Tata Steel

Tata Steel Demolition – Port Talbot

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report: Jetty, Harbour and Burdening Area

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RSK GENERAL NOTES

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. RSK Biocensus was appointed by Tata Steel UK to complete a preliminary ecological appraisal of the jetty, harbour, and burdening areas at Port Talbot Steelworks in Wales (OS Grid Reference SS 76034 88194).
2. The survey was undertaken in December 2024. It was required in relation to proposed demolition works of the areas above.
3. A desk study was undertaken to gather existing ecological data for the site and surrounding area.
4. A site survey was undertaken using Phase 1 habitat survey classification, and the suitability of the site to support protected or otherwise notable plant and animal species was assessed, but no species-specific surveys were undertaken.
5. The site was predominantly bare ground with areas of semi-improved grassland, scrub, woodland, tall ruderal and ephemeral vegetation with several buildings and on-site infrastructure. Collectively, the mosaic of habitats (scrub, ephemeral short perennial vegetation, grassland and woodland) would be identified as open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, a habitat of principal importance in Wales.
6. There is potential for Oxtongue broomrape, great crested newt, reptiles, breeding birds, bats and hedgehog to be present within the site.
7. Japanese Knotweed and Cotoneaster are present within the northeast of the site.
8. Prior to the PEA survey, a preliminary inspection for nesting birds and a preliminary roost appraisal (PRA) for bats was undertaken of some of the buildings and structures within the site in September 2024. A PRA survey of the remaining buildings on site was also later carried out after the PEA survey, in April 2025. A total of seven buildings were found to have low bat roost potential and one building had moderate bat roost potential. Further bat emergence surveys of these buildings are required between May and August to determine presence or likely absence of roosting bats.
9. Further surveys for great crested newt are required to inform an impact assessment, and any licensing requirements and mitigation design, if required.
10. Pre-works nesting bird checks by a suitably qualified Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) are recommended for works on buildings and structures that have potential to support nesting birds. It is anticipated that grassland and scrub habitat will not be affected because works, including laydown, will be on areas of hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access. However should any ground clearance of grassland or scrub be required then ECoW supervision is recommended as these habitats have potential to support reptiles and amphibians.
11. A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening assessment (stage 1) will likely be required to demonstrate to Natural Resources Wales that potential direct/ indirect impacts have been considered.
12. The results of this preliminary ecological appraisal and the recommended further surveys can be used to inform an Ecological Impact Assessment, which would be required as part of future planning applications for the proposed development/ to inform the design of any future development/ as part of options appraisals etc.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this report

1.1.1 RSK Biocensus was appointed by Tata Steel UK to complete a preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) of the Jetty, Harbour, and Burdening areas at Port Talbot Steelworks, in Port Talbot, Wales.

1.1.2 The survey area included the land within the red-line boundary (hereafter referred to as 'the site'), but did not include any adjacent land due to fencing limiting access. The site is shown on Figure 1.

1.1.3 This report presents the results of a desk study to gather existing ecological information for the site and surrounding area, the results of the site survey using Phase 1 habitat survey classification, and an assessment of the potential for protected or notable species and habitats to be present.

1.1.4 It is understood that this report is required in connection with potential demolition activities for the proposed development.

1.1.5 The purpose of this report is to identify key ecological constraints to the proposed development, to identify further ecological surveys needed in order to inform an ecological impact assessment (EcIA) and appropriately designed mitigation or compensation measures.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 A preliminary roost assessment (PRA) for bats and assessment for nesting birds on buildings within the red line boundary (version received on 23 September 2024) was conducted in September 2024 with the results presented in a Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report (RSK Biocensus, 2024). The red line boundary has since changed and additional buildings within the red line boundary, which were not previously surveyed, were later surveyed in April 2025 (after the PEA survey) (RSK Biocensus 2025)[1]. Therefore all buildings within the site boundary have now been subject to PRA survey.

1.3 Proposed development

1.3.1 The survey was required in connection with the proposed development of the site. It is understood that proposed works will include demolition activities at the Jetty, Harbour and Burdening areas of the site. It has been proposed to enact demolition and land grading work at different areas of the site in separate designated phases, as shown in Figure 2. All phases are planned to begin in 2025 and the estimated demolition time frame is 12 months.

1.3.2 Phase 1 includes the controlled deconstruction of all the Stock Yard plant, equipment, structures and buildings on the western side of the site. All materials will be cleared, and the land will be graded.

[1] RSK Biocensus (2025) *Jetty, Harbour and Burdening Area – Preliminary Roost Assessment of Additional Buildings*. 2487822. RSK Biocensus, Cardiff.

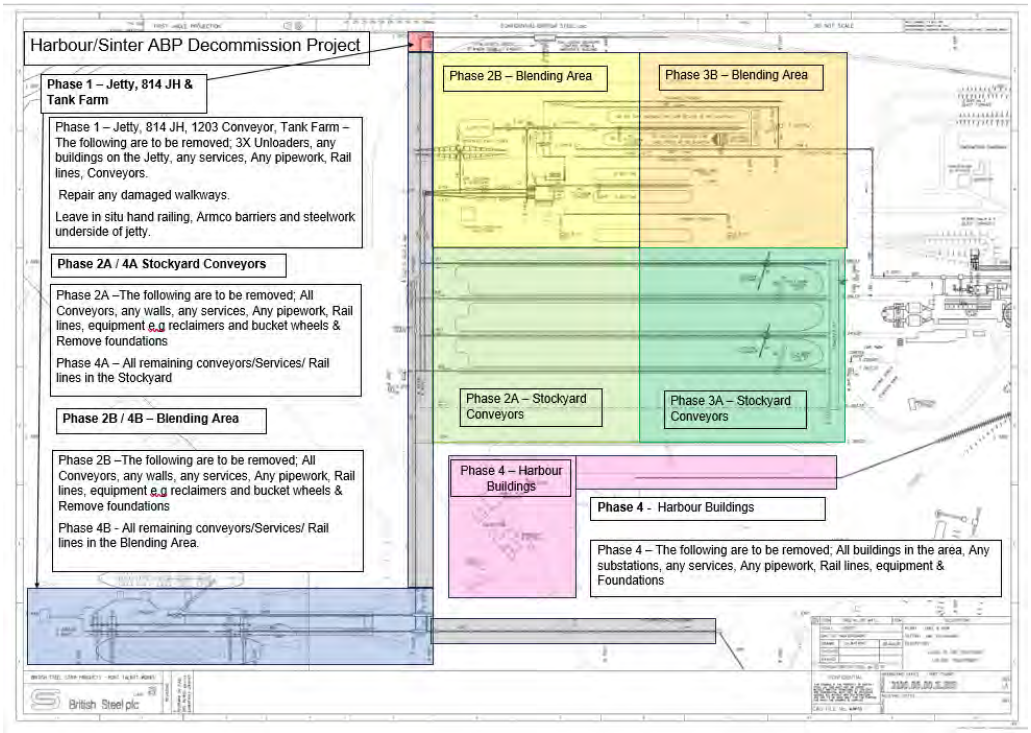
1.3.3 Phase 2A + 2B includes the controlled deconstruction of all the Blending/Burdening plant, equipment, structures, civil buildings, the removal of all the loose items from the area and grading of the land. There is overlap between the phases 2A/2B and 3A/3B.

1.3.4 Phase 3A + 3B includes the controlled deconstruction of all the Blending/Burdening plant, equipment, structures, civil buildings, the removal of all the loose items from the area and grading of land. There is overlap between the phases 2A/2B and 3A/3B.

1.3.5 Phase 4 includes the controlled destruction of the Harbour office, Harbour Jetty Substation, workshops and other buildings, stock yard plant, equipment, and structures, and removal of all the loose items from the area and grading of the land.

1.3.6 In all phases, a demolition asbestos survey will be undertaken prior to demolition. All buildings will be demolished using mechanical excavator grab/cutting machinery (Non-Explosive method). Noise monitoring will be carried out hourly and a dust suppression system using water will be employed. Normal working hours will be from 07:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday as well as potential alternative weekend working (Saturday/Sunday) when appropriate.

Figure 2 Phase Layout drawing (indicative only)



Laydown areas

1.3.7 Five lay down areas will be required for Phase 1, four of these areas are within areas of bare ground/ hardstanding. One area is within an area of grassland located to the south of the site.

1.3.8 A large area of bare ground/hardstanding within Phase 2A will serve as the laydown area of Phase 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B.

1.3.9 Three lay down areas will be required for Phase 4, All of these areas are within areas of bare ground/ hardstanding.

1.4 Landscape context

1.4.1 The 75.68 hectare (ha) site (centred on to the Ordnance Survey [OS] grid reference SS 76034 88194) is located south of the town centre of Port Talbot, Wales.

1.4.2 A review of aerial photographs and OS maps showed that the site was bordered to the north by Port Talbot Docks; to the south and east by Port Talbot Steelworks. The surrounding land comprised a mix of grassland, scrub, bare ground, and developed land, as well as the coast of Swansea Bay with an intertidal beach to the west. Notably, ponds are found in the surrounding area, and as well as the Port Talbot harbour, the River Afan is located north of the site, just before it enters Swansea Bay.

1.5 Legislation

1.5.1 Table 1 below provides a summary of the legislation considered in this assessment.

Table 1: Legislation considered in this assessment

Legislation/ Source	Notes
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (Habitats Regulations) 2017 (as amended)	Afford protection to certain species and habitats listed on the relevant schedules.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended)	
The Environment (Wales) Act 2016	Places a duty on planning authorities to consider habitats and species of principal importance in planning applications.
The Protection of Badgers Act 1992	Affords protection to badgers and their setts.

1.6 Planning policy

1.6.1 This PEA will have due regard for Planning Policy Wales (PPW; Welsh Government, 2024) and the following policies within the Adopted LDP (2011-2026) by Neath Port Talbot Council (Neath Port Talbot Council, 2016):

- Policy SP 15: Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Policy EN 6: Important Biodiversity and Geodiversity Sites
- Policy EN 7: Important Natural Features
- Policy SP 16: Environmental Protection

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The PEA was undertaken in line with Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidance (CIEEM, 2017), and includes:

- A desk study to obtain existing ecological information for the site and surrounding area.
- A field survey to inform habitat mapping and an assessment of the likely importance of habitat features. Habitats were also assessed for their suitability to support protected or otherwise notable species of plants and animals, taking into account the geographic location of the site and its connectivity to other natural habitats in the wider landscape.

2.1.2 The PEA survey was carried out on the 5th December 2024 by Kailey O'Brien ACIEEM, a senior ecological consultant.

2.2 Desk study

2.2.1 A list of the information obtained for the desk study, data sources and search areas is provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Data sources

Information obtained	Source	Search area
Locations / citations of statutory designated sites of European and/or international importance for nature conservation: Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites[2] - hereafter collectively referred to as 'European sites'.	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) website https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/uk-protected-areas/ MAGIC (the Multi-Agency Geographic Information website) www.magic.gov.uk	10 km
Locations / citations of statutory designated sites of national importance for nature conservation: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) (including consideration of SSSI risk zones), National Nature Reserves (NNRs), and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).	Natural Resources Wales website https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-sea/?lang=en MAGIC www.magic.gov.uk	2 km
Non-statutory designated sites of importance for nature conservation:	South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre	2 km
Records of protected and notable species of plants and animals (including invasive non-native species ([INNS]).	Aderyn: LERC Wales' Biodiversity Information & Reporting Database	2 km

[2] SACs and SPAs were formerly part of the Natura 2000 network; post- 'Brexit', they are now considered part of the UK's 'national site network'. Ramsar sites are sites of international importance. Note that SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites are also underpinned by SSSI designations which may have slightly different citations/ boundaries.

Information obtained	Source	Search area
Priority habitats and ancient woodland.	DataMapWales	2 km
Local planning guidance and policies.	Neath Port Talbot Council – Adopted LDP (2011-2026)	N/A
Details of species and habitats listed on the Neath Port Talbot Council (NPTC) Biodiversity Duty Plan (BDP) 2023-2026	Neath Port Talbot Biodiversity Duty Plan (2023-2026) https://www.npt.gov.uk/culture-and-tourism/countryside-and-wildlife/wildlife-law-and-advice/biodiversity-duty-plan/	N/A

2.2.2 The search areas used have taken into account the potential distance/area over which an impact could occur as a result of the proposed works. A 10 kilometre (km) search area was used for European sites to take account of mobile species (such as bats, birds, fish and otters) which may migrate, travel long distances or are known to use areas outside of designated sites.

2.3 Habitat survey

2.3.1 A survey of the site was undertaken to identify and map all habitats present using the Phase 1 habitat survey methodology (JNCC, 2010). Plant names follow Stace (2019) for native and naturalised species of vascular plant. The habitats are mapped on Figure 3, including 'target notes' to identify any habitats or features of particular interest.

Habitats of principal importance

2.3.2 An assessment of the likelihood of the site to support habitats of principal importance was carried out.

2.4 Protected and priority species survey

2.4.1 The suitability of the site to support protected or otherwise notable plant and animal species was assessed. Target notes (see Figure 3, and Appendix A) were used to record suitable habitats, as well as any sightings or evidence of such species, where found.

Plants

2.4.2 Vascular plant species were recorded during the survey, although no attempt was made to produce an exhaustive species list. Additional species are likely to be found during more detailed surveys or repeat surveys at different times of the year.

Terrestrial invertebrates

2.4.3 The site was assessed to identify areas of potential value to terrestrial invertebrates, based on the extent and quality of the microhabitats present.

Fish

2.4.4 Any ponds, rivers, ditches or other watercourses and waterbodies within/ adjacent to the site were also assessed for their suitability to support fish, based on river morphology, habitat features and likely water quality.

Amphibians

2.4.5 The site was assessed for its suitability to support both terrestrial and breeding amphibians, including great crested newts (GCN).

2.4.6 Ponds, lakes, or ditches within the site boundary were assessed to determine suitability to support GCN. Optimal breeding ponds tend to be well-vegetated, relatively clean and unpolluted, free of fish and wildfowl, and retain water throughout most summers. As GCN are terrestrial for most of the year, habitats on site were also assessed for their potential to support the species, based on factors such as vegetation structure and composition, and the availability of shelter and foraging resources.

2.4.7 Aerial imagery and OS maps were reviewed to identify any ponds within 250 metres (m) of the site boundary. The proximity of ponds and connectivity/ suitability of terrestrial habitats are an important factor in determining the likelihood of this species being present on site.

Reptiles

2.4.8 Terrestrial habitats were assessed for their potential to support reptiles, based on factors such as vegetation structure and composition, and the availability of shelter and foraging resources.

Bats

2.4.9 As stated in para 1.2 above, a preliminary roost assessment (PRA) of buildings for potential for roosting bats was conducted in September 2024 and also in April 2025. All buildings within the site boundary were subject to PRA survey. Details of these surveys are in two separate reports (RSK Biocensus 2024[3] and 2025[4]).

Hazel dormouse

2.4.10 The site was assessed for its suitability to support Hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*), based on vegetation structure, species composition and connectivity within the site and with suitable habitats in the wider landscape.

Badger

2.4.11 Habitats were assessed for their suitability for use by badger (*Meles meles*) for foraging and sett-building. Any incidental signs, such as setts, latrines, foraging signs, or footprints were recorded if they were encountered.

Other species of principal importance

2.4.12 An assessment of the likelihood of the site to support species of principal importance was carried out; for example, hedgehog, polecat or brown hare.

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[3] (RSK Biocensus, 2024) *Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report.* 2487822. RSK Biocensus, Cardiff.
[4] RSK Biocensus (2025) *Jetty, Harbour and Burdening Area – Preliminary Roost Assessment of Additional Buildings.* 2487822. RSK Biocensus, Cardiff.

2.5 Invasive non-native species

2.5.1 Any incidental records of invasive non-native species (INNS) were noted and mapped during the survey.

2.6 Survey limitations

2.6.1 The assessment as to whether protected and/or priority species might occur on the site is based on the known distribution of species in the local area (from online sources and desk study), the suitability of the habitats, and any evidence of the species recorded during the survey.

2.6.2 As the survey was undertaken outside the optimal botanical survey period (April to October), less conspicuous plant species (including INNS) may have been missed. However, the survey was sufficient to make a broad assessment of the habitats present.

2.6.3 The survey was undertaken in December when some species may not be readily visible or identifiable, therefore the presence of INNS cannot be ruled out.

2.6.4 Fencing within the red line boundary has been recently erected, therefore, some areas within the red line boundary were not accessible during the survey (shown on Figure 3). However, these areas appeared to be similar to those within the site, therefore, this is not considered to be a major constraint.

2.6.5 Adjacent land could not be accessed, and therefore it is possible that a badger sett (or other evidence of protected or notable species) beyond the site boundary could have been missed.

2.6.6 It should be noted that a net benefit for biodiversity assessment has not been included in this report though the data presented here describes the biodiversity baseline of the site.

2.7 Validity of data

2.7.1 In accordance with CIEEM guidance (CIEEM, 2019), unless the site changes significantly, the desk study and field surveys carried out to inform this report should remain valid for at least 18 months. After this time, a suitably experienced ecologist would need to reassess the site to determine if the results remained valid, up to a maximum of three years.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Designated sites

Statutory designated sites - European sites of importance for nature conservation

3.1.1 There are four European sites of importance for nature conservation within 10 km of the site boundary. These sites are listed in Table 3.

Table 3 Statutory sites of international importance for nature conservation within 10 km of the site boundary

Site name	Reasons for designation	Approximate distance/ direction from site
Kenfig / Cynffig SAC	Primarily designated for the presence of four Annex I habitats (2130 "fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")", 2170 dunes with *Salix repens sp. Argentea* (*Salicionj arenariae*), 2190 humid dune slacks, and 3140 hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.), and two Annex II species (1395 petalwort and 1903 fen orchid).	4.4 km south
Crymlyn Bog SAC and Ramsar	Primarily designated for the presence of two Annex I habitats 7140 transition mires and quaking bogs, and 7210 calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*.	6.8 km north-west
Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr / Cefn Cribwr Grasslands SAC	Primarily designated for the presence of the Annex I habitat, 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae).	9.5 km south-east

Statutory designated sites - National importance for nature conservation

3.1.2 There are no designated sites of national importance for nature conservation within 2 km of the site boundary.

Non-statutory designated sites of importance for nature conservation

3.1.3 There are five non-statutory designated sites of local importance for nature conservation within 2 km of the site boundary. These sites are listed in Table 4.

Table 4: Non-statutory designations of importance for nature conservation within 2 km of the site boundary

Site name	Reasons for designation	Approximate distance/ direction from site
Lower River Afan Estuary	Made up of an excellent mosaic of saltmarsh plants along a strip	390 m north-west

Site name	Reasons for designation	Approximate distance/ direction from site
	between mudflats and coastal grassland which include pockets of dune habitat along the higher shore which are associated with the Little Warren system. It is designated due to; H18:1 Coastal Saltmarsh, H18:2 Intertidal Mudflats and S6 Vascular plants.	
Little Warren	Little Warren is an area of sand dune supporting an important population of *Matthiola sinnuata* (Sea stock). The site is located at the southern end of the Aberafan seafront developments at the mouth of the River Afan. It is designated due to; H15:2 Coastal Sand-Dunes and S6 Vascular plants.	649 m north-west
Harbourside Law Courts	Harbourside Law Courts is a brownfield site open mosaic on previously developed land consisting of large areas of sedum, kidney vetch, bare ground. supporting common centaury, blackstonia and other typical early pioneering species. invertebrates include small blue butterfly, shrill carder bee, brown-banded carder bee. reptiles, linnet and starling also present. It is designated due to; H14:3 Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land and S5 Invertebrates	870 m north
NPT Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	Relatively small patches of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland.	997 m east and 1700-1950 m north-east
Bryn Goytre Cycleway	Bryn Goytre Cycleway is a linear section of disused railway line and currently a designated cycle track which follows the Cwm Dyffryn Valley between Bryn and Goytre. There are verges of low diversity mesotrophic grassland (largely MG1), but much of the track is flanked by ancient Sessile-oak/Birch woodland with abundant ferns plus a suite of Ancient Woodland Indicators including Hairy wood-rush, Bluebell, Wood sorrel and Opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage. It is designated due to H2 Boundaries and linear features: continuous linear feature which has a variety of semi-natural woodland and grassland boundary.	1715 m north-east

3.2 Habitats

3.2.1 The desk study returned records of five areas of ancient woodland within 2 km of the site, the closest was 1 km to the east. Eleven potential habitats of principal importance were identified within 2 km of the site. Intertidal mud and sand is shown as being present within the site. The other ten habitats identified are:

- Unimproved acid grassland
- Intertidal cobbles and shingle
- Shingle/ gravel above mean water height
- Semi-improved neutral grassland
- Semi-improved acid grassland
- Running water
- Semi-natural broadleaved woodland
- Dry acid heath
- Wood pasture
- Acid/neutral inland cliff

3.2.2 Eight waterbodies and the river Avan were identified within 500 m of the site.

3.2.3 The Phase 1 habitat map is provided as Figure 3 and shows the location of the target notes referred to in the text below. A description of each target note is given in Appendix A, and photographs are provided in Appendix B.

3.2.4 The site comprised several areas of poor semi-improved grassland, coniferous woodland (plantation), dense/continuous scrub (and scattered scrub), tall ruderal vegetation, disturbed land with ephemeral/short perennial vegetation, many buildings and hardstanding areas, and large areas of bare ground, some of which had ephemeral vegetation present. The site also included walls, fences, a line of cypress trees, and where the site crossed the coast, habitats included open sea water (Swansea Bay) and intertidal boulders/rocks.

3.2.5 Collectively, this mosaic of habitats (scrub, ephemeral short perennial vegetation, grassland and woodland) would be identified as open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, a habitat of principal importance in Wales, listed under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act. Due to the nutrient poor status of the substrate on which vegetation has established the flora is relatively diverse and likely to be species rich if surveyed at an optimal time of year. A short summary for each habitat type is given below:

Coniferous woodland - plantation

3.2.6 Two areas of conifer plantation were found near the northern periphery of the site, beside extensive sections of dense scrub and poor semi-improved grassland (Figure 3; Plates 5 and 6). These sections of the habitat consisted of Pine (*Pinus* species) trees on top of large bunds, Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) was also present within the understorey and edge of woodland.

Scrub – dense/continuous

3.2.7 There are four areas of scrub present within the site. The scrub generally consisted of either Bramble (*Rubus fructicosus* agg.), a Willow species (*Salix* sp.) or Sea-buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*), or a mix of all three species. Butterfly-bush was present within the northern areas of scrub. The largest area of scrub was found along the northern periphery of the site, beside a disused railway line. A species of Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* sp.; Target Note 2) was present within this area. The areas of scrub are isolated within the site (Plate 7; Plate 12; Plate 15).

Scrub – scattered

3.2.8 Scattered scrub was found in an area of poor semi-improved grassland in the south-west area of the site, in the form of bramble growing throughout the grassland (Plate 13). Scattered Butterfly-bush was present within grassland and ephemeral areas.

Coniferous parkland/scattered trees

3.2.9 A short line of 13 Cypress trees was found within site towards the north-west corner.

Semi-improved grassland

3.2.10 Many areas of semi-improved grassland were present within the site (Plate 8; Plate 10; Plate 11; Plate 12; Plate 13), with the majority of the habitat found within the north and south of the site (Figure 3). Species present within these areas included: Cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), Creeping Bent (*Agrostis stolonifera)*, a Couch grass (*Elytrigia/ Elymus* sp.), a sedge species (*Carex* sp.), Ribwort Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Viper's-bugloss (*Echium vulgare*), Evening Primrose (*Oenothera* agg.), Butterfly-bush (*Buddleja davidii*), a fern species (*Dryopteris* sp.), Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Common Bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Bristly Oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*), a meadow grass (*Poa* sp.), a clover (*Trifolium* sp.), Common vetch (*Vicia sativa*), Creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), a rose species (*Rosa* sp.), a Melilot species (*Melilotus* sp.), Ploughman's-spikenard (*Inula conyzae*). Areas of Marram (*Ammophila arenaria*) is present within grassland adjacent to the coast. As the survey was undertaken in December, it is not possible to fully classify the grassland type present.

Other tall herb and fern – tall ruderal

3.2.11 Two short sections of this habitat were found close together at the north-east corner of the site, beside the eastern stretch of conifer plantation. These areas comprised a Fleabane, Evening Primrose, a fescue and a bent. A stand of Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*; Target Note 3; Plate 2) was present.

Standing water

3.2.12 Three waterbodies were present within the centre of the site. These had no aquatic vegetation, were recently created and were filled with turbid contaminated water.

Open sea water

3.2.13 This habitat was identified with the open sea water (Swansea Bay) surrounding the jetty area of the site, notably within a tidal zone (Plate 19).

Intertidal - boulders/rocks

3.2.14 A small area of this habitat was surveyed at the edge of the coastline within the site and was bordered by the beach where the jetty extended from the mainland (Plate 9).

Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial

3.2.15 The survey identified an area of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation present, consisting of a Stonecrop species (*Sedum* sp.) and Evening Primrose. A grassy edge was present with species such as Yorkshire-fog present; scattered Butterfly-bush was also present (Plate 14).

Fence

3.2.16 Fences were found around much of the site and were present with the red line boundary along the northern periphery, in the north-east and north-west corners. Fences were also recorded around much of the southern side of the site, extending into the south-east corner.

Wall

3.2.17 Several relatively short sections of wall were found in the north-western quarter of the site, amongst a large area of bare ground.

Buildings

3.2.18 Numerous buildings were found in and around the site, amongst the bare ground and hardstanding habitat areas. Many of these, including relatively larger ones were grouped together in the southern area of the site.

Bare ground

3.2.19 The vast majority of the site is made up by bare ground, much of which consisting of work areas and access roads. Much of this is therefore, unvegetated, but some ephemeral vegetation was identified (Plate 16; Plate 17).

Hardstanding

3.2.20 Hardstanding habitats on site were identified by surfaced roads, car parks and surfaced work areas, such as the jetty (Plate 7; Plate 18).

3.3 Protected and priority species

Plants

3.3.1 The desk study returned a range of protected or otherwise notable plant species within 2 km of the site within the last ten years; of these one species is listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, eight species are listed on the UK Red Data Book

listing (Nationally Rare and Scarce; Cheffings *et al*, 2005), seven species are listed on Environment Act (Wales) Section 7, and 28 species are listed on the Local Diversity Action Plan. Oxtongue Broomrape (*Orobanche picridis)* is the Schedule 8 species located 100 m west of the site; recorded in 2021. Due to the grassland habitats present on site, it is possible Oxtongue Broomrape could be present within the site as species the plant may parasitise on are present (see Section 3.2).

3.3.2 No protected or otherwise notable native plant species were recorded during the survey.

Aquatic invertebrates

3.3.3 The desk study returned one record of protected or otherwise notable aquatic invertebrate species within 2 km of the site. Common Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) is listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and was recorded 1.2 km north-west of the site in 2023. Common oyster is likely to be present within Swansea Bay.

3.3.4 The three areas of standing water in the centre of the site were not considered suitable to support aquatic invertebrate species as the water quality is poor and there is a lack of aquatic vegetation.

Terrestrial invertebrates

3.3.5 The desk study returned records of 15 protected or otherwise notable terrestrial invertebrate species within 2 km of the site. 14 species which are listed on the Local Diversity Action Plan (LBAP), six species which are listed on the UK Red Data Book (Bratton, 1991). Please note that some species are listed under more than one protection list. These records were largely associated with grassland and wetland habitats which could potentially occur within the site.

3.3.6 Some areas of the site were considered likely to support an assemblage of common invertebrate species, typical of the grassland, scrub, tall ruderal and woodland habitats present on the site.

Fish

3.3.7 The desk study did not return any records of fish within 2 km of the site.

3.3.8 The waterbodies within the centre of the site/adjacent to the site were considered unsuitable to support fish as they have only recently been created. The river Avan is approximately 340 m north west of the site and flows into Swansea Bay, it is likely fish will be present within the river and Swansea Bay.

Amphibians

3.3.9 The desk study did not return any records of GCN within 2 km of the site boundary. However, DataMapWales highlights potential habitat for GCN within the south-west of the site.

3.3.10 There were desk study records of smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*) and common frog (*Rana temporaria*) within 2 km of the site. Smooth newt was the closet record, located 30 m north-east of the site.

3.3.11 There were eight waterbodies within 500 m of the site that could provide potential breeding habitat for GCN in the wider landscape. The closest of these was located 15 m north of the site. This waterbody was visible during the site visit, aquatic vegetation (a pond weed) was visible during the survey, but this is considered too small for GCN to lay eggs on. Additional aquatic species may be present within spring/ summer months. An additional three waterbodies are present within 500 m of the site but they are located with the steelworks, with a lack of terrestrial habitat and connectivity to the wider landscape.

3.3.12 The vegetated terrestrial habitat within the site is considered to be suitable for GCN and other common amphibian species.

Reptiles

3.3.13 The desk study returned records of reptiles within 2 km of the site. Common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*) and slow worm were recorded 90 m north of the site, recorded in 2023.

3.3.14 The habitats within the site such as grassland, tall ruderal vegetation, mosaic of scrub, woodland, grassland and bare ground provide good opportunities for basking and foraging reptiles. In addition, discarded scaffolding boards within a grassland (Target Note 1; Plate 1) were noted which could provide places of shelter or hibernation sites for reptiles.

3.3.15 The site is linked to areas of grassland and scrub along the coast and throughout/ around the periphery of the steelworks which may provide connectivity to suitable habitat in the wider landscape.

Birds

3.3.16 The desk study returned records of 100 bird species within 2 km of the site within the last 10 years. Twenty-seven species are protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and twenty-four species listed as Red and 47 species listed as Amber in the Birds of Conservation Concern (Stanbury *et al.*, 2021). These records (such as little ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*)) were largely associated with the coastal and estuarine habitats which could potentially occur within the site or at least be functionally linked.

3.3.17 The grassland, scrub and woodland within the site were considered suitable habitat for breeding birds. The previous report (Nesting Bird and Bat Survey Letter; RSK Biocensus 2024) states that the buildings within the site had potential for nesting birds.

3.3.18 A wall for nesting sand martin was present adjacent to the pond located to the north of the site.

Bats

3.3.19 The desk study returned records of four bat species as summarised in Table 5 Summary of bat desk study records Table 5.

Table 5 Summary of bat desk study records

Species	Records
Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)	1 record, located 101 m north of the site in 2023
Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)	1 record, located 1.6 km west of the site in 2019
Brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auratus*)	1 record, located 101 m north of the site in 2023
Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus*)	1 record, located 1.2 km north-west of the site in 2014
Noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*)	1 record, located 1.6 km west of the site in 2019

3.3.20 The previous report (Nesting Bird and Bat Survey Letter; RSK Biocensus 2024) surveyed 15 buildings for bat roosting potential; six of them were considered to offer low roosting potential, of these five are proposed for demolition, as discussed within the works package (Appendix C). A further 16 buildings/structures were surveyed in 2025, which are all proposed to be demolished. Of these a total of three buildings were assessed to have bat roosting suitability (two low potential and one moderate potential).

3.3.21 The scrub and woodland around the periphery of the site were suitable for use by foraging and/ or commuting bats.

Hazel dormouse

3.3.22 The desk study did not return any records of Hazel dormice within 2 km of the site.

3.3.23 The scrub and woodland may provide suitable habitat for dormice; however, these habitats were limited in extent and isolated from other suitable Hazel dormouse habitat in the wider landscape. Aerial imagery shows scrub present to the north of the site; a grassland approximately 20 m wide is present between the scrub within the site and scrub located to the north. However, the scrub to the north is also isolated from any further potential dormouse habitat.

Water vole

3.3.24 The desk study did not return any records of water vole within 2 km of the site.

3.3.25 No suitable waterbodies/ watercourses for water vole were present within the site. The river Avan is approximately 340 m north west of the site, therefore should any water vole be present on the river Avan, they will not be impacted by the works.

Otter

3.3.26 The desk study did not return any records of otter within 2 km of the site.

3.3.27 No suitable waterbodies/ watercourses for otter were present within the site. The river Avan is approximately 340 m north west of the site, therefore should any otter be present on the river Avan, they will not be impacted by the works.

Badger

3.3.28 The desk study returned records of badger within 2 km of the site, with the closest being a record of road mortality, 1.1 km east of the site, recorded in 2018.

3.3.29 No badger setts or other signs of badger activity were noted during the survey.

3.3.30 The grassland, scrub and woodland were considered suitable foraging/ sett building habitat for badgers within the site. The northern area of site has suitability for sett-building due to the presence of steep slopes.

3.3.31 Access was not possible to some areas of the site due to access limitations; however, no mammal paths were observed leading to or from these areas and it is considered unlikely that a large sett would have been missed/ mammal paths were observed leading into these areas and it is possible that a sett may be present.

Other priority species or species of principal importance

3.3.32 The desk study returned records of West European hedgehog and common dolphin within 2 km of the site. The closest record was of West European hedgehog located approximately 800 m north-west from the site, recorded in 2014.

3.3.33 The grassland, scrub and woodland habitats were considered suitable for hedgehog. Swansea Bay is considered suitable habitat for common dolphin.

3.4 Invasive non-native species

3.4.1 The desk study returned 24 records of invasive non-native species (INNS) within 2 km of the site. The closest of which was for Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) located along the northern site boundary, recorded in 2022.

3.4.2 Japanese Knotweed (Target Note 3; Plate 2) and a Cotoneaster species (Target Note 2) were recorded within the north of the site. The survey was undertaken in month when some species may not be readily visible or identifiable. Therefore, the presence of other INNS cannot be ruled out.

4 ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section of the report identifies ecological constraints to the proposed development and provides details of how potential adverse effects could be avoided, minimised or otherwise mitigated. It describes details of additional surveys which may be required to inform an ecological impact assessment as part of a planning application, and/ or detailed mitigation design/ licensing requirements. Opportunities for ecological enhancement have also been identified.

4.1.2 All recommendations for further surveys follow best practice guidance for the species/ species' group concerned.

4.2 Designated sites

Statutory designated sites - European sites of importance for nature conservation

4.2.1 There are four statutory designated sites of international importance for nature conservation within 10 km of the site boundary.

4.2.2 All four designated sites area located over 2 km from the site boundary. Due to the distance from the sites, lack of hydrological links, temporary nature of the proposed works and the control measures of the works (Non-Explosive demolition, noise monitoring, dust suppression etc.), adverse effects on the designated sites are considered unlikely.

4.2.3 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening assessment (stage 1) will likely be required to ensure the project demonstrates to Natural Resources Wales that potential direct/ indirect impacts have been adequately considered.

Statutory designated sites - National importance for nature conservation

4.2.4 There are no statutory designated sites of national importance for nature conservation within 2 km of the site boundary.

Non-statutory designated sites of importance for nature conservation

4.2.5 There are five non-statutory designated sites of local importance for nature conservation within 2 km of the site boundary.

4.2.6 Lower River Afan Estuary is located 390 m from the site boundary. There are no hydrological links between the site and the lower river Afan estuary however, surface water run-off from the works may impact the estuary. Pollution prevention measures are recommended to prevent any impacts on the estuary.

4.2.7 The remaining four non-statutory sites are located over 500 m from the site boundary. Due to the distance from the site, lack of hydrological links, temporary nature of the

proposed works and the control measures of the works, adverse effects as a result of the proposed development on the designated site are considered unlikely.

Habitats

4.2.8 The mosaic of coniferous woodland plantation, scrub, grassland and tall ruderal vegetation habitats represent a priority habitat in open mosaic habitat on previously developed land and therefore should be retained.

4.2.9 Due to the time of year the survey was undertaken further botanical surveys are recommended to confirm the classification and value of the grassland, and the Open Mosaic Habitat, should it be impacted as part of the works. National Vegetation Classification (NVC) habitat surveys (Rodwell, 2006) would be required at a more appropriate time of year (June – August). This would comprise a description of the habitats present, and a species-list for each land parcel, as per the standard field survey and data analysis methodology.

4.2.10 Should further surveys identify presence of valuable habitats, these habitats should be retained to avoid adverse effects. The survey results would also inform any necessary mitigation/ enhancement measures.

4.3 Protected and priority species

Plants

4.3.1 Oxtongue Broomrape is protected under Schedule 8 of the WCA. The habitats onsite may potentially support Oxtongue Broomrape (*Orobanche picridis*).

4.3.2 The majority of the works are within areas of hardstanding/ bare ground, which negate the need for further botanical surveys.

4.3.3 However, there is a laydown area within Phase 1 within grassland habitat together with some areas due for demolition seemingly only accessible over grassland. In the event that this laydown area cannot be relocated and access routes cannot be found which will avoid impacting grassland a NVC survey to confirm the presence of Oxtongue Broomrape will be required.

4.3.4 Should further surveys confirm presence of protected/ priority plant species, these species and the habitats which support them should be retained to avoid adverse effects. Where potential effects cannot be avoided, the survey results would also inform any necessary mitigation measures.

Aquatic invertebrates

4.3.5 Common oyster is listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act. Swansea Bay within the site is likely to support common oyster.

4.3.6 Buildings on the jetty are planned to be removed during Phase 1 of the works; however, the steelwork underside of the Jetty will be left in situ, therefore no surveys for aquatic invertebrates will be required. Should the underside of the jetty be impacted, or if there is a risk of pollution/contamination, physical damage, or other impacts to the aquatic environment surrounding the jetty, then further surveys would be required to inform any necessary licensing requirements/ mitigation measures.

Terrestrial invertebrates

4.3.7 It is likely that the habitats onsite support an assemblage of common invertebrate species. It is unlikely that the rare or notable species recorded in the wider area would be supported within this site and therefore no further surveys are considered necessary.

Fish

4.3.8 All spawning fish, their spawn and spawning sites are protected by law. Some fish species are also afforded additional protection.

4.3.9 Buildings on the jetty are planned to be removed during Phase 1 of the works; however, the steelwork underside of the Jetty will be left in situ, therefore no surveys for fish will be required. Should the underside of the jetty be impacted, or if there is a risk of pollution/contamination, physical damage, or other impacts to the aquatic environment surrounding the jetty, then further surveys would be required to inform any necessary licensing requirements/ mitigation measures.

4.3.10 Mitigation measures to prevent pollution or siltation of the Swansea Bay should be implemented.

Amphibians

4.3.11 Great crested newts, their eggs, breeding sites and resting places are protected by law.

4.3.12 GCN and other amphibian species are unlikely to be present within waterbodies within the site due to the lack of aquatic vegetation and turbid contaminated water, however they could potentially be present within the waterbodies within 500 m of the site. Suitable terrestrial habitat (grassland and scrub) was also identified within the northern part of the site providing connectivity as outlined below.

4.3.13 Given the close proximity of one pond to the site (15 m from the northwest corner of the site and from Phase 1 works), with good connectivity from the grassland habitat, this pond should be surveyed for GCN prior to works commencing. HSI assessment and eDNA sampling should be carried out on this pond, by experienced ecologists. eDNA surveys require one daytime visit (between 15 April and 30 June) and are a reliable way of determining whether GCN are present.

4.3.14 Depending on the results of the HSI assessment/eDNA survey and method of works, further population surveys and licensing may be required. Presence/ likely absence surveys establish whether GCN are present and provide an indication of population size. Up to six visits are required between mid-March and mid-June, with at least two visits between mid-April and mid-May for the presence/ absence survey and at least three visits between mid-April and mid-May for a population size class estimate.

4.3.15 Should the presence of GCN be confirmed, valuable habitats should be retained to avoid potential for adverse effects. Where potential effects cannot be avoided, the survey results would also inform any necessary licensing requirements, and mitigation measures.

4.3.16 Should the grassland habitat with the north/ northwest of the site be impacted by the works then the additional seven waterbodies should be subject to HSI and eDNA surveys.

Reptiles

4.3.17 Adders, grass snakes, common lizards and slow worms are protected by law.

4.3.18 The grassland and scrub habitats on site have potential to support reptiles and there is suitable connectivity to the wider area and the known populations of common lizard, slow worm and grass snake within the steel works.

4.3.19 It is assumed that the works and any lay down areas will be taking place within areas of hardstanding/ bare ground, negating the need for reptile surveys. However, should any areas of scrub or grassland vegetation require clearance as part of the works, it is considered to be best practice that the works are completed during the reptile active season (March to October, inclusive) under a precautionary working method statement with a suitably experienced ECoW present.

4.3.20 The tables in Appendix C indicate stages of the work where ECoW supervision for reptiles will be required. There are grassland and scrub areas which may support reptiles in all Phases of the works

Birds

4.3.21 All wild birds, their eggs and nests are protected by law. Some species, their nests and dependant young are afforded additional protection.

4.3.22 The site is considered suitable for breeding birds but given the large area of bare ground and limited woody vegetation, the breeding bid assemblage is likely to be limited; however large areas of bare ground with shallow standing water can support specialist breeders such as little ringed plover. Additionally, 15 buildings were identified to have potential to support breeding birds (RSK Biocensus 2024).

4.3.23 Demolition of the buildings and other works could be completed between September and February with no supervision required for nesting birds (provided buildings have not roosting bat potential and are located in hardstanding/bare ground areas). If demolition is to be completed between March and August, then a pre-survey check by an ornithologist will be required.

4.3.24 To avoid disturbance of breeding birds, vegetation clearance should be timed to avoid the main nesting bird season (nesting bird season is affected by climactic conditions but is generally taken as March to August inclusive). If this is not possible, a nesting bird check must be undertaken by an ecologist no more than 24 hours before the start of the works. If nests are found, they must be retained (with a suitable, species-specific buffer) and protected from damage or abandonment until the young have fledged.

4.3.25 As the site has potential to support ground nesting birds, for any works between March and August, a pre-works check should be conducted by an ornithologist prior to works commencing in each area or Phase of the site.

4.3.26 The tables in Appendix C indicate stages of the work where pre-works nesting bird checks will be required. There are habitats that could support nesting birds in all Phases of the works.

Bats

4.3.27 All bat species, their breeding sites and resting places are protected by law.

4.3.28 A total of eight buildings were found to have bat roosting potential. These included: five buildings, of those previously surveyed in 2024, identified as having low potential to support roosting bats: Blending Plant Control Tower; Harbour Stockyard Substation; Harbour Offices Warehouse; SDV Lighting Kiosk; and Harbour Offices (RSK Biocensus 2024). Also from the PRA survey in 2025, a further two buildings with low bat roosting potential: 802 Packing Substation and Blender Electrical Kiosk; and one with moderate potential: the 1203 Coal Handling Substation.

4.3.29 For each of the low potential buildings, one dusk emergence survey must be conducted and for the moderate potential building two emergence surveys must be carried out, between May and August, in line with Collins (2023), further details are provided in the previous reports (RSK Biocensus 2024; RSK Biocensus 2025). If bats are confirmed as present, then a licence from NRW and associated mitigation (replacement roosting habitat) will be required before demolition can take place.

4.3.30 The tables in Appendix C indicate stages of the work where bat emergence surveys will be required. Figures 3 and 4 show the locations of the buildings with bat roost potential.

Hazel dormouse

4.3.31 Hazel dormouse, their breeding sites and resting places are protected by law.

4.3.32 While there is some habitat suitable for dormice within the site it is limited and isolated from suitable habitat within the wider landscape, therefore it is likely that dormice are absent from the site and further surveys are not required.

Water vole

4.3.33 Water vole and their places of shelter are protected by law.

4.3.34 There was no suitable habitat for water vole on site and therefore no further surveys are required.

Otter

4.3.35 Otter and their places of shelter are protected by law.

4.3.36 There was no suitable habitat for otter on site and therefore no further surveys are required.

Badger

4.3.37 Badger and their setts are protected by law.

4.3.38 While no signs of badger presence were recorded, access was not possible to some areas of the site in the northeast and therefore it is recommended that pre-construction checks for badger are completed prior to works in this area of the site.

4.3.39 Should further surveys identify setts, commuting corridors and foraging areas, these habitats should be retained to avoid the potential for adverse effects on this species.

Where potential effects cannot be avoided, the results of these surveys would inform any necessary licensing requirements and mitigation measures.

Other species of principal importance

4.3.40 West European hedgehog and common dolphin are listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act. The terrestrial habitat within the site (scrub and grassland) has potential to support hedgehog whilst Swansea Bay is likely to support common dolphin.

4.3.41 Works are planned to remove the buildings on the jetty; however, the jetty itself will remain intact and no other works are required within Swansea Bay, therefore no surveys for aquatic mammals will be required. Should the jetty be impacted or if there is a risk of contamination, physical damage, or other impacts to the aquatic environment surrounding the jetty, then further surveys would be required to inform any necessary licensing requirements/ mitigation measures.

4.3.42 No further surveys are required for hedgehog; however, care should be taken to avoid impacting habitats suitable for this species.

4.3.43 It is assumed that the works and any lay down areas will be taking place within areas of hardstanding/ bare ground. However, should any areas of scrub or grassland vegetation require clearance as part of the works, precautionary measures are recommended to prevent any negative impacts on hedgehog. It would be appropriate for an ecologist to carry out a pre-construction check for this species immediately prior to site clearance. This may be extended to overseeing vegetation removal and site clearance, to allow any animals present to be relocated to a suitable retained area within the site.

4.3.44 It is also good practice to cover any excavations overnight or install a ramp (e.g. a scaffold plank) to prevent animals from becoming trapped.

4.4 Invasive non-native species

4.4.1 It is an offence in law to cause INNS to spread.

4.4.2 As both Cotoneaster and Japanese knotweed have been recorded on site, to avoid further spread of these species, removal by specialist contractors, buffer zones, toolbox talks and/ or implementation of biosecurity measures will be required.

4.5 Opportunities for enhancement

4.5.1 Our recommendations to comply with the mitigation hierarchy/ stepwise approach and Net Benefit for Biodiversity are laid out below. Detailed design plans are currently unavailable; therefore the below enhancement recommendations are general, further recommendations will be made once detailed design is available.

4.5.2 Opportunities to enhance the biodiversity value of the site could include:

- Enhancing the open mosaic habitat using piles / bunds of spoil;
- Planting to provide connectivity with habitat in the wider area; and
- Enhancement of the waterbodies with re-profiling works and/or aquatic flora.
- Creation of hibernacula along scrub edges (this would benefit amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, and small mammals – including hedgehogs).

5 CONCLUSION

5.1.1 A HRA Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening assessment (stage 1) will likely be required to demonstrate to Natural Resources Wales that potential direct/ indirect impacts have been considered.

5.1.2 The results of the PEA and recommended further surveys can be used to inform an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA), which would be required as part of future planning applications for the proposed development.

5.1.3 A total of eight buildings were found to have bat roosting potential. These buildings must each have bat emergence surveys carried out between May and August, prior to deconstruction/demolition (one survey for the seven buildings with low potential and two surveys for the single building with moderate potential). If bats are confirmed as present, then a licence from NRW and associated mitigation strategy will be required before demolition can take place.

5.1.4 Buildings, structures, trees, scrub, grassland and bare ground, all offer suitable habitat for nesting birds. During the nesting bird season (March – August), a pre-works check of any suitable nesting habitat to be affected by works must be conducted by an ecologist within 48 hours prior to works commencing. Some birds, such as feral pigeons, can nest outside of the main nesting period and if they can gain access inside buildings they can potentially nest all year round. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-works check of any buildings to be affected by works should be conducted by an ecologist within 48 hours prior to works commencing – at any time of year for any buildings which birds could gain access inside.

5.1.5 The grassland and scrub on site offer suitable habitat for reptiles and amphibians. It is anticipated that the works and any lay down areas will be taking place within areas of hardstanding/ bare ground, and existing roads will be used for access, therefore reptiles and amphibians, if present, should not be affected. However should the scope of works change and any areas of scrub or grassland vegetation are found to require ground clearance then this must occur within the reptile active season (March – October) and should be supervised by an ecologist or ECoW.

5.1.6 One pond located 15 m north of the site has potential to support GCN and will require an HSI assessment and eDNA survey prior to works commencing in the northern part of the site. eDNA surveys determine presence/likely absence of GCN and can be carried out between 15 April and 30 June.

5.1.7 It is recommended that works take place under a precautionary working method statement for breeding birds, reptiles and amphibians.

5.1.8 Collectively, the mosaic of habitats (scrub, ephemeral short perennial vegetation, grassland and woodland) would be identified as open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, a habitat of principal importance in Wales. The scrub, grassland and woodland in the north-east part of the site are proposed to be retained and should be left intact; these habitat areas are outside of the proposed works and are not anticipated to be affected by the demolition works. However should the scope of works change and works are found to be required in these areas, mitigation measures for breeding birds, reptiles and amphibians would need to be considered, and a pre-

works check for badger would be necessary. Additionally, replacement habitat would be required to mitigate for the loss of these areas in line with Net Benefit for Biodiversity as discussed in section 4.5.

5.1.9 Cotoneaster and Japanese knotweed were recorded in the northeast area of the site, which is outside of the proposed works area. To avoid further spread of these species, removal by specialist contractors, buffer zones, toolbox talks and/ or implementation of biosecurity measures will be required.

5.1.10 Note that all recommendations are based on the red-line boundary and Tata Steel demolition and deconstruction documents for Phases 1, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B and 4. If the site boundary or works plans change, an ecologist must be consulted, and further surveys may be required.

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FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location plan
Figure 2: Phase 1 habitat plan
Figure 3 : Location of buildings with bat roosting potential from PRA carried out in 2024
Figure 4: Location of buildings with bat roosting potential from PRA carried out in 2025

Legend:

Site boundary

Rev	Date	Project Code	Drn	Chk	App
00	17/12/2024	2487822	TG	SP	KOB

Port Talbot MCO CDM

RSK biocensus
EXPERTS IN ECOLOGY

TITLE: Figure 1:

Site Location Plan

0 200 400 600
Metres
SCALE: 1:16,000 @ A3

REV 00

Document Path: C:\OneDrive\RSK Group\RSK Biocensus - 08 GIS - 2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM\02 - APRX\2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM - Figure 1 - Site Location Plan.aprx

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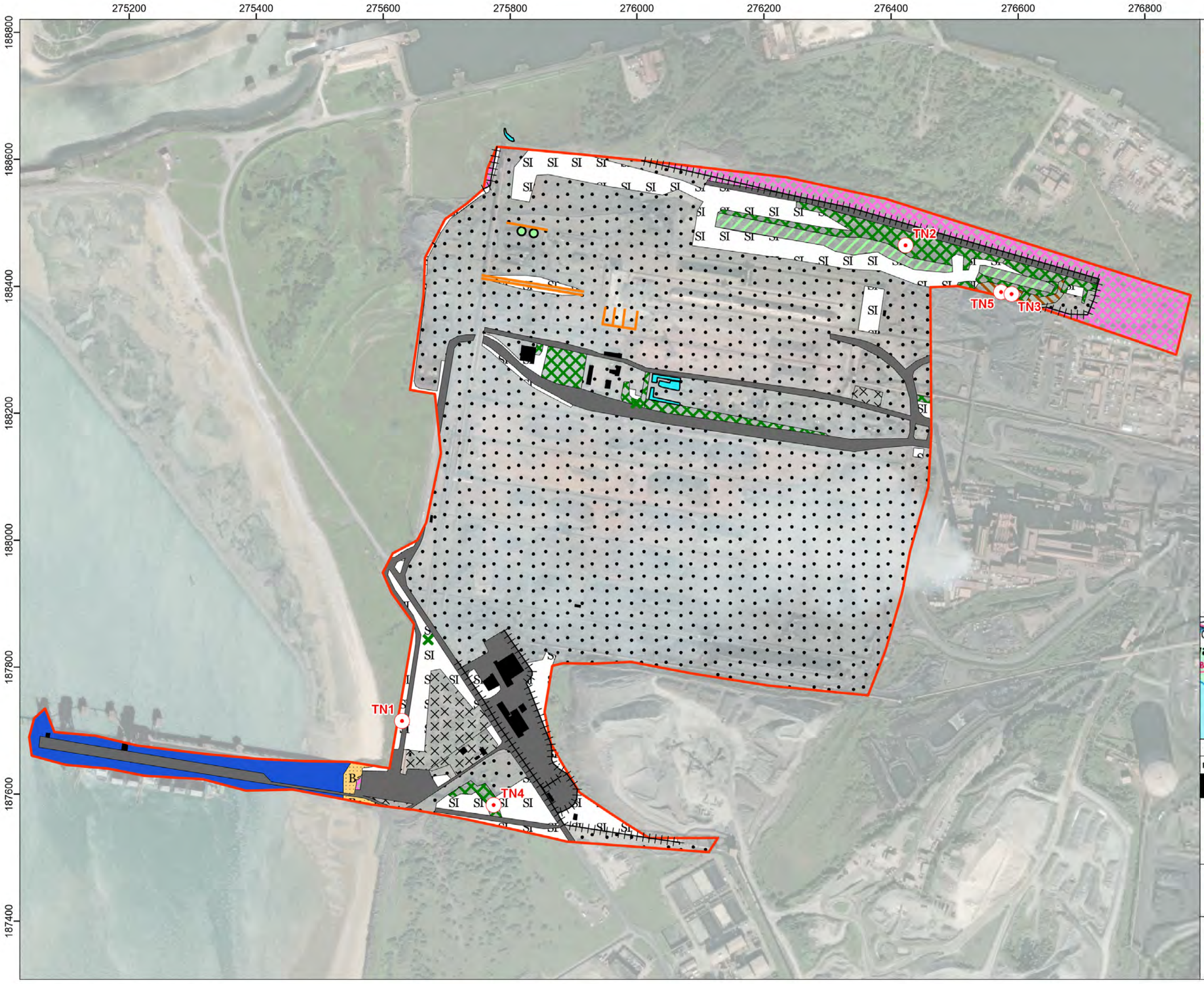

Legend:

- Site boundary
- Phase 1 Habitats
- Coniferous woodland - plantation
- Scrub - dense/ continuous
- Semi-improved grassland
- Other tall herb and fen - ruderal
- Standing water
- Sea
- Intertidal - bouders/ rocks
- Cultivated/ disturbed land - emphemeral / short perennial
- Building
- Bare ground
- Hardstanding
- Unsurveyed due to access restrictions
- Coniferous parkland/ scattered trees
- Fence
- Wall
- Scrub - scattered
- Target note

Rev	Date	Project Code	Drn	Chk	App
00	03/02/2025	2487822	TG	SP	KOB

Port Talbot MCO CDM

RSK biocensus
EXPERTS IN ECOLOGY

TITLE: Figure 3:

Phase 1 Habitats Map

0 70 140 210
Metres
SCALE: 1:5,500 @ A3

REV 00

Document Path: C:\OneDrive\RSK Group\RSK Biocensus - 08 GIS - 2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM\02 - APRX\2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM - Figure 3 - Phase 1 Habitats Map.aprx

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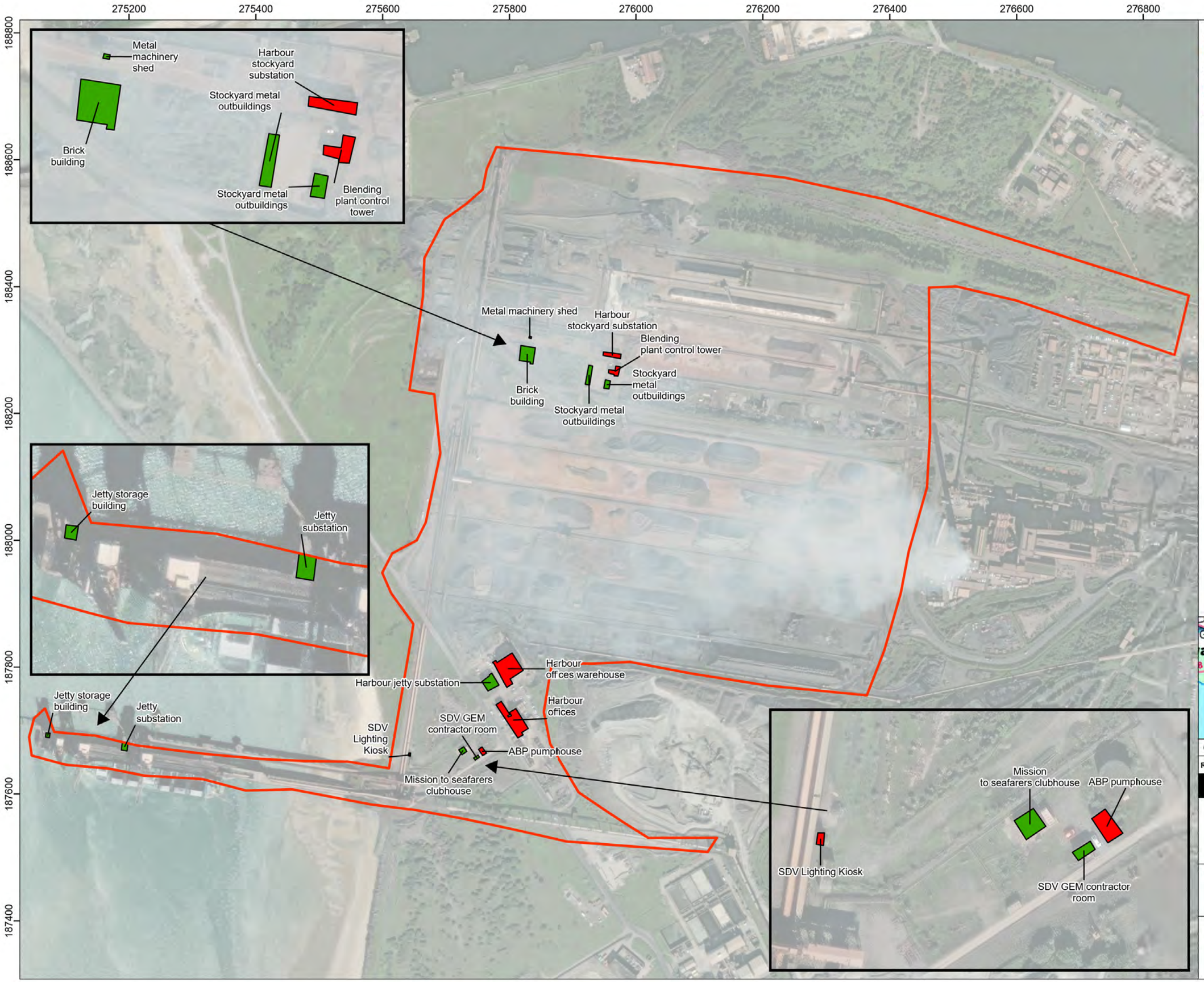

Legend:

- Site boundary

Bat Roost Potential Building

- Low
- Negligible/None

Rev	Date	Project Code	Drn	Chk	App
00	29/01/2025	2487822	TG	SP	KOB

Port Talbot MCO CDM

RSK biocensus
EXPERTS IN ECOLOGY

TITLE: Figure 4:

Locations of Buildings with Bat Roost Potential

0 70 140 210
Metres
SCALE: 1:5,500 @ A3

N W E S

REV 00

Document Path: C:\OneDrive\RSK Group\RSK Biocensus - 08 GIS - 2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM02 - APRX\2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM - Figure 4 - Location of buildings with BRP.aprx

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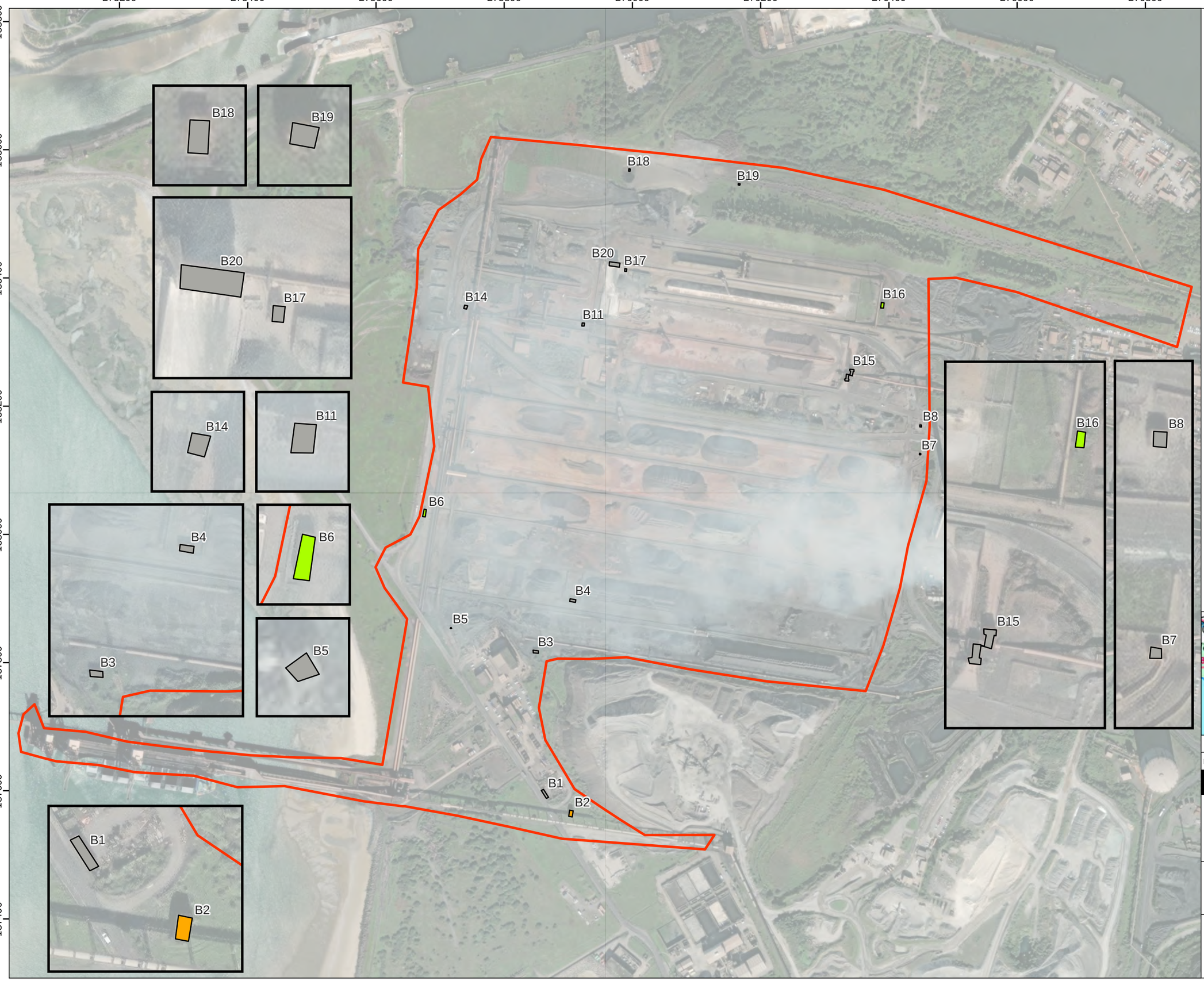

Legend:

- Site boundary

Bat Roost Potential

- Moderate
- Low
- None

Rev	Date	Project Code	Drn	Chk	App
00	28/04/2025	2487822	TG	SP	KOB

Port Talbot MCO CDM

RSK biocensus
EXPERTS IN ECOLOGY

TITLE: Figure 3:

Building Assessment for Bat Roosts

0 70 140 210
Metres
SCALE: 1:5,500 @ A3

REV 00

Document Path: C:\OneDrive\RSK Group\RSK Biocensus - 08 GIS - 2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM\02 - APRX\2487822 - Port Talbot MCO CDM - Figure 3 - Building Assessment Results.aprx

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World Imagery: Microsoft

APPENDIX A – TARGET NOTES

Target Note Number	Description
1	Discarded scaffolding boards suitable refuge for reptiles and amphibians
2	A species of Cotoneaster – invasive non-native species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended)
3	Japanese Knotweed – invasive non-native species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended)
4	Mammal hole approximately 15cm wide at entrance. The hole splits into two and narrows indicating that the hole is not used by badger but likely used by small mammals such as rabbit.
5	Rabbit droppings

APPENDIX B – SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Plate 1 (05/12/2024): Discarded scaffolding boards found on the western border of the site, recorded as Target Note 1.	Plate 2 (05/12/2024): Japanese knotweed found amongst an area of tall ruderal vegetation at the north-east corner of the site, recorded as Target Note 3.
Plate 3 (05/12/2024): Mammal hole found amongst scrub habitat at southern end of the Site, approximately 15 cm in width, splits into two within and narrows. Recorded as Target Note 4.	Plate 4 (05/12/2024): Rabbit droppings found amongst ruderal vegetation habitat near north-east corner of the site, recorded as Target Note 5.

Plate 5 (05/12/2024): Photo showing woodland on top of bund in background and dense scrub comprising Butterfly-bush in foreground.	Plate 6 (05/12/2024): Woodland with sparse understory.
Plate 7 (05/12/2024): An area of hardstanding habitat beside a stretch of dense/continuous Willow and Hazel scrub.	Plate 8 (05/12/2024): Semi-improved grassland in the south-west corner of the site showing a relatively tall general sward length.
Plate 9 (05/12/2024): Intertidal habitat on site shown by boulders/rocks, neighbouring the beach. Picture is taken to the north showing off site area.	Plate 10 (05/12/2024): Moss and ephemeral/perennial vegetation found across parts of the grassland and disturbed land areas on site.

Plate 11 (05/12/2024): Grassland and narrow section of ephemeral habitat on the western boundary of site.	Plate 12 (05/12/2024): Area of grassland and scrub habitat within the centre of site.
Plate 13 (05/12/2024): Scattered bramble scrub growing within a grassland on site.	Plate 14 (05/12/2024): An area of disturbed land with ephemeral/short perennial vegetation in the south-west area of the site, which transitions into neighbouring grassland or hardstanding areas.
Plate 15 (05/12/2024): Dense/continuous scrub habitat neighbouring thick grassland at the southern area of the site.	Plate 16 (05/12/2024): Bare ground habitat identified in the south-east corner of the site, showing moss growth on piles.

Plate 17 (05/12/2024): Bare ground devoid of vegetation as seen across much of the work/access areas on site.

Plate 18 (05/12/2024): Hardstanding work/access areas devoid of vegetation.

Plate 19 (05/12/2024): Open sea water of Swansea Bay surrounding the jetty on site.

APPENDIX C – DECONSTRUCTION PHASES

The below work package documents were provided by Tata Steel and provide further detail to the information in the below tables.

Burdening Area Phase 1 (North Conv

Burdening Area Phase 2A+2B Deconst

Burdening Area Phase 3A+3B Deconst

Burdening Area Phase 3A+3B Deconst

Burdening Area Phase 4 - Final.pdf

The tables below indicate the deconstruction plans for each Phase of the works.

Table 6 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 1

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Conveyor 802 and tripper car & GTU	Fig 1,4,15,18	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Laydown 2,3, Fig 7,8	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Conveyor 802 is located over grassland. If any grassland/scrub areas to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Conveyor 803 and tripper car & GTU	Fig 1,4,13,16,19	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Laydown 2,3, Fig 7,8	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Conveyor 802 is located adjacent to grassland. If any grassland/scrub areas to be affected then ECoW supervision

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
						would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Conveyor 824 & GTU	Fig 1,4	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 1,2, Fig 6,7	Pre-works check for nesting birds
Conveyor 814 and junction house & GTU	Fig 1,4,11,12	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 1,2, Fig 6,7	A pond is located 15 m from the northwest corner of the site and the north end of Conveyor 814. If the proposed eDNA survey of the pond determines that great crested newts are present then works should be carried out under a method statement and ECoW supervision may be required, depending on method of works.
Conveyor 1203 and GTU	Fig 2,4,17	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 4,5 Fig 9,10,	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Steel tank	Table 1 S.No2, Fig 4, 21	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 1 Fig 6	Located <100 m from the pond near the northwest corner of site. If the proposed eDNA survey determines that great crested newts are present in the pond at the NW corner of the site (<100 m away from the steel tank) then works on the steel tank should be carried out under a method statement and ECoW supervision may be required, depending on method of works.
Weigh Bridge	Table 1, S. No 7, Fig 4, 22	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	None
Wheel Wash	Table 1, S. No 8, Fig 4, 22	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	None
VAT near 823	Table 1, S. No 9, Fig 4, 25	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	Pre-works check for nesting birds
Building at end of 806 (also referred to as 802 Packing Substation)	Table 1, S. No 10, Fig 4, 23	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	Pre-works check for nesting birds A preliminary roost assessment carried out on the building in April 2025 assessed the building as low potential for roosting bats – one bat emergence survey is required between May and August (building is referred to as 802 Packing Substation and 'B6' in RSK Biocensus PRA report 2025)

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Lego brick wall x2 spillage bin near head end of conveyor 804 beside 803	Table 1, S. No 11, Fig 4, 24	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	Pre-works check for nesting birds
Vat under 814 near 200t Bunker	Table 1, S. No 12, Fig 4, 22	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	None
Lighting tower	Table 1, S. No 13, Fig 4, 25	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 2 Fig 7	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Coal Handling Contractor Room (also referred to as 1203 Coal Handling Substation)	Table 1, S. No 18, Fig 4, 20	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Yes, Laydown 5 Fig 10	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required. A preliminary roost assessment carried out on the building in April 2025 assessed the building as moderate potential for

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
						roosting bats – two bat emergence surveys required (building referred to as 1203 Coal Handling Substation and 'B2' in RSK Biocensus PRA report 2025)

Table 7 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 2A

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Reclaimer No-1 BWR, rails and tracks, idlers, idler frames, drums/ pulleys, conveyor structural steel, tail drum frame and the associated guards of Conveyor 813	Fig 4	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from Barge	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Implement pollution prevention measures
Reclaimer No-1 BWR, rails and tracks, idlers, idler frames, drums/ pulleys, conveyor structural steel, tail drum frame and the associated guards of Conveyor 823	Fig 4, 6	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from Barge	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Implement pollution prevention measures

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Stacker, idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, the defunct structure 2L Trestle structure towards south side, the defunct structure 4L Trestle Structure towards south side for Conveyor 808	Fig 7, 8, 9	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Some ruderal vegetation / grassland adjacent to Conveyor 808. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Stacker, idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, the	Fig 6,9,12	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Some ruderal vegetation / grassland adjacent to Conveyor 806. If any grassland areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
defunct structure 2L Trestle structure towards south side, the defunct structure 4L Trestle Structure towards south side for Conveyor 806						
Stacker, idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, the defunct structure 2L Trestle structure towards south side, the defunct structure 4L Trestle Structure towards south side for Conveyor 804	Fig 5,7,10, 11	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Some ruderal vegetation / grassland adjacent to Conveyor 804. If any grassland areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Building near 804	Fig 13	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Preliminary roost assessment on building in 2025 found negligible potential for roosting bats. No further bat surveys required.
Ramp on Conv.806,804	Fig 12	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None
Ramp on Conv.808	Fig 14	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None

Table 8 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 2B

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Conveyor 825, Chain feeder, discharge chute and including building structure, platform and staircase, FRP water tank with the 200	Fig 2, 2b, 14	Mechanical - cutting, breaking, burning by machine.	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
T bunker building Harbour stock yard substation building with adjoining ring foundation of water outlet pipe	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from Barge	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Preliminary roost assessment complete. No further bat surveys required (referred to as Brick building North of control Tower in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report).
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural	Fig 2, 2b	Mechanical - cutting and	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, Trestle structure, Access walkway both side for Conveyor 1/831drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, the defunct structure 2L Trestle structure towards south side, drop weight tower(DWT),the defunct structure 4L Trestle Structure towards south side for Conveyor 1/831 and 2/831 with the conveyors.		burning by machine and lifting from land				
2 no's Ore crushing & screening	Fig15, 19	Mechanical - cutting and burning by	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
equipment along with 2 storey Structural steel frame building including loading & discharging hopper / chute associate to building		machine and lifting from land				If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, complete structural steel of conveyor along head frame and its supporting structural, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, for Conveyor 1/835 and 2/835 with the conveyor.	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor including Trestle structure, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, trestle structure, walkway for Conveyor 838 with the conveyor.						
RCC storage yard on the north of conveyor 838.	Fig 18	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor including walkway, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame for Conveyor 840A	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Idlers, idler frames, No2 Boom stacker, rail wooden sleepers, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, loading hopper, cross over for yard Conveyor 842, including the drop weight tower (DWT)	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, Trestle structure. Access walkway & platform structure for Conveyor 849, including Magnetic separator & cross over (towards to	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Reserve fine stock ramp) and Screen & unloading steel hopper under reserve fine stock ramp						
Concrete road on Reserve fine stock ramp with RCC guard wall on both side and having steel plate) and bottom loading hopper.	Fig 2,2b, 17	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Electric building near blending tower (also referred to as Harbour Stockyard Substation)	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical – breaking, cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Preliminary roost assessment complete. One emergence survey required (referred to as Harbour Stockyard Substation in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report).
Electric cable tray supporting structure frame from electrical cabin building over conveyor 841A & towards conveyor 869	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Samson feeder unit	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
5000 Ton yard	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, Trestle structure Access walkway both side Conveyor 850, including the drop weight tower (DWT)	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, Trestle structure, Access walkway both side & platform structure for Conveyor 869 including the drop weight tower (DWT)	Fig 15	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Limestone bunker structure (Additive bunker) 3 nos and shed covered with GA sheet and electric cabin room nearby and ramp.	Fig 2,2b, 17	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, No1	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Boom stacker, rail wooden sleeper, structure beam, cross over for Conveyor 873 including the drop weight tower (DWT)						
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, rails of the Stackers, loading hopper for Conveyor 881 including the drop weight tower (DWT)	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Five (5) no's steel type floor lighting / tele tower along with associate electrical cabin	Fig 2, 2b, 16, 17	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. For the Blending Control Tower (see below) – one bat emergence survey required

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Steel structure type blending control tower, Civil construction type plant office (Two storey building), 2 no's storage shed (GI sheet), car park shed and boundary fence by GI sheet	Fig 16	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Preliminary roost assessment of Blending Control Tower assessed as low potential for roosting bats - one bat emergence survey required (referred to as Blending Plant Control Tower in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report). Preliminary roost assessment complete on 2x storage sheds. Negligible bat roost potential. No further bat surveys required (referred to as Stockyard Metal Outbuildings in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report).
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, old electric cabin including concrete guard wall, Access walkway for Conveyor 841A. (feeding from conv.840A)	Fig 2, 2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

Table 9 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 3A

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Rails and tracks, idlers, idler frames, drums/ pulleys, conveyor structural steel, tail drum frame and the associated guards of Conveyor 813	Fig 4	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from Barge	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	
Rails and tracks, idlers, idler frames, drums/ pulleys, conveyor structural steel, tail drum frame and the associated guards of Conveyor 823	Fig 4	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from Barge	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, for Conveyor 808	Fig 5	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame for Conveyor 806	Fig 5,6	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, drums/ pulleys, tail drum frame and the associated guards, head drum frame, motor and gear box frame, for Conveyor 804	Fig 5	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

Table 10 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 3B

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Light tower	Fig. 9	Mechanical - cutting and	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
		burning by machine and lifting from land				If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Blender Kiosk (also referred to as 'Blender Electrical Kiosk')	Fig. 15	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	A preliminary roost assessment carried out on the building in April 2025 assessed the building as low potential for roosting bats – one bat emergence survey required (building referred to as Blender Electrical Kiosk and 'B16' in RSK Biocensus PRA report 2025)
Fine stacker kiosk	Fig. 10	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None.
Idlers, idler frames, rail wooden sleepers, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, electric cable tray, for Conveyor 882	Fig. 8	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, rail wooden sleepers, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head &	Fig. 2b,14	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
discharge chute, electric cable tray, for Conveyor 883						
Junction house (JH04 & JH05)	Fig.14	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Idlers, idler frames, rail wooden sleepers, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, electric cable tray, for Conveyor 842	Fig 2,2b,17	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None
Concrete wall and the sloping earthwork beside the samson feeder ramp both side (near 750 &751 loading feeder)	Fig.2b	Mechanical - breaking	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None
2 no's samson feeder (750 & 751) along with steel structure, walls and ramp	Fig. 16	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	None

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Mechanical & structural items inside of transfer pit	Fig. 11	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, loading hopper for Conveyor 884	Fig. 2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Idlers, idler frames, conveyor structural steel, head frame, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, electric cable tray, rail wooden sleeper,	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
structure beam, cross over for Conveyor 873.						
Idlers, idler frames, all structural steel of conveyor, tail frame, head & discharge chute, scraper, bend frame, loading hopper for Conveyor 881	Fig 2,2b	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Yes. Fig 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.

Table 11 Deconstruction Plan for Phase 4

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Conveyor 1401	Fig 2,4,9	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6,8 Laydown 1,3	Pre-works check for nesting birds in adjacent scrub and grassland. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
						However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Mobile Plant Workshop	Fig 4,10	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Preliminary roost assessment : low potential for roosting bats. One emergence survey required (referred to as Harbour Offices Warehouse in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report).
Harbour Jetty Substation	Fig 4,11	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Preliminary bat roost assessment: negligible potential. No further bat surveys required.
Ore Terminal Office & Fencing (referred to as Harbour Offices)	Fig 4, 12	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Preliminary roost assessment: low bat roost potential. One emergence survey required (referred to as Harbour Offices in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report). Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Mechanical Workshop	Fig 4, 14	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Pre-works check for nesting birds. Preliminary roost assessment complete. One emergence survey required (referred to as Harbour Offices in Nesting Bird and Bat survey letter report.
Contractor's Cabin	Fig 4	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
Lego Blocks Stockyard	Fig 4	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6 Laydown 1	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Kiosk	Fig 4	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6 Laydown 1	Preliminary roost assessment in 2025 assessed as negligible potential for roosting bats – no further bat surveys required. Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Mobile plant workshop laydown area diesel tank base	Fig 4, 17	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6 Laydown 1	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Wheel Wash machine room	Fig 4	Mechanical – Excavator with crushing attachment	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6 Laydown 1	Pre-works check for nesting birds.
Wheel Wash	Fig 4, 18	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,6 Laydown 1	None.
Portacabin	Fig 4, 16	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,8 Laydown 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground

What is being removed	Reference No. in report	How is this being dismantled	Date From	Date To	Any laydown area required	Recommendations
						and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Light Tower	Fig 4, 19	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,8 Laydown 3	Pre-works check for nesting birds. If any grassland/scrub areas nearby are to be affected then ECoW supervision would be required for hand search and to check any refugia for reptiles. However it is anticipated that grassland areas will not be affected as laydown will be on hard-standing or bare ground and existing roads will be used for access, therefore ECOW is unlikely to be required.
Harbour storage yard shed	Fig 4, 15	Mechanical - cutting and burning by machine and lifting from land	April 2025	March 2026	Fig 5,7 Laydown 2	Pre-works check for nesting birds.

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