

High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe)

Environmental Statement

Volume 5: Technical appendices

CA5: South Cheshire

Ecology register of local level effects (EC-016-005)



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Department for Transport

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A report prepared for High Speed Two (HS2) Limited:

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document is an Appendix to the ecological assessment. Table 1 provides a summary of anticipated local/parish level adverse effects on ecological receptors arising from the construction and operation of High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) for the South Cheshire community area (CA5).
- 1.1.2 This document should be read in conjunction with:
- Volume 2, Community area reports;
 - Volume 3, Route-wide effects assessment;
 - Volume 4, Off-route effects assessment; and
 - Volume 5, Appendices.
- 1.1.3 See Volume 5, Appendix EC-001-000 and the Ecology Map Book (Map Series EC-01), for ecological designated sites, and Appendices EC-017-001 to EC-017-005 for Habitats Regulations Assessment screening reports.
- 1.1.4 In addition, the ecological baseline data used for the ecological assessment is set out in Background Information and Data (BID)¹, (see BID-EC-002-000 to BID-EC-014) and the BID Ecology Map Books (Map Series EC-02 to EC-12) showing habitats and species recorded along the proposed route. The full list of ecological baseline data reports is as follows:
- Ecological baseline data - phase 1 habitat survey (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-002-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - protected and or notable flora (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-003-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - national vegetation classification and ancient woodland (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-004-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - hedgerows (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-005-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - river habitat, river corridor, and ditch surveys (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-006-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - amphibian and pond surveys (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-007-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - reptiles (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-008-000);
 - Ecological baseline data - breeding and wintering birds (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-009-000);

¹ HS2 Ltd (2017), *High Speed Two (HS2) Phase 2a (West Midlands - Crewe), Background Information and Data*, www.gov.uk/hs2

Appendix EC-016-005

- Ecological baseline data - otter and water vole (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-010-000);
- Ecological baseline data - hazel dormouse (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-011-000);
- Ecological baseline data - bats (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-012-000);
- Ecological baseline data - white clawed crayfish and other invertebrate (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-013-000); and
- Ecological baseline data - fish (Background Information and Data: BID-EC-014-000).

1.1.5 Note that baseline data for badger is not made publically available due to the historic persecution of this species.

Table 1: Summary of local/parish level adverse effects arising from the construction/operation of the Proposed Scheme within CA5

CA	Habitat, species or species group	Receptor/location	Effect arising from construction or from operation	Description of effect prior to 'other mitigation'	Effect addressed by mitigation and/or compensation proposed (Yes/ No)
CA5	Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	Bankside vegetation associated within Basford Brook and Mere Gutter LWS	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.2ha (1.9%) of bankside vegetation within the Basford Brook and Mere Gutter LWS as a result of construction of the Network Rail Maintenance Access Road to the south-east of Crewe.	Yes
CA5	LWS	Grassland and trees within Basford Brook LWS	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.1ha (0.8%) of habitat within the LWS from excavation of a drainage channel.	Yes
CA5	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland at Lower Den Farm	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.1ha (41%) of lowland mixed deciduous woodland as a result of construction of construction of the Blakenhall Bridleway 8 accommodation overbridge and the realignment of Blakenhall Bridleway 8.	Yes
CA5	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland at Coppice Bank	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.5ha (84%) of lowland mixed deciduous woodland as a result of works on the West Coast Main Line(WCML)	Yes
CA5	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland at Wychwood Park	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.02ha (1%) of lowland mixed deciduous woodland as a result of construction of Chorlton Lane extension and balancing pond	Yes
CA5	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland west of Chorlton Lane	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.02ha (4%) of lowland mixed deciduous woodland of Chorlton Lane extension and balancing pond	Yes
CA5	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland at Basford Hall	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.02ha (0.005%) of lowland mixed deciduous woodland from construction of access track and work on WCML	Yes

CA	Habitat, species or species group	Receptor/location	Effect arising from construction or from operation	Description of effect prior to 'other mitigation'	Effect addressed by mitigation and/or compensation proposed (Yes/ No)
CA5	Grassland	Marshy grassland to the south-east of Heath Farm	Construction	Permanent loss of approximately 2ha of marshy grassland from construction of Chorlton Cutting	Yes
CA5	Grassland	Poor semi-improved grassland	Construction	Permanent loss of approximately 6.5ha of poor semi-improved grassland throughout the South Cheshire area	Yes
CA5	Watercourse	Unnamed watercourses within the land required for the Proposed Scheme	Construction	Diversion and culverting of watercourses	Yes
CA5	Water bodies	Ponds throughout the South Cheshire area that are found, following further survey, to not qualify as habitats of principal Importance i.e. through presence of notable flora and fauna	Construction	Partial or complete loss of pond habitats to land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Bats	Assemblage of common bat species associated with habitats around Chorlton	Construction	Permanent loss and disturbance of summer and feeding roosts in trees and buildings and habitat loss	Yes
CA5	Bats	Assemblage of common bat species associated with habitats around Basford	Construction	Permanent loss and of summer roosts in trees and habitat loss	Yes
CA5	Amphibians	Populations of amphibian species (other than great crested newt) within ponds throughout the South Cheshire area	Construction	Permanent loss of amphibian populations within land required for the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
CA5	Water vole	Potential water vole populations along Checkley and Swill Brook	Construction	Disturbance, diversion and culverting of watercourses	Yes
CA5	Reptiles	Potential small populations of common species within suitable habitat in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Permanent loss and fragmentation of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Otter	Potential otter populations along Checkley and Swill Brook	Construction	Habitat loss and disturbance associated with construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes

CA	Habitat, species or species group	Receptor/location	Effect arising from construction or from operation	Description of effect prior to 'other mitigation'	Effect addressed by mitigation and/or compensation proposed (Yes/ No)
CA5	Terrestrial invertebrates	Notable invertebrate <i>Agelasticaalni</i> is a species associated with wet woodlands	Construction	The precise location of the record of this species is unknown and impact significance therefore difficult to predict. However the permanent loss of part of the woodland is assessed as significant at the local/parish level on the precautionary basis	Yes
CA5	Fish	Fish assemblages in Swill Brook	Construction	Fish assemblages in the Swill Brook will be affected during the works to construction of the HS2 mainline due to culverting of associated watercourses. This will result in an adverse effect that will be significant at up to the local/parish level. Indirect effects will not be significant as they will be controlled through the implementation of measures in the draft CoCP (see Volume 5: Appendix CT-003-000)	Yes
CA5	Notable plant species	Population of bluebells north-west of Coppice Bank, south-west of Coppice Bank and north of Grange Farm	Construction	Permanent loss of habitat that supports bluebells as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Badger	Badgers throughout the South Cheshire area with three main setts and other field signs indicating the likely presence of at least three social groups	Construction	Loss of setts and foraging habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Polecat	Potential populations present in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Loss of suitable habitat for this species within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Harvest mouse	Potential populations present in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Loss of suitable habitat for this species within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes

CA	Habitat, species or species group	Receptor/location	Effect arising from construction or from operation	Description of effect prior to 'other mitigation'	Effect addressed by mitigation and/or compensation proposed (Yes/ No)
CA5	European hedgehog	Potential populations present in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Loss of suitable habitat for this species within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Brown hare	Potential populations present in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Loss of suitable habitat for this species within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
CA5	Hazel dormouse	Potential populations present in the South Cheshire area	Construction	Loss of suitable habitat for this species within the land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes

2 References

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