

Sent: 26 June 2025 08:49

Subject: 2025/90517 at location land off, Forge Lane, Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury, WF12

Please see ecological commentary below for this application:

Designations

No issue

Onsite habitats and species

The Ecological Impact Assessment is reasonable and acceptable.

CEMP

Recommendations have been made for S41 habitats, white claw crayfish, fish, otter, and water voles – all of which can be covered by a CEMP. Pollution Prevention measures for the watercourse will also be conditioned to be included in the CEMP.

ECoW

The CEMP should also cover the ECoW recommendations for amphibians, reptiles, birds, and S41 species (e.g. hedgehogs).

Further surveys

The following further surveys will also need to be completed (but can be added as reserved matters):

- GCN – HSI assessment and accompanying eDNA surveys (if appropriate)
- Reptiles
- Bats – 3no. surveys for Tree 1, also a bat activity survey should be completed. A lighting plan will also be conditioned.
- Water voles – 2no. presence / absence surveys
- Otters – 2no. presence / absence surveys
- Badger surveys – winter surveys, also surveys 3 months prior to commencements of works. Further advice to be attained by the applicant from the local badger group. PWMS should also be provided.

Method statement

Sch 9 invasive species – Himalayan Balsam were recorded onsite. A removal method statement should be provided by a specialist invasive species contractor prior to any works onsite.

BNG

Though the Habitats Conditions Assessments excel report spreadsheet has been provided, and BNG is mentioned in the EclA report – the excel format of the statutory metric will need to be provided prior to review in order to ensure concise and accurate commentary.

Suggested conditions

To be confirmed following provision and review of excel format of metric.

Many thanks,

Ecology Team
Planning and Development Service

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