

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.1 Legislation, Policy and guidance

# Ardersier Port Extension

784-B069769

## Appendix 12.1 Legislation, policy and guidance

**Hventus**

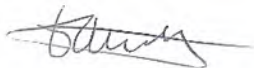
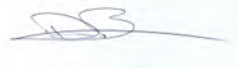
**September 2025**

**Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number:  
01959704**

---

# DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>Document:</b>	Appendix 12.1 Legislation, policy and guidance
<b>Project:</b>	Ardersier Port Extension
<b>Client:</b>	Haventus
<b>Project Number:</b>	784-B069769

<b>Revision:</b>	V0.1	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sam King  <b>Senior Ecologist</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Draft	<b>Approved By:</b>	Doug Blease  <b>Associate Director</b>
<b>Description of Revision:</b>	Issue to client		

<b>Revision:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Description of Revision:</b>			

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

1.1 Legislation, policy and guidance .....4

## 1.1 LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE

### Habitats Directive

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, or the 'Habitats Directive', is a European Union directive adopted in 1992 in response to the Bern Convention. Its aims are to protect approximately 220 habitats and 1,000 species listed in its several Annexes.

In the UK, the Habitats Directive is transposed into national law via the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in Scotland, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales, and via the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) in Northern Ireland.

### The Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994

Within Scotland, the primary legislation in relation to Habitats Regulations remains the 1994 statutory instrument.

All species protected under this legislation are European Protected Species and licensing is required for the undertaking of certain activities affecting these species. The protection is applied to all stages of the animals' life.

Under Regulations 39 of the Habitats Regulations it is unlawful to deliberately or recklessly:

- capture, injure or kill such an animal;
- harass an animal or group of animals;
- disturb an animal while it is occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection;
- disturb an animal while it is rearing or otherwise caring for its young;
- obstruct access to a breeding site or resting place, or otherwise deny an animal use of a breeding site or resting place;
- disturb an animal in a manner or in circumstances likely to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- disturb an animal in a manner or in circumstances likely to impair its ability to survive, breed or reproduce, or rear or otherwise care for its young;
- disturb an animal while it is migrating or hibernating;
- take or destroy its eggs (in Scotland, this is relevant only to the great crested newt and natterjack toad); and
- disturb any cetacean (dolphin, porpoise, or whale).

If impacts to protected species are considered unavoidable then the works may need to be carried out under a site-specific licence from NatureScot. Certain displacement operations may be carried out under a Class licence by a registered person or a site-specific licence.

Species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Regulations are attributed further protection which means that Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) may be designated to internationally important sites for these species.

### Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Principal UK legislation for wildlife protection, implementing the Bern Convention.

Offences (excluding bird-specific provisions) include:

- Intentionally or recklessly killing, injuring, or taking any wild animal listed on Schedule 5;
- Interfering with places used for shelter or protection, or disturbing animals occupying such places;
- Prohibits certain methods of killing, injuring, or taking wild animals.
- Intentionally picking, uprooting, or destroying any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, or any seed/spore attached to such plants;
- Unless authorised, intentionally uprooting any wild plant not in Schedule 8;
- Selling, offering for sale, or possessing (for trade) any live or dead wild plant in Schedule 8, or any part/derivative thereof.

Schedule 5 covers 154 protected animal species (mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates).

Schedule 8 covers 185 protected plant species (higher plants, bryophytes, fungi, lichens).

Part 14 prohibits planting or causing to grow any plant in the wild outside its native range.

Invasive non-native plant material should be disposed of as bio-hazardous waste. It is recommended that plant material of invasive non-native species is disposed of as bio-hazardous waste, and these plants should not be used in planting schemes.

### Environment Protection Act 1990

The Act imposes a classification of soil and other waste containing viable propagules of invasive non-native plant species as controlled waste. This has been applied to Japanese Knotweed *Reynoutria japonica*, with the result that waste containing this species must be disposed of in accordance with the duty of care set out in section 34 of the Act.

### Protection of Badgers Act 1992

The main legislation protecting badgers in Scotland, England and Wales is the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (the 1992 Act). Under the 1992 Act it is an offence to: wilfully kill, injure, take or attempt to kill,

injure or take a badger; dig for a badger; interfere with a badger sett by, damaging a sett or any part thereof, destroying a sett, obstructing access to a sett, causing a dog to enter a sett or disturbing a badger while occupying a sett.

The 1992 Act defines a badger sett as: “any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger”.

### Global IUCN Red List

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Threatened Species was devised to provide a list of those species that are most at risk of becoming extinct globally. It provides taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information about threatened taxa around the globe.

The system catalogues threatened species into groups of varying levels of threat, which are: Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (EW), Critically Endangered (CE), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC), Data Deficient (DD), Not Evaluated (NE). Criteria for designation into each of the categories is complex, and consider several principles.

### Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAP) identify habitat and species conservation priorities at a local level (typically at the County level), and are usually drawn up by a consortium of local Government organisations and conservation charities.

Some LBAPs may also include Habitat Action Plans (HAP) and/or Species Action Plans (SAP), which are used to guide and inform the local decision making process.

### Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996

This Act offers protection to all wild species of mammals, irrespective of other legislation, and focussed on animal welfare, rather than conservation.

Unless covered by one of the exceptions, a person is guilty of an offence if he mutilates, kicks, beats, nails or otherwise impales, stabs, burns, stones, crushes, drowns, drags or asphyxiates any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering.

Its application is typically restricted to preventing deliberate harm to wildlife (in general) during construction works etc.

## National Planning Framework

National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) is the top tier of planning policy. The Framework provides guidance to local authorities and other agencies on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.

“Policy 1 gives significant weight to the nature crisis to ensure that it is recognised as a priority in all plans and decisions. Policy 4 protects and enhances natural heritage, and this is further supported by Policy 5 on soils and Policy 6 on forests, woodland and trees. Policy 20 also promotes the expansion and connectivity of blue and green infrastructure, whilst Policy 10 recognises the particular sensitivities of coastal areas.

Protection of the natural features of brownfield land is also highlighted in Policy 9, and protection of the green belt in Policy 8 will ensure that biodiversity in these locations is conserved and accessible to communities, bringing nature into the design and layout of our cities, towns, streets and spaces in Policy 14.

Most significantly, Policy 3 plays a critical role in ensuring that development will secure positive effects for biodiversity. It rebalances the planning system in favour of conserving, restoring and enhancing biodiversity and promotes investment in nature-based solutions, benefiting people and nature. The policy ensures that Local Development Plans (LDPs) protect, conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity and promote nature recovery and nature restoration. Proposals will be required to contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity, including by restoring degraded habitats and building and strengthening nature networks. Adverse impacts, including cumulative impacts, of development proposals on the natural environment will be minimised through careful planning and design, taking into account the need to reverse biodiversity loss. Development proposals for national, major or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, including nature networks, so they are in a demonstrably better state than without intervention. Proposals for local development will include appropriate measures to conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity.”

See here for full details: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.1 Legislation, Policy and guidance

# Ardersier Port Extension

784-B069769

## Appendix 12.1 Legislation, policy and guidance

**Hventus**

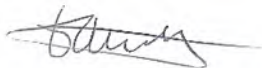

**September 2025**

**Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number:  
01959704**

---

# DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>Document:</b>	Appendix 12.1 Legislation, policy and guidance
<b>Project:</b>	Ardersier Port Extension
<b>Client:</b>	Haventus
<b>Project Number:</b>	784-B069769

<b>Revision:</b>	V0.1	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sam King  <b>Senior Ecologist</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Draft	<b>Approved By:</b>	Doug Blease  <b>Associate Director</b>
<b>Description of Revision:</b>	Issue to client		

<b>Revision:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Description of Revision:</b>			

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

1.1 Legislation, policy and guidance .....4

## 1.1 LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE

### Habitats Directive

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, or the 'Habitats Directive', is a European Union directive adopted in 1992 in response to the Bern Convention. Its aims are to protect approximately 220 habitats and 1,000 species listed in its several Annexes.

In the UK, the Habitats Directive is transposed into national law via the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in Scotland, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales, and via the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) in Northern Ireland.

### The Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994

Within Scotland, the primary legislation in relation to Habitats Regulations remains the 1994 statutory instrument.

All species protected under this legislation are European Protected Species and licensing is required for the undertaking of certain activities affecting these species. The protection is applied to all stages of the animals' life.

Under Regulations 39 of the Habitats Regulations it is unlawful to deliberately or recklessly:

- capture, injure or kill such an animal;
- harass an animal or group of animals;
- disturb an animal while it is occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection;
- disturb an animal while it is rearing or otherwise caring for its young;
- obstruct access to a breeding site or resting place, or otherwise deny an animal use of a breeding site or resting place;
- disturb an animal in a manner or in circumstances likely to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- disturb an animal in a manner or in circumstances likely to impair its ability to survive, breed or reproduce, or rear or otherwise care for its young;
- disturb an animal while it is migrating or hibernating;
- take or destroy its eggs (in Scotland, this is relevant only to the great crested newt and natterjack toad); and
- disturb any cetacean (dolphin, porpoise, or whale).

If impacts to protected species are considered unavoidable then the works may need to be carried out under a site-specific licence from NatureScot. Certain displacement operations may be carried out under a Class licence by a registered person or a site-specific licence.

Species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Regulations are attributed further protection which means that Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) may be designated to internationally important sites for these species.

### Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Principal UK legislation for wildlife protection, implementing the Bern Convention.

Offences (excluding bird-specific provisions) include:

- Intentionally or recklessly killing, injuring, or taking any wild animal listed on Schedule 5;
- Interfering with places used for shelter or protection, or disturbing animals occupying such places;
- Prohibits certain methods of killing, injuring, or taking wild animals.
- Intentionally picking, uprooting, or destroying any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, or any seed/spore attached to such plants;
- Unless authorised, intentionally uprooting any wild plant not in Schedule 8;
- Selling, offering for sale, or possessing (for trade) any live or dead wild plant in Schedule 8, or any part/derivative thereof.

Schedule 5 covers 154 protected animal species (mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates).

Schedule 8 covers 185 protected plant species (higher plants, bryophytes, fungi, lichens).

Part 14 prohibits planting or causing to grow any plant in the wild outside its native range.

Invasive non-native plant material should be disposed of as bio-hazardous waste. It is recommended that plant material of invasive non-native species is disposed of as bio-hazardous waste, and these plants should not be used in planting schemes.

### Environment Protection Act 1990

The Act imposes a classification of soil and other waste containing viable propagules of invasive non-native plant species as controlled waste. This has been applied to Japanese Knotweed *Reynoutria japonica*, with the result that waste containing this species must be disposed of in accordance with the duty of care set out in section 34 of the Act.

### Protection of Badgers Act 1992

The main legislation protecting badgers in Scotland, England and Wales is the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (the 1992 Act). Under the 1992 Act it is an offence to: wilfully kill, injure, take or attempt to kill,

injure or take a badger; dig for a badger; interfere with a badger sett by, damaging a sett or any part thereof, destroying a sett, obstructing access to a sett, causing a dog to enter a sett or disturbing a badger while occupying a sett.

The 1992 Act defines a badger sett as: “any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger”.

### Global IUCN Red List

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Threatened Species was devised to provide a list of those species that are most at risk of becoming extinct globally. It provides taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information about threatened taxa around the globe.

The system catalogues threatened species into groups of varying levels of threat, which are: Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (EW), Critically Endangered (CE), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC), Data Deficient (DD), Not Evaluated (NE). Criteria for designation into each of the categories is complex, and consider several principles.

### Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAP) identify habitat and species conservation priorities at a local level (typically at the County level), and are usually drawn up by a consortium of local Government organisations and conservation charities.

Some LBAPs may also include Habitat Action Plans (HAP) and/or Species Action Plans (SAP), which are used to guide and inform the local decision making process.

### Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996

This Act offers protection to all wild species of mammals, irrespective of other legislation, and focussed on animal welfare, rather than conservation.

Unless covered by one of the exceptions, a person is guilty of an offence if he mutilates, kicks, beats, nails or otherwise impales, stabs, burns, stones, crushes, drowns, drags or asphyxiates any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering.

Its application is typically restricted to preventing deliberate harm to wildlife (in general) during construction works etc.

## National Planning Framework

National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) is the top tier of planning policy. The Framework provides guidance to local authorities and other agencies on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.

“Policy 1 gives significant weight to the nature crisis to ensure that it is recognised as a priority in all plans and decisions. Policy 4 protects and enhances natural heritage, and this is further supported by Policy 5 on soils and Policy 6 on forests, woodland and trees. Policy 20 also promotes the expansion and connectivity of blue and green infrastructure, whilst Policy 10 recognises the particular sensitivities of coastal areas.

Protection of the natural features of brownfield land is also highlighted in Policy 9, and protection of the green belt in Policy 8 will ensure that biodiversity in these locations is conserved and accessible to communities, bringing nature into the design and layout of our cities, towns, streets and spaces in Policy 14.

Most significantly, Policy 3 plays a critical role in ensuring that development will secure positive effects for biodiversity. It rebalances the planning system in favour of conserving, restoring and enhancing biodiversity and promotes investment in nature-based solutions, benefiting people and nature. The policy ensures that Local Development Plans (LDPs) protect, conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity and promote nature recovery and nature restoration. Proposals will be required to contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity, including by restoring degraded habitats and building and strengthening nature networks. Adverse impacts, including cumulative impacts, of development proposals on the natural environment will be minimised through careful planning and design, taking into account the need to reverse biodiversity loss. Development proposals for national, major or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, including nature networks, so they are in a demonstrably better state than without intervention. Proposals for local development will include appropriate measures to conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity.”

See here for full details: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.2 Methodology

# Ardersier Port Extension

784-B069769

## Appendix 12.2: Methodology

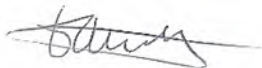

**Hventus**

**September 2025**

**Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number:  
01959704**

# DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>Document:</b>	Appendix 12.2: Methodology
<b>Project:</b>	Ardersier Port Extension
<b>Client:</b>	Haventus
<b>Project Number:</b>	784-B069769

<b>Revision:</b>	V1.0	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sam King  <b>Senior Ecologist</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Draft	<b>Approved By:</b>	Doug Blease  <b>Associate Director</b>
<b>Description of Revision:</b>	Issue to client		

<b>Revision:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Description of Revision:</b>			

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>1.0</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Ecological Impact Assessment Methodology.....	4
1.1.1	Guidance .....	4
1.1.2	Site terminology .....	4
1.1.3	Zone of influence .....	4
1.1.4	Importance.....	4
1.1.5	Significance Matrix.....	7
1.1.6	Assessment Methods .....	8

---

Table 1. Level of Importance .....	5
Table 2. Significance Matrix.....	8

## 1.0 METHODOLOGY

### 1.1 ECOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

---

This appendix provides a summary of the assessment methodology.

#### 1.1.1 Guidance

The EclA follows the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)<sup>1</sup> 2024 guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine Version 1.3. The assessment integrates both desk-based and field survey data to identify and evaluate the likely significant ecological effects of the Ardersier Port Extension (hereafter the proposed development).

#### 1.1.2 Site terminology

For the purposes of this EclA chapter, the term “site” refers specifically to the terrestrial extension land proposed for development as part of the proposed development. This area comprises woodland and gorse scrub habitats and differs significantly from the consented port footprint assessed in the 2018 EIA, which was limited to previously developed (brownfield) land.

The inclusion of semi-natural habitats introduces new ecological considerations and has informed the updated assessment of potential impacts and mitigation requirements. A full description of both the site and its context is provided in Chapter 3 (Project Description) of the EIAR.

#### 1.1.3 Zone of influence

The Zone of Influence (Zoi) was defined to assess direct and indirect ecological effects beyond the project boundary. Desk studies included data from National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway, Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), and aerial imagery, with search radii tailored to the important ecological features.

- 10km for sites of International Importance (e.g. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar sites);
- 2km for sites of National or Regional Importance (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), protected or otherwise notable species and non-statutory designated sites of County Importance (e.g. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS));
- 2km for biological records; and
- 1km search for ancient woodland on the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI).

#### 1.1.4 Importance

The **importance** of ecological features was determined using a schedule of geographic criteria (Table 1), considering factors such as the quality or extent of designated sites and habitats, species or habitat rarity, degree of threat across their range, and rate of decline.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). (2024). *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*. Version 1.3. Winchester: CIEEM.

**Value** was assessed based on conservation significance, contribution to conservation objectives, and potential for restoration if degraded. Where relevant, cultural or economic value was also considered, supported by available evidence.

**Sensitivity** was defined as the feature’s susceptibility to environmental change.

Features were considered important where they exhibited characteristics such as naturalness, rarity, irreplaceability, or high habitat diversity. This includes:

- Rare or declining species and habitats.
- Endemic or locally distinct populations.
- Large or concentrated populations of threatened species.
- Habitats with strong connectivity or typical assemblages of flora and fauna.
- Additional considerations included feature size, seasonal presence, role in ecosystem function, and species at the edge of their range, particularly those vulnerable to climate change.

Table 1. Level of Importance

Level of Importance	Sites	Habitats	Species
<b>International</b>	Designated, candidate or proposed Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites; UNESCO (Ecological) World Heritage Sites; UNESCO Biosphere Reserves; Biogenetic Reserves.	A viable area of habitat included in Annex I of the EC Habitats Directive; a habitat area that is critical for a part of the life cycle of an internationally important species.	A European Protected Species; an IUCN Red Data Book species that is globally Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered; a Category A internationally important bryophyte assemblage <sup>2</sup> .
<b>National (UK)</b>	Sites of Special Scientific Interest/Areas of Special Scientific Interest; National Nature Reserves; Nature Conservation Review Sites; Marine Conservation Zones (UK offshore).	An area of habitat fulfilling the criteria for designation as an SSSI/ASSI or MCZ; a habitat area that is critical for a part of the life cycle of a nationally important species.	An IUCN Red Data Book species that is Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered in the UK; a species that is Rare in the UK (<15 10km grid squares); a Schedule 5 <sup>3</sup> (animal) or Schedule 8 (plant) species included in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; any

<sup>2</sup> Averis, A.B.G, Genney, D.R, Hodgetts, N.G, Rothero, G.P. & Bainbridge, I.P. 2012. *Bryological assessment for hydroelectric schemes in the west highlands* – 2nd edition. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. 449b

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/5/enacted>

Level of Importance	Sites	Habitats	Species
			species protected under national (UK) legislation where there is the potential for a breach of the legislation; a Category A nationally important bryophyte assemblage; a species that is Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered in The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain <sup>4</sup> .
<b>National (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland)</b>	National Parks (Scotland); Marine Protected Areas (Scotland offshore); Marine Consultation Areas (Scotland).	Habitats of principal importance for biodiversity in the relevant countries, including; Scottish Biodiversity List (SBL) Priority Habitats, Priority Marine Features (PMFs) and ancient woodland (Scotland).	Species of principal importance for biodiversity in the relevant countries, including; SBL Priority Species and PMFs (Scotland).
<b>Regional</b>	Regional (Scotland).	Regional Local Biodiversity Action Plan habitats noted as requiring protection.	A species that is Nationally Scarce in the UK (present in 16-100 10km grid squares); a species that is included in the Regional LBAP; an assemblage of regionally scarce species.
<b>County / Metropolitan</b>	Woodland Trust Sites; Local Wildlife Sites (Scotland).	County LBAP habitats noted as requiring protection.	A species that is included in the County LBAP; an assemblage of species that are scarce at the county level.

<sup>4</sup> Cheffings, C.M. & Farrell, L. (eds), Dines, T.D., Jones, R.A., Leach, S.J., McKean, D.R., Pearman, D.A., Preston, C.D., Rumsey, F.J., Taylor, I. (2005) The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain. Species Status No. 7. JNCC, Peterborough. Available at: <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/cc1e96f8-b105-4dd0-bd87-4a4f60449907>

Level of Importance	Sites	Habitats	Species
<b>Local</b>		Semi-natural habitats that are unique or important in the local area.	Species as defined by Local Authority lists (if available).
<b>Site</b>		Common and widespread habitats not covered above.	Common and widespread species not covered above.
<b>Negligible</b>		Habitats not considered to have any importance	
<b>Negative</b>			An Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) as defined by the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNS) and supported by the GB Invasive Non-native Species Strategy (2015); legally controlled species under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the relevant country legislation).

### 1.1.5 Significance Matrix

The significance of ecological effects has been assessed in accordance with CIEEM EcIA guidance (2018; updated 2023), which recommends considering both the importance of the ecological feature and the magnitude of the predicted impact. The matrix below provides a structured approach to assist professional judgment, supported by clear definitions for transparency.

#### Definitions

##### Importance (Value of Ecological Feature):

- International: Critical for global biodiversity (e.g., Ramsar site, SAC of global relevance).
- National: Key to maintaining UK biodiversity (e.g., SSSI, nationally rare species).
- Regional: Important within a region or county (e.g., Local Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitat).
- County: Important within a single county or administrative area.
- Local: Contributes to local ecological networks or green infrastructure.

##### Magnitude of Impact:

- Major: Permanent or long-term loss or severe degradation of feature integrity.

- Moderate: Partial loss or significant alteration, reversible only in the long term.
- Minor: Small-scale, short-term, or reversible change with limited effect on integrity.
- Negligible: No measurable effect on structure, function, or viability.

**Significance of Effect:**

- Significant: Likely to influence decision-making or require mitigation/compensation.
- Not Significant: No material influence on decision-making; minor or negligible effect.

Table 2. Significance Matrix

Importance	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
<b>International</b>	Very High (Significant)	High (Significant)	Moderate (May be Significant)	Negligible
<b>National</b>	High (Significant)	Moderate (Significant)	Low (Not Significant)	Negligible
<b>Regional</b>	Moderate (Significant)	Low-Moderate	Low	Negligible
<b>County</b>	Low-Moderate	Low	Negligible	Negligible
<b>Local</b>	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<b>Site</b>	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

**1.1.6 Assessment Methods**

**Establishing the Baseline**

Baseline ecological conditions were established through a combination of desk study and field surveys, following current best practice and published guidance. The baseline describes the ecological features present within the zone of influence in the absence of the proposed development, taking into account recent trends, management activities, and other relevant projects. Where appropriate, future baseline conditions were predicted based on available evidence and professional judgement.

All surveys were undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced ecologists, using standard methodologies appropriate to the habitats and species present. Limitations to data collection, such as seasonal constraints or access restrictions, are clearly identified and their implications for the assessment are discussed.

## Identification and Evaluation of Important Ecological Features

Ecological features (habitats, species, and ecosystems) were identified and evaluated using criteria set out in the CIEEM Guidelines. Importance was assigned within a defined geographical context (international, national, regional, or local), considering factors such as conservation status, rarity, legal protection, and functional role in the landscape. Only those features considered important and potentially affected by the project were taken forward for detailed assessment.

## Impact Assessment

The likely impacts of the proposed development on important ecological features were identified and characterised for all relevant project phases (construction, operation, decommissioning). Impacts were described with reference to:

- Nature of impact: positive or negative.
- Extent: spatial area affected.
- Magnitude: size or intensity of change.
- Duration: short-term, long-term, permanent, or temporary.
- Frequency and timing: how often and when impacts occur.
- Reversibility: whether effects are reversible or irreversible.
- Assessment considered both direct and indirect impacts, as well as cumulative effects arising from other relevant projects or activities.

## Mitigation, Compensation, and Enhancement

A sequential approach was adopted to avoid, mitigate, and compensate for negative ecological impacts, in line with the mitigation hierarchy. Where appropriate, opportunities for ecological enhancement and biodiversity net gain were identified. The likely effectiveness of proposed measures was evaluated based on current evidence and professional judgement.

## Assessment of Residual Effects and Significance

Following the implementation of mitigation and compensation measures, residual effects were assessed for each important ecological feature. The significance of these effects was determined with reference to the conservation objectives for the feature and the relevant geographical scale. The assessment followed the definitions and approach set out in the CIEEM Guidelines, applying the precautionary principle where uncertainty remained.

## Assessment of Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts were assessed by considering the combined effects of the proposed development in conjunction with other relevant projects and activities within the defined zone of influence. This included projects that are consented, under construction, or reasonably foreseeable, as identified through consultation with statutory bodies, review of planning applications, and desk-based data sources. The assessment considered additive and synergistic effects, particularly where ecological features may already be exposed to background levels of threat or pressure. Cumulative impacts were characterised in terms of their nature, extent, magnitude, duration, frequency, and reversibility, consistent with the approach used

for direct and indirect impacts. Where appropriate, cumulative effects were evaluated at the relevant geographical scale and with reference to conservation objectives for important ecological features.

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.3 Desk study

# Ardersier Port Extension

784-B069769

## Appendix 12.3: Desk Study

**Hventus**

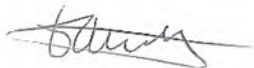
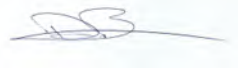
**September 2025**

**Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number:  
01959704**

---

# DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>Document:</b>	Appendix 12.3: Desk Study
<b>Project:</b>	Ardersier Port Extension
<b>Client:</b>	Haventus
<b>Project Number:</b>	784-B069769

<b>Revision:</b>	V1.0	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sam King  <b>Senior Ecologist</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Draft	<b>Approved By:</b>	Doug Blease  <b>Associate Director</b>
<b>Description of Revision:</b>	Issue to client		

<b>Revision:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Description of Revision:</b>			

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

**1.0 DESK STUDY ..... 4**

    1.1 Designated Sites.....4

    1.2 Ancient woodland .....12

    1.4 Protected Species .....13

**2.0 FIGURE ..... 15**

Figure 1 Statutory Designated Sites.....15

**Tables**

Table 1. Statutory and non-statutory designated sites identified during ttehe desk study.....5

Table 2 Ancient woodland within 2km of the site .....12

Table 3 Results of the NBN data search for protected mammals, reptiles, and amphibians within 5km of the site.....13

---

## 1.0 DESK STUDY

### 1.1 DESIGNATED SITES

---

Internationally designated sites located within 10km of both the terrestrial site 'the site' and the 'dredge channel' are summarised in Table 1.

Additionally, nationally designated sites and local non-statutory sites within 2km of the site are included. Sites designated solely for terrestrial ecological features, which would not be subject to direct or indirect impacts only from dredging activities, have been excluded from the Dredged Channel desk study to ensure relevance and focus in the assessment.

Table 1. Statutory and non-statutory designated sites identified during the desk study.

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
Inner Moray Firth	Ramsar	c.20m north of the site  c.50m north of the Dredged Channel	<p><b>Inner Moray Firth Ramsar Site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 1</b> by virtue of it containing a variety of wetland types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intertidal mudflats and sandflats supporting areas of saltmarsh are exceptionally well represented throughout the Inner Moray Firth. On the Beaully Firth a large area of saltmarsh covers the mudflats and sandflats. The bays at Munlochy, Longman and Castle Stuart are particularly dominated by extensive mudflats. Of specific importance are the large and dense eelgrass beds.</li> <li>• At Whiteness Head, there are sand dunes and a shingle bar. The shingle bar encloses a building intertidal system including, sandflats and associated saltmarsh. Sand dunes and further extensive areas of sandflats, lie to the southwest of the bar.</li> </ul> <p><b>Inner Moray Firth Ramsar Site also qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 2</b> by supporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> forage throughout the Ramsar Site (2008 to 2012, up to 25 territories within feeding range, 12.5% of the GB population, with 4 pairs breeding within the site, 4% of the GB population), and</li> <li>• Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (310 pairs, 2% of the GB population).</li> </ul> <p><b>Inner Moray Firth Ramsar Site further qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 5</b> by regularly supporting waterbirds in numbers of 20,000 individuals or more. In the five-year period 1992/93 to 1996/97, a winter peak mean of 26,800 individual waterbirds was recorded, comprising 16,800 wildfowl and 10,000 waders. The site also qualifies under</p>	International

<sup>1</sup> Geographic importance refers to the conservation value of ecological features assessed at scales ranging from international to site level, based on legal designations, rarity, and ecological significance.

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
			<p>Ramsar Criterion 4 by supporting the following waterbird species at a critical stage in their life cycles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scaup Aythya marila (118 individuals, 1% of the GB population).</li> <li>• Curlew Numenius arquata (1,262 individuals, 1% of the GB population)</li> <li>• Goosander Mergus merganser (325 individuals, 4% of the GB population).</li> <li>• Goldeneye Bucephala clangula (218 individuals, 1% of the GB population).</li> <li>• Teal A. crecca (2,066 individuals, 1% of the GB population).</li> <li>• Wigeon Anas penelope (7,310 individuals, 3% of the GB population), and</li> <li>• Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo (409 individuals, 3% of the GB population).</li> </ul> <p><b>In the five-year period 1991/92 to 1995/96, a winter peak mean of 33,148 individual waterbirds were recorded with the assemblage including a nationally important population, greater than 2,000 individuals, of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus (3,063 individuals, 0.9% of the GB population).</li> <li>• Bar-tailed godwit, greylag goose, red-breasted merganser and redshank are also components of the waterbird assemblage.</li> </ul> <p><b>Inner Moray Firth Ramsar site qualifies under Ramsar Criterion 6 by</b> regularly supporting 1% or more of the individuals in a population of waterbirds (1992/93 to 1996/97, winter peak means):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bar-tailed godwit Limosa lapponica (1,090 individuals, 1% of the Western European biogeographic population).</li> <li>• Greylag goose Anser anser (2,651 individuals, 3% of the Iceland/UK/Ireland biogeographic population).</li> </ul>	

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red-breasted merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i> (1,184 individuals, 1% of the NW &amp; Central Europe biogeographic population), and</li> <li>Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (1,621 individuals, 1% of the Eastern Atlantic biogeographic population).</li> </ul>	
Moray Firth	SAC	<p>c.730m north of the site</p> <p>c.250m northwest of the Dredged Channel</p>	<p><b>The Moray Firth Special Area of Conservation (SAC) has been designated to</b> protect bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> and subtidal sandbanks. By doing so it contributes to the Scottish, UK and Oslo-Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) marine protected areas (MPA) networks, the conservation of the wider marine environment around Scotland, and progress towards Good Environmental Status within the North-East Atlantic marine region. The main purpose of the Moray Firth SAC is to contribute to the favourable conservation status of the protected features in the UK.</p>	International
Cawdor Wood	SAC	c.7.2km south of the site	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site.</b></p> <p>91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</p> <p>This site is one of the largest oak woodland sites in northeast Scotland, and is important within the SAC series as it represents the more continental end of the habitat range. The wood is outstanding for its lichen flora, with species characteristic of relatively dry ‘continental’ climatic conditions. The ground flora is also characteristic of more</p>	International

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
			continental stands, dominated largely by great wood-rush <i>Luzula sylvatica</i> and heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> .	
Culbin Bar	SAC	c. 8.8km east of the site	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks Historically, Culbin Bar in northeast Scotland formed part of the same shingle aggregation as Lower River Spey – Spey Bay to the east. Although sea-level rise has separated the sites, they are still linked, being maintained by the same coastal processes.</li> <li>• Culbin Bar and the Lower River Spey – Spey Bay are, individually, the two largest shingle sites in Scotland and together form a shingle complex unique in Scotland. They represent Perennial vegetation of stony banks in the northern part of its range in UK. Culbin Bar is 7 km long. It has a series of shingle ridges running parallel to the coast that support the best and richest examples of northern heath on shingle.</li> <li>• Dominant species are heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, crowberry <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> and juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i>.</li> <li>• The natural westward movement of the bar deposits new ridges for colonisation.</li> <li>• Being virtually unaffected by damaging human activities, Culbin Bar is an example of a system with natural structure and function.</li> </ul> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)</li> <li>• 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</li> </ul>	International

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
Whiteness Head	SSSI	c.20m northeast and c.250 northwest of the site  c.50m north of the Dredged Channel	<p><b>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Geological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geomorphology: Coastal geomorphology of Scotland</li> </ul> <p><u>Biological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birds: Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> issue, non-breeding</li> <li>• Birds: Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>, non-breeding</li> <li>• Intertidal marine habitats: Sandflats</li> <li>• Coastlands: Saltmarsh</li> <li>• Coastlands: Sand dunes</li> <li>• Coastlands: Shingle</li> </ul>	National
Ardersier Glacial Deposits	SSSI	c.1.6km southwest of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p>Geological: Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland</p>	National
Kildrummie Kaines	SSSI	c.3.6km southeast of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Geological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quaternary geology and geomorphology: Quaternary of Scotland</li> </ul> <p><u>Biological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fens: Open water transition fen</li> <li>• Freshwater habitats: Eutrophic loch</li> <li>• Woodlands: Juniper scrub</li> </ul>	National

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
Rosemarkie and Shandwhich Coast	SSSI	c.5.6km west of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Geological:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural and metamorphic geology: Moine</li> <li>• Stratigraphy: Callovian</li> <li>• Palaeontology: Mesozoic Palaeobotany</li> </ul> <p><u>Biological:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastlands: Maritime cliff</li> <li>• Coastlands: Sand dune</li> <li>• Woodlands: Upland birch woodland</li> <li>• Vascular plants: Purple mountain milk-vetch (<i>Oxytropis halleri</i>)</li> <li>• Birds: Breeding Cormorant</li> </ul>	National
The Dens	SSSI	c.6.6km west of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features</b></p> <p><u>Geological:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geomorphology: Mass Movement</li> </ul>	National
Cawdor Wood	SSSI	c.7.2km south of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Biological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodlands: Upland oak woodland</li> <li>• Non-vascular plants: Lichen assemblage</li> </ul>	National

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
Culbin Sands Forest and Findhorn Bay	SSSI	c.7.8km east of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Geological:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal Geomorphology of Scotland</li> </ul> <p><u>Biological</u></p> <p>Coastlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sand dune</li> <li>Shingle</li> <li>Saltmarsh</li> </ul> <p>Freshwater habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mesotrophic loch</li> </ul> <p>Fens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydromorphological mire range</li> </ul> <p>Vascular plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vascular plant assemblage</li> </ul> <p>Non-vascular plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lichen assemblage</li> <li>Fungi assemblage</li> </ul> <p>Invertebrates</p> <p>Invertebrate assemblage</p>	National
Longman and Castle Stuart Bays	SSSI	c.7.3km southwest of the site	<p><b>Notified natural features:</b></p> <p><u>Biological</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastlands: Eelgrass beds</li> <li>Coastlands: Mudflat</li> </ul>	National

Site Name	Designation	Distance and direction from site	Reasons for designation	Geographic importance <sup>1</sup>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastlands: Saltmarsh</li> <li>• Birds: Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo</li> <li>• Birds: Goldeneye Bucephala clangula</li> <li>• Birds: Red-breasted merganser Mergus serrator</li> <li>• Birds: Redshank Tringa</li> </ul>	

## 1.2 ANCIENT WOODLAND

There are three parcels of ancient woodland recorded within 2km of the site.

Table 2 Ancient woodland within 2km of the site

Woodland I.D.	Distance from site	Size (ha)	Origin
6357	c.20m south of the site	235ha	Long-Established (of plantation origin)
7052	c.600m southeast of the site	31ha	Long-Established (of plantation origin)
6364	1.5km south of the site	58ha	Long-Established (of plantation origin)

## 1.4 PROTECTED SPECIES

The results of the desk NBN protected species data search are presented in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3 Results of the NBN data search for protected mammals, reptiles, and amphibians within 5km of the site.

Species	Scientific name	Schedule 5 <sup>2</sup>
Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	
Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	Yes
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Yes
Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	Yes
Common Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Yes
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Yes
Eurasian Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	
Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	Yes
Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Yes
European Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	Yes

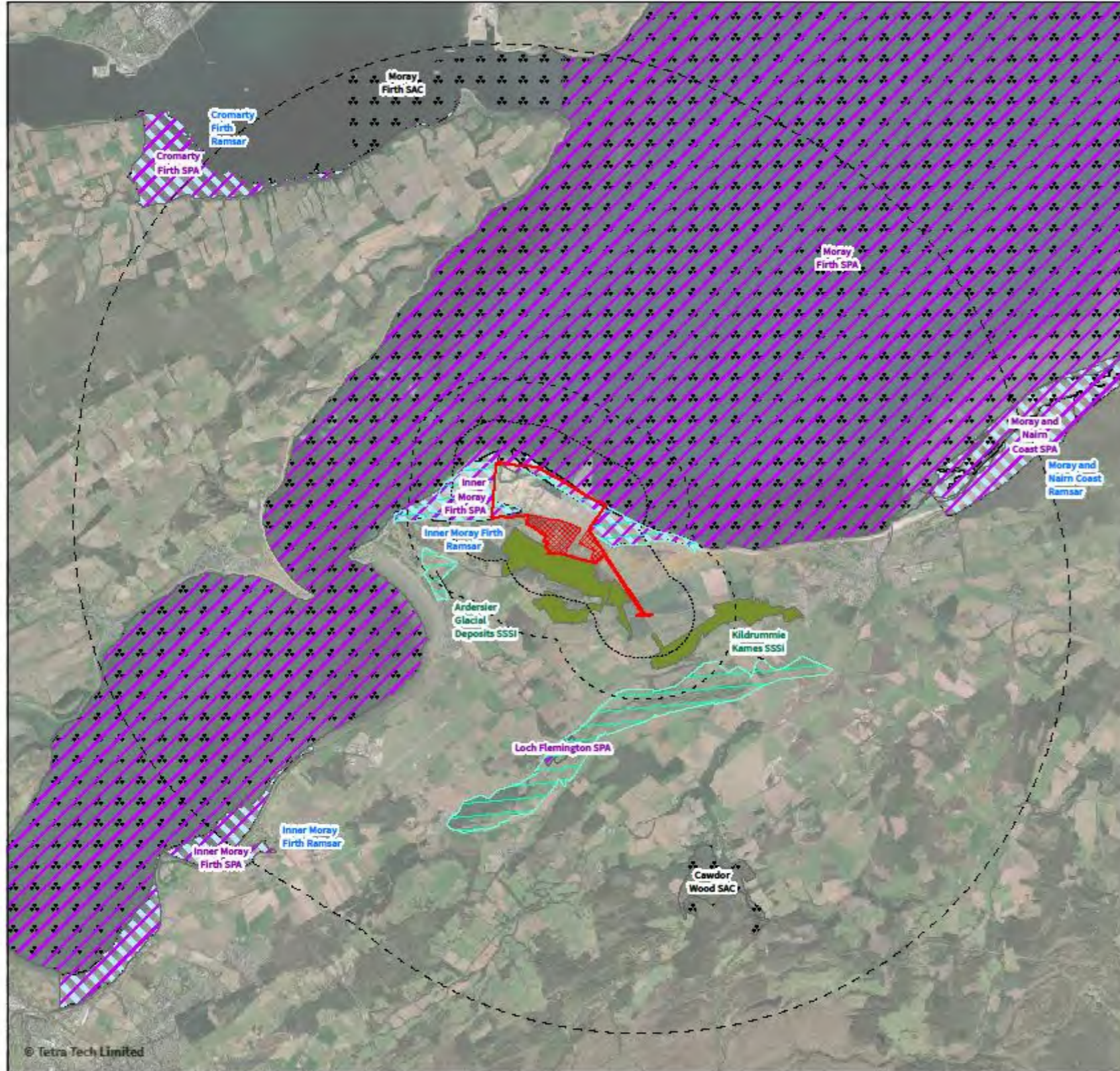
<sup>2</sup> Schedule 5 species are non-avian animals protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 from killing, injury, disturbance, and damage to their places of shelter.

Ardersier Port Extension  
Appendix 12.3: Desk Study

Species	Scientific name	Schedule 5 <sup>2</sup>
Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Yes
Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Yes
Long-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	Yes
Natterer's Bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	
Palmate Newt	<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>	Yes
Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>	Yes
Smooth Newt	<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>	Yes

## 2.0 FIGURE

### Figure 1 Statutory Designated Sites



### Designated Sites - Terrestrial Ecology

**Ardersier Port Expansion**

**Haventus**

**Legend**

- Proposed port boundary
- Proposed port extension
- Site boundary buffer (10 km)
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Ramsar
- Site boundary buffer (2 km)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Site boundary buffer (1 km)
- Scottish Ancient Woodland Inventory

© Tetra Tech Limited

Drawn by: CHRIS.DAWE  
Checked by: Sam King

Figure No. 1  
Revision No. A  
03 September 2025

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers  
Scale 1:50,000 (A3)  
British National Grid  
NGR: 281240E 857082N

© OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA, Imagery © Mapbox

**TETRA TECH**  
3 Sovereign Square  
Sovereign Street  
Leeds  
United Kingdom  
LS1 4ER  
Tetra Tech Limited  
Registered in England  
number: 01859704

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.4 Mitigation

# Ardersier Port Extension

784-B069769

## Appendix 12.4: Mitigation

**Hventus**

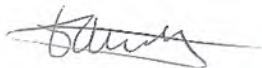

**September 2025**

**Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number:  
01959704**

---

# DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>Document:</b>	Appendix 12.4: Mitigation
<b>Project:</b>	Ardersier Port Extension
<b>Client:</b>	Haventus
<b>Project Number:</b>	784-B069769

<b>Revision:</b>	V1.0	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sam King  <b>Senior Ecologist</b>
<b>Status:</b>	Draft	<b>Approved By:</b>	Doug Blease  <b>Associate Director</b>
<b>Description of Revision:</b>	Issue to client		

<b>Revision:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Approved By:</b>	
<b>Description of Revision:</b>			

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

**1.0 MITIGATION ..... 4**

1.1 Embedded Mitigation.....4

1.2 Compensation .....4

1.3 Mitigation.....5

    1.3.1 Construction Mitigation Measures.....5

    1.3.2 Operational Phase Mitigation .....11

1.4 Monitoring .....12

## 1.0 MITIGATION

### 1.1 EMBEDDED MITIGATION

The development of the proposed development design has been an iterative process. The environment team has worked in close collaboration with the infrastructure design team to avoid or reduce environmental impacts through the proposed development design. This is referred to as embedded mitigation (or design interventions).

The principles of the design and mitigation hierarchy outlined in Chapter 2 (Methodology) have been followed. The first principle being to avoid potential adverse effects if at all feasible, before seeking to minimise or mitigate for any unavoidable impacts. Embedded mitigation for the proposed development is reported in EIAR Chapter 3 (Project Description).

EIAR Chapter 3 (Project Description) details the design alternatives that have been considered, including the environmental factors which have influenced the decision-making. Mitigation measures will seek to reduce impacts during both construction and operation phases. Any effects which cannot be mitigated or reduced are referred to as residual effects in Chapter 12 (Terrestrial Ecology), section 12.7.

### 1.2 COMPENSATION

Compensatory planting as agreed with NatureScot and Scottish Forestry will be conducted off site (Pithogarty Farm, nr. Tain, Highland Region) and will replicate a Scot's Pine dominated plantation, with the addition of 15% native broadleaf component as well as features within the planting scheme aimed at accelerating some niche habitat features within the planting zones such as artificial refugia and shelter for a range of notable fauna. Within the new planting design, a diverse mix of native species are scoped, tailored to local conditions and cognisant of nearby coastal habitats and riparian. Early planting and natural succession of fast-growing species such as birch will provide initial structure, while slower-growing species will contribute to long-term habitat development. The location of woodland creation has been pre-approved with NatureScot.

It is noted that the loss of the existing woodland at Ardersier will not be directly compensated for until the new woodland has established some maturity (expected at c.30 years), to reflect a similar structure. However, it is also noted that in the absence of the proposed development, it is assumed the plantation woodland on site would have been subject to standard thinning leading to eventual clear-fell and restock within a normal silvicultural cycle regardless. Thus, the only ultimate change in this effect is that the woodland loss is replaced elsewhere within the county (approx. 25km north).

Loss of habitat features within the proposed extension area such as ponds and wetlands will be compensated for through wider habitat creation and enhancement initiatives at the Port of Ardersier site, which are currently at concept stage.

Whilst these initiatives are not necessarily like for like compensatory measures, it is noted that the habitats lost are all somewhat anthropogenic in response to actions such as historic efforts to drain land and grow commercial forestry. The initiatives at Ardersier aim to increase habitat for qualifying features of the nearby designated sites, promote natural processes, and enhance semi-natural habitat quality. All

these initiatives have been designed in positive collaboration with relevant nature conservation regulators and stakeholders.

## 1.3 MITIGATION

---

Mitigation is included in the Outline Construction Environment Management Document (CEMD). The Outline CEMD will be developed into the CEMP for implementation during construction. Further information on the Outline CEMD (Environmental Assessment Methodology).

### 1.3.1 Construction Mitigation Measures

This section summarises the mitigation required during the construction of the proposed development. Unless stated all mitigation is embedded as it follows best practice measures and/or is required to achieve compliance with legislation. Mitigation measures of relevance during construction are included within the Outline CEMD. Construction will be carried out using industry best practice and in accordance with implementation of the requirements identified in the Outline CEMD. Construction information is presented in EIAR Chapter 3 (Project Description).

#### Designated Sites

##### *General avoidance and mitigation*

- Where practicable, schedule all works outside of sensitive periods for qualifying ecological features to avoid disturbance. If works must occur during these periods, a suitably qualified ecologist should be present on site to provide real-time ecological monitoring and guidance and advise the need for additional mitigation measures based on observed conditions and potential impacts.
- The programme for forestry operations should avoid the breeding season for birds and red squirrel (i.e. February to September).
- Closure of badger setts (those confirmed active and where breeding cannot be ruled out) will be subject to a licence condition limiting these works between July and December to avoid the period that young badger are dependants within sett features.
- If forestry operations occur prior to badger sett closure, the mitigation outlined in good practice guidance<sup>1</sup> will be applied which will include standard exclusion zones for heavy machinery.
- Comply with the project Noise/ Vibration limits (see Chapter 6) and apply species specific standoff/temporal controls where relevant.
- Establish buffer zones and sediment controls/silt fencing to prevent sediment and pollution runoff reaching adjacent designated sites.
- Implement directional lighting to reduce visual disturbance to sensitive receptors utilising adjacent retained habitats.
- Embed pollution prevention measures within the CEMD (e.g., bunded fuel storage, spill kits, designated refuelling areas).

##### *Site-specific embedded measures*

---

<sup>1</sup> The Forestry Commission, 1995. *Forest Operations and Badger Setts: Forestry Practice Guide 9*. Published by Forestry Practice Division.

- Inner Moray Firth Ramsar: Maintain embedded existing 3m bund, in consented area; minimum 10 m buffers to wetland features; silt fencing and bunding; pollution controls embedded in the CEMD.

## Habitats

### General avoidance and mitigation

- Retain habitat margins and boundary features (e.g., scrub, woodland) wherever feasible to maintain elements of ecological connectivity.
- Implement compensatory planting and restoration for lost woodland and priority habitats.
- Some removed habitats can be recreated within a 2ha on-site donor area, which is currently at concept stage.

### Habitat specific measures

- *Gorse scrub (h3e) / Mixed scrub (h3h)*: Retain boundary/mosaic structure where feasible; incorporate scrub species in landscaping.
- *Scots Pine woodland (w2b) / Upland birchwood (w1e)*: Retain boundary woodland blocks; agree off site compensatory planting; pre felling surveys; maintain connectivity.
- *Other neutral grassland (g3c)*: Retain margins; use seed mixes to replicate structure; restore in retained areas.
- *Lowland dry acid grassland (g1a) / Other lowland acid grassland (g1d)*: Recreate this habitat within wider Ardersier landscape scheme and(or) within a 2ha on-site donor area, which is currently at concept stage.
- *Dry lowland heath (h1a5) / Wet heath with cross leaved heath (h1a7)*: Retain heathland margins;
- *Acid peat-stained lakes & ponds (r1c7)*: The objective is to recreate suitable habitat using a 2-hectare on-site donor area. Detailed design will be developed at the planning stage, subject to ecological assessments and relevant approvals.

## Compensation

- *Dry lowland heath (h1a5) / Wet heath with cross leaved heath (h1a7)*: The objective will be to seek to recreate suitable habitat, utilising a 2ha on-site donor area. Detailed design will be undertaken at the planning stage.
- *Acid peat stained lakes & ponds (r1c7)*: Recreation in a 2 ha on-site donor area..

## Protected and Notable Species

### General

- Baseline data on a range of ecological features will be maintained leading up to pre works checks by an experienced ecologist/ECoW to provide the most accurate constraints data (e.g., badger setts, red squirrel dreys, pine marten dens) and reduce the risk of direct injury or mortality.
- Should species evidence be encountered, the ECoW will advise whether additional mitigation is required or if works can proceed,
- An ECoW should deliver Toolbox Talks and implement stop work and emergency translocation procedures for unexpected encounters;

- ECoW to supervise compliance with Species Protection Plans (SPPs) as needed.

## **Badger**

### **Avoidance**

- Closure of breeding badger setts will avoid the period July to December when young badgers are dependent on the sett.
- Maintain  $\geq 30$  m buffers to any retained active setts.
- Retain commuting corridors between retained setts and foraging areas.
- When planning sett exclusion and closures, implement an approved Badger Protection Plan to avoid injury or mortality to badger.

### **Mitigation**

- Where sett exclusion and closure or works within 30 m (or 100 m for high noise/vibration) of retained setts are unavoidable, secure a NatureScot derogation licence and implement a site-specific Badger SPP under ECoW supervision.
- Compensatory badger sett creation will be required to replace any loss of breeding sett. This will be designed in collaboration with an ecologist, located within the social clan territory and be constructed of buried chambers and pipe.
- A period of feeding badger to the alternative sett feature will occur followed by exclusion covering a period dictated by the licence conditions.
- Sett closure will occur under ECoW/ licensed ecologist supervision only after a successful period of exclusion and within licence conditions.
- Designate access tracks and apply speed limits to reduce the risk of road traffic mortality
- Direct lighting away from setts and corridors.

### **Compensation**

- Provide artificial alternative sett under licence per NatureScot guidance with maintained access to suitable foraging resource.

## **Otter**

- Repeat pre-construction surveys ( $\leq 3$  months pre-start) to confirm status within 200 m of the works; implement an Otter SPP and deliver Toolbox Talks to the site team; implement lighting controls and continuous monitoring throughout the works to prevent illumination of watercourses.
- ECoW supervision to monitor onsite and nearby habitats for otter field evidence and inform the construction team of additional mitigation.

## **Pine marten**

- All works affecting pine marten will require a SPP, to be prepared and implemented under licence where necessary.

### **Avoidance**

- If a den site is found within baseline monitoring or pre-checks, a NatureScot licence will be required to avoid injury, mortality, or breach of legislation.

- This may include licensed translocation following the Scottish Code for Conservation Translocations (e.g., via Trees for Life).

### **Mitigation**

- Phase/stagger forestry operations to encourage dispersal;
- Retain woodland habitats at boundaries to maintain some habitat connectivity;
- Designate access tracks and apply speed limits to reduce the risk of road traffic mortality
- Do not illuminate retained woodland habitats.

### **Compensation**

- Enhance surrounding/retained woodland habitat.
- Install purpose-built pine marten den boxes in quiet, connected woodland where compliant with NatureScot standing advice and licensing.

### **Red squirrel**

All works affecting red squirrel will require a SPP, to be prepared and implemented under licence where necessary.

### **Avoidance**

- Where practicable, schedule felling outside Feb–Sept where practicable; appoint an ECoW to monitor for dreys in retained habitats and advise on avoidance/licensing.

### **Mitigation**

- Where drey impacts cannot be avoided, obtain a NatureScot licence with a site specific SPP; Retain woodland habitats at boundaries to maintain some habitat connectivity; consider licensed translocation (e.g., via Trees for Life) under the Scottish Code;
- Apply buffer (50m to breeding dreys, 20m to standard dreys);
- Maintain trees around the perimeter of the proposed extension area (at least 10m) to provide a connecting pathway to any adjacent woodland;
- Designate access tracks and apply speed limits to reduce the risk of road traffic mortality.

### **Compensation**

Enhance retained woodland habitats.

- Install artificial red squirrel dreys boxes in suitable woodland habitat to provide alternative nesting opportunities where natural dreys may be lost.
- Position boxes at appropriate heights (typically 4–6 m) in mature trees with good canopy connectivity, avoiding south-facing aspects to reduce overheating.
- Use durable, predator-resistant designs and ensure a mix of box types to mimic natural nesting options.

## **Bats**

All works affecting bats will require a SPP, to be prepared and implemented under licence.

### **Avoidance**

Time any demolition works in September to November outside core occupancy periods (summer roosts: May–Sept; hibernation roosts: Nov–Mar) and undertake with a licensed bat worker demarcating exclusion zones.

### **Mitigation**

Secure a derogation licence and time works to coincide with bat absence (or following successful exclusion) and supervise roost removal and demolition by a licence holder.

- Install a variety of bat boxes in surrounding retained habitats to mitigate the initial loss of roosting features in Juniper Cottage Buildings 2&3 and to provide a translocation shelter for any bats found by the licensed ecologist.
- Maintain and enhance retained habitats to promote continued connectivity.
- Do not illuminate retained nearby habitats.
- Undertake pre felling PRF checks by a licensed bat worker.

### **Compensation**

- Install compensatory bat boxes (e.g., Schwegler types, including hibernacula models 1FW/1WQ as appropriate) in retained habitats to replace lost PRFs from the woodland habitat;
- Install a purpose-built bat roost (“bat barn”) designed to support a maternity colony, providing like-for-like or enhanced replacement for the loss of a maternity roost. The structure will be located within the colony’s home range, connected to dark corridors.

## **Reptiles**

### **Mitigation**

- Prior to vegetation clearance or harvesting, install reptile refugia (e.g., artificial mats) across suitable habitat and allow sufficient settling time for reptiles to utilise them. Undertake a systematic search and translocate any reptiles found to pre-identified, suitable adjacent receptor habitat under the supervision of an experienced ecologist.
- Soft dismantle refugia (stone, brush, log piles) by hand under ecological supervision and relocate any reptiles found; undertake between April–September to avoid disturbing hibernating reptiles.

### **Compensation**

- Establish reptile refugia in retained and recreated habitat (using timber from felling where practicable) and create/enhance habitat (e.g., grasslands) with varied sward structure and south facing banks.

### **Pollution Prevention (Construction Phase)**

Install sediment controls where there is a risk of runoff prior to earthworks.

- Contain and manage excavated spoil within site boundaries; export non reusable material to a designated facility.
- Locate static or mobile storage/refuelling in designated areas away from watercourses; use bunded tanks with regular leak inspections; keep spill kits on site and train staff in their use; divert all spills for collection and ensure no untreated discharge to waterbodies.
- Secure fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids against unauthorised access/vandalism and provide spill containment; minimise on site storage of harmful materials and store in appropriately sized bunded units in line with manufacturer recommendations.

### **1.3.2 Operational Phase Mitigation**

#### ***Noise management***

- Restrict routine activities to normal working hours and schedule noisy maintenance during daylight to minimise disturbance to diurnal species. This approach confines noise to predictable periods when diurnal fauna are naturally active, reducing stress and behavioural disruption. It avoids interference with early morning and late evening rest periods, lowers cumulative acoustic stress, and supports habituation to consistent noise patterns. Daytime scheduling also facilitates effective monitoring of wildlife responses, enabling adaptive management if required.

#### ***Lighting control***

- Use directional, downward facing, shielded lighting to prevent spill into adjacent habitats and maintain dark corridors along woodland edges and key commuting routes (see Appendix 5.1).

#### ***Traffic and access***

- Limit maintenance visits to essential activities and confine to designated routes; designate speed-controlled routes to reduce collision risk with wildlife.

#### ***Habitat management & monitoring***

- Maintain/enhance retained habitats, control invasives and preserve connectivity; undertake periodic ecological checks to confirm effectiveness and identify emerging risks.

#### **Habitat Enhancement & Woodland Edge Management**

- Deliver targeted improvements along retained woodland edges to transition towards either NVC W10 or W18 types via selective boundary thinning to increase light and promote natural broadleaf regeneration (oak, birch, rowan). Benefits include improved structural diversity, connectivity and resilience to disturbance.
- Create standing deadwood (e.g., ring barking) and place brash/stumps strategically to form natural barriers, reduce deer pressure, and provide microhabitats for invertebrates, fungi and small mammals.

- Reuse forest soils to introduce site native seedbanks, supporting establishment of understorey species and heathers where low organic content/microbial activity might otherwise limit germination in disturbed soils.

## 1.4 MONITORING

---

The Applicant environmental manager staff will be responsible for landscape and habitat monitoring and management, including objectives such as controlling invasive species, promoting native plant and tree diversity, and monitoring biodiversity indicators.

Monitoring will also include seasonal surveys for key protected and notable species, such as bats, red squirrel, pine marten, to evaluate the effectiveness of enhancement and mitigation measures. Static acoustic detectors, camera traps, and drey inspections may be deployed at strategic locations to track species activity and habitat use.

Where artificial features have been installed (e.g., bat barn/boxes, artificial dens and dreys), their occupancy and condition will be monitored, with maintenance or replacement undertaken, as required for the lifetime of the operation. Vegetation surveys will be used to assess the success of native planting and seedbank establishment, with adaptive management applied if target species fail to establish.

Monitoring results will be reviewed annually, ensuring that management actions remain responsive to ecological change and site-specific outcomes. All monitoring will be overseen by a qualified ecologist and reported to relevant statutory bodies where required.

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.5 Bat Report - Ground Level Tree Assessment / Statics

# Haventus Ardersier Port

## Technical Appendix: Bats

JULY 2025 FOR HAVENTUS



Highland Ecology and Development Limited, Office 1, Mayfield Building, Dingwall,  
IV15 9ST. Tel 01381 610313, E mail: [admin@hedltd.com](mailto:admin@hedltd.com) Web: [www.hedltd.com](http://www.hedltd.com)

This report has been prepared by Highland Ecology and Development Ltd. with all reasonable skill and care within the terms of the agreement with the client. We disclaim any responsibility to any parties in respect of matters outside this scope.

Information supplied by the client or any other parties and used in this report is assumed to be correct and Highland Ecology and Development accepts no responsibility for inaccuracies in the data supplied. Highland Ecology and Development accepts no responsibility to third parties who duplicate, use, or disclose this report in whole or in part. Such third parties rely upon the use of this material at their own risk.

#### Document Revision History

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	31/07/25	MP

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Revised by</i>
1	31/07/25	N/A	MP

<i>Circulation</i>	<i>No. Copies</i>
Campbell Flemming, Isabel Morgan., Haventus	1

Document prepared by:

Mhairi Duncan BSc (Hons)



.....



## Contents

1.0 Background .....	4
2.0 Methodology .....	4
2.1 Trees .....	4
2.2 Structures .....	5
2.3 Passive Surveys .....	5
2.2 Limitations .....	6
3.0 Results .....	7
3.1 Trees .....	7
3.2 Structures .....	13
3.3 Passive Surveys .....	19
4.0 Survey Images .....	20
5.0 References .....	29

## 1.0 Background

---

This Technical Appendix is commissioned by Haventus in respect of proposals for the expansion of the Ardersier Port redevelopment area. As part of a package of ecological baseline studies, a series of bat surveys were undertaken to establish the presence of bats and their roosts within the proposed expansion area and surrounding 50m. The findings from the bat surveys are intended to inform a comprehensive assessment of the predicted impact on bats associated with the proposed development.

## 2.0 Methodology

---

### 2.1 Trees

#### 2.1.1 Ground Level Tree Assessment

Ground level tree assessments (GLTA) were carried out within the proposed expansion area and up to 50m out with, where safe access allowed. During the GLTA, trees were inspected for potential roosting features (PRFs) and field signs indicative of bat presence from ground level then categorised following the criteria outlined in Table 1. Where no assessment on the absence of PRFs could be made from ground level, the feature was highlighted for further assessment via aerial access, during which a closer inspection of the feature can be made by qualified tree climber and bat licence holder. Only the trees which contained PRFs or which required further assessment were tagged and recorded using the mobile application *Avenza Maps* then mapped digitally using QGIS (*version 3.36.1*). The survey was undertaken over 5 days in March 2025 under favourable weather conditions.

*Table 1: Surveying Trees for Potential Roosting Features (method table paraphrased from Collins., 2023)*

Category	Description
None	No features likely to support roosting bats are present.
PRF	One or more features suitable for supporting roosting bats are present.
FAR	Further assessment required to determine whether PRFs are present.

#### 2.1.2 Aerial Inspection

Aerial inspections of trees identified during the GLTA were carried out by 2no. bat licence holders and qualified tree climbers under favourable weather conditions. During these inspections, visual searches for field signs including bats (alive or dead), droppings, staining and feeding remains were undertaken with the use of endoscopes where necessary to inspect deeper crevices. The features were classified based on the number of bats they may support and the purpose the PRF may serve (e.g., maternity, hibernacula etc), see Table 2 below.

Table 2: Classification of PRFs in trees (method table paraphrased from Collins., 2023)

Category	Description
PRF-I	Field signs observed / space and shelter provided by the PRF is suitable to support an individual or very low numbers of roosting bats.
PRF-M	Field signs observed / space and shelter provided by the PRF is suitable to support multiple roosting bats, therefore may be used for breeding purposes.

## 2.2 Structures

### 2.2.1 Daylight Bat Walkover

A Daylight Bat Walkover (DBW) was undertaken to assign structures a category based on their suitability to support roosting bats. The survey was undertaken in March 2025 and involved a non-intrusive inspection of the structures within and adjacent to the site boundary from ground level by an experienced ecologist from HED Ltd. Structures possessing one or more PRF were then assigned a category and afforded a number of activity surveys accordingly. Features suitable for supporting roosting bats during the winter hibernacula period were also noted and recommendations provided.

### 2.2.2 Activity Surveys

Bat activity surveys were undertaken at dusk during the active period for bats (May – September, inclusive). The dusk surveys commenced 15 minutes before sunset and finished 2 hours after sunset, in line with industry guidance. Each structure was assigned a sufficient number of bat surveyors to achieve a suitable vantage point of the building and PRFs identified. Surveyors were equipped with handheld bat detectors (*Anabat Scout*) allowing audio detection of bats emerging from the building or foraging in the vicinity. Supplementary to this, thermal cameras (*FLIR A50*) were deployed at select positions to capture potential emergences in low-light conditions. Audio recordings were later analysed using *Kaleidoscope Lite* software to determine the species present during the survey. Survey timings and conditions are detailed in section 3.2.2.

## 2.3 Passive Surveys

Static detector deployment was undertaken to gain information on the species diversity and activity frequency of bats within the proposed expansion area and surrounding habitats. The static acoustic detectors (3no. *Song Meter Mini Bat 2*) were deployed across May to July 2025 over a minimum of 10 nights per deployment. The static detectors were deployed at set locations across the Scots Pine plantation among closed and open habitats such as woodland

edges, ditch embankments and closed woodland. Recordings were later analysed using bat acoustic analysis software (*Wildlife Acoustics, Kaleidoscope Lite*) to acoustically identify the species recorded. Time, date and climate conditions were also recorded by the static detectors and presented alongside survey findings.

## 2.2 Limitations

Ecological surveys are limited by several factors that affect the presence of flora and fauna (weather, climate, animal behaviour, etc). Evidence of protected species and/or invasive species is not always found during a survey; this does not confirm that species are absent from an area or will not be present in the future.

Internal inspections of structures could not be achieved due to access restrictions therefore assessments of structures are based on features visible from an external inspection at ground level. Visual aids were utilized where appropriate to gain a thorough assessment of the structures however this does not eliminate the potential for unrecorded potential roosting features to be present internally within structures.

Technical errors resulted in x1 of the audio detectors failing during Pinetrees cottage dusk Activity Survey 2 and a reduced recording length of a camera during Pinetrees cottage dusk Activity Survey 3. The minor loss of audio and thermal data is not anticipated to significantly impact the survey findings across the three activity surveys.

Finally, while acoustic analysis of echolocation calls provides a detailed insight into the species of bat present it is not an entirely diagnostic method for all species such as other methods (e.g., DNA analysis, close-up observation in hand) therefore in some instances bats were identified to genus level to avoid doubt over species identification. This is not anticipated to interfere significantly with the outcome of the survey and associated recommendations made.

## 3.0 Results

### 3.1 Trees

#### 3.1.1 Ground Level Tree Assessment

The Scots Pine plantation offered suitable roosting, foraging and commuting habitat for bats owing to the linear treelines, open areas surrounding powerline wayleaves, and insect-rich ditches and understory. Most trees were mature, uniform and lacking potential roosting features (PRFs) however a number of decaying or damaged trees were recorded as offering suitable roosting features due to rot holes, woodpecker holes, tears, and cavities within standing deadwood. A summary of the findings from the GLTA is provided in Table 3 below.

*Table 3: Summary of PRFs in Trees*

PRF ref / Tag Number	Description	Grid Reference
PRF 0451	Standing deadwood with woodpecker holes. Another 2x trees to the North with woodpecker holes.	NH 81203 57220
PRF 0186	Scots Pine with broken limb (pointing East). Tree also contains a drey on North facing limb.	NH 81503 56572
PRF 0138	Standing deadwood, woodpecker holes, near footpath	NH 80602 56838
PRF 0136	Standing deadwood, woodpecker hole near top	NH 80624 56804
PRF 0448	Standing deadwood, vertical cavity (unknown depth) at top of trunk.	NH 81188 57270
PRF 0441	Standing deadwood, 3x woodpecker holes. Edge habitat (near drainage ditch).	NH 81224 57391
PRF 0130	Standing deadwood, woodpecker holes.	NH 81125 57360
PRF 0143	Standing deadwood, woodpecker hole approx. 4m high.	NH 80940 57479
PRF 0454	Standing deadwood, woodpecker hole, edge habitat (near watercourse).	NH 80738 57444
PFR 0139	Standing deadwood, woodpecker holes.	NH 80675 57199
PRF 0455	Cluster of 5 monoliths. PRF on broken stem on center tagged tree.	NH 80507 57378
PRF 0456	Standing deadwood, broken trunk creating vertical cavity.	NH 80444 57411
PRF 0458	Standing deadwood, woodpecker holes, near watercourse.	NH 80452 57517
PRF 0185	Standing deadwood, split trunk creating vertical cavity.	NH 80341 57548

PRF 0460	Standing deadwood, broken trunk creating vertical cavity.	NH 80317 57392
PRF 0182	Standing deadwood, broken trunk creating vertical cavity. Edge of woodland, near a fence.	NH 80164 57435
PRF 0402	Standing deadwood with woodpecker hole approx. 3 meters up.	NH 80780 57178
PRF 0403	Standing deadwood, broken at half height. Possible PRFs at point of break.	NH 80696 56924
PRF 0404	Standing deadwood, broken. Possible PRFs within trunk at point of break.	NH 80702 56925
PRF 0405	Standing deadwood, broken. Peeling bark and possible PRF within, trunk at point of break.	NH 80701 56933
PRF 0406	Standing deadwood.	NH 80696 56903
PRF 0407	Standing deadwood with woodpecker hole.	NH 80627 56885
PRF 0408	Standing deadwood, peeling bark and possible PRF at point of break.	NH 81002 57091
PRF 0145	Standing deadwood with several woodpecker holes.	NH 81212 57056
PRF 0146	Standing deadwood, broken, with several woodpecker holes at various heights (approx. 5m).	NH 81270 57124
PRF 021	Standing deadwood.	NH 80697 56905
PRFs 027 untagged	Cluster of 3x dead trees each with woodpecker holes. Near bridle path through woodland.	NH 80698 56916

### 3.1.2 Aerial Inspection

No bat roosts or evidence of historic roosts were observed during the aerial inspection. Several of the features identified offered sufficient depth to support roosting bats however, upon closer inspection were too exposed or fragile to provide suitable roosting sites. The results from the aerial inspection, including justification for the conclusions drawn and recommendations for further surveys, are provided in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Results from aerial inspection

PRF No./ Location NH	Date	Ground Level Assessment Roost Suitability Comments & Features	PRF search- Comments & Features	Bat Roost Yes/No/ Unknown (UK)	Recommendations & likely mitigations
0136, nearest to parking/ 80624 56804	19.06.25	Very decayed, crumbly wood with woodpecker holes up to 10cm deep, but fragile and exposed. FAR.	Woodpecker holes up to 10cm deep, but fragile and exposed. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0138/ 80602 56838	19.06.25	woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Woodpecker holes up to 10cm deep, but fragile and exposed. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0407/ 80627 56885	16.07.25	Woodpecker holes on main stem near top with active nest (chicks inside). No PRF at present.	Woodpecker holes up to 10cm deep, but fragile and exposed. PRF-I	No	No further PRF survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
021 and 0406/ 80696 56903	19.06.25	Top broken at 4m with top still attached. Woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR.	Shallow exposed woodpecker holes up to 5cm deep. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.

0405/ 56933	80701	19.06.25	Very shallow features/ woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	No PRFs	No	No further survey required.
0404/ 56925	80702	19.06.25	Shallow features on decayed stem with deeper woodpecker holes at about m. FAR	7cm deep woodpecker holes at 6m. Fragile, crumbly decayed wood. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0403/ 56924	80696	19.06.25	Broken top with woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	10cm deep woodpecker hole in very decayed timber with old bird nest. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0408/ 57091	81002	19.06.25	Broken top at 7.5m with multiple woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Very decayed upper stem with 10cm deep woodpecker holes with old bird nest. PRF- I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0145/ 57056	81212	19.06.25	Very decayed at 3-4m with multiple woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Web covered, shallow woodpecker holes in very fragile timber. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0146/ 57124	81270	19.06.25	8m high decayed stem with multiple woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Shallow, exposed woodpecker holes in very fragile timber. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
027/ 56916	80698	19.06.25	3 slender dead trees near 0404 with woodpecker holes. FAR	3 slender dead stems with multiple shallow WP holes 5cm deep and exposed. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0451/ 57220	81203	19.06.25	8m high dead stem with woodpecker holes on main stem. 2 slender dead stems nearby with shallow woodpecker holes. FAR	Shallow, exposed woodpecker holes at 7- 8m in very fragile timber. 2 slender dead stems with shallow WP holes 5cm deep and exposed. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0448/ 57270	81188	19.06.25	Tree fallen with any PRFs no longer viable	N/A	No	No further survey required

0441/ 57391	81224	19.06.25	4m high stem with woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Decayed, open exposed top with old bird nest and woodpecker hole. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0130/ 57360	81125	19.06.25	4.5m high dead stem with woodpecker holes on main stem. FAR	Decayed, open exposed top. No PRF.	No	No further survey required.
0402/ 57178	80780	16.07.25	Woodpecker hole at 10m on E side, exposed & decayed- FAR.	Woodpecker hole at 10m on E side- 5cm peep, exposed in very decayed, fragile timber- PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0139/ 57378	80675	16.07.25	Woodpecker hole at 5m near top of broken stem. More WP holes above- FAR	Woodpecker hole at 5m near top of broken stem, 30cm deep. Open holes above. PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0143/ 57479. Tagged 0413	80948	16.07.25	Woodpecker hole at 4m near top of broken stem- FAR.	Woodpecker hole at 4m near top of broken stem-shallow, exposed and open. Broken top with decayed pockets- shallow and exposed- PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0454/ 57444	80738	16.07.25	Top tear at 10m. Woodpecker hole on NE side at 4m- FAR.	Top tear out has shallow, exposed crack feature at 10m. Shallow, exposed woodpecker hole on NE side at 4m. PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0455/ 57378	80507	16.07.25	NE side of NE stem- verticle crack at 4m. Fractured tops on skinny stems. S stem has woodpecker holes and loose bark- FAR	NE side of NE stem, open, shallow, exposed, verticle crack at 4m. Fractured, decayed tops on skinny stems. S stem shallow woodpecker holes and loose bark. PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0456/ 57411	80444	16.07.25	N side woodpecker hole with shallow tear out above-FAR	N side woodpecker hole with shallow tear out above- very decayed and quite shallow, PRF-I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.

0458/ 57517	80452	16.07.25	Woodpecker holes on dead stem near top at 5-6 m- FAR	Woodpecker holes on dead stem near top at 5-6 m leading to hollow top- open and exposed to sky but with some shelter in decayed wood- PRF- I	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0185/ 57548	80341	16.07.25	Top broken off and leaning onto tree. Tear out wound at 7m top. Loose bark FAR	Tear out wound at 7m top has shallow, exposed cracks. Loose bark. PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0460/ 57392	80317	16.07.25	E side at top of broken stem at 5m, woodpecker hole on broken top- FAR	E side at top of broken stem, 5m, woodpecker hole on broken top- 10cm deep but quite exposed- PRF- I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0182/ 57435	80164	16.07.25	Scots pine in ok condition with broken top- FAR	Sheltered vertical crack, 6cm deep at 5m. PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near this tree.
0186		16.07.25	Rot hole on main stem, broken limb- FAR	W side at 4m, shallow rot pocket. S side at 7m, old limb fracture with shallow exposed cracks. PRF-I.	No	No further survey required for 3 months from survey date. Care should be taken felling or working near tree.
<b>Key</b>						
PRF-I potential roost feature only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.						
PRF-M- potential roost is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used for a maternity colony.						

## 3.2 Structures

### 3.2.1 Daytime Bat Walkover

Numerous PRFs were identified within the residential and commercial buildings centred within and surrounding the plantation owing to their age and proximity to favourable foraging and commuting habitat. A summary of the findings from the daylight bat walkover is provided in Table 5 below.

Table 5a: Summary of PRFs within structures

Target Note	Description	Grid Reference
028	Juniper Cottage Building 1 – moderate – high potential (summer activity) – moderate potential (hibernacula)	NH 80820 57108
029	Juniper Cottage Building 2 – moderate – high potential (summer activity) – moderate potential (hibernacula)	NH 80795 57118
030	Juniper Cottage Building 3 – High potential (summer activity) – High potential (hibernacula)	NH 80805 57135
041	Ruins – Negligible Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80406 57363
042	Pinetrees cottage – Moderate Potential (summer activity) – moderate potential (hibernacula)	NH 80910 57022

Several structures at Juniper Cottage were identified as having bat potential, however these structures are not expected to remain when the current occupier vacates the site. As such no further investigation was completed by HED Ltd of these structures. Details are provided in Table 5b below.

Table 5b: Summary of PRFs within structures

Target Note	Description	Grid Reference
031*	Juniper Cottage Pheasantry Shed 1 – moderate potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80833 57164
032*	Juniper Cottage Pheasantry Shed 2 – moderate potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80876 57216
033*	Juniper Cottage Bird Shed 1 & 2 – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80902 57258
034*	Juniper Cottage Bird Shed 3 – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80908 57160
035*	Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 1 – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80850 57101
036*	Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 2 – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80796 57129
037*	Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 3 – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80817 57147

038*	Juniper Cottage Static Caravan 1 – Negligible – Low Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80816 57135
039*	Juniper Cottage Silo 1 - Negligible Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80803 57139
040*	Juniper Cottage Silo 2 - Negligible Potential (summer activity and hibernacula)	NH 80851 57184

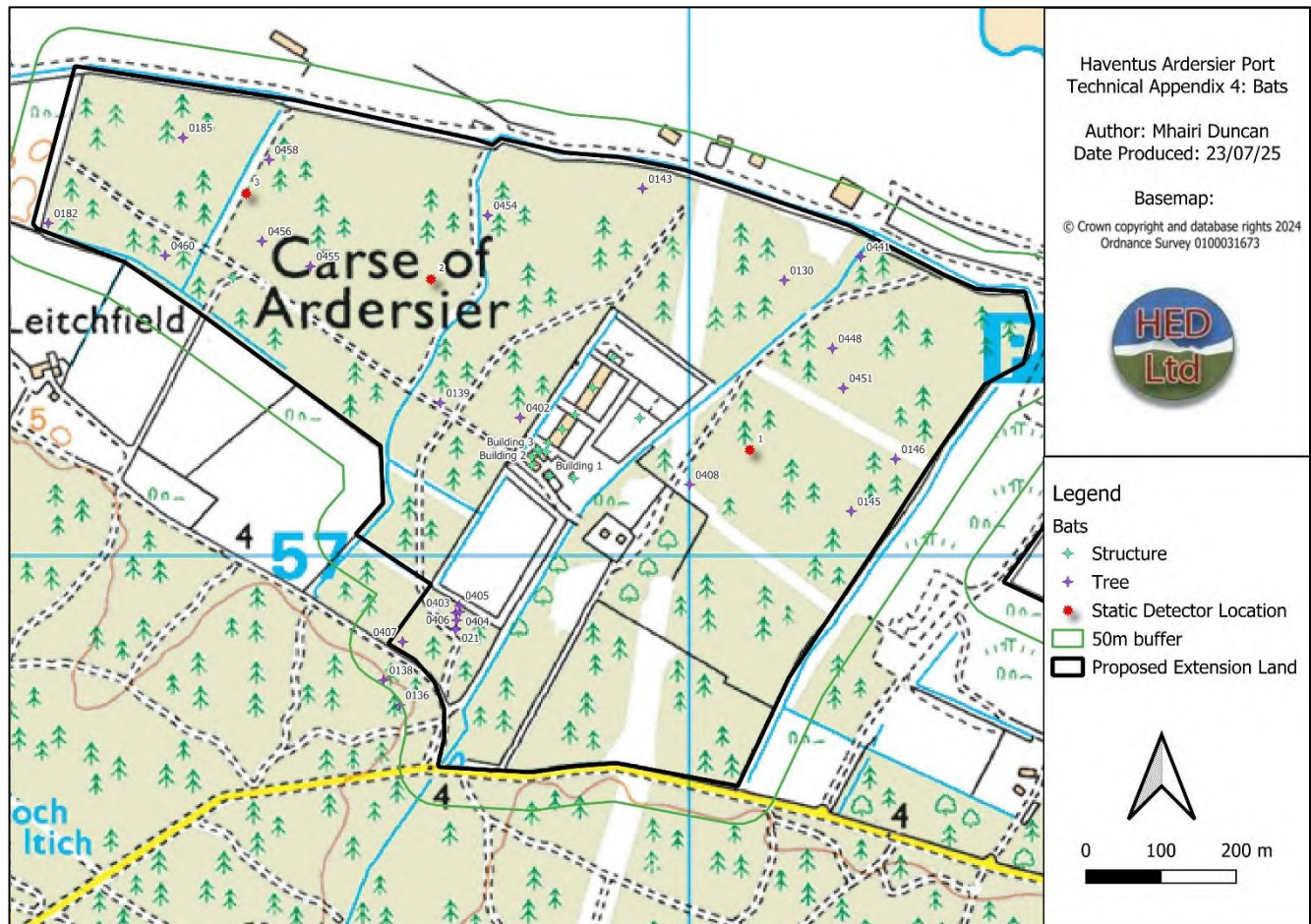


Figure 1: Results from DBW and GLTA including Static Detector Locations (site boundaries provided by Haventus)

### 3.2.2 Bat Activity Surveys

The structures surveyed offered favourable roosting, foraging and commuting features accounting for the numerous calls by detected across the surveys (see Tables below). Many of the observations recorded were of bats foraging overhead, passing over buildings between neighbouring plantations, and emerging/re-entering buildings. Most of the calls detected were identified as Common and Soprano pipistrelles (Ppip and Ppyg, respectively) along with a total of x5 Myotis sp. (Msp) and x1 Brown long-eared (Paur) bat detected. Buildings noted to be supporting roosts were Juniper Cottage Building 2 and Building 3 (see Table 7 and 8, respectively).

Table 6: Bat Activity Survey Results (Juniper Cottage Building 1)

Juniper Cottage 1	Date	Start time	Sunset time	End time	Conditions (temp, wind, cloud cover, precipitation)	Emergence (Y/N) / Total count.		Species Detected / Total no. calls	
								Species	Total no. calls
Dusk 1	30.05.25	21:00	21:20	23:30	18°C, 1, 80%, none	N	-	Ppip	41
								Ppyg	1
								Msp.	1
								Paur	0
Dusk 2	12.05.25	21:05	21:25	23:25	15°C, 0, 0%, none	N	-	Ppip	20
								Ppyg	21
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 3	02.06.25	21:45	22:05	00:05	12°C, 1-4, 0, light rain	N	-	Ppip	9
								Ppyg	2
								Msp.	1
								Paur	1

Common Pipistrelle (Ppip), Soprano Pipistrelle (Ppyg), Brown long-eared Bat (Paur), Myotis species (Msp)

Table 7: Bat Activity Survey Results (Juniper Cottage Building 2)

Juniper Cottage 2	Date	Start time	Sunset time	End time	Conditions (temp, wind, cloud cover, precipitation)	Emergence (Y/N) / Total count.		Species Detected / Total no. calls	
Dusk 1	16.05.25	20:30	21:15	23:35	12°C, 0, 50%, none.	N	-	Ppip	84
								Ppyg	30
								Msp	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 2	06.06.25	21:50	22:10	00:10	14°C, 0, 40%, none.	Y	5	Ppip	144
								Ppyg	25
								Msp	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 3	07.07.25	22:00	22:15	00:00	11°C, 0-1, 90%, none.	N	-	Ppip	289
								Ppyg	128
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0

Common Pipistrelle (Ppip), Soprano Pipistrelle (Ppyg), Brown long-eared Bat (Paur), Myotis species (Msp)

Table 8: Bat Activity Survey Results Juniper Cottage 3

Juniper Cottage 3	Date	Start time	Sunset time	End time	Conditions (temp, wind, cloud cover, precipitation)	Emergence (Y/N) / Total count.		Species Detected / Total no. calls	
Dusk 1	01.05.25	20:45	21:03	23:03	11°C, 1, 50-10%, none.	N	-	Ppip	80
								Ppyg	18
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 2	30.05.25	21:45	21:55	23:55	11°C, 1, 60%, none.	Y	9	Ppip	367
								Ppyg	128
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 3	16.07.25	21:45	22:02	00:02	16°C, 0, 80%, none.	Y	15	Ppip	437
								Ppyg	39
								Msp.	1
								Paur	0

Common Pipistrelle (Ppip), Soprano Pipistrelle (Ppyg), Brown long-eared Bat (Paur), Myotis species (Msp)

Table 9: Bat Activity Survey Results Pinetrees Cottage

Pinewood Cottage	Date	Start time	Sunset time	End time	Conditions (temp, wind, cloud cover, precipitation)	Emergence (Y/N) / Total count.		Species Detected / Total no. calls	
Dusk 1	05.05.25	21:50	22:10	23:10	10°C, 1, 80%, none	N	-	Ppip	16
								Ppyg	36
								Msp.	2
								Paur.	0
Dusk 2	26.05.25	21:30	21:45	23:45	11 °C, 1, 50%, none.	N	-	Ppip	0
								Ppyg	32
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0
Dusk 3	18.06.25	22:10	22:18	00:18	10°C, 1, 80%, none.	N	-	Ppip	124
								Ppyg	9
								Msp.	0
								Paur	0

Common Pipistrelle (Ppip), Soprano Pipistrelle (Ppyg), Brown long-eared Bat (Paur), Myotis species (Msp)

### 3.3 Passive Surveys

Numerous bat echolocation and social calls were detected throughout the passive survey period with composition being conducive of the overall habitat present. Typical tree-roosting species such as Daubenton's and Natterer's bats (identified as *Myotis* sp. for the purpose of this report), and structural-roosting bats such as Common and Soprano Pipistrelle and Brown long-eared bat were detected consistently across the deployment positions as summarised in Tables 10-12 below.

Table 10: Results from static detector deployment Position 1.

P1 (Closed Woodland)	Location: NH 81079 57139		
Species	Deployment Date		
	05.06.25_16.06.25	16.05.25_27.05.25	30.06.25_14.07.25
Common Pipistrelle	111	139	583
Soprano Pipistrelle	223	29	436
Brown Long Eared	14	2	59
<i>Myotis</i> sp.	9	3	6
Total Count	357	173	1084



Table 11: Results from static detector deployment Position 2

P2 (Woodland Edge)	Location: NH 80665 57361		
Species	Deployment Date		
	05.06.25_16.06.25	16.05.25_27.05.25	30.06.25_14.07.25
Common Pipistrelle	243	84	127
Soprano Pipistrelle	95	111	135
Brown Long Eared	10	3	18
<i>Myotis</i> sp.	10	1	7
Total Count	358	199	287



Table 12: Results from static detector deployment Position 3

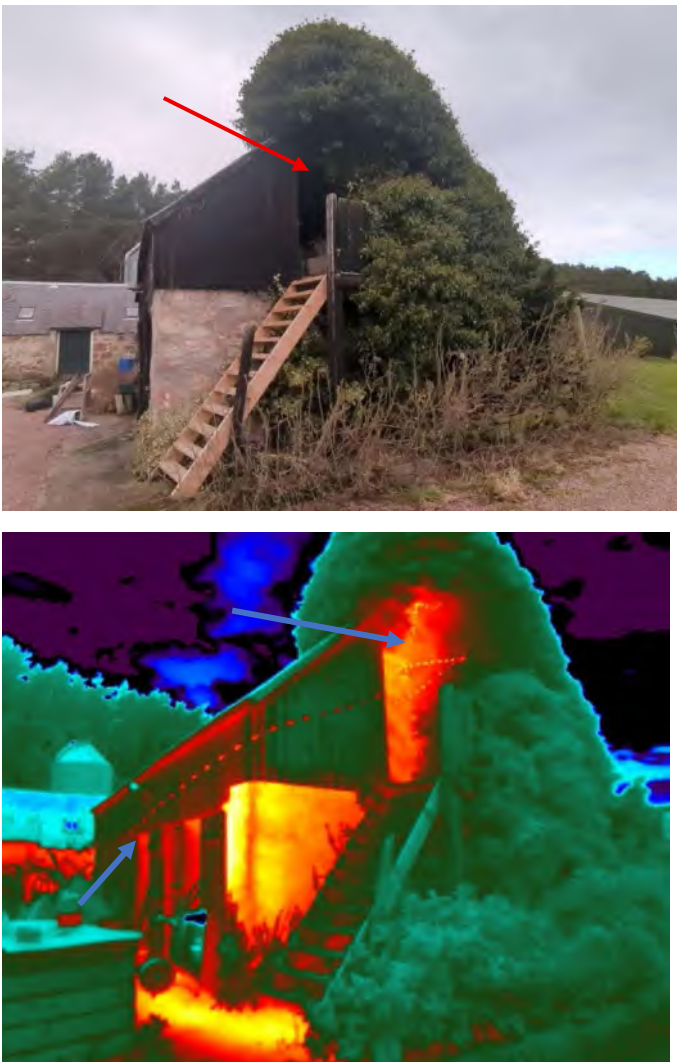
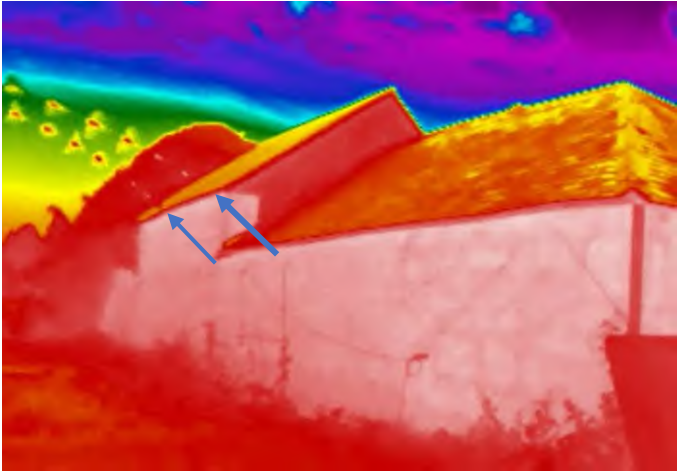
P3 (Ditch Adjacent)	Location: NH 80422 57475		
Species	Deployment Date		
	05.06.25_16.06.25	16.05.25_27.05.25	30.06.25_14.07.25
Common Pipistrelle	20	142	306
Soprano Pipistrelle	200	17	25
Brown Long Eared	52	24	19
<i>Myotis</i> sp.	3	8	21
Total Count	275	191	371

## 4.0 Survey Images




Target Note	Description	Image
026	<p>Ruins of a small building, some shallow crevices between brickwork, mostly exposed to water ingress.</p>	
027	<p>Juniper Cottage Building 1 (viewed from the SW). A domestic property with a pebbledash exterior, a pitched slate roof with one flat roof extension. The cottage has two chimney stacks. Some gaps in the slates were observed and assessed as possible access points for bats. Classified as having moderate – high potential to support roosting bats based on presence of possible access</p>	




	points and high quality surrounding habitat.	
027	Juniper Cottage Building 1 (viewed from the N).	
028	Juniper Cottage Building 2 (viewed from the SE). An outbuilding used for storage. The structure has a pitched roof of metal roofing sheets, seemingly unsealed eaves (no soffit board present), and a pebbledash exterior. Classified as having moderate to high potential to support roosting bats, with numerous possible access routes identified through both windows and doors, and via the eaves.	



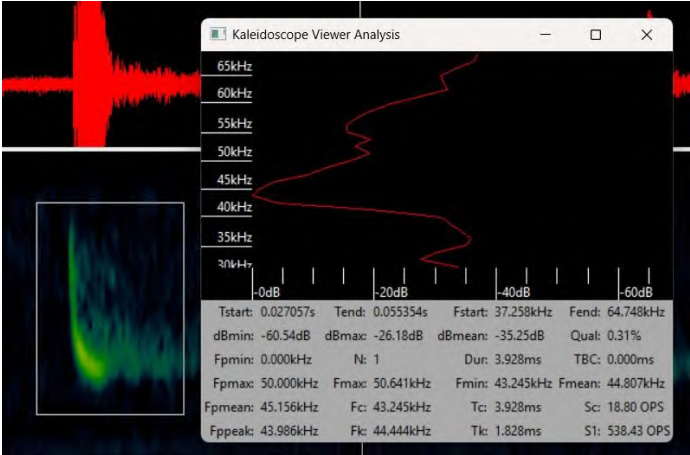
<p>028</p>	<p>Juniper Cottage Building 2 (viewed from the NW). Confirmed emergence/re-entry location arrowed.</p>	
<p>029a</p>	<p>Juniper Cottage Building 3 (viewed from the SE). An outbuilding, part of which is made of stone with a pitched slate roof. The other part is made of wood with a roof made of metal roofing sheets. Certain areas of the building were open to the elements, allowing access for bats. Confirmed emergence/re-entry points arrowed.</p>	

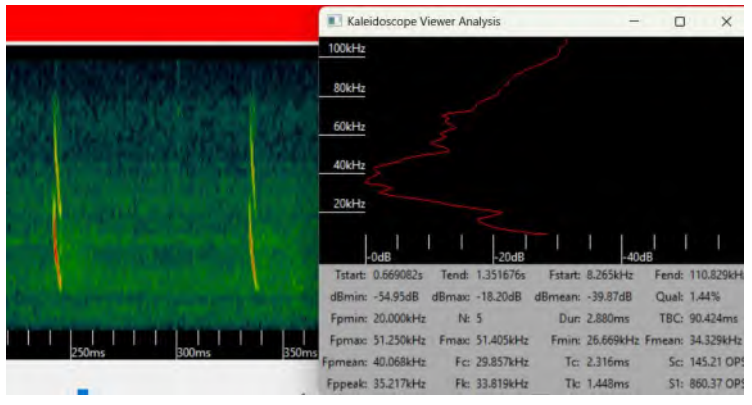
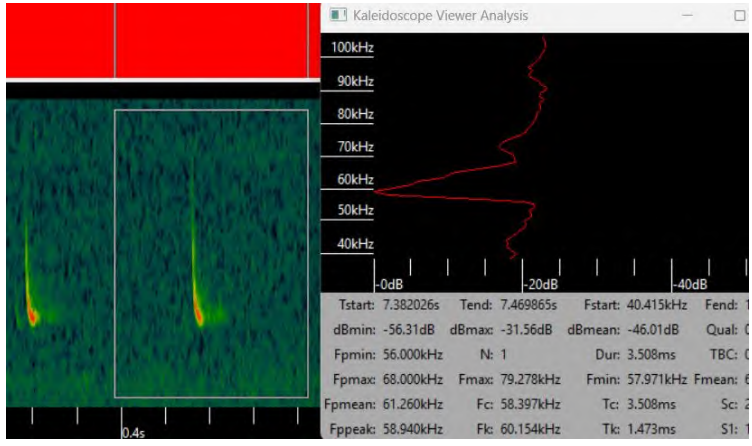
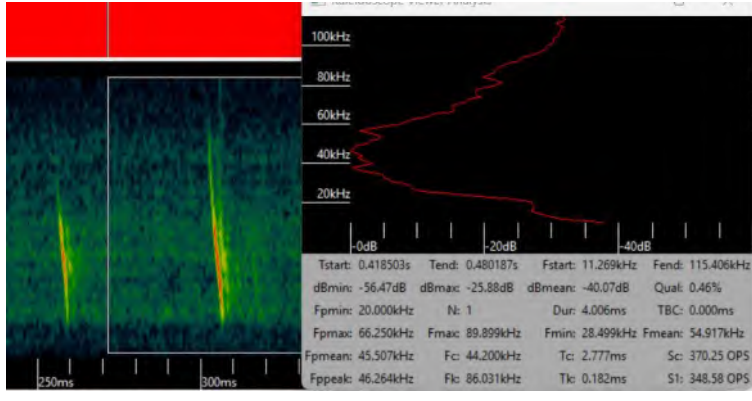
<p>029b</p>	<p>Juniper Cottage Building 3 (viewed from the E).</p> <p>Wooden/metal roofed section of the building. Open access for bats via the door. Extensive shrub growth on this aspect of the building, which may also offer sufficient shelter for roosting bats.</p> <p>Confirmed emergence/re-entry point arrowed.</p>	
<p>029c</p>	<p>Juniper Cottage Building 3 (viewed from N). Slate roof offers suitable gaps and spaces for roosting bats.</p> <p>Confirmed emergence/re-entry locations arrowed.</p>	

030	<p>Juniper Cottage Pheasantry Shed 1 (viewed from the S). Structure made of metal sheets. Open access though doors and through gaps in the eaves. Assessed as having moderate potential to support roosting bats.</p>	
031	<p>Juniper Cottage Pheasantry Shed 2 (viewed from the S). Structure made of metal sheets. Open access though doors and through gaps in the eaves. Assessed as having moderate potential to support roosting bats.</p>	
032	<p>Juniper Cottage Bird Shed 1 &amp; 2 (viewed from the S). Two sheds made of plywood with roofs made of metal sheets. Possible access points for bats beneath the roofing sheets. Assessed as having low potential to support roosting bats.</p>	

		
033	<p>Juniper Cottage Bird Shed 3. Small wooden shed. Assessed as having negligible – low potential to support roosting bats.</p>	
034	<p>Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 1. Small wooden shed with a roof made from corrugated roofing sheets. Assessed as having low potential to support roosting bats.</p>	

035	<p>Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 2. Small wooden shed with a roof made from corrugated roofing sheets. Assessed as having low potential to up support roosting bats.</p>	
036	<p>Juniper Cottage Storage Shed 3. Small wooden shed with a roof made from corrugated roofing sheets. Assessed as having low potential to up support roosting bats.</p>	
037	<p>Juniper Cottage Static Caravan 1. In a moderate state of disrepair. Assessed as having negligible – low potential to support roosting bats.</p>	

038	<p>Juniper Cottage Silo 1. Assessed as having negligible potential to support roosting bats.</p>	
039	<p>Juniper Cottage Silo 2. Assessed as having negligible potential to support roosting bats.</p>	
040	<p>Typical Common pipistrelle echolocation call extracted from Kaleidoscope spectrogram viewer.</p>	 <p>Kaleidoscope Viewer Analysis</p> <p>65kHz 60kHz 55kHz 50kHz 45kHz 40kHz 35kHz 30kHz</p> <p>-0dB -20dB -40dB -60dB</p> <p>Tstart: 0.027057s Tend: 0.055354s Fstart: 37.258kHz Fend: 64.748kHz dBmin: -60.54dB dBmax: -26.18dB dBmean: -35.25dB Qual: 0.31% Fpmin: 0.000kHz N: 1 Dur: 3.928ms TBC: 0.000ms Fpmax: 50.000kHz Fmax: 50.641kHz Fmin: 43.245kHz Fmean: 44.807kHz Fpmean: 45.156kHz Fc: 43.245kHz Tc: 3.928ms Sc: 18.80 OPS Fppeak: 43.986kHz Fk: 44.444kHz Tk: 1.828ms S1: 538.43 OPS</p>

041	Typical Brown long-eared bat echolocation call extracted from Kaleidoscope spectrogram viewer.	 <p>Kaleidoscope Viewer Analysis</p> <p>100kHz 80kHz 60kHz 40kHz 20kHz</p> <p>-0dB -20dB -40dB</p> <p>Tstart: 0.669082s Tend: 1.351676s Fstart: 8.265kHz Fend: 110.829kHz dBmin: -54.95dB dBmax: -18.20dB dBmean: -39.87dB Qual: 1.44% Fpmin: 20.000kHz N: 5 Dur: 2.880ms TBC: 90.424ms Fpmax: 51.250kHz Fmax: 51.405kHz Fmin: 26.669kHz Fmean: 34.329kHz Fpmean: 40.068kHz Fc: 29.857kHz Tc: 2.316ms Sc: 145.21 OPS Fppeak: 35.217kHz Fk: 33.819kHz Tk: 1.448ms S1: 860.37 OPS</p>
042	Typical Soprano pipistrelle echolocation call extracted from Kaleidoscope spectrogram viewer.	 <p>Kaleidoscope Viewer Analysis</p> <p>100kHz 90kHz 80kHz 70kHz 60kHz 50kHz 40kHz</p> <p>-0dB -20dB -40dB</p> <p>Tstart: 7.382026s Tend: 7.469865s Fstart: 40.415kHz Fend: 115.406kHz dBmin: -56.31dB dBmax: -31.56dB dBmean: -46.01dB Qual: 0.46% Fpmin: 56.000kHz N: 1 Dur: 3.508ms TBC: 0.000ms Fpmax: 68.000kHz Fmax: 79.278kHz Fmin: 57.971kHz Fmean: 61.260kHz Fpmean: 61.260kHz Fc: 58.397kHz Tc: 3.508ms Sc: 2.000 OPS Fppeak: 58.940kHz Fk: 60.154kHz Tk: 1.473ms S1: 1.000 OPS</p>
043	Typical Myotis sp. Echolocation call extracted from Kaleidoscope spectrogram viewer.	 <p>Kaleidoscope Viewer Analysis</p> <p>100kHz 80kHz 60kHz 40kHz 20kHz</p> <p>-0dB -20dB -40dB</p> <p>Tstart: 0.418503s Tend: 0.480187s Fstart: 11.269kHz Fend: 115.406kHz dBmin: -56.47dB dBmax: -25.88dB dBmean: -40.07dB Qual: 0.46% Fpmin: 20.000kHz N: 1 Dur: 4.006ms TBC: 0.000ms Fpmax: 66.250kHz Fmax: 89.899kHz Fmin: 28.499kHz Fmean: 54.917kHz Fpmean: 45.507kHz Fc: 44.200kHz Tc: 2.777ms Sc: 370.25 OPS Fppeak: 46.264kHz Fk: 86.031kHz Tk: 0.182ms S1: 348.58 OPS</p>

## 5.0 References

---

Collins, J (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4<sup>th</sup> editions). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Reason, P.F. and Wray, S. (2023). UK Bat Mitigation Guidelines: a guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Ampfield.

NatureScot, (2024). Standing advice for planning consultations – Bats. Available at: [Standing advice for planning consultations - Bats | NatureScot](#) [Accessed 23.07.25]

# ARDERSIER PORT ENERGY TRANSITION FACILITY PORT EXTENSION



November 2025

## Appendix 12.6 Badgers