

Construction Environmental Management Plan (eCEMP)

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Report	Construction Ecological Management Plan (eCEMP)
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief

This report has been produced to form part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) that is being submitted to discharge condition 11 in relation to the approved outline application for Land at Campsfield, Southwater (planning reference DC/25/0102).

As part of the pre-commencement conditions for the site, Condition 11 states:

No development, other than the drilling of the borehole, shall commence until a construction environmental management plan (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The CEMP (Biodiversity) shall include the following.

(a) Risk assessment of potentially damaging construction activities.
(b) Identification of "biodiversity protection zones".
(c) Practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) to avoid or reduce impacts during construction (may be provided as a set of method statements).
(d) The location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to biodiversity features.
(e) The times during construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works.
(f) Responsible persons and lines of communication.
(g) The role and responsibilities on site of an ecological clerk of works (ECoW) or similarly competent person. Use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs.
(h) The approved CEMP (Biodiversity) shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To conserve protected and Priority species in accordance with Policy 31 of the Horsham District Planning Framework (2015), and allow the LPA to discharge its duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and s40 of the NERC Act 2006 (as amended).

1.2 Background

Ecosupport Ltd was instructed by Miller Homes to undertake updated ecological surveys and subsequent Phase II survey work to inform an EcIA for the Land at Campsfield, Southwater site. This was required in order to identify any potentially important ecological features that may be affected by the proposed development.

Phase II protected species surveys were completed by Ecosupport during 2023 which required regular presence on-site to identify sensitive receptors and constraints in support of the outline planning application.

1.3 Aim

The aim of the eCEMP is to protect the ecological interests on the site and within the nearby statutory and non-statutory designated sites. This report details the approach which construction workers will adopt in dealing with the potential ecological impacts associated with various construction activities. The approved eCEMP shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority and/or statutory consultees (e.g. Natural England or the Environment Agency, as applicable).

This report should be read in conjunction with the associated ECIA (Ecosupport 2026) containing all the previous survey results as well as the Construction Environmental Management Plan (Paul Basham 2026).

1.4 Site Location & Proposed Development

The site is comprises of an area of plantation woodland located to the south of Centenary Road, Southwater, Horsham, RH13 9FR (**Fig 1**) (central Grid Reference: TQ 16043 24858). The site is bound by a residential development to the north, the A24 to the east, an area of agricultural grassland to the south and an area of woodland to the west. The wider environ is largely rural situated on the outskirts of Southwater, a village to the south of Horsham.

Figure 1. Site Location (Google Satellite 2026)



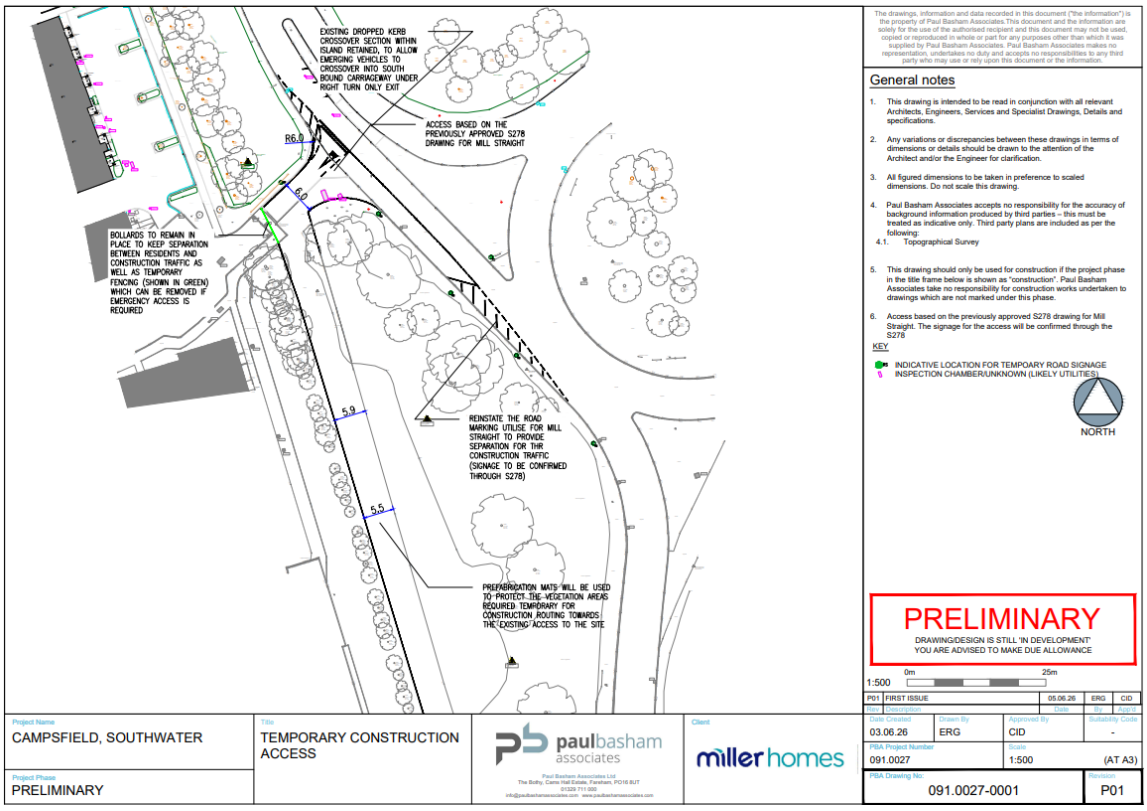
1.5 Activities

The main construction activities will involve the following:

- Site preparation including construction of access roads (which includes a temporary construction access (**Figure 2**))
- Movement of materials
- Excavation and ground works
- Construction of foundations and residential dwellings
- Urban landscaping and creation public open space (POS)
- Creation of SuDS features and habitat creation

Detailed information on the site access, compound, construction traffic routing and management can be found within the Construction Environmental Management Plan (Paul Basham 2026).

Figure 2. Temporary Construction Access (Paul Basham 2026).



1.6 Structure of this Report

Sections 2.0 provides information on the ecological features which require protection during construction. Section 3.0 onwards then details specific measures that can be implemented to manage construction in order to prevent impacts arising.

2.0 ECOLOGICAL BASELINE

2.1 Habitats

The following habitats using UKHabs codes were identified on site:

- w1g – Other woodland; broadleaved with scattered scrub (10) and plantation (36)
- g4 – Modified grassland
- w1g6 – Line of trees (33) with scattered scrub (10)
- r1 - Standing open water and canals with ponds (19)

The UK Habs map can be seen in **Appendix 1**, The full description of habitats can be found in the EcIA report (Ecosupport Ltd, 2025).

2.2 Nearby Designated Sites

2.2.1 Statutory Designated Sites

There is only one statutory designated site identified within 2 km of the site. This is the Southwater Country Park.

2.2.2 Non-statutory Designated Sites

Three LWS were identified within 2km of the site as per the map provided by SXBRC. There were:

- H30 - Horsham Common, Alder Copse, Coate's Furzefield & Constable's Furze (1)
- H33 - The Downs Link, Nutham Wood & Greatsteeds Farm Meadow (2)
- H70 - Southwater Country Park Complex (3)

The Copsale Road designated road verge was also identified within 2km of the site.

2.3 Species

2.3.1 Bats

In general, the site can be considered relatively important locally for foraging and commuting bats with a reasonable number of calls recorded throughout the survey period and 8 different species noted. Across the 2023 surveys, high numbers of Common and Soprano Pipistrelles were recorded along all boundaries of the site (considered a common bat species in England (Wray *et al.,* 2010)). Moderate numbers of *Myotis* spp. and Noctules were recorded across the site. In addition, low numbers of Serotine, *Plecotus* spp. and Leisler's were also recorded across the site. Of particular note was the occasional usage of the site by Barbastelle during September and October 2023 (with Barbastelle considered a rarest species in the UK (Wray *et al*, 2010)). Detailed analysis in order to identify the separate *myotis spp.* was not undertaken and therefore, the species present was presumed based on the local records received from SXBRC.

Overall, the site was valued as **County importance** using the latest Bat Mitigation Guidelines (Reason & Wray, 2023).

2.3.2 Other Mammals

No evidence of Badger(s) was recorded during the walkover. However, the site is considered to hold moderate potential for foraging and commuting mammals (including Badgers and Hedgehogs).

2.3.3 Reptiles

Given the size of the suitable areas of habitat, the number of refugia deployed and the maximum count of adults (which was 7), a '***Low***' population of Slow Worm is present on-site. Considering the max count of Common Lizards (which was 1), a '***Low***' population of Common Lizards is present on site. Slow Worms and Common Lizards are however relatively widespread within the UK and West Sussex and as such the site it is considered to be ***Local Value*** for reptiles.

2.3.4 Hazel Dormouse

A Dormouse nest was recorded within a nest tube along the eastern boundary which indicates there is population in the local area that are using the site. No confirmed evidence of Dormice utilising the site for breeding purposes was recorded, although, breeding will be assumed due to the suitability of the habitat. Dormice are relatively common and widespread within West Sussex and have been recorded in suitable habitat across the county. Therefore, the site is considered to be of ***county value*** for this species (CIEEM, 2018).

2.3.5 GCN

A HSI assessment was carried out on the two ponds present within the site itself. Pond 3 was not assessed as it is isolated from the site by the A24 which is considered to be a significant barrier of dispersal by GCN. Pond 4 was not assessed as it was not accessible. Pond 1 was found to have low levels of water during the walkover and to be completely dry throughout the survey season. It scored a HSI of 0.40563 and therefore was considered to be of '**Poor**' Suitability. Pond 2 scored

a HSI of 0.60558 and therefore was considered to be of '**Average**' suitability for GCN. Both ponds were subject to an updated visit in June 2026, but were found to be dry.

Pond 2 returned an 'Average' HSI result and as such was subject to an environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling survey in April 2023. The results of the eDNA sampling returned a negative result for the presence of GCN (SureScreen Scientifics, 2023). It is considered ***unlikely*** that GCN are present within the offsite ponds. Therefore, ***highly unlikely*** GCN would be negatively impacted by proposed development.

2.3.6 Nesting Birds

A total of 14 bird species were recorded during the Breeding Bird Surveys within or just beyond the site boundaries. Of the species observed, 6 appear on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) as declining (red or amber lists) (Eaton et al., 2015) and / or are listed as Species of Principle Importance (SoPI) under the NERC Act (2006).

The status of these Red-listed and Amber-listed species known to be actually nesting/breeding, attempting to nest on site or indeed suspected as likely nesting are still regarded as either 'Abundant", 'Very Common', 'Common' or 'Scarce' within the County of Sussex. This status classification is based on the species having an average number of breeding pairs of 30,000+ for abundant, 5001-30,000 for Very Common, 1001-5000 for Common species, and 11 – 100 for Scarce species annually within the County. Given the relatively small, single figure numbers of breeding or suspected breeding pairs within the site, it is not considered that the displacement of these numbers of 'abundant, very common or common' Red and Amber listed bird species would be significantly detrimental to the overall County populations. However, the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker is Scarce within the county and therefore, the displacement of this species would have an adverse impact on the county level for breeding birds.

On a more local level there will be a reduction in nesting and foraging resources within the site however, due to the considered low number of BoCC Red & Amber listed nesting pairs/territories present on site and the categorisation of the species using the site as a nesting and foraging resource during the nesting season, the site is considered to be of Low ecological value to breeding and nesting birds and it is not considered that the loss of bird populations and the communities present would be significantly detrimental on a County level.

3.0 SPECIES-SPECIFIC MITIGATION

The following species-specific mitigation will be included within the proposed development, as described in the EcIA (Ecosupport Ltd, 2025):

3.1 Avoidance of Impacts to Nesting Birds

In order to avoid disturbance of nesting birds or damage to their nests, any clearance of trees/woodland/scrub/longer grassland, on site should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (typically March – August, dependent on weather). If this is not possible, the area to be cleared should be thoroughly checked by an ecologist immediately prior to clearance. If any active nests are found, they should be left undisturbed with a suitable buffer of undisturbed vegetation (ca. 5m) until nestlings have fledged.

3.2 Mammals

A means of escape (e.g. a ramp) will be left in excavations overnight in case of animals falling in. A member of staff on site should be responsible for ensuring that this is carried out before leaving the site each day.

Dense areas of scrub will be cleared carefully as part of the reptile mitigation strategy. This will also work to protect Hedgehogs that may be sheltering within the site.

In case Badgers enter the site, any chemicals will be securely stored, so that Badgers cannot gain access to them (detailed further in **Section 6.0** below).

Mesh barrier fencing must be removed from site as soon as it's no longer in-use to prevent enmeshment by local wildlife (e.g. Hedgehogs).

During the construction phase of the development, no works are to be undertaken between dusk and dawn, with lighting also limited to daylight hours where necessary. Personnel will remain vigilant at all times. In the unlikely event a Badger sett becomes established, an ecologist will be consulted immediately.

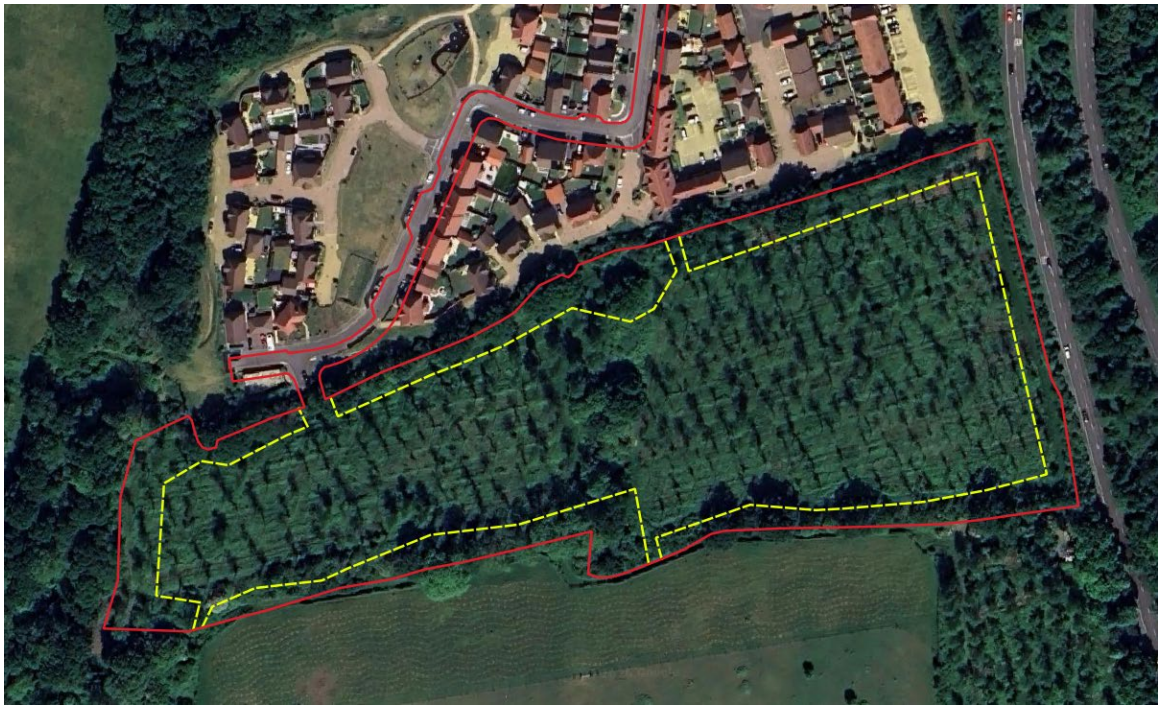
3.3 Reptiles

As a low number of reptiles were found all within the boundary habitats and central tree line (which are being retained during the development), a passive dispersal methodology is considered proportionate. Any potentially suitable habitat that needs to be cut will be done so using a 2-stage strim under supervision of a suitably qualified ecologist. Any reptiles found during the clearance will be relocated into the retained buffer vegetation by the ecologist. During the first stage, the vegetation will be cut down to a height no lower than 10cm. Cutting will occur directionally, starting from the outside of the suitable areas towards the boundaries (that are to be retained) to encourage reptiles into the most suitable area of habitat (**Fig 2**), with the purpose to minimise the area requiring fencing as per **Fig 3**. A second cut (the following day) will take it right down to ground level. These works will be done prior to the installation of reptile fencing which will be installed to prevent reptiles from dispersing towards the development area. This will be undertaken during the active reptile period (April – September) when temperatures are above 12ºC with sunshine

Figure 2. Proposed reptile habitat clearance with direction of passive dispersal (white arrows) clearance that will be undertaken. The approximate location of the 4 No hibernacula are shown by the blue stars.



Figure 3. View of the location of the semi-permanent exclusion fencing to be installed on site (yellow dashed line).

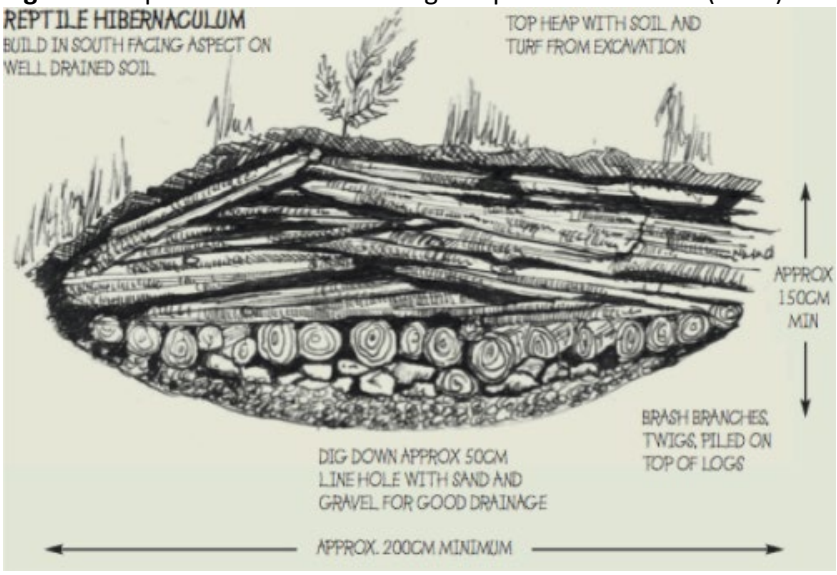


3.1.3 Habitat Enhancement

Based on the nature of the existing habitats within the boundary habitats (i.e. areas of bordering scrub/hedgerows), the only potential enhancement anticipated would be the creation of 4 No

wood-based hibernacula to provide reptiles with a suitable area to hibernate within (approximate locations shown in **Fig 2**). This will be created following the specification outlined within Reptile Habitat Management: Guidelines for Landowners (HART, 2009) (**Fig 4**).

Figure 4. Reptile hibernaculum design as provided in HART (2009).



It is not considered any other specific habitat enhancements measures will be necessary as the site already supports suitable habitat borders within which reptiles are present.

3.1.2 Proptection of the Retained Habitat

Once the passive dispersal has been completed and the site is due to commence building works, the edge of the retained areas will have a line of Heras fence or similar placed in front of it. Signage will be placed on this fence with phrases such as:

Protected Reptile Habitat, Do Not Disturb

This level of protection will remain in place for the duration of the construction works and the ecologist will make quarterly visits to the site to check on the integrity of the reptile fence and ensure any repairs are made as necessary.

3.4 Bats

To ensure there are no negative impacts towards commuting and/or foraging bats, during the construction phase of the development, no works are to be undertaken between dusk and dawn, with lighting also limited to daylight hours where necessary.

3.5 Dormice

3.5.1 European Protected Species Licence

The proposed plans will require removal of sections of hedgerow / mature trees and bramble scrub on-site. This habitat may contain Dormice, as a Dormouse nest was found and all of this habitat is contiguous with the habitat to be directly impacted upon. Therefore, Dormice should be assumed to be present within all areas of the site. Therefore, a European Protected Species Licence (EPSL) will be required for any works impacting the hedgerows / mature trees and bramble scrub and such works must be carried out under the EPSL.

3.5.2 Vegetation Clearance

It is expected that a total of 0.284ha of suitable Dormouse habitat in the form of woodland and Bramble scrub will be cleared under a single stage / two stage methodology along with 0.022km of treeline (see **Fig 5** for location of sensitive vegetation removal). Approximately 3.2ha of plantation woodland will be cleared also (which was considered unsuitable habitat for Dormice). Any Dormice discovered during the works will be either be left undisturbed in place (if deemed safe by the ecologist) or will be relocated to a similar location to where they were found in retained habitat (e.g. if the animal is found within leaf litter, then the animal will be placed in leaf litter). 9 No. Dormouse nest boxes will be placed into treelines along the eastern and western boundaries as close to the works as possible to act as receptors in the unlikely event of any Dormice being found (**Fig 6**).

Figure 5. Proposed areas of suitable habitat to be cleared on site (orange = treeline, red = Bramble scrub) with white arrows indicating direction of single-stage/ two stage clearance.



Figure 6. Indicative locations of the 9 No. Dormouse boxes on site (white circles).



3.5.2.1 Clearance Methodology

The following methodologies outline both a single stage option and two stage option for the clearance work to be carried out once a NE EPSL has been granted.

Single stage:

- Fingertip search of all vegetation to be cleared, by the licenced ecologist, immediately prior to clearance commencing (on the same day and every day clearance occurs).
- Prior to works commencing, the named ecologist or accredited agent will provide all site operatives with a toolbox talk to inform them of the potential presence of dormice, their legal status, means of identification, habitat requirements, the methodologies required to avoid impacts on the species and what they should do if a dormouse is found. A written record that this has been undertaken, signed by attendees, will be kept and made available to Natural England should it be required.
- Hand tools will be utilised to sensitively cut vegetation down to ground level in ***a single stage***. This will be undertaken in a directional fashion to passively encourage Dormice to move away from the works area towards retained, suitable hedgerow / treeline habitat. Where areas of scrub are being cut, this will be done directionally towards the retained habitats. All arisings will be chipped on site immediately.
- Cut material will be removed from the areas and chipped and removed from site or area of working operations.
- 6 Dormouse nest boxes will be placed into the areas of retained hedgerow / treeline around the site to act as receptors in the event of any Dormice being found (**Fig 31**).
- Works will take place outside of the core breeding periods (June - September inclusive) and avoid the hibernation period (late November – March) and as such, the most appropriate timings would be April - May and late September - October
- ***No more than 150m^2 of habitat will be cleared in a single day***

Two Stage methodology

Clearance of the vegetation within the site will be carried out sympathetically and under the supervision of a Licenced Ecologist (LE) who will search for nests by hand and capture Dormice (if necessary) before and during clearance works. If any active animals are discovered during the works then these animals will be captured and placed, with their original nest where present, within previously erected nest boxes (outlined above). If any hibernation nests/potential hibernation nests are identified during the first stage of the clearance over winter, these will be left undisturbed, with vegetation retained in a buffer around the nest, due to the vulnerable nature of hibernating or torpid Dormice. All arisings / cuttings will also be removed from site each day following a hand search by the licenced ecologist to prevent re-occupation.

- The licenced ecologist will deliver a toolbox talk to the vegetation clearance contractors, detailing the sensitive measures required. The ecologist will then supervise all vegetation clearance. No clearance will be undertaken without the supervision of the ecologist.
- To avoid any impacts to Dormice the removal of all vegetation will adopt a two staged approach with the upper sections removed over winter (when Dormice may be hibernating in the lower parts) and the trunk and roots removed during spring.

<u>Winter clearance</u>

This should remove sufficient vegetation to persuade Dormice emerging from hibernation in April or May to move to more appropriate habitat nearby. Once emergence is complete, by the end of May, full clearance of the area can continue. Winter clearance should thus be planned as a two-stage process.

Trees and shrubs within the area in question should be cut down between November and March inclusive, to avoid both the bird nesting season and the majority of the period when Dormice might be found in nests above ground. Clearance should be done by hand and in a sensitive manner, to minimise the likelihood of disturbing or killing hibernating Dormice. Similarly, the process of removing the cut material should, as far as possible, be designed to protect Dormice hibernating on the ground. This can involve such techniques as:

- Sacrificing a single 'haul- route', which has first been cleared by hand if necessary;
- Using a long-reach mechanical grab and/or limiting the number of 'drag-lines' along which stems are removed; and/or
- Directional felling to minimise the ground impact.

In addition to the above, all vegetation being removed, and the ground beneath, will first be hand searched as far as possible to identify the presence of any hibernation nests. Similarly, any proposed drag/haul routes will first be searched by hand before such usage commences. If any hibernation nests are identified, these will be retained and protected and, if present within a haul/drag routes these will be re-routed to avoid the retained nest.

<u>Spring clearance</u>

Once the above works have been completed, the roots will be removed using hand tools where possible or with a digger using a toothed bucket under the supervision of the licenced ecologist

from mid-April onwards (provided the temperatures have been warm enough for Dormice to emerge from hibernation at the discretion of the ecologist).

3.5.3 Minimising Disturbance

Prior to construction works commencing the retained scrub / tree lines / hedgerow will be protected from damage during the works. They will be fenced using Heras fencing or similar to prevent access by machinery. Where large mature trees are present, they will be protected using standard arboricultural tree protection measures which include protection of the canopy and prevention of root compaction. Access will not be permitted behind this fencing by construction personnel. This will protect Dormouse habitat from direct damage/disturbance and dust. Signage will also be added (on top of the usual warnings for tree protective fencing) stating things such as:

Protected Dormouse Habitat

It is an Offence to Damage / Disturb this Habitat

This will also provide protection for wildlife species, including Badgers, that may be using the margins of the site as well as bats, invertebrates, reptiles and other mammals. No vehicles will enter the protective ring fencing and no materials will be stored within their circumference. All protective fencing must be in place prior to any construction machinery arriving on site, before any works on site get underway, and will remain in place until all work is completed. This will minimise the level of disturbance within the boundary habitat / buffer areas during the works and ensure the habitats and any wildlife species that may be using them are protected.

3.6 All Species

To protect retained habitats and any wildlife species within them, protective fencing will be used during the main construction of the residential area of site. This will be installed around the edges of parts of the residential area to protect the habitat to be retained. In addition, this barrier fencing prevents public access along the established public footpaths around the edges of the site. For the purposes of habitat creation and other works within these areas, the fences may be removed in sections as needed to allow access to any personnel / machinery. However, this will limit unnecessary disturbance of these areas during construction.

4.0 WATER QUALITY

4.1 On-site Works

Construction activities have the potential to impact water quality through pollution. This has potential to negatively impact upon sensitive habitat receptors. **Table 2** provides a selection of techniques in order to prevent/minimise this.

Table 2. Practical measures and sensitive working practices involving water during construction.

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be Adopted
Stormwater polluted with debris /chemicals	• Minimise the areas of exposed ground • Locate siltation traps at key points on the site (where run off could enter drainage systems) and discharge all runoff through the traps. • Provide adequate drainage channels lined with impervious material. • Ensure integrity of hoarding to prevent uncontrolled discharge to stormwater drains outside site boundaries. • If it is not possible to install temporary water drainage works, as above, use sand bags (and sealed hoarding) to divert site water run-offs to siltation tank and water treatment systems. • Keep earthworks to a minimum during the rainy period. • Surround earthworks by dykes or embankments for flood protection and cover earthworks as appropriate. • To prevent soil erosion, compact earthworks final surfaces and perform subsequent permanent work/surface protection immediately after surface formation and provide appropriate drainage.
Concrete	• Recycle wastewater from washing of mixer trucks, drum mixers and similar equipment wherever practical to minimise wastewater discharge. • Treat all contaminated surface water from concrete operations with appropriate facilities.

5.0 AIR QUALITY

Construction activities have the potential to impact on air quality (i.e. through the production of dust). Construction activities are associated with the generation of nuisance dust (larger particles) and PM_{10} emissions, particularly during dry spells. The larger particles tend to fall out quickly and therefore the impacts are generally most likely to be felt within 200m of the development (Bureau Veritas, 2013). This has potential to negatively impact upon sensitive habitat receptors. **Table 3** provides a selection of techniques in order to prevent/minimise this.

As per the tree protection plan shown in **Appendix 2**, protective fencing is being used to protect retained habitats of value and wildlife that may be using these. In addition, materials or stockpiling will be prevented from outside the fenced area within the protected habitat. While some works will be required in these areas for the preparation of the POS, machinery and personnel will be limited to only those necessary.

Table 3. Practical measures and sensitive working practices involving air pollution control.

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be Adopted
Communications	• Develop and implement a stakeholder communications plan that includes community engagement before work commences on site • Display the name and contact details of person(s) accountable for air quality and dust issues on the site boundary. This may be the environment manager / engineer or the site manager • Display the head or regional office contact information • Develop and implement a dust management plan, which may include measures to control other emissions, approved by HDC
Site Management	• Record all dust and air quality complaints, identify cause(s), take appropriate measures to reduce emissions in a timely manner, and record the measures taken • Make the complaints log available to HDC on request • Record any exceptional incidents that cause dust and / or air emissions, either on or off site, and the action taken to resolve the situation in the log book • Hold regular liaison meetings with other high risk construction sites within 250 m of the site boundary, to ensure plans are coordinated and dust and particulate matter emissions are minimised
Monitoring	• Undertake daily on site and off site inspection to monitor dust, record inspection results, and make the log available to HDC on request • Carry out regular site inspections to monitor compliance with the dust management plan, record inspection results, and make an inspection log available to HDC on request • Increase the frequency of site inspections when activities with a high potential to produce dust are being carried out and during prolonged dry or windy conditions

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be Adopted
Emission of Dark Smoke from Equipment	• Conduct routine and major maintenance in accordance to manufacturer's instructions, and maintain records of all inspections and maintenance works. • Use fuel of quality specified by manufacturer/supplier. • Shut down all vehicles and plant in intermittent use between work periods or throttle down to a minimum idling speed (if the former is not possible).
Site Establishment for Access	• Vehicle access with suitable signage including maximum speed limits, designated parking (e.g. for staff) and traffic controls will be established prior to the commencement of construction • No vehicles will use undesignated accesses
Site Preparation	• Plan site layout so that machinery and dust-causing activities are located away from receptors, as far as is possible • Fully enclose site or specific operations where there is a high potential for dust production and they are active for an extensive period • Avoid site runoff of water or mud (i.e. as per Section 4.0) • Keep site fencing, barriers and scaffolding clean using wet methods • Remove materials that have a potential to produce dust from site as soon as possible, unless being re-used • Cover, seed or fence stockpiles to prevent wind-whipping
Open Burning on Site	• Forbid open burning of wastes
Dust Emission from Construction Activities	General requirements: • Operate air pollution control equipment properly and effectively, in accordance to manufacturer's instructions. • In the event of a malfunctioning or breakdown of any air pollution control equipment, suspend the plant, process(s) or activity(s) concerned as soon as practicable until the equipment is restored to its proper function.
	Site boundary and entrance: • Provide vehicle washing facilities at the vehicle exit point.
	Access road (main haul road): • Cover with agreed aggregate whilst works to the road construction are progressing, rather than leaving until the entire road has been constructed • Spray with water frequently; • Keep the road exit clear of dusty materials.
	Exposed earth: • Treat properly by applying water spray, surface compaction, turfing, hydroseeding, vegetation planting or sealing with latex, vinyl, bitumen, shortcrete or temporary covers. • Schedule construction programme to complete works on open areas as quickly as possible.
	Dusty materials: • Dispose of dusty materials collected by fabric filters or other air pollution control system or equipment in totally enclosed containers.

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be Adopted
	Stockpile of dusty materials: • Cover stockpile over 50m^3 entirely by impervious sheeting with enclosure extending at least 1 m above and beyond the stored materials. • Place in an area sheltered on the top and the 3 sides. • Spray with water.
	Loading, unloading or transfer of dusty materials: • Spray all dusty materials (except cement and PFA) with water immediately prior to any loading, unloading or transfer operation. • Control height from which excavated materials are dropped to a practical minimum.
	Pneumatic or power-driven drilling, cutting, polishing, breaking or crushing: • Spray water continuously on the surface during operation.
	Use of vehicles: • Wash every vehicle to remove any dusty materials from its body and wheels immediately before leaving the site. • Restrict vehicles to minimum practicable speed limits (< 10 km/h). • Where a vehicle leaving a construction site is carrying a load of dusty materials, cover the load entirely by clean impervious sheeting, which extends over the edges of properly fitting side and tail boards and dampen materials before transportation. • Make sure dusty materials are not loaded to a level higher than the side and tail boards.
	Excavation or earth moving: • Spray working area of any excavation or earth moving operation with water immediately before, during and immediately after the operation.

6.0 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

A number of hazardous materials are associated with construction projects. If not handled correctly, this can lead to contaminated soil, water or enter the natural environment. **Table 4** contains a variety of procedures to prevent ecological implications from hazardous substances.

Table 4. Practical measures and sensitive working practices involving hazardous substances.

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be adopted

Containers	• Use containers designed to minimise spills.
	• Ensure that containers used are appropriate to the substances contained (e.g. do not react with the substance, resistant to corrosions).
	• Ensure that containers are maintained in good conditions and securely closed.
	• Store goods away from heavily trafficked areas to avoid container damage.
	• In each storage area:
	  • Ensure that only the substance(s) specified are stored.
	  • Provide secondary containment or drip trays, and impermeable floor and bunding.
	  • Prevent unauthorised access by providing locks to the storage areas.

Cleaning up minor spills	• Use sand, saw dust, or spill kit to absorb the spill and prevent it from spreading. • Dispose of the contaminated absorbent material as chemical waste. • Ensure that saw dust, spill kits, etc are readily accessible and of enough quantity.
Inspection and Maintenance	• Periodically inspect, and where necessary test, the condition of storage drums, tanks and pipelines (especially flanges and gaskets) • Inspect and maintain all plant and equipment to prevent leakage of chemicals/fuel.
Major Spills*	• Contain the spill to minimise land contamination and pollution • Inform the client and ecologist immediately. • The contractor shall arrange for appropriate removal and disposal of the chemicals by authorised organisations, and determine if other parties (e.g. Environment Agency) need to be informed.

* Spills on the worksite are likely to be hydraulic oil or engine oil spilled from plant items. If a spillage occurs the following procedure is to be followed:

- Contain the spill as soon as possible so it doesn't spread. Refer to Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for personal protective clothing needed
- If containment is required, contain using earth mound and/or absorbent socks/spill kit.
- Use the relevant clean up procedure as instructed by the MSDS.
- Once the spill has been contained, the contractor will arrange removal and disposal as soon as possible. Dispose of material using a licensed contractor and keep records of disposal on site.
- Complete an Incident Reporting Form and provide it to the Project Manager

7.0 WASTE DISPOSAL

Construction projects will typically create a certain amount of waste that must be removed from the site. The principal waste on site will likely be aggregates from excavation, as well as some waste from construction materials. This waste must be stored and disposed of safely and adequately to prevent harm to the environment. **Table 5** contains a variety of procedures to prevent ecological implications from waste disposal.

Table 5. Practical measures and sensitive working practices involving waste disposal.

Issue(s) to Control	Best Practices to be adopted
Excavation and aggregates waste	• Excavated material to be loaded directly onto vehicles where possible for use within the project or to be removed from site • Where direct transfer to vehicle is not possible, storage time on site to be minimal and must be sensitively removed to ensure no mammals are using it as shelter (e.g. Hedgehogs, reptiles) • Records will be kept of waste material on site and waste material removed from site
Other construction waste	• Sort the waste using their respective European Waste Catalogue (EWC) code • Waste storage in suitable container (e.g. designated skips) to ensure protection from damage or contamination • Any Hazardous materials must be disposed of properly as described in Section 6.0

Waste Reduction	• Use the Waste Hierarchy to promote disposal as a last resort:
	  • Prevention/Reduction
	  • Re-use: Where safe some products may be used again for the same or different purpose
	  • Recycling and compost
	  • Energy recovery
	  • Disposal – Only if none of the above options are appropriate, waste should be disposed of
	• Every effort to make use of waste produced from landscaping and incorporate broken bricks and off cuts into the landscaping in suitable areas

Canteen and staff waste	• Designated receptacles will be provided on site to allow for segregation and storage of individual waste from staff (i.e. food, drinks, packaging) • Container size and collection frequency to be suitable for the number of staff present on site at any given time
Litter	• Protective fencing (see Appendix 2) has been proposed around parts of the boundaries of the site, which will also help prevent windblown litter or waste from polluting the wider environment • A sufficient number of bins for the size of the construction site will be provided. Any litter identified within the site will be placed in a bin to be removed from site.

8.0 NOISE, VISUAL & VIBRATION

Noise disturbance can have a range of impacts upon ecology dependent upon the sensitivity of the species, the nature and duration of the noise and the timing of the disturbance. Noise associated with vegetation stripping will only be a temporary disturbance and is considered to only contribute to a very small proportion of the cumulative potential for wildlife disturbance associated with these activities.

Activities associated with high levels of anthropogenic noise can re-structure animal communities (Barber et al. 2009). Reproductive, territorial, alarm and contact calls are forms of acoustical communication that noise can impact (Barber et al. 2009). This can result in a number of issues such as increased predation, and therefore death and injury, and decreased reproductive efficiency. These can result in decreased numbers of certain species. The site contains areas of suitable nesting bird habitat. Acoustic masking resulting from increasing background sound levels will reduce the number of individual birds that utilize communication networks and could have consequences for reproductive processes. For example, songbirds show greater nest desertion and abandonment within 100m of noise disturbance. Noise within close proximity to woodland is likely to have an adverse impact.

As described below protective fencing has also been recommended during the main construction works to prevent materials accessing retained habitat. This will help reduce any noise or visual disturbance to the woodland or adjacent retained areas where the majority of birds were noted during surveys and the areas where high bat activity was noted. In addition, **Table 6** provides general methods of reducing noise.

Table 6. Practical measures and sensitive working practices to reduce noise during construction.

Issues(s) to Control	Best Practices to be Adopted
General Noise Control Measures	• Avoid simultaneous operation of noisy equipment. • Shut down all plant and equipment in intermittent use between work periods or throttled down to minimum idling speed. • Erect as early as possible noise source screening structures such as stores to shield the noise sensitive receivers (NSR). • Maintenance and servicing of equipment and vehicles in accordance to manufacturers recommendations especially for noise mitigation components e.g. retaining silencers and mufflers supplied with construction equipment. • Working hours to be between 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday and 08:00 to 13:00 on Saturdays, with no working outside these hours or on Sundays and Bank Holidays without prior agreement from Horsham District Council • HGV movements to or from the site will occur outside of peak hours where practically possible. • Screen plant to reduce noise when this cannot be done by increasing the distance between the source and the receiver • Fit compressors with properly lined and sealed acoustic enclosures where environmental noise disturbance may arise, which should be kept closed whenever the machines are in use • Orientate plant that is known to emit noise strongly in one direction so that the noise is directed away from dwellings, where possible • Close acoustic covers to engines when they are in use or idling • Lower materials slowly, whenever practicable, and not drop them
Powered Mechanical Equipment from General Construction Works	Select quiet equipment whenever possible: • Silenced/super silenced compressors or electric compressor (when mains power available); • Hydraulic concrete cutters and crushers, and rock drills (up to 20 dB noise reduction). • Pneumatic breakers fitted with mufflers and damping collars (up to 21dB noise reduction)
Material movement	• Drop heights from lorries will be kept to a minimum.
Lighting	• Works will only be undertaken during daylight hours and with works completed at least 30 minutes prior to dusk or commencing 30 minutes after dawn to reduce disturbance to Otters, Badgers and bats. • Any lighting used will be restricted to daylight hours and will be directed away from sensitive habitat areas, using directional lighting where needed.
Fencing	• Heras fencing or similar will be used around the area of impact on site to limit disturbance outside of the construction area.

9.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

Table 7 below demonstrates the applicable risks and associated residual risks once the measures detailed in **Sections 4.0 – 8.0** have been implemented.

Table 7. Risk Assessment.

Environmental Aspect	**Risk**			**Total**	**Residual Risk** (after control measures)			**Total**
	O	**D**	**C**		**O**	**D**	**C**	
Water								
Pollution Run-off	3	3	6	36	1	3	2	8
Dust/Air Quality								
Site Preparation and Excavations	2	3	6	30	1	2	4	12
Vehicular Movements	4	3	8	56	2	1	4	12
Stockpiles	3	3	8	48	2	1	4	12
Hazardous Substances								
Spills / Contamination	2	5	8	56	1	2	8	24
Waste	2	4	8	48	1	2	8	24
Designated Sites deterioration								
Damage to habitats outside works area	2	4	8	48	1	2	8	24
Noise & Visual Disturbance								
Vehicles & Machinery	3	4	8	56	2	2	4	16
Human	2	4	4	24	1	2	4	12
Lighting	4	2	8	48	2	1	6	18

Likelihood of Occurrence (O)		+ Likelihood of Detection (D)		X Severity of Consequence (C)	
Criteria	**Rank**	**Criteria**	**Rank**	**Criteria**	**Rank**
V High	5	V High	1	V High	10
High	4	High	2	High	8
Moderate	3	Moderate	3	Moderate	6
Low	2	Low	4	Low	4
V Low	1	V Low	5	V Low	2

Significance Rating



Scoring

4 **30** **70** **100**

Low **Medium** **High**

Table 7 shows that once all practical measures and sensitive working practices have been implemented all significance ratings are reduced to 'low' and are therefore acceptable to proceed.

Table 7. Residual significant rating and associated remedial action.

Residual Risk/Significance Rating	Remedial Action
Low	No further mitigation required/ Periodic Monitoring required
Medium	Acceptable – Continued monitoring/control and review
High	Not Acceptable – Further mitigation required

10.0 RESPONSIBILITY

The eCEMP will be distributed to the project team, including sub-contractors, to ensure that the environmental requirements are communicated effectively. **Table 8** below describes the different roles and associated responsibilities throughout the construction period. It is the responsibility of the client to ensure roles are appointed prior to works commencing.

Table 8. Key roles and responsibility.

Role	Name	Responsibilities
Client	Miller Homes	• Responsible for ensuring all contractors comply with environmental legislation • Overall responsibility for the implementation of this eCEMP
Project Manager	To be appointed by client	• Responsible for ensuring all construction contractors comply with environmental legislation • Overall responsibility for the implementation of this eCEMP
Site Management Team	To be appointed by client	• Responsible for delivering the site inductions of environmental aspects • Tool box talks to all contractors to ensure implementation of good practice • Assist Site Manager in weekly site audits • Monitor sub-contractors work for compliance • Manage Considerate Constructors Scheme
Principal Contractor	To be appointed by client	• Prepare site specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements taking into account all environmental issues
Contractor/Sub-Contractors	To be appointed by client	• Ensure workforce is fully aware of the environment issues and are implemented • Take appropriate action to rectify any non-conformance
Community liaison officer	To be appointed by client	• Responsible for public liaison and handling complaints

10.1 Contractor Awareness Of Ecological Constraints

An Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will be appointed. A suitably experienced ecologist will give a detailed toolbox talk to the construction team prior to any works getting underway. The document will be formally distributed to the principal contractor and will form part of the Ecological Clerk of Work's presentation to the contractor team.

Prior to any construction work commencing on any part of the site, the ECoW will brief all site personnel on the content of the mitigation strategy and the ecological constraints/sensitivities within the site. This will be undertaken before any works start on the site. Following this initial briefing, it will be the responsibility of the site manager to notify the ECoW of any new personnel that have not been briefed by the ECoW. The ECoW will then arrange to provide this briefing to those personnel before they start work on the site.

The Client or Client's representative will liaise with the contractor's site project manager on a regular basis. The Contractor will provide contacts and named points of escalation for any issues that may adversely impact site conditions.

It will be the responsibility of the ECoW to provide the site manager with a plan illustrating the ecological constraints/sensitivities during the construction works.

10.2 Training Awareness and Competence

Site staff shall be competent to perform tasks that have the potential to cause a significant ecological impact. Competence is defined in terms of appropriate education, training and experience. Ecological awareness and training shall be achieved by:

- Site induction, including a talk given by an Ecologist, during which information on all protected areas will be given and the restriction of personnel into the fenced areas
- Information on protected species will be given including field signs to look out for during construction work.

10.3 Line of Communication Regarding Ecological Issues

Prior to works getting underway, all staff will be aware of the ecological features and associated issues on site. They will be conscious of the impacts of their actions not only on the retained areas on site but also the locality of nationally and internationally designated sites nearby. They will also be mindful during works of field signs of protected species and finally of the steps to take in the eventuality that an ecological situation arises. Therefore, as soon as an issue is uncovered/advise is needed, the client will be consulted. They will then contact the Ecologist who will visit the site and advise accordingly.

10.4 Public Communication Strategy

A public communication strategy will be developed to ensure an adequate reporting process by the public. A Community Liaison Officer will be appointed who will be responsible for handling public liaison and complaints. An established point of contact for public will be made available (e.g. contact form, email and/or phone number). A complaints log will be kept of any complaints received. The complaints log will be made available to Horsham District Council on request.

11.0 CONCLUSION

This Ecological Construction Environmental Method Plan (eCEMP) outlines the measures to be carried out during and prior to construction to ensure the protection of sensitive areas and biodiversity. This report has detailed the methods which will be adopted to protect the environmental value of the site during construction works. This report should be read in conjunction with the supporting ecological reports.

12.0 REFERENCES

Barrell Tree Consultancy (2026) *Land at Campsfield,* Tree Protection Plan

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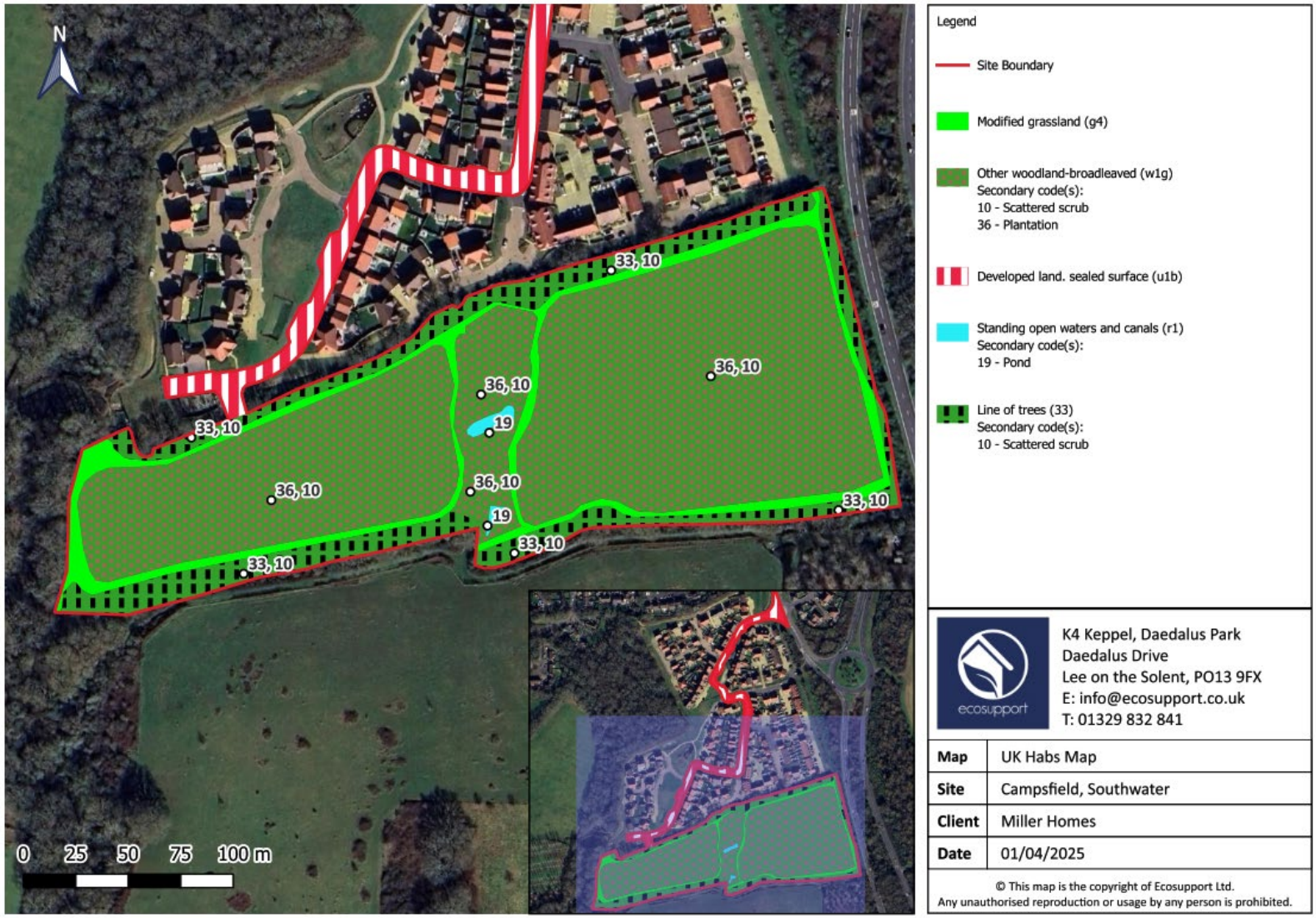
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Paul Basham (2026) *Land at Campsfield, Southwater*. Construction Environmental Management Plan

Appendix 1. UK Habs Map



Appendix 2. Tree Protection Plan (Barrell Tree Consultancy 2026)

