grassland to ensure the development of a diverse sward beneath the array of solar panels and on the margins of the Site.**

Grassland within the site will be managed to create a diverse grassland habitat which will benefit a wide range of wildlife. Within the security fence, the site will be managed using a cutting or grazing regime.

The field margins outside the security fence and around ponds will be maintained as a wildflower meadow to benefit a range of species such as amphibians, invertebrates and small mammals. These areas are best managed with a cutting regime but can be seasonally grazed.

- **Objective O2: To manage hedgerows and hedgerow trees to enhance their aesthetic and wildlife value.**

Management of the existing retained hedgerows and hedgerow trees will involve regular (annual) monitoring to check for any detrimental deterioration through damage and/or disease. The monitoring process will put forward suggested remedial work measures so as to ensure the long-term survival of the existing retained hedgerows and hedgerow trees.

Management of new hedgerow and hedgerow tree planting will ensure successful establishment and healthy development.

- **Objective O3: To ensure wildlife is adequately protected during operation**
Management will ensure that protected and notable wildlife is able to continue to use the Site and is protected from adverse impacts during the operational phase.
- **Objective O4: To monitor the Site and assess the success of management**
In order to deliver the proposed ecological objectives, monitoring of the effects of management prescriptions will be required in order to ensure that these are effective, and to inform any necessary refinement of the site management.

Objectives for the habitat types in relation to the Biodiversity Net Gain assessment are provided alongside the associated monitoring criteria within the Landscape and Ecology Monitoring Scheme (Antea UK, June 2025).

3.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The construction team will be solely responsible for ensuring that best practice measures have been followed to ensure no faunal species are harmed. The Site manager will call an ecologist for support or advice when required. The construction team will ensure the landscaping scheme is implemented as specified on the landscaping plans and following the directions within this document. This document will be provided to the landscape management team at the handover to ensure they are aware of the ecological ambitions of the Site.

Following handover, a defects liability will be in place with the planting contractor such that they would be responsible for any replacement planting required. After this period an operational management contract will be in place to maintain the landscaping at the Site. A central point of contact, such as a Team or Manager, would be available for the team to contact if problems arise. Record keeping should be undertaken by the landscape management contractors of any works required to meet the LEMP, such as replacement planting due to failures, so that if repeated problems arise a new solution could be agreed upon and passed to their point of contact at regular agreed intervals.

Management costs associated with the implementation of this LEMP will be the responsibility of the current or any subsequent owner of the solar farm. Monitoring and reporting will be undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist and the costs associated with monitoring reporting and any rectification works will be borne by the owner or any subsequent owner.

3.4 PRESCRIPTION FOR MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The Section below provides management prescriptions for each habitat type in order to achieve the objectives outlined in Section 3.2. General site monitoring and remedial actions/adaptive management are provided in Appendix A. This LEMP is to be reviewed every five years and management prescriptions adapted (following agreement in writing by the LPA) to ensure the target habitat conditions (as detailed in the Landscape and Ecology Monitoring Scheme) are on track/being met. A review of the conditions on-Site and status of potential ecological receptors must be undertaken prior to decommissioning to allow appropriate mitigation and management to be applied.

3.4.1 PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE DURING OPERATION

Contributes to Objective 3

Ground cover vegetation around the solar panels, field margins and ponds should allow for varying heights during the nesting bird season to be used by ground nesting birds as well as amphibians, invertebrates, reptiles and small mammals.

Management of habitats will take account of the potential presence of wildlife by applying sensitive working practices and being undertaken at an appropriate time of year.

3.4.2 GRASSLAND

Contributes to Objective 1

Initial management of grassland habitat will be undertaken in accordance with the seed supplier instructions during the establishment phase.

Establishment – Within Array

During the first year, grassland within the array will require first management after 6-10 weeks, once the sward has reached approximately 10 cm in height. Light sheep grazing can be applied for short periods to avoid over grazing. Grazing should be avoided if the soil is saturated with water. Alternatively top initial growth and remove arisings.

Establishment – Field and Pond Margins

The first cut of wildflower areas will be in March / April after an autumn sowing or in June / July after a spring sowing. During the first year's maintenance, grassland will be cut approximately every 6 to 8 weeks until autumn to reduce the dominance of faster-growing grasses and pernicious weeds. Grass will be cut to a height of approx. 40-60 mm and arisings will be collected and removed from the Site (or placed in designated piles) in order that they don't decompose and increase soil fertility.

Problem perennial weeds will be controlled by hand pulling or targeted application of non-residual herbicide by spot spraying or weed wiping.

Post-Establishment – Within Array

Grassland within the array will be managed for the lifespan of the scheme to encourage the development of a diverse sward.

Grassland can be managed through low intensity grazing using sheep and/or mowing.

Optional light grazing can be applied January – February when ground conditions allow. Livestock are to be removed early March to allow summer flowering plants to set seed. The main grazing period will be applied September to the end of December to create a mosaic of sward heights. Stocking rates should aim to create a varied sward structure. This should be consistently monitored to avoid overgrazing and stock density/duration altered accordingly. Stock density should be reduced in wet periods to avoid poaching leading to colonisation of problem weed species.

For mowing regime, an optional cut mid-February can be taken to reduce any significant winter growth to a minimum 150 mm sward height, when conditions allow. Cutting should be avoided March-August, unless problems occur with shading. This should be preceded by a check for ground nesting birds. After flowering, a main cut should be taken August/September to 150-200 mm sward height. Mowing will only take place during periods of dry weather to avoid damage from machinery. Cutting should adopt a systematic method of working directionally/outwards towards boundary features to allow fauna to temporarily vacate the area. Arising should remain in-situ for three-five days to allow seed dispersal before being removed from Site or placed in designated heaps for the benefit of wildlife.

Post-Establishment – Field and Pond Margins

From years 2 to 5, wildflower grassland will be cut twice a year, in late July / August and late September / October, to a height of 50-75 mm. Arisings will be collected and removed from site. Cutting twice a year should help to reduce the number of more vigorous species and lower the soil fertility. There is flexibility to alter the timing of the cuts, e.g. an early spring and late summer cut, if monitoring suggests that this would be more beneficial.

After year 5, wildflower grassland will be cut annually in August to a height of 50-75mm. Exact timing of this cut may vary according to weather / growing conditions. Arisings will be collected and removed from site. Litter and debris will be removed from the Site prior to cutting. Provision will be made for an additional cut in September / October if needed.

During the first 5 years, any broadleaved weeds in grassland areas will be treated with herbicide suitable for suppressing perennial weeds.

3.4.3 HEDGEROW, SHRUB AND TREE MANAGEMENT

Contributes to Objective 2

Weed control will be carried out around trees and within areas of shrub/hedgerow planting for the first 5 years after planting. Weeding will be carried out by strimming and/or use of suitable herbicide with the agreement of the contract administrator.

New trees, hedgerow/shrubs will be inspected as per the schedule and re-firmed if necessary. Stakes, ties and guards will be checked and adjusted / replaced if necessary. Stakes, ties and guards will be removed once plants are established/self-supporting or at the end of the 5-year establishment maintenance period. During the first 5 years any dead, damaged or diseased plants will be removed and replaced during the next suitable planting season.

Hedgerows will be lightly trimmed for the first five years. This will be carried out in January / February to avoid the bird nesting season and to allow birds to eat any berries. Thereafter hedgerow will be trimmed every 3 years on rotation, with no more than 50% of the total length of a hedgerow trimmed in any one year. Hedgerows are to be trimmed to a tapered profile, targeting a width of more than 1.5 m wide with the cutting height raised by approx. 10 cm each cut to a maximum height of 3 m. Where present, hedgerow trees will be managed as trees as described below.

Formative pruning will be undertaken every five years of new trees according to best practice to promote the development of well-shaped and healthy trees.

All hedgerows, shrubs and trees will be inspected annually in January/February, with any identified works required undertaken between September and February to avoid the nesting bird season, unless identified as a health and safety risk in which case a suitable experienced ecologist must be consulted prior to works commencing.

All tree works will be carried out with consideration of the potential presence of legally protected and priority species. Prior to commencement of any arboricultural works, any trees with the potential to support roosting bats will be inspected by a licenced ecologist. Works will be scheduled to avoid the bird nesting season (March to August). Deadwood will be retained to create log/brush piles and potential hibernation sites for fauna.

3.4.4 PONDS

Newly created ponds at the Site are to be monitored annually and any remedial measures applied in late Autumn. Excess decaying leaves/organic material should be removed, and any aquatic plants are to be pruned

to maintain a balance of at least 50% cover of pond areas which are less than 3 m deep. Duckweed is to be removed to maintain less than 10% cover.

3.4.5 WATERING

During the first 5 years all plants may be watered in periods of dry weather between April – September to ensure their successful establishment. A decision will be taken by the contract administrator after weighing up the needs of the plants against the responsible and sustainable use of water.

3.4.6 MANAGEMENT OF ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

Bat boxes will be checked by a licenced bat worker and bird boxes will be checked at the same time during monitoring visits and any remedial action, such as cleaning out the boxes, will be carried out should this be deemed necessary. This will be done during winter. General maintenance checks will be carried out in the first year and then every 2-3 years for a minimum of 10 years.

The owl box should not in general require maintenance, however, general observations will be made during general maintenance visits and any damage reported to the ecologist. Remedial action will thereby be undertaken accordingly.

The insect boxes should not in general require maintenance, and intervention should be limited to avoid disturbing occupants, but should be checked annually for any damage. The bamboo tubes do not need replacing unless they are damaged or have become dislodged.

The hedgehog house requires minimal maintenance and must not be disturbed during the summer or winter months in case it is used as a nursery, or for hibernation. If the house is unoccupied after winter use (late March-early April) it should be inspected for damage and cleaned, with old bedding material removed.

Hibernacula will be inspected during general site maintenance visits and any damage/deterioration reported to the ecologist to advise on any necessary remedial actions.

The mammal gates should not in general require maintenance, however, they should be checked at least four times a year during routine maintenance visits to ensure they remain functional.

3.5 MONITORING

Contributes to Objective 4

Monitoring will be undertaken in Years 1, 3, 5, 10, 25 and 40 immediately following habitat creation, with reports provided to the LPA within 6 months of each monitoring visit.

Monitoring will be undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist, who will assess the habitats against the target conditions. Species-specific enhancements will also be inspected during each monitoring visit to identify any evidence of use. Criteria for the monitoring are set out in the Landscape and Ecology Monitoring Scheme (Antea UK, June 2025).

4.0 DISCLAIMER

The recommendations contained in this report represent Antea's professional opinions based upon the currently available information and are arrived at in accordance with currently accepted professional standards. This report is based upon a specific scope of work requested by the Client. The contract between Antea, and its Client outlines the scope of work, and only those tasks specifically authorised by that contract or outlined in this report were performed. This report is intended only for the use of Antea's Client and anyone else specifically identified in writing by Antea as a user of this report. Antea will not and cannot be liable for unauthorised reliance by any other third party. Other than as contained in this paragraph, Antea makes no express or implied warranty as to the contents of this report.

5.0 REPORT AUTHORISATION

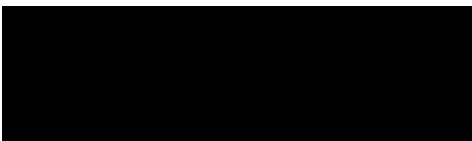
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17th June 2025

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17th June 2025

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6.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

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Appendix A - Recommended Management, Maintenance and General Monitoring

Appendix A - Establishment Maintenance (first year post implementation)

Description	Frequency
GRASSLAND <i>Within arrays</i> After 6-10 weeks/once sward reached approximately 10 cm in height, light sheep grazing or topping of initial growth and remove arisings. <i>Field and Pond Margins</i> First cut of wildflower areas in March/ April after an autumn sowing or in June/ July after a spring sowing. Cut to a height of 40-60 mm. Subsequent cuts approx. every 6 to 8 weeks until autumn. Remove arisings from site. Spot treat broadleaved weeds in all seeded areas with suitable herbicide as specified.	3 visits
PROVISIONAL ITEM Further spot treatment of broadleaved weeds in seeded areas, as above, if needed	1 visit
TREE, SHRUB AND HEDGEROW PLANTING Keep tree and shrub planting blocks clear of weeds by strimming unwanted vegetation. Suitable herbicide may be used if appropriate. Keep hedgerows weed free by removing any weeds by hand or spot treating with a suitable herbicide.	4 visits
Inspect all trees, shrubs and hedgerow plants and re-firm if necessary. Adjust or replace any stakes, ties, guards or rabbit spirals if necessary. Remove any dead, damaged or diseased plants and replace during next suitable planting season.	4 visits
Trim hedgerows in January / February to encourage bushy growth down to ground level. Remove arisings from site.	1 visit
HABITAT BOXES Check bird, bat and insect boxes between November and February, inclusive, and hedgehog boxes late March-early April and undertake any repairs or modifications. Licensed bat surveyor to check bat boxes.	1 visit
PROVISIONAL ITEM Water areas of seeding and/or planting, if necessary, to ensure the successful establishment and continued thriving of all species.	As required

Appendix B– Establishment Maintenance Years 2-5

Description	Frequency (per annum)
GRASSLAND <i>Within arrays</i> Low intensity grazing using sheep and/or mowing. Optional light grazing Jan/Feb, livestock removed March-August, main grazing Sept-Dec. Stocking rates to avoid overgrazing. For mowing an optional cut mid-February can be taken. Cutting should be avoided March-August. Main cut taken Aug/Sept. Arisings removed.	2-3 visits
<i>Field and pond Margins</i> Wildflower Grassland - Cut to a height of 50- 75mm in late July / August and late September / October. Remove arisings from site.	2 visits
Spot treat broadleaved weeds in all seeded areas with suitable herbicide as specified.	3 visits
TREES, SHRUBS and HEDGEROWS Keep tree planting clear of weeds by strimming unwanted vegetation. Suitable herbicide may be used if appropriate.	4 visits
Keep hedgerows weed free by removing any weeds by hand or spot treating with a suitable herbicide.	4 visits
Inspect all trees, shrubs and hedgerow plants and re-firm if necessary. Adjust or replace any stakes, ties, guards or rabbit spirals if necessary. Remove any dead, damaged or diseased plants and replace during next suitable planting season.	1 visit
Lightly trim hedgerows in January / February. 50% of the total length to be trimmed in years 2 and 4 and the remainder in years 3 and 5.	Annually, but only 50% of hedgerow on each occasion
Remove all tree stakes, ties, rabbit spirals, tree and shrub guards etc. at the end of the 5-year maintenance period.	Once, Year 5
HABITAT BOXES Check bird, bat and insect boxes between November and February, inclusive, and hedgehog boxes late March-early April and undertake any repairs or modifications. Licensed bat surveyor to check bat boxes.	1 visit

Appendix C – Long-Term Management

Description	Frequency (per annum)
GRASSLAND <i>Within arrays</i> Low intensity grazing using sheep and/or mowing. Optional light grazing Jan/Feb, livestock removed March-August, main grazing Sept-Dec. Stocking rates to avoid overgrazing. For mowing an optional cut mid-February can be taken. Cutting should be avoided March-August. Main cut taken Aug/Sept. Arisings removed.	2-3 visits
<i>Field and pond Margins</i> Wildflower Grassland - Cut to a height of 50- 75mm in late July / August and late September / October. Remove arisings from site.	1 visit
HEDGEROWS/SHRUBS Trim hedgerows in January / February on three year rotation. Native mix boundary hedgerows cut to a tapered profile, targeting at least 1.5 m wide and 3 m height. Raise the cutting height by approx. 10 cm each cut. To be trimmed on rotation, with no more than 50% of the total length of any one hedgerow trimmed in one year	Annually on a three year rotation
TREES Inspect annually and undertake remedial measures as required.	1 visit
HABITAT BOXES Check bird, bat and insect boxes between November and February, inclusive, and hedgehog boxes late March-early April and undertake any repairs or modifications. Licensed bat surveyor to check bat boxes. Year 6 – consider relocation of boxes to different area if they are showing no evidence of use.	1 visit