

Appendix 5:

Southern Regional Habitat Creation Programme
Letter confirming 0.4ha for the Eastoke Coastal Defence Works

Dated 9th September 2011



creating a better place



Environment
Agency

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
SOUTHMOOR DEPOT

14 SEP 2011

RECEIVED

Ms C Timlett
Development and Technical Services
Havant Borough Council
Southmoor Depot
2 Penner Road
Havant
PO9 1QH

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date: 9 September 2011

Dear Caroline,

Eastoke Coastal Defence Works – Habitat Provisions

The aim of the Regional Habitat Creation Programme (RHCP) is to provide an overview and delivery mechanism of the habitat required to offset losses caused by flood and coastal risk management schemes, including those delivered by Local Authorities. This approach to meeting the requirements of strategies and schemes through the RHCP has been agreed with Defra.

The South East RHCP has included the requirement of 0.4 hectares of inter tidal habitat to compensate for losses to Natura 2000 sites caused by the Eastoke Coastal Defence works within the overall requirements for approximately 600 hectares of inter-tidal habitat required across the Solent identified by the North Solent SMP to compensate for coastal squeeze on Natura 2000 sites. The RHCP will identify habitat creation sites and maintain a balance sheet of habitat created and habitat required. Delivery of habitat creation sites will be carried out by the party best placed to do so, which could be the Environment Agency or the Local Authority.

The first inter-tidal habitat creation which will be suitable for compensation for the losses at Eastoke will take place at Medmerry. Natural England have confirmed that Medmerry is a suitable site for compensation for losses at Eastoke. This project is being delivered by the Environment Agency, with habitat creation expected to start in 2013. As coastal squeeze losses will occur gradually over time, only a portion of the habitat required for Eastoke will be allocated at the beginning. The RHCP will deliver further areas of inter-tidal habitat over the next 100 years to keep pace with losses. This avoids excessive investment in habitat well in advance of need, or other schemes being delayed because habitat has been 'allocated' to a scheme where the losses have not all yet occurred. This approach has been agreed regionally with Natural England.

Yours sincerely

98

Ruth Jolley
Regional Habitat Creation Programme Manager



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