

LAND ("Reservoir Field") FORMING PART OF THE FIELD PLACE ESTATE

LYING WEST OF BYFLEETS LANE, AND SOUTH OF STROOD LANE, WARNHAM AND TRACK RUNNING FROM NORTH OF THE LAWSON-HUNT INDUSTRIAL PARK , OLD GUILDFORD ROAD WEST ("OGRW") RH12 3JR (or RH12 3PB)

FULL PLANNING PERMISSION ("Permission") BY HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL ("Council")

PERMISSION REFERENCE DC/24/0220

OWNERS: FIELD PLACE FARMS (Schulenberg Farms Limited/Kenneth Prichard Jones)

CONDITIONS 5 and 6

MOBILE SPECIES PRECAUTIONARY METHOD STATEMENT

LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

DR ROSALYN CASE

Attachments

1. Attachment 1. Tree screens, hedges and boundary features in Reservoir Field. Photographs 1.1 to 1.22 (inclusive)
2. Attachment 2. Track route across Top Park with quadrat results and comparison with Lake Field sward. Photographs 2.1 to 2.19 (inclusive)

Photographs have captions

AIMS OF THE SCHEME AS PERMITTED

The primary aims of the scheme are to increase biodiversity and to improve the fertility of the soil in Reservoir Field thereby providing food resources for the Dreadnought herd of White Park cattle. Reservoir Field was low-grade pasture with low yields and will become high-grade pasture with high yields. The sward will be full of wildflowers and the earthen walls around the field will continue to be populated by a wide variety of flowering plants and tree seedlings providing corridors for wildlife. The tree screens and hedges on the boundaries will not be affected and, as has happened in Lake Field and that part of Reservoir Field which has been improved already, little change will be visible from within or outside the field. The pond will increase biodiversity and provide a base for amphibians, birds, insects, small mammals and reptiles as well as a water resource for larger mammals and future management will ensure that this continues. No building works are involved in the scheme except for drainage works which will, mainly, be invisible and it is intended that this will not change. The impact of the works on mobile creatures will be minimised by the retention of the surrounding trees and hedges and the extension of the earthen wall corridors. The management of agricultural land and features is governed by the seasons and follows a repetitive pattern every year.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Reservoir Field comprises about 5.61ha of pasture which has been grazed by the White Park cattle on the Field Place Estate.

1.2. This resulted in significant poaching of the soil so that the cattle were often in mud up to their knees.

1.3. The natural soil was all stoneless non-calcareous silty clay loam over Weald clay covering Weald siltstone[1].

1.4. This soil was not very fertile or productive and the haylage yield needed to provide food for the White Park herd over winter was low.

1.5. The field comprised open pasture surrounded by tree screens and hedges planted by the current owners (there is a bund on the southern boundary)[2].

1.6. Observation over many years had demonstrated that the field was a "pasture desert" with low attractiveness to any forms of wildlife and a limited range of plants apart from various types of grass.

1.7. Reservoir Field, like the rest of the Field Place Estate, had been run under an organic regime since 1985 but this had not significantly increased the range of plants.

1.8. The tree screens on the northern, eastern and western boundaries have suffered from Ash die-back although some Ash trees in the western tree screen seem to be thriving.[3] Self-sown Oak (English, Turkey, Evergreen and hybrids) are growing well in the tree screens and the hedge on the eastern boundary. Where gaps have appeared because of fallen Ash, oaks of various types have grown up.

1.9. This is the case on the seams of blue clay which run through the tree screen on the northern boundary and that of the adjoining Barn Field. These were not tested by Reading Agricultural Consultants. The blue clay seems to limit the growth rate of even the oaks and almost nothing else (except grass) will grow on it.

1.10. White Parks are notorious jumpers and escapers and the Estate's insurers stipulated that they should be confined by steep earth bunding.[4]

1.11. The owners of the Estate had researched the history of marling[5] (the introduction of significant quantities of chalk) as a means of enhancing long-term fertility and decided that Reservoir Field would be a suitable place for experimenting with that process.

1.12. It was decided that a process of fertility enhancement through the import of topsoil and chalk and the creation of earthen walls around Reservoir Field to confine the White Parks could be combined to produce a secure and fertile field which was, also, resistant to poaching.

---

[1] Report by Reading Agricultural Consultants of February 2018.
[2] See plan attached.
[3] See photographs 14 and 15 with captions in Attachment 1.
[4] Letter of 2nd August 2017 from NFU Mutual (attachment 14 in the application).
[5] "Marling in British Agriculture" by W M Matthew (attachment 11 in the application)



1.13. Following an application to the Council prior notification approval was granted for the southernmost third of Reservoir Field on 29th June 2018.[6]

1.14. Those works have been completed and are the subject of my seven (7) reports concerning Reservoir Field[7]. I have been working at Field Place for over a dozen years.

1.15. Fertility has increased significantly (a fourfold increase in the haylage yield) and bio-diversity has, also, increased. There are now over 100 varieties of flowering plants on the earthen walls and improved area of Reservoir Field.

1.16. The remainder of Reservoir Field has not been improved and a resolution to grant planning permission to complete similar works in the rest of the field was passed by the Council on 4th October 2024[8] and the planning permission issued on 7th October 2024.

1.17. The application included the construction of two ponds in the north-western and south-western corners of the field although only the pond in the north-west corner will now be constructed.

1.18. Sightings and sound recordings of the number and variety of insects and birds using Reservoir Field have increased.

1.19. The works the subject of DC/24/0220 will be confined to the area of pasture in Reservoir Field and will not intrude into any of the tree screens or hedges.

1.20. The new pond will be constructed by excavating the clay from the original surface level and raising banks of loamy soil around it so that water flowing through the loamy levels in the field will drain into the pond following the natural fall of the land.

1.21. In addition to the soil improvement programme, planning permission was granted for the construction of a track from the existing access on the Old Guildford Road West to the existing track leading from the Lime Avenue.

1.22. The new track will cross Top Park[9].

1.23. The Estate is a working farm breeding and caring for White Park cattle. The management of the cattle involves frequent inspections (at least three times per day when the cattle are grazing in the fields and much more frequently when they are in the barns).

1.24. This regime ensures that any problems on the farm are noted swiftly and appropriate action taken.

2. DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF FEATURES TO BE MANAGED

2.1. The following features are to be managed:

2.1.1. The improved grassland area in the southernmost third of Reservoir Field;

2.1.2. The tree screens on the northern and western boundaries;

2.1.3. The hedge on the eastern boundary;

---

[6] DC/18/1185

[7] These are all available from the planning portal for application DC/24/0220 on the Council's planning website.

[8] Permission DC/24/0220

[9] Please see attachment 2 of the Application for the Permission (plan).



2.1.4. The bund on the southern boundary;
2.1.5. The existing earthen walls on the eastern and western boundaries;
2.1.6. The soil and chalk deposits in the rest of Reservoir Field as they progress with wildflower planting as well as grass;
2.1.7. The proposed earthen wall on the northern boundary;
2.1.8. The proposed extensions of the earthen walls along the eastern and western boundaries;
2.1.9. The proposed pond and its banks and island;
2.1.10. The proposed new track across Top Park.

2.2. As a result of changes in the management of the Dreadnought herd, it is no longer necessary to divide up the field into quarters or to extend the track into the field.

2.3. In addition, after a study of the water flows from springs along the southern boundary, the proposed pond close to the southern boundary is no longer considered necessary and the water will be directed downhill to the pond close to the north-western corner of the field.

2.4. The new improved soil in the northern two-thirds of Reservoir Field will be managed as pasture for both haylage and grazing.

2.5. When the soil deliveries have ceased, the track across Top Park will be grassed over and maintained as a resilient route to access Lake Field and the area between the track and Lake 1 will be sown with wildflowers matching the similar area on the opposite bank of Lake 1.

3. ECOLOGICAL TRENDS AND CONSTRAINTS ON SITE THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE MANAGEMENT

RESERVOIR FIELD

3.1. The invasive nature of several weeds must be overcome and the spread of those weeds by root extension or seeds must be avoided both for the benefit of the pasture and the wildflowers on the earthen walls.[10]

3.2. The Estate has been run under an organic regime for 40 years so herbicides cannot and will not be used to control the weeds the subject ot the legislation (see footnote 10 below) which are:
3.2.1. Spear thistle;
3.2.2. Creeping thistle;
3.2.3. Broad leaved dock;
3.2.4. Ragwort.

3.3. The White Parks will eat Broad leaved dock in the pasture parts of Reservoir Field. They will not eat any of the others although dodgered and wilted thistles are palatable after a few days..

3.4. The Estate is organic and, therefore, no herbicides may be used on any part of it.

3.5. Mechanical mowing cannot be used on the earthen walls.

3.6. As a result, any of the notifiable weeds mentioned above which grow on the earthen walls, the bund, the tree screens and the hedges must be dodgered so

[10] Weeds Act 1959 and Ragwort Control Act 2003



that they can be cut without damaging nearby wildflowers. Ragwort must be pulled up by hand. It is toxic to humans so thick gloves must be worn which are not soaked.

3.7. Ragwort is toxic to cattle so must be removed from pasture where haylage is to be cut. Whereas White Parks will not eat Ragwort growing in a field because of its foul smell and bitter taste, those features are reduced by wilting and fermentation in Haylage but the toxic alkaloids in the plant are not.

3.8. Experience has demonstrated that dodgering and Ragwort removal take about 2-3 hours per day throughout the growing periods of the year[11]. Warmer and wetter winters mean that these weeds are growing for longer periods through each year.

3.9. The Estate is close to areas where thistles and Ragwort are allowed to seed freely. Therefore, these weeds will be continuously replenished from outside the Estate. There will never be a time when these weeds will be eliminated but their ability to seed will be significantly reduced.

3.10. However, creeping thistle is subject to a disease which turns them white and prevents them seeding[12]. This may be spread by the effects of dodgering because it has become established in areas where dodgering has been constant. In some of those areas, Creeping thistle has been eliminated.

3.11. The earthen walls on the northern, eastern and western boundaries will prevent the White Parks trimming the hedges and trees in the tree screens[13]. This means that, while the trees can be left, the hedges may need to be clipped occasionally. The Estate allows hedges to grow up to an unusual height.[14] However, they will need to be clipped approximately every five years.

3.12. Any new hedges around the field must be protected from the White Parks while they are growing or the hedges will be damaged and, possibly, destroyed[15].

POND

3.13. The banks around the pond will be too steep for mowing and dodgering must be done by hand.

3.14. There will be no grazing on the banks as they will be too tall and too steep for the White Parks.

3.15. This will keep the White Parks away from the pond which will ensure the margins are not poached and pond and marshland plants vulnerable to grazing will be protected.

3.16. The pond will be vulnerable to invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam and Water Hemlock. The latter is highly toxic for all animals and a small piece of root will kill an adult cow quickly.

3.17. Mobile creatures will find the pond an useful resource even when work is progressing in Reservoir Field because it will be isolated from the field but

---

[11] March to the end of October depending on the weather although warm spells in winter can stimulate growth.

[12] Composite report of June 2024. Photo of 7th June 2024.

[13] Please see photograph 21 annexed to this report.

[14] Photograph 5 of the photographs annexed to this report.

[15] Please see photograph 21 as above.



remain adjacent and connected to the tree screen on the northern boundary and that on the western boundary.

TRACK

3.18. The track will pass through the existing pasture in the western section of Top Park.

3.19. There is one mature Oak tree which is about 20 metres away from the track.

3.20. There is a Scots Pine which is about 15 metres away from the track.

3.21. There are no other trees close to the track.

3.22. A laurel bush will have to be pruned back to allow the lorries to pass freely from the dam between Lakes 4 and 2 and Top Park. This will have to be done annually.

3.23. There is a small beetle bank within 20 metres of the track but this backs onto a copse and is close to both Lakes 2 and 4[16].

3.24. The poor clay soil of the area west of the route of the track means that wildflower planting may have to be undertaken several times (as happened in the area on the opposite bank of Lake 1).

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

RESERVOIR FIELD

4.1. The management of Reservoir Field aims to achieve the following:

- 4.1.1. The laying of high-quality topsoil and sandy chalk on the portion of the field which has not been improved;
- 4.1.2. The retention and maintenance of a permanent pasture field with a significant proportion of wildflowers in the sward;
- 4.1.3. The retention and extension of the surrounding earthen walls (and bund on the southern boundary) as areas where wildflowers, shrubs and trees can thrive;
- 4.1.4. The maintenance of those walls as effective barriers to escape by the White Parks;
- 4.1.5. The formation and maintenance of wildlife corridors along the routes of those earthen walls;
- 4.1.6. The control of invasive weeds without recourse to herbicides;
- 4.1.7. The maintenance of all hedges around the field;
- 4.1.8. The minimum mechanical intervention necessary to achieve high yields of Haylage and the provision of over winter grazing for White Parks;
- 4.1.9. Light touch management leaving the earthen walls and the tree screens to develop naturally.
- 4.1.10. Low energy consumption by agricultural machinery because the only work on the field will be during the hay cut and baling.
- 4.1.11. No fertilisers of any kind to be used on the field as the grazing cattle will drop this during the autumn/winter season while grazing and a high clover content in the sward will fix nitrogen to complement the effects of the marling.

[16] Please see photograph 22.



4.1.12. Continuing carbon capture as a result of using the imported soil as a growing medium, taking advantage of its already-absorbed carbon, and the vegetation consuming large quantities of carbon dioxide.

4.1.13. Improvement in levels of Soil Organic Contents within the soil as the organic manure deposited by the White Parks while grazing is incorporated in the soil by a combination of pheasant and dung beetle activity.

POND

4.2. The management of the pond in Reservoir Field aims to achieve the following:

4.2.1. Maintenance of the water level in the pond at a safe level so that vegetation and creatures in it are not threatened by areas drying out.

4.2.2. The formation and retention of the pond in the north-western corner of the field as a water resource where no species of vegetation becomes dominant but the pondweed thrives to maintain oxygen levels high enough to provide a suitable habitat for amphibians, water insects and aquatic creatures generally.

4.2.3. The creation of secure shelters for amphibians, insects and small mammals by placing branches in a few places around the pond[17].

TRACK

4.3. The management of the Track across Top Park aims to achieve the following:

4.3.1. The laying of the track in a manner (as set out in Conditions 10 and 11 of the Permission) which is sufficiently robust to bear the weight of the proposed laden lorries and require few repairs and without compaction of the soil below the surface materials;

4.3.2. The regular maintenance and repair of the track, when necessary, to ensure that there is no need for vehicles to leave it and run on the pasture[18];

4.3.3. The control of invasive weeds on the borders of the track and in the pasture by allowing the White Parks, to graze alongside the track over weekends so that invasive weeds will be readily apparent on those borders and in the sward and can be dodgered;

4.3.4. The separation of the lorries from the White Parks whenever the lorries are running (the cattle are all used to the lorries and have shown no curiosity about them and the electric fence dividing Top Park will be mains connected and delivering 10,000 volts[19]);

4.3.5. The grassing over of the track, when the lorries have ceased to run, with resilient grass, so that it can be used for the passage of agricultural vehicles and rapid access to Lake Field if White Parks are grazing in Lake Field.

---

[17] Adders overwinter in the manure heaps around the Estate where the warmth generated by the rotting process seems to suit them. They are unlikely to try to share branch piles on the edge of a pond because of the damp and cold.

[18] The Estate has its own machinery and operatives to do this.

[19] It has to be noted that White Parks can work together to destroy any electric fence if they so wish so movement of the cattle between fields in the interests of grass regeneration is important.



5. APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR ACHIEVING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

RESERVOIR FIELD

5.1. The management options for Reservoir Field are as follows:

5.1.1. **Soil**. Retaining a permanent long-term employee to inspect every load of soil as it arrives at the tipping point and to reject any which do not comply with the description "clean topsoil"[20];

5.1.2. **Pasture**. Taking a haylage cut in late July or early August (depending on the weather and the seeding season for wildflowers), letting the White Parks graze the field until early February the next year and then leaving the grass and wildflowers to grow during the Spring and Summer until the cut again in July/August (depending on the weather);

5.1.3. **Earthen walls**. Dodgering along all the earthen walls to eliminate invasive weeds and to leave space for wildflowers, shrubs and trees to grow;

5.1.4. **Barriers**. Regular inspection, while dodgering, to ensure that the earthen walls remain in good and stable condition;

5.1.5. **Corridors**. The removal of any barriers to the passage and migration of wildlife along the route of the earthen walls as found during the regular inspections;

5.1.6. **Hedges**. Regular inspection of the hedges (when the White Parks are present, the field will be inspected at least three times per day) and replacement planting (if necessary) in the Spring when the White Parks have left;

5.1.7. **Intervention**. The continuation of the regime described in paragraph 5.1.2. above with the cattle dung, which is deposited over Autumn and Winter, being infested by larvae, broken up by Pheasants into small balls as they scratch at the cowpats and pick out the larvae and then buried around the field by dung beetles (all this needs no intervention from humans except if the sward needs rolling in the Spring and when the Haylage cut occurs).

POND

5.2. The management options for the pond in Reservoir Field are as follows:

5.1.1. **Clean Water.** The provision of a regular supply of clean water by draining the springs in the south-west corner of the field downhill and into the pond via an underground drain where necessary

5.1.2. **Pond maintenance**. Regular inspection and removal of dominant vegetation particularly any invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam and Water Hemlock by dodgering.

5.1.3. **Effective drainage**. The creation of a drainage system whereby the pond drains into the existing tree screen in the north-western corner of the field. This area has been damp for years as a result of the spring water flowing downhill. The diversion of that spring water into the pond

[20] The identity of the inspector has been made known to and accepted by the soil contractors



and then into the swampy area will make very little difference to the ecology of the swampy area.

TRACK

5.2. The management options for the Track are as follows:

5.2.1. **Track laying.** The employee who will monitor the soil deliveries will, also, supervise the track laying;

5.2.2. **Track maintenance.** This will be done by the same employee.

5.2.3. **Control of weeds.** The White Parks will be allowed to graze that part of Top Park where the track is located every third weekend during the growing season (the lorries will not run on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays);

5.2.4. **Separation.** The electric fence will be checked at least three times per day when the White Parks are near the track (for long periods, they will be grazing well away from the track area);

5.2.5. **Grassing over.** This will be done by the Estate's agricultural contractors[21].

6. PRESCRIPTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

RESERVOIR FIELD

6.1. The management prescriptions for the management of Reservoir Field are as follows:

6.1.1. **Regular inspections.** During the period when the White Parks are grazing in Reservoir Field, the field will be visited and inspected at least three times per day. Throughout the year, Dr Case will visit, inspect the field and record further progress in biodiversity.

6.1.2. **Rolling.** If the ground is cut up by the cattle over winter, when they are removed each February, the field will be rolled.

6.1.3. **Dodgering.** The earthen walls, the banks of the pond and the bund on the southern boundary will be dodgered at least once a week during the growing season.

6.1.4. **Haylage cut.** Once a year in late July/August, the field will be mown and the grass baled for Haylage.

6.1.5. **Spring/Summer.** When the White Parks are out of the field to allow the grass and other plants to grow, dodgering will take place at least once a week to remove invasive weeds or toxic plants. Ragwort will be pulled up, bagged and burnt. Any damage to hedges will be repaired and replanted.

POND

6.2. The management prescriptions for the management of the Pond are as follows:

6.2.1. **Drains.** The drainage system both into and out of the pond will be inspected and, where necessary cleaned, each Spring.

---

[21] The contractors have been briefed as to the future work required to grass over the track and are advising on construction and surface treatment to ensure that, when the track ceases to be used for deliveries, its grassing over will be successful and sustainable.



6.2.2. **Island.** The island in the pond will be inspected, invasive weeds will be dodgered or pulled up. The Estate has a boat for this purpose and for use on the lakes.

6.2.3. **Planting.** The margins of the pond and the island will be planted with suitable plants to encourage insects where necessary.

6.2.4. **Thinning.** Plants which have spread and threaten to overwhelm other valuable plants and thereby reduce diversity will be thinned both on the margins of the pond and the island and also on the steep banks around the pond.

6.2.5. **Inspection.** The pond will be inspected at the end of each winter for signs of damage or any other problems.

TRACK

6.3. The management prescriptions for the management of the Track are as follows:

6.3.1. **Speed.** There is a 5mph speed limit for all lorries using tracks on the Estate. This is enforced by cameras and, if necessary, by recourse to the tachograph in the cab if warnings are ignored. The tachographs are remotely monitored and the precise location of a lorry and its speed is recorded at a central hub. In a couple of cases in the past, drivers have been banned from the Estate after repeated infringements.

6.3.2. **Boundaries.** The track will be inspected at least daily. Any abuse by drivers of the boundaries causing damage to the adjoining grassland will be reported to the company delivering soil. Damage will be rolled and seeded quickly. The Estate has the machinery and operatives to do this.

6.3.3. **Condition.** The track will be inspected daily and any necessary repairs will be carried out quickly. The Estate has the machinery and operatives to do this.

6.3.4. **Mud**. The lorries will never leave a hard surface. However, if mud is deposited on the track, it will be cleaned. All lorries leaving the Estate by the Old Guildford Road West entrance (the only one which can be used for this purpose) will have to use a wheel spinner and washer which will be located close to the permitted track[22] which will be resurfaced with concrete to ensure that it remains clean. Cameras cover that area and drivers know that they must use the spinner/washer.

6.3.5. **Gates**. Access and egress will be via electric gates off Old Guildford Road West. These will be serviced regularly. The Estate has a local specialist who is on call to repair any faults in electric gates on the Estate.

6.3.6. **Passing**. There are ample passing places along the tracks on the Estate. There will be no passing place on the track across Top Park but each end is visible from tracks leading to it so lorries can wait in a secure bay for an oncoming lorry to pass by. Some passing places are covered by cameras.

7. IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANS

[22] DC/21/1235



The bodies responsible for the implementation of the above plans are the owners of the Estate. These are Kenneth and Dagmar Prichard Jones and their wholly-owned companies Field Place Estate Limited, Cutstar Limited and Schulenberg Farms Limited ("SFL"). SFL runs the Estate, including the White Park herd, and will undertake the day-to-day management. It has been doing so since 1983. The revenue of the Estate from commercial tenants occupying buildings converted by SFL is sufficient to pay for the management of Reservoir Field, the Pond and the Track for the foreseeable future (at least the next five years).

8. ONGOING MONITORING AND REMEDIAL MEASURES

The following monitoring and remedial measures will apply:

SOIL

8.1. A full-time person will check each delivery of soil both before and after it is unloaded.

8.2. Drivers know that, if the lights are on in the South wing of Field Place, which overlooks a track which the lorries must use to reach Reservoir Field, they must lift their dust covers so the load can be seen from the house. If there is anything other than topsoil on the lorry, an alert will be sent to the inspector who will reject the load before it is unloaded.

8.3. There are cameras in many places throughout the Estate and more cameras will be installed so that work in Reservoir Field can be monitored at all times.

8.4. Cameras overlooking the box by the entrance from Old Guildford Road West will log the delivery of a ticket for the load by each driver and the numberplate of the lorry. The ticket will provide the source of the load and its type. Only "clean topsoil" will be accepted[23].

8.5. The soil to be imported is a growing medium which is being transferred by its owner to another landowner for use again as a growing medium. It is not waste. Most of the soil will be sourced from residential gardens and sports grounds.

8.6. If an unacceptable load is deposited by a lorry, it will be rejected and the delivery company will be obliged to collect it and remove it from the Estate.

BIODIVERSITY

8.7. The progress of the enhancement of biodiversity in Reservoir Field and the Pond will be monitored by Dr Case who will continue to produce her monthly reports on the Estate generally (including Reservoir Field and the Pond).

8.8. As its section of the remaining parts of Reservoir Field are completed, they will be drilled and seeded with a bespoke 80:20 grass and wildflower mix

[23] If a load contains a small quantity of small natural stones, it may be retained for use as a base layer.



supplied by Bartholomews of Chichester. The mixture includes plants which thrive in a chalky environment as well as those which prefer sandy loam or even clay. The plant list replicates that seeded in Lake Field in 2021[24].

8.9. The list is as follows:

8.9.1. Sainfoin;
8.9.2. Red clover;
8.9.3. Birdsfoot Trefoil;
8.9.4. Winter vetch;
8.9.5. Yarrow;
8.9.6. Lucerne;
8.9.7. Alsike Clover;
8.9.8. Black Medick;
8.9.9. Oxeye Daisy;
8.9.10. Musk Mallow;
8.9.11. Red Campion;
8.9.12. Wild Carrot;
8.9.13. Corn Cockle;
8.9.14. Selfheal;
8.9.15. Cornflower;
8.9.16. Goats Rue;
8.9.17. Corn Marigold;
8.9.18. Field Poppy;
8.9.19. Lady's Bedstraw;
8.9.20. Salad Burnet.

8.10. The progress of the plants after seeding will be monitored. Experience in both the improved section of Reservoir Field and the whole of Lake Field indicates that some plants take several years to appear and grow strongly. The comparison between the quadrat surveys in Lake Field and Top Park demonstrates the success of the soil imports and the seeding programme.

8.11. Along the route of the track in Top Park, during the quadrat survey, only one insect was recorded (a Common bog hoverfly (*Sericomyia silentis*) whilst substantial numbers of insects were recorded in Lake Field including a Carder bee (*Bombus pascuorum*) and many other honey bees.

8.12. The plants, insects and birds in Reservoir Field and the Pond will be monitored and recorded by Dr Case for at least five years from completion of the works.

8.13. If the seeding programme is not successful because of adverse weather, it will be repeated until the results are satisfactory.

8.14. Despite the soil deliveries and works in the past in Reservoir Field, a Barn Owl (*Tyto Alba*) has been seen frequently hunting over the bund on the

[24] DC/21/1235. Attachment 7.



southern boundary and in the improved sward in the early morning light for several years. It generally disappeared into the tree screen on the northern boundary. When dodgering was in progress in that tree screen two years ago, a roosting Barn Owl was disturbed later in the day and, since then, no dodgering has been done in that sector. The last sighting of a Barn Owl in Reservoir Field in the very early morning in Reservoir Field was on 17th October 2024. It seems clear that the works in the field do not disturb it but work in the trees where it is roosting during the day do so and so there will be no human intervention in that area of the tree screen for the foreseeable future.

8.15. The earthen walls and the boundary hedges and tree screens will continue to provide mobile creatures with ample cover and corridors to move around away from any machinery working in Reservoir Field and afterwards when those works have ceased.

TRACK

8.16. The restoration of the track will be done by the Estate using its own machinery and operatives.

8.17. The seeding programme will be monitored by Dr Case.

8.18. If the remediation is not as successful as required, it will be repeated until the grass growth is satisfactory.

8.19. The grass used will be of a resilient variety suitable for use where there is some traffic so that the track can still be used as a rapid access route to Lake Field.

8.20. As previously, mentioned, the area between the route of the track and the bank of Lake 1 will be seeded with wildflowers so that it matches the similar area on the opposite (west) bank of Lake 1.[25]

Dated 22nd October 2024

Dr. Rosalyn M. Case
Riverbank Management Services
Teffont Magna
Salisbury Road,
Horsham,
West Sussex
RH13 0AJ

[25] The depredations of the hundreds of geese have meant that grass growth on the west bank has been inhibited. However, the poor quality soil has meant that a limited number of wildflowers have thrived over the years. These include bird's foot trefoil, bristly ox-tongue, common plantain, goat's rue, oxeye daisy, purple dead nettle, purple knapweed and white dead nettle . Notifiable weeds which are dodgered or pulled are broad-leaved dock, creeping thistle and ragwort. This is all likely to be repeated on the area between the track and the east bank of Lake 1.