

7 UPDATED BREEDING BIRD SURVEYS



envirotech

**Ecological Consultants
Environmental and Rural Chartered Surveyors**

Breeding Bird Surveys

Bourbles Lane, Pilling



Tel: 015395 61894
Email: info@envtech.co.uk
Web: www.envtech.co.uk
Envirotech NW Ltd

The Stables, Back Lane, Hale, Milnthorpe, Cumbria. LA7 7BL
Directors: A. Gardner BSc (Hons), MSc, MRICS, Dip NDEA
H. Gardner BSc (Hons), MSc, CEnv, MRICS
Registered in England and Wales. Company Registration Number 5028111

ACCURACY OF REPORT

This report has been compiled based on the methodology as detailed and the professional experience of the surveyor. Whilst the report reflects the situation found as accurately as possible, all of the protected species this survey covers are wild and can move freely from site to site. Their presence or absence detailed in this report does not entirely preclude the possibility of a different past, current or future use of the site surveyed.

We would ask all clients acting upon the contents of this report to show due diligence when undertaking work on their site and/or in their interaction with protected species. If protected species are found during a work programme, and continuing the work programme could result in their disturbance, injury or death, either directly or indirectly an offence may be committed.

If in doubt, stop work and seek further professional advice.

Quality and Environmental Assurance

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Contents

Breeding Bird Surveys	1
INTRODUCTION	4
Background.....	4
METHODOLOGY.....	4
Data Search	4
Breeding bird survey.....	4
RESULTS	4
Field Survey	6
Assessment	19
Impact assessment	19
REFERENCES	20

INTRODUCTION

Background

Envirotech NW Ltd were commissioned to undertake breeding bird surveys of the site in the spring of 2022 and 2023. Previous surveys had also been undertaken over the spring of 2019 but of a reduced area of the site.

The aim of these surveys was to assess which bird species use the site during the breeding season and their status, distribution and density on the site. The resulting baseline information has been used to assess the breeding bird interest of the site and its conservation significance at different geographical scales and assess the potential direct and indirect impacts the development may have on these features.

METHODOLOGY

Data Search

A data search for bird species within 2km of the site was requested from Lancashire Ecological Records Network (LERN). Fylde Bird Club provided data for wildfowl and waders within 2km of the site. British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), Natural England (NE) and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) data under open licence was reviewed on the NBN.

Maps and aerial photographs were interrogated to assess the distance, both on foot and by car, of the proposed development from statutory designated sites notified for their bird interest which could potentially be impacted by the proposal.

Breeding bird survey

The breeding bird survey (BBS) followed the standard Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) methodology.

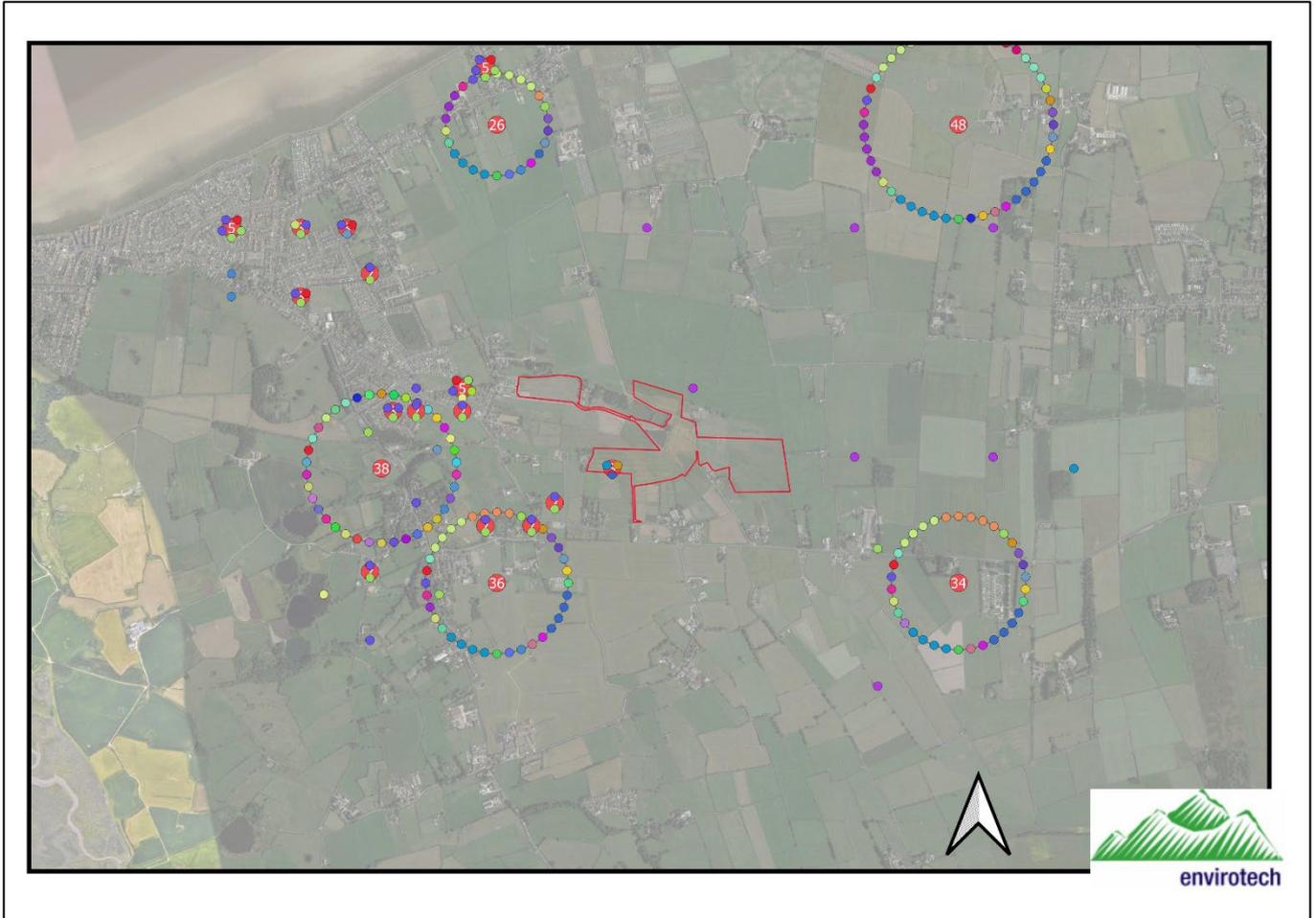
In addition, field boundaries and other potential bird nesting habitats immediately adjacent to the site, where birds which encompass the site within their breeding territories may nest, and vice versa, were also included. All field boundaries were walked slowly pausing to record birds heard and observed, and route directions were varied between survey visits to avoid temporal sampling bias. Birds flying over and not using the site or surrounding area were recorded separately. All bird locations and behaviour was mapped onto photocopied OS maps (1:2500 scale) using the standard CBC notation.

Survey visits were undertaken in the morning when birds are most active and vocal. Days of inclement weather were avoided and there were no significant limitations to the survey. The dates and weather conditions of these visits are presented in Table 1.

Mr Andrew Gardner, Mr Matthew Thomas, Mr Adrian Fryer and Ms Amy Cooke, all experienced ornithologists, undertook these surveys.

RESULTS

LERN, Fylde Bird Club, BTO, NE and RSPB have numerous records for birds species both on and adjacent to the site. 11 bird species have been recorded locally. Corn Bunting, Lapwing, Linnet and Mallard within the site boundary but only mallard is recorded at less than 1km resolution (Figure 1).



- | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Boundary | House Sparrow | Snipe | Black-tailed Godwit | Green Sandpiper | Robin |
| Barn Owl | Kestrel | Song Thrush | Blue Tit | Greenfinch | Ruff |
| Bittern | Lapwing | Spotted Flycatcher | Brent Goose | Greenshank | Sanderling |
| Black-headed Gull | Lesser Black-backed Gull | Starling | Canada Goose | Grey Plover | Scaup |
| Cormorant | Linnnet | Stonechat | Common Gull | Jack Snipe | Semipalmated Sandpiper |
| Com Bunting | Meadow Pipit | Swallow | Common Sandpiper | Kentish Plover | Sparrowhawk |
| Cuckoo | Mistle Thrush | Swift | Common Scoter | Knot | Spotted Redshank |
| Curlew | Oystercatcher | Teal | Coot | Lesser White-fronted Goose | Tawny Owl |
| Dunnock | Pink-footed Goose | Tree Pipit | Curlew Sandpiper | Little Grebe | Tufted Duck |
| Fieldfare | Pochard | Tree Sparrow | Dotterel | Little Owl | Turnstone |
| Gadwall | Red-breasted Merganser | Water Rail | Dunlin | Little Ringed Plover | Twite |
| Garganey | Redshank | Whinchat | Eider | Little Stint | Velvet Scoter |
| Goldeneye | Redwing | Willow Warbler | Feral Pigeon | Mallard | Wheatear |
| Grasshopper Warbler | Reed Bunting | Woodcock | Goldcrest | Moorhen | White/Pied Wagtail |
| Grey Heron | Ruddy Duck | Yellow Wagtail | Golden Plover | Mute Swan | Whooper Swan |
| Grey Partridge | Sand Martin | Yellowhammer | Goldfinch | Nuthatch | Wigeon |
| Greylag Goose | Shelduck | Avocet | Goosander | Pheasant | Wren |
| Herring Gull | Short-eared Owl | Bar-tailed Godwit | Great Crested Grebe | Pintail | |
| House Martin | Shoveler | Barnacle Goose | Great Spotted Woodpecker | Redstart | |
| | Skylark | Bewick's Swan | Great Tit | Ringed Plover | |

Figure 1- LERN, Fylde Bird Club, BTO, NE and RSPB

Field Survey

Surveys were undertaken on 06th May 2022, 20th April and 30th May 2023. Surveys were repeated on 27th March, 8th May, 21st May, 28th May and 4th June 2024.

Common name	Scientific name	Weather/ Conservation status	06/05/2022 10% Cloud, light wind, 12 degrees Celsius, am	20/04/2023 10% Cloud, light wind, 14 degrees Celsius, am	30/05/2023 50% Cloud, light wind, 17 degrees Celsius, am	Breeding Y/N Max number of pairs (X)
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	Y (3)
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	BoCC:Green		✓		N
Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Sch9_part1	✓	✓		Y (2)
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓		N
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	BoCC:Green		✓		Y (1)
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus Collybita</i>	BoCC:Green				
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓		N
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	BoCC:Amber		✓		Assumed (1)
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓		Y (1)
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	BoCC:Green			✓	N
Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Sch1_part2;BoCC:Amber		✓	✓	Y (5)
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	BoCC:Red		✓	✓	N
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	BoCC:Red		✓	✓	Y (1)
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>				✓	N
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	BoCC:Amber		✓		N
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	BoCC:Red	✓	✓	✓	Y (2)
Little ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	BoCC:Green		✓		N
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓	✓	✓	Y (5)
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓		✓	Y (1)
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Non Native	✓			Y (1)
Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	BoCC:Green			✓	N
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	BoCC:Green			✓	N
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓	✓	✓	Y (1)
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	BoCC:Green		✓	✓	Y (2)
Wood pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	BoCC:Green		✓		Y (1)

Table 1- Birds recorded within or on site boundary 2023

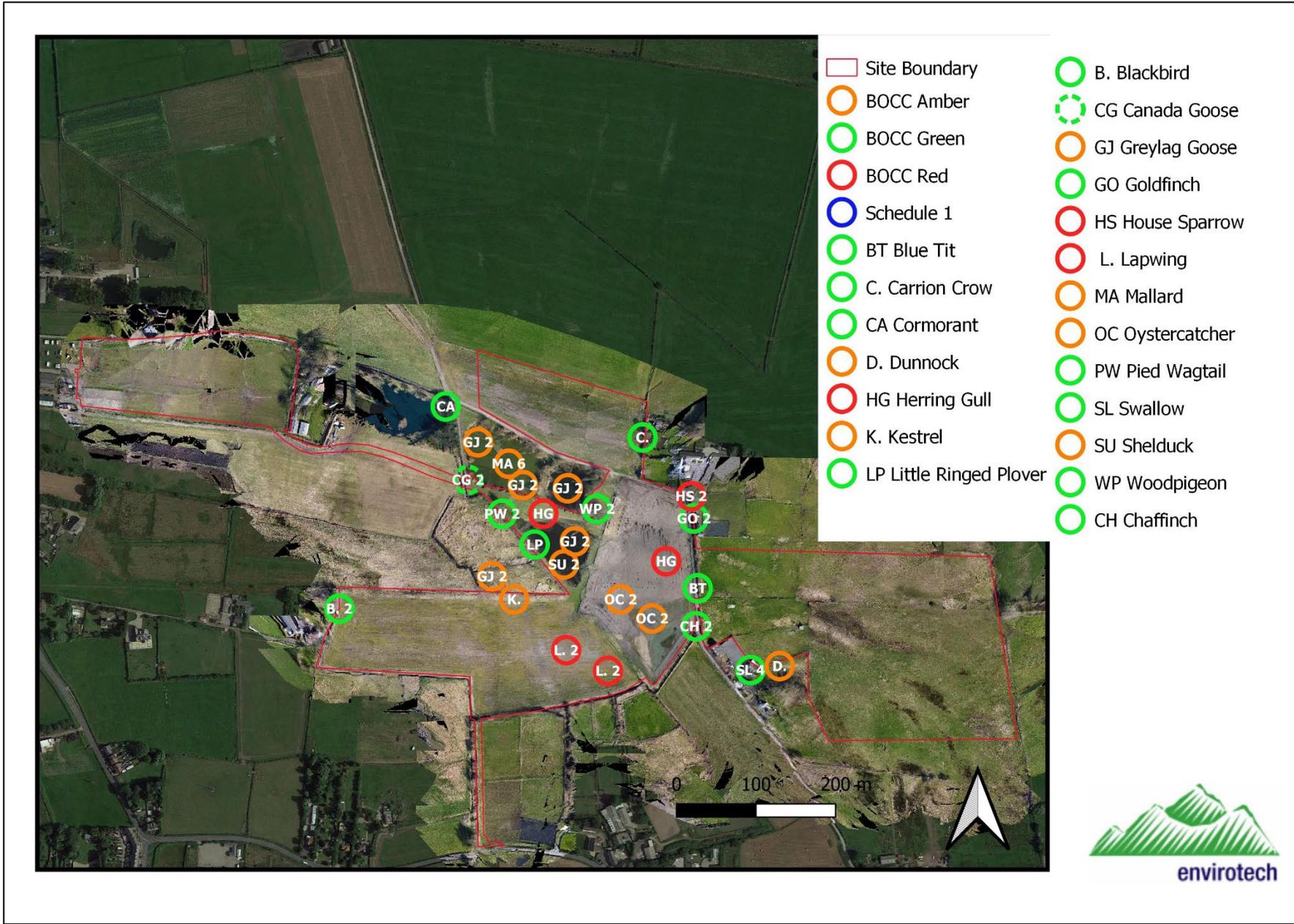


Figure 1- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary May 2022



Figure 2- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary April 2023

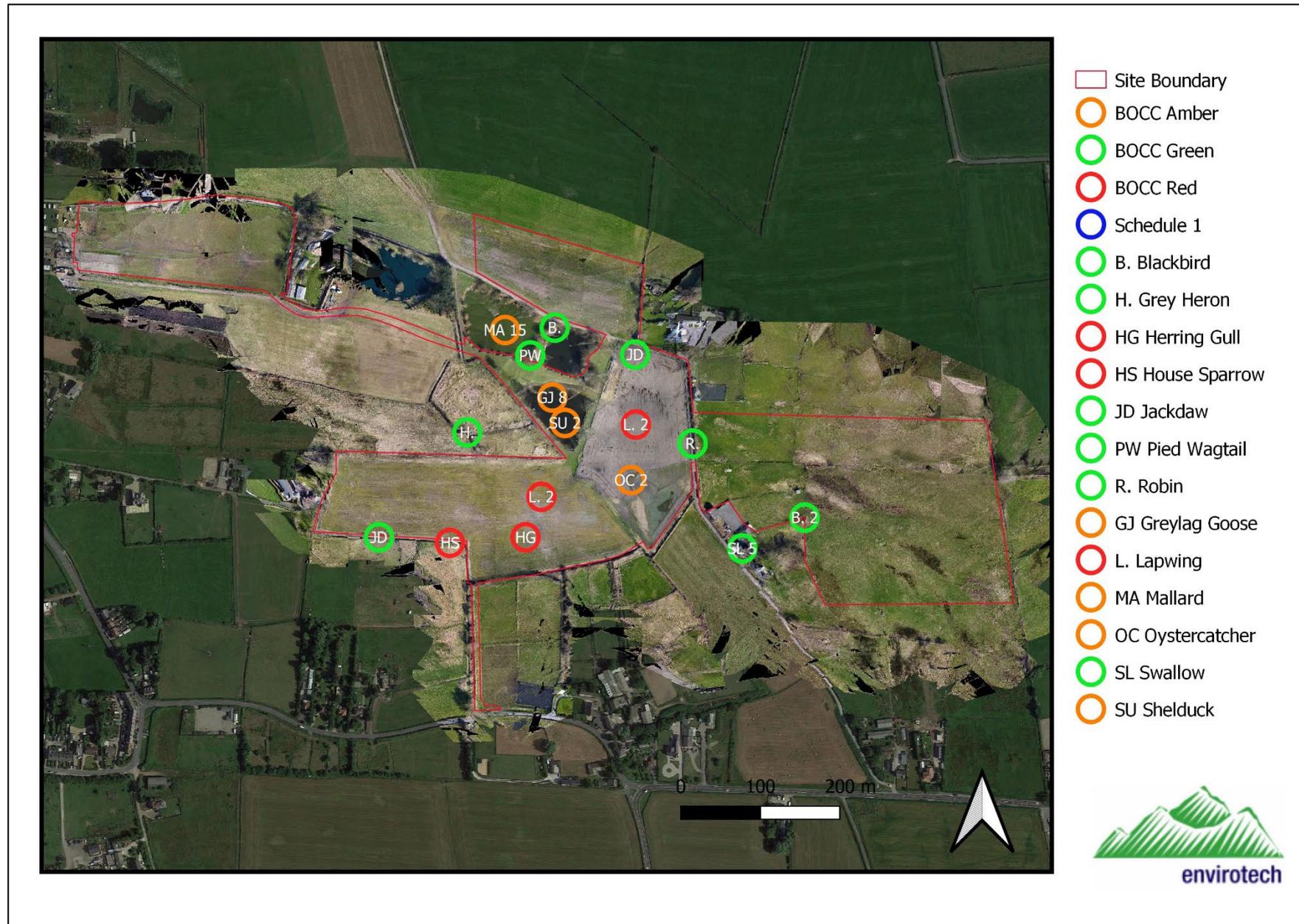


Figure 3- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary May 2023

Common name	Scientific name	Date Year 2024	27/03	23/04	08/05	21/05	28/05	04/06	Breeding Y/N Max number of pairs (X)
		Weather/ Conservation status	100% Cloud, light wind, 9 Degrees Celsius, am	50% Cloud, light wind, 9 degrees Celsius, am	100% Cloud, light wind, 12 degrees Celsius, am	80% Cloud, light wind, 14 degrees Celsius, am	80% Cloud, light wind, 11 degrees Celsius, am	80% Cloud, light wind, 14 degrees Celsius, am	
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (1)
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	BoCC:Green		✓	✓				N
Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Sch9_part1	✓	✓					N
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	BoCC:Green				✓	✓		N
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus Collybita</i>	BoCC:Green					✓		N
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	BoCC:Red	✓						N
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	BoCC:Amber			✓				N
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Assumed (1)
Great spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	BoCC:Green						✓	N
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>	BoCC:Green			✓		✓		N
Green finch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	BoCC:Red			✓	✓		✓	N
Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Sch1_part2;BoCC:Amber		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (4)
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	BoCC:Green		✓		✓			N
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	BoCC:Amber						✓	N
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	BoCC:Red	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (3)
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	BoCC:Green		✓					

Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (4)
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Not assessed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (1)
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y (2)
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Non Native	✓	✓					N
Pinkfooted Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Not assessed	✓		✓				N
Red legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	Non Native		✓					N
<u>Redshank</u>	<u><i>Persicaria maculosa</i></u>	Not assessed	✓						N
Reed bunting	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Not assessed				✓			N
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	✓			N
Sedge warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	BoCC:Amber		✓	✓		✓	✓	N
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓			✓	✓	✓	N
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	BoCC:Red	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Assumed (2)
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓						N
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	BoCC:Amber		✓	✓	✓		✓	N
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	BoCC:Red	✓						N
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	BoCC:Green		✓	✓	✓		✓	Y (6)
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	BoCC:Red		✓	✓				Y (1)
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	BoCC:Amber			✓				N
Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	BoCC:Amber					✓		N
Wood pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	BoCC:Green	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	BoCC:Amber	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Assumed (1)

Table 2- Birds recorded within or on site boundary 2024

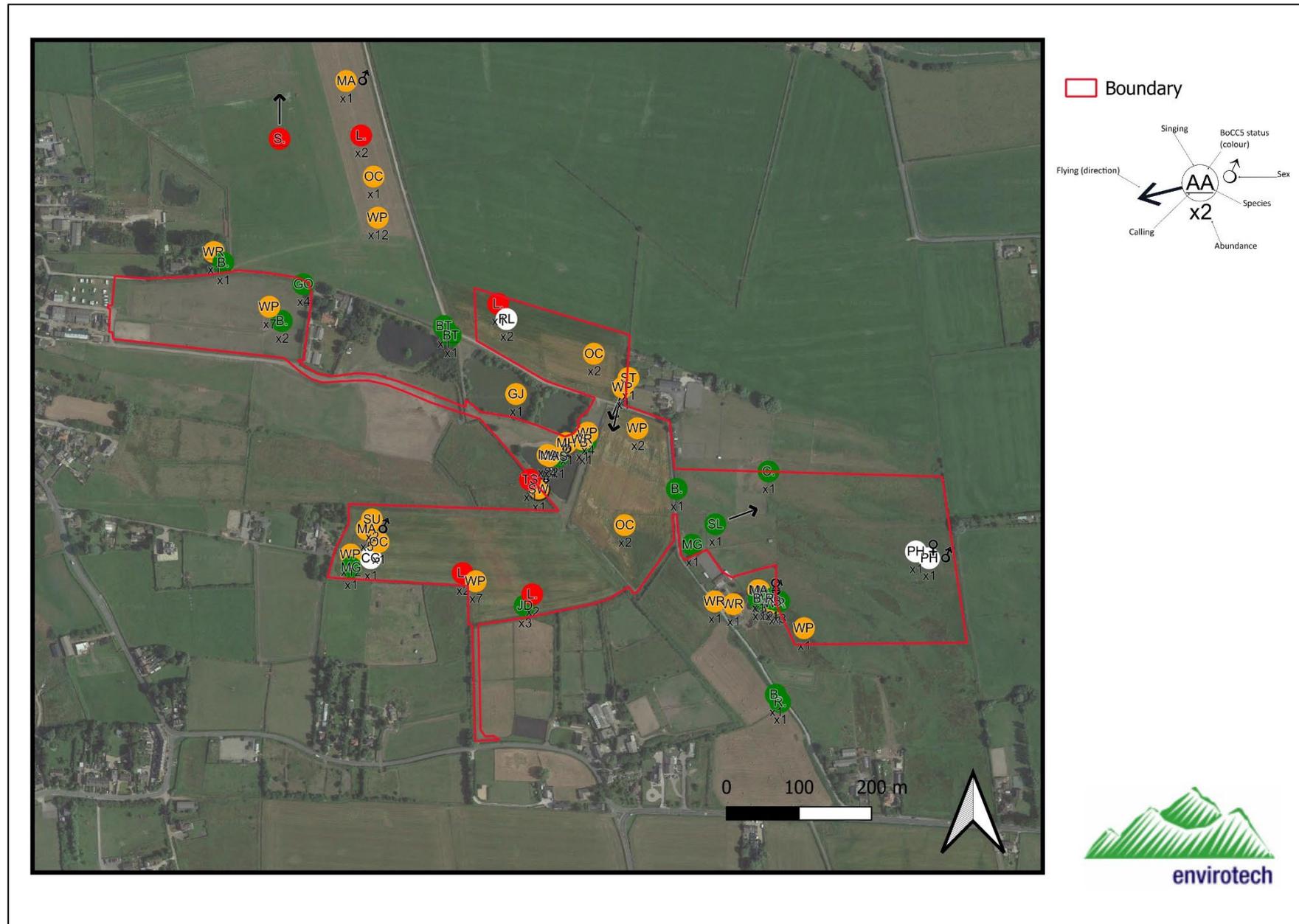


Figure 5- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary 23rd April 2024

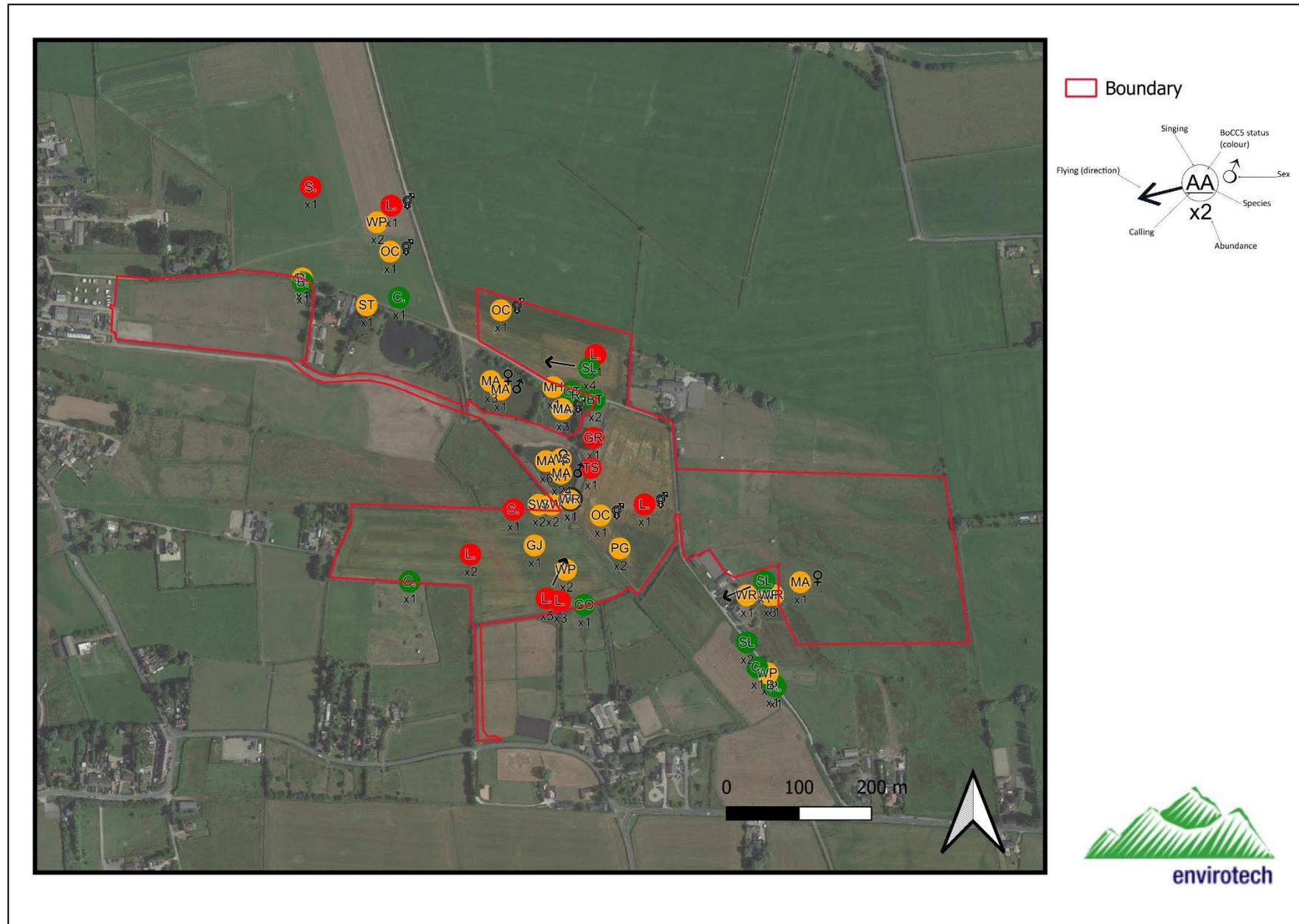


Figure 6- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary 8th May 2024

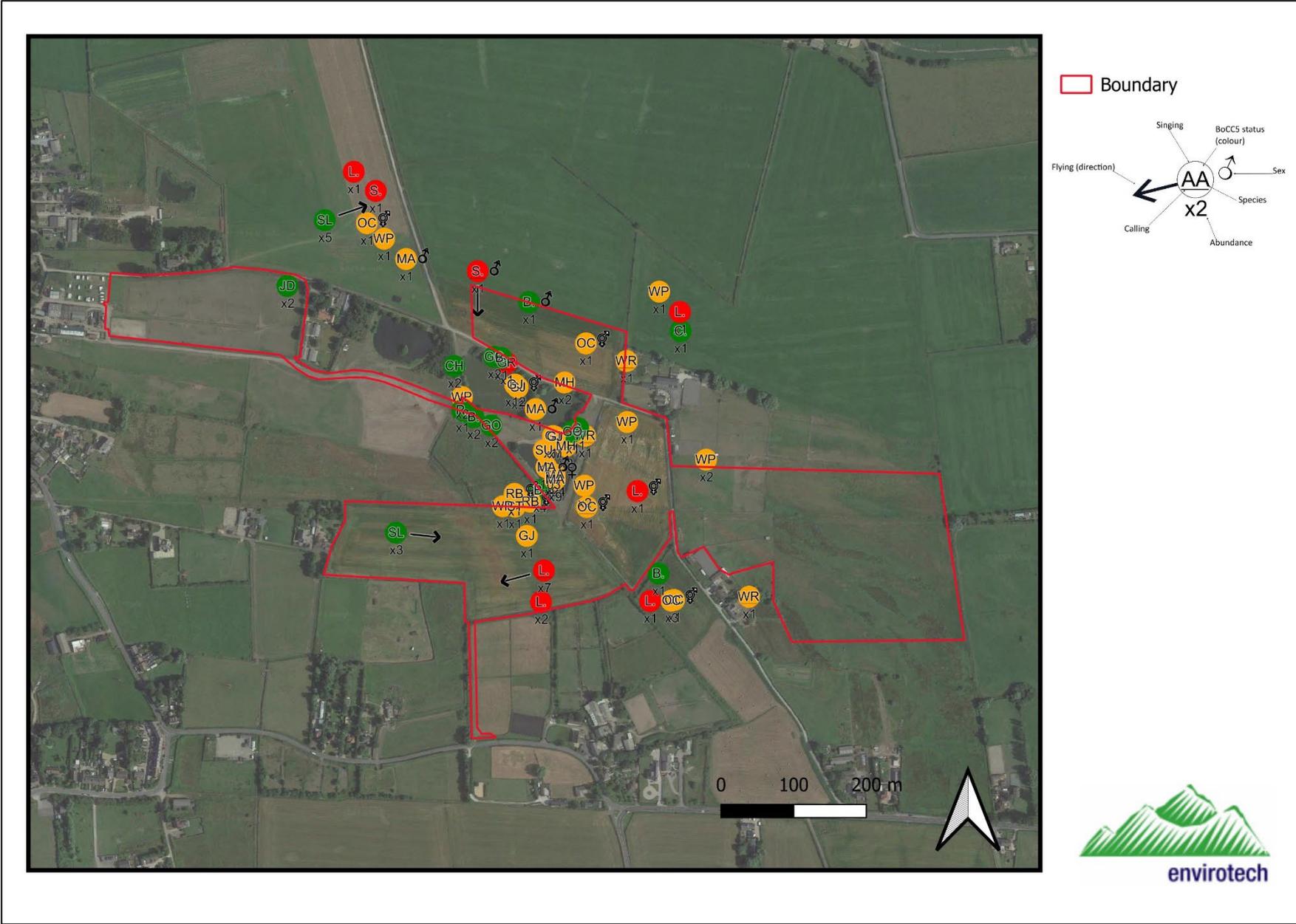


Figure 7- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary 21st May 2024



Figure 9- Birds recorded within or on the site boundary 4th June 2024

Assessment

Of the 45 species using the site 18 were confirmed or likely breeding. Eight are Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) red-listed species.

The network of lakes/ ponds and watercourses through the site were found to be used by a range of waterfowl and wetland species.

Swallow were recorded to stables and House Sparrow and Goldfinch to gardens on the site boundary.

Lapwing and Oystercatcher were recorded to the edge of the arable field and within the duck rearing field.

Impact assessment

Bird breeding activity was concentrated around the lakes/ ponds and associated scrub. One of the lakes/ ponds will be lost during site works.

Small numbers of breeding birds were associated with the duck rearing pen and adjacent arable field, with temporary wet areas in these locations likely being attractive as a feeding area of chicks.

Small numbers of common bird species were recorded to boundary hedges and buildings/ gardens to the site boundary.

The additional bird survey data derived from site assessment correlates with that provided by the records searches.

There will be partial loss of the site during work, with restoration ongoing. The creation of lakes and grassland would enhance the site for some species of wildfowl.

The wider landscape will remain in the same land use throughout work and still available for use.

There may however be displacement of breeding birds from the lakes/ ponds to the edge of the site during work due to the increase in anthropogenic activity. Whilst birds using these lakes/ ponds will become accustomed to such impact, short term, high impact noise impact may result in a disturbance response.

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