

APPENDIX 14C: BIODIVERSITY RECEPTOR SCOPING TABLE

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

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Appendix 14C: Biodiversity Receptor Scoping Table

Table 14C.1 – Results of biodiversity receptor scoping – PART 1

'Important' receptors (i.e. that meet the criteria in Appendix 14B) recorded within the study area from both desk study and field surveys	Legally protected and/or could be of sufficient value for potential impacts to be significant?		Justification if receptors are of insufficient value for impacts to be significant or significant impacts are unlikely to occur	Scoping conclusion
	Legally protected	Value		
Habitats				
Amenity grassland	No	No	Although the areas of this habitat form part of the Bridgwater urban greenspace network, they are frequently managed and disturbed and are species-poor, which reduces their value to local wildlife. These habitat types are also very common throughout Somerset and the UK and offer limited habitat for fauna. Notwithstanding its low value, it is likely that, in the absence of EDF Energy's proposed development, this habitat would be lost as a result of the North East Bridgwater development.	Scoped out
Scrub and scattered trees	No	No	The main core area of this habitat type, which is also the most well-established and mature, will be retained. The areas of this habitat type that would be lost are of very limited extent and in part comprise ornamental species. Notwithstanding its low value, it is likely that, in the absence of EDF Energy's proposed development, this habitat would be lost as a result of the North East Bridgwater development.	Scoped out
Ephemeral/short perennial and	No	No	The habitat within the site meets the criteria for the Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land UKBAP habitat.	Scoped out

'Important' receptors (i.e. that meet the criteria in Appendix 14B) recorded within the study area from both desk study and field surveys	Legally protected and/or could be of sufficient value for potential impacts to be significant?		Justification if receptors are of insufficient value for impacts to be significant or significant impacts are unlikely to occur	Scoping conclusion
	Legally protected	Value		
ruderal mosaics			However, until recently the site was more intensively operated and managed and it is only since commercial activity at the site has decreased (in approximately the last two years) that this habitat has been able to develop. The recent colonisation and development of the habitat combined with the continued low level of disturbance at the site has resulted in a species-poor habitat that shows limited evidence of the successional plant communities that are a characteristic feature of the UKBAP habitat. Therefore, the site supports a poor example of the UKBAP habitat. Notwithstanding its low value, it is likely that, in the absence of EDF Energy's proposed development, this habitat would be lost as a result of the North East Bridgwater development.	
Species				
Breeding birds	Yes	No	The baseline data indicates that the breeding bird community at and around the site comprises species that are commonly found in Somerset and is typical of the urban habitats present.	See Table 14C.2 (due to legal requirements)
Badger	Yes	No	Although the desk identified historic records of badger in the wider study area, the extended Phase 1 habitat survey found no evidence that badger occurs within or immediately adjacent to the site.	Scoped out
Bats	Yes	No	No significant roosts will be affected and the habitat on, and around the site, is of limited foraging value to bat species. Connectivity provided by habitats along the railway would remain unaffected by development and therefore, there is no likelihood of a significant impact.	See Table 14C.2 (due to legal requirements)
Great crested newt	Yes	No	There is no evidence that great crested newt occurs on site or within 500m of the site and on this basis there is no likelihood of a significant impact and no mechanism for contravention of the	Scoped out

'Important' receptors (i.e. that meet the criteria in Appendix 14B) recorded within the study area from both desk study and field surveys	Legally protected and/or could be of sufficient value for potential impacts to be significant?		Justification if receptors are of insufficient value for impacts to be significant or significant impacts are unlikely to occur	Scoping conclusion
	Legally protected	Value		
			legislation pertaining to this species.	
Common toad	No	No	The site provides no breeding habitat and despite regular site visits for reptile surveys, only single common toads were recorded on three occasions using the terrestrial habitat (under reptile refugia which provide good habitat for toads). If the site supported a large toad population, it is likely that there would have been more records. Therefore it is likely that the population is not sufficiently large for there to be a significant impact on the local common toad population.	Scoped out
Reptiles (grass snake and slow worm)	Yes	No	The density at which grass snake and slow-worm occur within the site is low (due to the amount of poor-quality habitat present). Therefore, the number of individuals that could be affected is likely to be too small for an impact to be significant.	See Table 14C.2 (due to legal requirements)
Otter	Yes	No	Although otter has been recorded within the study area, there is no suitable habitat for this species within the site. Therefore it is likely that there would not be a significant impact on the local otter population.	Scoped out
Water vole	Yes	No	Although water vole has been recorded within the study area, there is no suitable habitat for this species within the site. Therefore it is likely that there would not be a significant impact on the local water vole population.	Scoped out
Invertebrate assemblage (including Red Data Book and Nationally Scarce invertebrates)	No	Yes	N/A	See Table 14C.2
UKBAP and LBAP Invertebrates	No	No	The species that have been recorded are sufficiently common and widespread in Somerset that impacts upon them would not be significant.	Scoped Out

'Important' receptors (i.e. that meet the criteria in Appendix 14B) recorded within the study area from both desk study and field surveys	Legally protected and/or could be of sufficient value for potential impacts to be significant?		Justification if receptors are of insufficient value for impacts to be significant or significant impacts are unlikely to occur	Scoping conclusion
	Legally protected	Value		
LBAP and Somerset Notable vascular plants	No	No	The number of individuals that could be affected is likely to be small and the species are sufficiently common and widespread in Somerset that impacts upon them would not be significant.	Scoped out
Designated Sites				
European designated nature conservation sites - including Severn Estuary SPA, SAC and Ramsar site (and designated features) and Somerset Levels and Moors SPA and Ramsar site (and designated features)	Yes	Yes	N/A	See Table 14C.2
CWSs	No	Yes	N/A	See Table 14C.2

Table 14C.2 – Results of biodiversity receptor scoping – PART 2

Receptor (those that meet the value criteria or that are legally protected – from Table 14C.1)	Environmental Change – Land take/land cover change*		Environmental Change – Noise and visual disturbance*		Environmental Change - Lighting*		Conclusion – potential for significant impact and/or contravention of protected species legislation?
	Zol	Receptor within Zol?	Zol	Receptor within Zol?	Zol	Receptor within Zol?	
Species							
Breeding birds	Within construction area only	Yes	N/A 2	N/A	N/A 2	N/A	Yes
Bats	Within construction area only	Yes	30m from a roost	No	15m	Yes	Yes: although no known roosts will be affected, individual bats could infrequently roost in one or more of a small number of features that have low potential as bat roosts.
Reptiles (grass snake and slow worm)	Within construction area only	Yes	N/A 1	N/A	N/A 1	N/A	Yes
Invertebrate assemblage (including Red Data Book and Nationally Scarce invertebrates)	Within construction area only	Yes	N/A 1	No	N/A 1	No	No: the main area of habitat of invertebrate interest will be retained. Hence there is no likelihood of a significant impact
Designated Sites							
European designated nature conservation sites - including Severn Estuary SPA, SAC and	N/A 3	N/A	<250m	No	N/A 1	N/A	No

Receptor (those that meet the value criteria or that are legally protected – from Table 14C.1)	Environmental Change – Land take/land cover change*		Environmental Change – Noise and visual disturbance*		Environmental Change - Lighting*		Conclusion – potential for significant impact and/or contravention of protected species legislation?
	ZoI	Receptor within ZoI?	ZoI	Receptor within ZoI?	ZoI	Receptor within ZoI?	
Ramsar site (and designated features) and Somerset Levels and Moors SPA and Ramsar site (and designated features)							
County Wildlife Sites (CWSs)	N/A 3	N/A	N/A 1	N/A	N/A 1	N/A	No

* Where a ZoI is not applicable (N/A) to a receptor, the main reason is given under the column headed ‘ZoI’ using the categories that are listed below. In these instances, the ‘Receptor within ZoI’ column is also not applicable.

N/A 1 The receptor is not sensitive to the environmental change.

N/A 2 The receptor is likely to be of insufficient value for the environmental change to have a significant impact (these receptors are recorded as ‘No’ in the third column of Table 14C.1).

N/A 3 The receptor is located outside of the zone of influence associated with land take.