NATURAL ENGLAND

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan

For use with

Small Sites Metric

(Statutory Biodiversity Metric)



Site Name:	Hall Farm, Warboys Road, Bury, Huntingdon, PE26 2NU
Date:	11/02/2025
Version:	V1
Small Sites Criteria Met	The site fulfils the criteria for use of the Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) calculation tool. Yes ☒ No ☐ If 'No' use the Main HMMP Template for the full statutory biodiversity metric instead of this one.

Author:

Client:

Template Document User Guide

Context – The Small Sites Metric

The Small Sites Metric Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan Template (SSM HMMPT) is designed to complement The Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) (SSM) calculation tool. It follows the same criteria as the SSM.

The SSM calculation tool can only be applied to 'small sites' as defined in **The Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) User Guide**.

This means:

- residential development where the number of dwellings is between 1 and 9 on a site of an area 1 hectare or less, or if the number of dwellings is unknown, the site area is less than 0.5 hectares, or
- commercial development where floor space created is less than 1,000 square metres or total site area is less than 1 hectare, or
- development that is not the winning and working of minerals or the use of land for mineral-working deposits, or
- development that is not waste development

It is not possible to use the SSM, and SSM HMMPT, on all sites defined as 'small sites'. The following criteria also need to be met to use the SSM:

- where only the habitats available in the SSM are present on-site
- where no priority habitats are present on-site (except some hedgerows and arable field margins that are medium distinctiveness)
- where no statutory protected sites or habitats are present
- where no European protected species are present

Supporting documents

SSM HMMPT Habitat Guide

Tools and Guidance

GOV.UK Statutory biodiversity metric (small sites) tools and guides

GOV.UK Government Collections Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)-Guidance

Template User Guide

This template provides a series of tables, figures and text boxes. Complete these to show how you'll create, enhance, manage, and monitor the biodiversity net gain (BNG) habitats.

Small Sites HMMPT Habitat Guide

The accompanying **Habitat Guide** provides descriptions of proposed habitat types and conditions allowed in the Small Sites Metric (SSM). These are to assist authors in preparing the habitat creation, enhancement, management and monitoring activities and instructions (the 'prescriptions') in sections 3 (SM-T02) and 4 (SM-T04), to achieve the required BNG outcomes. The guide includes target habitat descriptions for a range of typical habitats that can be assessed through the SSM calculation tool. The descriptions illustrate what target habitats should look like in line with the range of conditions possible in the SSM.

Use the guide to help you prepare your plan to achieve the outcomes needed for the habitat(s) selected in your metric calculation. Factor the site-specific conditions of your site into the design. Refer to reputable sources and competent professionals to inform the creation and management methods most suitable to deliver the specific habitat outcomes targeted.

Formatting

The Template uses standard Microsoft Word formatting that has not been locked for editing. Adjust it, as required, to tailor your HMMP for the specific site and according to your preferences. You can increase or reduce the text box sizes, or increase or reduce the size of images, to fit the requirements of your plan.

You can provide and reference additional photographs and plans as separate appendices if required. Provide the reference number of the appropriate appendix. If necessary to include in a separate report, reference the location using the appropriate box within the template. Provide at least one photograph for each relevant area habitat, hedgerow or watercourse feature.

Text in grey is provided as a prompt. Replace grey text with your own words. Remember to change to black text then delete any remaining grey 'prompt' text.

Each text box in this HMMPT has a unique ID to assist reviewers. Do not change the reference code of any Boxes or Tables.

Template published by Natural England. We acknowledge the significant input from the HMMPT user-testers and production on Natural England's behalf by FPCR Environment and Design Ltd.

Checklist of Contents SM-T01

Please complete the table below to confirm the sections in this Template that have been completed.

Checklist of Contents Completed		Sections completed (please tick)
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1a	Project Information	☒
1b	Planning Condition	☒
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2a	Site Aims and Objectives	☒
2b	Retained and Enhanced Habitats Protection Measures	☒
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3.	Establishment and Management	
3a	Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions	☒
4.	Monitoring	
4a	Monitoring Strategy for Each Habitat, Hedgerow and Watercourse Present On-Site	☒

Version Control SM-T02

Version control is used for updates to the content. Record the initial version and further version control details in this table each time the management plan is adapted throughout the management and monitoring period.

Version	Issue Status	Prepared by / Date	Approved by / Date
V1	Review issue	James Hodson- 10/02/2025	Cherece Snook 11/02/2025

Document Details

Provide ownership, copyright and licensing information within this table.

Authorship Details SM-B01

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1. Project Background

Summarise the key aspects of your management plan in this section. Tables can be extended to suit the specific needs of individual projects.

Project information SM-T01	
Project type	Proposed new farm access
Development Name and Address	Hall Farm, Warboys Road, Bury, Huntingdon, PE26 2NU
Author	James Hodson-Director and Senior Ecologist at Eco-Check Ltd
Landowner	Peter Horsford Managing Director
Land Management Organisation	Hall Farm
Period covered by this management plan	2025-2055
Planning authority	Huntingdonshire District Council
Planning reference	24/01683/FUL
Central OS grid reference	TL288835
Total Site Area	1,287m^2

Planning Condition

Details of Planning Conditions to be Discharged by this Document SM-B02
No development above slab level shall take place until details of both hard and soft landscape works have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. These details shall include: (a) indications of all existing trees and hedgerows on the land and details of any to be retained; planting plans (which show the relationship to all underground services); written specifications (including cultivation and other operations associated with plant and grass establishment); schedules of plants, noting species, plant sizes and proposed numbers/densities where appropriate; (b) boundary treatments indicating the positions, design, materials and type of boundary treatments to be erected; (c) a hard landscaping plan, indicating location, manufacturer, type, colour and size; Reason: To ensure the development is satisfactorily assimilated into the area and enhances biodiversity in accordance with Policies LP11, LP12 and LP31 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.

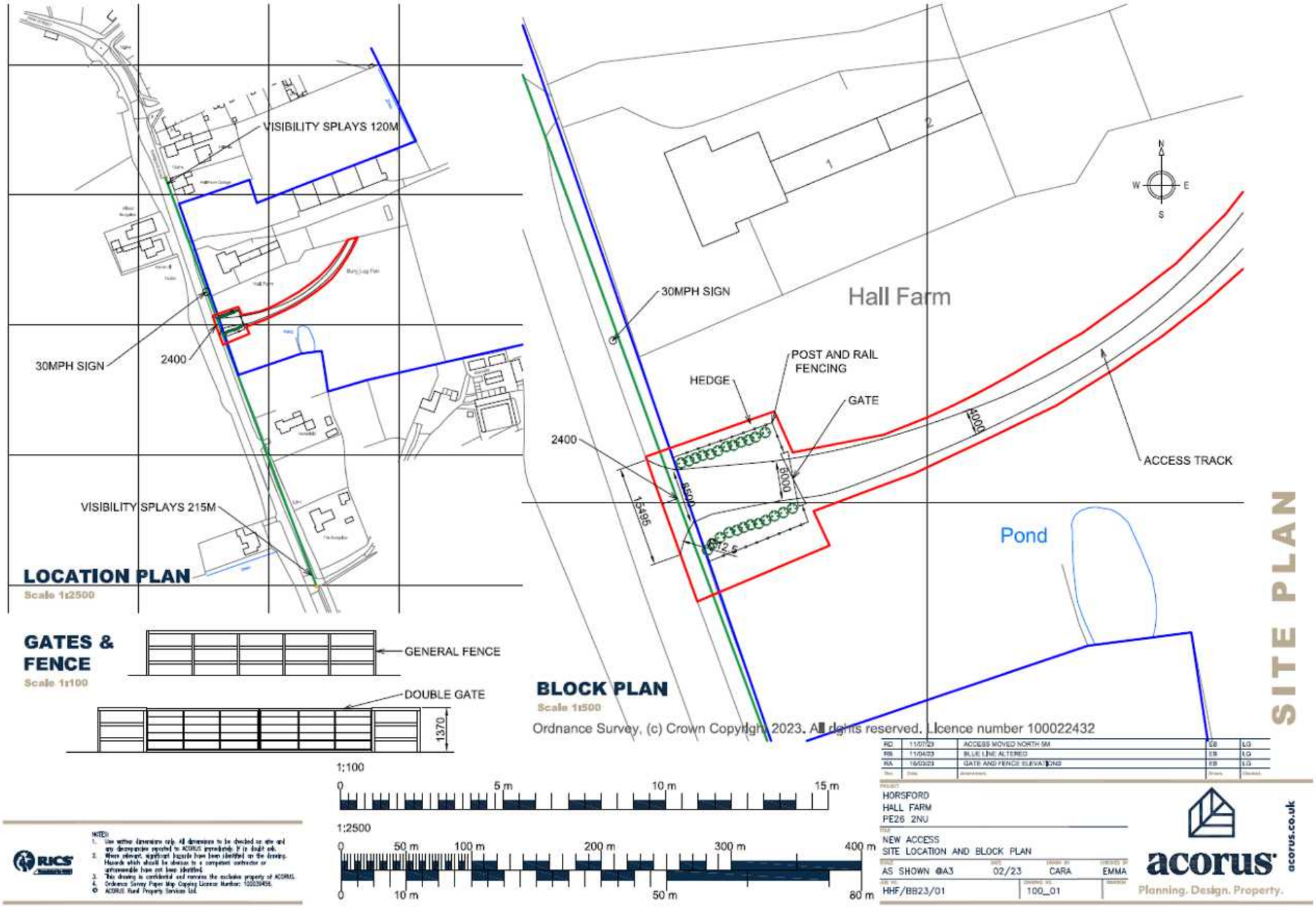
Roles and Responsibilities

Provide details of the responsible people and organisation(s) delivering this management plan and the legal and funding mechanisms in place to secure the habitat outcomes proposed.

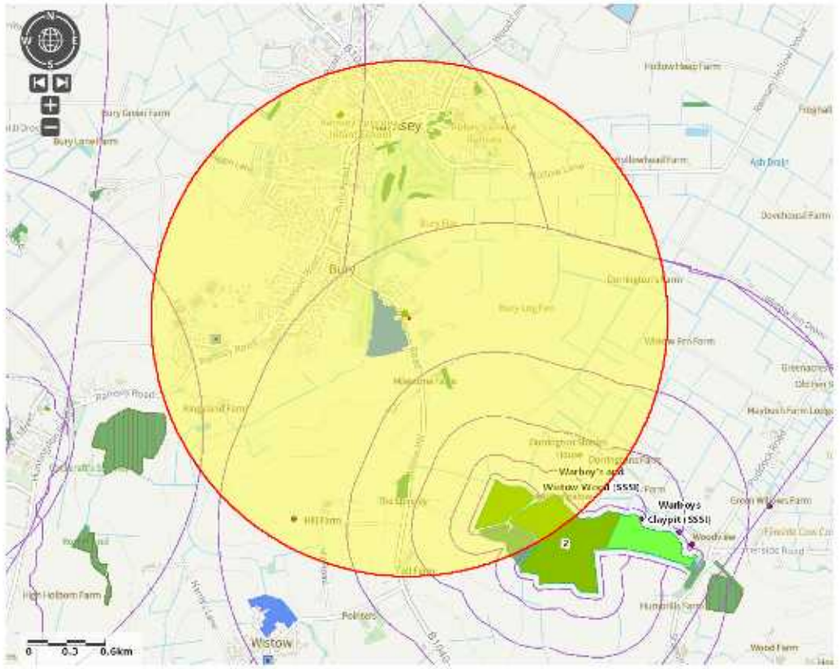
Author Responsible for Preparing HMMP SM-B03			
Name or Initials / Role	James Hodson		
Organisation	Eco-Check Ltd		
Responsibility Start Date	February 2025	End Date	February 2026
Statement of Competency			
My name is James Hodson. I am the director and principal ecologist at Eco-Check Ltd an environmental and wildlife consultancy business established in 2007 and based in Norfolk. I hold the degree of Master of Sciences in Environmental Impact Assessment and the Honors Degree of Batchelor of Sciences from the University of East Anglia. I am registered with Natural England and hold personal licenses for both bats and great crested newts (Bat Survey License 2017-30927-CLS-CLS, Great Crested Newt Licence 2018-36283-CLS-CLS). I have 17 years professional experience as an ecologist, during which time I have undertaken numerous ecological assessments (including Habitats Regulations Assessment) on behalf of government, government agencies and private clients throughout the UK for major infrastructure and other projects including pipelines, renewable energy, highways, leisure and tourism facilities and other industrial, residential and commercial development. This work has included the development of ecological mitigation and enhancement measures at a site scale for development projects, as well as for strategic and landscape-scale projects covering more extensive areas of land. I have also undertaken a number of Environmental Impact Assessments within Bedfordshire District. Pending discharge of planning condition, I will be responsible for overseeing the project and HMMP requirements for an initial one-year period. It is proposed that the responsibility of undertaking the works within the HMMP will be until the approved contractor is appointed and a provisional date is February 2026			

Landowner / Management Organisation Responsible for Delivering HMMP SM-B04			
Name or Initials / Role	Peter Horsford		
Organisation	Hall Farm		
Responsibility Start Date	February 2025	End Date	February 2055
Statement of Competency			
Peter Horsford, farm managers and any appointed contractors, are responsible for the wider farm management and extending principally over areas of modified grassland, arable land, scattered trees, hedges and other habitats within the site.			

Site Boundary Plan SM-F01



Site Context Plan SM-F02



DESIGNATED SITES (as shown on the Council's Development Plan Proposals Map)
Internationally; Special Protection Area (SPA) Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Ramsar Site
Nationally; Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) National Nature Reserve (NNR)
Regional and local; County Wildlife Sites (CWS) Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

PRIORITY HABITATS (Habitats of Principal Importance for Biodiversity under S.41 of the NERC Act 2006) (BAP)

- Arable field margins
- Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
- Hedgerows
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Lowland fens
- Lowland heathland
- Lowland meadows
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (both ancient and secondary)
- Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
- Ponds
- Purple moor-grass and rush pastures
- Reedbeds
- Rivers
- Traditional orchards
- Wet woodland
- Wood-pasture and parkland

. LOCAL CHARACTER BAP HABITATS
(as identified by the Local Biodiversity Partnership - see paragraph 84 ODPM Circular 06/2005))

- Urban / Built Environment (*e.g.* parks, gardens, allotments, road verges and railway embankments)



Land Use

Description of Site Use - Baseline SM-B05

The hedgerow and arable field falls within the farmstead of Hall Farm and is located on the east side of the B1040 Warboys Road and approximately 500m south-east of the village and civil parish of Bury in the Huntingdonshire District of Cambridge. The hedgerow falls outside of the village boundaries and set within a largely arable landscape. The site consists predominantly of arable land bordered by scattered trees, hedgerows and headland margins. There is a single pond marked on the OS map approximately 60m east of the hedgerow. The site comprised almost entirely temporary grassland on cultivated arable land and within the red line boundary this extends to approximately 1,257m^2.

Description of Site Use - Proposed SM-B06

The approved planning consent is for the removal of a section of roadside hedgerow (H1) along the west site boundary to form a new farm access onto the B1040 Warboys Road from the farm complex. The length of hedge section which will require removal is approximately 10m including required visibility splays for a National Speed Limit of 60mph. The length of the new access across the arable field is approximately 135m.

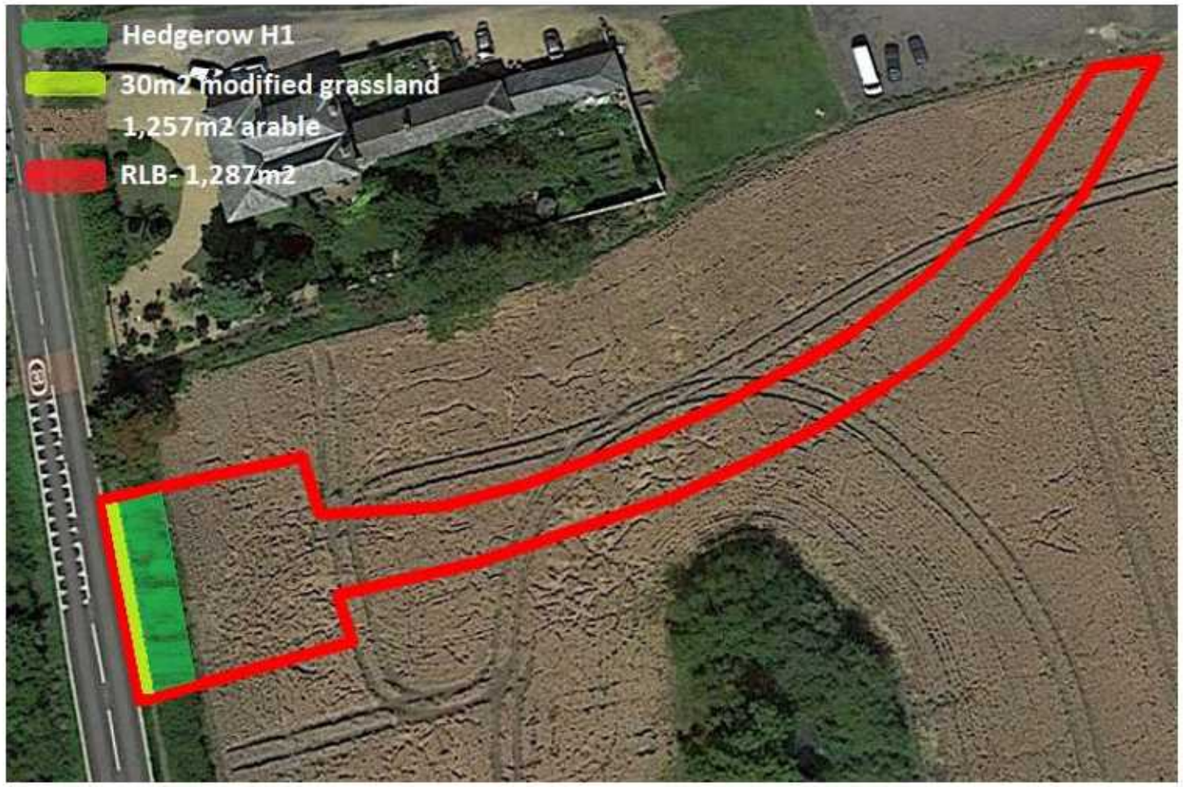
Site Photos SM-F03

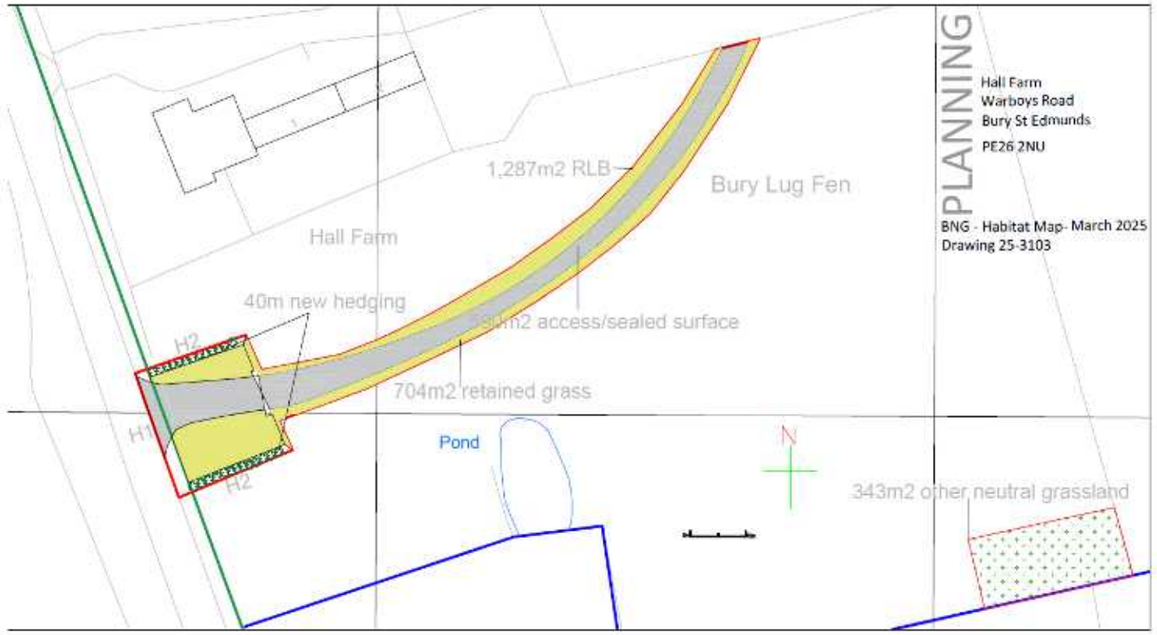




Site Proposals Plan SM-F04

As a minimum, show all the proposed habitats to be retained, created or enhanced.
The map could be on an aerial photo, or a sketch map showing mapped habitat polygons. Include parcel references if possible. It is also helpful to include a north arrow and scale.





2. Management Plan Aims and Objectives

Overview of Proposed Habitat Aims and Objectives SM-B07

The proposal seeks to retain the existing temporary modified grassland either side of the new gated access and along the edge of the new access track.

The proposal seeks to create an area of enhanced other neutral grassland to the south-east corner of the field extending to approximately 343m^2 and which will form an area of less intensively managed and enhanced grassland using Emorsgate EM4 meadow mix for clay/ loamy soils.

The proposal also includes the planting of 40m of native hedging, split into two 20m lengths either side of the new access.

The proposal seeks to retain the remainder of the hedgerow on the west boundary along with the majority of the modified grassland habitat.

The enhanced other neutral grassland will be created with seeding and repeated cultivation and then annual or biannual cutting and weed pulling.

Retained and Enhanced Habitats Protection Measures SM-B08

The 10m section of hedge removal (H1) will be undertaken at the start of the project under the supervision of the appointed ECoW. Heras fencing will be erected along the edges and side of the retained hedgerow to prevent unintentional damage from any machinery. A similar fence run will run between the proposed new access and the pond P1 to the south to ensure no encroachment or damage to the terrestrial habitat bordering the pond.

Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches SM-B09

James Hodson of Eco-Check to undertake site survey in year 1 to check initial implementation and then every 3, 5 ,7 years thereafter to check that the enhancements as proposed are being implemented and to assess if any changes to the grassland management regime are required such as increasing or decreasing the mowing regime, if any additional seeding is required and to check that the planted hedges are in good health and to specify any replacement planting in the event of a hedge section not establishing or dying. A habitat condition assessment of the grassland to be undertaken by the suitably qualified ecologist (ECoW) using quadrat measurement and results fed into the monitoring plan.

Habitat Management Proposals

Habitat Baseline Description SM-B10

Modified Grassland (UK Classification g4): To the west boundary road frontage with Warboys Road is a narrow grassland verge between the road and the hedgerow (H1). The verge is classed as modified grassland, managed (mowing) and had a high proportion (approximately 70% or more) of Perennial Ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) and rarely occurring Meadow Grasses *Poa sp*. Forbs were recorded to be similarly scattered and rarely occurring and included ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*), bristly oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), docks (*Rumex spp*). and buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*). The grassland had no tussocks, and no ground cracks, crevices or holes which may provide shelter opportunities for small animals.

Tall Ruderals (UK Habitat Classification C31): Along the north-east boundary where the proposed new access adjoins the farmyard hard standing are some patchy areas of tall ruderal vegetation, typical of disturbed and less frequently managed vegetation. The species noted included spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare),* nettle *(Urtica dioica)*, mugwort (*Artemsia vulgaris),* hogweed (*Heraclium sphondylium),* cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris)* and rosebay willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*).

Native Hedgerow-Other (UK Classification h2a6): To the west boundary with Warboys Road is an intact species poor hedgerow. The hedgerow H1 (taken as a continuous length of the field boundary as marked on historical maps, gaps of less than 20m do not count as gaps) is approximately 170m in length, 1.5m to 2m (variable) in height and 1m wide and has been historically flailed on both sides. The hedgerow is classed as intact as it is considered to be stockproof (although used as arable land). The hedgerow has no connections to any other hedgerows and there is a hedgerow parallel to it to the west side of the B1040. The hedge section to be removed (H1) is only approximately 10m long and comprises almost entirely hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), bramble (*Rubus fructose*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). The only tree within the hedgerow is one early mature specimen of Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum)* to the north but outside of the red line boundary. The hedgerow over time has been degraded as a result of over-cutting and encroachment of the hedge base.

Retained Habitats SM-B11

The area of grassland bordering the new access will be retained as much as possible, with minimal disturbance from machinery to deliver materials to the access road. No material changes to the habitat parcel other than reduction in mowing regime. The remainder of the roadside hedgerow H1 to be retained and protected with Heras fencing.

Enhanced Habitats SM-B12

An area of existing modified grassland (temporary arable grass) to the south-east corner of the site to be enhanced with supplementary seeding to establish the proposed area of other neutral grassland. These enhanced grassland habitats which will form areas of less intensively managed and enhanced grassland using Emorsgate EM4 for clay/loamy soils. EM4 contains a good range of the wild flowers and grasses once common in unimproved flower-rich lowland meadows. Loamy soils are medium textured soils: a mixture of clay, silt and sand with none predominating. They are usually found in low lying areas developed from alluvium and other material, frequently over chalky or limestone bedrocks and so are often neutral to alkaline. The less intensively managed grassland will in time improve habitat condition from moderate to good and provide further net gains.

Created Habitats SM-B13

In order to off-set the loss of the removed hedge section and enhance the retained hedge sections which have become gappy and degraded, new hedging will be planted along the post and rail fence to the north and south of the access and connecting to the existing hedgerow and to be planted following guidance below. The value of the new hedging in the short-term (0-5 years) is low. The proposed planting schedule should contain native species as specified below. Any new hedge planting should be double row staggered at 0.5m spacings with spiral guards and supports and maintained until established. Hedging will be planted between October and April when the ground is moist and free from frost, set out in a staggered pattern in two rows 40cms apart.

PLANTING SCHEDULE				
HEDGEROW MIX (as necessary)				
SPECIES	DENSITY	AGE	ROOT	HEIGHT
50% Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna)*	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	BR	40-60cm
30% Field maple (*Acer campestre)*	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	BR	40-60cm
5% Dog Wood (*Cornus sanguinea)*	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	BR	20-30cm
5% Holly (*Ilex aquifolium)*	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	CG-3l	40-60cm
5% Spindle (*Viburnum opulus)*	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	BR	40-60cm
5% Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)	0.45m	1+1 or 1/1	BR	40-60cm

3. Creation, Enhancement and Management

Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions SM-T02

Complete the planned prescriptions for each area habitat, hedgerows and watercourse proposed on-site in the table below to confirm how created and enhanced habitats will be established and managed. Include details on how retained habitats will be managed. At a minimum, list each area habitat, hedgerow or watercourse entered into the Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) calculation tool in the 'Habitat/Feature Type' column in the table below (SM-T02) and provide specific creation or enhancement and management prescriptions. If preferred, provide multiple rows for the same habitat/feature type where different prescriptions are to be used in different parcels/features, hedgerows or watercourse. Refer to the SSM HMMPT Habitat Guide for additional guidance on target habitat types and conditions to guide your prescriptions. If appending any additional documents that contain prescriptions or work schedules, please tick here and provide a reference: ☐ Reference: Click or tap here to enter text.

Habitat/Feature Type	Target Condition	Parcel/ Feature Ref	Habitat Creation or Enhancement and Management Prescriptions
Modified Grassland-	Good	1b	**Soil Test-** A soil test will be undertaken at the site of the proposed ONG. Turf is first removed from the test area and then a hole approximately 6" dug with a spade. A soil scrape is then taken from the subsoil in the hole and put into the test tubes as per the manufacturer's instructions. The results of the soil tests will indicate the soil conditions are acceptable for seeding with EM4 and that nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium levels are suitably low to implement a typical neutral grassland community. **Seed Mix Composition**- EM4 is a complete mix composed of 20% native wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight). The flower and grass components are also available to order separately as EM5F for the flower component and EG5 for the grass component. The species composition is detailed below **Wild Flowers – 20%** 0.60% *Achillea Millefolium* – Yarrow 0.80% *Agrimonia eupatoria* – Agrimony 0.40% *Betonica officinalis* – Betony 3.00% *Centaurea nigra* – Common Knapweed 0.60% *Daucus carota* – Wild Carrot 1.60% *Galium verum* – Lady's Bedstraw 1.60% *Knautia arvensis* – Field Scabious 0.10% *Leontodon hispidus* – Rough Hawkbit 2.00% *Leucanthemum vulgare* – Oxeye Daisy 0.20% *Lotus corniculatus* – Birdsfoot Trefoil 2.40% *Malva moschata* – Musk Mallow 2.60% *Plantago lanceolata* – Ribwort Plantain 1.20% *Poterium sanguisorba* – Salad Burnet 0.80% *Primula versis* – Cowslip 0.20% *Ranunculus acris* – Meadow Buttercup 0.10% *Ranunculus bulbosus* – Bulbous Buttercup 1.00% *Rumex acetosa* – Common Sorrel 0.40% *Silene vulgaris* – Bladder Campion 0.40% *Vicia cracca* – Tufted Vetch **Grasses – 80%** 1.60% *Anthoxanthum odoratum* – Sweet Vernal-grass (w) 3.20% *Briza media* – Quaking Grass (w) 56.00% *Cynosurus cristatus* – Crested Dogstail 10.40% *Festuca rubra* – Red Fescue 8.00% *Agrostis capillaris* – Common Bent 0.80% *Trisetum flavescens* – Yellow Oat-grass (w)

			Species Rich Wildflower Grassland Areas-Modified Grassland/Other Neutral Grassland- Emorsgate EM4 There are two key stages to achieving this, the first being ground preparation, the second timing and technique of sowing seeds. These are summarized below. *Ground preparation-* *Good preparation is essential to success so aim to control weeds and produce a good quality seed bed before sowing. To prepare a seed bed first remove weeds using repeated cultivation then plough or dig to bury the surface vegetation, harrow or rake to produce a medium tilth, and roll or tread to produce a firm surface. No herbicides to be used.* *Sowing-* *Seeds need both warmth and moisture to grow and may be sown at any time of year when these conditions are met. August-September and March-April usually produce the best conditions for sowing outside in most parts of the UK. Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution, and avoid running out, divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed, but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact. Sowings into existing grass work best in autumn. Some plants need to be sown at particular times to fit in with their life cycles or biology. Cornfield Annuals need to be sown in the autumn or before May in the following spring to get a flowering display. Yellow rattle must be sown in autumn.* *First year management- Years 1* *Growth and establishment of wild grasses may be slow initially, especially at low sowing rates (2-5g/m2). There will often be a flush of annual weeds from the soil in the first growing season. This weed growth is easily controlled by topping or mowing on an annual basis as detailed above. Where mowing is the selected maintenance method, the emerging meadow needs to be cut in the first year in order to maintain a vegetation height of 100–150 mm, and not below 50 mm. Mowing must be timed to avoid conflict with ground-nesting birds. The grassland will be seeded at between 10-15g/m^2. Herbicides are not to be used but unwanted weed species such as nettle, ragwort, thistle etc. to be pulled by hand and removed from site. If weed growth is required to be controlled, it is recommended that this is performed mid to late summer to avoid accidental cuts of targeted species.* *Management once established- Years 2-30* *In the second and subsequent years grass sowings can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine the character of the grassland. The sowing can be managed as a meadow by allowing the grasses to grow tall, flower and seed from May through to July/August. In the second year and thereafter, the meadow requires cutting at least once, preferably in late summer/early autumn, to a height of 50 mm after the plants have flowered. A spring cut, as necessary, will keep rank species in check; cuttings will contain seed from these plants and so should be removed. Grassland which is not cut or grazed each year will eventually become coarse and tussocky in character. Herbicides are not to be used but unwanted weed species such as nettle, ragwort, thistle etc. to be pulled by hand and removed from site. If weed growth is required to be controlled, it is recommended that this is performed mid to late summer to avoid accidental cuts of targeted species. Wildflower seed can be added after the grasses have established and weed problems have been dealt with. The sward will need preparation for sowing into existing grass. Flower establishment will not be as good as compared with sowing the grasses and flowers together on to bare soil, as the grasses have a 'head start'. Generally, when sowing grasses without wild flowers the sowing rate may be increased to 10-15g/m2 without compromising the development of diversity.* ***Monitoring*** A habitat condition assessment of the grassland to be undertaken by the suitably qualified ecologist (ECoW) using quadrat measurement and results fed into the monitoring plan, primarily with regards to the mowing regime and requirement for additional seeding. With monitoring this may require increasing to two additional cuts in the spring and early summer (i.e. April/May). Cutting at this time reduces the grass's vigor, results in a shorter sward and a later flowering. The hay cut is taken in early August, when the cuttings must be removed, followed by an aftermath cut in the autumn. Spring Flowering meadows have their first cut taken in late June. A second cut can be made in late July/early August followed by an aftermath cut in the Autumn. This management regime encourages spring flowering wildflowers (e.g. Cowslips, Cuckoo flowers) and the shorter wild flowers (e.g. Birdsfoot Trefoil, Daisies and Selfheal) during the summer. Late Summer flowering meadows can be encouraged by only cutting in the autumn; but adding one or two spring cuts if especially fertile.
Native Hedging	Moderate	H1	Any new hedge planting should be double row staggered at 0.5m spacings with spiral guards and supports and maintained until established. The proposed hedgerow mix and planting to the following specification in Table 1. Hedging will be planted between October and April when the ground is moist and free from frost, set out in a staggered pattern in two rows 40cms apart.

			Weeding- Keeping a 0.5 metre diameter around the hedge base clear of weeds and grass for the first 2-3 years will reduce competition for moisture and nutrients. Suppress weeds with mulch, such as bark chips. Apply it to a depth of around 10cm to prevent it being blown away or dispersed and top it up annually. Alternatively use mulch mats and peg them into the ground to keep them in place. When mulching or weeding isn't appropriate, chemical-based products may have to be used to suppress weeds. Spray around the base of each hedge base to create a weed-free ring, approximately 0.5m in width. As with all pesticides, take care when applying and be careful not to touch the stem or foliage with the chemical. *Watering- The hedges should not require watering but if there is a particularly long dry spell may require watering, saturated the ground around the hedge for a distance of up to 1m* *Hedge Guards- The hedge whips to be fitted with guards, guards to be checked monthly and any grasses or weeds growing up inside the guards to be pulled.* *Pests- The hedges to be checked monthly for any bark damage or presence of pests*

Risk Register and Proposed Remedial Measures SM-T03

Complete the risk register by identifying likely risks that could impede the successful delivery of target habitats, hedgerows or watercourses. List all risks that could reasonably be anticipated. This should not be an exhaustive list as it will not be possible to anticipate all potential risks.

Risk Factor	Habitat/Hedgerow/Watercourse Type	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measure
Grassland gets mown at the incorrect height or the wrong time of year.	Modified/other neutral grassland	Site check by appointed ECoW or contractor	In the first instance a discussion with the land management group and if necessary, signage to be provided on site detailing the areas as meadow grassland and excluded from the usual site mowing regime.
Hedges being damaged by machinery during mowing	Native Hedgerow	In the first instance any accidental damage to be reported to the land management group and also the ECoW	In the event a hedge section is damaged badly or killed, the whip must be removed and replaced with a similar sized specimen where possible.

4. Monitoring

Monitoring Strategy for Each Habitat, Hedgerow and Watercourse Present On-Site SM-T04

Provide details of the methods you will use to monitor the progress towards the targets stated in the management plan and as agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

Habitat/Feature Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
Modified Grassland	The JNCC (2004) reports that monitoring of lowland grassland habitats should include: • Extent of the grassland establishment: % ground cover, bald patches and presence of leaf litter. • Sward composition: grass to herb ratio, positive indicator species, negative indicator species, species with local distinctiveness.	*This monitoring will be undertaken by the appointed ECoW every 3 years and any adjustments to the management regime made accordingly. This will be documented, and a copy kept by both the ECoW and site manager. Statutory BNG habitat condition assessment template to be used to assign a condition score.*
Native Hedgerow	Hedging to be inspected to assess overall health, identify any damage from grazing, identify when any guards need replacing or removing once the hedges are full established	*This monitoring will be undertaken by the appointed ECoW every 3 years. In the event that any hedge sections have failed and require replacement this will be included within the monitoring report.*

Monitoring Reporting SM-B14

Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports	Eco-Check Ltd	Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports	Eco-Check Ltd

A monitoring report template will be submitted to the LPA detailing the initial site works, details of sward height and species composition of the enhanced and created grassland, habitat condition assessments of the grassland and new hedging to be undertaken every 3 years and documented along with photographic evidence.