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11th May 2017

**Your Ref: APP/17/00342
Our Ref: 13.79.3.11**

Dear Mr L Oliver

PROPOSAL: CONTINUATION WITH BEACH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ON THE SOUTH COAST OF HAYLING ISLAND (FERRY INN TO HAYLING ISLAND SAILING CLUB) BY RECYCLING BEACH MATERIAL TO PROTECT EASTOKE FROM FLOODING.

LOCATION: FORESHORE AT SOUTH HAYLING, SEA FRONT, HAYLING ISLAND

**DESIGNATED SITES: CHICHESTER AND LANGSTONE HARBOURS – RAMSAR, SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA), SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI)
SOLENT MARITIME – SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION (SAC)
SINAH COMMON - SSSI**

Thank you for consulting the Wildlife Trust on this application. We are aware that these proposals are in line with the approved strategy: the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan - 'hold the line' and the need to protect the assets located along the south Hayling coast therefore we have no objections to the proposals. We also support the environmental monitoring proposed in Section 3.3.3 of the Habitats Regulations Assessment¹ (HRA) to help mitigate/lessen/prevent the impacts of the proposed beach management works on the natural environment and the environmental restrictions detailed in Figure 3.2 of the HRA.

However, in line with the Government's drive to minimise impacts on and, provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, we consider that these proposals could provide opportunities to enhance parts of the coastline and provide sanctuary areas for wildlife. As such, we would like to recommend that further consideration be given to enhancement measures that could provide sanctuary areas for breeding waders such as ringed plover and high tide roosting sites for the assemblage of waders that utilise the area throughout the year.

Consideration could also be given to the creation of exclusion areas, for example at Gunner Point and Sinah Common and/or other areas along the Hayling coast. Such measures, if supported by interpretation could help inform users of the coastal defence works and also the sensitive nature of the vegetated shingle habitats and ground nesting and roosting birds.

¹ Havant Borough Council & East Solent Coastal Partnership (2017) Hayling Island Beach Management Plan – Habitats Regulations Assessment

It is acknowledged that some strategic mitigation measures are in place for over-wintering birds already but these do not help protect the vegetated shingle habitats or breeding birds, which, as you will be aware, are highly susceptible to trampling and disturbance.

The above advice is given based on the information made available at this time and may change should further or amended details be submitted. We trust that you will find our comments helpful and if you wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to do so. I also ask that you keep the Trust informed of the progress and outcome of this application.

Yours sincerely



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