



Hawkeridge Mill, Heywood

Construction Environmental Management Plan

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Contents

1. Introduction	3
1.1 Background	3
1.2 Objectives of CEMP	4
1.3 Responsibilities	4
1.4 Target Habitats and Species (Ecological Receptors)	4
2. Relevant Wildlife Legislation	6
3. Protection Measures	9
3.2 Licensing	9
3.3 Appointment of an Ecologist/Ecological Clerk of Works/Biodiversity Champion	9
3.4 Update Site Survey	9
3.5 Briefing to Contractors	9
3.6 Protection Fencing and Exclusion Zones	9
3.7 Method Statements	10
4. Construction Working Practices	14
5. Ecological Enhancements	16
6. Annexes	18
Annex 1: Protection Measures and Ecological Enhancements	18
Annex 2: Record of Operations and Sign-off by Ecologist/Ecological Clerk of Works	19
Annex 3: Contact Details	20

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 This Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) details the measures to be taken to protect habitats and species during the construction phase of development at Hawkeridge Mill, Mill Lane, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4LD (central grid reference: ST 86706 53338).

1.1.2 The site is the subject of a planning application for the construction of a timber storage barn.

1.1.3 The CEMP is required to address Planning Condition 4 (Planning Application Reference: PL/2025/02641), which states:

“Prior to any works commencing on site pursuant to the erection of the portal framed barn, including demolition of the existing structure(s), ground works/excavation, site clearance, and any boundary treatment works, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) shall be submitted to the local planning authority for approval in writing.

The Plan must be prepared in accordance with the Hawkeridge Mill, Heywood Post development BNG Habitat Plan and shall provide details of the avoidance, mitigation and protective measures to be implemented before and during the construction phase, including but not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a) Identification of ecological protection areas/buffer zones and tree root protection areas and details of physical means of protection, e.g. exclusion fencing.*
- b) Identification of ecological protection areas/buffer zones zone around Bitham Brook.*
- c) Pollution prevention measures.*
- d) Working method statements for protected/priority species, such as nesting birds and reptiles.*
- e) Work schedules for activities with specific timing requirements in order to avoid/reduce potential harm to ecological receptors; including details of when a licensed ecologist and/or ecological clerk of works (ECoW) shall be present on site.*
- f) Key personnel, responsibilities and contact details (including Site Manager and ecologist/ECoW).*
- g) Timeframe for provision of compliance report to the local planning authority; to be completed by the ecologist/ECoW and to include photographic evidence.*

Development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the approved CEMP.

1.1.4 **REASON:** *To ensure adequate protection and mitigation for ecological receptors prior to and during construction, and that works are undertaken in line with current best practice and industry standards and are supervised by a suitably licensed and competent professional ecological consultant where applicable.”*



1.2 Objectives of CEMP

- 1.2.1 This document aims to protect the target habitats and species during construction works. There are two sections to this CEMP; specific protection measures implemented pre- and during construction, and general protection measures which will be implemented continuously throughout construction. A summary of enhancements has also been provided. The measures detailed in this document will ensure due consideration to sensitive habitats and species throughout the construction phase.
- 1.2.2 This CEMP is informed by a BNG report by Seasons Ecology (June 2025), which identifies the target habitats identified for retention and enhancement. This CEMP also takes into consideration consultation responses from Wiltshire Council's ecologists in September 2025.

1.3 Responsibilities

- 1.3.1 The implementation of this CEMP is the responsibility of the landowner at Hawkeridge Mill, Ms Su Lund, and site contractors with the assistance of external specialists, where appropriate and where specified in this document.

1.4 Target Habitats and Species (Ecological Receptors)

- 1.4.1 The following target habitats and species were identified as being at potential risk from construction works:
- The nearest statutory designation is Picket and Clanger Wood Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI), located approximately 670m north-east of the site. Due to the type of development, small-scale of the works, and the distance between the site and this designation, there are no predicted impacts on this designation.
 - The site lies in an Impact Risk Zone for nearby SSSIs, specifically Picket and Clanger Wood SSSI and Bratton Downs SSSI; however, these Impact Risk Zones are not relevant to the proposal.
 - Grassland, natural spoil and ruderal vegetation (on-site).
 - Mature mixed native and non-native line of trees (on-site).
 - Bitham Brook (within 5m of the development site – off-site).
 - Priority Habitat Deciduous Woodland (within 5m of the development site – off-site).
 - Common and widespread species of reptiles and amphibians.
 - Foraging and commuting bats.
 - Other foraging and commuting mammals, including badger, hedgehog and small mammal species.
 - Nesting birds.
- 1.4.2 The grassland on site was assessed as low value with no plant species or communities of note; however it forms part of a small matrix of habitats on site, which includes a line of trees and Bitham Brook. There are no bat roosting habitats on site and no evidence of badger setts.

- 1.4.3 There are two ponds within 500m of the site, located approximately 300m north-east and 370m north-east; however, there are no nearby records for great crested newt, with the closest pond with recorded presence of great crested newt being located approximately 2km north of the site.



2. Relevant Wildlife Legislation

2.1.1 Table 1 below provides a summary of habitats and species (ecological receptors) requiring protection during construction, their location/status on site and legislative considerations.

Table 1: Summary of Habitats and Species Requiring Protection, Status/Location on Site and Legislation

Habitats	Location / Status on Site	Description
Grassland, spoil and ruderal vegetation	The site comprises low value grassland, with natural spoil and ruderal vegetation located in the south of the site.	This is the dominant habitat on site. Species include dock <i>Rumex</i> species, thistle <i>Cirsium</i> species, bristly ox-tongue <i>Helminthotheca echinoides</i> , sorrel <i>Rumex acetosa</i> , goosefoot <i>Chenopodium</i> species, common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , nipplewort <i>Lapsana communis</i> , red deadnettle <i>Lamium purpureum</i> and mallow <i>Malva</i> species.
Line of trees	The site contains a line of trees situated along the south-west boundary.	The trees are semi-mature/mature and include willow <i>Salix</i> species, elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , cypress <i>Cupressus</i> species, English oak <i>Quercus robur</i> , Norway maple <i>Acer platanoides</i> , beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> , hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> , and hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> .
Woodland	Off-site to the east.	Priority Habitat Deciduous Woodland, Habitat of Principal Importance/Priority Habitat.
Bitham Brook	Off-site to the north.	Bitham Brook is a nearby watercourse which runs past the north of the site, within 5m of the development boundary. The section of this brook near to the site contains the watercourse (ditch), a culvert and a bridge.

Species	Location / Status on Site	Legal Status
Common and widespread species of reptiles and amphibians	The site, notably the fringes, offer suitable refuge, foraging, commuting and basking habitats, with adjacent habitats, including arable and pasture fields to the south-west and woodland to east offering good-quality habitats. Negligible risk of great crested newt utilising the site.	Under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), widespread species of reptile (slow worm, common lizard, grass snake and adder) are protected against killing, injury and sale. The great crested newt in England and Wales is protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019 (as amended) (EU Exit) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to: • Deliberately capture, injure or kill a great crested newt. • Intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt. • Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place which a great crested newt uses for shelter or protection. Deliberately damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place.
Foraging and commuting bats	The site offers a small area of low-quality foraging habitat for bats, with the woodland to the east offering a better-quality foraging and commuting habitat. However, the site forms part of a dark corridor within the landscape. (there is no bat roosting habitat on site, although the wider surroundings offer suitable roosting habitats e.g. the adjacent woodland to the east)	Bat species in England and Wales are protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019 (as amended) (EU Exit) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to: • Deliberately capture, injure or kill bats; • Intentionally or recklessly disturb bats; • Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place which bats use for shelter or protection; and • Deliberately damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place.
Other mammals	Badger: The site offers foraging and commuting for badger. No badger setts identified. Dormouse: Low potential for dormouse within the line of trees with higher-quality habitats nearby (e.g. woodland to the east).	Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1979. Under this legislation it is illegal to kill, injure or take badgers or to interfere with a badger sett in any way. Dormice in England and Wales are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019 (as amended) (EU Exit) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to: • Deliberately capture, injure or kill dormice; • Damage or destroy a dormouse resting place or breeding site;

		• Deliberately or recklessly disturb a dormouse while it's in a structure or place of shelter or protection; • Block access to structures or places of shelter or protection; and, • Possess, sell, control or transport live or dead dormice, or parts of dormice. With the exception of disturbance, this legislation applies throughout the year whether dormice are present or not at the time of works being carried out and generally irrespective of planning permission being obtained or being required.
	Hedgehog: The site offers suitable refuge, hibernation, foraging and commuting habitats for hedgehog, mainly along the fringes, with the hedgerows of the adjacent arable and pasture fields to the south-west and the woodland to the east offering suitable habitats.	Hedgehog is a Species of Principal Importance under the NERC Act, and is protected under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), protecting them from being taken, killed or captured by certain methods. The Wild Mammals Protection Act (1996) prohibits cruel treatment of hedgehogs.
Nesting Birds	The line of trees offers suitable nesting habitat for birds.	All wild birds in England and Wales are granted legal protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to: • Kill, injure or take any wild bird; • Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built; and, take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

3. Protection Measures

- 3.1.1 This section details the protection measures for habitats and species, to be implemented prior to any construction works commencing on site and during key stages of construction. Annex 1 provides a plan of the site showing the areas subject to these protection measures.

3.2 Licensing

- 3.2.1 Referring to Section 2, detailing relevant legislation, licences will not be required for the construction works, unless a protected species is discovered at any stage of the works.

3.3 Appointment of an Ecologist/Ecological Clerk of Works/Biodiversity Champion

- 3.3.1 For the implementation and supervision of habitats and species protection measures, an experienced Ecologist and Ecological Clerk of Works (ECW) will be appointed for the duration of the construction phase to assist in the implementation of this CEMP.
- 3.3.2 A member of the site contracting team will be appointed the role of Biodiversity Champion for the duration of the construction phase. The Biodiversity Champion will be regularly present on site to work with the appointed Ecologist and ECW, to ensure the implementation of the protection measures.
- 3.3.3 The Biodiversity Champion will maintain a Record of Operations for the duration of the pre-construction and construction phases confirming the operation carried out, the date(s) the operation was undertaken, whether fit for purpose, and any remedial actions. Once the operation is completed and fit for purpose (and any remedial actions implemented), the operation will be signed off by the Ecologist/ECW. Annex 2 provides a Record of Operations to be maintained.

3.4 Update Site Survey

- 3.4.1 Prior to works commencing on-site, an update walkover of the site will be conducted by the appointed Ecologist, to identify any new constraints that may require consideration since the previous visit in 2025. The walkover will search for any new badger setts that may have been dug in the intervening period since the last visit and inform the alignment of protection fencing (see Section 3.6 below).

3.5 Briefing to Contractors

- 3.5.1 The Ecologist or ECW will provide a briefing (toolbox talk) to site contractors on the potential presence of protected species on site, the legislation protecting them, any retained habitats and exclusion zones, and the sensitive working methods required.

3.6 Protection Fencing and Exclusion Zones

- 3.6.1 Prior to any works commencing on site, including bringing materials and machinery onto site and soil stripping, protection fencing (heras fencing) will be installed around the working area, to include the following exclusion zones:

- Protection fencing around the entire working area will protect the Priority Habitat Deciduous Woodland to the east, beyond the site boundary, and grassland in the south of the site, from accidental damage/disturbance from site workers and machinery.
- Root protection fencing will be placed around all trees on site, including the line of trees along the site's south-west boundary.
- An Ecological Buffer of 5m measured from the top of the south bank of Bitham Brook will be fenced, to protect the watercourse and maintain a wildlife corridor.

3.6.2 The protection fencing will ensure there is no damage to the retained and adjacent habitats and any fauna present. These exclusion zones will have signs informing site contractors of these 'no-go' areas for construction activities and site staff unless site staff are accompanied by the Ecologist or ECW. The Ecologist or ECW will check the fencing has been installed and is fit for purpose before works commence.

3.6.3 Fencing will be maintained throughout construction. Habitats outside of the fencing will only be accessed to carry out enhancement works, and only under the supervision of the appointed Ecologist or ECW.

3.7 Method Statements

METHOD STATEMENT 1 - Common and Widespread Species of Reptiles and Amphibians

3.7.1 Prior to vegetation removal, and where possible between April and October, the following will be undertaken:

- One refuge/hibernaculum will be created within the grassland in the south of the site. This will be a partially buried pile of logs and rocks, with soil between (refer to Section 5.0 for specification).
- The appointed ECW will slowly walk the area, from north to south, which will encourage any animals to move away. Any suitable refuges (rocks and logs, for example) will be relocated by hand to the grassland in the south of the site. Any fauna found (reptiles, amphibians, small mammals), will be relocated to the grassland.
- Vegetation will then be cut to a height of 15cm, starting from the north of the site working towards the area of modified grassland in the south of the site, and then left overnight to allow any animals to disperse.
- The appointed ECW will carry out a second hand search of the area and the vegetation will be cut to near-ground level, again working from the north of the site towards the modified grassland in the south of the site, and the grassland is to be maintained at this height until soil stripping.



3.7.2 METHOD STATEMENT 2 - Badger, Dormouse and Hedgehog

Badger

- 3.7.3 The update site survey (see Section 3.4 above) will include an update check for any signs of badger activity, including any setts that may have been dug during the intervening period since the previous visit. Should any setts be identified on site or within 30m of the site boundary, the Ecologist will advise on the appropriate course of action and whether a Badger Mitigation Licence is required. Further protection measures for badger are provided in Section 4.0, Construction Working Practices.

Dormouse

- 3.7.4 There is very low potential for dormouse to utilise the line of trees on site. Where possible, the clearance of any of the understorey near to, and conifers within this line of trees, will be undertaken between April and October to avoid the hibernation period. During clearance, the appointed ECW will carry out hand searches of all the understorey and conifers which require clearance. Vegetation will then be removed to near-ground level and a further search of the ground will be undertaken by the ECW.
- 3.7.5 In the unlikely event that a dormouse or signs of dormouse is found during the searches, then works will cease and advice sought from the appointed Ecologist.

Hedgehog

- 3.7.6 Where possible, the clearance of vegetation will be undertaken between April and October to avoid the hibernation period. During clearance, the appointed ECW will carry out hand searches of all vegetation requiring clearance. Vegetation will then be removed in accordance with the method statement for reptiles and amphibians (METHOD STATEMENT 1, above).
- 3.7.7 Should a hedgehog be found during works, then works will cease and advice sought from the appointed Ecologist.

METHOD STATEMENT 3 - Nesting Birds

- 3.7.8 The removal of the conifers within the line of trees will avoid the nesting bird season where possible (generally the nesting bird season is from 1st March to 31st August) or a nesting bird check by the appointed ECW will be undertaken prior to works.
- 3.7.9 Should evidence of nesting birds be found, then an exclusion zone (approximately 5m in radius) will be set up around the nest and the nest monitored weekly until all chicks have fledged and the nest is deemed empty by the ECW. The exclusion zone will then be removed, and works can continue.
- 3.7.10 Table 2 summarises the pre-construction and construction protection measures and the sequence of works and timings. The Record of Operations at Annex 2 should be completed after each stage.

Table 2: Protection Measures and Sequence/Timings of Works

Sequence and Timing	Works	Protection Measure	Details/Methods	Responsibility
1 Prior to any works commencing	All	Appoint Ecologist, ECW and Biodiversity Champion	Prior to any works commencing. Required to advise and assist in the implementation of protection measures.	Landowner
2 Prior to any works commencing	All	Update Site Survey	Ecologist to carry out an update site walkover to check for any changes since the previous 2025 survey.	Landowner / Ecologist
3 Prior to any works commencing	All	Briefing to site contractors	Ecologist or ECW to provide initial briefing (Toolbox Talk) to site staff to explain: 1. Species and habitats requiring protection. 2. The sensitivity of the surrounding habitats and Priority Habitat Deciduous Woodland, the purpose of the Ecological Buffer and the protection fencing around the site. 3. The purpose of the root protection fencing around the line of trees along the south-west site boundary. The Ecologist/ECW will ensure copies of this CEMP is kept on site as a reference document at all times. Subsequent talks to any new staff will be provided by the Biodiversity Champion during site inductions.	Landowner / Ecologist/ECW
4 Prior to any works commencing	All	Protection fencing and exclusion zones	Install protection fencing with appropriate signage.	Site contractor

Sequence and Timing	Works	Protection Measure	Details/Methods	Responsibility
5 Prior to and during works	All	Implement Method Statements 1-3	Ecologist/ECW to implement Method Statements prior to and during works	Landowner / Ecologist/ECW

4. Construction Working Practices

- 4.1.1 The landowner and the Biodiversity Champion will be responsible for ensuring construction working practices are followed on site at all times.

Maintaining Exclusion Zones

- 4.1.2 All protection fencing will be maintained at all times. Weekly checks will be carried out by the Biodiversity Champion, walking the entire fence line with repairs made as necessary.
- 4.1.3 Any nesting bird exclusion zones (METHOD STATEMENT 3) will be monitored weekly by the ECW. During this time, the Biodiversity Champion will ensure the exclusion zone is maintained, until the ECW has confirmed the exclusion zone can be removed.

Welfare/Office Facilities and Material Storage

- 4.1.4 Welfare/office facilities will be located away from the protection fencing and Ecological Buffer.
- 4.1.5 Any spoil and brash piles arising from site clearance, and construction materials, will be stored away from the site boundaries and on pallets (or spoil will be removed from the site) to prevent animals from using these areas as refuge/hibernation habitat.

Groundworks

- 4.1.6 All holes/trenches dug during construction/groundworks will be covered overnight, or a ramp (e.g. scaffold plank) will be angled from the base to the top so that animals, such as reptiles, amphibians, badger, hedgehog and other small mammals, have a means of escape.
- 4.1.7 Any trenches left open overnight will be checked by the Biodiversity Champion the following morning for any trapped fauna. The ECW will be contacted immediately should any fauna be found. The ECW will remove any fauna and place within the new refuge/hibernaculum within the grassland in the south of the site.

Chemicals/Pollutants

- 4.1.8 Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented at all times during construction. Any chemicals or pollutants to be used, or which will be created during construction, will be stored and disposed of correctly following COSHH regulations.
- 4.1.9 Care will be taken to avoid contamination of the adjacent watercourse situated near to the site's north boundary, with any stored chemicals or pollutants to be stored at least 10m away from and at a lower topography to the banks of the watercourse to prevent any spills running into Bitham Brook.
- 4.1.10 For any pollutants that may be introduced to the site, the following will be carried out by site operatives to minimise the impact of the construction work on the surrounding environment:
- Control dust through fine water sprays used to dampen down the site.

- Cover skips and trucks loaded with construction materials and continually damp down with low levels of water.
- Use non-toxic paints, solvents and other hazardous materials wherever possible.
- Segregate, tightly cover and monitor toxic substances to prevent spills and possible site contamination.
- Collect any waste water generated from site activities in settlement tanks, screen, discharge the clean water, and dispose of remaining sludge according to environmental regulations.
- No burning of materials on site.
- Reduce noise pollution through careful handling of materials; modern, quiet power tools, equipment and generators and low impact technologies.

Construction-Phase Lighting

- 4.1.11 Artificial lighting during the construction phase will not be used, owing to the rural setting of the site and the adjacent sensitive habitats and to avoid disruption to animal behaviour.

Protected Species/Wildlife

- 4.1.12 The Biodiversity Champion will carry out daily inspections of the site prior to works commencing each day.
- 4.1.13 Should any species at risk, or a protected species (reptiles, amphibians, badgers, hedgehogs, other small mammals, nesting birds) be encountered during the works, the Biodiversity Champion will seek advice immediately from the Ecologist.
- 4.1.14 Once the Ecologist and ECW roles have been appointed, contact details will be provided at Annex 3.



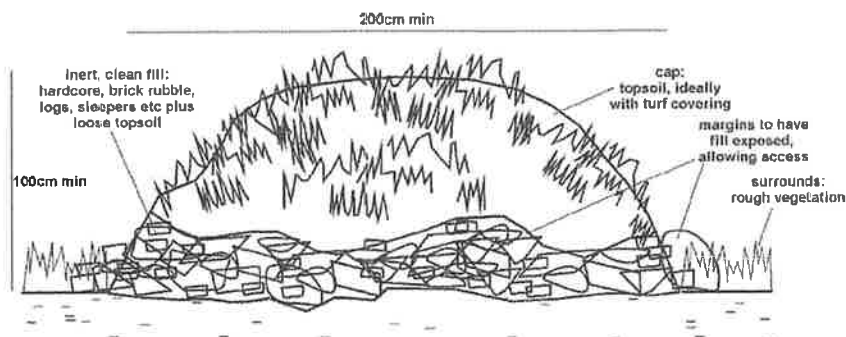
5. Ecological Enhancements

5.1.1 The following ecological enhancements will be provided at the pre-construction, construction and post-construction phases (management of these enhancements is provided in the separate LEMP document):

Pre-Construction

- One refuge/hibernaculum will be created within the Ecological Buffer within the south of the site (see METHOD STATEMENT 1). This will act as a receptor site for any animals found during the pre-construction and construction phases. The specification for the hibernaculum is provided below.

Figure 1. Specification for refuge/hibernaculum (source: Natural England, 2001)



Post Construction

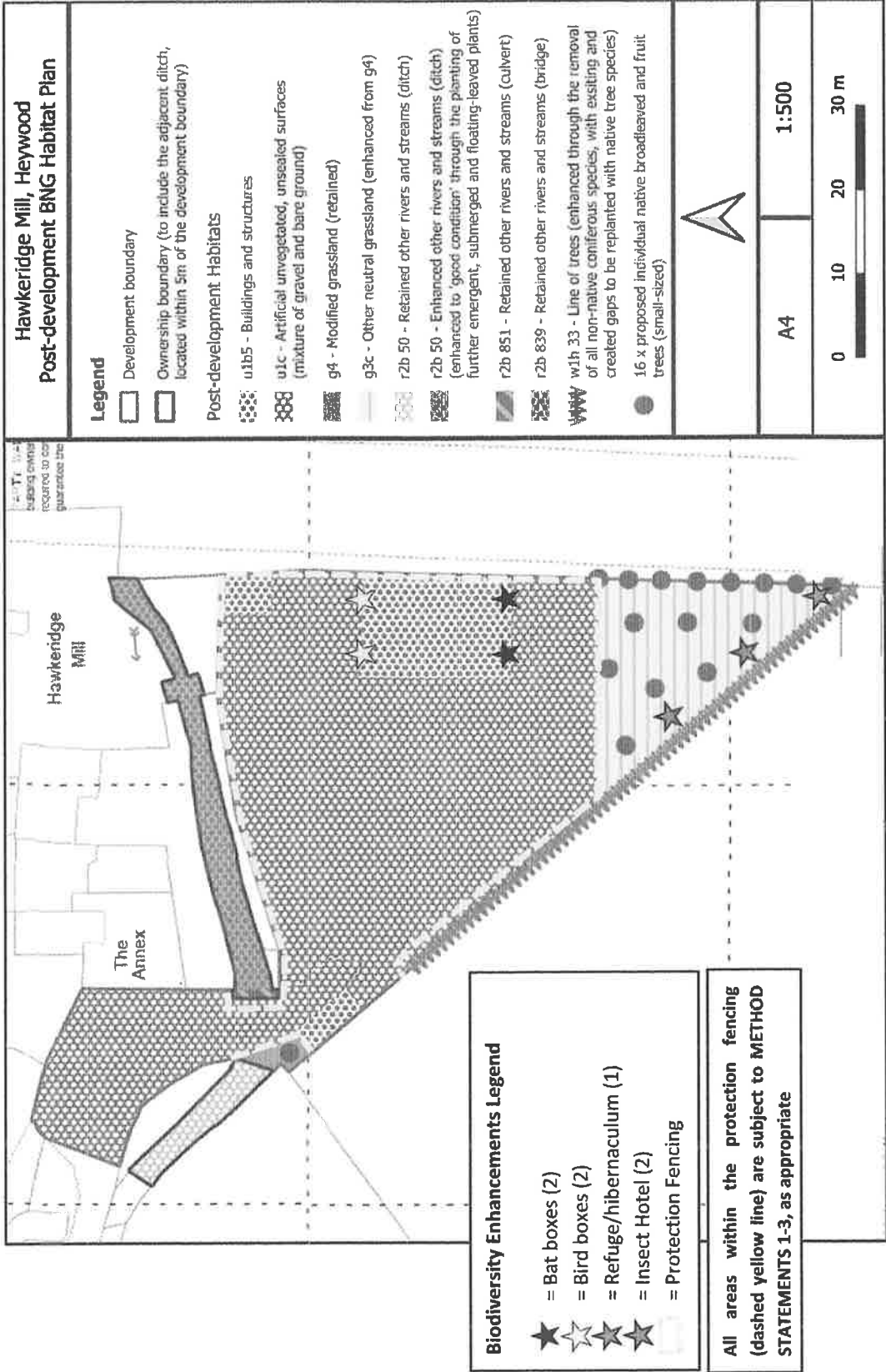
- The area of modified grassland in the south of the site will be enhanced to other neutral grassland. The ground will be re-sown with a species-rich Emorsgate seed mix (refer to the separate LEMP for the specific seed mix and species composition).
- The line of trees along the site's west boundary will be enhanced by the removal of the non-native conifers and planting of new native trees (refer to the separate LEMP for species and management).
- New individual trees will be planted within the area of neutral grassland in the south of the site (refer to the separate LEMP for species and management).
- The watercourse will be enhanced by the addition of submerged aquatic vegetation. The new aquatic vegetation will be placed into hessian sacks with aquatic soils which will then be tied loosely with biodegradable string so that the stems of the crown emerge from the top. The bags will then be placed into the water, ensuring they are not too deep, and then staked into the banks to keep the new plants in place.
- Provision of two bat boxes on the new barn (refer to the separate LEMP for bat box type and management).

- Provision of two bird boxes on the new barn (refer to the separate LEMP for bird box type and management).
- Provision of two insect hotels located in the area of other neutral grassland in the south of the site (refer to the separate LEMP for type and management).



6. Annexes

Annex 1: Protection Measures and Ecological Enhancements



Annex 3: Contact Details

Role	Name	Phone number	Email
Ecologist			
Ecological Clerk of Works (ECW)			
Biodiversity Champion			

