



Habitat Regulations Assessment Statement

Report for:

***Hampshire County Council –
HCC Countryside Service***

Public Footpath 56 in the Parish of Havant,
Hampshire.

Works to instal a 23m long bridge on footpath 56,
adjacent to Chichester and Langstone Harbour SPA
and RAMSAR, Solent Maritime SAC and
Chichester Harbour SSSI

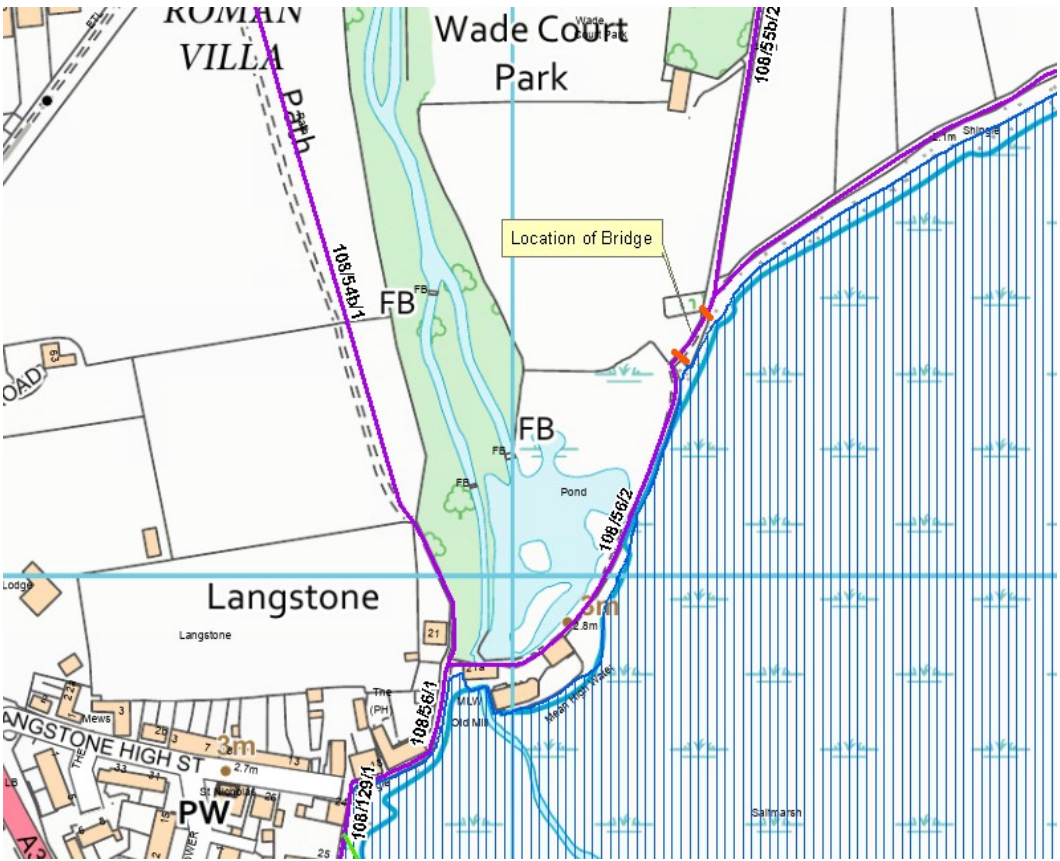
Date 26/03/2026

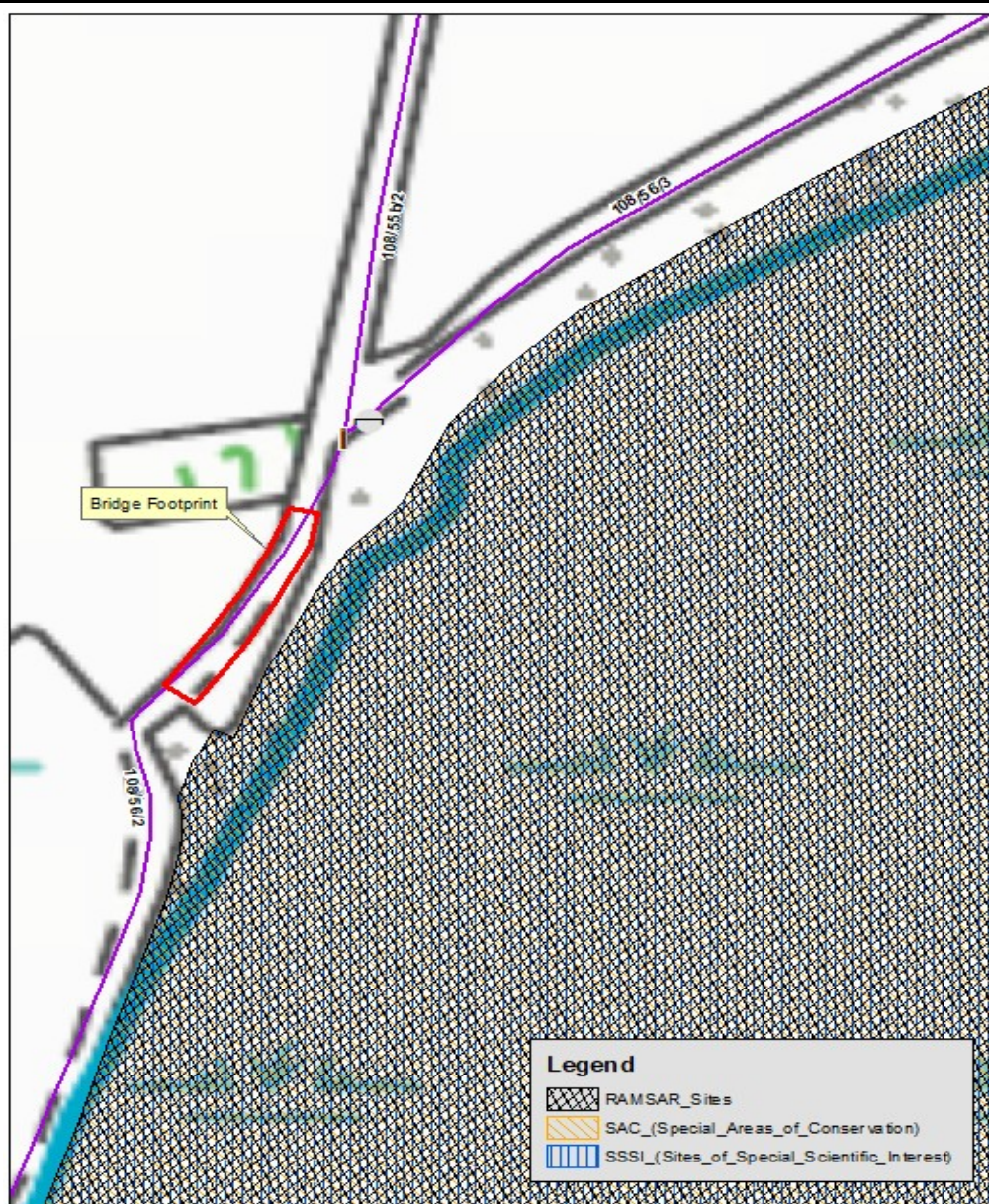
Revisions:	
Written by:	ASD
Approved by:	
Client ref:	
Sharepoint ref:	

Introduction

The following Habitat Regulations Assessment Statement has been prepared by Hampshire County Council's Countryside Service's Conservation Officer. A detailed desk-based assessment was carried out using Geographical Information Systems and data supplied by Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC). All areas of the site were investigated and an assessment made of the site's potential for supporting legally-protected species.

Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) screening matrix and appropriate assessment statement

Application reference:	
Application address:	Havant , footpath 56, NR Wade Lane . W3Whttps://w3w.co/direct.tones.sticks
Application description:	 <p>The map shows a section of the River Hamble flowing through a landscape. Key features include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wade Court Park at the top, with a 'Location of Bridge' marked on the riverbank. Langstone village below the park, featuring 'Langstone Pond' and 'Langstone High St'. Footpath 56 is highlighted in purple, running along the riverbank. Footpath 56/1 and Footpath 56/2 are also indicated. Other landmarks include 'ROMAN VILLA', 'Pond', 'Old Mill', 'Meadow', and 'Saltmarsh'. Infrastructure such as 'ROAD', 'Lodge', and 'The (PH)' are also shown. </p>

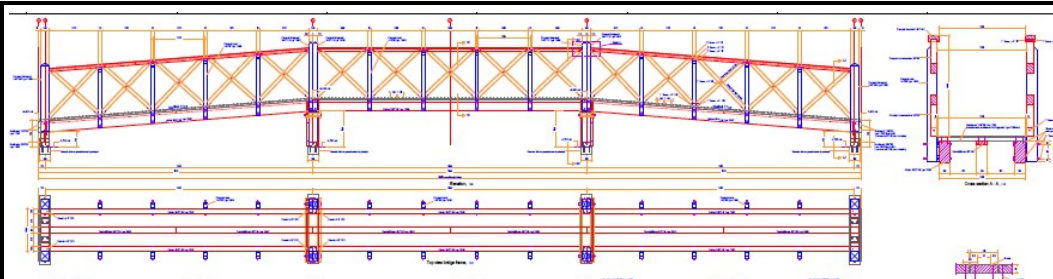


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Hampshire County Council, as the Highway Authority has a duty to maintain rights of way in order for the public to exercise their legal right to pass and re-pass.

In agreement with a joint statement issued by Havant Borough Council, Chichester Harbour Conservancy, Coastal Partners, HCC, the Environment Agency and Natural England; HCC have been commissioned to install a bridge, over a section of failed sea wall, to facilitate coastal access for the next 25 years while still allowing the natural processes to occur along this section of Coastline.
[Langstone, Mill Pond to Wade Lane, Havant — Coastal Partners](#)

The bridge will be installed along the footpath, set back behind the current collapsed sea wall.



- *The Tarmac surface will be removed from the path, to avoid future pollution events, as the area naturally breaches. The tarmac will be transported to the compound, that will be established on Wade Lane, where it will be collected by a licensed waste carrier. No materials will be stored on site.*
- *Abutments for the bridge will be set out and dug out. Helical screw (ground screws) will be installed and concrete caps will be formed on top of these. The substructure of the bridge will sit on these foundations and be bolted into place. (See attached schematic).*
- *Next the yoke piles will be fixed to the abutments with m16 bolts, the main beams for the three sections of bridge will be lifted into place via excavator from the footpath and secured in place.*
- *Finally, the parapets will be installed and decking boards affixed.*

The work site is close to the SSSI/SAC/SPA/RAMSAR, but is separate from these designated areas. The bridge will be installed behind the remaining sections of failed sea wall and tarmac path. Works are anticipated to start mid-April.

Work will be carried out by hand operated tools and a mini excavator. Activity will be short in duration on the construction days and over a few days.

Access routes will follow existing roads and designated footpaths, with the compound being set up to the north of the work area on Wade Lane on tarmac. No access will be required along or across the intertidal or designated areas.

Waste products will be removed daily as part of normal site movements, by a registered carrier, and disposed of at an appropriately licensed site. No waste will be stored on site but will be removed to the compound site.

There will be no overnight storage of plant or materials. Short term storage of any materials will be within the surfaced footpath.

Potentially harmful activities could arise from conveyance of materials to site: pollution from fuel, oil or from concrete spills. These activities will be mitigated by the use of spill trays/mats and all activities done off site in the compound. Dumpers transporting the concrete will only be half filled to avoid spillage. All vehicles will be well maintained and subject to daily checks to ensure there are no leaks.

Construction shall not be carried out following or during periods of stormy weather/ rainfall. Project staff will sign up to EA flood alerts for the area during construction.

	<p>The installation of these works reduces the likelihood that people will try to walk along the foreshore if they cannot access this path. This route is very well walked with in excess of 20 people per hour, every day, using the route during daylight hours. There are some signs of deviation in this area and is it estimated that a lack of maintenance of this path will result in more frequent incursions into the protected areas causing disturbance to the intertidal feeding birds and damage to the remaining salt marsh/mud flats. Thus works to install this new bridge should reduce the incidences of deviation off the public footpath and into these sensitive areas.</p>
HRA completion date:	26 th March 2026
HRA screening matrix completed by:	
Andy Davidson Nature Recovery Officer Hampshire County Council andrew.davidson@hants.gov.uk	
Section 1 - details of the plan or project	
European sites potentially impacted by plan or project:	Solent Maritime SAC and Solent and Southampton Water SPA
Qualifying Features:	<p>Solent Maritime SAC <u>Qualifying Habitats</u> Estuaries Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide Coastal lagoons Annual vegetation of drift lines Perennial vegetation of stony banks Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes")"</p> <p>Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA <u>Qualifying species</u> Breeding; Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i></p> <p>Non-breeding; Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i></p>

	<p>Dark-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i> Dunlin <i>Calidris alpine alpine</i> Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis</i> Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i> Redshank <i>Tringa tetanus</i> Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> Shoveler <i>Spatula clypeata</i> Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i> Wigeon <i>Mareca penelope</i></p> <p><u>Waterbird assemblage, non-breeding</u> When classified in 1987, the Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA supported a large waterbird assemblage of 108,811 birds (five year peak mean 1982/83-86/87). Waterbird numbers have declined in the long term with the average now at 72,666 (five year peak mean 2009/10-2013/14). The waterbird assemblage is comprised of the classified overwintering waders and ducks, as well as other native species present on the site. It includes bar-tailed godwit, curlew, dark-bellied Brent geese, dunlin, grey plover, pintail, red-breasted merganser, redshank, ringed plover, sanderling, shelduck, shoveler, teal, turnstone and wigeon</p>
Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of the European site (provide details)?	The project is not directly connected to the conservation management of the Solent Maritime SAC and Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA
Are there any other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?	N/A
Section 2 - HRA screening statement	
Test 1: the significance test	
<p>Habitat loss It is unlikely that the above works will result in the permanent loss or reduction in the extent of any habitats</p> <p>Disturbance The work is planned to be carried out during the period from mid-April 2026. This is timed to avoid</p>	

the peak of winter birds visiting the area as many would have departed for breeding areas by this time. The colonies of breeding species of tern's are sufficient distance from the work site as to be unaffected by the works. Works will be of short duration and aim to be completed in a few days, limiting the period of potential disturbance.

Air and water pollution

It is not anticipated that the proposed works would lead to any contamination of water although care will be exercised during installation to ensure that erosion and disturbance of sediments within the European and Ramsar sites. Air pollution would only arise should there be significant use of vehicles or other exhaust producing machinery close to the European and Ramsar sites and this is not proposed. Fuel/oil spills are controlled by ensuring that refuelling will not take place in the work area and spill kits will accompany all vehicles.

Appropriate Assessment Statement

N/A

Test 2: the integrity test

N/A

Conclusions

The proposed works would locally be minor in nature and duration. Therefore they will not result in any direct impact to the qualifying habitats, qualifying species or the habitat supporting those species, alone or in combination with any other known projects.

There will not be any likely significant effect on the qualifying features of the SPA or SAC. No appropriate assessment is required.