

Environmental Statement: Chapter 7

Technical Appendix 7.11: Hazel Dormouse Survey

Land East of Blackmore Farm, Melksham

Gleeson Land Ltd

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1 Methodology

- 1.1.1 A hazel dormouse survey of the Survey Area was undertaken between May and October 2021 following standard methodology (Bright *et al.*, 2006); refer to Figure A7.11.1. A total of 357 dormouse nest tubes were installed in suitable habitat on 08 April 2021 and 09 April 2021. The nest tubes were subsequently checked for dormouse activity on a monthly basis from May to October 2021, with the tubes removed from the survey area following completion of the final survey. This generated a survey 'index score' of >20 for the survey area; the recommended minimum score for adequate survey effort is 20 (Chanin & Woods, 2003).

2 Limitations

- 2.1.1 There were no limitations to the survey.

3 Results

- 3.1.1 The presence of dormouse on Site was confirmed via the presence of characteristic nests; refer to Table A7.11.1.
- 3.1.2 A litter of young rodents (age class pink) was recorded in a dormouse nest within a tube in May 2021; however, no adult individuals were recorded in June 2021 to confirm the species in occupation.
- 3.1.3 Dormouse nests were recorded in four locations (refer to Figure A7.11.1) and this species was assumed to occur in suitable habitat throughout the survey area.

Table A7.11.1. Hazel Dormouse Survey Results

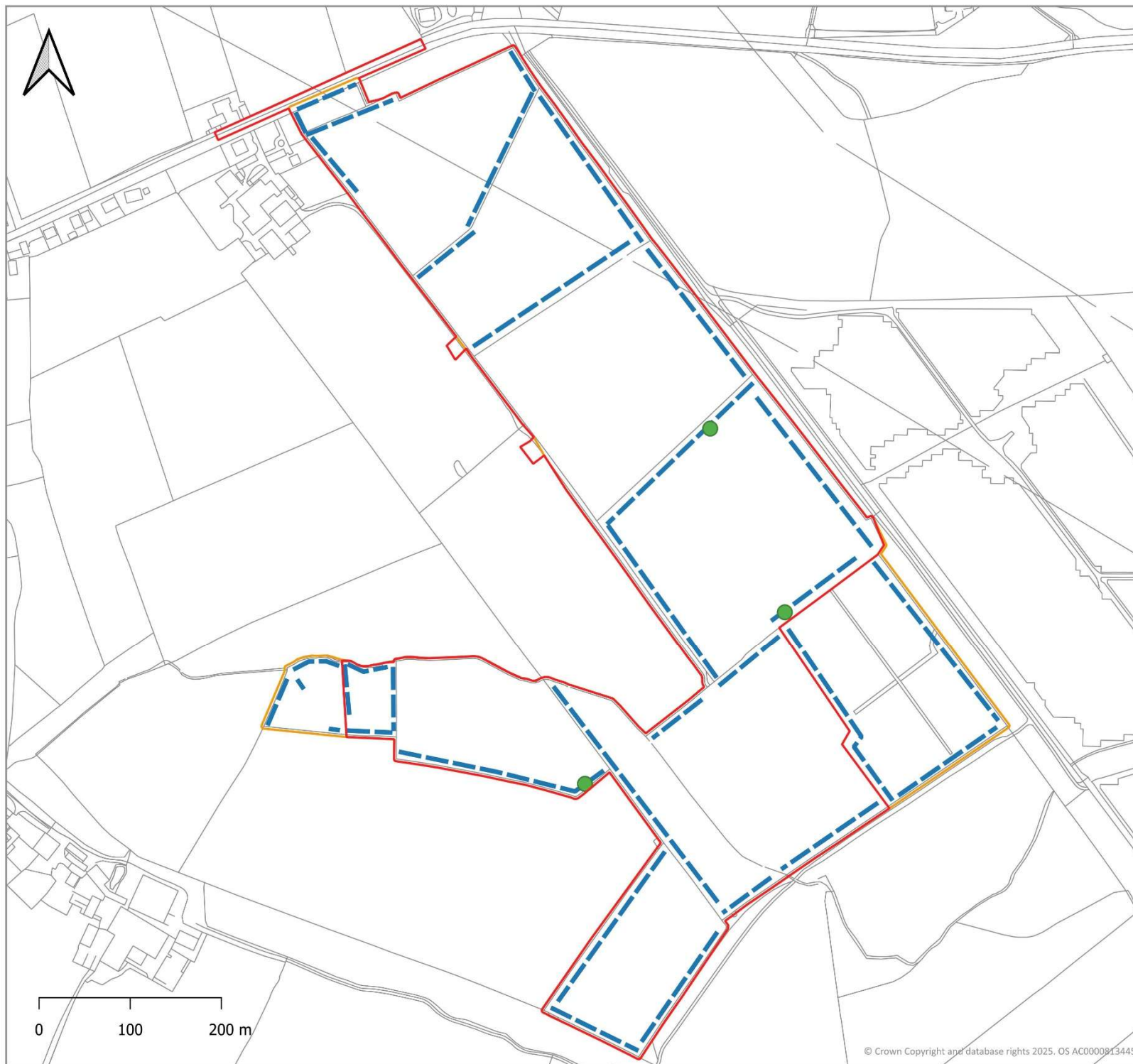
Date	Results
08.04.21 & 09.04.21	Hazel dormouse nest tubes deployed
19.05.21 & 20.05.21	One dormouse nest (occupied with pink age class young rodents)
10.06.21 & 11.06.21	One dormouse nest (empty; same location as previous survey)
08.07.21	One dormouse nest (empty; same location as previous survey)
11.08.21	One dormouse nest (empty; same location as previous survey)
16.09.21	Three dormouse nests (empty)
14.10.21 & 15.10.21	Two dormouse nests (empty)

4 References

Bright P, Morris P, and Mitchell-Jones T (2006) *The Dormouse Conservation Handbook: 2nd edition*. English Nature, Peterborough.

Chanin P and Woods M (2003) *Surveying dormice using nest tubes: results and experiences from the South West Dormouse Project*. English Nature Research Report 524. Peterborough

Figure 7.11.1: Hazel Dormouse Survey Plan



Key

-  Site boundary
-  Survey boundary
-  Dormouse nest location
-  Dormouse tube location



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