



Wild Service

Norcot Community Centre

Habitat Enhancement Scheme

On behalf of Beard Construction Ltd

MN2020019Av1

Wild Service Office

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope

Wild Service was commissioned by Hamberley Development limited to complete an Habitat Enhancement Scheme (HES) to inform the discharge of Condition 21 of Planning Application 181377 in relation to Norcot Community Centre, Lyndhurst Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 6UB (hereafter referred to as the 'Site').

Condition 21: 'The development hereby approved shall not be commenced on site until details of a habitat enhancement scheme are submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme is to include a programme for implementation and ongoing maintenance. The habitat enhancement scheme shall thereafter be implemented and adhered to in accordance with agreed programme.'

REASON: Details are required prior to commencement as insufficient information was submitted with the application and in order to avoid harm to habitats and species whilst securing biodiversity enhancement in the long term. This accords with Paragraph 175 of the NPPF (2019), Policy EN12 of the Reading Borough Local Plan 2019, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.'

The site is approximately 0.18 ha and comprises hardstanding and scattered tall herb and scattered shrubs around the edges of the site, with the building has now been demolished. In the wider context the site sits within an urban residential area and is bordered by residential housing and scattered trees.

The development consists of the erection of a three-storey building comprising of residential units.

The HES makes recommendations to enhance and maintain the ecological value of the Site. A plan of the Site is provided in Appendix 1 (Figure 1).

The HES is to be read in conjunction with Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (WSP, June 2018) and Bat Survey Report (WSP, June 2018).

Elizabeth Pimley of Wild Service undertook a Site visit on 21st August 2020 to assess if any significant changes had occurred on Site. The results of the Site visit and those previous ecological reports have informed the HES.

Background Information

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was conducted by WSP (2018) and concluded that the Site holds low ecological value to protected species. The habitats surrounding the Site provide suitable foraging habitat for bats, though limited and nesting opportunities for birds.

Subsequent bat surveys (WSP, June 2018) were carried out and found no bats emerging from the building, which has now been demolished. Some bat activity was observed during the bat survey, these comprised common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, serotine and *Myotis* species activity.

Legal Considerations

The actions outlined in this management plan should avoid offences being committed with respect to the legal protection of protected species likely to use the Site and surrounding area such as certain species of bats and birds and hedgehogs.

This report has been prepared in accordance with relevant legislation and policy. Further detail is provided in Appendix 3, however the following primary documents are of relevance:

- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA 1981);
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW Act), 2000 (as amended);
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (PBA 1992);
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC Act), 2006; and
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (CHS 2017).
- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

No part of this report should be considered as legal advice and when dealing with individual cases, the client is advised to consult the full texts of the relevant legislation and obtain further legal advice.

2. Habitat Enhancement Scheme

2.1 Habitats

The Site now consists of hardstanding and patches of rubble with scattered tall herb especially around the edges of the Site.

The recommendations for habitat planting described below for those species considered most likely to use the Site will provide green infrastructure that will function as corridors for urban wildlife. The recommended native species planting and ornamental planting using species of value to wildlife (i.e. single flowering varieties, species producing fruit/nuts/seeds) in addition to installation of bird/bat boxes to the new building and construction of hedgehog shelters will enhance the ecological value of the Site and result in a net gain in biodiversity.

The planting of native hedgerow species and native trees around the edges of the Site will provide foraging opportunities for local bats and birds. Suitable native tree species include field maple, beech, silver birch and wild cherry. Suitable native shrubs include hazel, dog rose, holly, elder and common hawthorn. Where there is no room to plant trees/hedgerows climbing plants (e.g. native honeysuckle), will be planted to grow up the boundary fencing to ensure connectivity for wildlife around the Site perimeters. These species produce flowers and/or fruits that are of benefit to insects and birds respectively. By encouraging insects, foraging opportunities for bats and certain bird species are also increased.

Where ornamental plants are proposed in planting beds, single flowering varieties that attract insects are recommended. Species such as Hidcote lavender, Crane's-bills (hardy geraniums e.g. *Geranium macrorrhizum*), Escallonia, Hebe, Ceanothus, daffodils and crocuses are examples of suitable species. A list of wildlife friendly planting is provided in Appendix 2 below.

2.2 Bats

Bats and their resting places are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. As the buildings on

Site were not used by roosting bats, these have been demolished (WSP, June 2018). However, the redevelopment of the Site provides the opportunity to enhance the Site for local bats as outlined below.

With regards to new lighting on Site, the following recommendations are given to make lighting more suitable for foraging/commuting bats, which will benefit other nocturnal wildlife such as hedgehogs:

- Avoidance of lighting any bat boxes and/or bat roosting trees (generally trees <25cm DBH with holes, flaky/split bark or/and established ivy). Obvious foraging corridors, such as the hedgerows/lines of trees should not be illuminated wherever possible to allow these linear features to act as bat foraging/commuting corridors.
- All luminaires should lack UV elements when manufactured. Metal halide, fluorescent sources should not be used.
- LED luminaires should be used where possible due to their sharp cut-off, lower intensity, good colour rendition and dimming capability.
- A warm white spectrum (ideally <2700Kelvin or >550nm) should be adopted to reduce blue light component, as redder light is preferable for bats.
- <0.2 lux on horizontal plane good, hedgerow lighting natural tends to be <1lux
- Luminaires should feature peak wavelengths higher than 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats.
- Blue/white light should be avoided, or if mercury lamps are installed, these should be fitted with UV filters.
- Internal luminaires can be recessed where installed in proximity to windows to reduce glare and light spill.
- Accessories such as baffles, hoods or louvres can be used to reduce light spill and direct it below horizontal plane.

- The use of specialist bollard or low-level downward directional luminaires to retain darkness above can be considered.
- Column heights should be carefully considered to minimise light spill.
- Reducing the height of light units to keep the light as close to the ground as possible and reduce the volume of illuminated space.
- Only luminaires with an upward light ratio of 0% should be used.
- Luminaires should always be mounted on the horizontal, i.e. no upward tilt. Ideally the angle of the luminaire should be less than 70 degrees to avoid upward light spill.
- Any external security lighting should be set on people-activated motion-sensors and short (1min) timers.
- Keep bat foraging corridors such as hedgerows and tree lines dark.

The planting of native hedgerow species and native trees around edges of the Site will result in the creation of habitat suitable for foraging bats. Where ornamental plants are proposed in planting beds, single flowering varieties that attract insects on which bats feed are recommended. A list of wildlife friendly planting is provided in Appendix 2 below.

The installation of bat boxes on the new building will create additional bat roosting opportunities. The Site can be enhanced for roosting bats by installing a minimum of two Schwegler 1FF bat boxes onto exterior walls of the new building. (Bat boxes, such as Habibat 003 bat box can be fitted into the walls of the new building as an alternative.) Bat boxes should be installed under the eaves at a minimum height of 4m with north-west direction being avoided and the boxes should face in different directions. Bat boxes should not be installed in any areas that are illuminated as this will deter bats from using the boxes. Further details are provided in the Ecological Enhancement section below (Appendix 2).

2.3 Birds

All birds are protected under WCA 1981. It is therefore generally unlawful to intentionally kill or injure a bird, damage or destroy an occupied nest or take or destroy eggs other than in exceptional prescribed circumstances. Therefore, development operations should take

care to avoid the risk of harm to birds and their nests, especially during the nesting season (generally considered to be March to August).

Removal of the scrub growing around the edges of the Site and any shrubs (e.g. ivy) growing up the boundary fencing provides potential nesting bird habitat and should therefore be undertaken outside the main nesting season (i.e. outside March to August) and where this is not possible a suitably qualified ecologist should be engaged to check for nesting birds and to provide advice on the most appropriate way to proceed. If birds are found nesting within any part of the Site, works should cease and can recommence when all birds have fledged. A recommended buffer of a minimum of 5m should be implemented around the nest and this should be fenced off with appropriate signs indicating the presence of birds.

The Site can be enhanced for nesting birds by installing two swift boxes under the eaves of the new building and two house-sparrow terraces under the eaves of the new building. The 1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terrace can be fitted onto the exterior of the wall or built into the wall. Swift boxes can be fitted to the exterior of the wall e.g. WoodStone Build-in Swift Nest Box A or built into the wall e.g. Ibstock Swift Eco Habitat box. Sparrow boxes should be installed some distance from swift boxes. Both these types of bird boxes should be installed some distance from the bat boxes. Bird boxes should be installed at minimum heights of 3.5m. Bird boxes should face in a north to south-east direction to avoid the wetter westerly winds. Further details are provided in the Ecological Enhancement section below (Appendix 2).

The planting of native hedgerow species (including shrubs producing fruits) and native trees around edges of the Site will result in the creation of habitat suitable for foraging and nesting birds. A list of wildlife friendly planting is provided in Appendix 2 below.

2.4 Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are a Priority Species under the NERC Act 2006. The gardens in the surrounding area could support urban populations of hedgehogs and it is possible that hedgehogs could travel around the edges of the Site in the tall herb areas. Therefore, trenches excavated during construction should be backfilled before nightfall, or otherwise equipped with a

means of escape (e.g. ramp) or covered to avoid hedgehogs and other wildlife becoming trapped.

The planting of native hedgerow species and native trees around edges of the Site (as mentioned above) will result in the creation of some habitat suitable for hedgehogs. In addition, it is recommended that any grassed areas are left with swathes of unmown grass around the edges to provide shelter for foraging hedgehogs when foraging. A list of wildlife friendly planting is provided in Appendix 2 below.

In order to make the redeveloped Site with its landscaping more permeable to hedgehogs, 13cmx13cm gaps should be installed at the base of fences and a hedgehog home and log pile should also be installed at the base of hedgerow planting to provide shelter for this endangered mammal (see Appendix 2).

2.5 Responsible Persons

Michelle Newman and Elizabeth Pimley of Wild Service are managing the Ecological aspects of the project and will act as Ecological Advisers for the project.

Beard Construction and Reading Borough Council, will be responsible for ensuring that the recommendations outlined in this report are undertaken.

3. References

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WSP. 2018. Norcott Community Centre and Affordable Housing, Reading, Bat Survey Report. Ref 70012984.

Appendix 1: Site plan



Appendix 2: Ecological Enhancements

Swift boxes

Woodstone Swift Nest Box	Manthorpe Swift Brick
 A light grey, angular concrete nest box with a small, dark, oval-shaped entrance hole on the front face.	 A dark brown brick with a black, rectangular, slightly raised top section. It features a large, dark, oval-shaped entrance hole on the front face.

House Sparrow Boxes

Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace
 A reddish-brown, rectangular ceramic terrace with a light-colored front panel. The front panel features six small, dark, oval-shaped entrance holes arranged in two rows of three. The brand name 'SCHWEGLER' and a logo are embossed on the front panel.

Bat boxes

Schwegler 1FF bat box

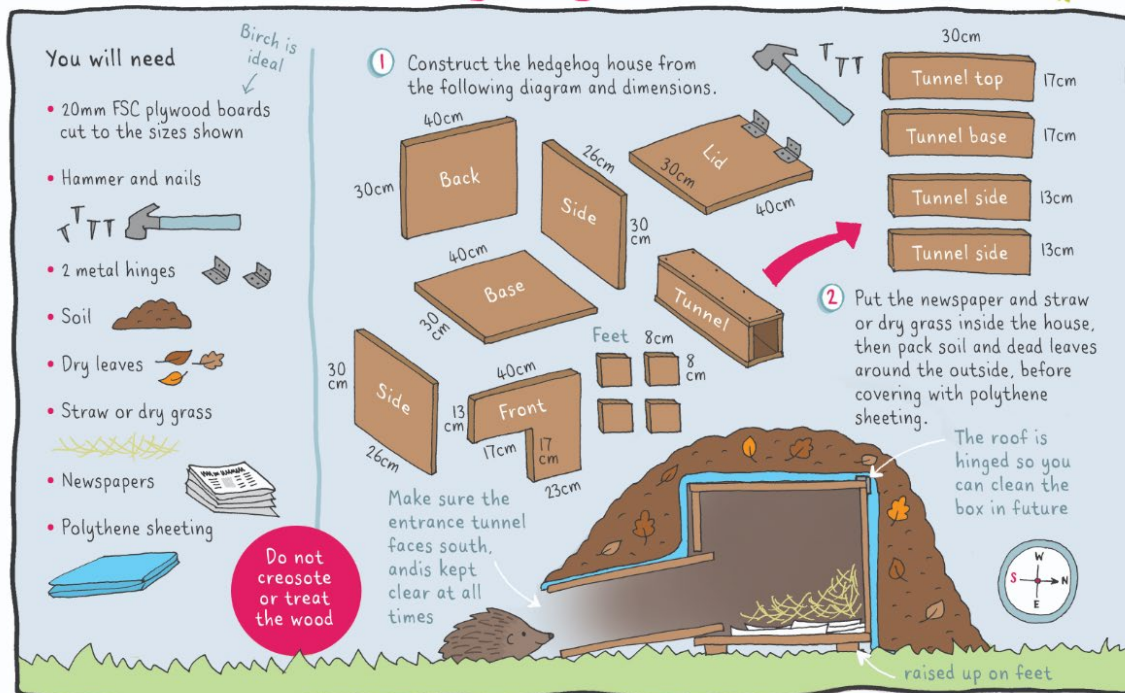


Examples of hedgehog house

Igloo hedgehog house



Make a deluxe hedgehog house



www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk

Produced in collaboration with Hedgehog Street



Many wildlife species benefit greatly from considerate planting choices that still meet our practical and aesthetic needs. Plants and trees provide food for wildlife as well as places to nest and rest. Vegetation providing a variety of these functions creates an environment more beneficial for wildlife.

Non native species

Native species provide the best habitat for UK wildlife but there are also many non-native species, which are single flowering and/or provide fruits/nuts/seeds that can be used as food sources for insects, birds and small mammals. When using these non-native species in planting schemes, care should be taken to avoid invasive species such as Cotoneaster and Rhododendron. This is especially important when sites are adjacent to open countryside particularly nature reserves.



Butterfly bush

Uses of Wildlife Planting

Wildlife value can be easily incorporated into visually pleasing and useful green areas and amenity spaces, such as borders, grass verges and tree screens.

Attractive Borders: Well selected decorative borders can be valuable for many insects and birds. Native plants can be mixed with single flowering ornamental species to add aesthetic interest and increase the flowering period of a planting scheme.

Shrubs and hedges: Native spiky species like blackthorn and hawthorn are effective barriers when used in hedges. They also provide an attractive feature at all times of year especially when in blossom and fruit. Bushy areas of foliage provide useful nesting and feeding areas for birds and small mammals, as well as foraging/commuting corridors for bats.

Grasses mixes and verges: Leaving uncut areas of suitable grasses provides great wildlife value and is economical to manage. Diverse grassy areas and verges also create an attractive human environment with different flowers and colours. There are a range of native grass and flower mixes for various soil types available on the market.



Wild flower grass mix



Selecting Suitable Species

There are wildlife friendly species suitable for all situations, from fields, verges, shady corners or small gardens. Listed below are native wildlife friendly plant species organised by type and suitability for different locations.

Large Trees

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*
 Beech *Fagus sylvatica*
 English Elm *Ulmus procera*
 Oak *Quercus robur* or *Q. petraea*
 Small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata*
 White willow *Salix alba*
 Wild cherry *Prunus avium*



White willow

Medium/small trees

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
 Aspen *Populus tremula*
 Crab apple *Malus sylvestris*
 Field maple *Acer campestre*
 Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
 Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
 Silver birch *Betula pendula*
 Yew *Taxus baccata*



Tussocky grassland

Native shrubs

Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*
 Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*
 Elder *Sambucus nigra*
 Guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*
 Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
 Hazel *Corylus avellana*



Blackthorn

Plants for shady areas

Archangel *Lamium galeobdolon*
 Betony *Stachys officinalis*
 Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scriptus*
 Bugle *Ajuga reptans*
 Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*
 Ground ivy *Glechoma hederacea*
 Lily of the valley *Convallaria majalis*
 Lords-and ladies/cuckoopint *Arum maculatum*
 Nettle-leaved bellflower *Campanula trachelium*
 Primrose *Primula vulgaris*
 Sweet violet *Viola odorata*
 Wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*

Plants for marshy areas & pond edges

Bugle *Ajuga reptans*
 Hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*
 Marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*
 Marsh woundwort *Stachys palustris*
 Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
 Purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria*
 Ragged robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*
 Water avens *Geum rivale*
 Water forget-me-not *Myosotis scorpioides*
 Water mint *Mentha aquatica*
 Water violet *Hottonia palustris*
 Yellow flag *Iris pseudacorus*

**Beneficial cultivated plants
(generally non-natives)**

Grecian windflower *Anemone blanda*
 Angelica *Angelica archangelica*
 Aubretia *Aubretia deltoidea*
 California poppy *Eschscholtzia californica*
 Candytuft *Iberis sempervirens*
 Christmas rose *Helleborus niger*
 Cosmos *Cosmos bipinnatus*
 Evening primrose *Oenothera biennis*
 Fleabane *Erigeron* spp.
 Forget-me-not *Myosotis* spp.
 French marigold *Tagetes patula*
 Globe thistle *Echinops ritro*
 Grape hyacinth *Muscari botryodes*
 Hollyhock *Althaea rosea*
 Honesty *Lunaria rediviva*
 Ice plant *Sedum spectabile*
 Lenten rose *Helleborus orientalis*
 Tree mallow *Lavatera* spp.
 Michaelmas daisy *Aster novae-belgii*
 Mint *Mentha x rotundifolia*
 Perennial cornflower *Centaurea montana*
 Perennial sunflower *Helianthus decapetalus*
 Phlox *Phlox paniculata*
 Poached-egg plant *Limnathes douglasii*
 Red valerian *Centranthus ruber*
 Snapdragon *Antirrhinum majus*
 Spring crocus *Crocus chrysanthus* and hybrids
 Sweet alyssum *Lobularia maritima*
 Sweet bergamot *Monarda didyma*
 Sweet William *Dianthus barbatus*
 Tobacco plant *Nicotiana affinis*
 Wallflower *Cheiranthus cheiri*
 Alpine rock-cress *Arabis alpina*
 Winter aconite *Eranthis hyemalis*
 Yellow alyssum *Alyssum saxatile*

Native wildflowers for borders

Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatoria*
 Betony *Stachys officinalis*
 Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scriptus*
 Chicory *Cichorium intybus*
 Chives *Allium schoenoprasum*
 Common poppy *Papaver rhoeas*
 Corncockle *Agrostemma githago*
 Cornflower *Centaurea cyanus*
 Corn marigold *Chrysanthemum segetum*
 Cowslip *Primula veris*
 Cuckooflower *Cardamine pratensis*
 Dame's-violet *Hesperis matronalis*
 Devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*
 Field scabious *Knautia arvensis*
 Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*
 Goldenrod *Solidago virgaurea*
 Great mullein *Verbascum thapsus*
 Greater knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*
 Harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*
 Herb-robert *Geranium robertianum*
 Lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*
 Marjoram *Origanum vulgare*
 Meadow cranesbill *Geranium pratense*
 Common mallow *Malva sylvestris*
 Oxeye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*
 Primrose *Primula vulgaris*
 Red campion *Silene dioica*
 Snowdrop *Galanthus nivalis*
 Spiked speedwell *Veronica spicata*
 Tansy *Tanacetum vulgare*
 Teasel *Dipsacus fullonum*
 Toadflax *Linaria vulgaris*
 White campion *Silene alba*
 Wild thyme *Thymus drucei*
 Yellow loosestrife *Lysimachia vulgaris*



Marjoram



Cornflower



Perennial sunflower

Appendix 3: Wildlife Legislation

Wildlife Legislation Relevant to Sone 1.

Bats

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA 1981) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (CHS 2017) it is illegal to:

- intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture bats
- intentionally, deliberately or recklessly*disturb bats
- intentionally, deliberately or recklessly*damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection, ie bat roosts (even if they are not currently occupied)
- possess, sell or transport a bat, or anything derived from it.

Birds

All wild birds (i.e. resident, visiting and introduced species) in the UK are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), making it illegal to:

- kill, injure or take any wild bird
- take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or in use
- take or destroy the eggs of any wild bird
- possess or control (e.g. for exhibition or sale) any wild bird or egg unless obtained legally.

Birds that Receive Special Protection

Species listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), such as the barn owl and peregrine falcon, receive special protection. In addition to the above legislation, it is also illegal to intentionally or recklessly* disturb any bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest-building, or at or near a nest containing eggs or young, or to disturb any of its dependent young. Disturbance could occur, for example, through noise caused by construction works in close proximity to the nest.

Badgers

Under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (PBA 1992) it is illegal to:

- wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly treat a badger – or attempt to do so
- intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett (whether or not there is a badger in it at the time)
- disturb a badger while it is occupying a sett
- sell, keep or mark a healthy badger or possess any dead badger or part thereof.

Widespread Reptiles

All native British reptiles are protected against intentional killing and injury under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). In England, Scotland and Wales, slow-worm, common lizard,

adder and grass snake are also protected against killing, injury and sale, barter or exchange, but their habitats or places of shelter are not specifically protected.

Great Crested Newts

Great crested newts and their habitat are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. It is illegal to:

- intentionally or deliberately capture, kill or injure great crested newts
- intentionally, deliberately or recklessly* damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used for shelter or protection, including resting or breeding places (occupied or not)
- deliberately, intentionally or recklessly* disturb great crested newts when in a place of shelter
- sell, barter, exchange or transport or offer for sale great crested newts or parts of them. The legislation covers all life stages: eggs, larvae, juveniles and adults.

Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are protected by British law under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, making it illegal to kill or capture them using certain methods. They are also protected in Britain under the Wild Mammals Protection Act (1996), prohibiting cruelty and mistreatment. They're listed as a Species of Principle Importance in England under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Section 41, in Wales under the Environment Act 2016, and in Scotland under the Nature Conservation Act 2004. Similarly, hedgehogs are on the Priority Species List for Northern Ireland.

Widespread Amphibians

In England, Scotland and Wales the common frog, common toad, smooth newt and palmate newt are all protected against sale, trade etc. under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Invertebrates

Certain invertebrate species are covered by the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)** and given full protection against killing and injury, damage and/or destruction of their place of shelter, or taking. Other species are protected against sale only. For those species receiving *full protection*, it is illegal to:

- intentionally kill, injure or capture
- intentionally or recklessly* disturb
- intentionally or recklessly* damage, destroy or obstruct places of shelter or protection, including breeding sites (occupied or not)
- possess or transport an animal (or any part thereof) unless under licence
- sell or exchange animals.

Plants

Plants are protected by the law. The **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)** makes it an offence for any person who is not "authorised" to intentionally uproot any wild plant. An "authorised" person can be the owner or occupier of the land on which the action is taken, or anybody authorised by them; or any person authorised in writing by the local authority for the area within which the action is taken. In addition, the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)** also includes, within

Schedule 8, in the order of 60 plant species that it is illegal for any person to intentionally pick, uproot or destroy. It also makes it an offence to offer wild bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) bulbs for sale.

* In England and Wales, the term “reckless” has been added as an amendment to the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)** as a result of the **CRoW Act 2000**.

Appendix 4: Ecological Experience

Elizabeth Pimley: Principle Ecologist, BSc (hons) PhD, CEnv MCIEEM

Elizabeth has worked in both the academic and consultancy ecology sectors since 2000 with a focus on mammalian ecology, particularly badgers, dormice, bats, water voles and otters. Elizabeth manages the Consultancy as well as being involved in project delivery. She has managed ecological projects, ranging in size and type, both in the UK and abroad. She regularly advises clients on the planning process in relation to Ecology. Elizabeth has expertise in a wide variety of ecological survey techniques including Preliminary Ecological Appraisals/Phase 1 habitat assessments and a variety of protected species surveys (e.g. the aforementioned mammal species as well as reptiles and great crested newts).

Elizabeth also devises ecological mitigation schemes, both as part of protected species mitigation licences (e.g. bats, great crested newts, badgers, dormice) and for projects not requiring licensing (e.g. reptiles). She has produced a wide variety of preliminary ecological appraisals, BREEAM/CSH Ecology Assessments, mitigation licences for protected species (including Bat Mitigation Class Licences), Ecological Impact Assessments (EcIA), Construction Ecological Management plans, Habitat Regulations Assessments, Biodiversity Enhancement Schemes, Ecological Design Strategies as well as writing for scientific journals, books and magazines.

Elizabeth offers a scientific approach to projects with additional skills in radiotracking, bat call analysis, statistical analysis, home range and compositional habitat analysis and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping. Elizabeth holds Natural England and Natural Resources Wales licences for bats and dormice as well as Natural England licences for great crested newts and water voles. She is also a Registered Consultant of the Bat Mitigation Class Licence (BMCL) and holds a CSCS card.

Michelle Newman: Ecologist, BSc (Hons)

Michelle has worked in Ecological Consultancy for several years and has also volunteered for a number of nature conservation organisations over the years. She is experienced in undertaking Phase 1 habitat surveys and protected species surveys including those for bats, birds, otters, water voles, badgers, great crested newts and reptiles (including adder handling experience). She has also undertaken a variety of invertebrate surveys, specialising in bumble bee surveys. She holds a CSCS card and has worked as an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) on a wide variety of sites. Michelle has prepared preliminary ecological appraisals and protected species reports for a range of projects. In addition to project delivery, she is also involved with the management of Wild Service projects and advises clients on the ecological aspects of the planning process. She is experienced in analysing bat call data using a variety of software packages. She is currently working towards personal Natural England licenses for great crested newts, bats and white-clawed crayfish.



Wild Service

ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

MITIGATION

CONSERVATION

- We provide ecological surveys and assessments, mitigation, advice and guidance regarding wildlife, plants and habitats for both development and conservation projects throughout the UK.
- Wild Service is the Ecological Consultancy for Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. As such, the company reinvests its profits into local conservation work.
- We are also part of a wider network of Wildlife Trust Consultancies enabling us to offer national delivery with local expertise.
- We offer the following types of service to clients:

Ecological Surveys
Protected Species Licences
Ecological Management Plans
Ecological Impact Assessments (ECIA)
BREEAM Assessments
Mitigation and Enhancement
Arboricultural Surveys
Landscape Consultancy Services
Green Infrastructure Planning (Building with Nature)

Contact us at
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