

# High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Environmental Statement

## Volume 5: Appendix EC-015-0MA01

### **Ecology and biodiversity**

MA01: Hough to Walley's Green

Ecological register of local level effects

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## Department for Transport

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited has been tasked by the Department for Transport (DfT) with managing the delivery of a new national high speed rail network. It is a non-departmental public body wholly owned by the DfT.

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# Contents

<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
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## **Tables**

Table 1: Summary of local/parish level adverse effects arising from the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme within MA01	4
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# 1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This report is an appendix to the ecological assessment.
- 1.1.2 Table 1 provides a summary of the anticipated local/parish level adverse effects on ecological receptors arising from the construction and operation of the HS2 Phase 2b Proposed Scheme in the Hough to Walley's Green area (MA01).
- 1.1.3 This appendix should be read in conjunction with:
- Volume 2, Community Area (CA) reports;
  - Volume 3, Route-wide effects;
  - Volume 4, Off-route effects; and
  - Volume 5, Appendices.
- 1.1.4 See Volume 5, Appendix EC-001-00001 and the Ecology and Biodiversity Map Book (Map Series EC-01), for ecological designated sites, and Appendices EC-016-00001 to EC-016-00007 and EC-016-00009 for documents to inform Habitats Regulations Assessment screening and Appropriate Assessment.
- 1.1.5 In addition, the baseline data used for the ecological assessment is set out in Background Information and Data (BID) reports<sup>1</sup>, (see BID EC-002-00001 to BID EC-013-00001) and the BID, Ecology Map Book<sup>2</sup> (Map Series EC-02 and EC-04 to EC-12), showing habitats and species relevant to the Proposed Scheme. The full list of ecological BID reports is as follows:
- Ecological baseline data – Phase 1 Habitat Survey (BID EC-002-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – protected and notable flora (BID EC-003-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – National Vegetation Classification and ancient woodland (BID EC-004-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – hedgerows (BID EC-005-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – river habitat, river macrophyte, and ditch surveys (BID EC-006-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – amphibian and pond and canal surveys (BID EC-007-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – reptiles (BID EC-008-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – breeding and wintering birds (BID EC-009-00001);
  - Ecological baseline data – otter and water vole (BID EC-010-00001);

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<sup>1</sup> High Speed Two Ltd (2022), High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester), *Background Information and Data*, BID EC-002-00001 to BID EC-013-00001. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-2b-crewe-manchester-environmental-statement>.

<sup>2</sup> High Speed Two Ltd (2022), High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester), *Background information and Data, Ecology Map Book: Map Series EC-02 and EC-04 to EC-12*. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-2b-crewe-manchester-environmental-statement>.

**Environmental Statement**  
Volume 5: Appendix EC-015-0MA01  
Ecology and biodiversity  
MA01: Hough to Walley's Green  
Ecological register of local level effects

- Ecological baseline data – bats (BID EC-011-00001);
- Ecological baseline data – white-clawed crayfish and other invertebrates (BID EC-012-00001); and
- Ecological baseline data – fish (BID EC-013-00001).

1.1.6 Note that baseline data for badger is not made publicly available due to the current and historic persecution of this species (BID EC-014-00001).

**Environmental Statement**  
 Volume 5: Appendix EC-015-0MA01  
 Ecology and biodiversity  
 MA01: Hough to Walley's Green  
 Ecological register of local level effects

**Table 1: Summary of local/parish level adverse effects arising from the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme within MA01**

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)
MA01	Woodland	An unnamed woodland south of Crewe Station located either side of the A5020 David Whitby Way.	Construction	Permanent loss of 590m <sup>2</sup> (less than 1%) of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Woodland	An unnamed woodland at Crewe Station sidings.	Construction	Permanent loss of 650m <sup>2</sup> (3%) of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Woodland	Five woodlands, each less than 1.5ha and none within wildlife designations.	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.4ha (27%) of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Grassland	Semi-improved, neutral grassland, and marshy grassland, to the north of Crewe.	Construction	Permanent loss of 0.4ha (100%) of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Grassland	Parcels of species-poor, semi-improved grassland collectively, covers an area of 26.3ha throughout the Hough to Walley's Green area, within the land required for the Proposed Scheme.	Construction	Permanent loss of 26.3ha (100%) of habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Watercourses	Unnamed tributaries of smaller watercourses in the Hough to Walley's Green area.	Construction	Permanent and temporary loss and degradation of habitat as a result of realignment or culverting of smaller watercourses during construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Amphibians	Populations of other amphibian species, including palmate newt ( <i>Lissotriton helveticus</i> ), smooth newt ( <i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i> ), common toad ( <i>Bufo bufo</i> ) and common frog	Construction	Loss and fragmentation of breeding/foraging habitat and dispersal routes from construction activities.	Yes

**Environmental Statement**  
 Volume 5: Appendix EC-015-0MA01  
 Ecology and biodiversity  
 MA01: Hough to Walley's Green  
 Ecological register of local level effects

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)
		<i>(Rana temporaria)</i> , in the Hough to Walley's Green area.			
MA01	Bats	Bat assemblages east of Hough.	Construction	Construction activities at Crewe Tunnel south portal will result in disturbance to an assemblage of bats, including common pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> ), soprano pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i> ) and brown long-eared bat ( <i>Plecotus auritus</i> ). This includes disturbance to brown long-eared bat night roosts/feeding perches in buildings and a non-breeding tree summer roost for a <i>Pipistrellus</i> species within 95m of land required for the construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Birds	Wintering bird assemblage associated with habitats east of Hough.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by wintering birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Birds	Breeding bird assemblage associated with habitat between Coppenhall Moss and Warmingham Moss.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by breeding birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Birds	Wintering bird assemblage associated with habitat between Coppenhall Moss and Warmingham Moss.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by wintering birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Birds	Breeding bird assemblage associated with habitat between Moss Lane and Park Hall Farm.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by breeding birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes



**Environmental Statement**  
 Volume 5: Appendix EC-015-0MA01  
 Ecology and biodiversity  
 MA01: Hough to Walley's Green  
 Ecological register of local level effects

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)
MA01	Birds	Wintering bird assemblage associated with habitat between Moss Lane and Park Hall Farm.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by wintering birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Birds	Wintering bird assemblage associated with habitats between Lane Ends and Forge Bank.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by wintering birds as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme.	Yes
MA01	Terrestrial Invertebrates	Invertebrate assemblage using suitable habitats within the Hough to Walley's Green area.	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat/habitat fragmentation resulting from construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
MA01	Badger	Badger ( <i>Meles meles</i> ) populations at undisclosed locations in the Hough to Walley's Green area.	Construction and operation	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat/habitat fragmentation resulting from construction of the Proposed Scheme. Land required for the Proposed Scheme includes pasture, arable, hedgerow and woodland habitats that form a foraging resource for badger social groups.	Yes

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