

Appendix I.11 Update Site Walkover March 2018

TECHNICAL NOTE

Job Name: East Reading MRT
Job No: 28791
Note No: Technical Note - Appendix I.11
Date: 20th April 2018
Prepared By: Johanna Stewart
Subject: Update Ecology Site Walkover Survey

Introduction

An update site walkover survey was completed for the Combined Site on 15th March 2018. The combined site comprises the land within which the proposed East Reading Mass Rapid Transit Scheme is located (the 'Application Site') as well as the land within which the permitted Thames Valley Park: Park and Ride Scheme is located (the 'TVP P&R Site'), as shown on Figure 1.

The survey was undertaken by Johanna Stewart (Senior Ecologist at Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA), ACIEEM). The purpose of the update site walkover survey was to:

- Confirm that the broad habitat types present at the Combined Site remained as per the original Phase 1 habitat surveys (PBA, 2017¹ and CA Ecology, 2015²);
- Identify, where required, the location and extent by which any change had occurred; and
- Re-assess the potential of the habitats present to support protected species.

The results of this survey were used to inform the previous ES Addendum (2018).

Results

Habitats present within the application site, up to the point it met the TVP P&R Site, remained as identified at the time of the previous survey (PBA, 2017¹). Overview photographs are provided within Appendix A of this Technical Note.

The majority of the TVP P&R Site had been cleared, as shown on Figure 1. This resulted in a reduction / removal of the following habitat types. As there is no specific habitat category for recently cleared land, this has been shown on Figure 1 as JNCC³ habitat type: 'Other Habitat' (J5).

Table 1: Extent of Habitat Removed

Habitat Type	Area Removed (ha)
Dense scrub	0.69
Calcareous grassland – unimproved	0.14
Plantation woodland	0.02

Conclusions

A total of 0.85 ha of semi-natural habitat had been cleared from the TVP P&R Site. Consideration of the habitat changes, and also the suitability of the Combined Site to be used by protected species, was made within the previous ES Addendum (2018).

1 East Reading MRT Scheme: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (as contained within Appendix I.2 of the East Reading MRT Environmental Statement)

2 CA Ecology (2015): Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Broken Brow (as contained within Appendix I.6 of the East Reading MRT Environmental Statement)

3 Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2010): Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit

TECHNICAL NOTE

Appendix A: Photographs

Photograph Description	Photograph
The recently cleared TVP P&R Site	
Area of retained habitat within the TVP P&R Site	
Habitat to the east of the River Kennet	

TECHNICAL NOTE

Photograph Description	Photograph
	
Kennetmouth to the north of the Thames Path	
The Coal, Kennetmouth and Kings Meadow East Local Wildlife Site	

TECHNICAL NOTE

Photograph Description	Photograph
	
Land within the eastern extent of Tesco car park	

DOCUMENT ISSUE RECORD

Technical Note No	Rev	Date	Prepared	Checked	Reviewed (Discipline Lead)	Approved (Project Director)
28791/3003/TN001	A	20/04/18	JS	-	-	SM
Minor Changes Only	B	04/10/18	JS	-	RM	SM

Peter Brett Associates LLP disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the scope of this report. This report has been prepared with reasonable skill, care and diligence within the terms of the Contract with the Client and generally in accordance with the appropriate ACE Agreement and taking account of the manpower, resources, investigations and testing devoted to it by agreement with the Client. This report is confidential to the Client and Peter Brett Associates LLP accepts no responsibility of whatsoever nature to third parties to whom this report or any part thereof is made known. Any such party relies upon the report at their own risk.

© Peter Brett Associates LLP 2018

Peter Brett Associates LLP Caversham Bridge House Waterman Place, Reading Berkshire RG1 8DN

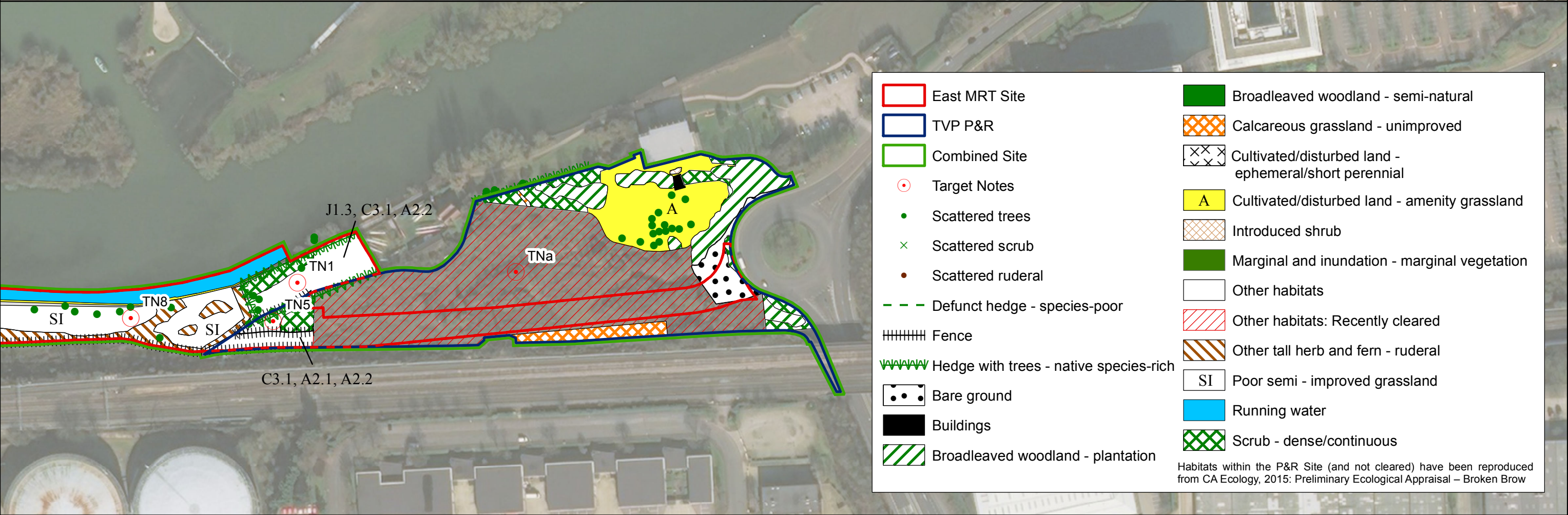
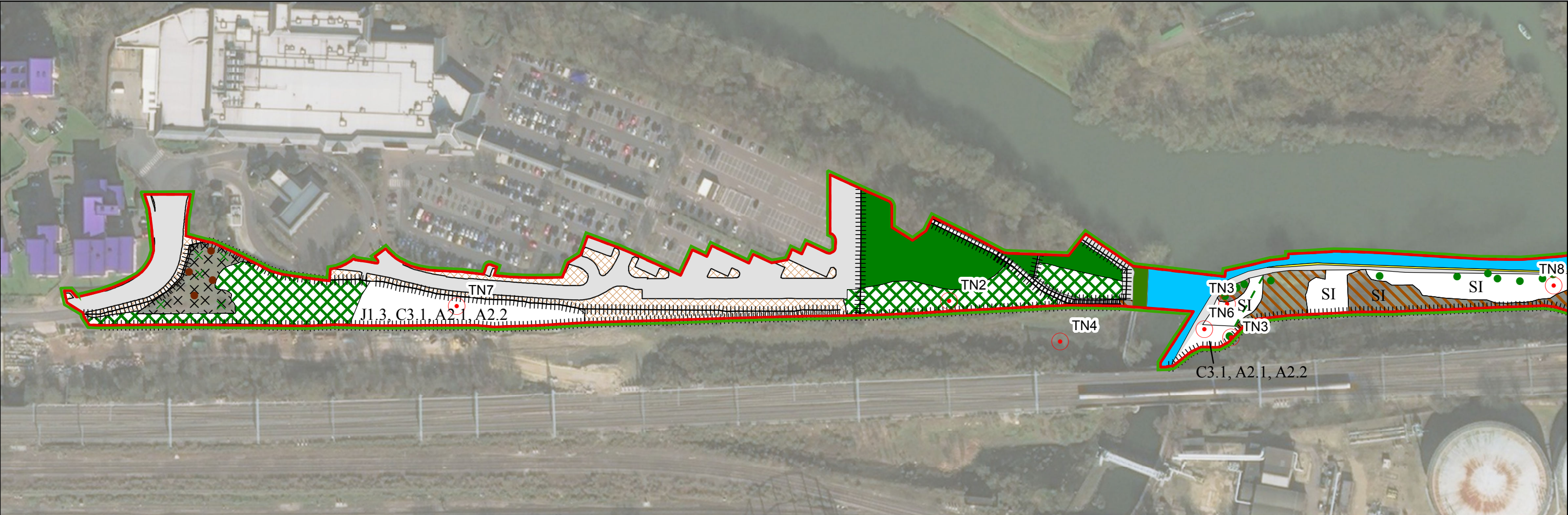
T: +44 (0)118 950 0761 E: reading@peterbrett.com

\\pba.int\cbh\Projects\28791 RBC BLTB LA Scheme\03 East Reading MRT\Ecology\CC New App 2017 Regs\5. Reporting\Appendices\App I.11 Update Site Walkover Mar 2018\App I.11 Update Site Walkover Survey 05102018 jsrm ISSUE.docx



TECHNICAL NOTE

Figure 1: Update Site Walkover Survey



East MRT Site	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
TVP P&R	Calcareous grassland - unimproved
Combined Site	Cultivated/disturbed land - ephemeral/short perennial
Target Notes	A Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland
Scattered trees	Introduced shrub
Scattered scrub	Marginal and inundation - marginal vegetation
Scattered ruderal	Other habitats
Defunct hedge - species-poor	Other habitats: Recently cleared
Fence	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
Hedge with trees - native species-rich	SI Poor semi - improved grassland
Bare ground	Running water
Buildings	Scrub - dense/continuous
Broadleaved woodland - plantation	

Habitats within the P&R Site (and not cleared) have been reproduced from CA Ecology, 2015: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Broken Brow