
**THREE OAKS RENEWABLE
ENERGY PARK
EXTENSION**

**Environmental
Statement Appendix 7.4: Wintering Bird
Survey 2024-2025**

MAY 2026





THREE OAKS RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK EXTENSION: WINTERING BIRD SURVEYS 2024-25

Report to Ridge Clean Energy

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Cover photos:

Top left – Lapwing. © Steve Percival

Top right – Golden Plover. © Steve Percival



THREE OAKS RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK EXTENSION: WINTERING BIRD SURVEYS 2024-25

INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents the results of wintering bird survey work at the proposed Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension (the Proposed Development), Thornholme, East Yorkshire. It provides a further year of baseline data on the wintering and passage bird populations, activity and flight paths within the vicinity of the proposed development to inform subsequent ornithological impact assessment.
 2. The specific objectives of this work were to:
 - Undertake wintering bird surveys of the proposed development site and its surrounds, to determine the numbers of birds present, and the flight activity of key target species; and
 - Use this information to evaluate the importance of the site's wintering bird populations.
 3. The surveys consider Natural England [NE] (Drewitt 2010, and NE standing advice¹) and Scottish Natural Heritage (2017) guidance on bird surveys for wind farms. The surveys were undertaken by Tom Lowe, a highly experienced bird surveyor.
 4. A previous application was submitted for a wind farm at this site in 2011, though was unsuccessful. The baseline surveys from 2010-11 for that application are included in this report for comparison with the 2024-25 surveys, together with data from additional wintering bird surveys undertaken in 2019-20.
-

SURVEY AREA

5. The site is located approximately 1 km north of Thornholme village and 5 km west-south-west from Bridlington in East Yorkshire. The wintering bird survey area includes all areas within the potential zone of ornithological influence of the Proposed Development and a buffer to provide contextual information on the area's wintering birds. The survey area covered a total area of 11.9 km² (see Figure 1). It is predominantly open arable farmland and lies within the 'Yorkshire Wolds' NE Natural Area.
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WINTERING BIRD SURVEY METHODS

6. The winter surveys included a field survey based on a simple 'look-see' method, counting the bird numbers within a pre-defined survey area (Gilbert *et al.* 1998) and a vantage point survey, monitoring bird flight activity to quantify movement rates across the survey area, and included daytime movements and dawn/dusk roost flights.

Field Counts

7. **Field counts:** instantaneous counts within the wintering survey area to record a snapshot of the birds present in each field at the time it was surveyed. Fourteen surveys were undertaken at approximately fortnightly intervals between September 2024 and March 2025. One count of each

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wild-birds-surveys-and-monitoring-for-onshore-wind-farms>



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field was made each survey day, recording the numbers of all the key species present. Any additional records made outside this time were noted as supplementary records. These snapshot counts ensured that the full range of times of day were covered in each part of the survey area. The following species were recorded:

- All ducks, geese, swans, cormorants, herons, coot and grebes;
 - All waders (including lapwing and golden plover);
 - All birds of prey and owls;
 - Large flocks (>100 birds) of other species (except woodpigeon and rook); and
 - Any other notable species.
8. The behaviour of each flock, e.g. feeding/roosting, and birds overflying were also recorded, together with an estimate of their height and direction.
 9. **Habitat/crop mapping:** available habitats and crops in the survey area were mapped during the first visit and then again at approximately 2-month intervals through the season to determine habitat availability and account for any changes during the study period.
 10. **Weather:** weather conditions during all observations were recorded, and visits were made to cover a representative range of visibilities, wind speeds and directions (though avoiding extreme conditions where visibility is severely limited, i.e. fog, continuous heavy rain).
 11. Night surveys were not considered necessary in 2019-20 and 2024-25, as previous surveys in 2010-11 had shown that bird activity at night was generally considerably less than observed during the day, and no important nocturnal bird activity was recorded (Percival 2011).

Vantage Point Surveys

12. Vantage Point surveys determine bird flight activity over the survey area. All flight lines of target species were mapped, and the flight height of each flock was recorded. Target species were the same as the walkover surveys.
13. The specific aim of the Vantage Point (VP) surveys was to collect data on key target species flight activity to estimate:
 - The time spent flying over the survey area;
 - The relative use made of different parts of the survey area; and
 - The proportion of flying time spent at different elevations above the ground.
14. A single vantage point was sufficient to cover the proposed development. The computer-generated viewshed (using Global Mapper v21) is shown in Figure 1 (up to 2 km from the VP and a height of 30 m above ground level). Six hours of surveys were undertaken per month between September 2024 and March 2025 from the vantage point (42 hours in total). Survey dates and conditions are given in Appendix 1, and the key species data in Appendix 2.
15. All key target species flights (and any other species of specific nature conservation interest) were recorded, irrespective of their distance from the VP. Observations were carried out throughout daylight hours but not in periods of severely reduced visibility (<3 km).
16. All key target species flights were mapped and cross-referenced to a standard recording form using a numbering system, and the flight height and activity were recorded. To estimate flight height, available reference structures (e.g. electricity lines) were used. Heights were recorded as accurately as possible, rather than summarised into height classes. Below 10 m estimates were made to 1 m, between 10 m and 20 m to 2 m, between 20 m and 50 m to 5 m, and above 50 m to 10 m. When birds were observed over an extended period, estimates of flight height were recorded every 30 seconds.



WINTERING BIRD SURVEYS 2024-25: RESULTS

Field Counts

17. The bird populations found within the survey area during each of the fortnightly field count surveys are summarised in Table 1. The Table shows the total bird numbers recorded during each survey and the overall peak and mean counts.
18. Table 2 gives the mean and peak counts recorded in 2024-25 and previous winter surveys from 2019-20 and 2010-11 for comparison.

Table 1. Autumn/winter bird populations recorded in the Three Oaks survey area during the September 2024 to March 2025 field count surveys (total birds recorded and overall peak and mean).

Species	9/9/24	24/9/24	9/10/24	22/1/24	13/11/24	28/11/24	10/12/24	17/12/24	9/1/25	22/1/25	5/2/25	25/2/25	5/3/25	20/3/25	Mean	Peak
Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	0.36	5
Greylag Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	0.43	6
Pink-footed Goose	-	-	118	226	-	-	560	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	66.29	560
Grey Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	0.36	5
Grey Heron	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	1
Cormorant	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.21	2
Sparrowhawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	0.21	1
Marsh Harrier	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.21	1
Red Kite	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	3	0.57	3
Buzzard	13	15	7	8	10	11	8	13	6	10	8	11	6	12	9.86	15
Lapwing	-	35	-	-	97	520	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	46.86	520
Golden Plover	-	36	-	-	-	180	31	-	46	-	31	-	-	-	23.14	180
Black-headed Gull	18	210	-	-	16	110	90	188	30	123	82	31	206	-	78.86	210
Mediterranean Gull	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	0.29	2
Common Gull	118	74	45	14	39	87	133	126	69	80	66	193	472	1	108.36	472
Herring Gull	376	1363	100	35	39	18	23	37	2	1	7	186	194	-	170.07	1363
Caspian Gull	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	0.29	2
Barn Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	1
Kestrel	4	6	6	2	2	3	6	4	2	-	-	-	2	1	2.71	6
Peregrine	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.14	1

Table 2. Autumn/winter bird populations recorded in the Three Oaks survey area during the 2010-11, 2019-20 and 2024-25 field count surveys (peak and mean counts).

Species	Mean			Peak		
	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25
Canada Goose	-	-	0.4	-	-	5
Greylag Goose	4.1	0	0.4	26	0	6
Pink-footed Goose	0	3.2	66.3	0	33	560
Whooper Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	1.4	0	-	12	0	-
Grey Partridge	-	-	0.4	-	-	5
Grey Heron	0.2	0.1	0.1	2	1	1
Cormorant	-	-	0.2	-	-	2
Sparrowhawk	0.1	0.3	0.2	1	2	1
Marsh Harrier	-	-	0.2	-	-	1
Red Kite	0	0.1	0.6	0	1	3
Buzzard	1.1	2.6	9.9	3	7	15
Lapwing	120.5	0.3	46.9	747	3	520
Golden Plover	99.9	16.6	23.1	797	110	180
Snipe	0	0.1	-	0	1	-
Black-headed Gull	138.9	83.1	78.9	531	561	210
Mediterranean Gull	0.5	0.1	0.3	3	1	2
Common Gull	112.1	50.2	108.4	480	119	472
Great Black-backed Gull	1.1	0.3	-	3	1	-
Herring Gull	33.1	77.5	170.1	156	582	1363
Caspian Gull	-	-	0.1	-	-	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1.6	0.3	0.3	9	3	2
Barn Owl	0.1	0	0.1	1	0	1
Tawny Owl	0.1	0	-	1	0	-
Kestrel	1.4	2.5	2.7	4	5	6

Vantage Point Surveys

19. Table 3 summarises the rates of bird flight movement observed across the survey area during the vantage point surveys in 2024-25. It gives the flight rate per hour recorded in each month and the total number of flights recorded.
20. Table 4 compares flight rates recorded in 2024-25 with the previous autumn/winter surveys in 2019-20 and 2010-11. This includes the mean flight rate and total flights observed. The key species seen over the three winters were similar, with the more numerous species including lapwing, golden plover, black-headed gull, common gull and herring gull. There were, though, some differences between the winters, with more pink-footed geese, marsh harrier and red kite seen in 2024-25, fewer lapwing, golden plover, black-headed gull and common gull recorded in 2019-20, but more herring gulls in that winter and in 2024-25.



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Table 3. Bird flight rates (number per hour) recorded over the Three Oaks survey area during the September 2024 to March 2025 vantage point surveys. N = 42 hours total observation from the single VP.

Species	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total over-flying
Canada Goose	-	-	0.6	-	-	-	-	5
Greylag Goose	-	6.5	2.5	-	-	0.4	-	48
Pink-footed Goose	-	81.5	96.3	31.1	-	-	-	1236
Whooper Swan	-	0.8	2.5	-	-	-	0.8	29
Grey Heron	-	0.3	-	-	0.3	-	-	3
Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	2
Sparrowhawk	-	0.8	0.1	-	-	-	-	4
Marsh Harrier	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	6
Red Kite	0.5	-	0.1	-	-	0.7	0.7	12
Buzzard	1.7	-	0.4	-	1.5	4.2	2.1	59
Lapwing	7.0	22.5	91.5	-	0.8	-	-	870
Golden Plover	106.7	30.0	20.0	-	-	-	1.1	928
Black-headed Gull	48.8	25.8	38.8	30.0	25.1	31.6	33.7	1424
Common Gull	151.3	167.8	200.8	45.6	41.7	122.2	136.0	5273
Herring Gull	582.5	95.8	250.6	18.2	32.8	89.1	91.1	7295
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	1.7	14
Kestrel	1.8	1.0	1.4	-	0.9	-	0.8	39
Peregrine	0.2	-	-	-	0.3	-	0.1	4

Table 4. Comparison of key species flight rates (birds/hour) recorded over the Three Oaks wintering bird survey area during the 2010-11, 2019-20 and 2024-25 vantage point surveys.

Species	Mean flight rate (birds/hour)			Total flights observed		
	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25
Canada Goose	-	-	0.1	-	-	5
Greylag Goose	5	1.6	1.3	209	57	48
Pink-footed Goose	0.02	0.1	29.8	1	4	1,236
Whooper Swan			0.6	-	-	29
Mallard	0.8	-	-	32	-	-
Cormorant	0.1	0.03	0.1	3	1	2
Grey Heron	0.02	-	0.1	1	-	3
Hen Harrier	0.02	-	-	1	-	-
Sparrowhawk	0.1	0.1	0.1	4	4	4
Marsh Harrier	-	-	0.1	-	-	6
Red Kite	-	-	0.3	-	-	12
Buzzard	0.5	1.2	1.4	23	43	59
Lapwing	31.9	4.8	17.4	1340	172	870
Golden Plover	51.9	11.5	22.5	2179	415	928



Species	Mean flight rate (birds/hour)			Total flights observed		
	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25	2010-11	2019-20	2024-25
Curlew	0.1	-	-	3	-	-
Black-headed Gull	79.8	28.8	33.4	3351	1036	1424
Common Gull	58	26.6	123.6	2435	956	5273
Great Black-backed Gull	0.7	0.1	-	28	4	-
Herring Gull	57.6	123.9	165.7	2418	4462	7295
Lesser Black-backed Gull	0.4	0.03	0.3	16	1	14
Barn Owl	-	0.1	-	-	2	-
Short-eared Owl	0.02	-	-	1	-	-
Kestrel	1.4	0.8	0.8	60	27	39
Merlin	-	0.1	-	-	2	-
Peregrine	0.05	0.1	0.1	2	3	4

CONSERVATION EVALUATION OF WINTERING BIRD POPULATIONS

21. The conservation value of the wintering bird populations was determined using the criteria specified in Table 5 (from Percival 2007) and is summarised in Table 6. This includes the criteria adopted by Natural England in the Guidelines for Selection of Biological SSSIs (Drewitt *et al.* 2020), using 1% of the resource to define international and national importance (Calbrade *et al.* 2025). An additional category of regional importance was assigned for species approaching the threshold for national importance and those for which the survey area held a notable concentration in a county context. A further category of 'local importance' was used for species that did not reach regional importance but were still of some ecological value. This included all species on the red or amber lists of the 'Birds of Conservation Concern' (Stanbury *et al.* 2021). National (GB) and international wintering waterfowl baseline populations were taken from the most recently published population figures (Calbrade *et al.* 2025) from the national Wetland Birds Survey and other species from Woodward *et al.* (2020). In addition, listing on Annex 1 of the EU Birds Directive, Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside and NERC Act Section 41 priority species were all considered in the evaluation process.

Table 5. Definition of terms relating to the conservation value of the ornithological receptors at the site.

Sensitivity	Definition
VERY HIGH	Cited interest of SPAs, Ramsar sites, SACs and SSSIs. Cited means mentioned in the citation text for the site as a species for which the site is designated (SPAs/SACs) or notified (SSSIs).
HIGH	Other species that contribute to the integrity of an SPA or SSSI. A local population of more than 1% of the national population of a species. EU Birds Directive Annex 1, EU Habitats Directive priority habitat/species and/or W&C Act Schedule 1 species. Ecologically sensitive species, e.g. large birds of prey or rare birds (<300 breeding pairs in the UK).



MEDIUM	Regionally important population of a species, either because of population size or distributional context. NERC Act Section 41 priority species (if not covered above), red-listed species of conservation concern.
LOW	Any other species of conservation interest, e.g. species listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern, if not covered above.
NEGLIGIBLE	Green-listed species of favourable conservation status.

22. The conservation value of the wintering bird populations observed in the Three Oaks survey area during the 2010-11, 2019-20 and 2024-25 wintering bird surveys is summarised in Table 6 below. This included ten high sensitivity species (whooper swan, hen harrier, marsh harrier, red kite, golden plover, Mediterranean gull, barn owl, short-eared owl, merlin and peregrine) that are EU Birds Directive Annex 1/Wildlife and Countryside Act Schedule 1 species, five medium sensitivity species (NERC Act Section 41 priority species of conservation concern and/or present in regionally important numbers; pink-footed goose, grey partridge, lapwing, curlew, and herring gull), and eleven low sensitivity species.

Table 6. Conservation evaluation of the wintering bird populations in the Three Oaks survey area, 2010-11, 2019-20 and 2024-25.

Species	Overall peak	>1% region	EU Ann 1	W and C Act Sch 1	Red [R]/ Amber [A] List	NERC Act S41 priority sp	Conservation Value
Canada Goose	5						Negligible
Greylag Goose	26				A		Low
Pink-footed Goose	560	✓			A		Medium
Whooper Swan	20		✓	✓	A		High
Mallard	12				A		Low
Grey Partridge	5				R	✓	Medium
Grey Heron	2						Negligible
Cormorant	2						Negligible
Sparrowhawk	2				A		Low
Hen Harrier	1	✓	✓	✓	R		High
Marsh Harrier	1		✓	✓	A		High
Red Kite	3	✓	✓	✓			High
Buzzard	15						Negligible
Lapwing	747	✓			R	✓	Medium
Golden Plover	797	✓	✓				High
Snipe	1				A		Low
Woodcock	1				R		Low
Curlew	1				R	✓	Medium
Black-headed Gull	561				A		Low
Mediterranean Gull	3		✓	✓	A		High
Common Gull	480				A		Low



Species	Overall peak	>1% region	EU Ann 1	W and C Act Sch 1	Red [R]/ Amber [A] List	NERC Act S41 priority sp	Conservation Value
Great Black-backed Gull	3				A		Low
Herring Gull	1,363	✓			R	✓	Medium
Caspian Gull	1						Negligible
Lesser Black-backed Gull	9				A		Low
Barn Owl	1			✓			High
Tawny Owl	1				A		Low
Short-eared Owl	1	✓	✓		A		High
Kestrel	6				A		Low
Merlin	1		✓	✓	R		High
Peregrine	2		✓	✓			High

Italics indicating seen overflying only

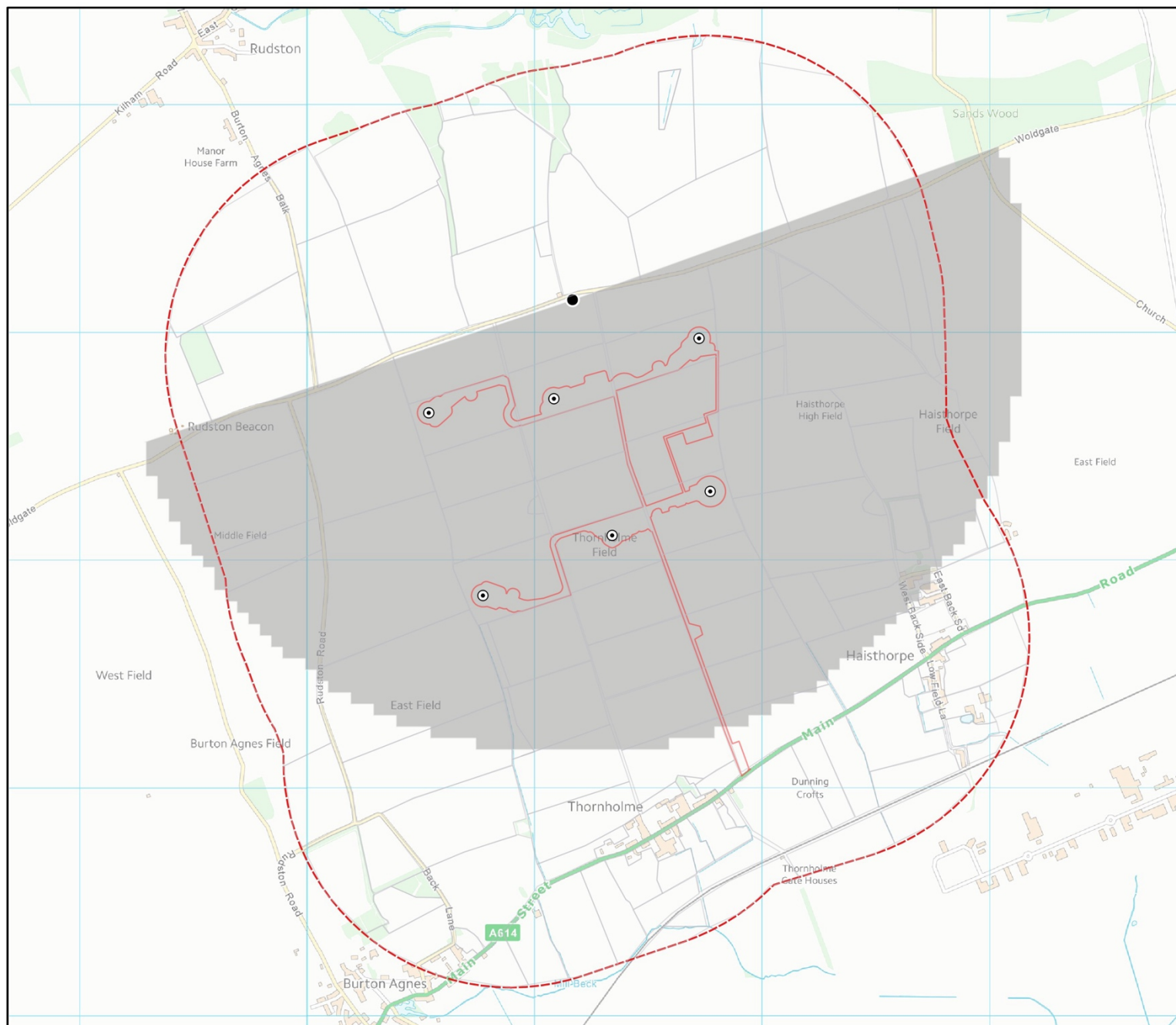
23. The key species seen during the wintering season surveys were as follows:

- **Greylag Goose** – Figure 2 – there were occasional flights of this species recorded in 2024-25, with most movement north/south across the site. The Figure (and Figures 3-9) also shows the collision risk zone (defined as a buffer of 500 m from the wind turbine blades, equal to 500 m plus the 59 m blade length). Further details of the collision modelling are given in Appendix 7.8.
- **Pink-footed Geese** – although not recorded in 2010-11, there were several records of this species seen overflying in 2019-20 (peak 33) and higher numbers (peak 560) in 2024-25. There was also a single record in 2024-25 of a flock (37) feeding on stubble in the central part of the site on 22/10/24. Their distribution and flight lines are shown in Figure 3.
- **Lapwing** and **Golden Plover** – peak numbers of both of these species were sufficient to be considered as regionally important in 2010-11 and 2024-25. No particular concentrations in any part of the survey area and no important flight routes were noted. The distribution and flight lines of lapwing are shown in Figure 4 and golden plover in Figure 5.
- **Black-headed Gull** and **Common Gull** – both species were seen regularly feeding within and overflying the site in high numbers, but large regional populations mean that the peak numbers recorded during these surveys would be considered of local rather than regional importance (<1% regional population). Flight lines of these species are shown in Figures 6 and 7, respectively.
- **Herring Gull** – this red-listed UK BAP priority species was mainly seen overflying the study area. Numbers were higher in 2019-20 and 2024-25 than in the 2010-11 surveys, sufficient to be considered regionally important. Most records were overflying the site, travelling between feeding areas inland and coastal roosts, though some larger flocks were also seen feeding in the survey area (particularly during ploughing). Their flight lines and distribution during the field counts are shown in Figure 8.
- **Mediterranean Gull** – very small numbers of this EU Birds Directive Annex 1 species were recorded infrequently (peak 3 in 2010-11, 1 in 2019-20 and 2 in 2024-25). None were recorded during the VP surveys.
- Scarce birds of prey and owls – **red kite**, **marsh harrier** and **peregrine** were seen overflying the study area during the winter period, though all were only seen very infrequently. Additionally, there were two sightings of barn owl and merlin in 2019-20, and



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single **hen harrier** and **a short-eared owls** overflying in 2010-11. The recorded flight lines from 2024-25 are shown in Figure 9. Numbers and frequency of occurrence of all these species were low.



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Proposed Turbine Locations
- VP Viewshed (30m above ground to 2km)
- VP Location

0 0.3 0.6 km



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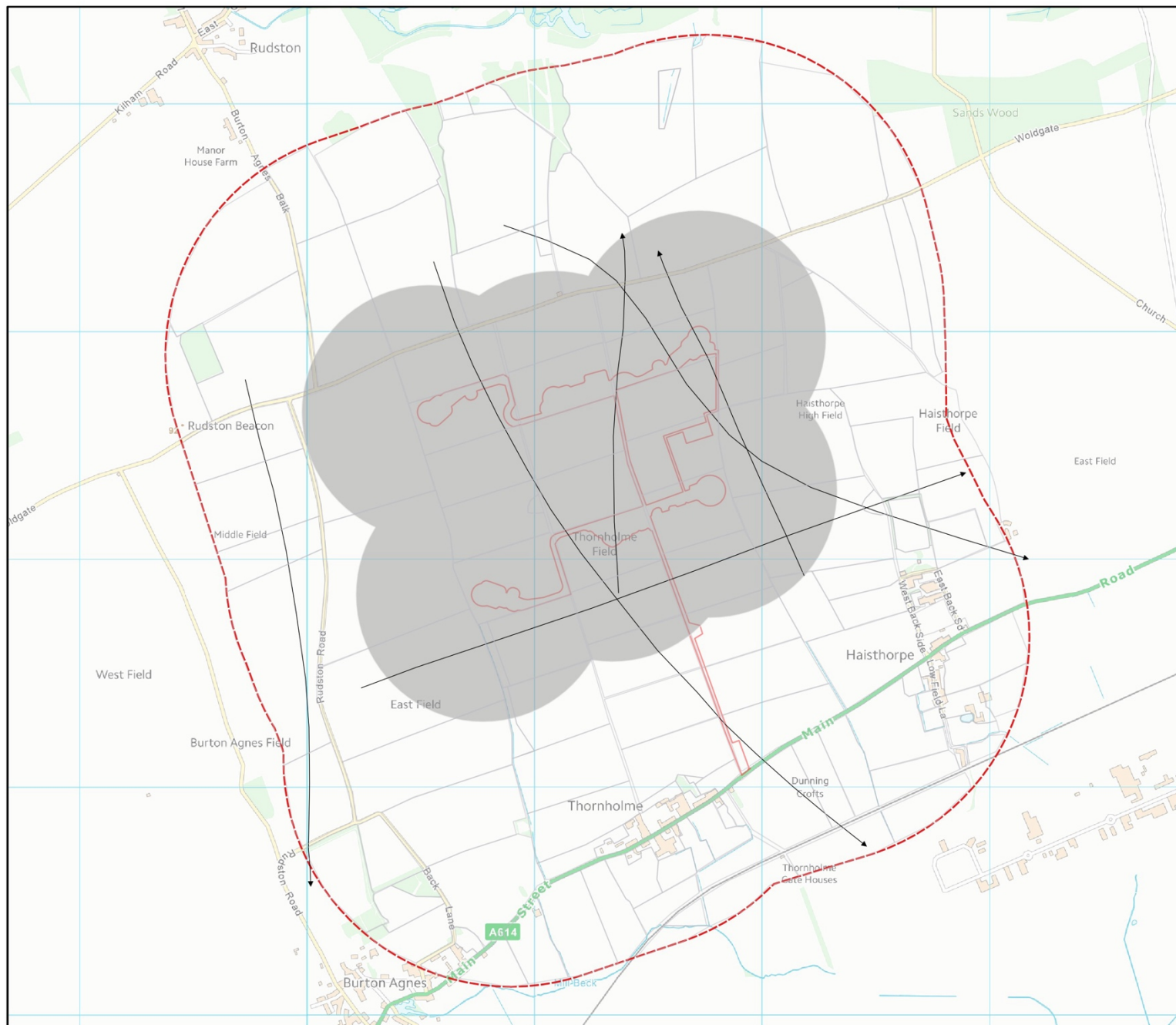
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Date: 14/3/26

Figure 1. Survey Area and VP Viewshed

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

0 0.3 0.6 km



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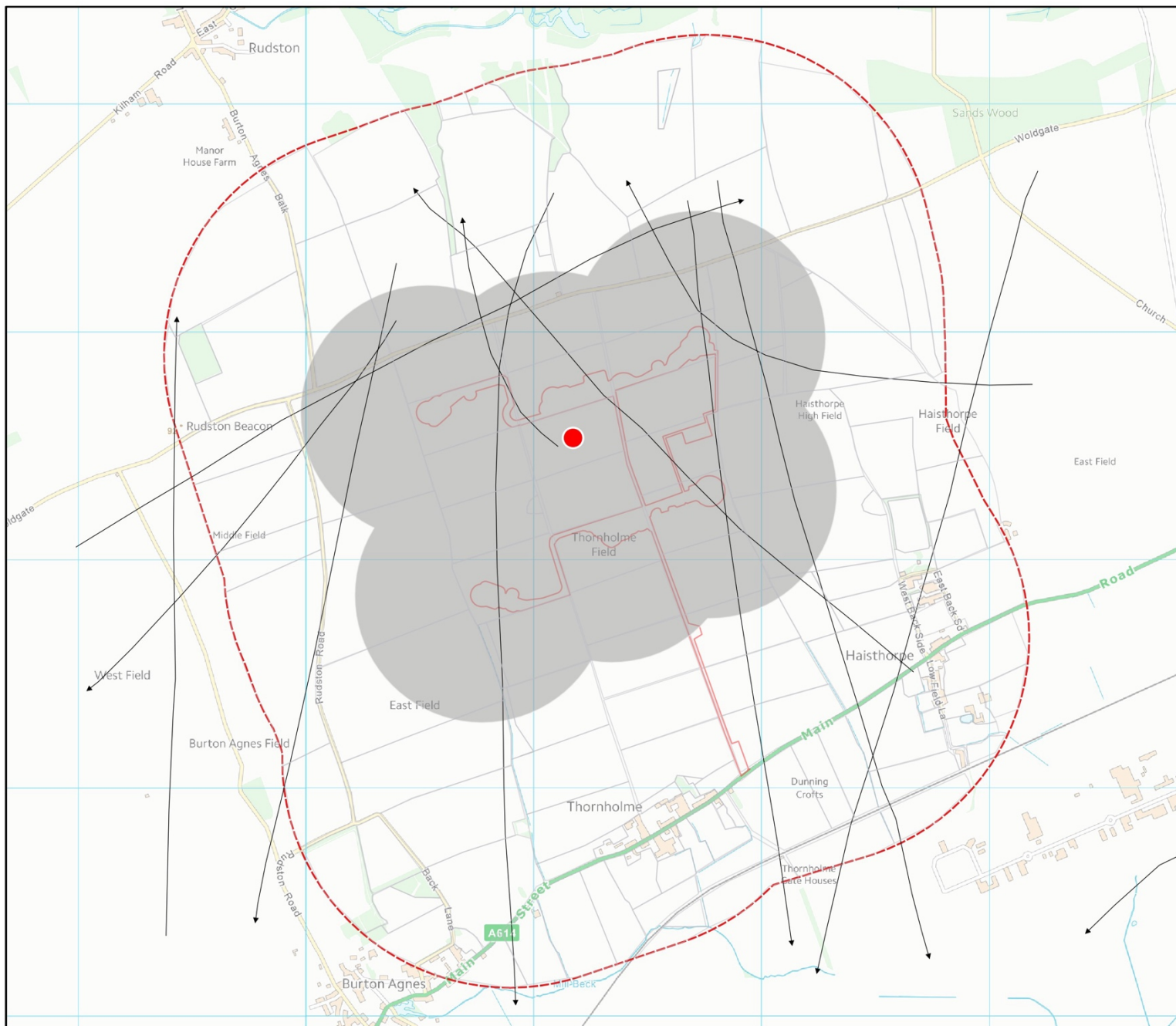
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Figure 2. Greylag Goose Distribution and Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)
- Field Peak Count (single flock of 37)

0 0.3 0.6 km



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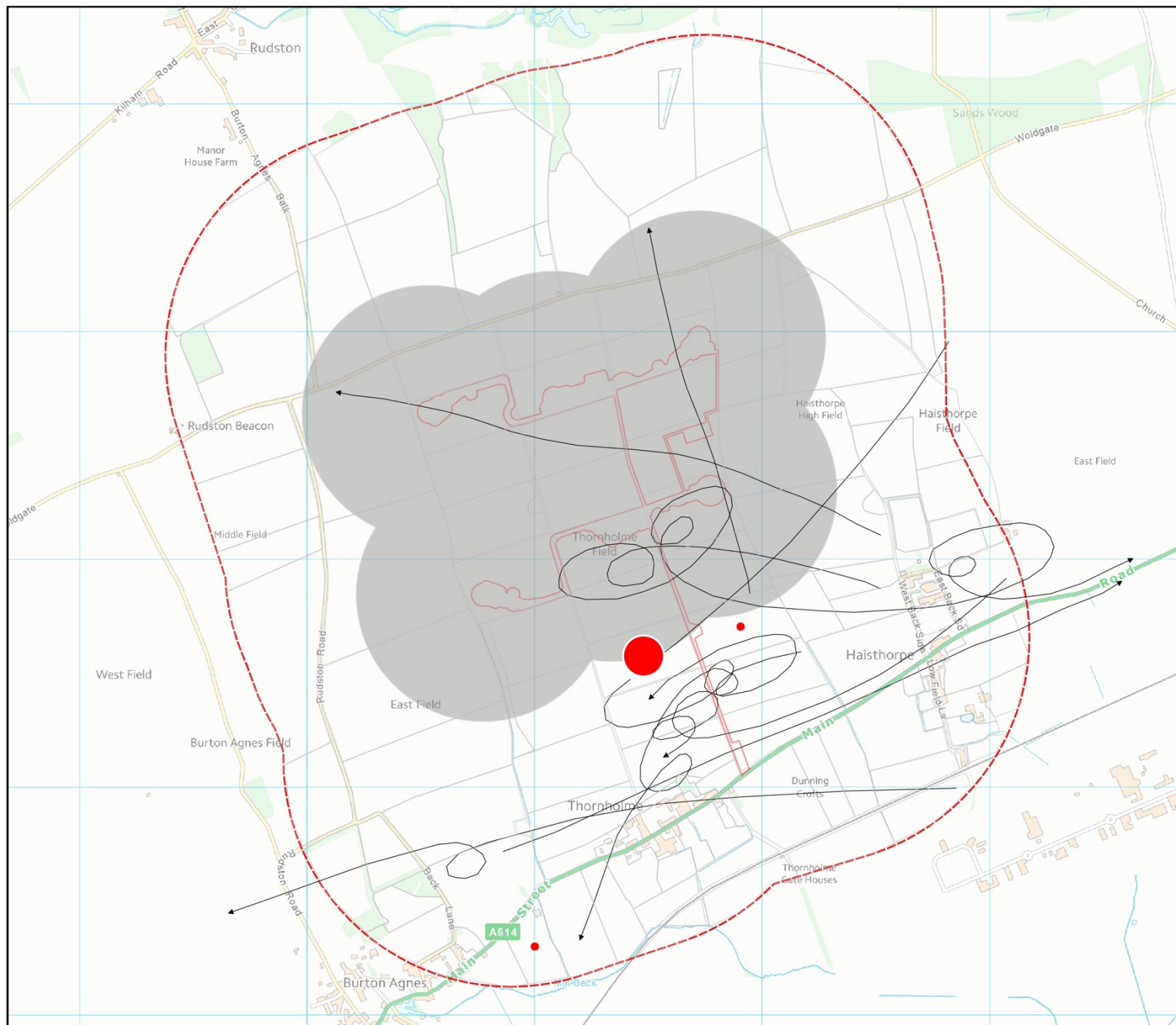
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**Figure 3. Pink-footed Goose
Distribution and Flight Lines**

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

Field Peak Count:

- 4 - 100
- 500 - 520

0 0.3 0.6 km



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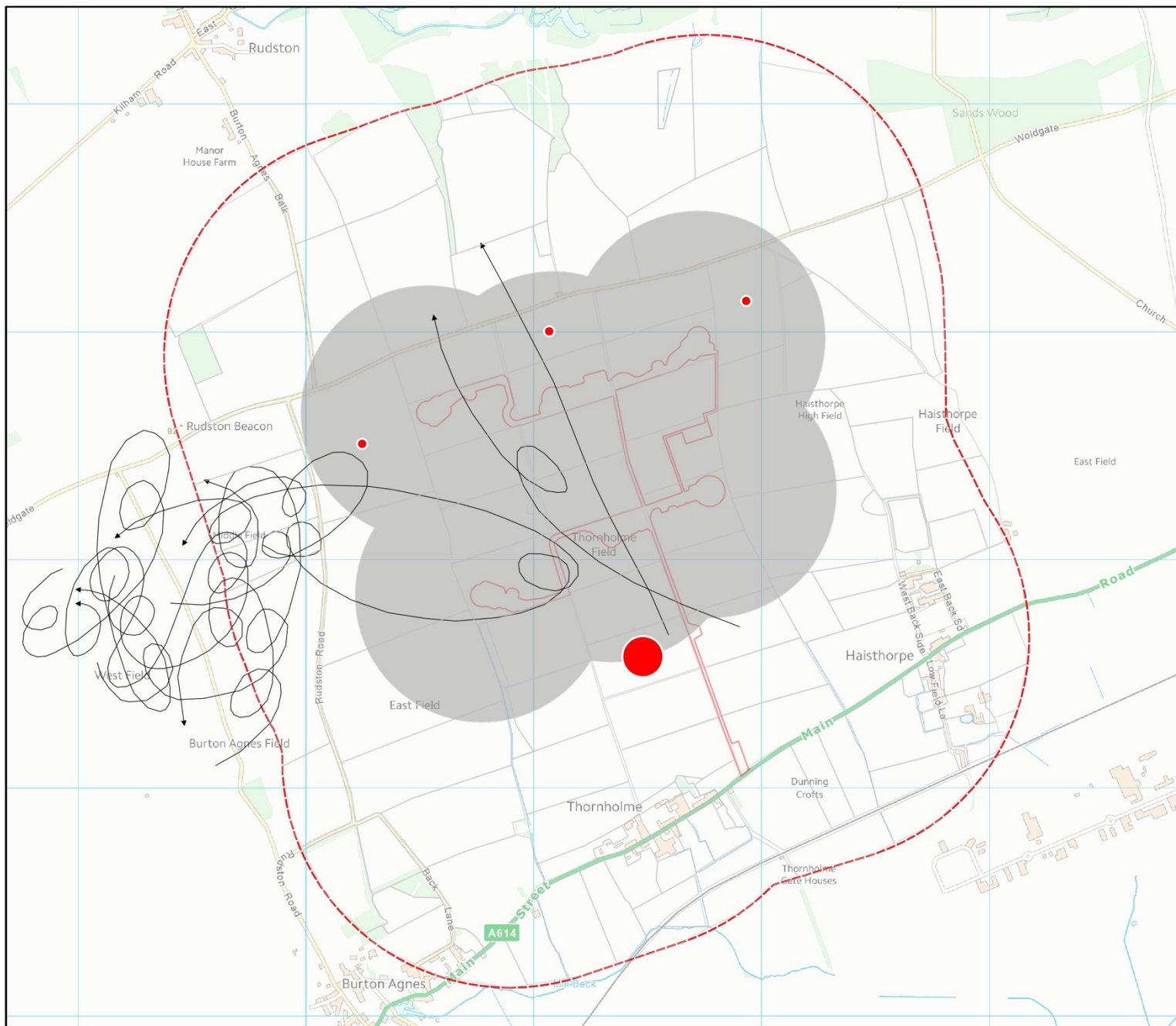
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Figure 4. Lapwing Distribution and Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

Field Peak Count:

- 24 - 50
- 150 - 180

0 0.3 0.6 km



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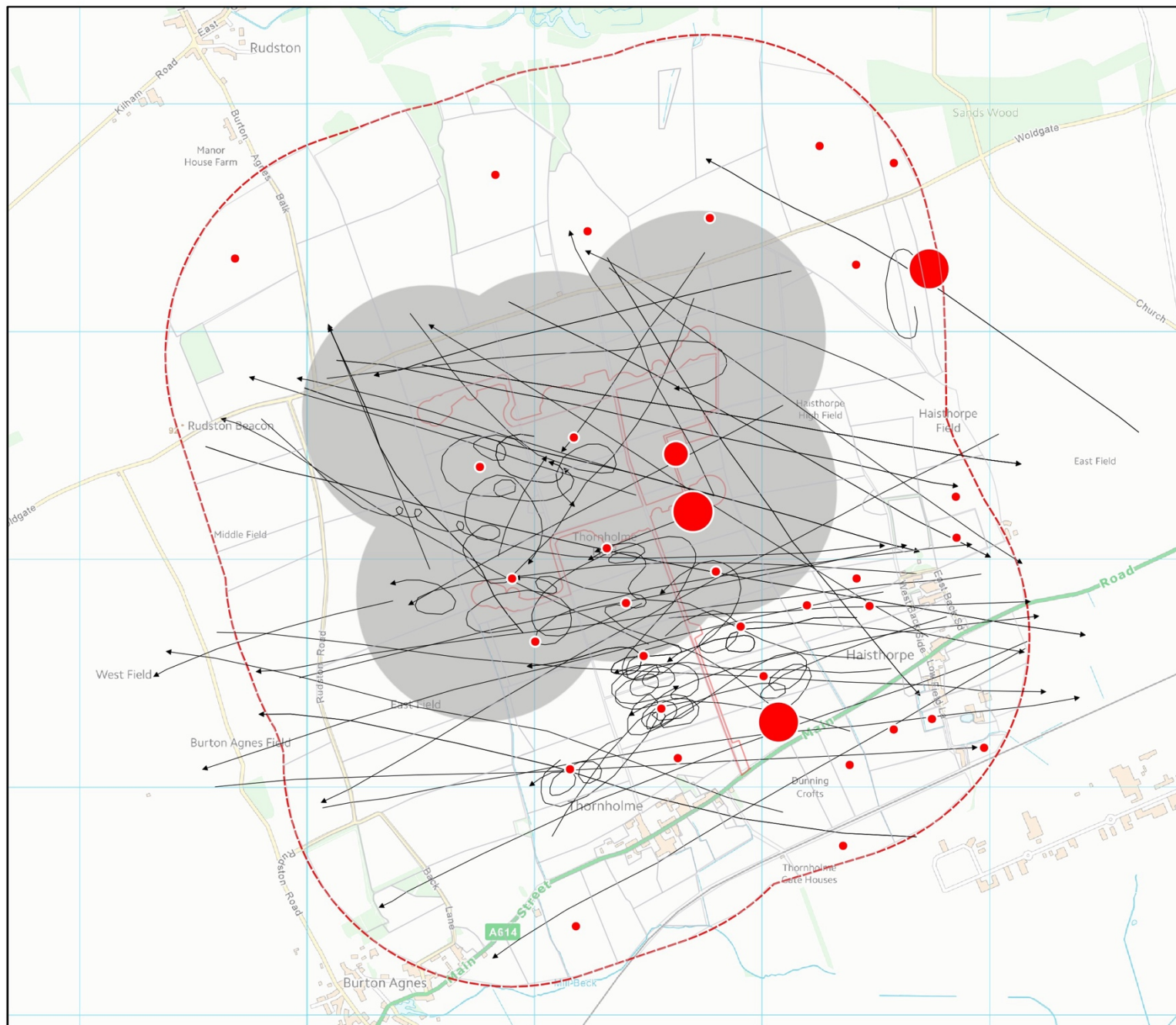
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Date: 14/3/26

Figure 5. Golden Plover Distribution and Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

Field Peak Count:

- 1 - 50
- 50 - 100
- 100 - 120

0 0.3 0.6 km



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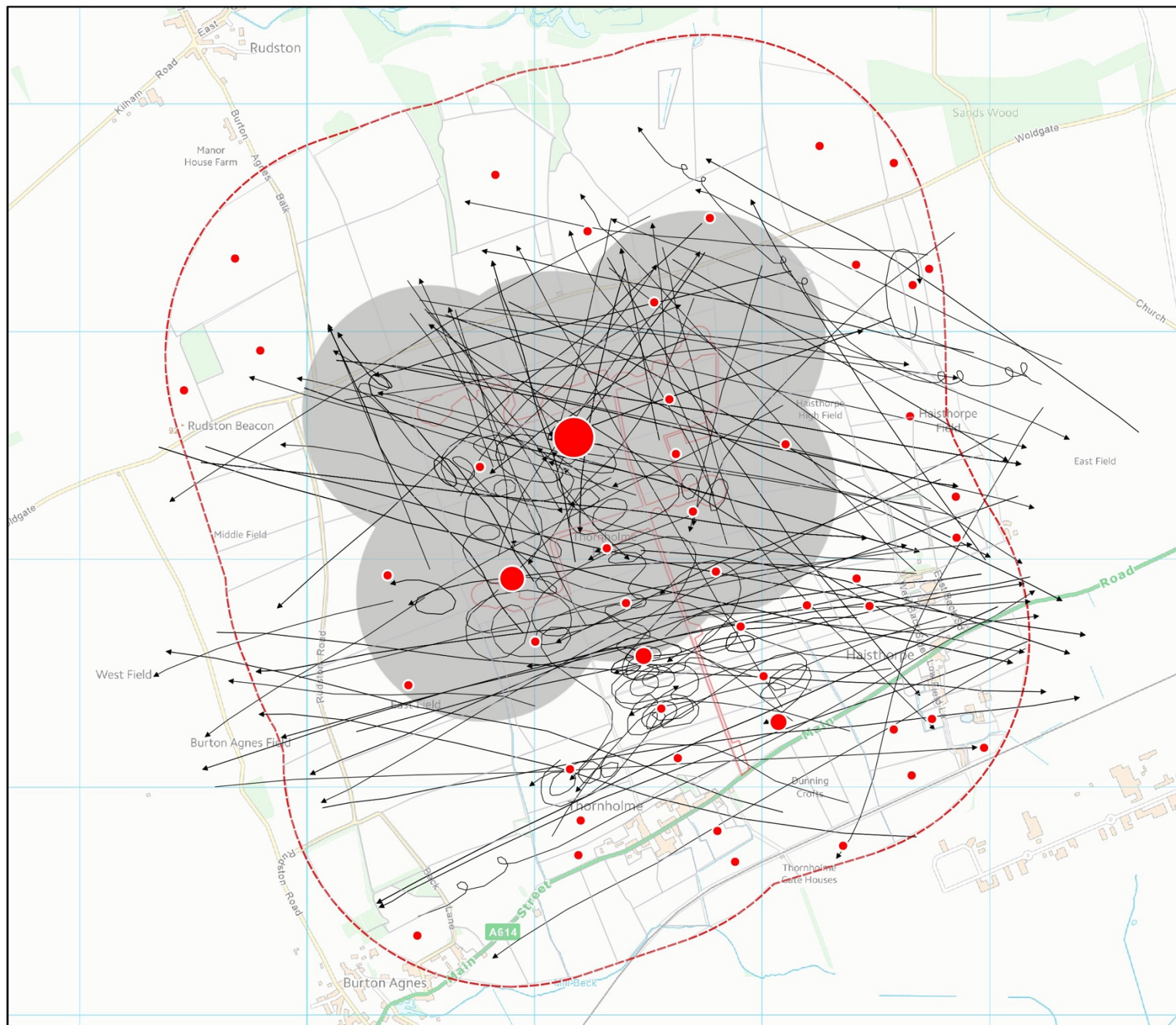
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Checked by: TP

Date: 14/3/26

**Figure 6. Black-headed Gull
Distribution and Flight Lines**

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

Field Peak Count:

- 1 - 50
- 50 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 200 - 210

0 0.3 0.6 km



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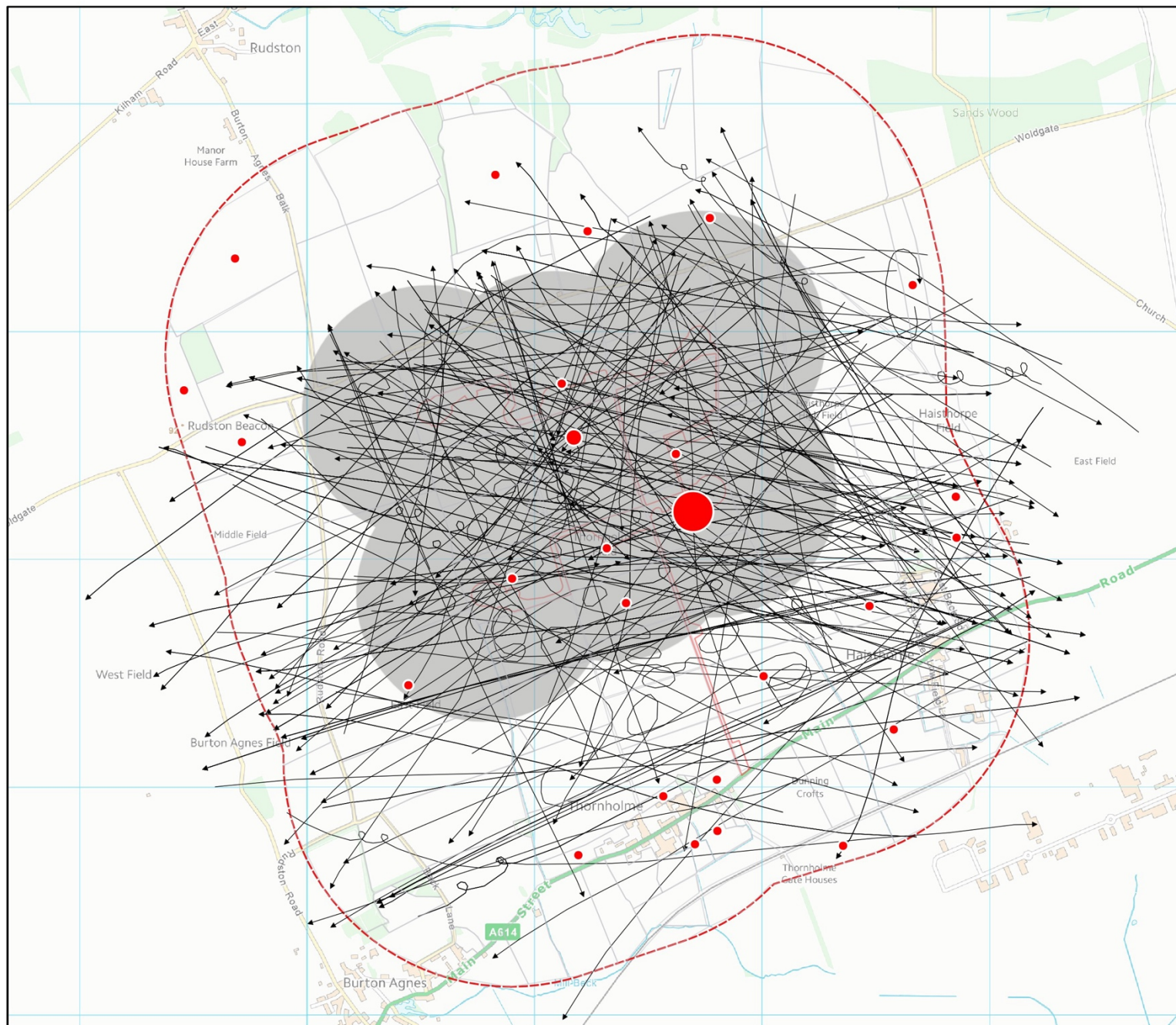
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Checked by: TP

Date: 14/3/26

Figure 7. Common Gull Distribution and Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

Field Peak Count:

- 1 - 200
- 200 - 400
- 1000 - 1090

0 0.3 0.6 km



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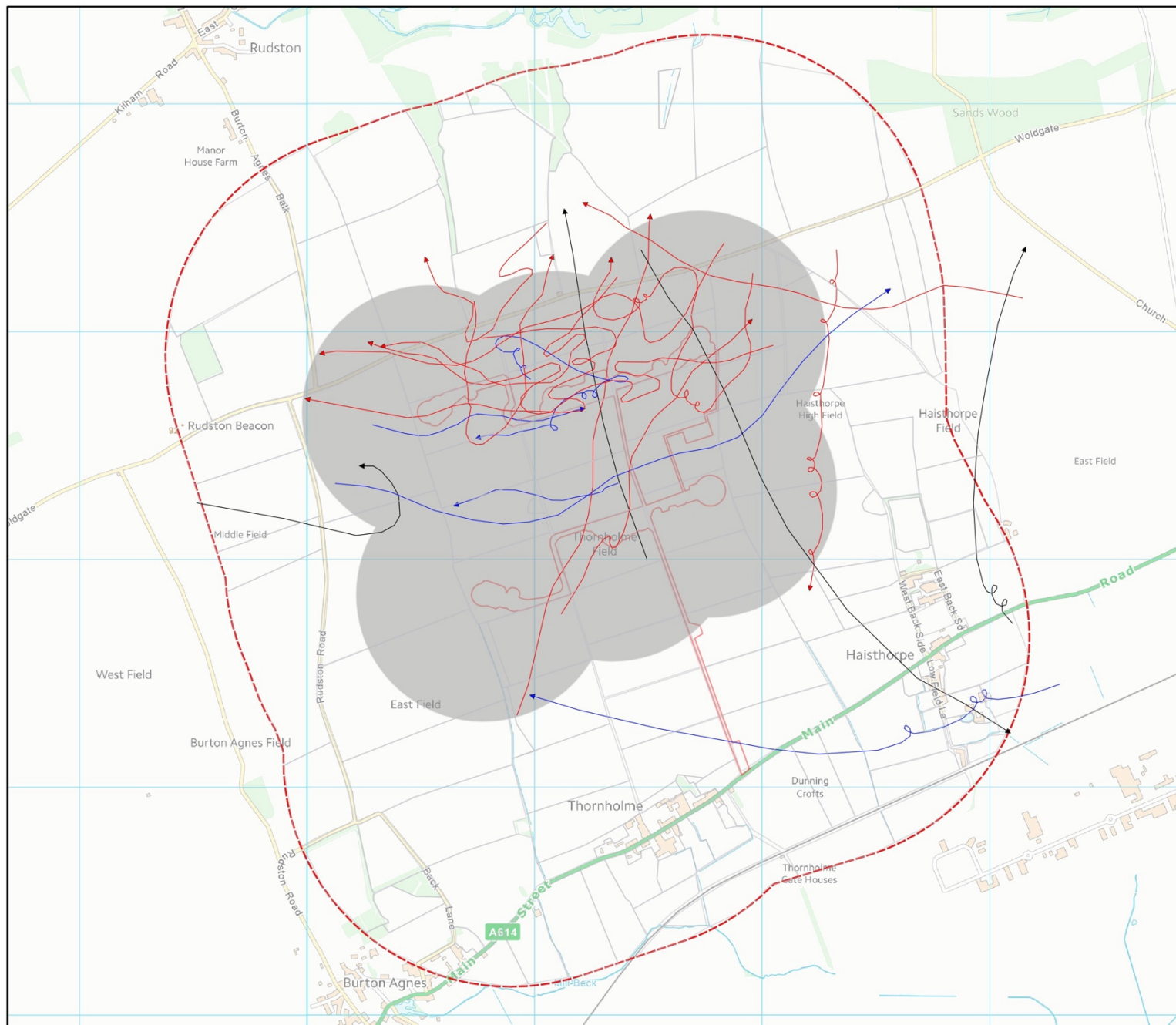
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Checked by: TP

Date: 14/3/26

Figure 8. Herring Gull Distribution and Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



Legend

- Red Line Boundary
- Winter Survey Area 2024-25
- Flight Lines**
- Red Kite
- Marsh Harrier
- Peregrine
- Collision Risk Zone (559m buffer)

0 0.3 0.6 km



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Figure 9. Other Key Raptor Flight Lines

**Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park
Extension
Appendix 7-4. Winter Birds 2024-25**



CONCLUSIONS

24. Overall, there was no evidence that the survey area (including the proposed development site) was particularly important for any wintering bird populations. No parts of that area held any notable concentrations of birds, and no important wintering bird habitats occurred within it.
25. The 2024-25 autumn/winter bird surveys have found largely similar results to the previous surveys carried out in 2010-11 and 2019-20, with few species of conservation importance likely to be affected by the Proposed Development.

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APPENDIX 1

Vantage Point Survey Information

Three Oaks Vantage Point observation data 2024-25				
Date	Start time	Finish time	ObsTime	Weather
09/09/2024	13:10	16:10	03:00	cloud 7/8, wind NW 3, 17C, vis very good
24/09/2024	15:45	18:45	03:00	cloud 7/8, wind W 1, 15C, vis very good
09/10/2024	06:50	09:50	03:00	cloud 7/8, wind NNE 1, 12C, vis good, dawn
22/10/2024	17:25	18:25	01:00	cloud 4/8, wind W 2, 14C, vis very good
13/11/2024	06:50	09:20	02:30	cloud 1/8, wind W 1, 5C, vis very good
13/11/2024	09:50	12:20	02:30	cloud 1/8, wind W 1, 5C, vis very good
13/11/2024	13:25	16:25	03:00	cloud 0/8, wind 0, 7C, vis very good
10/12/2024	07:35	10:35	03:00	cloud 8/8, wind NE 3, 7C, vis good
17/12/2024	14:40	16:10	01:30	cloud 8/8, wind SSW 3, 10C, vis good
09/01/2025	07:35	09:05	01:30	cloud 1/8, wind WNW 1, -2C, vis very good
09/01/2025	11:10	14:10	03:00	cloud 0, wind WNW 2, 1C, vis very good
22/01/2025	14:00	17:00	03:00	cloud 8/8, wind NW 1, 5C, vis good
05/02/2025	07:00	08:30	01:30	cloud 0, wind WSW 1, 1C, vis very good
25/02/2025	10:20	13:20	03:00	cloud 0, wind WSW 3, 9C, vis very good
05/03/2025	06:10	07:40	01:30	cloud 7/8, wind SW 2, 3C, vis very good, dawn
05/03/2025	09:50	12:50	03:00	cloud 7/8, wind SW 2, 5C, vis very good
20/03/2025	15:30	18:30	03:00	cloud 0, wind ESE 2, 11C, vis good



June 2025

Vantage Point Survey Data (Key Species)

Date	Time	Species	Count	Direction of flight	Flight height (m)	Activity	Time bird observed (sec)	Map Ref:	Notes
09/09/2024	13:38	PE	1	NNW	40	hunt	110	4	juv
09/09/2024	14:45	KT	1	WNW	45	hunt	190	11	juv
09/09/2024	15:00	KT	1	SSW	38	hunt	480	15	juv, prob same as 11
09/09/2024	15:10	MR	1	WSW	70	soar	180	16	juv
09/09/2024	16:05	KT	1	SSW	60	soar	300	22	ad
24/09/2024	15:49	GP	153	circle	45		1440	2	landed
24/09/2024	16:22	MR	1	ESE	7	hunt	80	7	female, may have landed
24/09/2024	16:28	GP	220	circle	90		1020	8	landed again
24/09/2024	16:42	L	42	SW	45		360	10	landed
24/09/2024	16:51	MR	1	WSW	3	hunt	50	13	juv, flushed HG
24/09/2024	16:56	GP	47	ENE	60		1080	15	
24/09/2024	17:38	GP	220	circle	50	flushed	540	23	landed again
24/09/2024	18:34	MR	2	NW	14		220	27	female and juv again
09/10/2024	07:31	WS	3	SSE	75	migrating	120	6	
09/10/2024	09:31	GP	120	NE	85	flushed	240	22	
09/10/2024	09:44	L	90	WSW	80		190	24	
22/10/2024	17:37	PG	48	NNW	30	roost	70	4	
22/10/2024	17:42	PG	52	SW	115	roost	120	5	same as 4 plus 4
22/10/2024	17:56	PG	150	SSE	170	roost	200	8	
22/10/2024	18:00	GJ	26	ESE	40	roost	150	11	
22/10/2024	18:12	PG	76	SSW	135	roost	240	13	
13/11/2024	07:14	GJ	11	ENE	40	roost	140	4	
13/11/2024	07:22	KT	1	S	6	hunt	140	8	landed in hedge
13/11/2024	07:47	PG	55	N	80	roost	140	12	
13/11/2024	08:07	PG	48	ENE	50	roost	170	15	
13/11/2024	08:17	PG	62	SSE	75	migrating	170	16	
13/11/2024	08:20	PG	120	SSW	90	migrating	150	17	
13/11/2024	08:21	L	28	WSW	30		660	18	
13/11/2024	09:45	PG	2	W	45		120	5	
13/11/2024	10:03	PG	23	SSW	125	migrating	200	8	
13/11/2024	10:41	GP	145	ESE	85	flushed	540	13	
13/11/2024	10:56	WS	8	SSE	115	migrating	220	15	
13/11/2024	11:00	WS	7	WNW	45		180	16	
13/11/2024	11:27	L	110	SW	40	feed	120	20	landed female, same as 19,
13/11/2024	12:00	L	154	WSW	15	flushed	130	26	landed again
13/11/2024	12:10	GP	15	WNW	30		140	27	
28/11/2024	14:49	PG	460	WSW	8	flushed	50	11	flushed from two fields away,
28/11/2024	15:25	L	210	WNW	85	roost	840	16	
28/11/2024	15:36	L	230	ENE	65	roost	160	17	
28/11/2024	07:39	GJ	3	N	13	roost	100	1	
28/11/2024	07:47	GJ	1	NNW	8	roost	90	5	
28/11/2024	08:23	GJ	5	SSE	28	feed	110	11	
28/11/2024	09:25	WS	5	ENE	30	feed	200	18	
17/12/2024	16:15	PG	140	NW	45	roost	120	11	
09/01/2025	08:45	PE	1	ESE	10	hunt	50	14	ad, landed
09/01/2025	13:31	L	1	NNW	40		120	19	
09/01/2025	14:03	L	5	WNW	45		210	24	
22/01/2025	16:25	PE	1	NNW	30	roost	70	26	ad
25/02/2025	07:12	GJ	2	SSE	45	roost	170	1	
25/02/2025	07:55	KT	1	NNE	4	hunt	160	11	
25/02/2025	11:12	KT	1	WSW	11	hunt	260	13	
25/02/2025	11:24	KT	1	ENE	3	hunt	420	15	same as 13
05/03/2025	06:45	KT	1	SW	4	hunt	110	5	
05/03/2025	07:28	WS	6	NNW	40	migrating	130	12	
05/03/2025	07:35	KT	1	SW	6	hunt	170	15	
05/03/2025	09:52	MR	1	ESE	15	hunt	130	1	female
05/03/2025	12:45	PE	1	SSE	60	hunt	130	27	ad male
20/03/2025	16:38	KT	1	NNE	5	hunt	210	10	
20/03/2025	17:38	KT	2	SSW	38	roost	140	18	
20/03/2025	17:51	GP	8	NNW	60	roost	90	19	