

Ecology and Protected Species Survey
Barn at Red House Farm
Brothertoft
Lincolnshire



Issued to:

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ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY

BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE

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ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY

BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE

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ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY

BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE

1 INTRODUCTION

Inspired Ecology Ltd has been commissioned by Robert Cole of Origin Design Studio Ltd. to undertake an ecology and protected species survey of a barn at Red House Farm, Brothertoft, Lincolnshire. The survey is required in connection with plans to convert the barn for residential use

The site was surveyed on 30th September 2020, in windy and overcast conditions, by Ian Nixon MCIEEM (registered to use Natural England Class Licences WML-CL08 to survey great crested newts, WML-CL19 and WML-CL20 to survey bats and WML-CL29 to survey barn owls; registration numbers 2015-16823-CLS-CLS, 2015-12336-CLS-CLS, 2015-12338-CLS-CLS and CL29/00110 respectively) and Rachel McNally (registered to use Natural England Class Licence WML-CL08 to survey great crested newts; registration number 2020-48921-CLS-CLS).

During the initial appraisal of the site, the protected species considered likely to occur on site were identified. These were:

- Bats
- Badger
- Common bird species
- Schedule 1 bird species
- Section 41 species

Certain protected species were scoped out of the survey; in particular, it was considered that white-clawed crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes*, common dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*, water vole *Arvicola amphibius* and otter *Lutra lutra* were highly unlikely to occur on the site due to lack of suitable habitat. There was no habitat on site considered suitable to support a significant population of common reptile species. There were no trees on site that were considered to offer potential for roosting by bat species.

According to the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website, there are no ponds within 500m of the site. The site is isolated within an arable landscape, which may act as a barrier to dispersal for great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*. The site is not considered to offer suitable habitat for this species. There are also no records for great crested newt within 2km of the survey site. Taken together, it is considered that great crested newt are

highly unlikely to be present on site and the legislation relating to this species and its habitats is unlikely to be breached by the proposed works. Great crested newt have therefore been scoped out of the survey.

A note was made of any species which are local or national Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species/species of principal importance.

This report details the methods used, describes the species found on the site, discusses the results and makes recommendations for further work. English names of higher plants are used throughout the text and are those used by Stace (2010). A location map for the site is given as Figure 1.

2 METHODS

2.1 Data search

The Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (LERC) was consulted and commissioned on 5th October 2020 to search for sites with statutory and non-statutory designation and records of protected species within 2km of the survey site. Where applicable, the records of protected species are included within the relevant section of the report. Records of protected species more than 20 years old are not referred to in this report but are included within Appendix 1.

2.2 Bats

2.2.1 Preliminary roost assessment

In accordance with Collins (2016), a preliminary roost assessment was carried out on the existing building to determine whether any features were present that bats could use for entry/exit points and roosting, and to search for signs of bat presence. Ladders, high-powered torches and binoculars were used to search for internal and external features including but not limited to:

- Gaps around windowsills, door frames and lintels
- Lifted rendering, paintwork, shiplap boarding
- Soffit boxes, weatherboarding and fascias
- Lead flashing, hanging tiles and lifted or missing tiles/slate
- Gaps >15mm in brickwork and stonework
- Bat specimens (live or dead)
- Bat droppings and urine staining

- Feeding remains (e.g. moth wings)
- Cobweb-free sections of ridge beam

The building was then assigned a measure of potential suitability to determine the extent of future survey work needed. The categories of potential suitability and further survey effort required are as follows:

- Negligible – Negligible features on site likely to be used by roosting bats – no further survey work
- Low – A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically – one survey visit (dusk or dawn)
- Moderate – A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats on a regular basis – two separate survey visits (one dusk and one dawn)
- High – A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a regular basis and for longer periods of time – three separate survey visits (one dusk, one dawn and one dusk or dawn)

There were no trees suitable to roosting by bats on the site.

2.2.2 Assessment of commuting and foraging habitats

In accordance with Collins (2016), the surveyed site and adjacent areas were assessed for their potential suitability for commuting and foraging bats and categorised as follows:

- Negligible – Negligible habitat features on site or in surrounding area likely to be used by commuting or foraging bats
- Low – Habitat features that could be used by small numbers of commuting bats such as a gappy hedgerow or small numbers of foraging bats such as a patch of scrub, but that are isolated from other habitat features
- Moderate – Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape such as lines of trees that could be used by commuting bats or trees, grassland or water features that could be used by foraging bats
- High – Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape for use by commuting and foraging bats such as river valleys, woodland, grassland and parkland

2.3 Badger

The site was searched for signs of use by badger *Meles meles* including setts, latrines, dung pits, pathways, hairs, footprints, snuffle holes and scratch marks on trees.

2.4 Birds

2.4.1 Common bird species

The site was searched for signs of use by nesting birds, typically old and active nests and concentrations of faecal deposits associated with a breeding site. All bird species noted on site were recorded.

2.4.2 Schedule 1 species

The buildings on site were inspected for the presence of barn owl *Tyto alba* and the signs indicative of their past or present use including regurgitated pellets, concentrated accumulations of flattened pellets indicative of a nest site, faecal encrustation, eggs or eggshell remains, surplus prey items, bodily remains of chicks or infant down feathers. The site was not considered to provide suitable breeding opportunities for other Schedule 1 species.

2.5 Section 41 species

The site was assessed for its suitability to support a number of species listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. Section 41 lists Species of Principal Importance in England. These species include common toad *Bufo bufo*, brown hare *Lepus europaeus* and west European hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*. A note was made of any other Species of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 that were seen on site.

2.6 Habitats and plant species

An extended ecological assessment survey was undertaken, not only to identify the habitats present on the site, but also to include more detailed information on any hedgerows and plant species, and to undertake a further appraisal of the area as habitat for legally protected species. This includes assessing whether there are any Habitats of Principal Importance, as listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006, present on site. Plant species were assessed against the Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Cheffings *et al.*, 2005), and the site was assessed against the Local Wildlife Site (LWS) criteria for Lincolnshire (Poole and Fraser, 2013).

2.7 Survey constraints and limitations

It was not possible to enter the northern section of the building due to concerns about health and safety, as this section of the building is badly damaged. This section of building was therefore assessed from the outside.

The information contained in this report was accurate at the time of the survey; however, it

should be noted that the status of mobile species such as badgers, birds and bats can alter in a short period of time and any survey only represents a 'snapshot' of the site at one point in the season. There are no definitive guidelines relating to the longevity of an ecology report, however we recommend that the results are updated after 12 months if the proposed work has not commenced.

3 SITE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Location and grid reference

The survey site comprises a derelict barn at Red House Farm, to the east of Langrick Road, Brothertoft, Lincolnshire - central Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OGSR) TF274461.

The habitats on site are described in detail below and representative photographs are included in the text. The location of the survey site is provided in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Aerial view of the site, outlined in red.

3.2 Barn

The single-storey barn is constructed from solid brick walls, supporting a pitched unlined timber roof covered with clay pantiles. The western section of the building is split into three rooms internally and is currently in use for storage. There are a small number of slipped and missing roofing tiles and ridge tiles in this section of the building. The northern section of the building is in a poor state of repair, with much of the roof of the northern section of the barn missing and the northern elevation partially collapsed. The northern elevation of the building is therefore covered with tarpaulin. A number of items are also stored within the northern section of the barn, with common nettle *Urtica dioica* also growing inside this section. The timber-framed windows and doors are largely boarded up, with access only possible through the timber door on the western elevation of the building. There is dense ivy *Hedera helix* cover on the north-western corner of the building.



Photograph 1: View of the western section of the barn from the west



Photograph 2: Internal view of the western section of the barn



Photograph 3: View of the eastern elevation of the barn



Photograph 4: View of the northern section of the barn from the north-east



Photograph 5: Internal view of the northern section of the barn



Photograph 6: Dense ivy coverage on the north-west of the barn

3.3 Surrounding habitats

To the east of the barn there is an area of overgrown grass and ruderal vegetation, with flora present including false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, common nettle, cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, cleavers *Galium aparine*, white dead-nettle *Lamium album*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, bristly oxtongue *Helminthotheca echinoides*, dove's-foot crane's-bill *Geranium molle*, hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, dandelion *Taraxacum* sp., clover species *Trifolium* sp., greater plantain *Plantago major*, cut-leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*, black medick *Medicago lupulina*, scented mayweed *Matricaria chamomilla*, fat-hen *Chenopodium album*, shepherd's-purse *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, speedwell species *Veronica* sp., yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, groundsel *Senecio vulgaris*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, sow-thistle species *Sonchus* sp., willowherb species *Epilobium* sp., herb-robert *Geranium robertianum*, dock species *Rumex* sp. and creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*. There is an area of bramble scrub with a timber debris pile immediately adjacent to the west of the barn.

A track runs along the north of the barn, with a drain adjacent to the north of this. The drain was dry at the time of survey with only terrestrial vegetation noted within the channel, suggesting that it rarely holds water. To the north of the drain there is an arable field, with a further arable field present adjacent to the south of the barn. To the west of the barn there is a farmhouse with an amenity grassland garden. A hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* hedgerow bounds the garden, with elder *Sambucus nigra* noted at the east of the hedgerow. Langrick Road is adjacent to the west of the dwelling.

The local area is dominated by arable land, with occasional residential and agricultural buildings, as well as an area of grassland and a number of field boundary drains and hedgerows. The wider landscape is also dominated by arable land.



Photograph 7: Ruderal vegetation to the west of the barn



Photograph 8: Track alongside the north of the barn



Photograph 9: Adjacent arable field to the south of the barn



Photograph 10: Adjacent residential dwelling to the east of the barn

4 RESULTS

4.1 Data search

According to the LERC data search, there are no statutory sites, non-statutory sites or priority habitats within 2km of the site. According to the MAGIC website, The Wash (Ramsar, Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation, and Site of Special Scientific Interest) is approximately 10.46km south-east of the site. Being over 10km from site, and of a small scale The Wash is unlikely to be affected by the proposed works.

4.2 Bats

There are two records of brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* within 2km of the site, most recently from 2015.

4.2.1 Preliminary roost assessment

No signs of roosting bats were noted on site. The northern section of the building is considered wholly unsuitable for bats as the damage to this section of the building creates high levels of ambient light and makes this section very draughty. The unlined roof of the western section of the building has missing and slipped tiles, which creates a draughty interior here too. Similarly, this allows light into the building, with some windows boarded with Perspex sheeting that also create high ambient light levels.

Overall, the barn is considered to offer habitat of negligible potential suitability to support roosting bats.

4.2.2 Assessment of commuting and foraging habitats

The barn does not offer foraging or commuting habitat for bats. The adjacent habitats of ruderal vegetation and amenity grassland may offer habitat of low potential suitability to support foraging bats, with the drain to the north of the site also offering habitat of low suitability to support roosting bats.

The local area (i.e. within 500m of the site) is dominated by arable land, which does not offer foraging or commuting habitat for bats. The field boundary hedgerows and drains may provide some foraging and commuting habitat for bats, and the grassland field with trees nearby also offering foraging habitat. The residential gardens may also offer limited foraging habitat in the local area. Overall, the local area is considered to offer habitat of low potential suitability to support foraging and commuting bats.

Similarly, the wider area (within 3km of the site) predominantly comprises arable land. There are some small areas of grassland and woodland, including at the nearby Boston West Golf Course, which may support foraging and commuting bats, as would both the South Forty Foot Drain and North Forty Foot Drain. Other commuting habitat in the wider area is provided via further field boundary drains and hedgerows. As the suitability of the wider area is limited by the presence of extensive arable land, the wider area is considered to offer habitat of low potential suitability for foraging and commuting bats.

The proposed small-scale works are expected to be limited to Red House Farm and will not expand into the local or wider areas. As such, the proposal is not expected to impact upon the potential foraging and commuting habitat within the immediate or wider area surrounding the site.

4.3 Badger

There are records of badger in the area from 2016. No signs of badger were noted on site. As a precaution, vigilance for the presence of badgers should be maintained throughout the works.

4.4 Birds

4.4.1 Common bird species

A number of common birds were seen on or flying over the site during the survey. These are listed below along with their current status as BAP species or Birds of Conservation Concern 4 (Eaton *et al.*, 2015):

Table 1: Common bird species seen on site

English name	Scientific name	BAP	BoCC
woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		Green
skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Y	Red
robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		Green

The barn has high potential for use by nesting birds, with three old disused wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* nests noted within the walls inside the western section of the barn. A robin was noted inside the barn during the survey. The adjacent ruderal vegetation appeared largely undisturbed and may therefore also provide potential nesting habitat for ground-nesting species. Although skylark was noted on site, the barn is not considered to provide suitable nesting habitat for this species.

4.4.2 Schedule 1 bird species

Barn owl were last recorded within 2km of the survey site in 2018. Within the middle room of the western section of the barn, c.15 very old and degraded barn owl pellets were noted on the floor. A further c.3 very old and degraded pellets were noted on the floor in the southernmost room of this section. As all of the windows within this section of the building have been covered, it is unlikely that barn owl would be able to access this section of the building at present. Faecal splashing was noted on a stored timber panel within the northern section of the barn, however no close inspection of this section could be made due to the hazardous condition of the roof. The building is not considered to provide suitable breeding habitat for barn owl.



Photograph 11: Degraded barn owl pellet within the barn



Photograph 12: Numerous very old and degraded barn owl pellets within the barn



Photograph 13: Faecal splashing on the timber panel within the northern section of the barn

4.5 Section 41 species

There is a single record of common toad within 2km of the site from 2014. The site is not considered to offer suitable terrestrial or aquatic habitat for this species, with isolation of the site within the arable landscape limiting numbers of toads that could be present on site.

Brown hare were last recorded within 2km of the surveyed site in 2015. The site itself is not considered to offer suitable habitat for brown hare. Given the arable landscape, however, it is likely that brown hare may be present within nearby habitats.

Hedgehog were last recorded within 2km of the surveyed site in 2015. The residential garden and ruderal vegetation adjacent to the barn may offer suitable foraging habitat for small numbers of hedgehog, with possible refugia available within the bramble scrub to the west of the barn. The site is isolated within an arable landscape however, which likely limits the suitability for this site to support this species.

4.6 Habitats and plant species

The habitats and plant species recorded on the site are common and widespread in the local area and in the country. The hedgerows on site do not meet the required criteria of 7 woody species within a 30m length to qualify as important under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. The site does not meet the required criteria to qualify as a Local Wildlife Site (Poole and Fraser, 2013) and there are no species that are listed in the Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Cheffings *et al.*, 2005). No Habitats of Principal Importance as listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 were noted on site. No invasive plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 and as amended) were recorded.

5 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Bats

5.1.1 Legal protection

In England, Scotland and Wales, all bats are strictly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended); in England and Wales this legislation has been amended and strengthened by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000. Bats are also protected by European legislation; the EC Habitats Directive is transposed into UK law by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. This has recently been amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, which continue the same provision for European protected species, licensing requirements, and protected areas after Brexit. Taken together, all this legislation makes it an offence to:

- Deliberately capture (or take), injure or kill a bat
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a group of bats where the disturbance is likely to significantly affect the ability of the animals to survive, breed, or nurture their young or likely to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species whether in a roost or not
- Damage or destroy the breeding or resting place of a bat
- Possess a bat (alive or dead) or any part of a bat
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost
- Sell (or offer for sale) or exchange bats (alive or dead) or parts of bats

A roost is defined as being ‘any structure or place that is used for shelter or protection’, and since bats regularly move roost site throughout the year, a roost retains such designation whether or not bats are present at the time.

5.1.2 Recommendations

No evidence of occupation by bats was found within the barn, and it is considered that the barn has negligible potential to support roosting bats. This is largely due to the high ambient light levels and draughtiness of both sections of the barn. No further survey work is considered necessary and there is no requirement for a Natural England European Protected Species licence. It is not considered necessary to work to a Method Statement.

The ruderal vegetation and adjacent garden may offer habitat of limited suitability to support foraging bats however. Similarly, the drain may offer commuting habitat for small numbers of bats. Additionally, bats are known to be present in the local area. On this basis it is recommended that precautions are taken to ensure bats are not disturbed during the development work. These precautions, together with suggestions for enhancing ecological diversity of the site are detailed below. It is likely that these measures may form the basis of a planning condition. Local Planning Authorities have an obligation to enhance biodiversity and ensure 'favourable conservation status' – the implementation of these measures will ensure legal compliance and ensure that obligations relating to biodiversity are fulfilled.

Precautionary measures and enhancement measures for bats – Red House Farm, Brothertoft

- All contractors working on the building will be briefed on the legal protection afforded to bats and their places of shelter and on how to proceed if a bat is discovered during the course of the work. A procedure to follow in the unlikely event of discovering bats on site is given as Appendix 2.
- Ensure that dark unlit corridors are maintained around and across the site, allowing bats to pass through and across the site unhindered by artificial light. The adjacent drain should remain unlit so that it can be used as a dark corridor by foraging/commuting bats. Any lighting on the edges of the site may require shields or adaptations to minimise light spill.
- As a positive conservation measure to enhance the site for bats, install a bat roost unit into the building as part of the works. This should be placed on the northern or southern elevation, placed to avoid illumination from external lighting. Examples of suitable 'Habibat' bat roost units which could be used are given as Appendix 3 – these are unobtrusive roost units which can be faced with a range of products (including brick, block, stone, wood and render) to suit the design of the build and ensure seamless integration of the unit within the fabric of the building. More information and alternative brands can be found at www.wildcareshop.co.uk.

5.2 Badger

5.2.1 Legal protection

Badgers and their setts are fully protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, which amended and incorporated previous legislation. This Act makes it an offence, inter alia, to:

- Wilfully kill, injure or take, or attempt to kill, injure or capture a badger
- Interfere with a badger sett by doing any of the following things, intending to do any of these things or be reckless as to whether one's actions would have any of these consequences:
 - Damaging a badger sett or any part of it
 - Destroying a badger sett
 - Obstructing access to, or any entrance of, a badger sett
 - Disturbing a badger when it is occupying a badger sett

A badger sett is defined in the Act as any structure or place which displays signs indicating use by a badger. Although a sett may be empty at a certain time it may be used as part of a regular cycle throughout the year, and may therefore be considered to be in use. A sett, which can be shown to have been disused for at least a full year, is considered to fall outwith the Act.

5.2.2 Recommendations

No signs of badger activity were noted on site, thus no further survey work or mitigation is required in respect of this species. As a precaution, vigilance for the presence of badgers should be maintained throughout the works. If badger activity is suspected at any time then it will be necessary to seek advice immediately, by calling Ian Nixon on 07833 674500, to ensure legal compliance. To safeguard ground mammals (including badgers and hedgehogs) during the development phase, it is essential that no trenches or pipes are left uncovered overnight.

5.3 Birds

5.3.1 Legal protection

All common wild birds are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended). Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Kill, injure or take any wild bird
- Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built
- Take or destroy the egg of any wild bird

Certain rare breeding birds are listed on Schedule 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended). Under this legislation they are afforded the same protection as common wild

birds and are also protected against disturbance whilst building a nest or on or near a nest containing eggs/unfledged young.

5.3.2 Recommendations for common bird species

The building provides potential habitat for nesting common birds, with old wren nests noted within the building. The adjacent ruderal habitat may also offer opportunities for ground-nesting birds. As a precautionary measure and to ensure good practice, it is recommended that any building demolition and vegetation clearance work should commence outside the active nesting season, which typically runs from March through to late August (inclusive). If work commences during the bird breeding season, a search for nests will need to be carried out by an experienced ecologist before work begins, and active nests should be protected until the young fledge.

Consideration should also be given to the provision of an integrated 25mm hole nest box the barn. An example of a suitable Habitat nest boxes is given in Appendix 4, with details of other integrated nest boxes suitable for use by a range of common bird species available from www.wildcareshop.co.uk.

5.3.3 Recommendations for Schedule 1 species

A number of very old and degraded barn owl pellets were noted within the western section of the barn. The doors and windows of the barn have been boarded which likely prevents access into this section of the building by barn owl at present. Faecal splashing was noted within the northern section of the barn, however it was not possible to thoroughly search this area for any further evidence of the presence of barn owl, however given the condition of the building and open aspect, it is considered that there are no suitable areas for barn owls to nest within this section. There was no evidence within the remainder of the building of any breeding by barn owl.

In this instance, it is not considered appropriate to install any barn owl mitigation (boxes or towers), due to the proximity of the site to a busy main road. As barn owl will hunt along grass verges they come into conflict with cars and this remains one of the major causes of mortality. As the western section of the barn is now sealed off from barn owl, it is considered unlikely that the barn receives regular use by any significant numbers of individuals. Barn owl are known to be present within the area with other barn owl roosting and nesting opportunities available nearby, but with better access to foraging areas away from the road, most notably along the riverbank to the north. As such, the conversion of the barn for residential use is unlikely to significantly affect the availability of barn owl habitat in the landscape, nor the long-term favourable conservation status of the local barn owl population. No further surveys or mitigation will be therefore required in respect of this species.

5.4 Recommendations for Section 41 species

It is considered unlikely that any significant numbers of hedgehog would be present on site due to the lack of connectivity, however there are some opportunities for hedgehog to forage and take refuge within the ruderals, amenity grassland and bramble scrub adjacent to the barn. To maintain commuting routes for hedgehogs, any fences that are installed should have a small hole in the bottom, 13cmx13cm, or be raised off the ground. Alternatively, hedgehog-friendly gravel boards can be purchased, which are pre-cast or cut with a hole in that allows hedgehogs to pass through. Further information on hedgehog-friendly timber gravel boards can be found at www.jacksons-fencing.co.uk/hedgehog-fencing, with alternative hedgehog-friendly concrete gravel boards available from other suppliers. Ideally, hedges should be used instead of fencing.

The precautionary measures provided with respect to badger (see section 5.2.2) will also protect hedgehog and brown hare during the works. The site is not considered to offer habitat suitable for supporting a significant population of common toad, however in order to protect any individual/small numbers of toad which may be present on site, all site operatives will stay vigilant for the presence of common amphibians during the works. Additionally, any building materials will be stored on pallets to deter amphibians taking shelter underneath them, and if any common amphibians are found then they will be carefully gathered up and relocated to suitable habitat close by.

5.5 Recommendations for ecological enhancement

In addition to the legislation which is in place to safeguard protected species, there is also legislation and policy which imposes duties to take account of statutorily protected species and also to undertake action to prevent loss of biodiversity and species/habitats which have been identified as priorities in the UK. In England and Wales, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, imposes a duty on all public bodies (including Local Authorities and statutory bodies) to conserve biodiversity – including restoring and enhancing a population or habitat. In addition, government planning policy guidance throughout the UK, provided in the National Planning Policy Framework and OPDM Circular 06/2005, requires local planning authorities to take account of protected species issues prior to determination of planning applications.

In order to enhance biodiversity and provide some 'ecological gain' on site and fulfil the Local Planning Authorities obligations under the NERC Act 2006, the following measures are recommended:

- Any new hedgerows to be planted should comprise native species such as blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, common hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, field

maple *Acer campestre*, midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata*, wild cherry *Prunus avium* and bird cherry *Prunus padus*.

- Any new trees and shrubs planted on the site as part of a landscaping scheme should comprise native locally appropriate species. If possible, species that provide pollen, nectar and fruit should form part of the landscaping in order to provide a food source for common birds. Species which could be considered include hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, dog-rose *Rosa canina*, wayfaring tree *Viburnum lantana*, sweet-briar *Rosa rubiginosa*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, common buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica* and guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*.
- In order to provide suitable habitats on site to encourage high invertebrate activity, including declining pollinators, the grassed areas on the site should be seeded with appropriate wildflower mixes. Seeding of any amenity areas should use a flowering lawn mixture, such as Emorsgate Seeds EL1 mix (www.wildseed.co.uk), which is resistant to regular mowing. Any areas of longer grass could be seeded with a general wildflower mix such as Emorsgate EM1 mix (basic all-purpose meadow mix). It is recommended that any wildflower areas are cut once a year, in late summer/early autumn and the arisings removed after 7 days to enable the wildflowers to flourish and provide food sources for invertebrates. Details of how to adequately prepare the ground prior to seeding as well as ongoing management can also be found on the Emorsgate website. Increasing the levels of invertebrate activity on site will also provide further foraging opportunities for insectivorous species.

6 SUMMARY

A barn at Red House Farm, Brothertoft was surveyed in connection with plans to convert the building for residential use.

No ecological constraints were found to be associated with plans to develop this land.

Some precautionary measures and ecological enhancements are required in order to ensure legal compliance and no net loss to biodiversity. These are as follows:

- Best practice in relation to bats
- Provision of a bat roosting unit
- Vigilance and best practice regarding badgers and other ground mammals

- Appropriate timing with regards to nesting birds
- Provision of a bird box
- Use of native species in any landscaping scheme

7 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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**ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY
BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE**

APPENDIX 1

Data search results

LERC Search Summary Report

Grid Reference: TF 274 461
Buffer: 2km


Date of publication: 05/10/2020
Expires: 05/10/2021

Achieving more for nature



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GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE
NATURE PARTNERSHIP

Report Details

Produced for	Rachel McNally, Inspired Ecology Ltd
Search area	

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This report summarises a search of statutory sites, non-statutory sites, other sites, habitats and species within the specified area; where no information is returned for a section, it is excluded from this summary report.

About the Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre

The Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre (LERC) collates wildlife and geological information for Greater Lincolnshire from various sources and makes it available for various uses. This data is crucial to aid conservation management of sites, to help organisations prioritise action, and to understand the distribution of species and trends over time. For more information on LERC or to request a data search, visit the website at <https://glnp.org.uk/partnership/lerc/>



Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre is an ALERC accredited LRC, meeting the standard level criteria.
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Species

Lincolnshire Environmental Records Centre holds records on the following species within or overlapping the search area. Data shown is as held by LERC; past records of presence of a species does not guarantee continued occurrence and absence of records does not imply absence of a species, merely that no records are held. Confidential data, zero abundance records, data at poorly defined geographic resolutions and data pending validation and/or verification are also excluded from this report. A number of different datasets have been consulted to produce this report - a summary of attribution statements is available at <https://glnp.org.uk/admin/resources/species-attribution.pdf>.

Amphibian (2 taxa)

Common Frog, <i>Rana temporaria</i>	2	2009 - 2009	Protected
Common Toad, <i>Bufo bufo</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Protected, Priority

Bird (53 taxa)

Barn Owl, <i>Tyto alba</i>	16	1998 - 2018	Protected, Local Priority
Brambling, <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	22	2010 - 2015	Protected
Bullfinch, <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	1	2011 - 2011	Local Priority
Canada Goose, <i>Branta canadensis</i>	1	2005 - 2005	Non-native
Collared Dove, <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	8	2009 - 2015	Non-native
Columba livia 'feral', <i>Columba livia</i> 'feral'	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Corn Bunting, <i>Emberiza calandra</i>	1	2012 - 2012	Local Priority
Cuckoo, <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	8	2011 - 2015	Priority
Curlew, <i>Numenius arquata</i>	13	2002 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority
Fieldfare, <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	11	2003 - 2013	Protected
Gadwall, <i>Anas strepera</i>	3	2004 - 2014	Non-native
Goldeneye, <i>Bucephala clangula</i>	1	2011 - 2011	Protected
Great Northern Diver, <i>Gavia immer</i>	2	2014 - 2014	Protected
Green Sandpiper, <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1	2010 - 2010	Protected
Grey Partridge, <i>Perdix perdix</i>	3	2009 - 2013	Priority, Local Priority, Non-native
Greylag Goose, <i>Anser anser</i>	3	2005 - 2014	Protected
Hen Harrier, <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	1	2005 - 2005	Protected
Hobby, <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	16	2000 - 2015	Protected
Honey-buzzard, <i>Pernis apivorus</i>	1	2000 - 2000	Protected
House Sparrow, <i>Passer domesticus</i>	11	2009 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority
Kingfisher, <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	11	2000 - 2015	Protected
Lapwing, <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	20	2001 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority
Lesser Redpoll, <i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	5	2011 - 2013	Priority
Linnet, <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	5	2009 - 2015	Local Priority
Little Gull, <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	1	2000 - 2000	Protected
Little Owl, <i>Athene noctua</i>	3	2011 - 2016	Non-native
Marsh Harrier, <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	15	1999 - 2015	Protected
Merlin, <i>Falco columbarius</i>	1	2009 - 2009	Protected
Mute Swan, <i>Cygnus olor</i>	3	2004 - 2010	Non-native

Bird (53 taxa)

Peregrine, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	5	2000 - 2012	Protected
Pheasant, <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	5	2004 - 2015	Non-native
Pink-footed Goose, <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	17	2003 - 2015	Non-native
Quail, <i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	2	2011 - 2011	Protected
Red Kite, <i>Milvus milvus</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Protected
Red-legged Partridge, <i>Alectoris rufa</i>	2	2004 - 2011	Non-native
Redshank, <i>Tringa totanus</i>	6	2010 - 2012	Local Priority
Redwing, <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	17	2003 - 2015	Protected
Reed Bunting, <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	42	2010 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority
Ring Ouzel, <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	1	2015 - 2015	Priority
Ring-necked Parakeet, <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	3	2002 - 2015	Non-native
Skylark, <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	12	2004 - 2015	Local Priority
Snipe, <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	3	2004 - 2014	Local Priority
Song Thrush, <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	28	2010 - 2015	Local Priority
Spotted Flycatcher, <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	3	2005 - 2009	Priority
Starling, <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	9	2007 - 2014	Local Priority
Swift, <i>Apus apus</i>	17	1998 - 2015	Local Priority
Tree Pipit, <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	1	2004 - 2004	Priority
Tree Sparrow, <i>Passer montanus</i>	31	2008 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority
Turtle Dove, <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	5	2003 - 2010	Priority, Local Priority
Whimbrel, <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Protected
Whooper Swan, <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	5	2000 - 2014	Protected, Non-native
Yellow Wagtail, <i>Motacilla flava</i>	12	2005 - 2015	Local Priority
Yellowhammer, <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	12	2010 - 2015	Priority, Local Priority

Bony Fish (Actinopterygii) (5 taxa)

Brown/Sea Trout, <i>Salmo trutta</i>	3	1988 - 1988	Priority
Common Carp, <i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	1	2004 - 2004	Non-native
European Eel, <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	34	1985 - 2006	Priority, Local Priority
Smelt, <i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>	1	1985 - 1985	Priority, Local Priority
Spined Loach, <i>Cobitis taenia</i>	9	2003 - 2010	Priority, Local Priority

Conifer (5 taxa)

Corsican Pine, <i>Pinus nigra</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Lawson's Cypress, <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	1	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Leyland Cypress, <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i> x <i>Xanthocyparis nootkatensis</i> = <i>X Cuprocyparis leylandi</i>	5	2012 - 2014	Non-native
Monkey-puzzle, <i>Araucaria araucana</i>	1	2008 - 2008	Non-native
Norway Spruce, <i>Picea abies</i>	6	1993 - 2014	Non-native

Crustacean (5 taxa)

Chelicorophium curvispinum, <i>Chelicorophium curvispinum</i>	5	1993 - 2012	Non-native
Crangonyx pseudogracilis, <i>Crangonyx pseudogracilis</i>	65	1987 - 2015	Non-native
Demon Shrimp, <i>Dikerogammarus haemobaphes</i>	2	2015 - 2015	Non-native
Gammarus tigrinus, <i>Gammarus tigrinus</i>	8	1994 - 2007	Non-native
Hemimysis anomala, <i>Hemimysis anomala</i>	4	2011 - 2012	Non-native

Fern (1 taxa)

Water Fern, <i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	6	2010 - 2012	Non-native
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Flatworm (Turbellaria) (1 taxa)

Planaria torva, <i>Planaria torva</i>	2	2009 - 2013	Non-native
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Flowering Plant (97 taxa)

American Willowherb, <i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	2	2011 - 2013	Non-native
Apple, <i>Malus pumila</i>	8	1980 - 2013	Non-native
Barren Brome, <i>Bromus sterilis</i>	6	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Black-bindweed, <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	2	1988 - 2013	Non-native
Black-grass, <i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>	4	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Bluebell, <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> x <i>hispanica</i> = <i>H. x massartiana</i>	2	2012 - 2014	Non-native
Bread Wheat, <i>Triticum aestivum</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Bristly Oxtongue, <i>Picris echioides</i>	7	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Broad Bean, <i>Vicia faba</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Bullace, <i>Prunus domestica</i> subsp. <i>insititia</i>	2	2011 - 2011	Non-native
Bunch-flowered Daffodil, <i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Butterfly-bush, <i>Buddleja davidii</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Canadian Fleabane, <i>Conyza canadensis</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Canadian Waterweed, <i>Elodea canadensis</i>	3	2011 - 2011	Non-native
Charlock, <i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	6	1993 - 2014	Non-native
Cherry Laurel, <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	1	2012 - 2012	Non-native
Cherry Plum, <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	2	2009 - 2014	Non-native
Common Field-speedwell, <i>Veronica persica</i>	11	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Common Fumitory, <i>Fumaria officinalis</i> subsp. <i>officinalis</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Common Mallow, <i>Malva sylvestris</i>	13	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Common Poppy, <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	15	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Cornus sanguinea subsp. <i>australis</i> , <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Cotton Thistle, <i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Cut-leaved Crane's-bill, <i>Geranium dissectum</i>	11	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Cut-leaved Dead-nettle, <i>Lamium hybridum</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Dwarf Mallow, <i>Malva neglecta</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native

Flowering Plant (97 taxa)

Equal-leaved Knotgrass, <i>Polygonum arenastrum</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Feverfew, <i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	1	1988 - 1988	Non-native
Field Forget-me-not, <i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	7	1988 - 2012	Non-native
Field Penny-cress, <i>Thlaspi arvense</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Fig-leaved Goosefoot, <i>Chenopodium ficifolium</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Garden Grape-hyacinth, <i>Muscari armeniacum</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Garden Orache, <i>Atriplex hortensis</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Giant Hogweed, <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	2	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Greater Burdock, <i>Arctium lappa</i>	2	1988 - 1998	Non-native
Greater Periwinkle, <i>Vinca major</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Ground-elder, <i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	2	1998 - 2012	Non-native
Hedge Mustard, <i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	10	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Hemlock, <i>Conium maculatum</i>	5	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Hoary Cress, <i>Lepidium draba</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Horse-chestnut, <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	8	1998 - 2014	Non-native
Horse-radish, <i>Armoracia rusticana</i>	12	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Hybrid Black-poplar, <i>Populus nigra x deltoides</i> = <i>P. x canadensis</i>	4	1993 - 1998	Non-native
Hybrid Crack-willow, <i>Salix euxina x alba</i> = <i>S. x fragilis</i>	2	2011 - 2011	Non-native
Italian Rye-grass, <i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Ivy-leaved Speedwell, <i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	2	2012 - 2012	Non-native
Ivy-Leaved Speedwell, <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> subsp. <i>hederifolia</i>	4	2012 - 2014	Non-native
Laburnham, <i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	1	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Large Bindweed, <i>Calystegia silvatica</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Lilac, <i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	2	2011 - 2012	Non-native
Long Smooth-headed Poppy, <i>Papaver dubium</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Mugwort, <i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	18	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Nonesuch Daffodil, <i>Narcissus poeticus x pseudonarcissus</i> = <i>N. x incomparabilis</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Nuttall's Waterweed, <i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	13	2006 - 2015	Non-native
Oil-seed Rape, <i>Brassica napus</i> subsp. <i>oleifera</i>	5	2012 - 2014	Non-native
Osier, <i>Salix viminalis</i>	3	1998 - 2011	Non-native
Oxford Ragwort, <i>Senecio squalidus</i>	5	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Pineappleweed, <i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	9	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Populus nigra 'Italica', <i>Populus nigra</i> 'Italica'	4	1997 - 2014	Non-native
Prickly Lettuce, <i>Lactuca serriola</i>	2	1998 - 2013	Non-native
Prickly Poppy, <i>Papaver argemone</i>	1	1988 - 1988	Non-native
Primrose-peerless, <i>Narcissus tazetta x poeticus</i> = <i>N. x medioluteus</i>	2	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Prunus cerasifera var. <i>pissardii</i> , <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> var. <i>pissardii</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Red Dead-nettle, <i>Lamium purpureum</i>	7	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Red Oak, <i>Quercus rubra</i>	1	2011 - 2011	Non-native

Flowering Plant (97 taxa)

Reflexed Stonecrop, <i>Sedum rupestre</i>	1	2011 - 2011	Non-native
Ribbed Melilot, <i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	1	1988 - 1988	Non-native
Russian Comfrey, <i>Symphytum officinale</i> x <i>asperum</i> = <i>S. x uplandicum</i>	3	2012 - 2014	Non-native
Scented Mayweed, <i>Matricaria chamomilla</i>	2	1988 - 2013	Non-native
Scentless Mayweed, <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	7	2011 - 2014	Non-native
Shepherd's-purse, <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	12	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Small Nettle, <i>Urtica urens</i>	7	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Snowberry, <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	1	2012 - 2012	Non-native
Snowdrop, <i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	7	2011 - 2014	Non-native
Spanish Bluebell, <i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	1	2012 - 2012	Non-native
Spanish Daffodil, <i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i> subsp. <i>major</i>	2	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Stag's-horn Sumach, <i>Rhus typhina</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Sun Spurge, <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	2	1998 - 2014	Non-native
Swine-cress, <i>Lepidium coronopus</i>	4	1998 - 2014	Non-native
Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	17	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Tall Melilot, <i>Melilotus altissimus</i>	1	1993 - 1993	Non-native
Turkey Oak, <i>Quercus cerris</i>	1	2011 - 2011	Non-native
Turnip, <i>Brassica rapa</i>	1	1998 - 1998	Non-native
Wall Barley, <i>Hordeum murinum</i>	8	1988 - 2013	Non-native
Wall Cotoneaster, <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Walnut, <i>Juglans regia</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
Weeping Crack-willow, <i>Salix euxina</i> x <i>alba</i> x <i>babylonica</i> = <i>S. x pendulina</i>	2	2012 - 2012	Non-native
Weld, <i>Reseda luteola</i>	4	1988 - 2015	Non-native
Western Balsam-poplar, <i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	1	2013 - 2013	Non-native
White Campion, <i>Silene latifolia</i>	14	1988 - 2015	Non-native
White Campion, <i>Silene latifolia</i> subsp. <i>alba</i>	1	2012 - 2012	Non-native
White Dead-nettle, <i>Lamium album</i>	15	1988 - 2015	Non-native
White Willow, <i>Salix alba</i>	8	1988 - 2011	Non-native
Wild Plum, <i>Prunus domestica</i>	3	1998 - 2014	Non-native
Wild-oat, <i>Avena fatua</i>	4	1988 - 2014	Non-native
Winter Heliotrope, <i>Petasites fragrans</i>	1	2014 - 2014	Non-native
Wormwood, <i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	1	1988 - 1988	Non-native

Insect - Beetle (Coleoptera) (1 taxa)

Harlequin Ladybird, <i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	2	2015 - 2015	Non-native
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Insect - Butterfly (2 taxa)

Small Heath, <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	1	1988 - 1988	Priority
Wall, <i>Lasiommata megera</i>	1	2004 - 2004	Priority

Insect - Moth (1 taxa)

Cinnabar, <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	1	2005 - 2005	Priority
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Mollusc (5 taxa)

Bladder snails, <i>Physa fontinalis</i>	12	1974 - 2015	Non-native
Bladder snails, <i>Physa</i>	2	2009 - 2010	Non-native
Jenkins' Spire Snail, <i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i>	54	1974 - 2013	Non-native
Witham Orb Mussel, <i>Sphaerium solidum</i>	3	1974 - 1974	Priority
Zebra Mussel, <i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	39	1974 - 2015	Non-native

Reptile (3 taxa)

Common Lizard, <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	1	2017 - 2017	Protected, Priority
Grass Snake, <i>Natrix helvetica</i>	2	2009 - 2018	Protected, Priority
Slow-worm, <i>Anguis fragilis</i>	1	2009 - 2009	Protected, Priority

Terrestrial Mammal (11 taxa)

American Mink, <i>Neovison vison</i>	4	1990 - 2012	Non-native
Brown Hare, <i>Lepus europaeus</i>	27	1977 - 2015	Priority
Brown Rat, <i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	1	1997 - 1997	Non-native
Chinese Muntjac, <i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	1	2009 - 2009	Non-native
Eastern Grey Squirrel, <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	3	2009 - 2017	Non-native
Eurasian Badger, <i>Meles meles</i>	17	2007 - 2016	Protected
European Otter, <i>Lutra lutra</i>	2	2015 - 2016	Protected, Priority
European Rabbit, <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	10	1977 - 2009	Non-native
European Water Vole, <i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	9	1977 - 2007	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Harvest Mouse, <i>Micromys minutus</i>	1	1972 - 1972	Priority
West European Hedgehog, <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	10	1977 - 2015	Priority

Terrestrial Mammal (bat) (2 taxa)

Bats, <i>Chiroptera</i>	17	1974 - 2016	Protected, Priority, Local Priority
Brown Long-eared Bat, <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	2	2012 - 2015	Protected, Priority, Local Priority

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Achieving more for nature



**ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY
BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE**

APPENDIX 2

Procedure to follow in the event of finding bats on site

ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY

BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE

Procedure to follow if bats are discovered during works

- If at any point during the works, bats are discovered then contractors must stop work immediately and telephone Inspired Ecology Ltd Ian Nixon on 01205 723342 or 07833 674500.
- Inspired Ecology will either provide an appropriately licensed bat worker to the site or provide a member of staff who will liaise directly with Natural England. Actions will then be taken following advice given. This may include removal of bats, but only where direct written or verbal permission is gained from Natural England.
- Only when Natural England is satisfied that there is no further risk to bats will works recommence.
- Should it transpire that the operation being carried out is of more risk to bats than was originally thought, then works will be stopped until they can be supervised by an appropriately licensed bat worker.
- If a bat is found under a tile or any other aperture, works will stop immediately (as above). If the bat does not voluntarily fly out, then the aperture will be carefully covered over to protect the bat(s) from the elements, leaving a small gap for the bat to escape voluntarily. Any covering should be free from grease or other contaminants and should not be a fibreglass-based material.
- Any injured bats should be gently placed in a secure ventilated box in a cool, quiet dark place (e.g. cardboard box with a sealed lid) by the contractor for the bat's protection whilst awaiting the arrival of the licensed person.

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APPENDIX 3

Bat roost units (Habibat)

ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE



Habibat 001 Bat Box Standard Facing



Habibat 003 Bat Box Range



Habibat unfaced bat box

More information available at www.habibat.co.uk/

**ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY
BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE**

APPENDIX 4

Bird box example (Habibat)

**ECOLOGY AND PROTECTED SPECIES SURVEY
BARN AT RED HOUSE FARM BROTHERTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE**



Habibat Small Bird Nest Box (integrated, 25mm hole)

More information available at www.habibat.co.uk/