

Tim Penney
Everett Construction Ltd
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23rd April 2021

Dear Tim,

Nesting bird check of Coopers Barn, Walcot, Sleaford, Lincolnshire

Following our recent nesting bird survey of the above site, I am writing to confirm the results of the survey. The survey was undertaken on 23rd April 2021, in dry, sunny conditions, by Director and Principal Ecologist Ian Nixon MCIEEM. The survey site comprises Cooper's Barn, located south-west of Walcot in Lincolnshire - central grid reference TF052341. Representative photographs of the site are included as Appendix 1. The site was previously surveyed in January 2019 by Inspired Ecology Ltd and reported in Ecology and Protected Species Survey, Cooper's Barn, Walcot, Lincolnshire. The proposals entail the strimming of grassland and scrub vegetation on site, in order to construct a garage.



Figure 1: Aerial view of the survey site, outlined in red

Survey methods

Common bird species

The survey sites were searched for signs of use by nesting birds; typically old and active nests; concentrations of faecal deposits associated with a breeding site; territorial behaviour; audible sounds of young birds and adults carrying food/nesting material. All bird species noted on site were recorded.

Survey results

The site is described in detail in the previous report and remains little changed from that report.

No birds' nests were noted within the scrub on site and no birds were noted behaving in a territorial manner. Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*; woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*; skylark *Alauda arvensis*; wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*; pied wagtail *Motacilla alba*; chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* and yellowhammer *Emberiza citronella* were noted on or adjacent to the site.

Legal protection

All common wild birds are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended).

Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Kill, injure or take any wild bird
- Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built
- Take or destroy the egg of any wild bird

Certain rare breeding birds are listed on Schedule 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended). Under this legislation they are afforded the same protection as common wild birds and are also protected against disturbance whilst building a nest or on or near a nest containing eggs/unfledged young.

Recommendations

No nesting birds or birds behaving territorially were noted on site. All contractors should remain vigilant for nests and should any be discovered then they should be protected until the young fledge.

Owing to the time of year, the results of this survey can only be relied upon for a period of seven days. All contractors should remain vigilant for nests and should any active nests be discovered then they should be protected until the young fledge. If work cannot begin within seven days of this nesting bird check, then a further nesting bird check will need to be undertaken.

I hope this provides all the required information. If you have any queries or we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Nixon MCIEEM

APPENDIX 1
Representative photographs of the site

