



David Wilson Homes

Land at Portsdown Hill, Havant

Wintering Bird Survey - Interim Report

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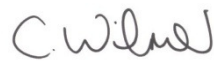
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Executive Summary

Site location	Portsmouth Hill, Havant, Hampshire (OS grid reference SU 693 062),
Previous reports/surveys	• Phase 1 report 2013
WYG Survey	• Winter Bird survey using the Solent Water Brent Goose Strategy of Portsmouth Hill, 2013-2014 . Eight surveys have been completed with a further eight to be completed
Results	• A total of 22 species were found using the site; six of these species are of conservation concern of which four are red listed and two are amber; one of the red listed species (lapwing) is also a BAP priority and a NERC species.
Additional Survey Recommendations	• To be determined once surveys have been completed.
Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations	• Management -Hedgerow and tree management -Restricting public access • Breeding Birds -No work to take place during the breeding season (March-September) without supervision of a suitably qualified ecologist to avoid damaging or disturbing nesting birds.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

WYG was commissioned by David Wilson Homes in October 2013 to undertake winter bird surveys at Portsdown Hill (referred to as the "site"), following on from recommendations made during a Phase 1 habitat survey. In addition the site is designated at a local level as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation due to supporting a significant population of a species which has a restricted distribution or has substantially declined in population or range, these species are the dwarf spurge *Euphorbia exigua* which is present on site and brent geese which have used the site in the past. The site itself is surrounded by other SINCs over the road to the south is Forty Acers farm B also designated for the brent geese use and to the north are a number of SINCs designated for unimproved, semi-improved and impoverished semi-natural grassland.

The site also lies within 800 metres of Langstone Harbour SPA & Ramsar and Solent Maritime SAC, designated for overwintering populations of the following species: brent geese, dunlin, black-tailed godwit, common shelduck, Eurasian widgeon, Eurasian teal, northern pintail, common redshank and red-breasted merganser. The site is of international importance for wintering bird populations and this report assesses the potential impact of the proposed development on the bird populations using the designated site.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The site is located at Portsdown Hill, Havant, Hampshire, at Ordnance Survey grid reference SU 69368 06115. The southern corner of the site borders Havant Road and the A3 exists to the east, to the south of the site is Langstone Harbour.

The majority of the site currently comprises an arable field of stubble, bordered to the north and east by residential buildings with gardens, with the western boundary intersecting the arable field (see Portsdown Hill Phase 1 report; WYG ref A083733). The north east corner of the site includes a fenced off area of heavily grazed scrub with some apple trees and blackthorn trees, bordered by semi-improved tussock grass margins. The field margins along the north and east borders consist of semi-improved tussock grassland and tall ruderal grassland. The north eastern corner of the site exists as a heavily grazed area of improved grassland with some patches of scrub disjointed hedges and apple trees.

1.3 Development Description

The proposed development for the site consists of approximately 47 residential dwellings with some garages, and associated access, parking and open space.

1.4 Proposed Work

This interim report provides the summary of results from the wintering bird surveys undertaken between October 2013 and January 2014 in accordance with the SWBGS (SWBGS Steering Group, 2010).

The scope of work comprised:

- A desk study to obtain existing information of surveys undertaken on previous occasions.
- Two high tides and one low tide visit every month through the October – March period (agreed with Simon Thompson, Natural England's legal advisor, on the 25th of November 2013), to assess the numbers and species making use of the site and adjacent habitats. During these surveys, data was also collected on the frequency and nature of disturbance events.
- An assessment of the potential ecological constraints to and impacts from the proposed development along with recommendations for further survey, avoidance, mitigation and enhancement where appropriate.

1.5 Relevant Legislation

All wild birds in the UK are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy the nest (whilst being built or in use) or its eggs. Bird species listed in Schedule 1 of the 1981 Act (as amended) receive further protection which makes it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb these species while building a nest or in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young; or to disturb dependent young of such a bird (HMSO 1981 & 2000).

In addition, Annex 1 of the EU 'Birds' Directive (1979) lists 194 species that are subject to special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction. Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for the Annex 1 and all migratory species. SPAs are scientifically identified areas critical to the survival of the targeted species. The SPAs form part of

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the Natura 2000 EU network of protected nature sites. The designation of an area as an SPA gives it a high level of protection from potentially damaging developments (European Commission (EC) 1979).

Brent geese are afforded protection under Section 4.2 of the Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC. Section 4.2 of the Directive states that all Member States are required to:

"...take similar measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I, bearing in mind their need for protection in the geographical sea and land area where this Directive applies, as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. To this end, Member States shall pay particular attention to the protection of wetlands and particularly to wetlands of international importance."

Measures taken by the UK Government in fulfilment of this duty include designating wildlife sites where the species occur. Brent geese are a principle feature of Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) and a feature of the Chichester and Langstone Harbour Ramsar Site and Langstone Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). About 16% of the UK migratory/wintering population of brent geese are present in this SPA.

2.0 Methods

2.1 Data Search

Data on the use of the surrounding areas by important bird populations were obtained through direct consultation with Hampshire Biological Information Centre (HBIC). HBIC provided information in relation to the presence of protected species, designated sites and areas of particular regional, national or international importance. The response from HBIC is presented in Appendix B. Further data was received from the post 2010 Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy report (SWBGS Steering Group; see Appendix B) which detailed six previous visits that had been made to this site between November 2012 and March 2013; this information has been summarised in Section 3.1.

An ecology report from 2009, conducted by ALUCO Ecology, was also provided and detailed a visit conducted in December 2009 which is summarised in Section 3.1.

2.2 Survey Methodology

It was requested by Simon Thompson, Natural England's legal advisor, that the brent geese survey method (Solent Water Brent Goose Strategy [SWBGS] Steering Group, 2010) be followed with the aim of assessing the potential impact of the proposed development on important bird species and specifically brent geese whilst identifying potential ecological constraints to the development and informing ecological mitigation if required.

Usually three years worth of winter bird survey data is required, however it has been agreed with Simon Thompson from Natural England that in the event that brent geese or waders associated with the SPA are recorded on site, two years worth of data should be sufficient.

Surveys were undertaken at the site on eight occasions between October 2013 and January 2014. Six surveys were undertaken at high tide and two at low tide, having discussed with Natural England that only one low tide visit was required each month (as per email communication with Simon Thompson 25th November). Survey methods followed those detailed in the SWBGS using the Bird Monitoring Methods as described by Gilbert *et al.* (1998) for Core Count (high tide) and Low Tide Counts. Each survey occasion took place over four hours, spanning high tide or low tide. During the four hours, counts of all species were

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undertaken every half hour. The vantage point used was located in the south west corner of the grazing field (OS grid reference SU 69320 06141), which offered the best view of the stubble fields and views to the rear though a large gap in the hedge. In order to count the birds using the two fields at the north west of the site, a count at the start of each 30 minute survey interval was undertaken from the south-west corner of these fields (OS grid reference SU 69115 06214).

In order to provide an indication of the current levels of disturbance to birds using the site, data was collected during the surveys detailing the frequency of disturbance events such as walkers. Where applicable, notes were made on the effect of each disturbance event on the birds present. The results are summarised in Section 3.3.1 of this report. Detailed data are available on request from WYG.

2.3 Survey Limitations

The SWBGS was not introduced until November 2013. Natural England decided that as the site is inland, only one low tide and two high tide visits were required each month. Low tide is the most unlikely time for brent geese to be found on site; at that time they would be expected to be feeding in the exposed shingle and mud banks found, for example, within the SPA. As a consequence of the SWBGS being updated in November 2013 i.e. after surveys had commenced at the site, only one visit was carried out during October. The October to January results indicate that the completion of a single October survey does not represent a constraint as the results so far have shown minimal use by waders and no brent geese (see Appendix C).

At the site, eight counts were undertaken between October 2013 and the 3rd January 2014. SWBGS (2010) and Gilbert *et al.* (2008) recommend that monthly surveys are undertaken between September and March for high tide counts and between November and February for low tide counts. This is unlikely to have a significant effect as there is little variation in the October, November and December results, indicating that September would not have been significantly different.

On 12th December 2013, a bonfire was lit on site at 13:07 during the survey. For the remaining hour the smoke changed the flight patterns and behaviour of the birds using the site. Although significant at the time, it is unlikely to cause a limitation the overall survey information as it was a one off occurrence lasting only an hour, during low tide period when the site has the least use.

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The surveys were all conducted in suitable weather conditions to record birds and access was available across the entire site. Rain experienced during the January 2014 survey was not considered to have limited the species present. Although not encountered on our surveys, extreme weather and flood warnings were issued for most of Portsmouth and surrounding areas during this period and it is likely that brent geese will have moved to their high tide sites (King, D. 2010); therefore, during late December and early January when this weather was most prominent there was an increased chance of finding them on site.

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3.1.3 ALUCO Ecology

The report from ALUCO details a summary of data from the site up to 2009 including a visit to the site in December of that year; they concluded that changes to the farming practices in 2002 have resulted in the field becoming unfavourable for brent geese and believe that the reason that no data exists during the SWBGS study period (2006-09) was because the site had not been suitable for brent geese (see ALUCO ecology report 2009).

3.2 Survey Dates and Weather Conditions

So far, all surveys have been conducted in good weather conditions; where poor conditions have occurred they have usually been for a brief duration and had little impact on visibility.

Table 1: Dates and weather conditions

Date	Portsmouth tide time (H=high, L=low)	Start time	End time	Temp . (°C)	Cloud cover (out of 8)	Wind Speed (Beaufort scale) and direction	Precipitation
24-10-2013	15:19 (H)	13:20	17:20	14	2	2 (N)	none
15-11-2013	9:41 (H)	07:41	11:41	5	0	0	none
15-11-2013	14:49 (L)	12:49	16:49	7	2	1 (N)	none
22 -11-2013	13:53 (H)	11:50	14:50	6	0	0	none
06-12-2013	12:21 (H)	10:21	15:21	5	5	4 (NW)	none
12-12-2013	12:37 (L)	10:37	14:37	3	1	0	Light Fog/Haze
19-12-2013	12:27(H)	10:27	14:27	6	1	2(W)	rain towards the end
03-01-2014	12:16 (H)	10:16	14:16	7	7	5(NW)	last hour heavy rain
10-01-2014	11:56 (L)	09:56	13:56	7	8	4/5(W)	none
15-01-2014	10:52 (H)	08:52	12:52	8	8	1(NW)	light patches
11-02-2014	14:33(L)	12:33	16:33	8	5	2(W)	none



3.3 Wintering Bird Data

3.3.1 Survey Results Summary

A total of 22 bird species were recorded from the surveyed area as of January 2014; of that, six were Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC), four red list (common starling, lapwing, herring gull, skylark) and two amber (dunnock and meadow pipits).

Table 2. Winter survey summary

Species	Scientific name	Highest Count	Low tide Count	Designation
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	0	0	HBAP BOCC_Red NERC_s41
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	4	4	
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	12	15	
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	3	3	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	3	3	
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	6	0	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	3	3	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	7	0	BOCC_Red
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	1	0	BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	5	6	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	3	4	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	3	0	
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	8	0	BOCC_Red
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	2	0	
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	1	
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	34	0	BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC_s41
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	5	4	
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	10	9	
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	0	39	BOCC_Amber
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	6	9	
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	2	2	
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	2	0	BOCC_Red

Out of the eight surveys (six high and two low), a total of 422 counts were made of which 269 were made at high tide and 153 at low tide; a count represents a bird or a group of birds which occurred at a specific time.



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During high tide, there were a noticeably higher number of black-headed gulls feeding on site; they made the most use of the site and covered nearly all the stubble, dropping down on invertebrates. On the 22nd November and the 6th December, flocks of lapwing landed in the field; they remained in the stubble most of the day feeding on grain seeds and invertebrates. There are no previous records for lapwing onsite during low tide and they only seem to use the site for feeding. On one occasion, a skylark was heard singing over the north of the site landing shortly after in the stubble field to the northwest.

During low tide, the site supported very few birds with the number of gull species reducing and only black headed gulls being left feeding in smaller numbers than during the high tide. On the 12th December 2013, there were a number of meadow pipit flocks that moved around the site, feeding in the stubble and along bushes and hedgerows - the maximum count was 39.

The proposed development site itself is used by a number of other species, most notably a family group of three common buzzard roost in the trees along the northern boundary edge and sometimes on the stable buildings, a kestrel has been seen hunting over the paddocks and numerous tit flocks fly from the patchy bushes and scrub which make up the livestock fencing on site. Starlings and blackbirds have been recorded feeding on the berries within the hedgerows around site.



3.3.2 Disturbance

During bird counts, records were made of the frequency of potential disturbance events to the birds occupying and feeding on the site. Disturbance events noted from the vantage point were as follows:

Table 3. Disturbance events

Date	Time	Disturbance event count	Observed impact on birds
15-Nov-13	15:55-16:09	Man walks through centre field, appeared to be taking soil samples.	At the time, 25 wood pigeons take flight. They circle above the housing estate, some settling on roofs and aerials. The rest disappear north - some return at 16:12
12-Dec-13	13:07-all day	Man started bonfire on site - continued throughout the survey	All black-headed gulls avoided the fire area; however, they seem unaffected by the smoke and continue to use smoky areas. All meadow pipits avoid the area

Generally, there is little non-natural disturbance on site; therefore, when it does occur the majority of birds avoided the immediate area. Species, such as wood pigeon, circled over the housing estates until the disturbance event has finished; the majority of species returned after. When a bonfire was started on site, the black-headed gulls avoided the fire area but they flew through the smoke areas whereas the meadow pipits avoided the area completely.



4.0 Discussion

4.1.1 Summary

This is an interim report as the surveys are due to be completed in March 2014; any recommendations could be subject to change depending on the completed results. Should any brent geese or waders be found on site, an appropriate mitigation package will be required; it is also possible that an Appropriate Assessment would be required as the loss of feeding habitat for wintering birds would be considered to impact the European protected Langstone Harbour which is a Special Protection Area (SPA) and Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

To date no brent geese have been recorded using the site during surveys undertaken between October and December 2013 and during January 2014, as a result, at this stage no mitigation for impacts on this species are considered necessary as part of the development proposals. The site however has so far had a mixed use by birds; the stubble field provided a food source to a range of bird species with the hedgerows and trees offering shelter and places to perch for others. Of the species recorded so far, six were Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) - four red list species (common starling, lapwing, herring gull, and skylark) and two amber list species (dunnock and meadow pipits).

Lapwing and herring gull used the set-aside fields to feed; they were not recorded within the grazed grassland area. Both species are red list BOCC with lapwing also being a BAP priority and Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act species which require measures to protect it from any adverse effects of development.

4.1.2 Habitat Loss

The main areas of habitat which will be lost include a portion of the stubble field and the paddock area used by grazing ponies. Although the paddock has the potential to support lapwing, its proximity to the houses, fragmented hedgerows and surrounding trees makes it an unfavourable site for them; however, it is good habitat for common starling, dunnock and meadow pipits which all feed in the hedgerows and scrub surround the paddock.

The stubble field is primarily used for feeding for a number of species, most notable lapwing, herring gull, skylark and meadow pipits have all been recorded feeding. Only meadow pipit has been recorded feeding within the development area and the majority of the stubble field will be untouched.



4.1.3 Disturbance

The site appeared to be subject to little non-natural disturbance with species present reacting to the occasional disturbance incidents that occurred during surveys; therefore, during construction and whilst operational, the development has the potential to disturb lapwings and other species using the surrounding fields. Therefore, the proposed creation of a hedgerow and planting of trees to screen the houses from the field will reduce the visual and noise disturbance. Further measures should be taken to restrict public access to the field and its boundaries, specifically dog walkers as they can deter species from using the field.

Disturbance to the local Langstone Harbour SPA is considered minimal as brent geese have not been recorded on site and none of the other winter species (black-tailed godwit, dunlin, grey plover, redshank and ringed plover) have been found on site either. Lapwing, however, use the SPA with the total wintering lapwing population for Langstone Harbour standing at 4,175 in 1997. Lapwing occurred during two out of the eight winter bird surveys in areas of the site which although untouched by the development could be disturbed by it, with the proposed screening of the housing with trees it is unlikely the development will have an effect on the SPA's population.

The proposed development site includes areas of scrub, grassland, hedgerows and stubble field which offer potential nesting habitat for a variety of bird species. To avoid destroying or disturbing active bird nests, it is recommended that vegetation clearance is undertaken outside the bird nesting season. This generally runs from March to September inclusive. It is considered likely that if the site is successfully granted planning permission, this will fall within the summer and hence within the breeding bird season. Therefore it is recommended that where scrub is to be removed, the area is to be inspected by a suitably qualified ecologist no more than 48 hours prior to work commencing. Should any active nests be found, they must be left in situ and not disturbed until all the young have fledged and cease to return to the nest. A buffer of approximately 5 metres should be enacted around each active nest and every effort must be made not to enter or disturb this area. If, once started, construction works cease for more than five days, it is recommended that an update check is undertaken before any clearance activities are resumed to confirm whether any nesting birds have taken up residence in the intervening period.



4.1.4 Mitigation

The loss of the paddocks, mixed scrub and fragmented hedgerows used by common starling, dunnoek and meadow pipits is mitigated by the creation of a habitat mosaic of hedgerows, trees and interconnected grassland; this will offer foraging, roosting and nesting areas to these species and more.

The loss of some of the field could have an effect on the lapwings that have been feeding on site; however as the remaining arable field will continue to be farmed no further mitigation is required for this species as there will still be a winter food resource for these species. Further, by planting a hedgerow using native species locally sourced along the western boundary this will provide screening from the proposed development to the arable field and hence any lapwings using the site are unlikely to be disturbed from the proposed development the planting should be a priority to allow the hedge to grow and develop before winter.

Waders (including lapwing) will also benefit if trees, scrub and hedgerows on site are managed to remain below 2m in height (Milsom *et al.*, 1998) as this will offer increased visibility, allowing birds to detect predators and prevent perches for predatory species such as magpies and carrion crows. The newly created hedgerow along the western boundary will be maintained at 2 metres in height. This will be achieved through pruning/lopping of trees and flailing and cutting of scrub and hedgerow outside of the breeding season (April-September). Tree and scrub management should be undertaken every second year (ideally in the months of March and October) to avoid disturbance of the summer breeding or wintering bird seasons.

As no brent geese or significant populations of other overwintering birds have been recorded using the site, the impact as a result of the development is considered to be minimal with little impact on the birds using the site or the SPA. The proposed mitigation methods will not only benefit the species they are targeting but additional species which use the same habitat, whilst reducing the disturbance to the site. There are still a further eight visits to be made to the site - two remaining in January and three for February and March; the recommendations in this report could, therefore, be subject to change depending on the results of these surveys.



5.0 References

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Appendices



Appendix A – Report Conditions



Portsmouth Wintering Birds Interim Report

Report Conditions

Portsmouth Hill – Wintering Bird Interim Report

This report is produced solely for the benefit of David Wilson Homes, and no liability is accepted for any reliance placed on it by any other party unless specifically agreed in writing otherwise.

This report is prepared for the proposed uses stated in the report and should not be used in a different context without reference to WYG. In time improved practices, fresh information or amended legislation may necessitate a re-assessment. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of WYG using due skill and care in the preparation of the report.

This report refers, within the limitations stated, to the environment of the site in the context of the surrounding area at the time of the inspections. Environmental conditions can vary and no warranty is given as to the possibility of changes in the environment of the site and surrounding area at differing times.

This report is limited to those aspects reported on, within the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. It is necessarily restricted and no liability is accepted for any other aspect. It is based on the information sources indicated in the report. Some of the opinions are based on unconfirmed data and information and are presented as the best obtained within the scope for this report.

Reliance has been placed on the documents and information supplied to WYG by others but no independent verification of these has been made and no warranty is given on them. No liability is accepted or warranty given in relation to the performance, reliability, standing etc of any products, services, organisations or companies referred to in this report.

Whilst skill and care have been used, no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or not fully representative information. Any monitoring or survey work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations, including for example timescale, seasonal and weather related conditions.

Although care is taken to select monitoring and survey periods that are typical of the environmental conditions being measured, within the overall reporting programme constraints, measured conditions may not be fully representative of the actual conditions. Any predictive or modelling work, undertaken as part of the commission will be subject to limitations including the representativeness of data used by the model and the assumptions inherent within the approach used. Actual environmental conditions are typically more complex and variable than the investigative, predictive and modelling approaches indicate in practice, and the output of such approaches cannot be relied upon as a comprehensive or accurate indicator of future conditions.

The potential influence of our assessment and report on other aspects of any development or future planning requires evaluation by other involved parties. The performance of environmental protection measures, e.g. of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation, and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. WYG accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors.



Appendix B – Desktop Study Information



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Data has been obtained from Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre who has provided data for the site from December 1995 through to March 1999

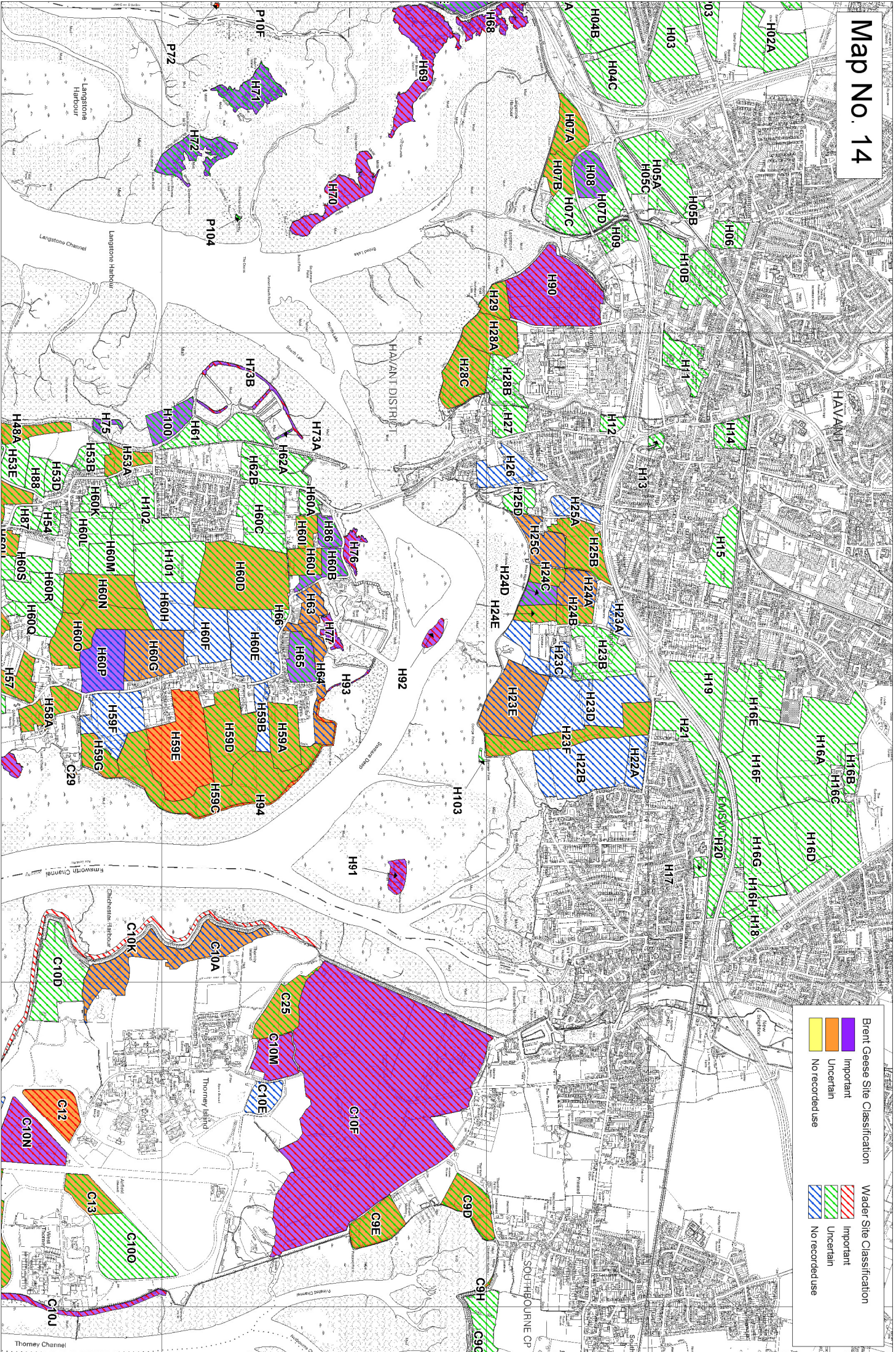
Date	Month	Season	Other birds/waterfowl (use WEBS codes)	Brent (Y/N)	No of Brent
30-Dec-95	Dec	1995-1996	Not recorded	Y	50
18-Jan-96	Jan	1995-1996	0	Y	600
26-Jan-96	Jan	1995-1996	0	Y	115
31-Jan-96	Jan	1995-1996	0	N	0
1-Feb-96	Feb	1995-1996	0	N	0
16-Feb-96	Feb	1995-1996	Not recorded	N	0
2-Mar-96	Mar	1995-1996	Not recorded	N	0
15-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
19-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
22-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
23-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
25-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
27-Nov-97	Nov	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
1-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
4-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	3
4-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	200
5-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
9-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
10-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
12-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	35
14-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
16-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
16-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
16-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	300
20-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	300
20-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	850
21-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
23-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
24-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
28-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
30-Dec-97	Dec	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0



Portsmouth Wintering Birds Interim Report

1-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
4-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
6-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
13-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
15-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
16-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
20-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	180
21-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
23-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	Y	300
28-Jan-98	Jan	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
5-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
10-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
11-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
18-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
23-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
25-Feb-98	Feb	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
4-Mar-98	Mar	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
7-Mar-98	Mar	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
10-Mar-98	Mar	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
19-Mar-98	Mar	1997-1998	Not recorded	N	0
16-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999		Y	141
17-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999		N	0
17-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999		Y	200
22-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999		N	0
24-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999		Y	50
28-Dec-98	Dec	1998-1999	Not recorded	Y	140
5-Jan-99	Jan	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
11-Jan-99	Jan	1998-1999		N	0
14-Jan-99	Jan	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
16-Jan-99	Jan	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
23-Jan-99	Jan	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
18-Feb-99	Feb	1998-1999		N	0
5-Mar-99	Mar	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
8-Mar-99	Mar	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0
19-Mar-99	Mar	1998-1999	Not recorded	N	0

Map No. 14



Current Use Analysis: Important Sites for Waders and Brent Geese

**BRENT GEESE
USE OF LAND ADJACENT TO
HAVANT ROAD/FORTUNES WAY
HAVANT**

JANUARY 2009

CONTENTS

BRENT GEESE USE OF LAND ADJACENT TO HAVANT ROAD/FORTUNES WAY HAVANT

JANUARY 2009

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**BRENT GEESE
USE OF LAND ADJACENT TO
HAVANT ROAD/FORTUNES WAY
HAVANT**

JANUARY 2009

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Aluco Ecology Ltd was commissioned by the Luken Beck Planning Partnership on behalf the landowner to undertake an assessment of the use of agricultural land adjacent to the A3(M) and A27, in Havant, Hampshire by wintering populations of Dark Bellied Brent Geese *Branta bernicula bernicula*.
- 1.2 The species uses short open turf adjacent to the coast for feeding, especially in mid -late winter when the food resources within intertidal areas along the coastal estuaries, primarily *Enteromophaa* green algae, are depleted. The site in question is just over 500m from Langstone Harbour.
- 1.3 The site is to be put forward as a development site for housing and associated open space.

2.0 LEGISLATION AND POLICY RELATING TO BRENT GEESE

- 2.1 Brent Geese are afforded protection under Section 4.2 of the Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC. Section 4.2 of the Directive states that all Member States are required to:

“...take similar measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I, bearing in mind their need for protection in the geographical sea and land area where this Directive applies, as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. To this end, Member States shall pay particular attention to the protection of wetlands and particularly to wetlands of international importance.”

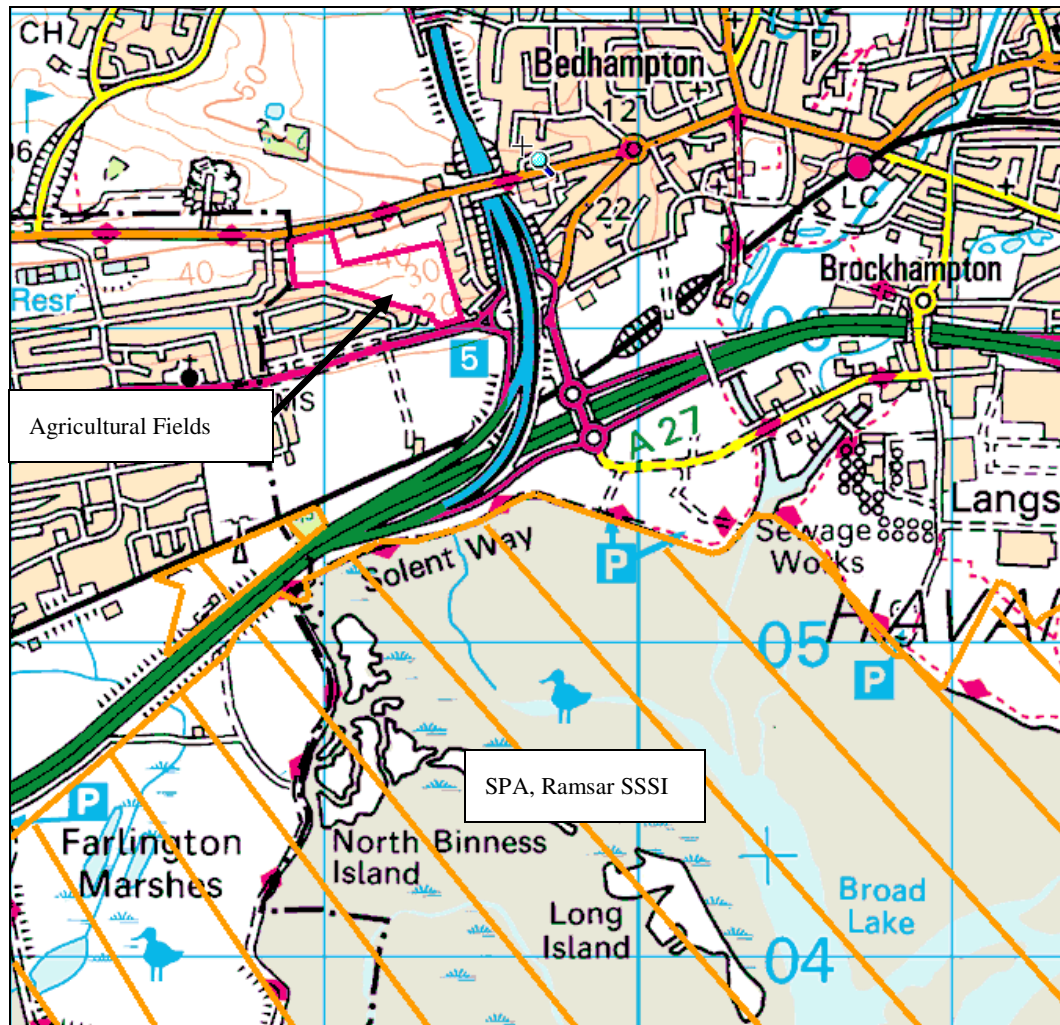
- 2.2 Measures taken by the UK Government in fulfilment of this duty include designating wildlife sites where the species occur. Brent Geese are a principle feature of Chichester and Langstone Harbours Special Protection Area (SPA) and a feature of the Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar Site and Langstone Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). About 16% of the UK migratory/wintering population of Dark Bellied Brent Geese are present in this SPA.

- 2/3 SPA's (and Features of the SPA's such as Brent Geese) are afforded protection from plans and projects through the Directive on the Conservation of Natural Fauna and Flora 92/43/EC (the Habitats Directive) which is transposed into UK law through the Habitat Regulations 1994 (as amended). Further information is provided at **Technical Appendix 1**.
- 2.3 The agricultural land is just over 500m from Langstone Harbour SPA/Ramsar/SSSI. The main south coast road, the A27 dual carriageway runs between the site and the Harbour. The location of the agricultural fields and the adjacent harbour designated sites are provided in **Figure 1** below and further information is provided at **Technical Appendix 2**. The Harbour is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Part of the Harbour is a Local Nature Reserve, Farlington Marshes managed by Hampshire County Council
- 2.4 Just over 4km from the agricultural fields is Portsmouth Harbour SPA, Ramsar and SSSI. This site is designated primarily for its populations of Brent Geese. The citation for these designated sites is provided in **Technical Appendix 3**.
- 2.5 Havant Borough Council have retained specific policies from their Local Plan 2005 relating to nature conservation. These are provided in **Technical Appendix 4**.

3.0 LOCATION AND NATURE OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAND

Location

- 3.1 **Figure 1** below shows the location of the agricultural land, in context to the nearby SPA/Ramsar/SSSI.



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Figure 1: Location of the Site

Nature of the Agricultural Land

- 3.2 The agricultural land is two large arable fields and four small horse pastures. **Photos 1 and 2** below illustrate the two main fields.
- 3.3 **Photos 3 and 4** show the horse pasture in the north east corner of the main field. It comprises two rough pastures with developing Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. scrub, and two well grazed pastures. Each small field is bounded by fencing with some isolated Hawthorn and Bramble scrub along the boundaries.



Photo 1 Southern Field: Photo taken looking North from Havant Road boundary



Photo 2 Northern Field: Photo taken Western Corner



Photo 3: Southern Horse Pasture with Rough Grassland and Developing Scrub



Photo 4: Northern Horse Pastures Well Grazed (Four Horses/Ponies during visit)

4.0 USE OF THE SITE BY BRENT GEESE

Current Use by Brent Geese

- 4.1 No Brent Geese were noted on site or in surrounding fields during a site visit on the 29 December 2008. Given the nature of the fields as recently ploughed and not replanted it is considered unlikely that Brent Geese will use the site over the winter 2008/09. The site has been arable for many years.
- 4.2 The four horse pastures in the north east corner of the main field provide some potential grass foraging areas for Brent Geese, but they are considered too small in size and are surrounded by fences and developing scrub on the site, and tall hedges and urban development on the site boundary. As such use of these pastures is also considered unlikely.

Historical Use by Brent Geese

- 4.3 A data search of all Brent Goose records for the site and surrounding 1km radius has been made with the Hampshire Wildlife Trust. The Brent Goose Strategy has also been consulted (HWT, 2002). The site is recorded as Field H03 in the Brent Goose Strategy see **Figure 2** provided as part of the data search from the Hampshire Wildlife Trust. Brent Geese were using the site prior to 2002 and the Brent Goose Strategy considered the site to be of high use. This is based on the data set out in **Table 1** below, which shows that the fields were used occasionally by large numbers when the crop was winter wheat and at a stage of production that was preferable to the Geese.

Table 1: Brent Geese Data (1995 – Present: HWT, 2009)

Site	Date	Time	No	Comment
H03	30-Dec-95	12:00	50	Grazing winter wheat.
H03	18-Jan-96	10:00	600	Grazing winter wheat
H03	26-Jan-96	14:08	115	No disturbance one colour-ringed; Y5G1
H03	4-Dec-97	16:00	3	
H03	4-Dec-97	9:00	200	Presumably the usual flock from H4B displaced due to the scaring devices
H03	12-Dec-97	8:25	35	
H03	16-Dec-97	8:30	300	
H03	20-Dec-97	11:00	300	
H03	20-Dec-97	13:00	850	Peak Count
H03	20-Jan-98	11:28	180	Landed at 11:28
H03	23-Jan-98	8:30	300	Very little wheat left to graze
H03	16-Dec-98	12:33	141	
H03	17-Dec-98	9:00	200	
H03	24-Dec-98	14:22	50	
H03	28-Dec-98	12:55	140	

No of Visits = 65 (1995-1999)

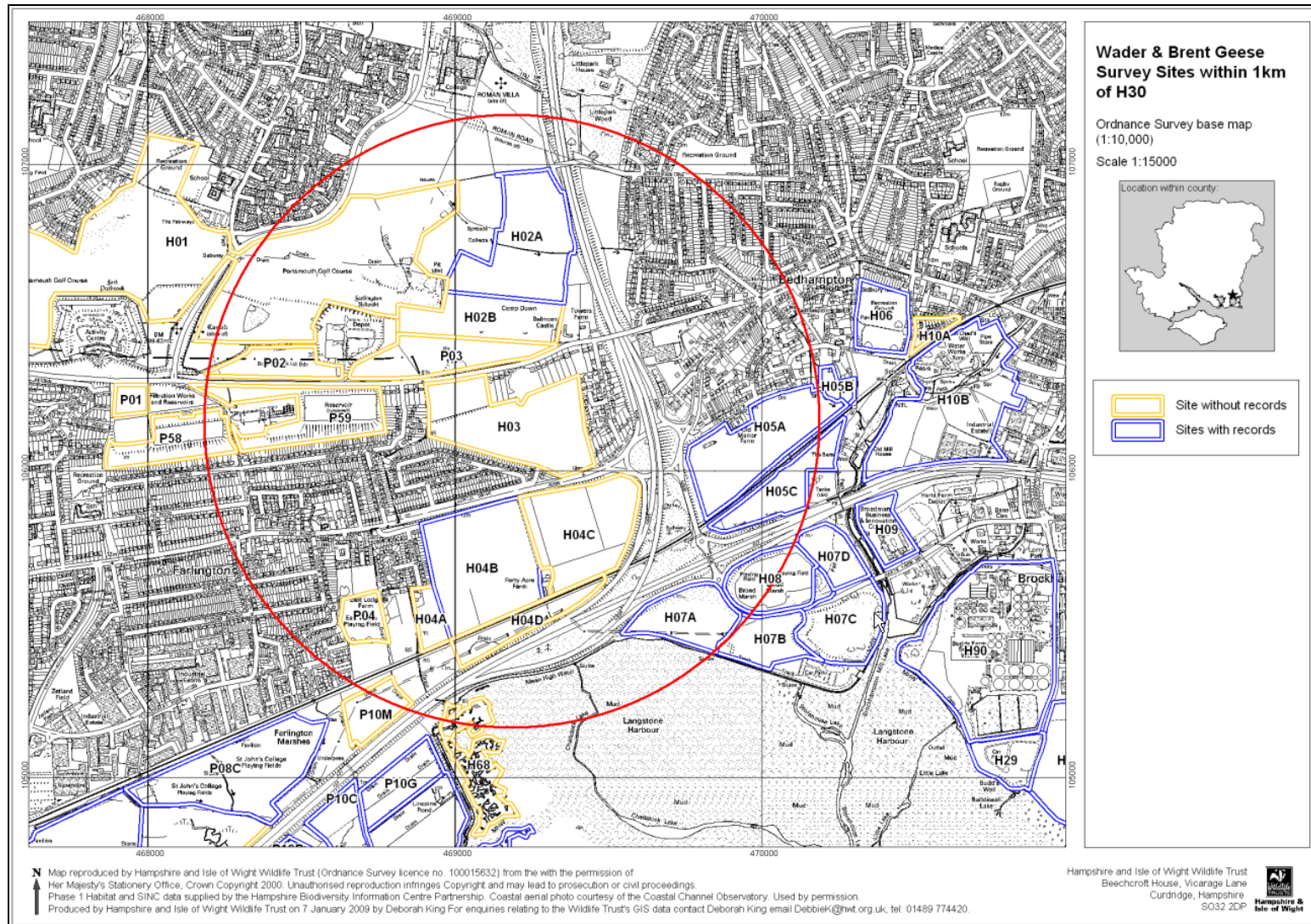


Figure 2: Brent Goose Strategy Sites (HWT, 2009)

- 4.4 The data for H03 during 1995-98 shows that Brent Geese were seen to use the site on 23% of visits (15 out of 65 visits). The peak number of birds recorded was 850 on the 20 December 1997, and the average size of a bird flock when present is 231 birds. At the time the site was therefore given a high importance rating in the Brent Goose Strategy (HWT, 2002).
- 4.5 No Brent Geese data (positive or negative) is however present for this site (H03) for the updated Brent Goose strategy (2006-2009). Information from a local ornithologist suggests that H03 has not been used by Brent Geese for a few years (HWT, pers. comm.). This is likely to be a result in changing farming practices on the site since the 2002 Strategy.

Use of Other sites By Brent Geese

- 4.6 **Figure 2** shows (in blue) all the sites which have been surveyed for the updated Brent Goose Strategy. Out of these sites, Brent Geese have been recorded on a number of fields these are detailed in **Table 2** below and at **Technical Appendices 5** and **6**.

Table 2: Other sites used by Brent Geese

Site	No Visits 2002	No Visits 2006-09	Positive Visits 2002	Positive Visits 2006-09	Average all visits	Average on positive visits	Peak Count
H02A	31	1	3	1	7	60	120
H02B	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
H04 (General)	9	0	8	0	157	177	450
H04A	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
H04B	94	0	67	0	113	158	900
H04C	15	0	3	0	4	18	50
H05A	33	3	9	0	95	381	500
H05B	15	2	0	0	0	0	0
H05C	26	0	0	0	0	0	0
H06	9	1	0	0	0	0	0
H07 (General)	36	0	8	0	55	249	600
H07A	85	5	0	0	0	0	0
H07B*	107	7	13	2	20	156	350
H07C	85	5	0	0	0	0	0
H07D	49	5	0	0	0	0	0
H08*	123	9	59	5	78	175	900
H09	58	2	5	0	8	100	350
Total	756	39	164	7			

*Includes positive visits where geese numbers were not noted (i.e. averages are under)

- 4.7 The data shows that out of all the survey data for the 2006-2009 season, only two sites H07B and H08 have had Brent Geese use. This is based on 39 visits to all sites, with 7 visits recording Geese. Both these fields are just under 1km from the closest part of the site and along the Solent Way coastal path. The fields are located at Broadhaven which has a number of public car parks accessing the Solent Way.
- 4.8 In the previous survey period (2002 data set) Field H04B also had consistent Brent Geese use. The latest data set has no records for this site, and it maybe that it is also no longer regularly suitable for the species (eg if it is left arable and ploughed regularly each winter), as is the case this winter.
- 4.9 To the south west over 1km from the site is Farlington Marshes Hampshire Wildlife Trust reserve and Local Nature Reserve. No data has been provided for this site, but it is one of the primary Brent Goose sites for the Harbour. It is also wardened and promotes visitors.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 A survey of the site to understand its broad habitats, context and potential for use by Dark Bellied Brent Geese was undertaken in December 2008.
- 5.2 Information from this survey demonstrates that the site in question is not likely to be used by Brent Geese during winter 2008/09 and has not had any Brent Geese recorded on the site for some time.
- 5.3 No data exists during the updated Brent Goose strategy period (2006-09) for the site. This is considered likely to be because the site has not been suitable for Brent Geese during this period.
- 5.4 When Brent Geese did use the site (1995-1999) they used it 15 times out of 65 visits with a peak number of 850 birds and an average flock of 231 birds. The birds fed on winter wheat crops that would have created short open grassland for grazing. This is the reason for a high importance rating in the original Brent Goose strategy.
- 5.5 Changes in farming practices since the 2002 Strategy are considered likely to have been the major factor that has resulted in the site no longer being used by Brent Geese.
- 5.5 A number of other sites within and over 1km from the site have irregular to regular use by Brent Geese for loafing and feeding. Some of these sites that were of regular use during the original Brent Goose strategy, have no recorded use during the updated strategy (eg H04B). Other sites still appear to have regular use (H07B and H08), and these are sites that are on the Solent Way and over 1km from the site.

6.0 REFERENCES

CEC (1979) Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC

CEC (1992) Directive on the Conservation of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Habitats Directive 92/43/EC

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (2002) “The Brent Goose Strategy”

Havant Borough Council (2008) ‘Havant Borough Council Local Plan Retained Policies’

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 1

LEGISLATION RELATING TO BRENT GEESE

THE BIRDS DIRECTIVE 79/409/EEC

The Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Directive 79/409/EEC), known widely as the 'Birds Directive' was introduced in the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1979. The Directive provides a list of bird species (at Annex 1) that are the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat. It goes further to include all regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex 1 in this categorisation.

Article 4 states that Member States shall classify "the most suitable territories in number and size as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for the conservation of these species". SPAs are designated for Annex 1 species and regularly occurring migratory species in the UK.

The assessment procedure that development (plans or projects) should go through where it has the potential to have a significant effect on an SPA or a feature of an SPA is set out in the Habitats Directive. The UK planning process recognises SPAs through the provisions listed in the Conservation (Natural Habitat &c.) Regulations 1994, which implement the assessment procedure in the Habitats Directive.

Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations SI 1994/2716 (Habitat Regulations)

The Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994 (the Habitat Regulations) partially implement the Habitats Directive. The Regulations contain provisions relating to the protection of European sites. European Sites are defined within the Regulations as SACs or SPAs, whether proposed, candidate or classified.

European Sites (SPAs)

Regulation 48 sets out general provisions in the form of a step wise procedure for the protection of European Sites. The Regulation is set out below

Regulation 48 Habitat Regulations

"48.—(1) A competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project which-

(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site in Great Britain (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and

(b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site,

shall make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives.

(2) A person applying for any such consent, permission or other authorisation shall provide such information as the competent authority may reasonably require for the purposes of the assessment.

(3) The competent authority shall for the purposes of the assessment consult the appropriate nature conservation body and have regard to any representations made by that body within such reasonable time as the authority may specify.

(4) They shall also, if they consider it appropriate, take the opinion of the general public; and if they do so, they shall take such steps for that purpose as they consider appropriate.

(5) In the light of the conclusions of the assessment, and subject to regulation 49, the authority shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site.

(6) In considering whether a plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site, the authority shall have regard to the manner in which it is proposed to be carried out or to any conditions or restrictions subject to which they propose that the consent, permission or other authorisation should be given.

(7) This regulation does not apply in relation to a site which is a European site by reason only of regulation 10(1)(c) (site protected in accordance with Article 5(4)).”

A number of important features of the Regulation are highlighted below:

Competent Authority

The expression "competent authority" includes any Minister, government department, public or statutory undertaker, public body of any description or person holding a public office. Public body includes any local authority, joint board or joint committee (Regulation 6).

Likely Significant Effect

If the plan or project is directly connected with or necessary for site management for nature conservation then permission may be granted. Otherwise an initial assessment should be made, by the relevant Competent authority, which should determine whether the plan or project, alone or in combination with others, is ‘likely to have a significant effect’ on the European site in terms of the ecological objectives for which the site was classified or designated (see Section 2.4.1 on PPG 9 below).

Appropriate Assessment

If it is determined that the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the interests of the European site then an Appropriate Assessment is required, which is designed to ascertain the effects of the project on the Conservation Objectives for the site. From the conclusions of this assessment, the Competent authority determines whether or not the project will ‘adversely affect the integrity of the site’ in terms of the European interests for which the site was designated.

If, following this assessment, the competent authority concludes that there will not be an adverse effect on the integrity of the site then permission may be granted. However, if it is concluded that the project will have an adverse affect on integrity and that there are no alternative solutions, permission may be granted only if the competent authority considers that the project must be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (Regulation 49). Where this is deemed to be the case, compensation is required (Regulation 53).

THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE, ESPECIALLY AS WILDFOWL HABITAT (RAMSAR, IRAN) CONVENTION 1979

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as a Waterfowl Habitat in Ramsar, Iran 1971 (the 'Ramsar' Convention) has as its aim the protection of wetland habitats (marsh, fen, peatland, freshwater or saltwater (to a depth of 6metres at low tide)), especially those with bird species dependant on such wetlands.

Article 2 states that each contracting party shall designate suitable wetlands within its territory for inclusion in a list of Wetlands of International Importance.

The UK Government has chosen as a matter of policy (PPS9) to apply the procedures outlined above in relation to European Sites (SPAs) to Ramsar Sites.

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 2

CITATIONS FOR LANGSTONE
AND CHICHESTER HARBOURS

County: Hampshire **Site Name:** Langstone Harbour SSSI

Local Planning Authority: Hampshire County Council, Havant Borough Council, Portsmouth City Council

National Grid Reference: SU 700030

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 197 **1:25,000:** SU 60, 70; SZ 69, 79

Area: 2,069.4 (ha) 5.113.4 (ac)

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1 9 5 8 **Date of Last Revision:** 1 9 7 9

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1 9 8 5 **Date of Last Revision:** –

Other Information:

Farlington Marshes (118.9 ha) is a Local Nature Reserve owned by Portsmouth City Council and managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust under a long lease; 550 ha including a series of saltmarsh islands and extensive mud flats are owned by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Reasons for Notification:

Langstone Harbour is a tidal basin which at high water resembles an almost landlocked lake. At low water extensive mud flats are exposed, drained by three main channels which unite to make a common and narrow exit to the sea. The harbour includes one of the largest areas of mixed saltmarsh on the south coast, and extensive cord-grass *Spartina anglica* marsh in an advanced state of degeneration. The Site of Special Scientific Interest including Farlington Marshes, a peninsula of grassland and marsh on reclaimed tidal silt protected by a sea wall; and a similar but much smaller area at Southmoor in the north-east of the harbour. The harbour is of international importance as a rich intertidal system supporting high densities of intertidal invertebrates and large populations of migrant and overwintering waders and wildfowl, dependent upon them and upon the extensive beds of eelgrass *Zostera* species. The *Zostera angustifolia* and *Z. noltii* beds are among the largest in Britain. The harbour is among the twenty most important intertidal areas in Britain as a summer and autumn assembly ground for waders during the moult (when they require abundant high protein food) and as a post-moult wintering ground. Dunlin *Calidris alpina* often exceed 30,000 individuals, or 6% of the British winter population, or 3% of the European and North African wintering population. Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola* and black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa* achieve numbers which represent 1–2% of the European and North African migration flyway population; and redshank *Tringa totanus* and ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula* do so periodically. At times as many as 20% of the black-tailed godwit, 8% of the ringed plover and 8-10% of the grey plover wintering in Britain are present in the harbour. The total numbers of waders present sometimes exceeds 40,000. Langstone Harbour and the adjoining and connected Portsmouth and Chichester Harbours form a single, coherent ecosystem which is among the ten most important intertidal areas for waders in Britain. In the 1970s and 1980s Langstone Harbour alone has consistently supported in excess of 5,000 wintering dark-bellied geese *Branta bernicla*, or 5-10% of the world population depending on fluctuating population levels. It has supported up to 2.5% of the European winter population of shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* and regularly supports substantial numbers of other ducks in autumn and winter.

Farlington Marshes intrudes into the north-west sector of the harbour. Its vegetation is strongly influenced by drainage water from the chalk and by

brackish water infiltration. The marshes embrace a variety of habitats – brackish marsh, fresh marsh, a large lagoon with associated reed *Phragmites* beds, *Agrostis stolonifera* grassland and scrub. It is a vital high water wader roost for the Harbour and a major feeding ground for Brent geese after the *Zostera* beds in the Harbour have been consumed. Few comparable sites have survived agricultural improvement on the south and east coasts of England, where the habitat was formerly common: the grassland flora is especially rich for reclaimed silt, and includes over 50 species of grasses. Southmoor shares these characteristics but is much smaller.

Langstone Harbour has been the forum for important ecological research on estuarine eutrophication and the relationship with algal blanketing of the muds, changes in invertebrate communities and changes in the composition of vertebrate predator communities.

CHICHESTER AND LANGSTONE HARBOURS SPA

Country	England
Unitary Authority	City of Portsmouth, West Sussex, Hampshire
SPA status	Classified 28/10/1987
Latitude	50 48 23 N
Longitude	00 55 12 W
SPA EU code	UK9011011
Area (ha)	5810.03
Component SSSI/ASSIs	Chichester Harbour, Langstone Harbour

Chichester and Langstone Harbours are located on the south coast of England in Hampshire and West Sussex. They are large, sheltered estuarine basins comprising extensive sand- and mud-flats exposed at low tide. The two harbours are joined by a stretch of water that separates Hayling Island from the mainland. Tidal channels drain the basin and penetrate far inland. The mud-flats are rich in invertebrates and also support extensive beds of algae, especially *Enteromorpha* species, and eelgrasses *Zostera* spp. The basin contains a wide range of coastal habitats supporting important plant and animal communities. The site is of particular significance for waterbirds, especially in migration periods and in winter. It also supports important colonies of breeding terns.

Qualifying species

This site qualifies under **Article 4.1** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:

During the breeding season;

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*, 100 pairs representing up to 4.2% of the breeding population in Great Britain (5 year mean, 1992-1996)

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*, 158 pairs representing up to 1.1% of the breeding population in Great Britain (1998)

On passage;

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*, 137 individuals representing up to 17.1% of the population in Great Britain (Count as at 1998)

Over winter;

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*, 1,692 individuals representing up to 3.2% of the wintering population in Great Britain (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*, 100 individuals representing up to 20.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain (Count as at 1998)

This site also qualifies under **Article 4.2** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species:

On passage;

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, 2,471 individuals representing up to 4.9% of the Europe/Northern Africa - wintering population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Over winter;

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*, 1,003 individuals representing up to 1.4% of the wintering Iceland - breeding population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Dark-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*, 17,119 individuals representing up to 5.7% of the wintering Western Siberia/Western Europe population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*, 44,294 individuals representing up to 3.2% of the wintering Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, 3,825 individuals representing up to 2.5% of the wintering Eastern Atlantic - wintering population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Redshank *Tringa totanus*, 1,788 individuals representing up to 1.2% of the wintering Eastern Atlantic - wintering population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, 846 individuals representing up to 1.7% of the wintering Europe/Northern Africa - wintering population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

Assemblage qualification: A wetland of international importance.

The area qualifies under **Article 4.2** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by regularly supporting at least 20,000 waterfowl

Over winter, the area regularly supports 93,142 individual waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6) including: Wigeon *Anas penelope*, Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*, Dark-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*, Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*, Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*, Redshank *Tringa totanus*, Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*, Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*, Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*, Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Teal *Anas crecca*, Pintail *Anas acuta*, Shoveler *Anas clypeata*, Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*, Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*, Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, Knot *Calidris canutus*, Sanderling *Calidris alba*, Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*.

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 3

CITATIONS FOR PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR

Portsmouth Harbour SSSI Citation

County: Hampshire **Site Name:** Portsmouth Harbour SSSI

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981

Local Planning Authority: Hampshire County Council, Gosport Borough Council, Fareham Borough Council, Portsmouth City Council

National Grid Reference: SU 620035

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 196 **1:10,000:** SU 50 NE, SE; SU 60 NW, SE, SW; SZ 69 NW

Area: 1,266.09 (ha) 3,128.50 (ac)

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1974 **Date of Last Revision:** ⌀

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 21 March 1985 **Date of Last Revision:** 29 October 1992

Confirmed: 22 July 1993

Other Information:

Pewit Island (SU 608038) is a Hampshire and Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust nature reserve. The SSSI was extended in 1992 to include intertidal areas omitted at the earlier notifications. These include Brick Kiln, Forton, Haslar and Tipner Lakes.

Reasons for Notification:

Portsmouth Harbour is the westernmost of three extensive and connected tidal basins ⌀ Portsmouth, Langstone and Chichester Harbours ⌀ which share physical characteristics and, in many respects, should be seen as a single biological system. At high water they resemble large, nearly land-locked shallow lagoons. At low water extensive mudflats are exposed which are drained by systems of channels and creeks which, in each harbour, unite to form a narrow exit to The Solent through which the tide runs rapidly on the ebb. The harbours have a salinity approximating to that of the sea but they do receive some fresh water from springs arising in the intertidal zone, and from a number of small streams, the largest of which is the River Wallington, which flows into Fareham Creek, the westernmost channel of Portsmouth Harbour. The intertidal area of Portsmouth Harbour includes 776ha (1,939 acres) of mudflats and about 173ha (432 acres) of cord-grass *Spartina* marshes. The muds comprise fine silts and organic matter, though over extensive areas angular flint gravel occurs commonly at the surface and similar material forms a beach at high water mark and a floor to the channels. The mudflats support an abundant fauna of benthic marine animals, though of a total fauna of about 60 species, only about ten occur in very large numbers. Of these, however, some occur at very high densities and form the main food sources for shorebirds. The mud surfaces support extensive beds of eelgrasses *Zostera noltii* and *Z. angustifolia* and extensive areas of the mudflats support a high density of green algae, mainly *Enteromorpha* species and *Ulva lactuca* in summer. In general terms the eelgrasses and algae are mutually exclusive in distribution on

the mudflats. The eelgrass beds are among the most extensive in Britain and Portsmouth Harbour is one of only four intertidal areas on the south coast to support extensive eelgrass beds. The beds have a rich associated benthic and epiphytic fauna and algal fauna and the eelgrass itself is an important food of the Brent goose.

The cord-grass marshes occur on mudflats in the upper part of the tidal range and are dominated by *Spartina anglica*. The marshes derive from colonisation of open mud since the late 19th century, and in maturity formed extensive monospecific stands of *Spartina anglica* growing on elevated platforms of accreted mud dissected by ramifying systems of drainage creeks. However, the maturing of the marshes has been succeeded by a phase of recession in which the plants are dying back and the platforms of accreted mud are eroding and slumping back to an approximation of the former mudflat profile. This process is widespread on the central south coast and is itself of great scientific interest. At the uppermost levels of the *Spartina* marshes *Spartina* is replaced locally by saltmarsh dominated by sea purslane *Halimolobos portulacoides*. At their highest levels these marshes grade to tussocky grassland dominated by sea couch *Elymus pycnanthus* and on Pewit Island this grassland has in turn been colonised by oak and blackthorn scrub. The nationally scarce golden samphire *Inula crithmoides* occurs at the upper limits of sea purslane marsh and at the toe of some sea walls. The biological richness and productivity of Portsmouth Harbour is reflected in the numbers of wetland birds, particularly waders and wildfowl, which it supports. A wide range of feeding adaptations are represented among the species occurring in large numbers, which include waders and ducks dependent on the benthic invertebrates of mudflats and shallow waters; Brent geese and wigeon, which feed on eelgrass and algae; and an array of diving birds which depend on small fish, crustaceans and molluscs sought in the channels at low water and in shallow water over the mudflats at high water. Portsmouth Harbour is of national importance for the numbers of three species of waders (grey plover, black-tailed godwit and dunlin) it supports and is of national importance for the numbers of dark-bellied Brent geese which overwinter there. The total numbers of waders and wildfowl present has at times exceeded 20,000. The SSSI includes two brackish lagoons adjoining Haslar Lake in the south-west of the Harbour. Brackish lagoons in which there is little rise or fall in water levels support a narrow range of species which are, however, highly specialist to lagoonal conditions. The fauna and flora of Little Anglesey Lake (= lagoon) is the most diverse known in lagoons in south-east England. Cockle Pond has a less diverse fauna but includes, in common with Little Anglesey Lake, populations of both the starlet sea anemone *Nematostella vectensis* and the lagoon sand shrimp *Gammarus insensibilis*, which are specially protected by Section 9(5) and Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

The SSSI also includes a small area of terrestrial habitat extending along the southern side of Horsea Island, where chalk spoil dumped early in the 20th century supports a rich chalk grassland flora invaded by hawthorn. The flora includes about 30 species with narrow habitat tolerances or of decided rarity in Britain, including five species of orchids and three species of the pea family. The grassland is dominated by red fescue *Festuca rubra*, creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* and quaking grass *Briza media*, with abundant herbs such as lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, eyebright *Euphrasia* species, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, and cowslip *Primula veris*. Typical chalk-loving

species include kidney vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, yellow-wort *Blackstonia perfoliata*, stemless thistle *Cirsium acaule*, autumn gentian *Gentianella amarella*, salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor* and the nationally scarce species yellow vetch *Vicia lutea*, tuberous pea *Lathyrus tuberosus* and yellow vetchling *L. aphaca*

PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR SPA CITATION

Country	England
Unitary Authority	City of Portsmouth, Hampshire
SPA status	Classified 28/02/1995
Latitude	50 49 41 N
Longitude	01 07 32 W
SPA EU code	UK9011051
Area (ha)	1248.77
Component SSSI/ASSIs	Portsmouth Harbour

Portsmouth Harbour is located on the central south coast of England. It is a large industrialised estuary and includes one of the four largest expanses of mud-flats and tidal creeks on the south coast of Britain. The mud-flats support large beds of Narrow-leaved Eelgrass *Zostera angustifolia* and Dwarf Eelgrass *Z. noltii*, extensive green algae beds, mainly *Enteromorpha* species, and Sea Lettuce *Ulva lactuca*. Portsmouth Harbour has only a narrow connection to the sea via the Solent, and receives comparatively little fresh water, thus giving it an unusual hydrology. The site supports important numbers of wintering Dark-bellied Brent Goose *Branta b. bernicla*, which feed also in surrounding agricultural areas away from the SPA.

Qualifying species

For individual species accounts visit the [Species Accounts section](#)

This site qualifies under **Article 4.2** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species:

Over winter;

Dark-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*, 2,847 individuals representing at least 0.9% of the wintering Western Siberia/Western Europe population (5 year peak mean 1991/2 - 1995/6)

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 4

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL RETAINED ECOLOGY POLICIES

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN 2005 RETAINED POLICIES NATURE CONSERVATION

NC2 SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Proposals for development in or likely to affect Sites of Special Scientific Interest will be subject to special scrutiny. Permission will not be granted for development which is likely to have an adverse effect on nature conservation unless the need for the development clearly outweighs the nature conservation value of the site itself and the national policy to safeguard such sites.

The Borough Council will seek, where appropriate, an obligation under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 to ensure the protection and enhancement of the site's nature conservation interest and compensation for unavoidable losses.

NC4 SITES OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION AND LOCAL NATURE RESERVES

Development will not be permitted which is likely to harm a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation or a Local Nature Reserve unless there are reasons for the proposal which outweigh the need to safeguard the nature conservation value of the site.

The Borough Council will seek, where appropriate, an obligation under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 to ensure that developments are achieved satisfactorily and to provide compensatory measures to offset the loss of nature conservation features.

NC5 OTHER FEATURES OF NATURE CONSERVATION INTEREST

Where possible nature conservation interests will be safeguarded outside the statutorily protected sites and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. Development will not be permitted unless at least one of the following apply:

- (i) The proposal contributes to, or does not unacceptably affect nature conservation.
- (ii) The features of interest can be protected from unacceptable harm.
- (iii) It is possible to compensate for their loss.
- (iv) Nature conservation is outweighed by the justifications for the proposal.

The Borough Council will seek, where appropriate, an obligation under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 to ensure that developments are achieved satisfactorily and to provide compensatory measures to offset the loss of nature conservation features.

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 5

**POSITIVE BRENT GOOSE DATA FOR
BRENT GOOSE STRATEGY (2002)**

Site	Date	Time	No of BG	Comments
H02A				
H02A	24-Nov-99	13.20	13	
H02A	16-Dec-99	10.00	100	
H02A	20-Dec-99	12.00	120	
H03				
H03	30-Dec-95	12:00	50	Grazing winter wheat.
H03	18-Jan-96	10:00	600	Grazing winter wheat
H03	26-Jan-96	14:08	115	No disturbance one colour-ringed; Y5G1
H03	4-Dec-97	16:00	3	
H03	4-Dec-97	9:00	200	Presumably the usual flock from H4B displaced due to the scaring devices
H03	12-Dec-97	8:25	35	
H03	16-Dec-97	8:30	300	
H03	20-Dec-97	11:00	300	
H03	20-Dec-97	13:00	850	
H03	20-Jan-98	11:28	180	Landed at 11:28
H03	23-Jan-98	8:30	300	Very little wheat left to graze
H03	16-Dec-98	12:33	141	
H03	17-Dec-98	9:00	200	
H03	24-Dec-98	14:22	50	
H03	28-Dec-98	12:55	140	

H04				
H04	17-Feb-95	8:00	18	
H04	9-Dec-95	10:30	20	
H04	29-Dec-95	15:23	400	Adult Pale Bellied Bent in flock. 4 colour-ringed: Y5G1, GPG4, GAGX and GPGD, grazing winter wheat.
H04	30-Dec-95	12:00	450	Adult Pale Bellied Bent in flock. 4 colour-ringed: Y5G1, GPG4, GAGX and GPGD, grazing winter wheat.
H04	15-Feb-96	17:00	40	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04	18-Feb-96	17:30	40	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04	3-Dec-97	12:30	45	
H04	9-Dec-97		400	
H04B	8-Dec-95	8:30	4	NB: Early Morning birds may still be arriving from Harbour Grazing winter Wheat.
H04B	17-Jan-96	8:00	18	
H04B	18-Jan-96	10:00	1	
H04B	31-Jan-96	8:15	9	Grazing winter wheat. NB early in day. No disturbance
H04B	1-Feb-96	16:30	200	Grazing winter wheat. Just before dusk
H04B	2-Mar-96	16:00	18	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	4-Mar-96	8:30	47	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	6-Mar-96	8:30	18	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	7-Mar-96	8:30	25	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	8-Mar-96	17:30	39	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	27-Mar-96	17:00	197	No disturbance. Grazing winter wheat.
H04B	28-Mar-96	8:45	43	Colour-Ringed Brent: O = RF
H04B	1-Apr-96	8:30	60	Grazing winter wheat
H04B	2-Apr-96	8:30	30	Grazing winter wheat
H04B	6-Apr-96	15:45	30	Grazing winter wheat
H04B	9-Apr-96	15:45	4	Grazing winter wheat
H04B	11-Nov-97		300	
H04B	15-Nov-97	15:00	130	Large field of winter wheat, first recorded flock this winter

H04B	16-Nov-97	15:40	153	
H04B	19-Nov-97	8:30	120	
H04B	22-Nov-97	11:00	100	
H04B	23-Nov-97	14:50	140	
H04B	25-Nov-97	16:30	150	
H04B	26-Nov-97	12:10	500	
H04B	27-Nov-97	8:00	260	
H04B	1-Dec-97	10:00	150	
H04B	4-Dec-97	16:00	184	Geese now returned
H04B	5-Dec-97	8:30	44	
H04B	11-Dec-97	8:20	40	
H04B	11-Dec-97		320	
H04B	12-Dec-97		500	
H04B	14-Dec-97	13:30	500	Winter wheat now severely grazed
H04B	19-Dec-97		500	
H04B	19-Dec-97	16:00	600	
H04B	20-Dec-97	13:00	150	
H04B	21-Dec-97	8:30	900	
H04B	24-Dec-97	8:30	41	
H04B	1-Jan-98	11:45	160	
H04B	1-Jan-98	15:30	160	
H04B	14-Jan-98	13:00	150	
H04B	15-Jan-98	10:00	55	
H04B	16-Jan-98	10:00	120	
H04B	10-Feb-98	14:00	2	
H04B	23-Feb-98	13:00	18	
H04B	24-Feb-98	17:00	18	

H04B	7-Mar-98	16:30	35	
H04B	10-Mar-98	8:15	26	
H04B	12-Mar-98	14:00	160	
H04B	14-Mar-98	14:30	200	
H04B	15-Mar-98	13:00	100	Estimated 100+ - driving past
H04B	16-Mar-98	8:00	120	
H04B	17-Mar-98	8:00	80	
H04B	19-Mar-98	8:00	80	
H04B	7-Nov-98	11:50	50	
H04B	5-Dec-98	10:00	120	
H04B	14-Dec-98	13:56	133	
H04B	16-Dec-98	12:20	2	
H04B	16-Dec-98	13:33	8	
H04B	17-Dec-98	13:22	3	
H04B	19-Dec-98	9:10	170	
H04B	22-Dec-98	8:41	150	
H04B	24-Dec-98	14:21	400	
H04B	24-Dec-98	11:35	600	
H04B	31-Dec-98	12:42	300	
H04B	2-Jan-99	12:05	300	
H04B	4-Jan-99	14:20	100	
H04B	5-Jan-99	14:00	60	
H04B	8-Jan-99	11:30	180	
H04C	13-Jan-98	14:00	50	
H04C	11-Jan-99	12:40	1	
H04C	18-Feb-99	16:15	3	
H05				

H05A	4-Dec-97	9:00	200	Large field of winter wheat, first record of geese here this winter
H05A	4-Dec-97	16:00	341	
H05A	5-Dec-97	8:30	500	
H05A	6-Dec-97	13:32	400	
H05A	9-Dec-97	8:30	450	
H05A	11-Dec-97	8:25	350	
H05A	28-Dec-97	12:45	240	
H05A	28-Dec-97	13:30	400	
H05A	25-Jan-98	12:40	550	
H07				
H07	5-Feb-96	12:00	100	
H07	2-Dec-96	13:00	200	
H07	2-Dec-96	15:00	200	
H07	12-Feb-97	11:30	600	Brent finished from H8
H07	17-Feb-97	9:50	250	
H07	17-Feb-97	12:50	340	
H07	24-Feb-97	13:26	205	1 dog walker in N boundary
H07	18-Jan-98	14:55	95	all on central area
H07B	19-Nov-97	8:20	150	
H07B	2-Jan-98	13:30	178	2 GROUPS (1) 58 (2)120 GALE FORCE WINDS AND RAIN
H07B	3-Jan-98	14:00	249	2 GROUPS (1) 170+ (2) 79 GALE FORCE WINDS RAIN AND SLEET
H07B	4-Jan-98	11:00	285	2 GROUPS (1) 200+ (2) 85 HIGH WINDS
H07B	4-Jan-98	12:35	0	Gale force wind
H07B	5-Jan-98	13:00	0	HIGH WINDS AND GALES
H07B	6-Jan-98	13:30	256	2 GROUPS (1) 178 (2) 78 high winds icy cold
H07B	3-Feb-98	13:00	0	3 GROUPS
H07B	4-Feb-98	11:45	220	TWO GROUPS OF GEESE (1) 170 (2) 50

H07B	4-Jan-99	14:25	35	
H07B	4-Jan-99	12:25	95	
H07B	12-Jan-99	16:10	135	
H07B	18-Jan-99	13:10	108	
H07B	10-Feb-99	13:10	45	
H07B	1-Mar-99	11:40	15	
H07B	5-Mar-99	13:00	35	
H08				
H08	1-Mar-92		400	regular use
H08	1-Dec-93		400	regular use
H08	1-Jan-95		400	regular use
H08	1-Mar-95		400	regular use
H08	28-Nov-96	8:45	311	No disturbance noted. Colour-ringed brent: GAGX
H08	6-Dec-96	10:30	600	
H08	22-Dec-96	15:53	400	Geese grazing until disturbed by someone practising golf and a dog. Geese circled several times, then flew off to Langstone Harbour. c 60 brent geese returned to grass 10 minutes later
H08	24-Dec-96	8:45	18	
H08	24-Dec-96	13:40	346	No disturbance
H08	30-Jan-97	14:00	550	Disturbed by a dog walker 200 flew to Harbour, 350 disturbed birds from above.
H08	1-Feb-97	11:50	380	All 380 arrived from nearby Langstone Harbour; 3 colour-ringed: gagx, GPGD and GPG4. No disturbance
H08	11-Feb-97	10:20	210	Finished 10:35 by Helicopter
H08	12-Feb-97	11:20	800	Finished @ 11:30 by 1 man, 2 dogs most to H7(C)
H08	13-Feb-97	15:00	450	No disturbance
H08	16-Feb-97	11:25	70	
H08	18-Feb-97	10:30	300	
H08	24-Feb-97	13:12	108	
H08	25-Feb-97	8:45	500	3 col ringed; 1 pale-bellied

H08	1-Mar-97	11:00	200	
H08	11-Dec-97	8:30	200	
H08	2-Jan-98	13:30	90	85 - 90 GEESE WERE PRESENT. GALE FORCE WINDS AND RAIN
H08	5-Jan-98	13:00	0	Took off in several groups northwards to Bedhampton area
H08	21-Jan-98	13:00	0	BIRDS ARE IN TWO GROUPS
H08	23-Jan-98	13:00	95	2 GROUPS (1) 57 (2) 38 SPREAD OUT ON NORTHERN EDGE OF RECREATION PITCH
H08	5-Feb-98	10:40	900	800 - 900 BIRDS - THE FIRST I HAVE SEEN ANY ON HERE THIS WINTER
H08	10-Feb-98	14:15	4	
H08	21-Nov-98	14:15	160	
H08	23-Nov-98	16:30	96	
H08	25-Nov-98	15:45	123	
H08	1-Dec-98	12:10	98	
H08	2-Dec-98	11:15	120	
H08	8-Dec-98	11:55	73	
H08	16-Dec-98	10:20	19	
H08	18-Dec-98	12:20	14	
H08	23-Dec-98	11:45	96	
H08	3-Jan-99	9:00	11	
H08	6-Jan-99	12:15	14	
H08	8-Jan-99		4	
H08	12-Jan-99	16:40	8	
H08	13-Jan-99	16:00	152	
H08	18-Jan-99	13:45	95	
H08	21-Jan-99	13:50	75	
H08	25-Jan-99	12:20	98	
H08	28-Jan-99	11:40	42	
H08	1-Feb-99	13:10	75	

H08	6-Feb-99	15:00	45	
H08	10-Feb-99	13:45	35	
H08	15-Feb-99	12:00	119	
H08	20-Feb-99	14:10	35	
H08	03-Nov-99	12:15	18	
H08	04-Nov-99	15:00	53	
H08	08-Nov-99	15:15	72	
H08	24-Nov-99	13:20	90	
H08	11-Nov-99	15:40	56	
H09				
H09	30-Jan-97	10:30	350	
H09	2-Dec-98	11:25	19	
H09	8-Dec-98	12:00	6	
H09	12-Nov-99	11:45	50	
H09	11-Nov-99	15:20	73	

TECHNICAL APPENDIX 6

ALL DATA FOR 2006-2009
UPDATED BRENT GOOSE STRATEGY

Site	Date	Season	Time on Site	Species	Count	Use	Disturbance
H02A	23/11/2005	2005-2006		DB	6	Feeding	
H06	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H09	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H09	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05A	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05A	25/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05A	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H05B	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05B	25/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05C	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05C	25/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H05C	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07A	23/12/2006	2006-2007	15:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07A	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:15	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07A	14/01/2007	2006-2007	13:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07A	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07A	05/03/2007	2006-2007	14:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07B	23/12/2006	2006-2007	15:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07B	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:15	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07B	11/01/2007	2006-2007	15:30	DB	350	Feeding	Yes
H07B	14/01/2007	2006-2007	13:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07B	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07B	11/02/2007	2006-2007	13:00	DB	177	Feeding	No
H07B	05/03/2007	2006-2007	14:00	None	0	Not	No

						recorded	
H07C	23/12/2006	2006-2007	15:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07C	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07C	14/01/2007	2006-2007	13:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07C	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07C	05/03/2007	2006-2007	14:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07D	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07D	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H07D	14/01/2007	2006-2007	13:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07D	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H07D	05/03/2007	2006-2007	14:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H08	03/12/2006	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	No
H08	25/12/2006	2006-2007	12:00	None	0	Not recorded	No
H08	14/01/2007	2006-2007	13:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H08	26/01/2007	2006-2007	11:30	None	0	Not recorded	Not recorded
H08	15/12/2007	2007-2008		DB	37	Feeding	Not recorded
H08	20/12/2007	2007-2008	14:30	DB	51	Feeding	Not recorded
H08	21/12/2007	2007-2008		DB	62	Feeding	Not recorded
H08	26/12/2007	2007-2008	14:10	DB	58	Feeding	Not recorded
H08	12/01/2008	2007-2008	14:20	DB	69	Feeding	Not recorded

Details of ad-hoc Brent Goose surveys (post Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2010 publication) within Strategy Site Code 'H03':

Season	Date	Species	Count	Time on Site	Disturbance	Brent Yes/No	Comments	Count Comment
2012-13	27-Nov-12	No birds seen		High Tide				
2012-13	27-Nov-12	No birds seen		High Tide				
2012-13	18-Dec-12	No birds seen		High Tide				
2012-13	05-Feb-13	No birds seen		High Tide				
2012-13	23-Feb-13	No birds seen		High Tide				
2012-13	23-Mar-13	No birds seen		High Tide				

Notes:

- Six visits had been made to this site between November 2012 - March 2013. No brent geese were identified on these occasions (hence the blank cells for Count or Brent Yes/No).
- Please bear in mind these are ad-hoc records submitted after the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2010 publication, therefore no formal assessment of the site in question has been carried out with regard to site use and classification using these more recent records.
- Site visits showing negative results for brent geese presence should not be taken as evidence to show that sites are not used by brent geese.

sharing information about Hampshire's wildlife

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership includes local authorities, government agencies, wildlife charities and biological recording groups.



Appendix C – Peak Counts

24th October 2013 High				
Species	Scientific name	Maximum high tide count	Maximum Low tide count	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	8		
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	3		
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	3		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	3		
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	7		BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	3		
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	8		BOCC_Red
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	2		
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1		
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	4		
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5		
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1		
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	19		
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>	1		
15th November High & Low				
Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	1	1	
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	12	2	
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	2		
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	1		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1		
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	1		BOCC_Amber
Gold Finch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	5	2	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	2		
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			BOCC_Red
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	5		
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	2	1	
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			

Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1	1	
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	27	30	
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>	2		
22nd November High				
Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	7		
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	2		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2		
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	2		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	3		
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			BOCC_Red
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	34		BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5		
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1		
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	30		
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>			
6th December High				
Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	1		
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	2		
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	1		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1		
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	5		BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			

Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	1		BOCC_Red
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	1		
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	9		BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5		
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	2		
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	1		BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	4		
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>	1		

12th December low tide

Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		2	
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		6	
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		3	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		2	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		2	
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		4	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		1	
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		5	
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		39	
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		9	
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		2	
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		1	
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>		2	

19th December low tide

Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		1	
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		10	
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		2	

Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		2	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		1	
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		2	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		10	
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>			
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		6	
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		1	
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		2	
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>		1	

3rd January 2014 high

Species	Scientific name	Maximum high	Maximum Low	Status
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			BirdsDir-Annex I or II, CMS_AEWA-A2
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	9		
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1		
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			BOCC_Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>			
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			BOCC_Amber
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	1		
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			BOCC_Red, HBAP,NERC
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	3		
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>			
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			

Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	2		
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			BOCC_Red
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	2		
Wren	<i>trogodytidae</i>	1		

BOCC	Birds of conservation concern
HBAP	Habitat Biodiveristy Action Plan
NERC	Natural Enviromental Reasearch Council
BirdsDir-Annex1 or 11	Birds Directive Annex 1 or 2
CMS_AEWA-A"	Convention of Migratory Species African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement



Appendix D – Full List of Common and Scientific Name

Total Species List

Species Name	Latin Name
Long Tail Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Brent goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpine</i>
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Wood Pigeons	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Jackdaws	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Robbin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Kestral	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Wren	<i>troglodytidae</i>
Black Bird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>



Appendix E – Contacts (Emails/Letters)



Portsdown Wintering Birds Interim Report

Dear Clare,

Thank you for sending through this additional clarifying email. I agree all the points you make with the exception of the points regarding the amount of survey data. I agree that 2 recent years of survey effort may be sufficient, but this is on the assumption that this current winter's survey again finds no use.

I hope that clarifies the position.

Kind regards

Simon

Simon Thompson
Lead Adviser
Land-Use Operations Team
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Portsdown Wintering Birds Interim Report

From: clare.may [mailto:clare.may@wyg.com]
Sent: 20 November 2013 17:45
To: Thompson, Simon (NE)
Cc: Goodwill, Stuart; joshua.stafford; david.goddard
Subject: RE: 102477 - Portsdown Hill, Havant

Dear Simon,

Further to our conversation regarding Portsdown Hill and my email of 13th November 2013 (below), we have received the raw data from Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre but as discussed the site was not surveyed as part of the 2010 Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy. However, as we discussed that some data we have access to is quite old i.e. 1995-1999 where we have records of Brent geese on site. However, the Aluco Ecology report notes that the Brent geese feed on the winter crop. During the Aluco Ecology site visit in December 2009 the site was ploughed and today the site has stubble on the arable land and in the north west corner there is an area of grassland which is currently grazed by horses and hence considered sub-optimal for these species.

As discussed, given this information and the access to previous data (1995-1999) and that we will have 2 recent years of winter bird data 2012-2013 (data attached again for your info) and 2013-2014 (surveys currently underway and no records of Brent geese to date), it is considered that two recent years of winter bird surveys is sufficient to support the planning application for the site.

Further, as discussed you are happy that we complete only high tide surveys of the site twice a month and where possible to complete a low tide survey at the site once a month.

Also, we discussed whilst it is best practice to space the winter bird surveys at least a week or so apart, where the tide times would result in the surveys being undertaken in the dark, you are happy that the two high tide surveys are completed close to one another to ensure daylight working is achieved.

Many thanks, Kind regards

Clare May
Principal Ecologist

WYG

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