

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) Survey Report	
For:	Yorkshire Land Ltd
Site:	Land off A629, Birdsedge, Huddersfield, HD8 8XP
Report Date:	17/03/2026
Report Reference:	SQ-4235

Surveying Ecologists:

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Summary

The site, approximately 4.01 hectares in total size, is predominately composed of two large fields currently used for sheep grazing. These fields are almost fully bordered by stone walls. Other habitats on site include developed land sealed surface, introduced shrub, ephemeral vegetation, bramble scrub and an area of self-set young trees. Priority habitat woodlands are located adjacent to site on the northwest and northeast boundaries. In addition, the River Dearne runs eastwards 12 m north of the site.

Findings

Suitable breeding bird habitats were recorded within the site in the form of bramble scrub. No active or historic nests were recorded on site. Recommendations for breeding birds are given in the conclusions of this report.

No trees are located on site. No further survey effort will be required for roosting bats. However, suitable foraging and commuting habitats are present adjacent to site, a lighting scheme will be required if additional lighting is proposed.

No field sign evidence of any other protected species was identified on site. The site is deemed to provide suitable foraging and commuting habitats for European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), European Badger (*Meles meles*), riparian mammals, amphibians and reptiles. As such, impacts to these species are considered a possibility during site clearance or construction activities. A precautionary method statement will be required.

Woodland designated as Priority Habitat: Deciduous Woodland and Priority Habitat: Ancient Woodland are adjacent to the northwest and northeast of the site. The River Dearne is 12 m north of the site. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is therefore recommended to address and mitigate any potential indirect impacts towards these priority habitats and the wider connected landscape.

No species listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 were recorded within the site.

No species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded within the site. However, snowberry (*Symphiocarpus alba*) was located on site which is a species of concern. Further recommendations on this plant species are included in the conclusion of this report.

The site was found to lack significant floral diversity and is unlikely to support important assemblages of invertebrates.

1 Introduction and Background to the Site

1.1 Estrada Ecology Ltd was commissioned to conduct a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the area of land off the A629 in Birdsedge, Huddersfield, the nearest postcode is HD8 8XP.

1.2 The site consists of:

- Modified Grassland (Grazed)
- Introduced Shrub
- Ephemeral Vegetation
- Bramble Scrub
- Young Trees – Self Set
- Stone Walls

1.3 It is understood that the current development proposal is residential development including associated infrastructure works.

1.4 Report Objectives

- Present the findings of the ecological survey.
- Assess the potential of existing on-site habitats to support protected or notable species.
- Evaluate any likely ecological impacts on protected and notable species or habitats because of the proposed development.
- Provide recommendations for any further species-specific survey and mitigation measures that may be required; and
- Provide habitat enhancement recommendations in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2024).

1.5 Site Location and Wider Area

1.5.1 The site is located northeast of Penistone Road (A629) within the village of Birdsedge. The nearest large town is Huddersfield, 10.4 km northwest of the site. The site is made up of large fields which currently house flocks of sheep. The river Dearne flows eastwards to the north of the site, being 12 m from site at its closest point. West and south of the site is the village of Birdsedge. To the east are pockets of ancient deciduous woodland.

1.5.2 The survey site's central OS grid reference is SE 20323 07859.

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1.5.3 The village of Birdsedge is small, set in an otherwise rural landscape. The wider area includes predominantly agricultural fields with the river Dearne intersecting the landscape. Multiple scattered woodland of various types, roads and other villages form a patchwork of a varied rural landscape with good connectivity for wildlife.

Figure 1: The survey site within its wider setting.



2 Protected Species Legislation

2.1 Relevant legislation includes the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations which came into force on 31 December 2020.

2.2 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act came into force on 1 Oct 2006. Section 41 (S41) of the Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. The list has been drawn up in consultation with Natural England, as required by the Act. The S41 list is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in implementing their duty under section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in England, when conducting their normal functions.

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2.3 The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework was developed in response to the Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020. Its five strategic goals and twenty biodiversity targets supersede the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

2.4 Environment and Biodiversity

2.4.1 Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2024), local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance the natural environment when determining planning applications. Local planning authorities also have an obligation to seek opportunities to further enhance the conservation status of Species and Principal Habitats.

2.4.2 Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England (JNCC, 2009) are covered under section 41 of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006). Species and habitats listed within Section 41 need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions, such as assessing planning applications.

2.4.3 Development proposals submitted after 12th February 2024, with some exceptions, will be expected to achieve a minimum of 10% net gain in site biodiversity value under The Environment Act 2021 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2024.

2.5 Wildlife

2.5.1 European Protected Species, such as bats (all species) and great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*), are afforded protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as well as under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000. It is an offence to:

- Deliberately or recklessly capture, injure, or kill any wild animal of a European protected species.
- Deliberately or recklessly disturb any such animal.
- Damage or destroy their breeding site or resting place.
- Keep, transport, or offer for sale / exchange any live or dead animal, or any part of, or anything from these species.

2.5.2 Disturbance of European Protected Species constitutes any activity which is likely to:

- To impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young; or, in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; and
- To significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

2.6 UK Legislation

2.6.1 **Breeding birds** (all species) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird and to take, damage or destroy the nest (whilst being built or in use) or eggs. Schedule 1 species are afforded protection from disturbance at or near nest sites, including reckless disturbance under the Countryside Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000.

2.6.2 **Bats** (all native species) and their breeding sites or resting places (roosts) are fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Bats are also protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through their inclusion in Schedule 5. Under the Act, they are protected from: intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level); obstruction of access to any place of shelter, breeding, or rest; selling, bartering or exchange of these species, or parts of.

2.6.3 **Reptiles** (all native species) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure and trade these animals.

2.6.4 **Amphibians** (all native species) are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The sale, barter, exchange, transportation for sale, and advertising to sell or to buy are an offence.

2.6.5 **Eurasian Badgers** are protected by the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence: to wilfully, or attempt, to kill, capture, ill-treat or injure any badger; to obstruct, destroy or damage a badger sett or to disturb a badger whilst within its sett; to sell or offer for sale a live badger, or have possession or control of a live badger; and marking a badger or attaching any ring, tag, or other marking device to a badger.

2.6.6 **Eurasian Otters (*Lutra lutra*)** are a European Protected Species (EPS) and are also fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is against the law to capture, kill, disturb or injure otters (on purpose or by not taking enough care); damage or destroy a breeding or resting place (deliberately or by not taking enough care); obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places (deliberately or by not taking enough care); and possess, sell, control or transport live or dead otters, or parts of otters.

2.6.7 **European Water voles (*Arvicola amphibius*)** are fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and is a priority conservation species. It is against the law to: Intentionally capture, kill, or injure water voles, damage, destroy or block access to their places of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care), disturb them in a place of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care), and possess, sell, control or transport live or dead water voles or parts of them (not water voles bred in captivity).

3 Survey Methodology

3.1 Desktop Survey

3.1.1 A biological data records search was commissioned from West Yorkshire Ecology Service and for a 2 km radius from the central grid reference. Additional records were requested from West Yorkshire Bat Group for a 2 km radius.

3.1.2 Further inspection, using colour 1:25,000 OS base maps (www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk), MAGIC (www.magic.defra.gov.uk), aerial photographs from Google Earth (www.maps.google.co.uk), was also undertaken to provide additional context and identify any features of potential importance for nature conservation in the wider countryside.

3.1.3 Furthermore, consultation with MAGIC was undertaken to ascertain any European Protected Species Mitigation Licences granted within a 2 km radius from grid.

3.1.4 Natural England's Geoportal: England-wide data for great crested newts (GCN) was analysed for any records within a 1 km radius from grid. The dataset contains eDNA pond surveys for district level licensing (England). When available for the location, the Risk Zones for GCN are considered for the site.

3.2 Field Survey

3.2.1 The survey area was investigated on foot to ascertain habitats on site and the potential of those habitats to support ecological diversity. The vegetation types present within the site were assessed by assistant ecologist Marie McAvan BSc (Hons) MSc and junior ecologist Daniel Knight-Woodall BSc (Hons) MSc using methodology based on that described in the UK Habitat Classification User Manual Version 2.0 (2023) and CIEEM's Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (2018).

3.2.2 Habitats and features with potential to support protected and / or conservation priority faunal species, together with any field signs of such species were recorded on the field map using target notes. A search was undertaken for the following key habitats and field signs for protected or conservation priority species highlighted in Table 1.

- **High:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions, and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts (e.g., maternity, or classic cool / stable hibernation site).

4 Ecological Constraints

4.1 It should be noted that this ecological appraisal provides baseline ecological data at the time of survey only and does not include flora or fauna which may be present at different times of the year.

4.2 An absence of species records from within a search radius does not provide confirmation that a species is absent from within the search area.

4.3 The site was considered fully surveyed during the site visit.

5 Survey Results

5.1 Field Survey Results

5.1.1 Habitat Overview

5.1.1.1 A summary of the habitats recorded during the site inspection are listed as follows:

Table 2: Recorded habitats within the site boundaries.

Habitat	UK HABS Codes	
	Primary	Secondary
Modified Grassland	g4	102
Introduced Shrub	u	847
Ephemeral Vegetation	g	81
Bramble Scrub	h3d	-
Young Trees – Self Set	w	202
Stone Walls	u1e	114

5.1.1.2 A map of all habitats found on site can be seen in Appendix One. A list of all species recorded on the site during the survey can be found in Appendix Two.

5.1.2 Modified Grassland

5.1.2.1 The survey area is predominantly comprised of modified grassland, comprising of three interconnected fields. Each field is bordered on some elevations by dry stone walls and has some marginal ephemeral vegetation along field boundaries (see map in Appendix One). These fields consisted of low sward grass of low diversity. The fields contained a flock of sheep and therefore, grass has been grazed to a low height.

5.1.2.2 Due to these fields being open and low sward, they provide little ecological value as any small animal would be susceptible to aerial predation. Field margins may provide low foraging and commuting suitability for badger and hedgehog as well as common amphibians and reptiles. These field margins also contain low suitability for ground nesting birds.

5.1.2.3 A small area of modified grassland within the potential offsite compound area has grown to a longer sward, providing slightly better suitability for the above-named species.

5.1.2.4 Species within this habitat included Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), rough meadow grass (*Poa trivialis*) and smooth meadow grass (*Poa pratensis*).

5.1.2.5 In line with current proposals, this habitat will be impacted. Recommendations for this habitat are included in the conclusions of this report.

Figure 4: Modified grassland.



5.1.3 Introduced Shrub

5.1.3.1 A small area of introduced shrub was noted on site. This area is where large stands of snowberry has spread from the A629 roadside, now oversailing the site boundaries. Snowberry is not a Schedule 9 listed plant, but it is considered to be non-native and invasive and can be a difficult plant to remove in its entirety. Recommendations regarding this plant are given in the conclusion of this report.

5.1.3.2 This habitat offers suitability for breeding birds, as well as refugia for small animals including hedgehogs, amphibians and reptiles.

5.1.3.3 Species within this habitat include hairy bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*), white stonecrop (*Sedum album*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*), hedge bedstraw (*Galium mollugo*), common mouse-ear (*Cerastium fontanum*), garden privet (*Ligustrum ovalifolium*), groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), purple toadflax (*Linaria purpurea*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), buddleia (*Buddleja davidii*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), rose-of-Sharon (*Hypericum calycinum*) and chickweed (*Stellaria media*).

5.1.3.4 Under proposed works, this habitat will be impacted. Further recommendations are included within the conclusions of this report.

Figure 5: Introduced Shrub



5.1.4 Ephemeral Vegetation

5.1.4.1 Surrounding the southwestern field margins is a thin strip of longer sward ephemeral vegetation. This is separated from the surrounding landscape by a stone wall. This habitat is suitable for commuting and foraging reptiles, amphibians, badger and hedgehog.

5.1.4.2 This area contains rosebay willowherb, dove's-foot cranesbill (*Geranium molle*), Yorkshire-fog, red fescue, rough meadow grass, smooth meadow grass, snowberry, common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), small nettle (*Urtica urens*), sycamore saplings (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) shining cranesbill (*Geranium lucidum*), cow's-parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* agg.), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), common mouse-ear, male fern, cock's-foot and perennial rye-grass.

5.1.4.3 Under current works proposals, this habitat will be impacted. Further recommendations are included within the conclusions of this report.

Figure 6: Ephemeral Vegetation



5.1.5 Bramble Scrub

5.1.5.1 A very small patch of bramble scrub extends into the northwest of the site. This habitat extends into woodland off site towards the northwest.

5.1.5.2 This scrub habitats provide suitability for commuting and foraging badger, hedgehog, reptile and amphibians. The bramble scrub is denser in places, also providing some suitability for nesting birds.

5.1.5.3 Species within these habitats include but are not limited to bramble, perennial rye grass, nettle and Yorkshire-fog.

Figure 7: Bramble Scrub



5.1.6 Young Trees – Self Set.

5.1.6.1 A small area of woodland extends into the site's very eastern corner. This is predominantly comprising of self-set bird cherry (*Prunus padus*) which has colonised a corner of this eastern field, close to the ancient woodland off site.

5.1.6.2 This habitat offers potential habitat for commuting and foraging badgers, hedgehogs, amphibians and reptiles.

5.1.6.3 Under current works proposals, this habitat will be impacted. Recommendations regarding this habitat are given in the conclusions of this report.

Figure 8: Young Trees – Self Set



5.1.7 Dry Stone Wall

5.1.7.1 Surrounding both large fields on site is an old stone wall. This is generally in a good state of repair but has fallen down to ground level in a few locations. These walls are heavily colonised by ruderal and ephemeral species as well as mosses and lichens, showing good species diversity. Stone walls offer excellent refugia for reptiles and amphibians as commuting corridors for badgers and hedgehogs.

5.1.7.2 Species within this habitat included nettle, mugwort, male fern, multiple bryophytes, amongst others.

5.1.7.3 Under current proposals, this habitat will be impacted. Recommendations regarding this habitat are given within the conclusions of this report.

Figure 9: Dry Stone Wall



5.2 Desktop Survey Results

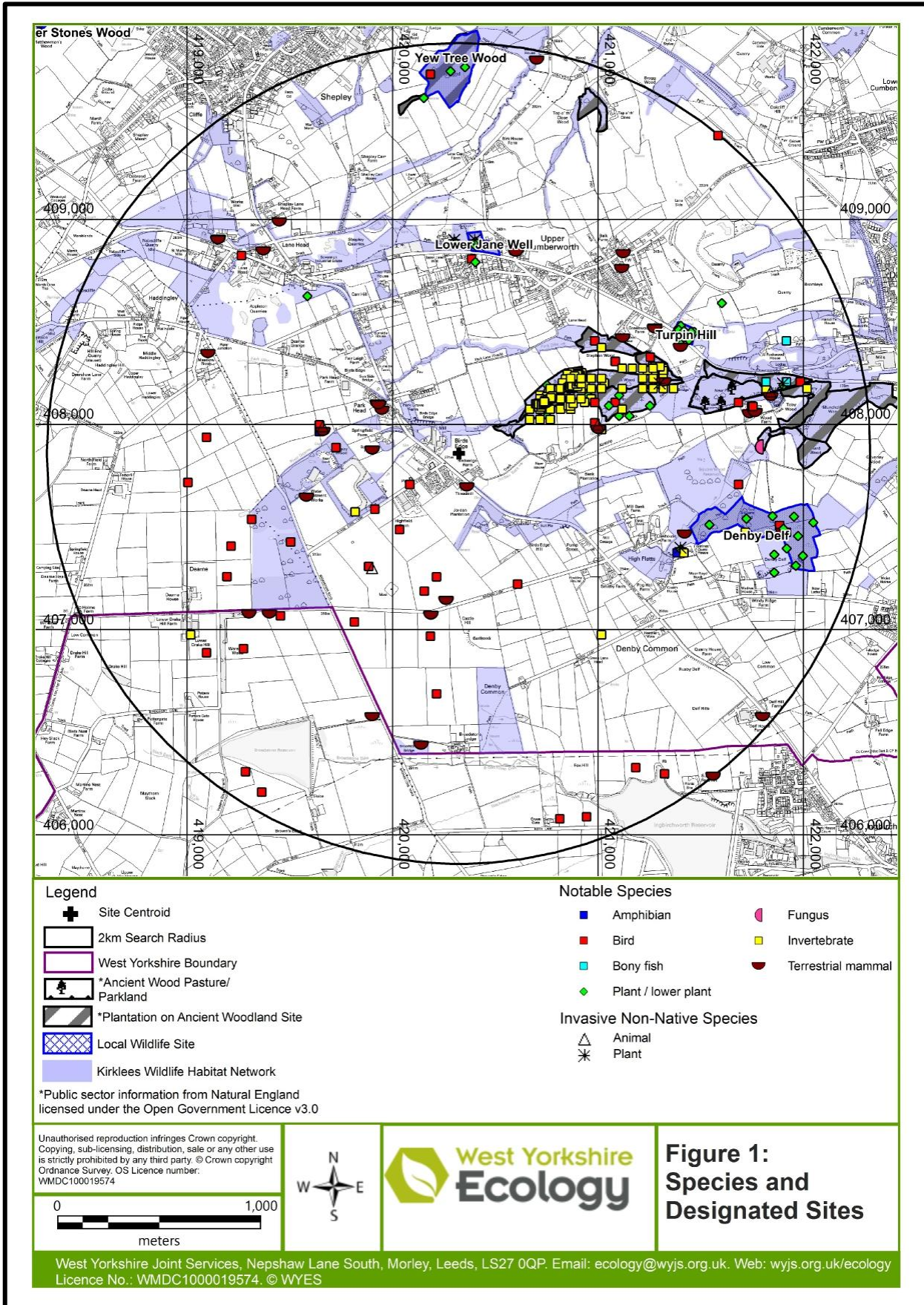
5.2.1 Records were requested for a 2 km radius from West Yorkshire Ecology Service and West Yorkshire Bat Group. The full list of protected and notable species data records is available upon request. The following records were returned:

Table 3: Records found within the search radius

Species	Number of Records	Closest Record	Notes
Bats	13	44 m SE	<p>West Yorkshire Bat Records returned 112 bat records between 2003 and 2020. Species recorded include 2 records of whiskered bat (<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>), 54 common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>), 3 soprano pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>), 1 brown long-eared bat (<i>Plecotus auritus</i>) and 52 records of bats belonging to the Vespertilionidae family.</p> <p>West Yorkshire Ecology Services returned a further 56 bat records between 1995 and 2024. These records include 30 common pipistrelles, 7 soprano pipistrelles, 4 whiskered bats, 2 brown long-eared bats, 9 noctule (<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>) and 4 further bats of the Vespertilionidae family.</p>
Badgers	-	~	Any records pertaining to badgers have been omitted from this report. Full considerations in regard to badger have been made in the conclusion of this report.

Amphibians	3	674 m W	One record of common toad (<i>Bufo bufo</i>) was returned for 2016-2019. Two records of common frog (<i>Rana temporaria</i>) were returned between 2003 and 2019. No GCN records were returned.
Reptiles	0	~	No records of reptiles were returned by the data search.
Otter	~	~	Any records pertaining to otter have been omitted from this report. Full considerations in regard to otter have been made in the conclusion of this report.
Water Vole	4	674 m W	Four records of water vole were returned within the search radius between 2003 and 2019. Two of these records are along the River Dearne which flows within close proximity of the site – 12 m at its closest point.
Hedgehog		674 m W	One record of hedgehog was returned in 2019.
Brown Hare	1	674 m W	Six records of brown hare were returned between 1997 and 2019.
Birds		294 m SW	<p>Schedule 1 Bird Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barn Owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>) – 2 records • Brambling (<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>) – 2 records • Fieldfare (<i>Turdus pilaris</i>) – 5 records • Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) – 1 record • Redwing (<i>Turdus iliacus</i>) – 5 records • Whimbrel (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>) – 1 record <p>Multiple other bird records of various protection and local priority were returned by the data search. A full list is available upon request.</p>

Figure 10: Non-Statutory Designated Sites within the search radius.



5.5.1.3 Potential impacts on breeding birds could occur depending on the timing and nature of any works. As a precaution, measures to avoid impacts to breeding birds are outlined in the conclusion of this report.

5.5.2 Bats

5.5.2.1 No presence or field sign evidence of bats were recorded at the time of survey.

5.5.2.2 The site is not particularly suitable for commuting or foraging bats. However, adjacent features including the River Dearne and pockets of ancient woodland and deciduous woodland may classify as major foraging sites, recommendations are given in the conclusions of this report to minimise impacts towards bats within these adjacent habitats.

5.5.3 Badger

5.5.3.1 No field sign evidence of badger was identified on site. Suitable habitat is present for commuting and foraging badger in the form of modified grassland, ephemeral vegetation, stone walls, bramble scrub, young self-set trees as well as adjacent woodlands. A 30 m buffer zone was inspected around the site to ensure no field signs of badgers were located nearby.

5.5.3.2 Precautionary measures regarding Eurasian Badgers are given within the conclusion of this report.

5.5.4 European Hedgehog

5.5.4.1 There is potential for hedgehogs to be present within the modified grassland, ephemeral vegetation, stone walls, bramble scrub, introduced shrub, young self-set trees as well as adjacent woodlands. No field-sign evidence was recorded during the survey.

5.5.4.2 The site is deemed to have suitability for hedgehogs. Precautionary measures for hedgehogs are given within the conclusion of this report.

5.5.5 Riparian/Aquatic Mammals

5.5.5.1 No field signs indicative of aquatic or riparian mammal presence was recorded within the site during the survey. Suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat for riparian mammals is present adjacent to site. The River Dearne was fast flowing and turbulent at the time of the survey, this upper section of the river is mostly rocky with a narrow and deep channel, not the most suitable river type for use by riparian mammals although some records in the wider area were returned.

5.5.5.2 No otter holts or water vole field signs were recorded within the curtilage of the site or within 30 m of the site. However, the presence of riparian mammals in the areas surrounding the site cannot be ruled out.

5.5.5.3 As such, impacts to riparian mammals are anticipated as a result of the proposed development. Precautionary measures regarding these species are included within the conclusions of this report.

5.5.6 Amphibians and Reptiles

5.5.6.1 No field signs indicative of amphibians or reptiles (herptiles) were recorded during the survey. Suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitats are present adjacent to the north, northeast and northwest of the site in the form of the River Dearne and surrounding woodland habitats. The majority of the site is very low sward modified grassland which is not suitable habitat for herptiles due to being exposed to aerial predation, however some scrub and ephemeral vegetation surrounding field margins provide suitable commuting and foraging habitat. This suitability is increased by the use of stone walls surrounding the site and dividing the fields. These walls provide refugia opportunities for herptiles as well as basking habitat for reptiles.

5.5.6.2 No suitable habitat for GCN was found on or adjacent to site. It is considered unlikely that GCN will be impacted by proposed works.

5.5.6.3 Impacts to GCN are considered to be only a residual possibility, impacts to common amphibians and reptiles are considered a possibility. Due to the narrow areas along field margins that offer suitable habitats, precautionary methods have been deemed appropriate to minimise any risks to these species.

5.5.7 Other species

5.5.7.1 The site offers suitable foraging habitat for barn owl, and two barn owl records were returned by the desktop survey. However, no field sign evidence for this species was recorded within the survey, and no further recommendations are made at this stage.

5.5.7.2 The site does not support suitable habitat for any other protected or significant fauna, such as hazel dormouse, brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*), or white-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*). No impacts towards these species are anticipated.

Table 7: Statutory Metric Baseline

Area Habitat Main Site	UK HABS codes		Condition Assessment/ Strategic Significance	Size (ha)	Baseline Units (2 d.p.)
	Primary	Secondary			
Bramble Scrub	h3d	-	N/A for condition assessment - No strategic significance	0.0244	0.10
Ephemeral Vegetation	g	81	Good - No strategic significance	0.1493	0.90
Introduced Shrub	u	847	N/A for condition assessment - No strategic significance	0.0216	0.04
Modified Grassland	g4	102	Poor - No strategic significance	2.9357	5.87
Area Habitat BNG Area	UK HABS codes		Condition Assessment/ Strategic Significance	Size (ha)	Baseline Units (2 d.p.)
	Primary	Secondary			
Modified Grassland	g4	102	Poor - No strategic significance	0.0887	1.77
Young Trees – Self Set (Mixed Scrub in Metric)	w	202	Good - No strategic significance	0.0006	0.01

7.5 The total value of the site at the baseline is calculated to be 8.69 area habitats, with no hedgerow or watercourse units on site.

Figure 12: Statutory Metric Baseline

Land off A629, Birdsedge		Return to results menu
Headline Results		
Scroll down for final results ⚠		
On-site baseline	Habitat units	8.69
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00
On-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	-8.69
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00

7.6 To achieve the target 10% net gain, the site post-development will need to provide a total value of 9.56 area habitat units, 0.10 of which are required to be medium distinctiveness “Heathland and Shrub” units.

7.7 The survey for this site was completed outside of the recognised growing season (April to September inclusive), which requires some habitats to be scored as in good condition. It is recommended that a re-survey of the site is undertaken within the growing season to more accurately assess the condition of habitats.

Land off A629

Birdsedge

Huddersfield

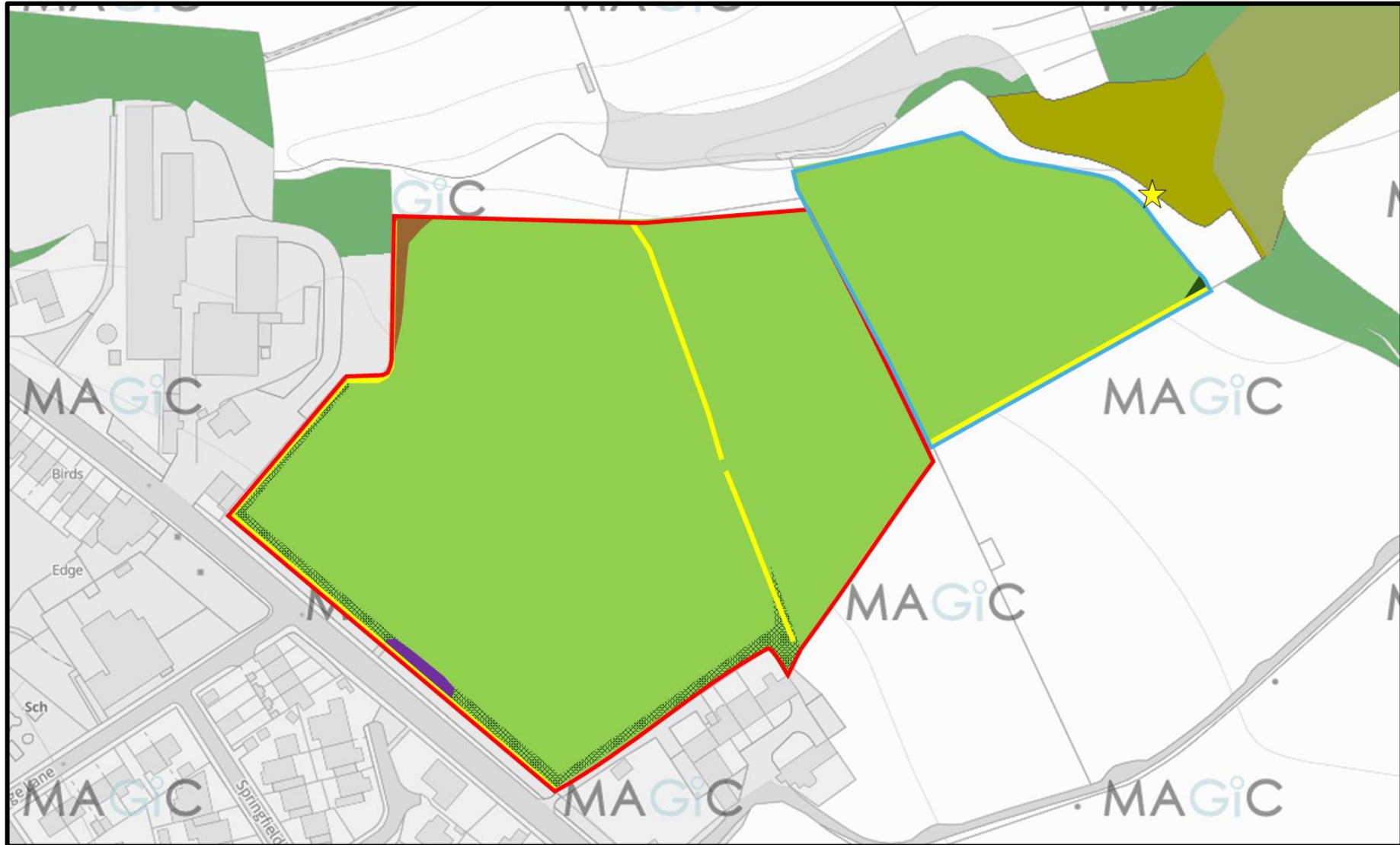
HD8 8XP

7.8 Once a final landscaping plan has been completed, a full BNG calculation and report can be completed.

Figure 13: Baseline survey



Appendix One: Phase 1 habitat map



Preliminary Ecological Appraisal












Land off A629

Birdsedge

Huddersfield

HD8 8XP

March 2026

Key	On Site Habitat	Key	Off Site Habitat
	Red Line Boundary (Site boundary)		Priority Habitat: Deciduous Woodland
	Blue line Boundary (Wider Ownership Boundary)		Priority Habitat: Ancient Woodland
	Modified Grassland		Target Note: Bird Nest in Tree
	Introduced Shrub		
	Bramble Scrub		
	Young Trees – Self Set		
	Ephemeral Vegetation		
	Dry Stone Wall		

Land off A629

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Small Nettle	<i>Urtica urens</i>
Smooth Meadow Grass	<i>Poa pratensis</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphiocarpos alba</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
White Stonecrop	<i>Sedum album</i>
Yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>
Yorkshire-fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

References

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