

High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Environmental Statement

Volume 5: Appendix EC-003-OR003

Ecology and biodiversity

Off-route works: Annandale depot

Ecological register of significant effects below
local level

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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.

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited
Two Snowhill
Snow Hill Queensway
Birmingham B4 6GA

Telephone: 08081 434 434

General email enquiries: HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Website: www.hs2.org.uk

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

ARUP+ ERM | FOSTER + PARTNERS | JACOBS
RAMBOLL | TYPISA | COSTAIN

MWJV

Mott MacDonald | WSP

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- 1.1.1 This report is an appendix to the ecological assessment for the off-route works at Annandale depot.
- 1.1.2 Table 1 provides a summary of the anticipated adverse effects on ecological receptors, significant below local level, arising from the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme at the Annandale depot.
- 1.1.3 This appendix should be read in conjunction with Volume 4, Off-route effects and Volume 5, Appendices.
- 1.1.4 Ecological baseline data is set out in the Background Information and Data (BID)¹, BID-EC-002-OR003, and the Volume 5 Ecology Map Book, Map Series EC-01 and the BID Ecology Map Book, Map Series EC-02.
- 1.1.5 Document to inform a Habitats Regulations Appraisal Screening Report and Appropriate Assessment for the Solway Firth Special Protection Area, Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar Site and Solway Firth Special Area of Conservation is provided in Volume 5, EC-004-OR003.
- 1.1.6 Note that baseline data for badger is not made publicly available due to the current and historic persecution of this species.

¹ High Speed Two Ltd (2022), High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester), *Background Information and Data, Ecological baseline data*, BID-EC-002-OR003. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-2b-crewe-manchester-environmental-statement>.

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Table 1: Summary of adverse effects, significant at below local level, arising from the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme at Annandale depot

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)
Semi-improved grassland	Semi-improved grassland, covering an area of 9.4ha, and marshy grassland, covering an area of 8.6ha	Construction	Loss of habitat	Yes
Bats	Potential bat assemblage in the Annandale area	Operation	Habitat degradation and disturbance resulting from after-dark lighting during operation of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
Birds	Potential wintering bird assemblage associated with habitats in the Annandale depot area	Construction and operation	Permanent loss and degradation of habitat used by wintering birds as a result of construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
Otter	Potential population of otter using the Ewes Burn	Construction and operation	Habitat loss, degradation and disturbance as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
Aquatic macroinvertebrates	Potential aquatic macroinvertebrate assemblage using the Ewes Burn	Construction	Habitat loss and degradation as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
Amphibians	Potential populations of common amphibian species include palmate newt (<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>), smooth newt (<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>), common toad (<i>Bufo bufo</i>) and common frog (<i>Rana temporaria</i>), in the Annandale depot area	Construction	Loss and fragmentation of foraging habitat as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes
Badger	Potential badger (<i>Meles meles</i>) population in the Annandale depot area	Construction and operation	Permanent loss, degradation and fragmentation of habitat resulting from construction of the Proposed Scheme. It is probable that setts are present within the	Yes

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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)
			land required for construction of the Proposed Scheme	
Reptiles	Potential populations of common reptiles in the Annandale depot area	Construction	Permanent loss and degradation of suitable habitat, including field margins, woodland edges and hedgerow, and isolated small patches of potential marshy grassland as a result of construction of the Proposed Scheme	Yes

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited

Two Snowhill

Snow Hill Queensway

Birmingham B4 6GA

Freephone: 08081 434 434

Minicom: 08081 456 472

Email: HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk