



Tata Steel UK Ltd

# Electric Arc Furnace

Wintering and Breeding Bird Survey Report

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## RSK GENERAL NOTES

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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1. This report presents the findings of wintering and breeding bird surveys undertaken at Tata Steelworks in Port Talbot, South Wales. Impact assessment and potential mitigation and enhancement measures are not included in this report as they will be discussed in the Environmental Statement.
2. Initial wintering bird surveys were based on the 2021/2022 survey area (the boundary of a previous iteration of the project) and were undertaken between November 2021 and February 2022. A subsequent updated survey of the red line boundary of the development site provided by the client, was undertaken between December 2023 and February 2024. Breeding bird surveys were based on the 2021/2022 survey area and were undertaken between April and June 2022. No updated breeding bird surveys were completed following the red line boundary change as no additional suitable habitat was identified.
3. The purpose of these surveys was to determine the level of significance of the wintering and breeding bird assemblages associated with the proposed development footprint. During both surveys, there was a focus on notable species listed on Schedule 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 4 (Johnstone et al. 2022), the UK Birds of Conservation Concern (Stanbury et al, 2021) and species of principal concern listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
4. During the wintering bird surveys 36 species were recorded, of which 20 were notable during the 2021 – 2022 survey, and 14 were notable during the 2023 – 2024 surveys. Fewer notable species were recorded in 2023 – 2024 as a result of restricted access to the southern and south-eastern areas of the 2023 – 2024 site, which contains higher value habitats, such as grassland, scrub and woodland. This area was however surveyed comprehensively in 2021 – 2022 and as the habitats present remain the same, it is not envisaged there will have been a significant change to the species assemblage recorded. Few notable wildfowl and waders were recorded and low numbers of individuals of notable bird species were recorded across the site. The species assemblage comprised species typical of the habitats found on site. The site is considered to be of no more than local importance for wintering birds.
5. During breeding bird surveys 46 species were recorded, of which 31 were likely to be breeding. 24 notable species were recorded, of which four were breeding and 18 species were probably or possibly breeding. These included Cetti's warbler, which is protected under Schedule 1 of the Countryside and Wildlife Act. The breeding bird assemblage is of at least district level importance for the Port Talbot area.
6. The habitats contained within the 2023 -24 red line boundary are the same as those within the 2021 – 22 survey area. It is anticipated that this, together with the proximity of the 2021 - 22 and 2023 - 24 boundaries, means that the assemblage of species affected by the works is anticipated to remain very similar. Following the 2023 – 24 site boundary amendment and associated reduction in the area of higher value habitats within the new redline boundary (e.g. small lagoon, grassland, water channels) it is likely that fewer breeding birds will be directly affected by the works in these areas. There is however the potential for indirect effects, such as visual disturbance, noise, vibration and pollution.

7. Herring and lesser black-backed gulls were recorded nesting on the Steel Service Centre building immediately adjacent to the site boundary at the north-west of the site (Figure 12). These birds are nesting in a highly disturbed environment with frequent large vehicle movements, human disturbance, general noise and activity associated with an extremely large industrial site. Due to the nature of the site, it is considered that the gulls are habituated to living in a noisy, dirty disturbed environment and as the buildings are understood to be being retained (Demolition Plan 12/02/2024) it is considered that there are likely to be minimal impacts to the birds using this building. It is possible that gulls are nesting on the roofs of other buildings but it is understood none of these are to be demolished and any impacts are likely to be minimal.



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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1.1 This report presents the findings of wintering and breeding bird surveys carried out on land at Tata Steelworks in Port Talbot, South Wales centred at Ordnance Survey (OS) Grid Ref. SS 77524 86021. The area termed 'the site' throughout this report is delineated in Figure 1 by the red-line boundary.
- 1.1.2 Surveys were commissioned to inform the planning process and Environmental Statement ecology chapter in respect to birds using the site. The surveys were undertaken to determine the constraints posed (if any) by birds and how they may be impacted, and to inform mitigation works required prior to development.

## 1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 Wintering and breeding bird surveys were carried out between October 2021 and June 2022 within the 2021/2022 survey area (shown in purple in Figure 1). Subsequently, adjustments were made to the proposed development, and further wintering bird surveys were undertaken in December 2023 and February 2024 (shown in red in Figure 1) to ensure survey data was current and to ensure full survey coverage of the red line boundary. Additional breeding bird surveys were not considered necessary as the habitats covered in the 2021/2022 survey area are representative of the wider site.

## 1.3 Ecological context

- 1.3.1 A preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) including a background data search (BDS) was completed by RSK Biocensus (RSK Biocensus, October 2021). Records of 152 notable bird species were received during the BDS from within 2 km of the site boundary. Habitat within the site boundary was identified as suitable for wintering and breeding birds during the PEA.
- 1.3.2 The approximately 160 ha site is located to the south-east of the town of Port Talbot. The site is dominated by predominately bare ground/ developed land. Open mosaic habitat is the most dominant habitat type comprising a mixture of scrub, grassland and ephemeral vegetation. There are a number of channels throughout the site and one large lake associated with the steelworks, located at the northern extent of the site. The 2024 red line boundary extends further to the north and the habitats present primarily comprise industrial buildings and associated infrastructure, which are less suitable for birds.
- 1.3.3 The site is immediately bordered to the north, east and west by Tata Steelworks with coastal floodplain grassland, reedbed, an access road and Margam Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) adjacent to the south of the site. The surrounding landscape is a mixture of woodland, hedgerows, waterbodies (reservoir), coastal floodplain grassland and residential properties within Margam. Swansea Bay (Bristol Channel) is located approximately 880 m west of the site.

## **1.4 Development proposals**

- 1.4.1 The Proposed Development will require the demolition of existing buildings and structures, and the construction of a new EAF steel production facility. The Proposed Development also includes a scrap metal handling facility and associated scrap yards, slag processing facility, chemical and material storage structures, buildings, handling systems, electrical control rooms and power infrastructure, laboratories, offices and ancillary facilities, together with new and amended transport infrastructure, landscaping and associated development.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 Desk-based assessment

- 2.1.1 A detailed desk-based assessment was undertaken for all species and designated sites in October 2021 as part of a preliminary ecological appraisal (RSK Biocensus 2022).

### 2.2 Survey sites

- 2.2.1 The ornithological interest of the site was assessed, concentrating on bird populations in key habitats (i.e. those habitats most likely to support significant bird populations). The key habitats within the original site boundary included neutral grassland, coastal floodplain grazing marsh, broadleaved plantation woodland, water channels, open water, reedbeds, scrub and ephemeral short perennial vegetation which provide nesting and foraging habitat within and immediately adjacent to the site.
- 2.2.2 The 2024 amendment to the site boundary means that smaller areas of the most important habitats for birds such as neutral grassland, coastal floodplain grazing marsh and broadleaved plantation woodland fall within the new boundary. The new boundary extends further north, comprising mainly industrial buildings and hard standing, which are less desirable to birds.
- 2.2.3 Surveys comprised walked transects throughout the site which enabled observation of habitats suitable for wintering and breeding birds. The surveys were carried out by Mark Lang (MSc MCIEEM), John Daw (MSc MCIEEM), Paul Parker (MSc) and Elisabeth Brooks (BSc, QCIEEM). Mark is an associate director with over 30 years as a professional ecologist, John is a principal consultant at RSK with over fourteen years' experience as a professional consultant in ecology, Paul is a consultant ecologist with 10 years' experience as a professional ecological consultant and Elisabeth is a consultant ecologist with 6 years professional experience.

### 2.3 Survey timings

#### Wintering bird surveys

- 2.3.1 Four initial visits from November 2021 to February 2022 were made to record wintering birds within the original site boundary.
- 2.3.2 Two additional surveys were made in December 2023 and February 2024 to update the wintering bird data. Also, as the site boundary has changed, the new area of less desirable habitat to the north of the original site was surveyed, enabling the assessment of the wintering bird assemblage in this new area.
- 2.3.3 Surveys took approximately three hours. The details of dates, times, and weather conditions during the surveys are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Wintering bird survey timings and weather conditions**



Visit	Date	Survey Start	Weather
Visit 1	18.11.21	09:20	Dry, 15°C, 80% cloud cover, F3 (Beaufort scale), south-easterly direction
Visit 2	15.12.21	09:45	Dry, 11°C, 100% cloud cover, F3 (Beaufort Scale) westerly wind direction
Visit 3	17.01.22	09:30	Dry, 1°C, no cloud cover, no wind
Visit 4	28.02.22	09:40	Overcast with intermittent drizzle, 9°C, 100% cloud cover, F3 (Beaufort scale), south westerly wind direction
Visit 5	13.12.2023	11:45	Overcast, dry, 9°C, 100% cloud cover, F3 (Beaufort scale) northerly wind direction
Visit 6	05.02.2024	10:15	Dry, 10°C, cloud 1 – 3 oktas, F2 – 4 (Beaufort scale) west/south westerly wind direction

### Breeding bird surveys

- 2.3.4 Surveys were undertaken early in the morning just after sunrise and on one occasion in the evening to coincide with the period of peak bird activity, alternating the direction of the transect route. The surveys were completed each month between April and June 2022 to coincide with the peak breeding period. The details of dates, times and weather conditions during the surveys are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Breeding bird survey timings and weather conditions**

Visit	Date	Survey Start	Weather
Visit 1	08.04.22	07:45	Dry, 4°C, 30% cloud cover, F2 (Beaufort), north-easterly wind direction
Visit 2	10.05.22	06.45	Dry, 13°C, 85% cloud cover, F3 (Beaufort), north-westerly wind direction
Visit 3	24.05.22	17.00	Dry, 16°C, 30% cloud cover, F4 (Beaufort), westerly wind direction
Visit 4	07.06.22	06:00	Dry, 13°C, 85% cloud cover, F2 (Beaufort), easterly wind direction

## 2.4 Survey methods

- 2.4.1 Survey work followed current guidance (<https://birdsurveyguidelines.org/>).
- 2.4.2 Each survey took approximately three hours to complete.
- 2.4.3 For the breeding bird surveys all birds seen or heard were recorded onto base maps along with notes of behaviour that may indicate breeding.
- 2.4.4 For the wintering bird surveys, all birds seen or heard were recorded with the aim of obtaining peak counts for all species using the site and locating any significant feeding or roosting assemblages. In both cases special attention was given to making counts of any notable assemblages of feeding, roosting, or breeding birds listed in Schedule 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the UK Birds of Conservation Concern, Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 2022 and Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

## 2.5 Interpretation of survey results

### Wintering birds

- 2.5.1 Criteria used to determine the level of importance of the assemblage of wintering bird species during the surveys included the species richness i.e. the number and diversity of wintering bird species recorded on the site, together with the species' conservation status. Conservation status was informed by the inclusion of species on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended, red and amber lists of the UK Birds of Conservation Concern and the Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 2022 (BoCCW4, 2022), and Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Population data were also used (where available) to further assess the importance of the species populations recorded on site in a national, county and local context. Based on this assessment, the site is assigned a local, district, county, regional or national level of importance for wintering birds.

### Breeding birds

- 2.5.2 Following the visit, the records of birds made were collated to determine the approximate locations and numbers of breeding pairs for each species. Maps were then produced to display the approximate territory boundaries for Schedule 1 species, Section 7 species and species of conservation concern across the site. Counts for other species observed within the survey area were tabulated.
- 2.5.3 The breeding status of each species was classified into three categories: confirmed breeding; probable breeding and possible breeding. The behaviour, sex, age and location of individual birds allow conclusions to be drawn about breeding status, based on categories devised by the European Ornithology Atlas Committee (EOAC, 1979). Breeding evidence used in this report follows EOAC guidelines. It is also possible that species are present in a habitat and are not actually breeding. Birds not thought to be breeding and birds only recorded flying-over are classed as non-breeding.

### Species richness

- 2.5.4 Fuller (1980) measured the diversity of a site's breeding assemblage using certain criteria for a simple site assessment. This gives an assessment of importance according to the following categories - Local (25-49 species), County (50-69 species), Regional (70-84 species) and National (85+ species).
- 2.5.5 For the purposes of this assessment, RSK have adapted the Fuller (1980) criteria to follow IEEM (2006) guidelines by introducing a district level as shown in Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Criteria for determining level of importance using species richness recorded during the breeding bird surveys**

Level of Importance	Number of Breeding Species	
	Fuller (1980) Criteria	Adapted Criteria
Local	25 to 49	Less than 25
District	-	25 to 49
County	50 to 69	50 to 69
Regional	70 to 84	70 to 84
National	85 +	85 +

- 2.5.6 The justification for the method adopted for this assessment (adaptation of Fuller, 1980) is that declines have occurred in many bird populations since 1980. It should be noted that despite the adaptation, the criteria do not take into account the size of the site, habitats present or survey effort. It is therefore essential that expert judgement is used to justify the level of importance of a site.

## 2.6 Limitations

- 2.6.1 Due to access restrictions, surveyors were not able to walk certain areas of the site. Instead, when immediately adjacent to these areas the surveyors stopped and listened for several minutes and scanned the habitat with binoculars to identify birds and breeding behaviour.
- 2.6.2 Whilst desk study data are useful in providing supplementary ecological information for a site, it should be acknowledged that these data are dependent on the submission of records to the relevant organisation. As such, a lack of records for a particular species does not necessarily mean that the species is absent from the site and/or wider search area. Similarly, records of a particular species do not necessarily mean that the species is still present within the site and/or wider search area.
- 2.6.3 It should be noted that ecological features (e.g. bird populations) are transient, and that the distributions of habitats and species may be subject to change. As such, in line with Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidance, the ecological survey data presented in this report are considered valid for at least two years (CIEEM 2019), after which it may be necessary for further field surveys to be undertaken.

## 3.0 RESULTS

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### 3.1 Background data search

- 3.1.1 A total of 152 bird species were listed in the desk study from locations within 2 km of the site boundary. The majority of the species recorded as part of the desk study are either unlikely to utilise the habitats on site or may only be present as an occasional visitor to forage. However, habitats including coastal floodplain grazing marsh, water channels, broadleaved woodland, scrub, grassland, reedbeds, open water and ephemeral short perennial vegetation support an assemblage of wintering and breeding bird species as detailed in the following survey results. A list of these species and their conservation designations is provided in Appendix A.
- 3.1.2 Regarding nearby designated sites of ornithological interest, Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir SSSI is located 310m to the south-east of the site boundary. It is the largest body of freshwater in Neath-Port Talbot. The reservoir attracts large numbers of passage migrants and wintering wildfowl, with notable species including great crested grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) and little grebe (*Tachybaptus fuficollis*), mallard, gadwall and coot.
- 3.1.3 Kenfig Pool and Dunes National Nature Reserve is within 1434m of the site. This provides a refuge for wildfowl throughout the year and is used by bittern in winter.

### 3.2 Wintering bird survey

- 3.2.1 A total of 36 bird species were recorded during the 2021 – 22 wintering bird surveys and 33 during the 2023 – 24 surveys. A full list of these species is provided in Appendix B together with the full tabulated data for each survey visit.
- 3.2.2 Higher-value habitats including grassland, scrub, ephemeral, water channels and woodland habitat attracted low numbers of notable species such as bullfinch, mistle thrush, meadow pipit, redwing, reed bunting, linnet and snipe while a small lagoon attracted species such as coot, Cetti's warbler and moorhen.

#### Notable species

- 3.2.3 Notable species comprise birds listed on Schedule 1, UK Birds of Conservation Concern, Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 2022, and Section 7 Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.2.4 20 notable species were recorded within the 2021 – 22 survey area and 14 notable species during the winter 2023 – 24 visits. It is considered likely that fewer notable species were recorded during the 2023 – 24 surveys as a result of restricted access to habitats with a higher value to birds, such as grassland, scrub and woodland, along the southern and south-western site boundary. This area was however surveyed comprehensively in 2021 – 22 and as the habitats present remain the same, it is not envisaged that there will have been a significant change to the species assemblage recorded at that time. Therefore, given the above and the relatively close proximity of the 2021 – 22 and 2023 – 24 site boundaries a similar assemblage of birds is likely to



occur, and all species recorded in 2021 – 22 and 2023 – 24 are summarised in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Notable wintering birds recorded during the winter 2012 – 22 and winter 2023 – 24 survey visits**

Species	Scientific name	Species code on Figures	Schedule 1 species	Section 7 species	UK BoCC Status	BoCCW4	2022 – 2023 survey	2023 - 2024
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	BF		✓	Amber	Red	✓	
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	CO	-	-	-	Amber	✓	✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	CW	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	D	-	✓	Amber	-	✓	✓
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	FF	✓		Red	Amber	✓	✓
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	GC	-	-	-	Amber	✓	✓
Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	GB			Red	Red	✓	✓
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	HG	-	✓	Red	Red	✓	✓
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	K	-	✓	Amber	Red	✓	✓
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	KF	✓			Amber	✓	
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	LI	-	✓	Red	Red	✓	✓
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	MA	-	-	Amber	Amber	✓	
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	MP	-	-	Amber	Amber	✓	✓
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	M.			Red		✓	
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	MH	-	-	Amber	-	✓	✓
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	RE	✓		Amber	Amber	✓	✓
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	RB		✓	Amber	Amber	✓	
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	SN			Amber	Amber	✓	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	WP	-	-	Amber	-	✓	✓
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	WR	-	-	Amber	-	✓	✓

3.2.5 Five red and nine amber Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 4 (2022), six Section 7 Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Species of Principal Importance, and five Red and eleven Amber birds listed on the UK Birds of Conservation Concern 5 (2021) were recorded during the 2021 - 22 and 2023 – 24 surveys. Species locations were not plotted as so few birds were recorded in the winter. Further details are provided below:

- A single bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) was noted on two visits and a pair on one visit in scrub in the eastern part of the site during the 2021 – 22 survey.
- Coot were noted on five visits and were associated with the small lagoon. A peak count of 2 birds was recorded.
- Cetti's warbler were associated with the small lagoon and dense scrub in the vicinity of water channels. A peak count of four birds was recorded.
- Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*) (peak count 7 birds) were recorded in scrub and woodland.
- Low numbers of fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) (peak count 2) and redwing (*Turdus iliacus*) (peak count 5) were associated with the coastal floodplain grazing marsh. But note these species are widespread in the winter (influx from Europe) and are red listed due to a small breeding population in Scotland.
- Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*) were recorded on three visits and were associated with the scrub in the eastern part of the site. A peak count of two birds was recorded.
- A peak count of two great black-backed gulls (*Larus marinus*) were observed loafing on a brick structure at the southern end of the reservoir. A single bird was observed on the reservoir on another survey.
- A peak count of 40 herring gulls (*Larus argentatus*) were observed loafing on structures within the site during one survey and a peak count of 30 birds were recorded circling. In addition, a peak count of 13 birds was recorded on the reservoir. Birds were also noted in flight in the vicinity of the reservoir and were associated with gulls loafing off-site, on the roof of the Steel Service Centre building, adjacent north-west boundary of the site.
- A commuting kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) was observed within the eastern part of the centre of the site on two surveys.
- Kingfishers were observed briefly at the small lagoon on a single survey, when 2 birds were seen to interact aggressively.
- Linnet (*Linaria cannabina*) were noted on four surveys (peak count 8 birds) and were associated with the grazing marsh and rough grassland.
- Mallard were recorded on three surveys and were observed on the reservoir towards the north of the site (peak count three birds) and on a small lagoon adjacent to the 2023 – 24 red line boundary (peak count 4 birds) and on a small pond located circa 50 m to the south-east of the lagoon (peak count 7 birds). The peak count for a single survey was 11 birds (4 birds on the lagoon and 7 birds on the small pond).

- Meadow pipits (*Anthus pratensis*) were noted on all surveys at the west of the site and a flock of up to 20 birds was observed on the ephemeral short perennial habitat at the north-west.
- Mistle thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*) was noted on four surveys during 2021 - 22, including a bird singing in the woodland and four birds foraging on the grazing marsh. This area was not accessible during the 2023 – 24 surveys and no birds were noted.
- A moorhen was noted on the small lagoon on one survey and two were noted within a drainage channel within the western part of the site on a subsequent visit.
- Reed bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*) (a peak count of 3 birds) were recorded on 2 surveys on the grazing marsh. This area was not accessible during the 2023 – 24 surveys and no birds were noted.
- A single snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) was flushed from the coastal floodplain grazing marsh. This area was not accessible during the 2023 – 24 surveys and no birds were noted.
- Low numbers of woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*) were noted either flying over the site or within suitable vegetation such as woodland.
- Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) (peak count 10 birds) were recorded in all surveys in scrub and woodland.

### 3.3 Breeding bird survey

- 3.3.1 In total 46 bird species were recorded within the 2021 – 22 survey area during the breeding bird surveys undertaken in 2022. Seven species were confirmed as breeding<sup>1</sup> and 31 species were probably or possibly breeding within the survey area. A full list of these species together with the number of individuals recorded is provided in Appendix B together with full tabulated data for each survey visit.
- 3.3.2 The habitats contained within the 2023 - 24 red line boundary are the same as those in the 2021 – 22 survey area, and the assemblage of species affected by the works is anticipated to remain similar.

#### Notable species

- 3.3.3 24 notable bird species were recorded during the surveys within the 2021 – 22 survey area in 2022. Of these, four species were confirmed breeding and 18 species were probably or possibly breeding. Table 5 provides a summary of notable bird species recorded within the survey area during the breeding bird surveys.
- 3.3.4 21 species of no conservation concern were recorded, of which 16 were confirmed or potentially breeding and are included in Table 16 in Appendix B.
- 3.3.5 Locations of territories for notable species assessed as breeding or probable breeding are mapped in Figures 6 – 25. Field maps comprising Schedule 1 species, Section 7 species, red/amber Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 2022, and red/amber UK

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<sup>1</sup> I.E. definite evidence of breeding such as actual nest or observation of fledgling birds.



Birds of Conservation Concern listed species seen on each survey visit are shown in Figures 2 – 5.

**Table 5: Summary of notable bird species recorded within the survey area during the 2022 breeding bird surveys**

Species	Scientific name	Species code on Figures	Schedule 1 species	Section 7 species	UK BoCC Status	BoCCW4	Status within survey area	Estimated Number of territories
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	BF	-	✓	Amber	Red	Possible Breeding	1
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	CW	✓	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	Up to 8
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	CO	-	-	-	Amber	Probable Breeding	1
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	D	-	✓	Amber	Amber	Probable Breeding	Up to 3
Grasshopper warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	GH	-	✓	Red	Red	Probable Breeding	1
Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	GB	-	-	Red	Amber	Foraging	n/a
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	GR	-	-	Red	Red	Possible Breeding	1
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	HG	-	✓	Red	Red	Breeding colony located on roof of Steel Service Centre building. Possible breeding sites on other buildings	Not known
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	K	-	✓	Amber	Red	Foraging, Possible Breeding	1
Lesser Black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	LB	-	-	Amber	Red	Breeding colony located on roof of Steel Service Centre building. Possible breeding sites on other buildings	Not known
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	LI	-	✓	Red	Red	Probable Breeding	3-4
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	MA	-	-	Amber		Possible Breeding	1
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	MP	-	-	Amber	Red	Breeding	2
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	MH	-	-	Amber	-	Probable Breeding	2

Species	Scientific name	Species code on Figures	Schedule 1 species	Section 7 species	UK BoCC Status	BoCCW4	Status within survey area	Estimated Number of territories
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	PE	✓•	-	-	-	Feeding	1
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	RB	-	✓•	Amber		Probable Breeding	2
Sedge warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	SW	-	-	Amber	-	Probable Breeding	4
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	S.	-	✓•	Red	Amber	Probable Breeding	1-2
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	ST	-	✓•	Amber		Probable Breeding	2
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	SG	-	✓•	Red	Red	Breeding	1
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	WH	-	-	Amber	Red	Probable Breeding	3-4
Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	WW	-	-	Amber	Red	Probable Breeding	3-4
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	WP	-	-	Amber	-	Probable Breeding	3
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	WR	-	-	Amber	-	Probable Breeding	15

3.3.6 Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), meadow pipit and herring gull, which are red Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales and lesser black-backed gull, which is amber, were confirmed breeding. Cetti's warbler, which is protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, and 8 'Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 4' (all of which are also listed on the UK Birds of Conservation Concern) were assessed as probably or possibly breeding. Notable species are discussed in greater detail below:

- Bullfinch was seen on two consecutive surveys in suitable nesting habitat and it is considered possible that there is one nesting territory present on site. The breeding territory for bullfinch is displayed in Figure 6.
- Cetti's warblers were noted singing in several locations in dense areas of bramble, reeds and scrub in the vicinity of water courses. Cetti's warbler is a skulking species and therefore it is difficult to observe breeding behaviour, however it is considered very likely that the species is breeding on site. It is estimated there may be up to 8 territories. The breeding territories of Cetti's warbler are displayed in Figure 7.
- Coot was recorded on the small lagoon on three surveys. The habitat is suitable and it is probable the species is nesting. The potential breeding territory for coot is displayed in Figure 8.
- Dunnock were recorded nesting in areas of dense scrub around the site. It is estimated there are up to 3 territories, although given the polygamous nature of the species, the potential number of nests may have been more. Breeding territories for dunnock are displayed in Figure 9.
- Grasshopper warbler (*Locustella naevia*). A singing male was recorded in scrub on the western side of the grazing marsh on several occasions. It is estimated that there is one territory. The breeding territory for grasshopper warbler is displayed in Figure 10.
- Greenfinch was recorded during one survey at the east of the site, within the vicinity of scrub, suitable for nesting. Figure 11 illustrates the potential breeding territory.
- A breeding colony of herring gull and lesser black-backed gulls were noted on a vegetated roof of the Steel Service Centre building c. 100m to the south of the on-site reservoir, illustrated in Figure 12. Further rooftops may support breeding gulls, for example the large building illustrated in Figure 12, which appears to have vegetated areas when viewed on aerial photographs.
- Kestrel was seen flying across site in two surveys, in the east and west of the site, respectively. It is possible the species may nest on site, although it appeared to be commuting when recorded. No nest site was identified although it is possible that habitat such as the small plantation woodland may be suitable. As no specific areas of the site was identified, no territory map is included.
- Linnet. This semi-colonial breeder is known to be difficult to survey accurately, as occupied nests can be found in close proximity, breeding is asynchronous, and second brood attempts can occur whilst young in the first nest are still being fed. Dense bramble scrub associated with the grazing marsh at the southern end of the site held an estimated 3-4 pairs. Although territorial males and pairs were obvious

when perched on bramble scrub, it was not possible to definitively prove breeding. Breeding territories for linnet are displayed in Figure 13.

- Three mallards were recorded on the small lagoon on one survey. The habitat is suitable for the species. Potential breeding territory for mallard is displayed in Figure 14.
- Meadow pipit. Song flights of male meadow pipits were observed over tussocky grassland and scrub at the southern side of the Darlows Regen area. Adults were observed carrying food to an active nest, confirming breeding. Breeding territories for meadow pipit are shown in Figure 15.
- Moorhens were observed on the lagoon on several visits and alarm calls were noted on two occasions, indicating the presence of 2 potential territories. Breeding territory for moorhen is shown in Figure 16.
- Reed bunting. Singing males were noted on all surveys in dense scrub at the southern end of the site. It is estimated that there are up to 2 territories and these are shown in Figure 17.
- Sedge warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*). Singing males were noted within areas of dense scrub associated with channels on the grazing marsh. It is estimated that there are up to 4 territories and these are shown in Figure 18.
- Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*). Song flights of skylark were observed over the grazing marsh at the southern end of the site, with a peak of 2 singing males noted. It is estimated there may be 1 - 2 territories present and the potential breeding territory is shown in Figure 19.
- Song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*). Song thrush was noted singing in the woodland and in an area of scrub and trees at the west of the site. It is estimated there may be up to 2 territories and these are shown in Figure 20.
- Starling. Adults were observed taking food to an active nest, in which young birds could be heard. The nest location was within a metal structure which supports elevated pipework. The breeding territory for starling is displayed in Figure 21.
- Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*). Scrub patches in the east and west of the site held an estimate of up to 3 territories. Singing males were also noted on one survey within scrub associated with the coastal floodplain grazing marsh, where at least one further territory may be present. Breeding territories for whitethroat are shown in Figure 22.
- Willow warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*). An estimated 3 - 4 territories present within scrub on the eastern and western side of the site. Breeding territories for willow warbler are shown in Figure 23.
- Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*). Singing and a perched pair of birds were noted and it is estimated that there are up to 3 territories. Breeding territories for woodpigeon are shown in Figure 24.
- Wren. Likely to be nesting, with an estimate of up to 15 territories around the site, including in woodland and dense scrub. Breeding territories for wren are shown in Figure 25.

- 3.3.7 Bullfinch, dunnoek, grasshopper warbler, herring gull, kestrel, linnet, reed bunting, skylark, song thrush and starling are also listed as Section 7 species under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.3.8 A male and female peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*), a Schedule 1 species, were observed on a gas holder in the west of the original site boundary on 3 survey visits. During one survey the female landed briefly on top of the holder (the only occasion a peregrine was seen landing on top of the structure). The pair then flew around the holder, one bird landing on a narrow ledge while the other perched on a stair handrail. The ledge is narrow, no faeces or young birds could be seen in the vicinity of the ledge during the surveys, adults were not observed taking food to the structure and no feeding remains or faeces were visible on the ground below the ledge. It is considered that peregrines use the structure as a hunting perch rather than nesting site.
- 3.3.9 Three red Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales, comprising bullfinch, greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*) and kestrel, were possibly breeding.
- 3.3.10 One red UK Bird of Conservation Concern, the greenfinch, and three amber species, comprising bullfinch, kestrel and mallard were possibly breeding.
- 3.3.11 The minimum number of territories for a given species have been based on the number of different singing birds recorded during the visits.

## 4.0 EVALUATION

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- 4.1.1 Impact assessment and potential mitigation and enhancement measures are not included in this report as they will be discussed in the project Environmental Statement, Biodiversity chapter.

### 4.2 Designated sites

- 4.2.1 Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir SSSI attracts large numbers of wintering wildfowl. Kenfig Pool and Dunes National Nature Reserve is a refuge for wildfowl throughout the year. Despite the proximity of Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir SSSI and Kenfig Pool and Dunes National Nature Reserve no significant numbers of wintering or breeding wildfowl have been recorded from within the proposed development footprint. For example, during the wintering bird surveys no great crested grebes or gadwall were recorded, one to two little grebes, zero to six mallards and zero to two coots were recorded per survey. Meanwhile, during the breeding bird surveys no great crested grebes or gadwall were recorded, During the breeding bird surveys no gadwall, great crested or little grebe were recorded and there were potentially a single coot and mallard territory.

### 4.3 Wintering birds

- 4.3.1 36 species of bird were recorded within the 2021 – 22 survey area and 33 species within the 2023 – 24 red line boundary, including eight waterbirds (waterfowl and waders), two gull and 24 passerine species.
- 4.3.2 During the 2021 – 22 and 2023 – 24 surveys, there were 20 and 14 notable species recorded, respectively which are listed on one or more of the following: Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 4 2022, UK Birds of Conservation Concern 5 2021, or Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Low numbers of notable bird species were recorded during the 2021 - 22 and 2023 -24 surveys. It is believed that fewer notable species were recorded during the 2023 – 24 surveys as a result of restricted access to high-value habitats, such as grassland, scrub and woodland, within the southern and south-western site boundary. This area was however surveyed comprehensively in 20221 – 22 and as the habitats remain the same, it is not envisaged that there will have been a significant change to the species assemblage recorded.
- 4.3.3 The habitats contained within the 2023 -24 red line boundary are the same as those within the 2021 – 22 survey area. It is anticipated that this, together with the proximity of the 2021 - 22 and 2023 - 24 boundaries, means that the assemblage of wintering bird species directly affected by the works is likely to remain very similar. Direct effects include high levels of disturbance within the site boundary. Following the 2023 – 24 boundary amendment, it is anticipated that fewer wintering birds will be directly affected by the works, for example, notable species including kingfisher, Cetti's warbler, coot, mallard and moorhen, in the vicinity of the small lagoon at the east of the site, which is now outside, but adjacent to, the 2023 -24 red line boundary. In addition, the reduction



in the area of high-value habitats within the 2023 -24 boundary is also likely to contribute to a reduced impact on wintering birds.

- 4.3.4 Few notable wildfowl and waders were recorded on site. Those recorded comprised coot, mallard, moorhen and snipe.

## 4.4 Breeding birds

- 4.4.1 46 species of bird were recorded within the 2021 - 22 survey area during the breeding bird surveys, of which 37 were breeding, probably or potentially breeding this included five waterfowl, three gull and 34 passerine species.
- 4.4.2 24 notable species were recorded of which four were confirmed breeding and 18 species were probably or possibly breeding.
- 4.4.3 There are eleven red and three amber species breeding or potentially breeding which are included on the list of the Birds of Conservation Concern Wales<sup>4</sup> (Johnstone et al, 2022). There are six red and 14 amber species breeding or potentially breeding included on the red list of the UK Birds of Conservation Concern<sup>5</sup> (Stanbury et al, 2021). In addition, nine Section 7 species (which are also included in the red and amber-listed species already mentioned) of principal importance are breeding or potentially breeding.
- 4.4.4 Starling, meadow pipit and herring gull, which are red Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales and lesser black-backed gull, which is amber, were confirmed breeding. Cetti's warbler, which is protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, and 8 'Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 4' (all of which are also listed on the UK Birds of Conservation Concern were assessed as probably or possibly breeding. It is estimated that up to six Cetti's warblers were breeding on site.
- 4.4.5 Peregrines were recorded using a gas holder within the 2021 - 22 survey area, which is now 40m outside the 2023 – 24 red line boundary. Breeding was not confirmed and it is considered this was being used as a hunting perch rather than nesting site.
- 4.4.6 The habitats contained within the 2023 -24 red line boundary are the same as those within the 2021 – 22 survey area. It is anticipated that this, together with the proximity of the 2021 - 22 and 2023 - 24 boundaries, means that the assemblage of species affected by the works is anticipated to remain similar. Following the 2023 – 24 boundary amendment, it is anticipated that fewer breeding birds will be directly affected by the works, for example, in the vicinity of the small lagoon, which is now outside, but adjacent to, the 2023 -24 red line boundary. In addition, the reduction in the area of high-value habitats within the 2023 -24 boundary is also likely to contribute to a reduced impact on breeding birds.

## 5.0 CONCLUSIONS

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- 5.1.1 Despite the proximity of Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir SSSI and Kenfig Pool and Dunes National Nature Reserve no significant numbers of wintering or breeding wildfowl were recorded. These results suggest the site is of low importance for the species the designated sites support.
- 5.1.2 Following the amendment to the site boundary and reduction in the area of high-value habitats within the 2023 - 24 red line boundary, it is anticipated that fewer wintering and breeding birds will be directly affected by the works. There is however the potential for indirect effects, such as, visual disturbance, noise, vibration and pollution which could cause nest abandonment.
- 5.1.3 The site supported an assemblage of species typical of the habitats present. The site is considered to be of no more than local importance for wintering birds.
- 5.1.4 Peregrines were not considered to be nesting on site and nesting sites are not anticipated to be lost, however disturbance could still be a factor if nesting takes place within the proximity of the work site.
- 5.1.5 Using the adapted criteria set out by Fuller (1980) the site has a breeding bird assemblage comprising 37 breeding species that is of at least district level (25 to 49 species) importance for the Port Talbot area.
- 5.1.6 Impact assessment and potential mitigation and enhancement measures will be discussed in the project Environmental Statement, Biodiversity chapter.

## 6.0 REFERENCES

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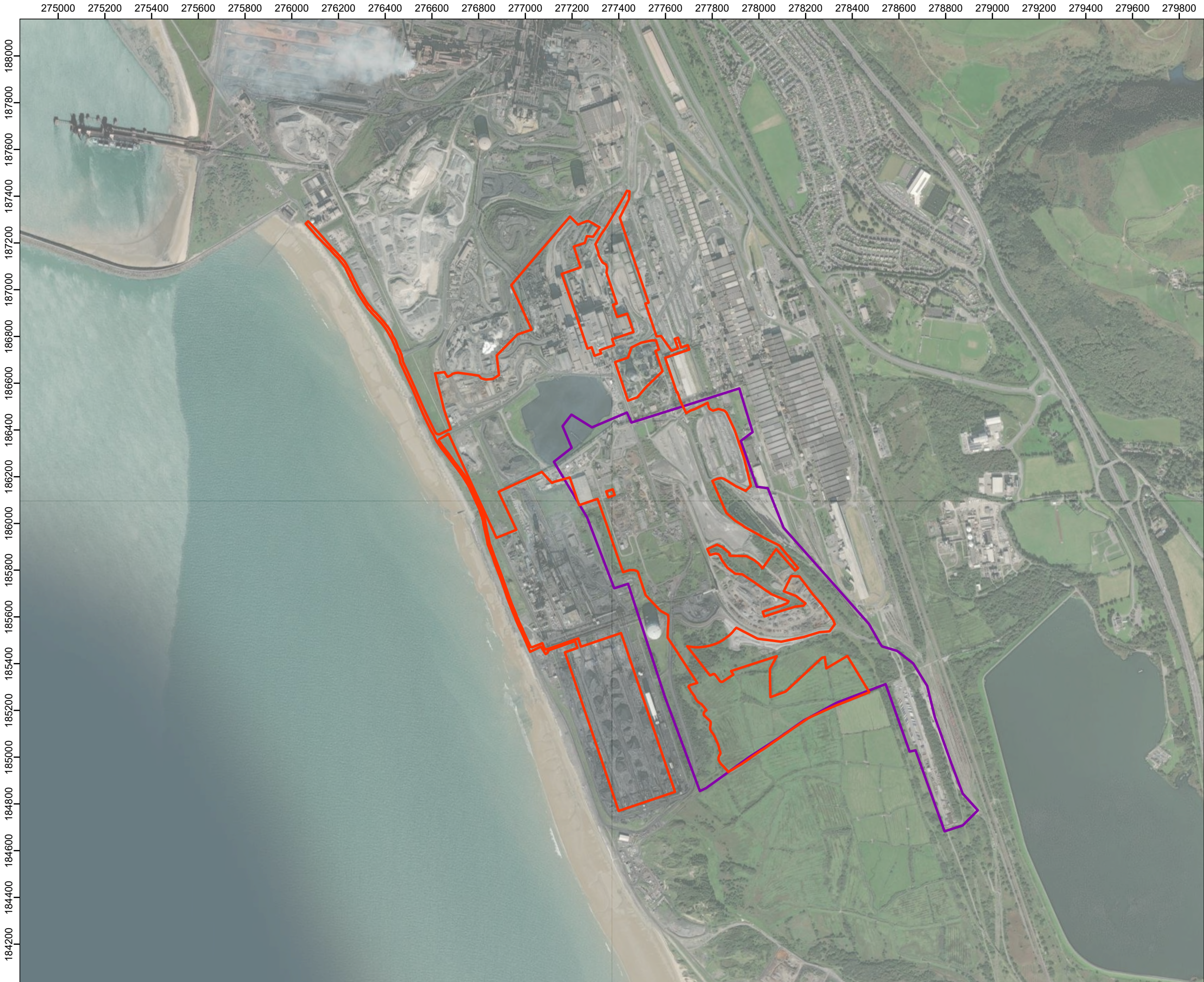
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## 7.0 FIGURES

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**Figure 1** - Site Location Plan





- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/2022 survey area

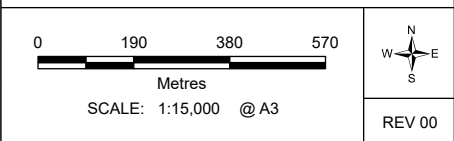


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TITLE: Figure 1:  
Site Location Plan





**Figures 2 – 5 - Breeding Bird Survey Maps**

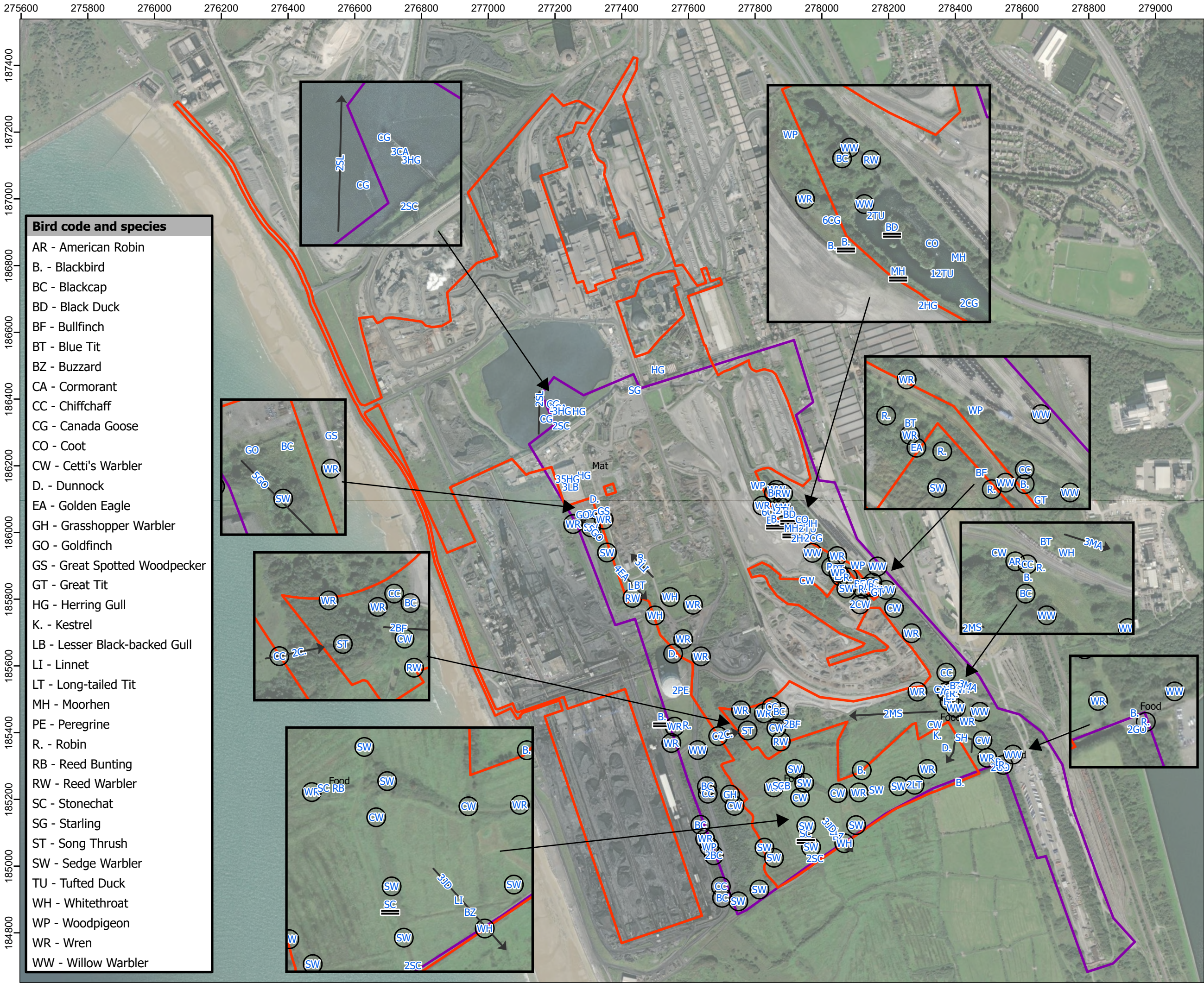
**Table 6: Figure Legend for breeding bird survey maps**

Symbol	Description	Symbol	Description
2B.	Number of birds	B., B♂ B♀, B.juve	Bird sight records, with age, sex or number of birds if appropriate
B. ♀	Indicates one pair of birds	<u>B.</u>	A calling bird
Ⓟ	Bird in song	—B.—▶	Bird seen only in flight
B.—▶	A bird seen perched then flying away (not seen to land)	Ⓟ —▶ Ⓟ	A singing bird moving between two perches
Ⓟ - - - - Ⓟ	Two birds of the same species singing at the same time i.e. different birds. Simultaneous registration (or contemporary contact).		









Bird code and species	
AR	American Robin
B.	Blackbird
BC	Blackcap
BD	Black Duck
BF	Bullfinch
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
CA	Cormorant
CC	Chiffchaff
CG	Canada Goose
CO	Coot
CW	Cetti's Warbler
D.	Dunnock
EA	Golden Eagle
GH	Grasshopper Warbler
GO	Goldfinch
GS	Great Spotted Woodpecker
GT	Great Tit
HG	Herring Gull
K.	Kestrel
LB	Lesser Black-backed Gull
LI	Linnet
LT	Long-tailed Tit
MH	Moorhen
PE	Peregrine
R.	Robin
RB	Reed Bunting
RW	Reed Warbler
SC	Stonechat
SG	Starling
ST	Song Thrush
SW	Sedge Warbler
TU	Tufted Duck
WH	Whitethroat
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren
WW	Willow Warbler

- Legend:**
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird Activity**
    - Singing
    - Alarm call
    - Birds carrying faecal sacs or food
    - Evidence of nest building (such as carrying nest material)



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TITLE: Figure 3:  
Breeding Bird Survey Results  
Visit 2 - 10/5/22

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Metres  
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187200  
187000  
186800  
186600  
186400  
186200  
186000  
185800  
185600  
185400  
185200  
185000  
184800

**Bird code and species**

- B. - Blackbird
- BC - Blackcap
- BT - Blue Tit
- BZ - Buzzard
- C. - Carrion Crow
- CA - Cormorant
- CC - Chiffchaff
- CO - Coot
- CW - Cetti's Warbler
- D. - Dunnock
- GO - Goldfinch
- GT - Great Tit
- HG - Herring Gull
- LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
- LI - Linnet
- MA - Mallard
- MG - Magpie
- MH - Moorhen
- MP - Meadow Pipit
- PE - Peregrine
- PW - Pied Wagtail
- R. - Robin
- RB - Reed Bunting
- S. - Skylark
- SC - Stonechat
- SG - Starling
- ST - Song Thrush
- SW - Sedge Warbler
- TU - Tufted Duck
- WH - Whitethroat
- WP - Woodpigeon
- WR - Wren
- WW - Willow Warbler

**Legend:**

Site boundary

2021/22 survey area

**Bird Activity**

Singing

Calling

Alarm call

Mat Evidence of nest building (such as carrying nest material)



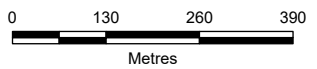
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TITLE: Figure 4:

Breeding Bird Survey Results  
Visit 3 - 24/5/22



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187000  
186800  
186600  
186400  
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185800  
185600  
185400  
185200  
185000  
184800

**Bird code and species**

B. - Blackbird  
BC - Blackcap  
BF - Bullfinch  
BT - Blue Tit  
BZ - Buzzard  
C. - Carrion Crow  
CA - Cormorant  
CC - Chiffchaff  
CW - Cetti's Warbler  
GB - Great Black-backed Gull  
GC - Goldcrest  
GO - Goldfinch  
GR - Greenfinch  
GT - Great Tit  
HG - Herring Gull  
K. - Kestrel  
LI - Linnet  
LT - Long-tailed Tit  
MG - Magpie  
MH - Moorhen  
PE - Peregrine  
PW - Pied Wagtail  
R. - Robin  
RB - Reed Bunting  
RW - Reed Warbler  
S. - Skylark  
SC - Stonechat  
SD - Stock Dove  
SL - Swallow  
ST - Song Thrush  
SW - Sedge Warbler  
TU - Tufted Duck  
WH - Whitethroat  
WP - Woodpigeon  
WR - Wren  
WW - Willow Warbler

**Legend:**

- Site boundary  
2021/22 survey area
- Bird Activity
- Singing  
Calling  
Alarm call



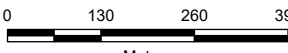
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TITLE: Figure 5:

Breeding Bird Survey Results  
Visit 4 - 7/6/22



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**Figure 6 – 25** - Breeding bird survey; notable species breeding territories





- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

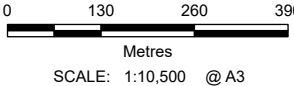


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TITLE: Figure 6:  
Bullfinch Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

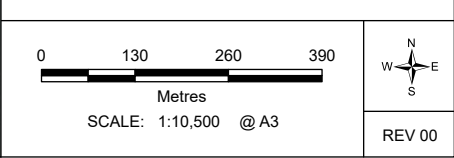


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TITLE: Figure 7:  
Cetti's Warbler Breeding Territory







**Legend:**

- Site boundary
- 2021/22 survey area
- Bird territories

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Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

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TITLE: Figure 8:  
Coot Breeding Territory

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Metres

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- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

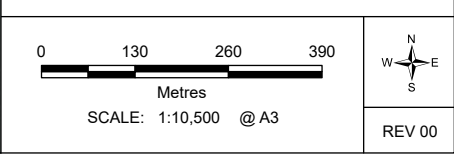


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TITLE: Figure 9:  
Dunnock Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

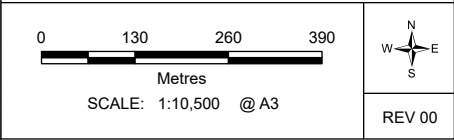


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TITLE: Figure 10:  
Grasshopper Warbler Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

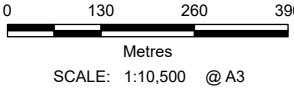


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Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

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TITLE: Figure 11:  
Greenfinch Breeding Territory



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- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

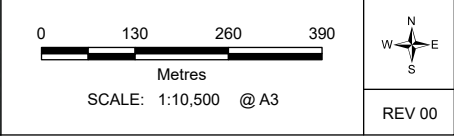


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TITLE: Figure 12:  
Herring Gull and Lesser  
Black-backed Gull Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

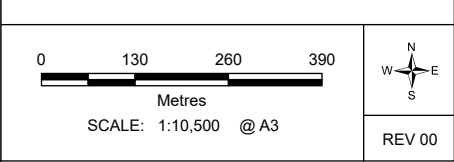


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 13:  
Linnet Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

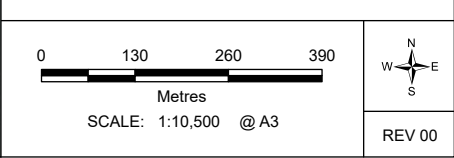


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

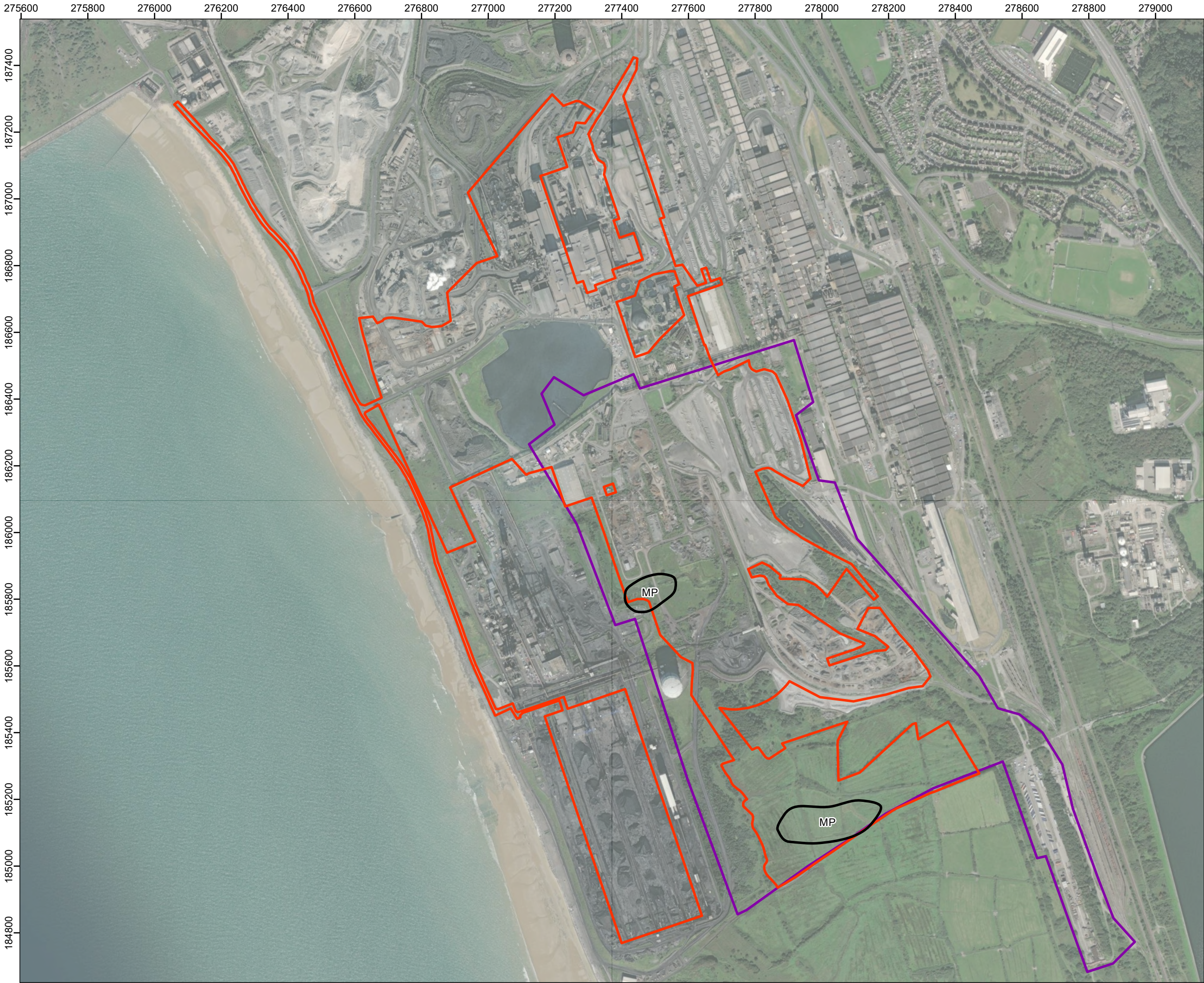
P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 14:  
Mallard Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

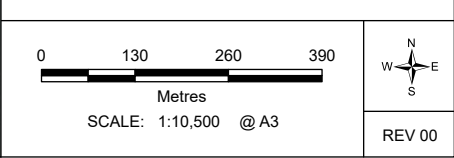


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 15:  
Meadow Pipit Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

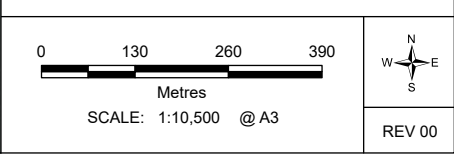


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 16:  
Moorhen Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

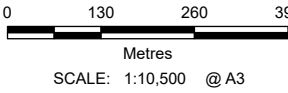


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 17:  
Reed Bunting Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

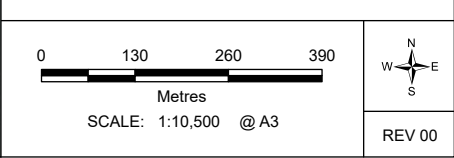


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 18:  
Sedge Warbler Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

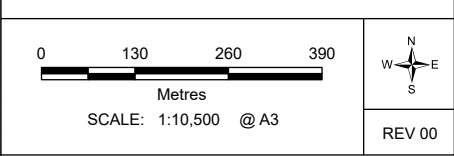


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Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

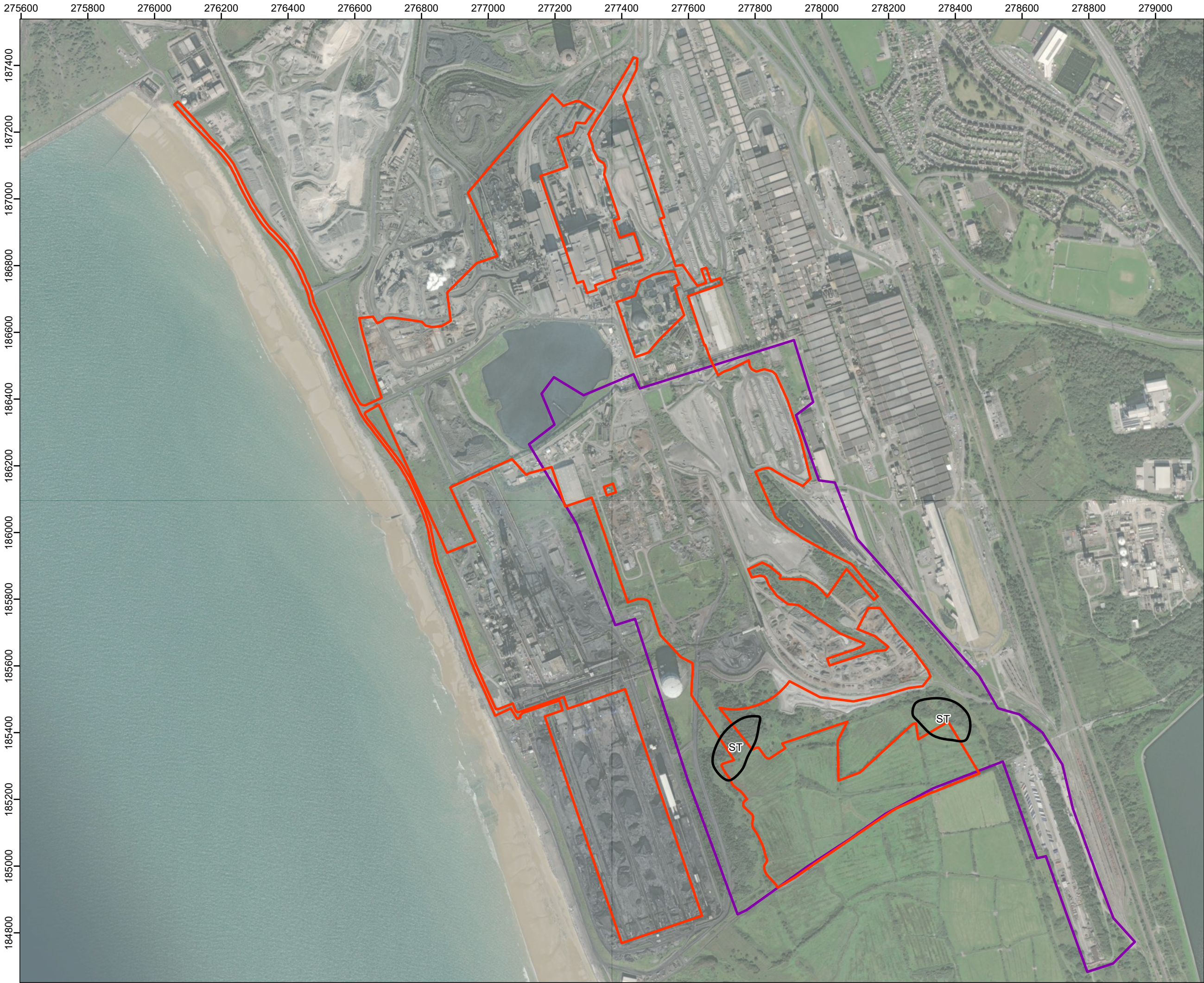
P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 19:  
Skylark Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

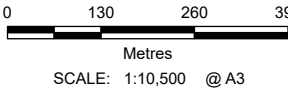


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 20:  
Song Thrush Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

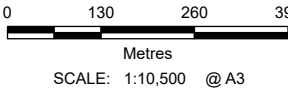


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF

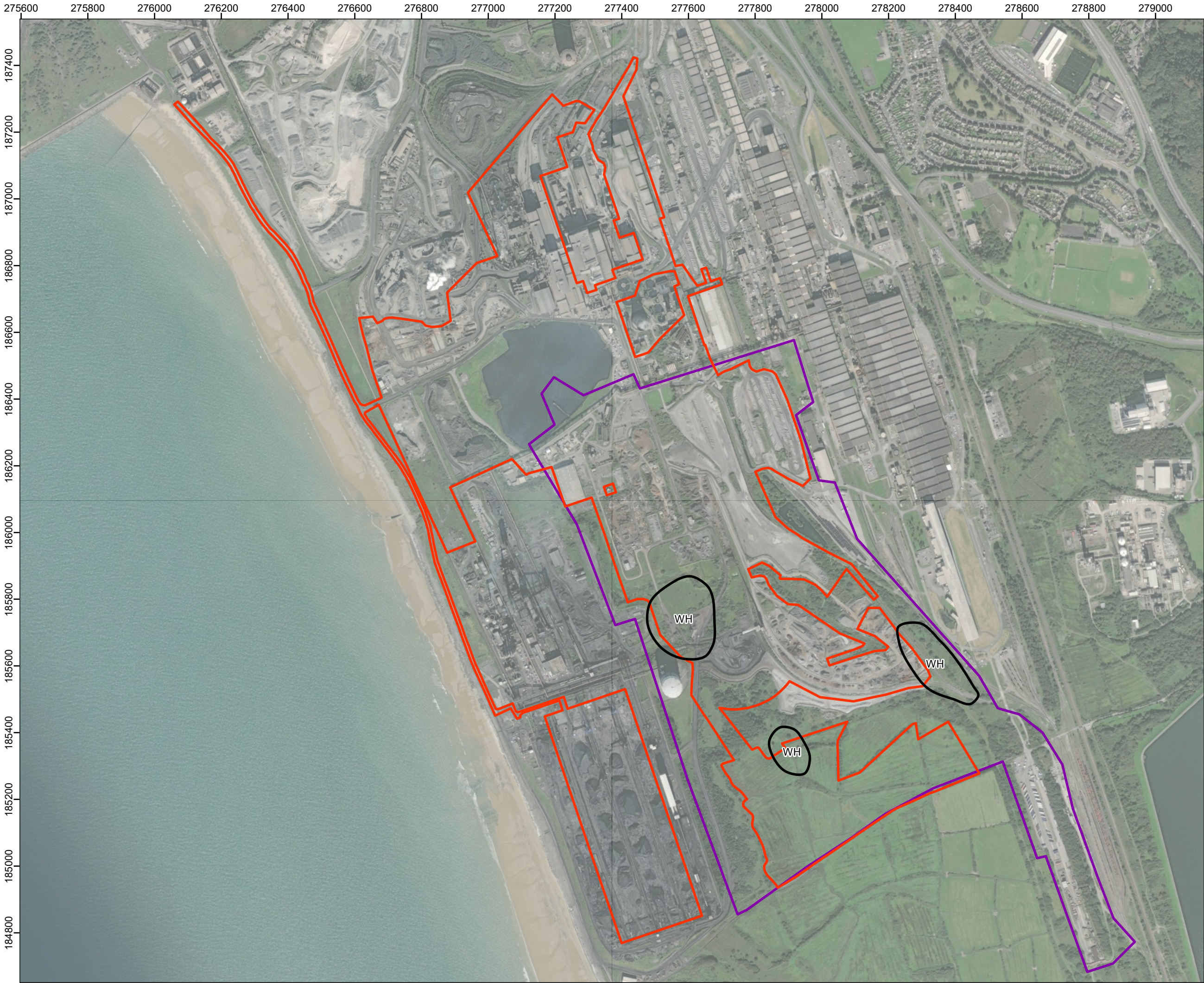


TITLE: Figure 21:  
Starling Breeding Territory



REV 00





- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

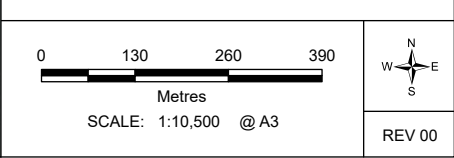


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

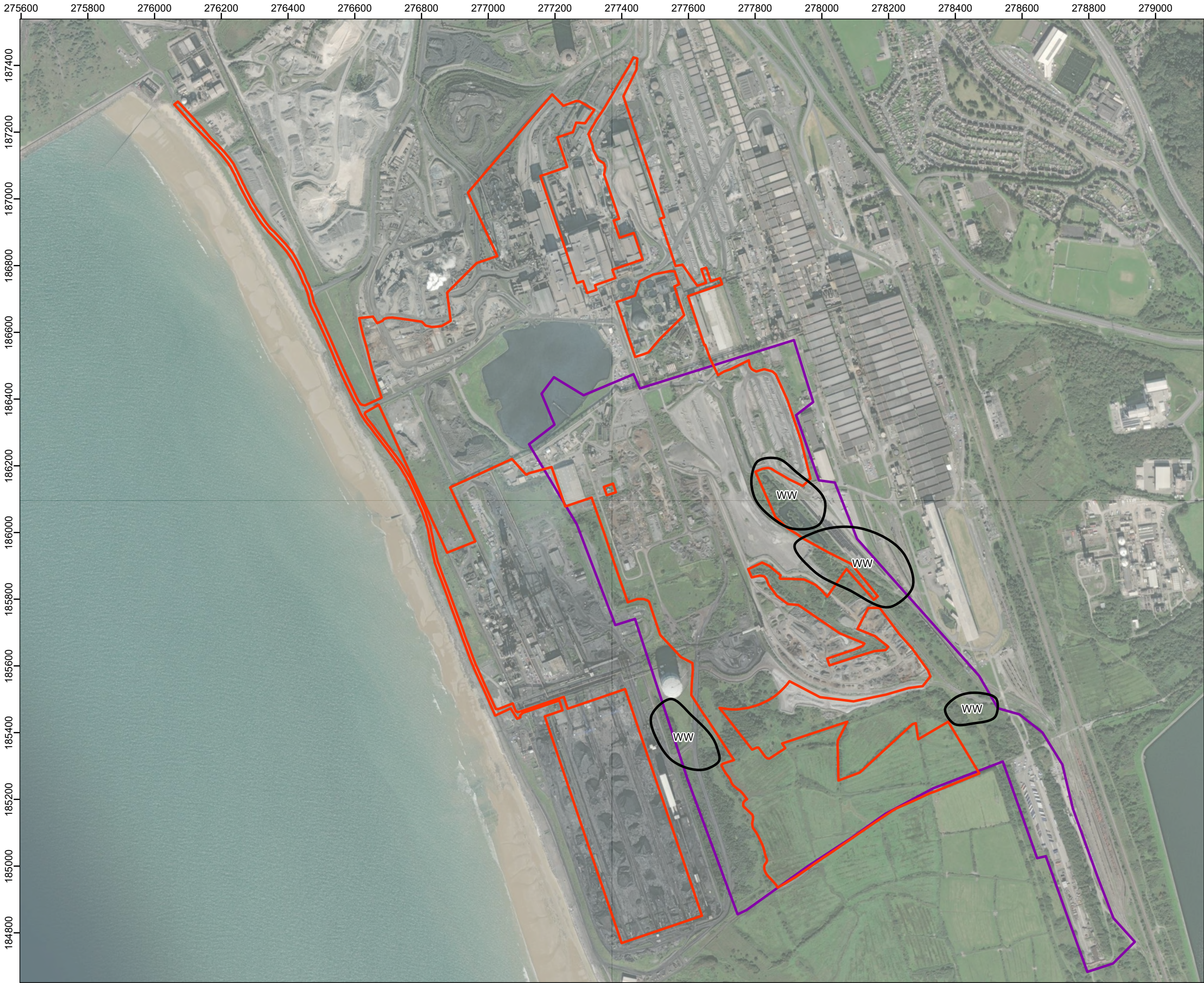
P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 22:  
Whitethroat Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

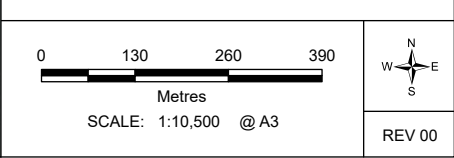


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

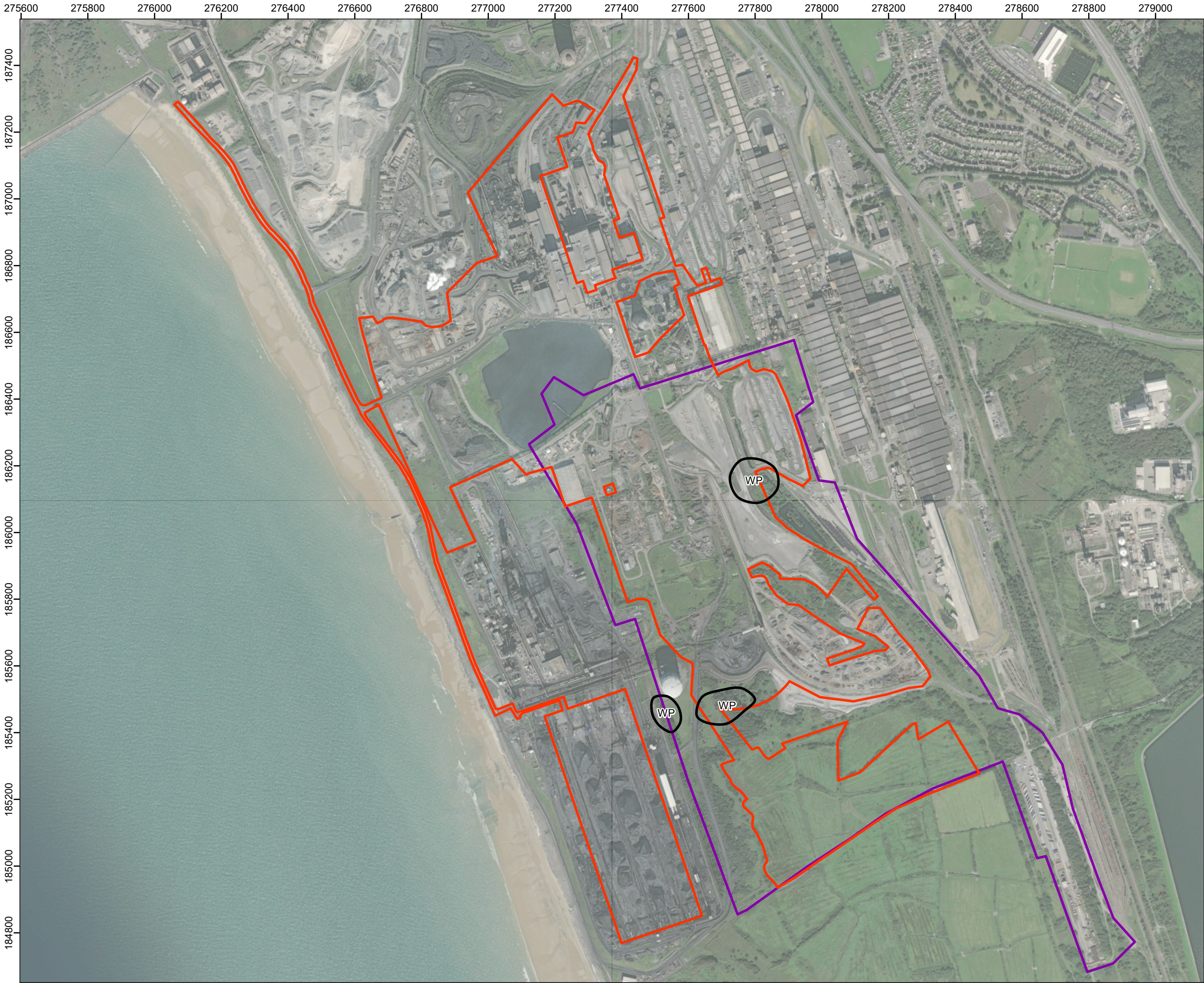
P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 23:  
Willow Warbler Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories

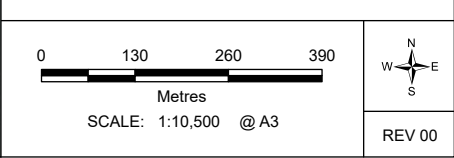


00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 24:  
Woodpigeon Breeding Territory







- Legend:
- Site boundary
  - 2021/22 survey area
  - Bird territories



00	16/08/2024	2487033	TG	SP	PP
Rev	Date	Description	Drm	Chk	App

P&C EAF



TITLE: Figure 25:  
Wren Breeding Territory





# APPENDIX A – BACKGROUND DATA SEARCH

## Background Data Search

**Table 7: Bird species records within 2 km of the site boundary**

Common Name	Latin Name	Designation
Arctic skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Amber
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Red
Bearded reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	WCA1.1
Bar-tailed godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	S7, Red
Bewick's swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Red
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Amber
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	S7, Red
Black-necked grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Black-tailed godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	WCA1.1
Black-throated diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	S7, Red
Cetti's warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	WCA1.1
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Amber
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Red
Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Red
Common scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Amber
Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Amber
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Amber
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Amber
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	WCA1.1
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	S7, Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	S7, Red
Curlew sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Amber
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Red
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	S7
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	Amber
Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Amber
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Amber
Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Amber
Glaucous gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Amber
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Amber
Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Red
Golden plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	S7, Red



Common Name	Latin Name	Designation
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	WCA1.1
Grasshopper warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	S7, Red
Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Red
Great northern diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Greenfinch	<i>Chloris</i>	Amber
Green sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	WCA1.1
Green woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Amber
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Amber
Grey partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	S7, Red
Grey plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Red
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Amber
Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Amber
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes</i>	S7, Amber
Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Red
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	S7, Red
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	WCA1.1
Honey buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
House martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Red
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	S7, Amber
Iceland gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Amber
Indet. diver	<i>Gavia sp.</i>	WCA1.1
Jack snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	Amber
Kentish plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	WCA1.1
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	S7, Red
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	S7, Red
Leach's storm petrel	<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Amber
Lesser redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	S7, Amber
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	S7, Red
Little bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	WCA1.1
Little gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Little ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	WCA1.1
Little tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	WCA1.1, Red
Long-tailed duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	WCA1.1, Red
Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Amber
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Amber
Manx shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Amber
Marsh tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>	S7, Red
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Amber
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	WCA1.1, Red
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Amber
Montagu's harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	WCA1.1
Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	S7, Amber
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Amber



Common Name	Latin Name	Designation
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	WCA1.1
Pied flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	S7, Red
Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	WCA1.2, Amber
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Red
Pomarine skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Amber
Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	WCA1.1
Purple sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	Amber
Red-breasted merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Amber
Red kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Red-necked grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Amber
Red-necked phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	WCA1.1
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Red
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	S7, Amber
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	S7, Red
Ring ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	S7, Red
Roseate tern	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	WCA1.1, S7, Red
Spotted redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	Amber
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Amber
Sandwich tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Amber
Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	Amber
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Amber
Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Red
Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Amber
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	S7, Amber
Slavonian grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	WCA1.1, Red
Smew	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	Amber
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Amber
Snow bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	S7, Amber
Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Spotted flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	S7, Red
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Red
Storm petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	Amber
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Amber
Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Amber
Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	S7, Amber
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	S7, Red
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Amber
Turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	S7, Red
Velvet scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	WCA1.1, Red
Water pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Amber
Western marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	WCA1.1, Amber



Common Name	Latin Name	Designation
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Red
White-fronted goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Red
White-tailed eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	WCA1.1
Whooper swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	WCA1.1
Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	Amber
Willow tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>	S7, Red
Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Red
Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	Red
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	WCA1.1, S7
Wood sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	WCA1.1
Wood warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	S7, Red
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	WCA1.1
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	S7, Red
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Amber
Yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	S7, Red



## APPENDIX B – SURVEY DATA

### Wintering Bird Surveys

**Table 8: Bird species recorded during the wintering bird surveys**

Common Name	Latin Name
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Cetti's warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>
Little grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>
Tufted duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Wood pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>



**Table 9: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 1**

Wintering bird survey 1 - 18/11/2022		
Notable Species	Code	Count
Cetti's warbler	CW	2
Coot	CO	2
Dunnock	D.	4
Fieldfare	FF	2
Herring gull	HG	6
Long-tailed tit	LT	10
Meadow pipit	MP	5
Mistle thrush	M.	1
Moorhen	MH	1
Redwing	RE	5
Reed bunting	RB	3
Snipe	SN	1
Wren	WR	5
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Carrion crow	C.	
Chaffinch	CH	
Goldfinch	GO	
Little Grebe	LG	
Magpie	MG	
Robin	R.	



**Table 10: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 2**

Wintering bird survey 2 - 15/12/2021		
Notable Species	Code	Count
Cetti's warbler	CW	4
Bullfinch	BF	1
Coot	CO	2
Dunnock	D.	1
Fieldfare	FF	1
Goldcrest	GC	1
Herring gull	HG	3
Kestrel	K.	1
Kingfisher	KF	2
Long-tailed tit	LT	5
Mallard	MA	1
Meadow pipit	MP	1
Mistle thrush	M.	2
Reed bunting	RB	2
Woodpigeon	WP	2
Wren	WR	7
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Carrion crow	C.	
Chaffinch	CH	
Goldcrest	GC	
Great tit	GT	
Little Grebe	LG	
Magpie	MG	
Robin	R.	



**Table 11: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 3**

Wintering bird survey 3 - 17/01/2022		
Notable Species	Code	Count
Bullfinch	BF	1
Dunnock	D.	8
Herring gull	HG	8
Kestrel	K.	1
Linnet	LI	9
Mallard	MA	6
Meadow pipit	MP	7
Mistle thrush	M.	1
Wren	WR	8
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Buzzard	BZ	
Carrion crow	C.	
Chaffinch	CH	
Goldfinch	GO	
Great tit	GT	
Little Grebe	LG	
Magpie	MG	
Pied wagtail	PW	
Robin	R.	
Stonechat	SC	



**Table 12: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 4**

Wintering bird survey 4 - 28/02/2022		
Notable Species	Code	Count
Bullfinch	BF	2
Cetti's warbler	CW	3
Coot	CO	1
Dunnock	D.	5
Goldcrest	GC	2
Great black-backed gull	GB	2
Herring gull	HG	6
Linnet	LI	3
Long-tailed tit	LT	5
Mallard	MA	14
Meadow pipit	MP	16
Mistle thrush	M.	4
Woodpigeon	WP	2
Wren	WR	10
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Buzzard	BZ	
Canada goose	CG	
Carrion crow	C.	
Goldfinch	GO	
Great tit	GT	
Pied wagtail	PW	
Robin	R.	
Stonechat	SC	
Tufted duck	TU	



**Table 13: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 5**

Wintering bird survey 5 - 13/12/2023		
Notable Species	Code	Count
Coot	CO	1
Dunnock	D.	3
Fieldfare	FF	1
Great black-backed gull	GB	1
Herring gull	HG	40
Lesser black-backed gull	LB.	1
Linnet	LI	3
Moorhen	MH	3
Meadow pipit	MP	4
Wren	WR	4
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Buzzard	BZ	
Carrion crow	C.	
Cormorant	CA	
Chiffchaff	CC	
Grey Heron	H.	
Jay	J.	
Little Grebe	LG	
Long-tailed tit	LT	
Magpie	MG	
Pied wagtail	PW	
Robin	R.	
Stonechat	SC	



**Table 14: Bird species recorded during wintering bird survey 6**

Wintering bird survey 6 - 05/02/2024		
Species	Code	Count
Coot	CO	3
Cetti's warbler	CW	2
Dunnock	D.	2
Herring gull	HG	30
Kestrel	K	2
Linnet	LI	2
Moorhen	MH	2
Redwing	RE	14
Meadow pipit	MP	20
Mistle thrush	M.	4
Woodpigeon	WP	2
Wren	WR	10
Non-notable species list of birds recorded on site		
Species	Code	
Blackbird	B.	
Blue tit	BT	
Carrion crow	C.	
Cormorant	CA	
Chiffchaff	CC	
Chaffinch	CH	
Goldcrest	GC	
Goldfinch	GO	
Great tit	GT	
Jay	J.	
Little grebe	LG	
Magpie	MG	
Mute swan	MS	
Pied wagtail	PW	
Robin	R.	
Stonechat	SC	
Tufted duck	TU	



## Breeding Bird Surveys

**Table 15: Bird species recorded within the 2021 – 22 survey area during 2022 breeding bird surveys**

Bird species	Date and number				Breeding Possible or Probable (Y or N) or Confirmed (C)
	08/04/2022	10/05/2022	24/05/2022	07/06/2022	
Blackbird	6	9	7	4	C
Blackcap	4	9	2	4	Y
Blue tit	7	3	3	1	C
Bullfinch	1	1	0	3	Y
Buzzard	2	1	1	1	N
Canada goose	10	0	0	0	Y
Carrion crow	2	0	1	5	Y
Cetti's warbler	6	10	4	8	Y
Chiffchaff	9	7	5	2	Y
Coot	1	1	1	0	Y
Cormorant	1	3	6	1	N
Duncock	7	6	3	0	Y
Goldcrest	0	0	0	1	Y
Goldfinch	4	3	2	5	Y
Grasshopper warbler	0	1	0	0	Y
Great black-backed gull	0	0	0	1	N
Great spotted woodpecker	0	1	0	0	Y
Great tit	2	1	2	1	Y
Greenfinch	0	0	0	1	Y
Herring gull	1	7	2	2	N
Kestrel	0	1	0	1	Y
Lesser black-backed gull	0	0	1	0	Y
Linnet	5	2	9	4	Y
Long-tailed tit	2	2	0	2	Y
Magpie	2	0	2	2	Y
Mallard	0	0	5	0	Y
Meadow pipit	1	0	4	0	C
Moorhen	4	2	1	1	Y
Mute swan	2	0	0	0	N
Peregrine	0	2	3	1	N
Pied wagtail	0	0	1	2	Y
Reed bunting	2	1	2	1	Y
Reed warbler	0	3	0	1	Y
Robin	16	6	5	7	Y
Sedge warbler	0	14	4	6	Y
Skylark	0	0	1	2	Y
Song thrush	1	1	0	2	Y
Starling	0	1	2	0	C
Stock dove	0	0	0	4	Y
Stonechat	6	6	10	6	C
Sedge warbler	0	14	4	6	Y
Tufted duck	13	14	8	5	C
Whitethroat	0	4	3	3	Y
Willow warbler	1	10	1	1	Y
Woodpigeon	3	3	4	2	Y



Wren	22	19	5	16	Y
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**Table 16: Summary of non-notable bird species recorded within the survey area during the breeding bird surveys**

Species	Scientific name	Species code on Figures	Schedule 1 species	Section 7 species	UK BoCC Status	BoCCW4	Status within survey area	Estimated Number of territories
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	B	-	-	-	-	Breeding	4
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	BC	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	1
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	BT	-	-	-	-	Breeding	1
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	BZ	-	-	-	-	Foraging	n/a
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	CG	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	1
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	C	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	1
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	CC	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	1
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	GO	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	1
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	CA	-	-	-	-	Resting on pipe in reservoir	n/a
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	GS	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	1
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>	GT	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	0
Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	LT	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	1
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	MG	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	1
Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	MS	-	-	-	-	Foraging	n/a
Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	PW	-	-	-	-	Possible Breeding	1
Reed warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	RW	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	3
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	R.	-	-	-	-	Probable Breeding	7
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	SH	-	-	-	-	Foraging	n/a
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	SC	-	-	-	-	Breeding	4
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	SL	-	-	-	-	Passage / Foraging	n/a
Tufted duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	TU	-	-	-	-	Breeding	5



