

Preliminary Environmental Information Report Volume 2

Appendix 8.16 Baseline Report - Wintering Bird Survey 2024-2025

LLK1-ARU-REP-ENV-000008_AP8.16

Version 0.0

January 2026

LionLink:

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 LionLink is a proposed electricity interconnector between Great Britain and the Netherlands that would supply up to 2 gigawatts (GW) of electricity and would connect to Dutch offshore wind via an offshore converter platform in Dutch waters (hereafter the Project).
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Scheme (defined as the part of the Project within the British jurisdiction) would involve the construction of the proposed Converter Station and the installation of offshore and onshore proposed Underground High Voltage Direct Current Cables (HVDC) to the proposed Converter Station and the proposed Underground High Voltage Alternating Current Cables (HVAC) between the proposed Converter Station and the Kiln Lane Substation.
- 1.1.3 Wintering bird surveys were undertaken for the Proposed Onshore Scheme between October 2024 and March 2025, inclusive and the results are provided in this appendix.

1.2 Site context

- 1.2.1 Two discrete sites were surveyed (the 'study area') (**Figure 1** of this document), through the completion of driven and walkover wintering bird surveys, comprising:
- Walberswick Corridor – the area immediately west of the proposed Landfall Site and the proposed Underground Cable Corridor, running approximately 4.7km inland to the south of Blythburgh; and
 - Blythburgh Marshes – an area of marsh, river and farmland just west of Blythburgh, incorporating a previously proposed cable crossing of the River Blyth as the corridor runs south from the (now discounted) Landfall Site at Southwold. Survey work ceased at this location after the December 2024 survey.
- 1.2.2 The entirety of the study area was either within or near to internationally/nationally designated coastal/wetland sites, notified for their ornithological interest (**Paragraph 3.1.1**).

1.3 Legislative and policy context

Protected site designations

- 1.3.1 A network of nationally designated sites has been established through the designation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA) (Ref 1). Sites are designated if they are of special interest by reason of their flora, fauna (e.g. birds), or geological/physiographical features. The protection afforded by the WCA means it is an offence to carry out or permit to be carried out any operation listed within

the notification without the consent of the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation (SNCO) (Natural England in this case).

- 1.3.2 Some bird species are listed as features of European designated sites, notably Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar sites. SPAs are classified in accordance with Article 4 of the EC Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) (Ref 2). The provisions of the Birds Directive are implemented and transposed to UK legislation through the WCA and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (Ref 3) transposes EC Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora into UK national law.
- 1.3.3 Ramsar sites are also afforded protection under the Ramsar Convention 1971 (Ref 4).
- 1.3.4 These designations are applied to areas that support nationally (SSSIs) or internationally (SPAs and Ramsar sites) important numbers of birds, the conservation of which is necessary for the maintenance of the range of that species across Europe. A site may be designated as an SPA based on its importance to breeding, wintering, or migratory birds. In the UK, SPA designations are underpinned by national legislation which identifies them as SSSIs.

Protection of bird species

- 1.3.5 All wild birds (defined as species which are resident or are visitors to the United Kingdom (UK), but generally not game birds) are protected by the WCA. As far as development is concerned, it is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird.
- 1.3.6 Annex 1 of the Birds Directive and Schedule 1 of the WCA list species that are protected because of their rarity and nature conservation value. Annex 1 species are the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat, receiving protection through the designation of SPAs in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution. Schedule 1 species are protected by special provisions because of their rarity as breeding species in Britain, and it would constitute an offence to disturb them while nesting (which includes nest building). It is also an offence to disturb dependent young of a Schedule 1 bird.
- 1.3.7 Species of concern in England may also be identified on a list of species and habitats where Priority Action is required. This list is published under The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 (Ref 5), which came into force on 1st October 2006. Section 41 (S41) of the Act requires the Secretary of State for England to publish a list of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. These are known as Priority Habitats and Priority Species. The list has been drawn up in consultation with Natural England, as required by the NERC Act. The S41 list is used to guide decision makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in

implementing their duty under Section 40 of the Act, to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in England, when carrying out their normal functions.

- 1.3.8 Additionally, conservation importance is ascribed to certain species by their presence on the Red List and Amber List of Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC5 (Ref 1), BoCC5a (Ref 7)) in the UK. Under BoCC5 birds are classified into three lists as follows:
- a. Red List: species that are globally threatened, whose population or range has declined severely (>50%) in recent years or the longer term, and those whose populations have declined historically and not exhibited any signs of recovery;
 - b. Amber List: species that are threatened in Europe, whose population or range has declined moderately (>25% to <50%) in recent years or the longer term, species that show a historical decline but whose populations have shown a substantial increase, species that are rare, species with localised populations and those species of international importance with UK populations;
 - c. Green List: All regularly occurring native species that do not qualify under any of the Red or Amber criteria are green listed. The Green list also includes those species listed as recovering from historical decline in the last review that have continued to recover and do not qualify under any of the other criteria.

- 1.3.9 Although the BoCC lists confer no legal status in themselves, they are useful in evaluating the importance of bird species and assemblages.

Objectives

- 1.3.10 The wintering bird surveys detailed within this report were conducted with three objectives:
- a. To provide baseline data on the assemblages, numbers and distribution of wintering birds within the search areas;
 - b. To provide data on the use of the study area by qualifying species of the nearby European designated sites: Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar site, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar site and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA during the winter period; and
 - c. To highlight the presence of any wintering species/aggregations of value that may influence the design of the Proposed Onshore Scheme.

2 Methodology

2.1 Desk study

Designated sites

- 2.1.1 The MAGIC (Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside) website (Ref 8) was used to identify statutory designated sites within the vicinity of the site. Search radii of 10km and 2km (from the approximate centre of the study area) were employed for European and nationally designated sites, respectively.
- 2.1.2 The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) website (Ref 9) and Natural England designated sites website (Ref 10) provided details and descriptions of protected sites, with cross-reference to maps and citations.

2.2 Survey methods

- 2.2.1 The survey methods employed comprised a suite of wintering bird walkover surveys, inshore bird surveys and beach surveys; full details are provided in the following sections.

Wintering Bird walkover survey

- 2.2.2 The strategy for ornithological surveys was designed to enable the mapping of qualifying ornithological features associated with the Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Minsmere-Walberswick SPA/Ramsar site, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA/Ramsar site and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA (henceforth termed 'target species').
- 2.2.3 The survey methods were derived from current best practice as described in Bibby et al. (2000) (Ref 11), Gilbert et al. (1998) (Ref 12) and Bird Survey and Assessment Steering Group (2022) (Ref 13) with bespoke survey methods for viewpoint and beach surveys (detailed subsequently).
- 2.2.4 A series of surveys was employed to determine the assemblage, numbers and distribution of target species across the study area.
- 2.2.5 Target species recorded during the surveys were restricted to:
- qualifying features of Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA;
 - all waterbirds, regardless of whether they were listed in the citations;
 - red and amber listed BoCC species, S41 species, Schedule 1 species; and
 - noteworthy aggregations of other species were also recorded.
- 2.2.6 All areas within the survey area boundaries were surveyed by foot/car. Target species just outside of study area were also recorded.

Search area locations and habitat descriptions

- 2.2.7 An overview of search area locations is provided as **Figure 1** of this document and each survey area is shown individually in **Figure 2** of this document. The search areas and habitats were divided and summarised as follows.
- Walberswick Corridor (Figure 2.1 of this document)**
- 2.2.8 Shingle beach with limited sandy areas and a low shingle ridge stabilised by marram grass *Ammophila arenaria*, reedbed and brackish pools inland and agricultural land (predominantly arable) extending inland and dominating the rest of this area. A single farm reservoir was also present near the centre of this search area.
- River Blyth Crossing (Figure 2.2 of this document)**
- 2.2.9 A mixture of reedbed and seasonally flooded pasture adjacent to the river with some larger areas of standing water; land to the south, west and most northern parts of the search area comprised mixed agriculture (predominantly arable).

Surveyors

- 2.2.10 Surveys were managed and completed by a highly experienced ornithologist (MCIEEM) based in Norfolk with over 25 years professional bird survey experience.

Limitations and assumptions

- 2.2.11 The findings of this report represent those at the time of survey and reporting, and data collected from available sources. Ecological surveys are limited by factors which affect the presence of species, such as weather conditions, migration patterns and behaviour.
- 2.2.12 In summary, survey effort/coverage is considered sufficiently robust to identify areas favoured by target species, and the species and numbers present, to inform the design and environmental assessment of the scheme.
- 2.2.13 Weather conditions on almost all visits were considered suitable, across survey types. Instances of relatively high winds or limited visibility were very rare, and are not considered to compromise the overall conclusions of this report given the level of survey effort employed.

3 Results

3.1 Desk Study

Designated Sites

- 3.1.1 Six internationally statutory designated sites with bird interest were identified within 10km of the study area (**Table 3.1**), and nine other statutory designated sites with bird interest were identified within 2km (**Table 3.2**).

Table 3.1: European designated sites for waterbirds within 10km

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from study area
Minsmere-Walberswick Ramsar site (Ref 14)	<p>Designated as a Wetland of International Importance, Minsmere-Walberswick supports internationally important populations of breeding, wintering and passage birds. The site comprises a complex mosaic of habitats, including areas of marsh dykes, extensive reedbeds, intertidal mudflats, saline lagoons, shingle, woodland and areas of lowland heath. The site supports the largest continuous stand of reed in England and Wales and demonstrates the nationally rare transition in grazing marsh ditch plants from brackish to fresh water. The habitats create exceptional areas which support nationally-scarce plants, British Red Data Book invertebrates, and notable assemblages of breeding and wintering wetland birds. The criteria for designation include an important assemblage of rare breeding birds associated with marshland and reedbeds (including bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>, gadwall <i>Mareca strepera</i>, teal <i>Anas crecca</i>, shoveler <i>Spatula clypeata</i>, marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>, avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> and bearded tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>).</p>	Within, connected floodplain.
Minsmere Walberswick SPA (Ref 15)	<p>An area of 1997.67 hectares of the Minsmere to Walberswick area is designated as SPA. The Minsmere-Walberswick SPA is designated for its significant waterbird assemblages. The SPA extends from the intertidal mudflats of the River Blyth near the town of Blythburgh to the mouth of the estuary between the coastal towns of Southwold and Walberswick. The SPA also includes the Minsmere RSPB reserve and all the areas of grazing marshes, reedbeds and areas of lowland heath and woodland which lie between the reserve and the River Blyth.</p>	Within, connected floodplain.

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from study area
Alde-Ore Estuary Ramsar site (Ref 16)	<p>The range of habitats of the estuary support a variety of wintering, passage and breeding birds, including internationally important populations of a number of species. Qualifying features include populations of breeding avocet, bittern, gadwall, little tern <i>Sternula albifrons</i>, marsh harrier, nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>, shoveler and teal. The site also qualifies for its non-breeding populations of gadwall, European white-fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i>, hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> and shoveler.</p>	1.68km/S of the study area
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA (Ref 17)	<p>Designated as a Wetland of International Importance, the Alde-Ore Estuary supports internationally important populations of breeding and wintering birds. The site comprises the estuary complex of the rivers Alde, Butley and Ore, including Havergate Island and Orfordness. There are a variety of habitats, including intertidal mudflats, saltmarsh, vegetated shingle (including the second-largest and best-preserved area in Britain at Orfordness), saline lagoons and grazing marsh. The Orfordness/Shingle Street landform is unique within Britain in combining a shingle spit with a cuspat foreland. The site supports nationally-scarce plants, British Red Data Book invertebrates, and notable assemblages of breeding and wintering wetland birds. The qualifying features include the breeding bird assemblage and an internationally important breeding population of lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>, as well as the winter bird assemblage and internationally important populations of wintering (pied) avocet and (common) redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>.</p>	1.68km/S of the study area
	<p>An area of 2403.63 hectares of the Alde-Ore Estuary is designated as SPA. The Alde-Ore Estuary SPA is designated for its significant waterbird assemblages. The SPA lies partly within Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), extending from the intertidal mudflats near the town of Snape, which lies approximately 7.3km inland, and follows the River Alde, along the coast, down to the mouth of the estuary near the coastal town of Shingle Street and beyond to Bawdsey.</p> <p>The range of habitats of the estuary support a variety of wintering, passage and breeding birds, including internationally important populations of a number of species. Qualifying features include its breeding populations of avocet, lesser back-backed gull, little tern, marsh harrier and Sandwich tern <i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>,</p>	

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from study area
	and its wintering populations of ruff <i>Calidris pugnax</i> , avocet and redshank.	
Outer Thames Estuary SPA (Ref 18)	The Outer Thames Estuary SPA is classified for the protection of the largest aggregation of wintering red-throated diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>) in the UK, an estimated population of 6,466 individuals, which is 38% of the wintering population of Great Britain. It also protects foraging areas for common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) and little tern (<i>Sternula albifrons</i>) during the breeding season.	Within
Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA (Ref 19)	Benacre to Easton Bavents, comprising two sites with a combined total area of 470.61 hectares, is designated as a SPA. The range of habitats support a variety of wintering, passage and breeding birds. Qualifying features are its populations of breeding marsh harrier, bittern and little tern.	0.2km/N of the study area

Table 3.2: Other statutory designated sites for birds within 2km

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from the proposed site boundary
The Haven, Aldeburgh Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	This site, located north of Aldeburgh, comprises of shingle, shallow lagoons and large reedbeds.	Within, connected floodplain.
Westleton Heath National Nature Reserve (NNR)	The Westleton Heath NNR is part of the best remaining tract of heathland in Suffolk and can be found within the Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar site. The open heath and light scrub of the site are home to tree pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i> , Dartford warbler <i>Sylvia undata</i> , stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i> and nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> while the woodland supports nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> and woodcock <i>Scopolax rusticola</i> .	Within, connected floodplain, to the west of the site.
Suffolk Coast NNR	This NNR is made up of three reserves: Walberswick, Hen Reedbed and Dingle Marshes. The reserve has a rich beach flora, wetland flora and heath habitats. The site host over 280 species of birds including bitterns, marsh harriers, bearded tits <i>Panurus biarmicus</i> , woodlarks <i>Lullula arborea</i> and nightjar.	Within, connected floodplain

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from the proposed site boundary
Sizewell Marshes SSSI	<p>The Sizewell Marshes are important for their large area of lowland, unimproved wet meadows which support outstanding assemblages of invertebrates and breeding birds.</p> <p>The breeding bird assemblage is of national significance with many species typical of wet grassland such as shoveler, gadwall, teal, snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> and lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>.</p>	Within, connected floodplain
Leiston-Aldeburgh SSSI	<p>This SSSI includes part of the RSPB and Suffolk Wildlife Trust reserves and includes a mosaic of habitats including acid grassland, heath, scrub, woodland, fen, open water and shingle. This range of habitat support a diverse and abundant community of breeding and wintering birds.</p> <p>Breeding bird species found in the dry grassland and heath include nightjar, woodlark and skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>; the scrub and woodland support tree pipit, turtle dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>, bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i> and nightingale; the marshes support water rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>, marsh harrier, gadwall and grasshopper warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>.</p> <p>Wintering bird species found at this site include Bewick's swan, bittern, European white-fronted goose, gadwall and teal.</p>	Within, connected floodplain
Minsmere-Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SSSI	<p>The site is part of the Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar site and is designated as SSSI for its series of habitats which include mudflats, shingle beach, reedbeds, heathland ad grazing marsh. The mudflats of the River Blyth estuary are feeding grounds for wigeon <i>Mareca penelope</i>, shelduck, redshank and dunlin.</p> <p>The reedbeds present at this site are important habitats for reed warbler and bearded tit but also marsh harrier, bittern, Cetti's warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>, garganey <i>Anas querquedula</i> and water rail.</p> <p>The shallow lagoons and islands at Minsmere host breeding colonies of avocets but also shoveler, gadwall, teal and shelduck.</p> <p>The grazing marshes also offer good habitat for snipe, redshank, gadwall, shoveler and black-tailed godwit.</p> <p>The heathland present are home to nationally decreasing birds; nightjar and woodlark.</p>	Within, connected floodplain
Pakefield to Easton Bavents SSSI	The site is designated as SSSI for its vegetated shingle features, saline lagoons, flood-plain fens,	Within the study area

Site name	Reason for designation	Distance, connectivity and orientation from the proposed site boundary
Alde-Ore Estuary SSSI	<p>nationally rare and scarce plant species and breeding bird species and assemblages and wintering birds. The site includes important breeding populations of bittern, marsh harrier, little tern, water rail and bearded tit.</p> <p>It also supports the following breeding bird assemblages; of lowland open waters: bittern, gadwall, marsh harrier; lowland heath: hobby <i>Falco Subbuteo</i>, quail <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> and woodlark; scrub: cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>, nightingale and grasshopper warbler; woodland: sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>, willow tit <i>Parus montanus</i> and nuthatch <i>Sitta europea</i>.</p> <p>This site, part of the SPA and Ramsar under the same name, stretches along the coast from Bawdsey to Aldeburgh and inland to Snape.</p> <p>It is designated as SSSI for its diverse habitats comprising of mudflats, saltmarsh, shingle and coastal lagoons which are all of ornithological value.</p> <p>Havergate Island holds the largest colony of avocets in Britain and they also use the Hazelwood Marshes and Alde mudflats to feed. While other species found on the Island include: gadwall, shoveler, oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>, ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>, common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>, Arctic tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i>, Sandwich tern <i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>, little tern, common gull <i>Larus canus</i>, short-eared owl <i>Asio flammeus</i>, wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i> and marsh harrier.</p> <p>On Orfordness there are large breeding colonies of black-headed gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>, lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i> and herring gull.</p> <p>In winter and during migration the site is visited by nationally important numbers of Bewick's swan, shelduck, teal, wigeon, redshank and avocet.</p>	1.68km/S of the study area
Benacre NNR	<p>This site includes the reedbeds and lagoons of Benacre, Covehithe and Easton Broads with the woodlands and heathlands on the higher grounds between them.</p> <p>Over 100 breeding bird species use the reserve including marsh harrier, bearded tits, water rail, ducks and bittern.</p> <p>Little terns are known to be summer visitors and the heathlands host woodlark, wheatear and hobby.</p>	0.2km/N from the study area

3.2 Field surveys

- 3.2.1 Survey data collected are summarised within **Table 3.3** and **Table 3.4**, with the results for walkover surveys mapped on **Figures 3.1-3.3** and **4.1-4.6** of this document. Further details provided in the following sections.
- 3.2.2 **Annex B: Survey Details** includes survey timings and weather details recorded during the surveys.

Blythburgh marshes – Wintering Bird walkover survey

Summary of Target and Secondary Species Recorded

- 3.2.3 Arable farmland to the north hosted a peak of 48 curlew *Numenius arquata* in December, with 65 lapwings present in farmland just outside of the search area to the south in November. A network of ditches, drainage channels and seasonal flooding within pasture hosting populations of foraging and roosting snipe (peaking at six in November) and redshanks (peaking at six in December); two green sandpipers *Tringa ochropus* (November) and a greenshank *Tringa nebularia* (October) were also recorded.
- 3.2.4 Reedbed and adjacent marginal habitats hosted strong populations of cetti's warbler and marsh harrier and low numbers of bearded tit and water rail.

Table 3.3: Non-breeding bird survey results – Blythburgh marshes (Annex A: Figures, Figures 3.1-3.3 of this document)

Species	Counts (peak counts across survey period emboldened)		
	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3
	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar and Easton Bavents-Pakefield SPA Qualifying Features			
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	-	4	6
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar and Easton Bavents-Pakefield SPA Assemblage Features and other species			
Canada goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>	1	17	-
Greylag goose <i>Anser anser</i>	10	-	-
Mute swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	6	3	7
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	-	-	3

Species	Counts (peak counts across survey period emboldened)			
	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3	-
	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	-
Water rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	1	-	-	-
Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	-	1	-	-
Little grebe Tachybaptus ruficollis	1	1	1	-
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	-	65	-	-
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	6	8	48	-
Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	3	6	1	-
Green sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1	2	-	-
Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1	-	-	-
Black-headed gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	20	16	2	-
Common gull <i>Larus canus</i>	-	3	-	-
Grey heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2	-	1	-
Little egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	6	3	1	-
Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2	2	3	-
Peregrine falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	-	-	1	-
Bearded tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	2	4	4	-
Cetti's Warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>	7	9	3	-

Walberswick Corridor – Wintering Bird walkover survey

Summary of target and secondary species recorded

- 3.2.5 Foraging waders were recorded regularly in arable farmland in the west of the search area. Across the Corridor, there was a peak of 85 curlew on the ground in February (with a peak of 52 curlew in the west of the area) with numbers present throughout the winter period. The western area hosted up to 39 lapwing in January with a further 45 on the marshes just inland from the coast on the same date. At times larger numbers of gulls were present in these arable habitats with up to 85 black-headed gull seen in the west in March and a flock of 125 to the east in February with 38 common gull.
- 3.2.6 The farm reservoir near to the centre of the search area hosted large numbers of wildfowl and gulls at times with peak counts including 130 shoveler, 70 gadwall, four pintails *Anas acuta* and seven shelducks in October, 100 greylag geese *Anser anser* in November, two scaup *Aythya marila* in December, 110 mallards *Anas platyrhynchos* in January and 36 tufted ducks *Aythya fuligula* in March.
- 3.2.7 The pools and scrapes within the marshes behind the shingle ridge to the east also hosted large populations of wildfowl and waders at times including up to 70 teal in March and 31 wigeon in February; two spotted redshanks *Tringa erythropus* were present in January and up to three black-tailed godwits *Limosa limosa* were recorded. Great white egrets *Ardea alba* were seen on two visits in this area (two in October) and marsh harriers were encountered regularly throughout the winter. Up to 30 bearded tits were recorded in the reedbed here in November.

Table 3.4: Non-breeding bird survey results – Walberswick corridor (Annex A: Figures, Figures 4.01-4.12 of this document)

Species	Counts (peak counts across survey period emboldened)					
	Visit 1 October 2024	Visit 2 November 2024	Visit 3 December 2024	Visit 4 January 2025	Visit 5 February 2025	Visit 6 March 2025
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar and Easton Bavents-Pakefield SPA Qualifying Features						
Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	130	-	5	22	-	2
Gadwall <i>Mareca strepera</i>	70	2	32	24	5	34
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	6	12	3	5	10	13
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Ramsar, Alde-Ore Estuary SPA and Ramsar and Easton Bavents-Pakefield SPA Assemblage Features and other species						

Species	Counts (peak counts across survey period emboldened)					
	Visit 1 October 2024	Visit 2 November 2024	Visit 3 December 2024	Visit 4 January 2025	Visit 5 February 2025	Visit 6 March 2025
Greylag goose <i>Anser anser</i>	8	100	-	80	-	-
Mute swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	-	2	3	-	-	3
Egyptian goose <i>Alochen aegyptica</i>	10	-	-	-	-	-
Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	7	-	4	8	2	4
Wigeon <i>Mareca penelope</i>	-	-	20	10	31	-
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	80	14	24	121	4	4
Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	4	-	-	-	-	-
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	30	49	30	48	55	70
Tufted duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	-	-	26	24	-	36
Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	-	-	2	-	-	-
Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	1	-	-	-	-	-
Little grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	-	1	-	2	-	-
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	-	47	33	84	27	-
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	39	54	58	16	94	12
Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	1	1	3	3	-	-
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	-	-	-	-	-	1
Spotted redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>	1	-	-	2	-	-
Black-headed gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	63	155	84	42	125	171
Common gull <i>Larus canus</i>	-	20	-	13	38	-

Species	Counts (peak counts across survey period emboldened)					
	Visit 1 October 2024	Visit 2 November 2024	Visit 3 December 2024	Visit 4 January 2025	Visit 5 February 2025	Visit 6 March 2025
Great black-backed gull <i>Larus marinus</i>	10	1	-	-	-	4
Herring gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	25	11	18	15	6	30
Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	35	3	6	-	6	6
Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	-	11	-	3	-	-
Grey heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1	1	1	-	-	-
Great white egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	2	1	-	-	-	-
Little egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	1	-	1	-	-
Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	-	2	1	1	1	2
Bearded tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	-	30	4	-	-	-
Cetti's warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>	-	6	-	-	-	-

4 Summary and conclusions

4.1 Blythburgh Marshes

4.1.1 The wetland areas within this site hosted populations of waders including redshank (peaking at six in December), whilst adjacent farmland supported foraging curlew and lapwing (peaking at 48 and 65 respectively). The reedbed held populations of water rail, bearded tit and marsh harrier and low numbers of wildfowl were present across the marshes.

4.2 Walberswick Corridor

4.2.1 Foraging curlew and lapwing flocks in arable fields at the west end of this site peaked at 52 in February and 39 in January, respectively; gulls were also recorded foraging and loafing in this habitat.

4.2.2 The farm reservoir attracted large numbers of wildfowl and gulls at times including shoveler (peaking at 130 in October), gadwall (peaking at 70 in October), pintail, mallard and tufted duck. Two scaup were present during the December visit.

4.2.3 The pools within the marshes to the south of Dunwich River, to the south of the proposed Landfall Site (to the east of the search area) held flocks of teal through the winter with flocks of wigeon on occasion, whilst waders were represented in this area by lapwing (peaking at 45 in January) and smaller numbers of redshank, spotted redshank and black-tailed godwit. Up to 30 bearded tits were recorded in surrounding reedbed habitats and marsh harriers were recorded on most visits.

Annex A: Figures

- Figure 1 Survey Area
- Figure 2.1 Blythburgh Marshes Search Area
- Figure 2.2 Walberswick Corridor Search Area
- Figure 3.1 Blythburgh Marshes Survey Results October 2024
- Figure 3.2 Blythburgh Marshes Survey Results November 2024
- Figure 3.3 Blythburgh Marshes Survey Results December 2024
- Figure 4.01 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results October 2024
- Figure 4.02 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results October 2024
- Figure 4.03 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results November 2024
- Figure 4.04 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results November 2025
- Figure 4.05 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results December 2024
- Figure 5.06 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results December 2024
- Figure 4.07 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results January 2025
- Figure 4.08 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results January 2025
- Figure 4.09 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results February 2025
- Figure 4.10 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results February 2025
- Figure 4.11 Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results March 2025
- Figure 4.12 Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results March 2025

A3



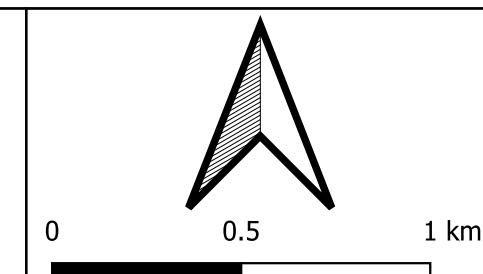
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Legend:
■ Search Area

Figure 1

Site Location

1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



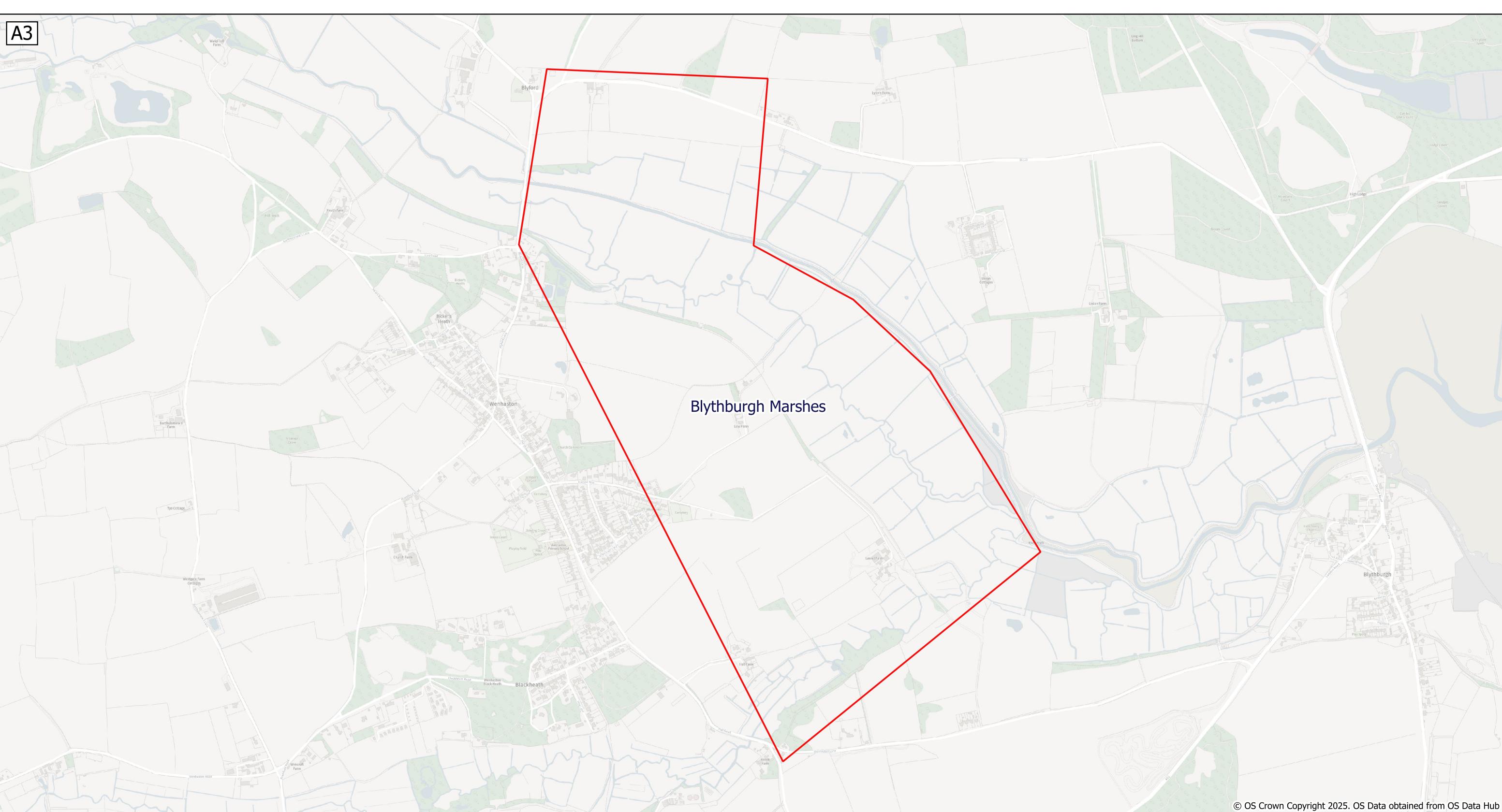
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 1

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A3



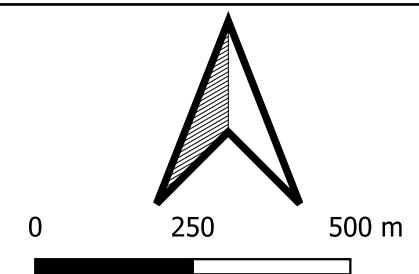
Wintering Bird Survey Report 2024-25

Legend:
■ Search Area

Figure 2.1

Blythburgh Marshes Search Area

1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



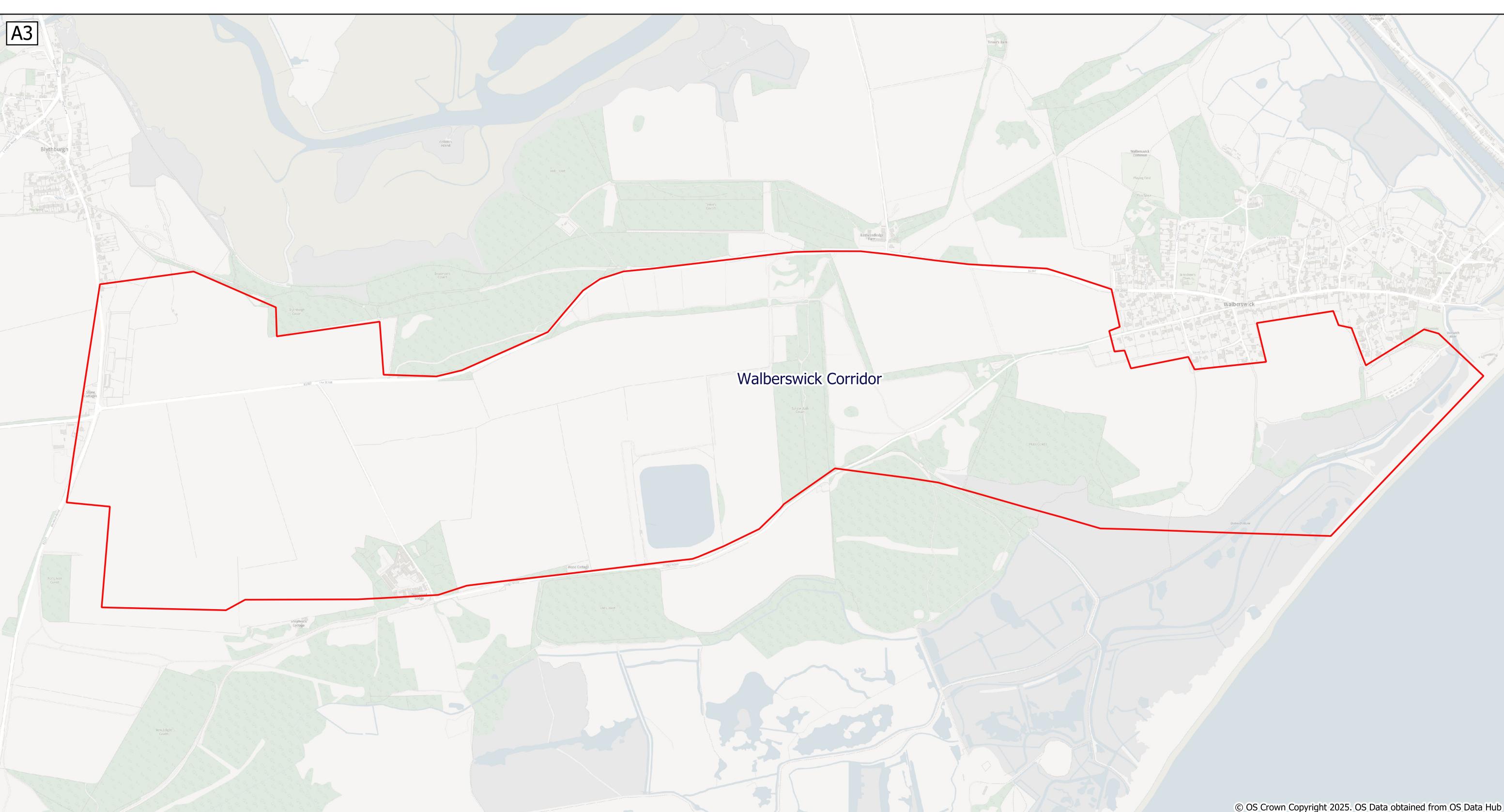
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 2.1

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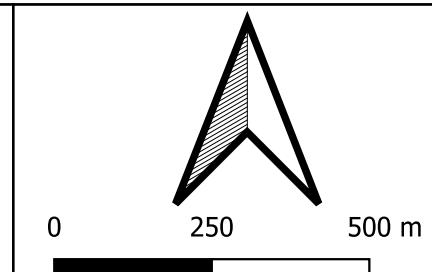
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Legend:
■ Search Area

Figure 2.2

Walberswick Corridor Search Area

1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



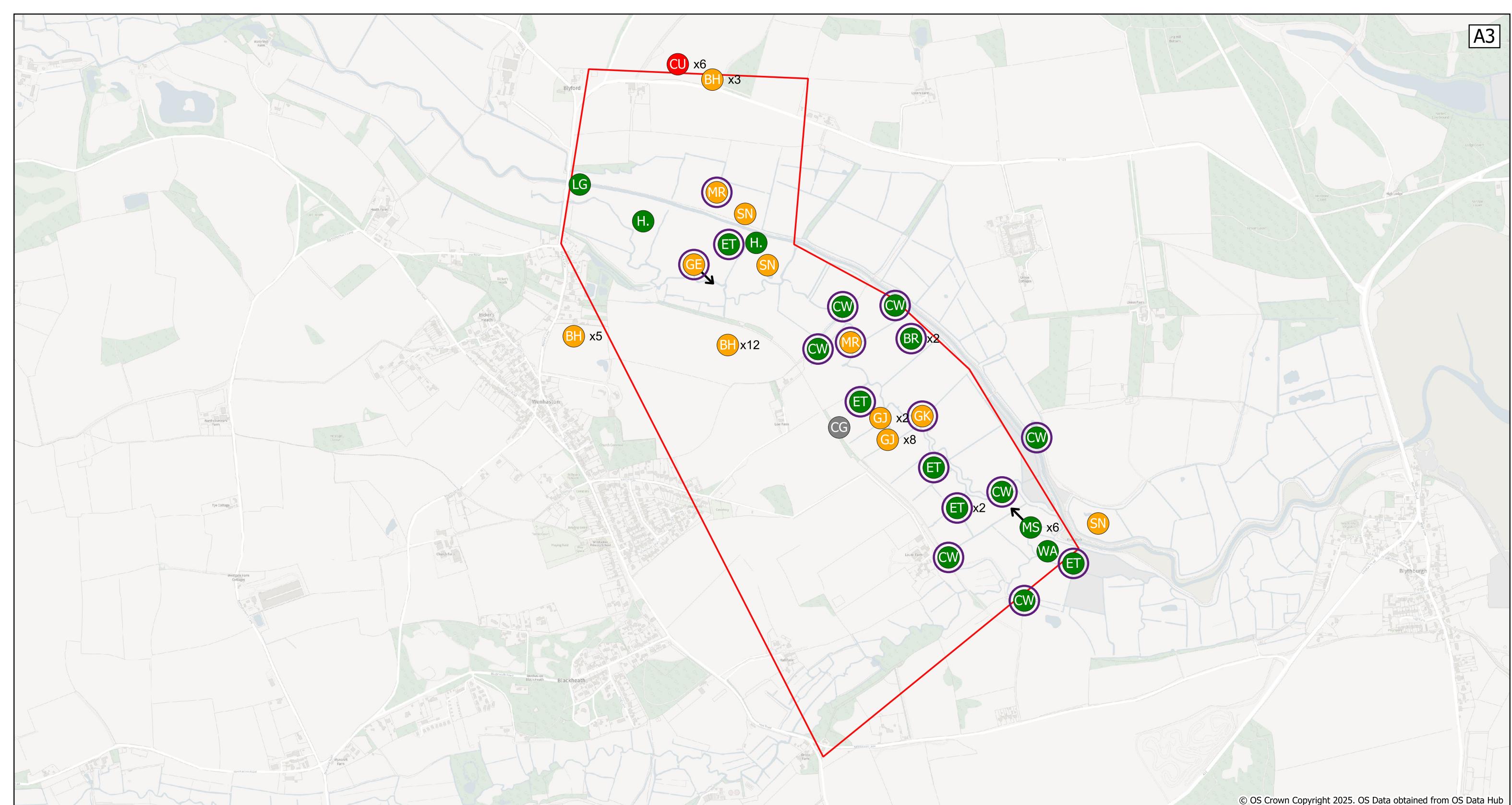
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 2.2

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Figure 3.1

Blythburgh Marshes Survey Results October 2024

1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd

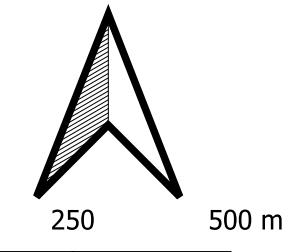
Legend:

- Search Area
 - Green List
 - Amber List
 - Red List
 - Not Assessed
 - Schedule 1/Annex 1
 - SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes

- CG - Canada Goose
GJ - Greylag Goose
MS - Mute Swan
WA - Water Rail
LG - Little Grebe
CU - Curlew
SN - Snipe
GE - Green Sandpiper
GK - Greenshank
BH - Black-headed Gull
H. - Grey Heron
ET - Little Egret

MR - Marsh Harrier
BR - Bearded Tit
CW - Cetti's Warbler

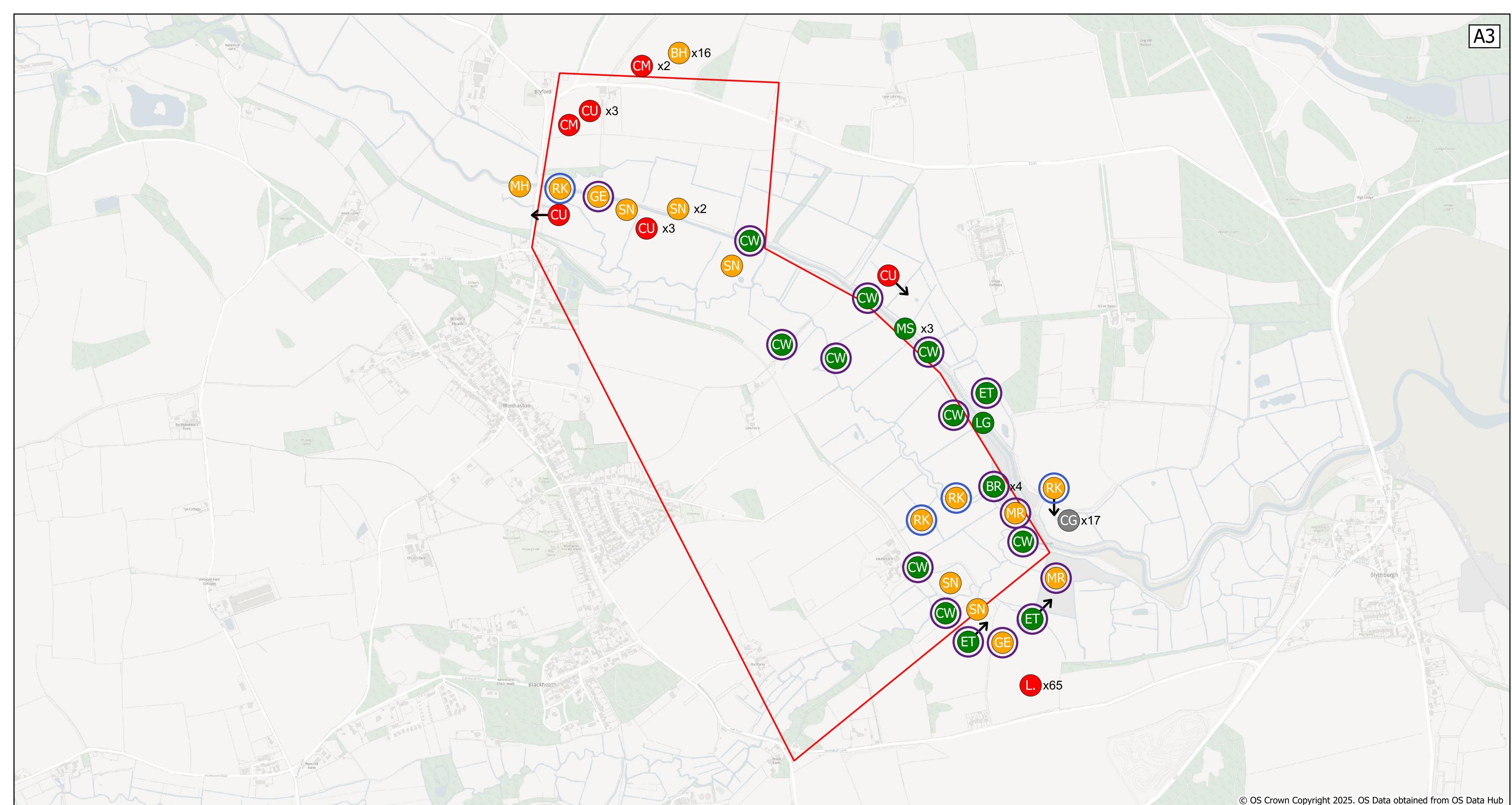


Scale at A3: 1:12,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 3.1

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Figure 3.2
Blyburgh Marshes Survey Results
November 2024

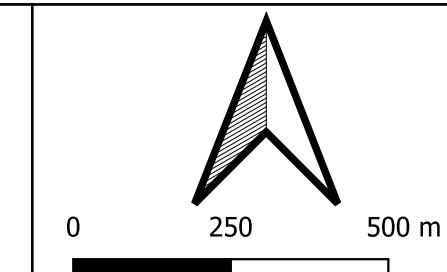
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- RK - Redshank
- CG - Canada Goose
- MS - Mute Swan
- MH - Moorhen
- LG - Little Grebe
- L. - Lapwing
- CU - Curlew
- SN - Snipe
- GE - Green Sandpiper
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- CM - Common Gull
- ET - Little Egret

- MR - Marsh Harrier
- BR - Bearded Tit
- CW - Cetti's Warbler



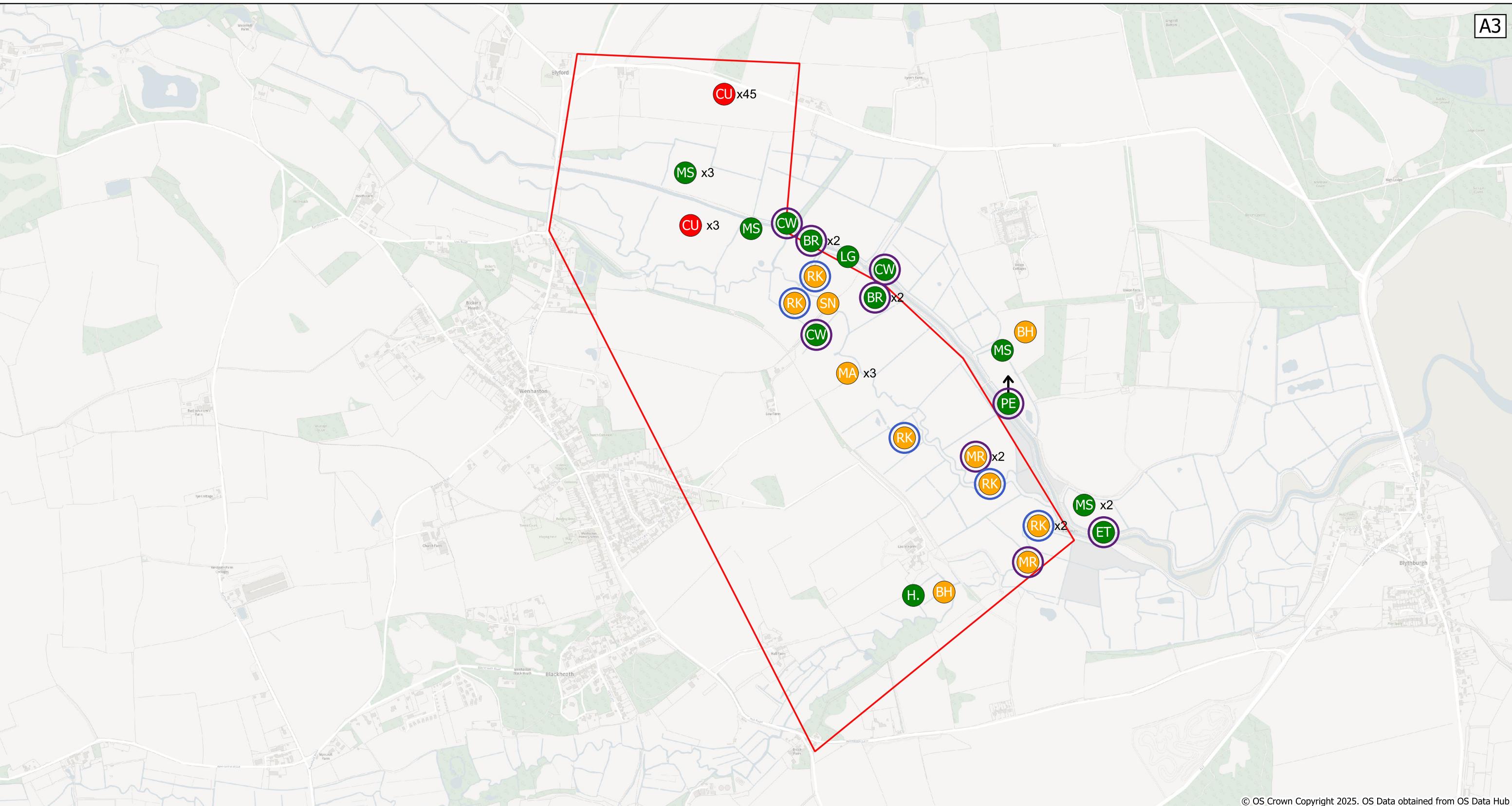
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
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Figure 3.3
Blyburgh Marshes Survey Results
December 2024

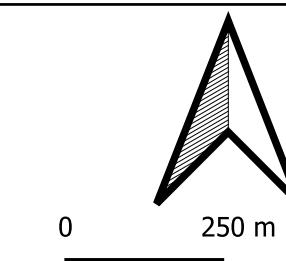
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- RK - Redshank
- MS - Mute Swan
- MA - Mallard
- LG - Little Grebe
- CU - Curlew
- SN - Snipe
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- H. - Grey Heron
- ET - Little Egret
- MR - Marsh Harrier
- PE - Peregrine Falcon
- BR - Bearded Tit

CW - Cetti's Warbler



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 3.3

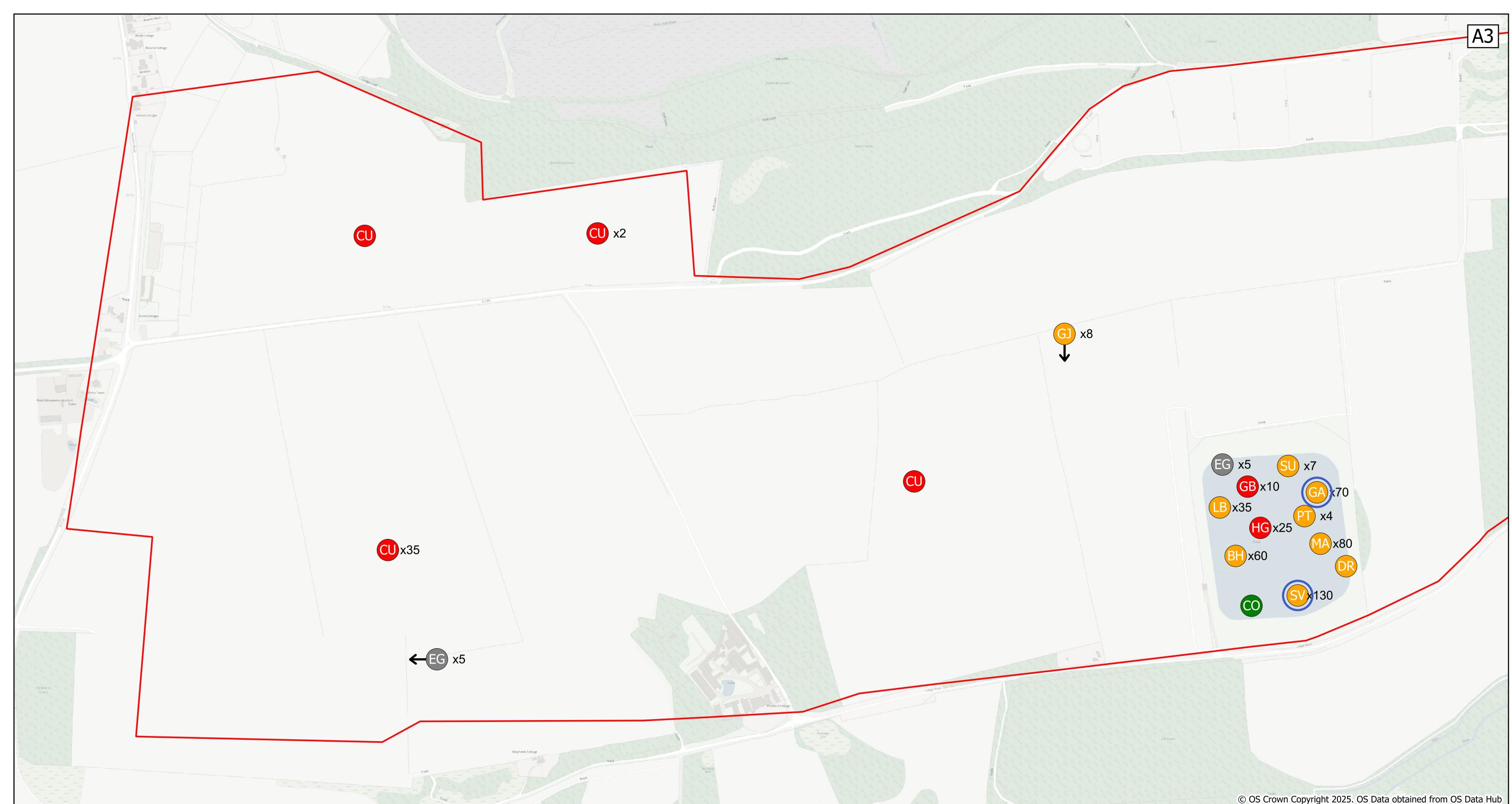
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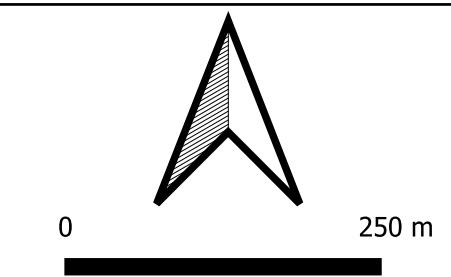
Figure 4.01
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results October 2024

Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| SV | - Shoveler |
| GA | - Gadwall |
| RK | - Redshank |
| GJ | - Greylag Goose |
| EG | - Egyptian Goose |
| SU | - Shelduck |
| MA | - Mallard |
| PT | - Pintail |
| T. | - Teal |
| CO | - Coot |
| CU | - Curlew |
| BW | - Black-tailed Godwit |
| DN | - Dunlin |
| DR | - Spotted Redshank |
| BH | - Black-headed Gull |
| GB | - Great Black-backed Gull |
| HG | - Herring Gull |
| LB | - Lesser Black-backed Gull |
| H. | - Grey Heron |
| HW | - Great White Egret |
| ET | - Little Egret |



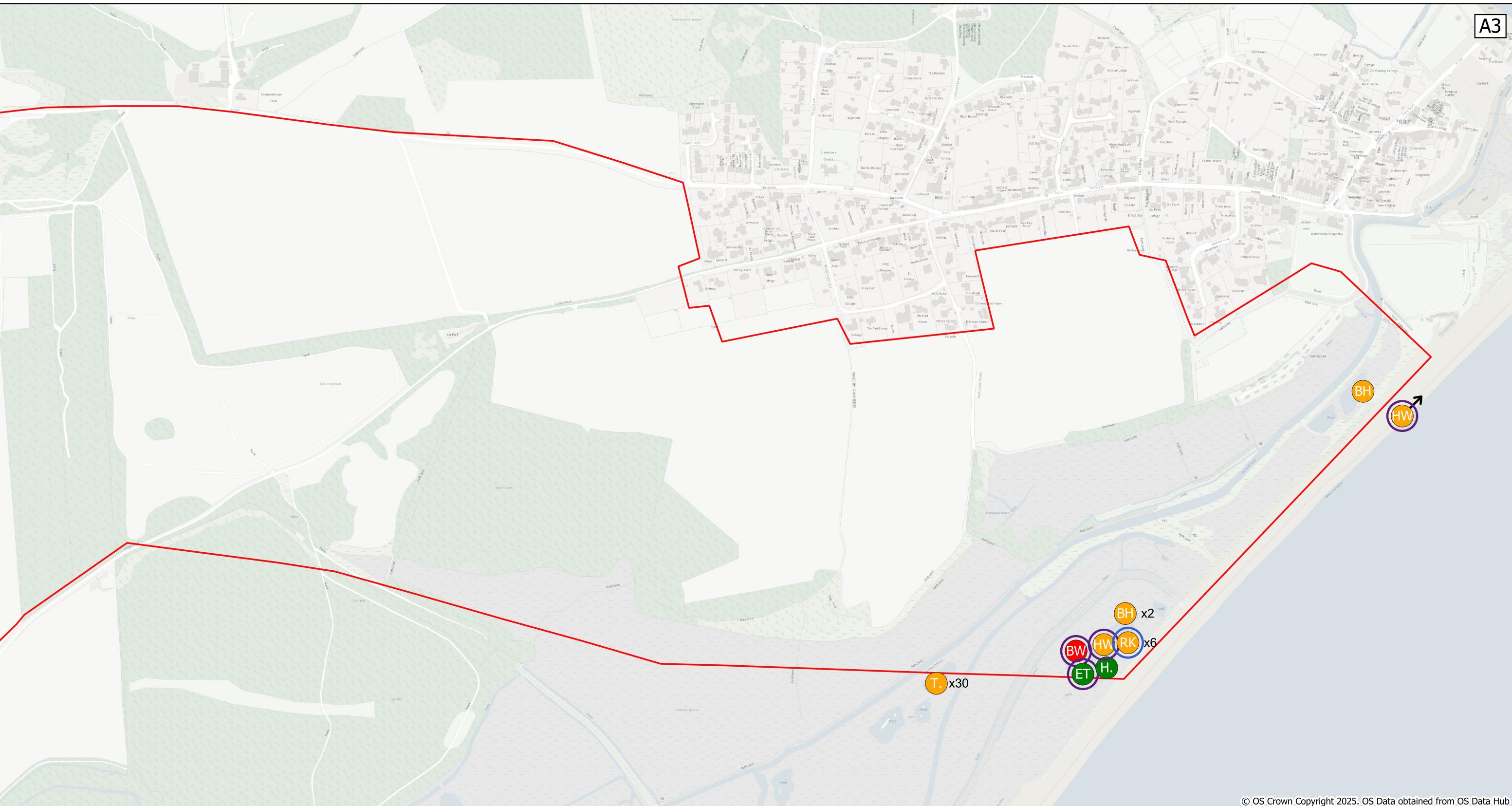
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.01

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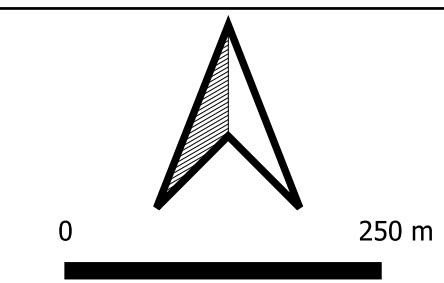
Figure 4.02
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results October 2024

Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SV - Shoveler | DN - Dunlin |
| GA - Gadwall | DR - Spotted Redshank |
| RK - Redshank | BH - Black-headed Gull |
| GJ - Greylag Goose | GB - Great Black-backed Gull |
| EG - Egyptian Goose | HG - Herring Gull |
| SU - Shelduck | LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull |
| MA - Mallard | H. - Grey Heron |
| PT - Pintail | HW - Great White Egret |
| T. - Teal | ET - Little Egret |
| CO - Coot | |
| CU - Curlew | |
| BW - Black-tailed Godwit | |



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.02

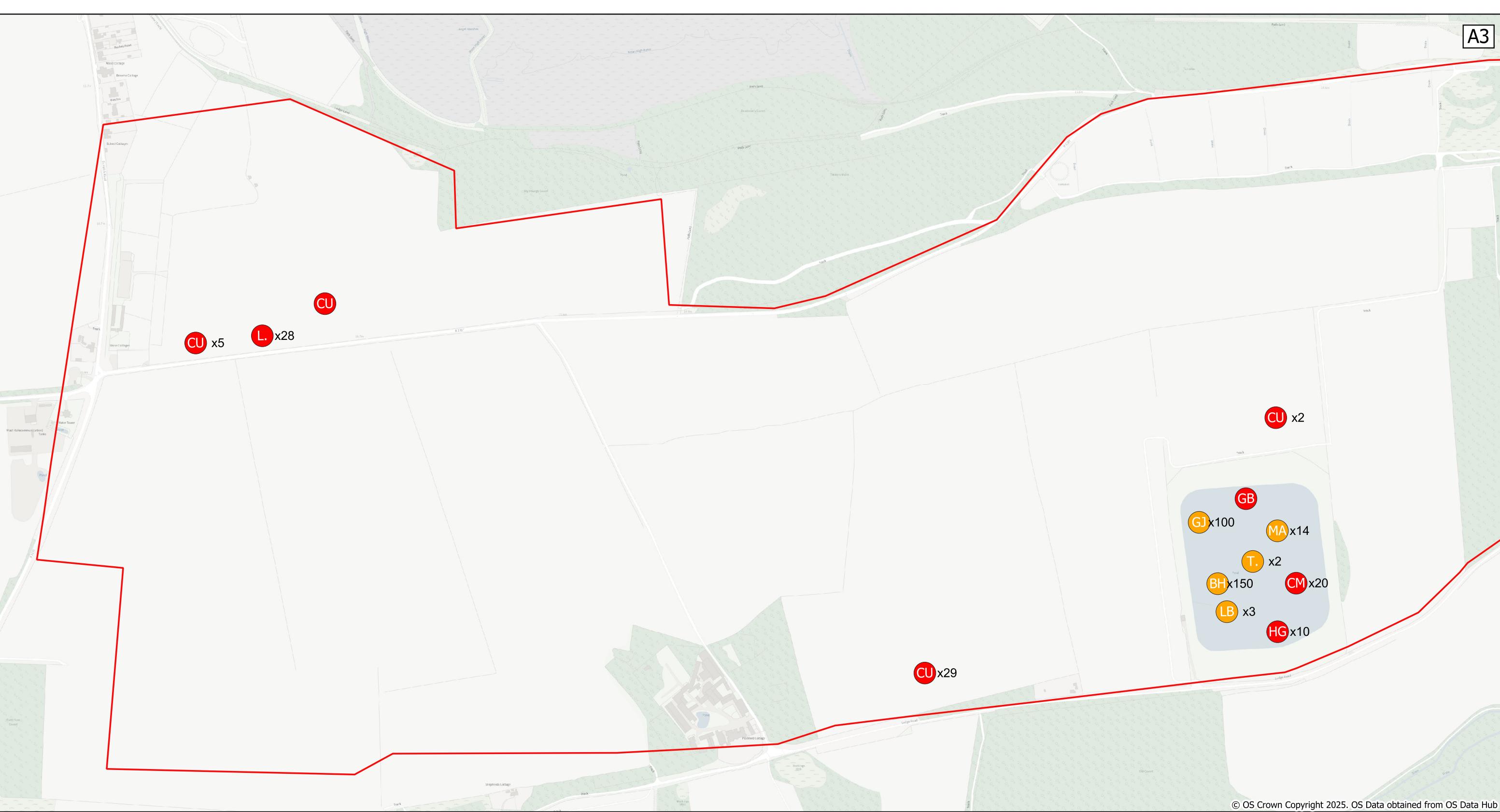
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Figure 4.03
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey
Results November 2024

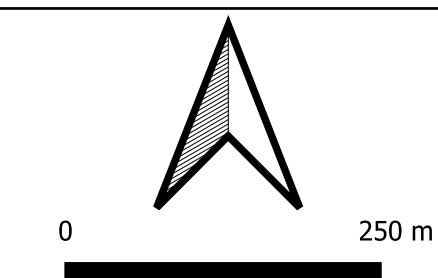
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- GA - Gadwall
- RK - Redshank
- GJ - Greylag Goose
- MS - Mute Swan
- MA - Mallard
- T. - Teal
- LG - Little Grebe
- L. - Lapwing
- CU - Curlew
- BW - Black-tailed Godwit
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- CM - Common Gull

- GB - Great Black-backed Gull
- HG - Herring Gull
- LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
- CA - Cormorant
- H. - Grey Heron
- HW - Great White Egret
- ET - Little Egret
- MR - Marsh Harrier
- BR - Bearded Tit
- CW - Cetti's Warbler



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.03

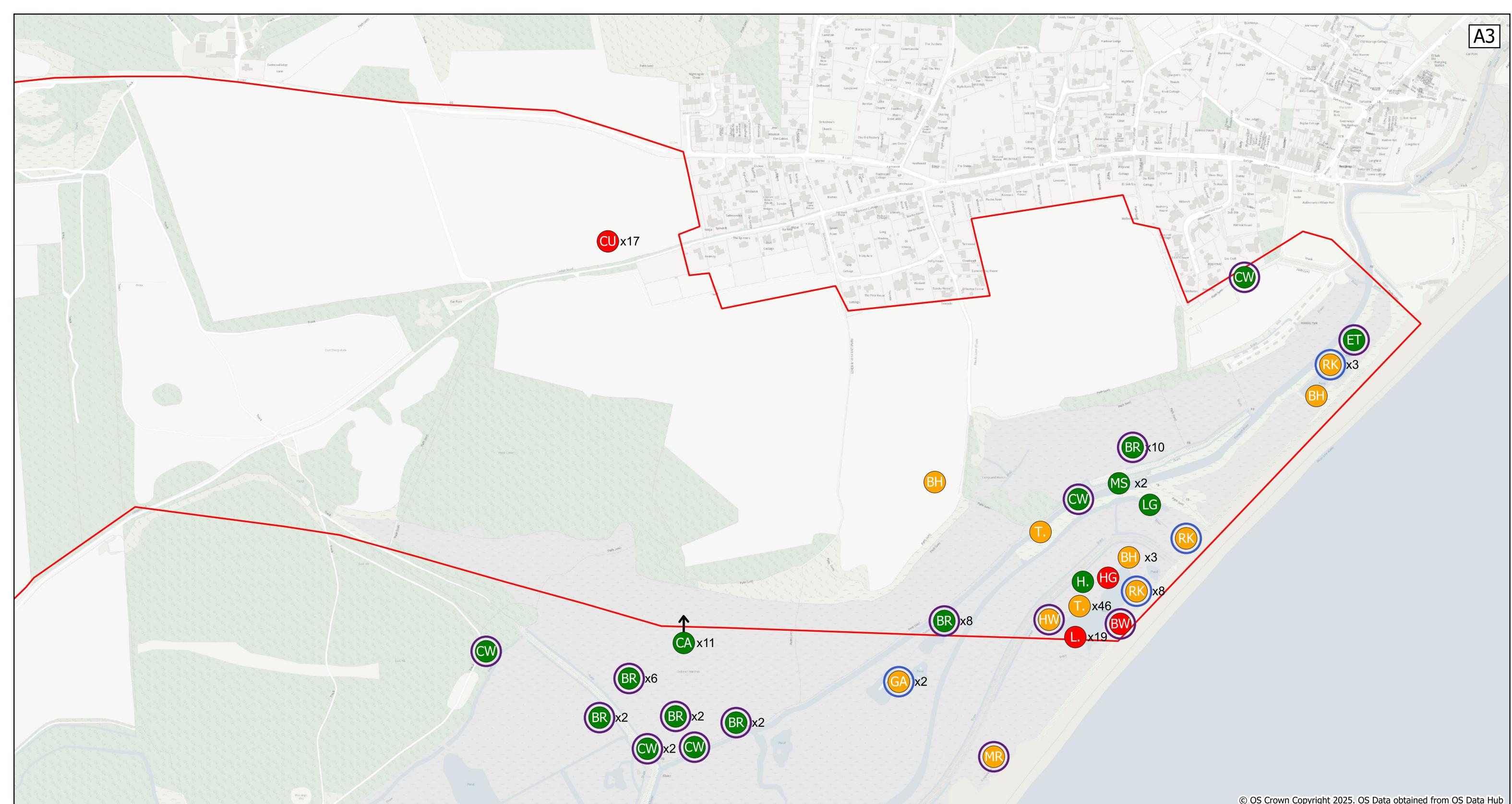
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Figure 4.04
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results November 2024

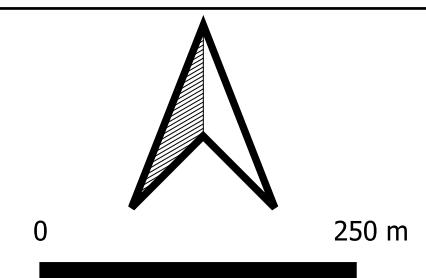
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- GA - Gadwall
- RK - Redshank
- GJ - Greylag Goose
- MS - Mute Swan
- MA - Mallard
- T. - Teal
- LG - Little Grebe
- L. - Lapwing
- CW - Curlew
- BW - Black-tailed Godwit
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- CM - Common Gull

- GB - Great Black-backed Gull
- HG - Herring Gull
- LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
- CA - Cormorant
- H. - Grey Heron
- HW - Great White Egret
- ET - Little Egret
- MR - Marsh Harrier
- BR - Bearded Tit
- CW - Cetti's Warbler



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.04

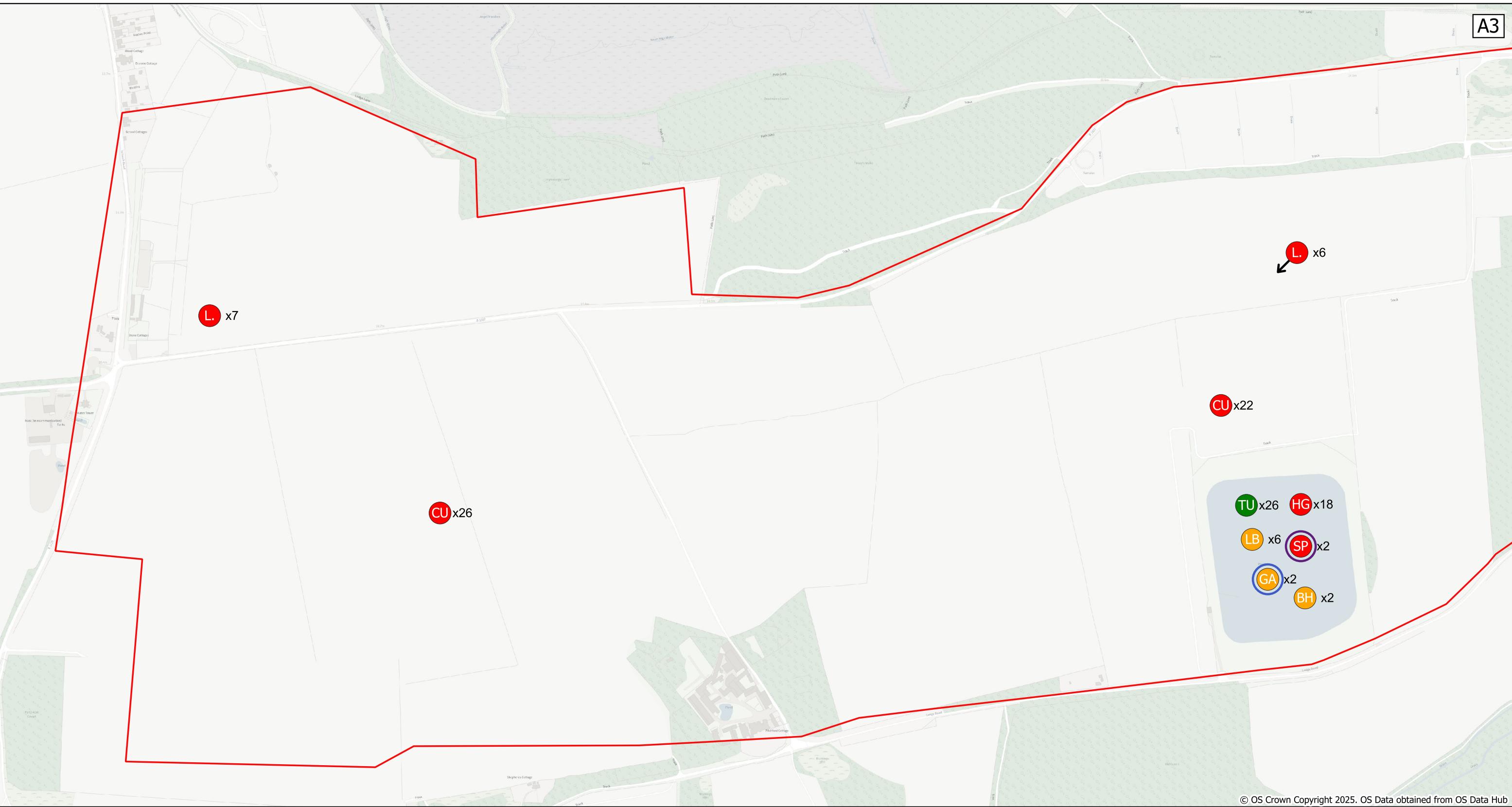
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Figure 4.05
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results December 2024

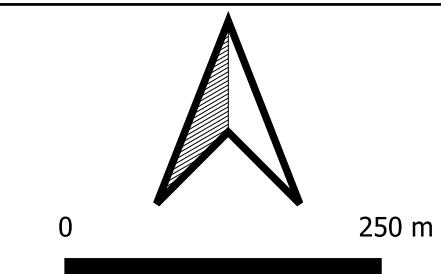
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

SV - Shoveler
GA - Gadwall
RK - Redshank
MS - Mute Swan
SU - Shelduck
WN - Wigeon
MA - Mallard
T. - Teal
TU - Tufted Duck
SP - Scaup
L. - Lapwing
CU - Curlew

BW - Black-tailed Godwit
BH - Black-headed Gull
HG - Herring Gull
LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
H. - Grey Heron
MR - Marsh Harrier
BR - Bearded Tit



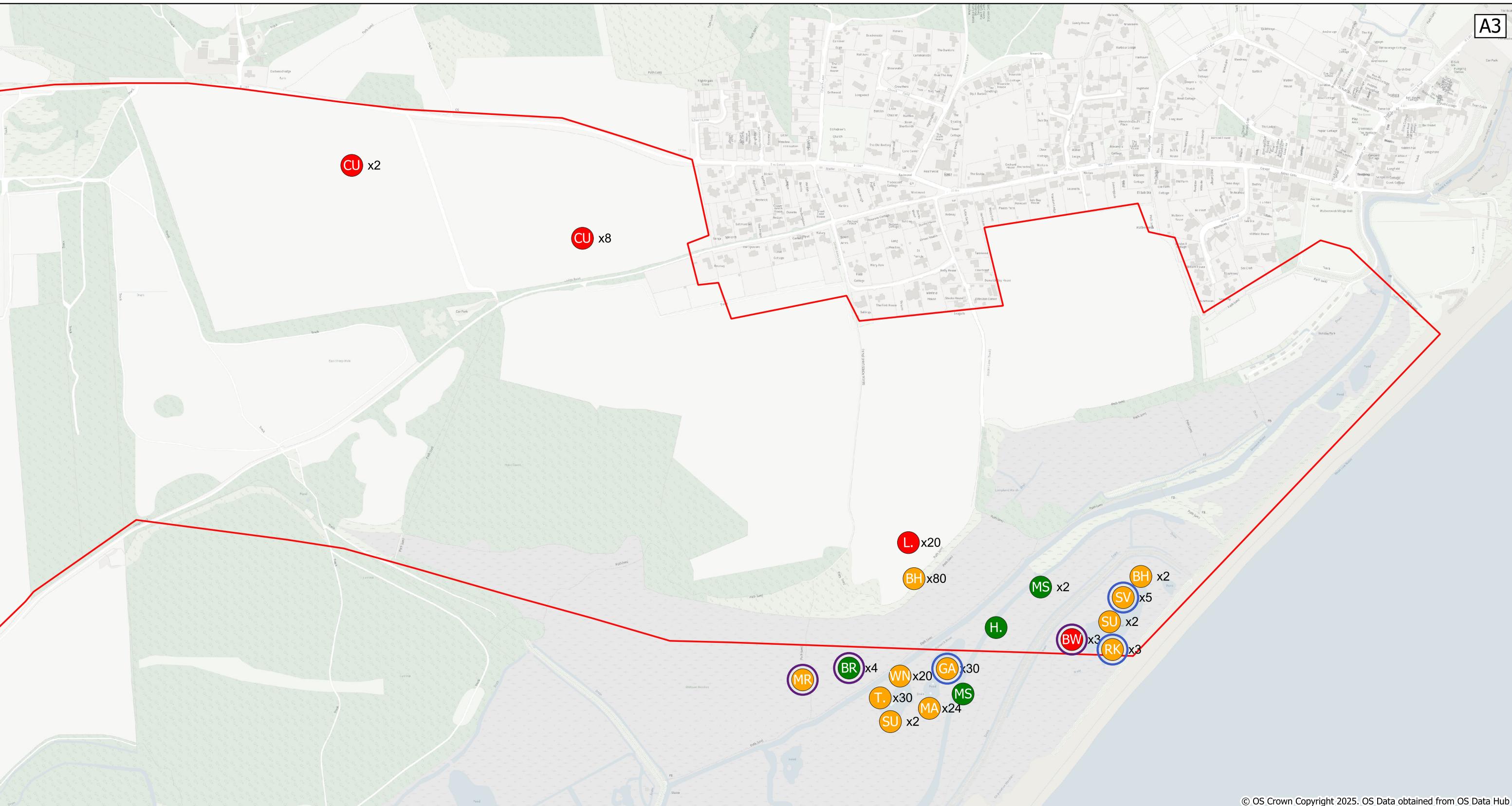
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Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.05

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Figure 4.06
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results December 2024

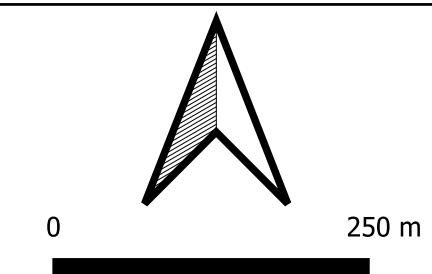
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| SV | - Black-tailed Godwit |
| GA | - Gadwall |
| RK | - Redshank |
| MS | - Mute Swan |
| SU | - Shelduck |
| WN | - Wigeon |
| MA | - Mallard |
| T. | - Teal |
| TU | - Tufted Duck |
| SP | - Scaup |
| L. | - Lapwing |
| CU | - Curlew |

- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| BW | - Black-headed Gull |
| BH | - Herring Gull |
| HG | - Lesser Black-backed Gull |
| LB | - Grey Heron |
| MR | - Marsh Harrier |
| BR | - Bearded Tit |



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.06

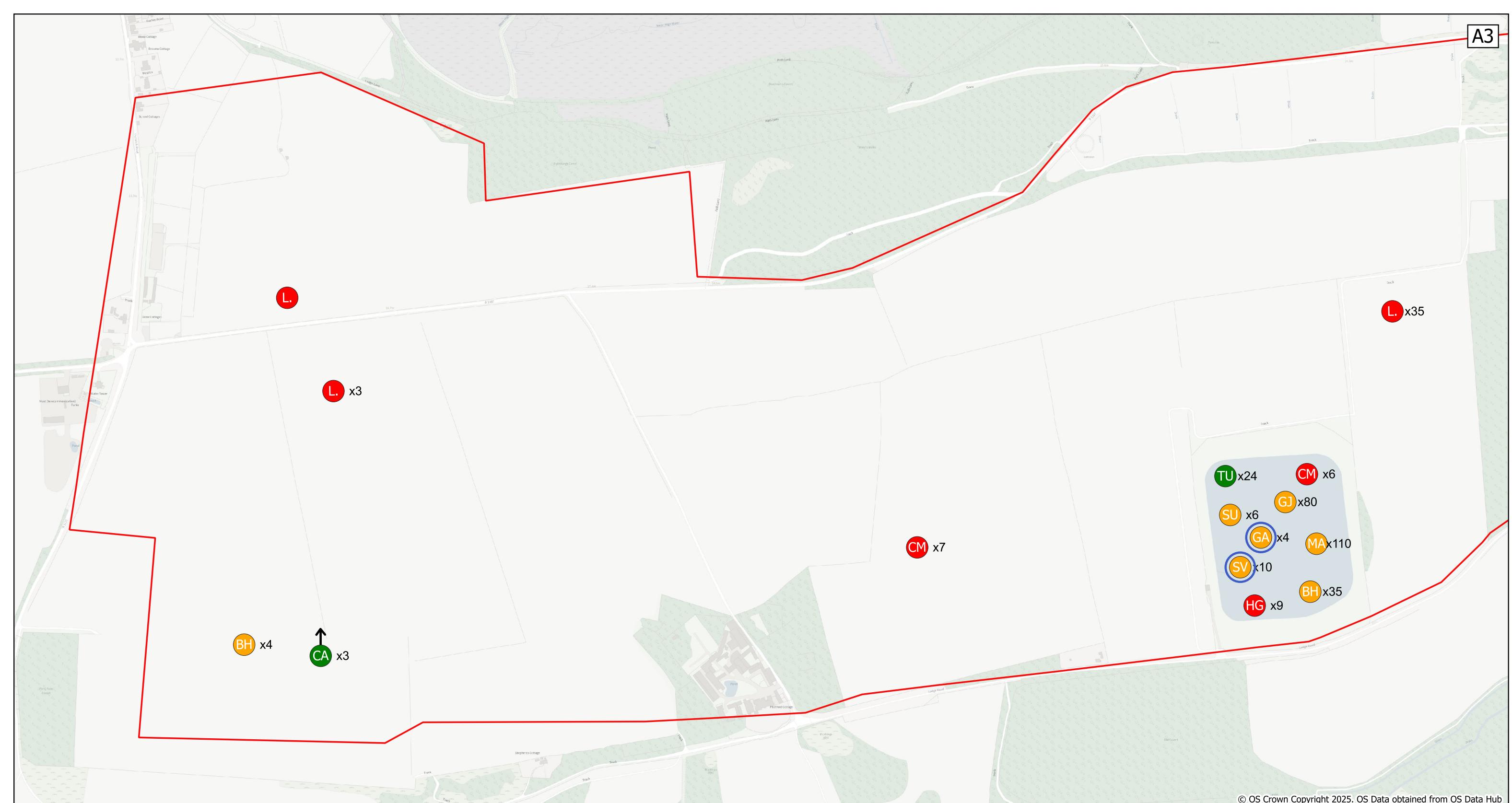
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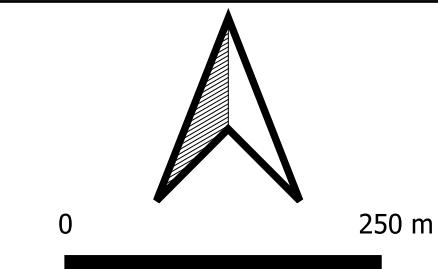
Figure 4.07
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results January 2025

Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| SV | - Shoveler |
| GA | - Gadwall |
| RK | - Redshank |
| GJ | - Greylag Goose |
| SU | - Shelduck |
| WN | - Wigeon |
| MA | - Mallard |
| T. | - Teal |
| TU | - Tufted Duck |
| L. | - Lapwing |
| CU | - Curlew |
| BW | - Black-tailed Godwit |



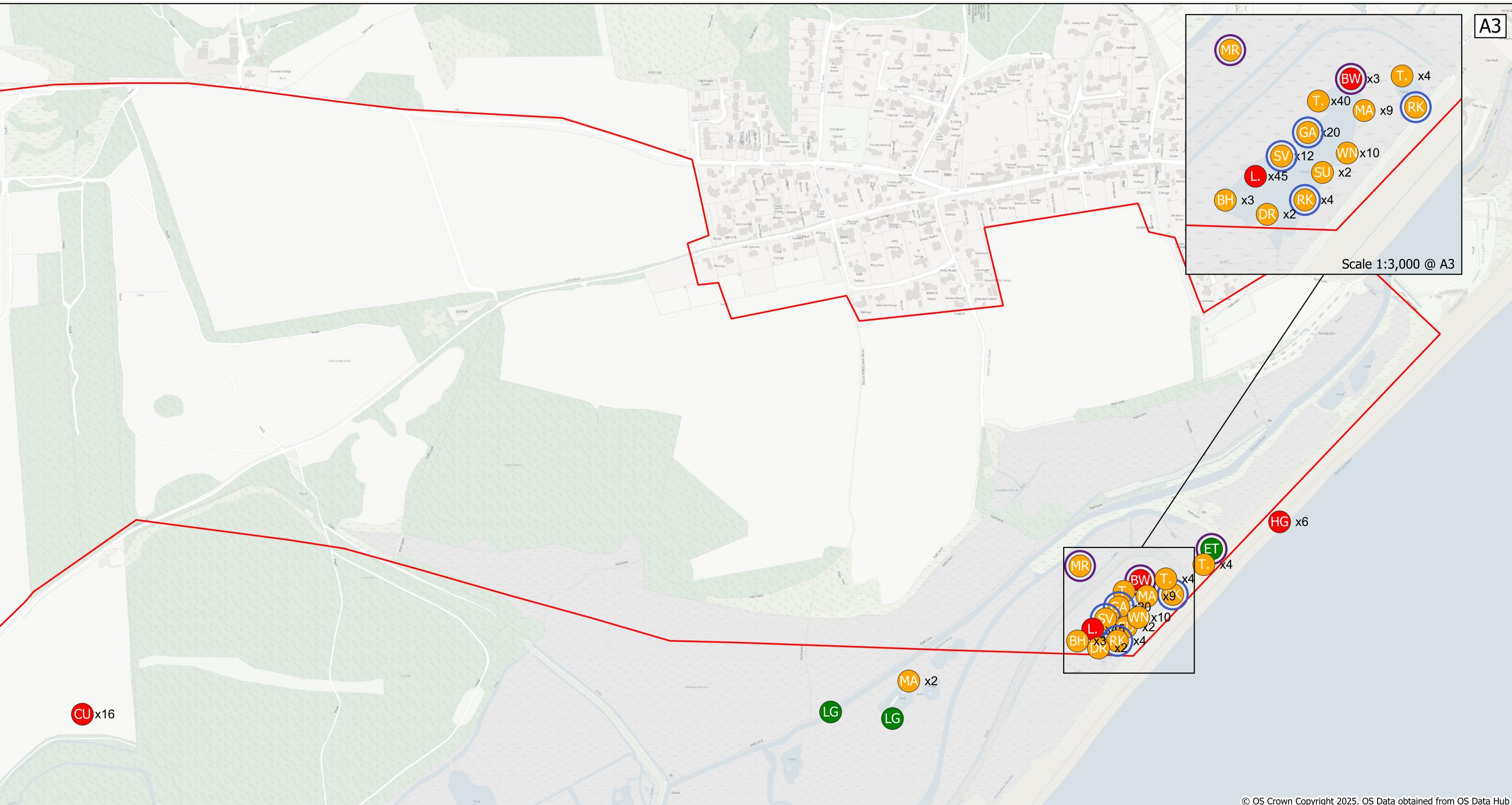
Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.07

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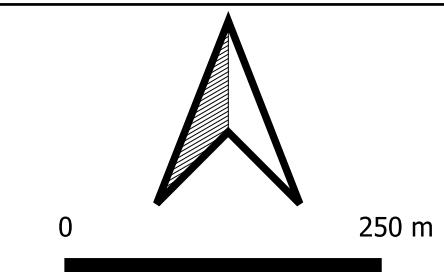


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Figure 4.08
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results January 2025

- Legend:**
- Search Area
 - Green List
 - Amber List
 - Red List
 - Not Assessed
 - Schedule 1/Annex 1
 - SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

- BTO Species Codes:**
- SV - Shoveler
 - GA - Gadwall
 - RK - Redshank
 - GJ - Greylag Goose
 - SU - Shelduck
 - WN - Wigeon
 - MA - Mallard
 - T. - Teal
 - TU - Tufted Duck
 - L. - Lapwing
 - CU - Curlew
 - BW - Black-tailed Godwit
 - DR - Spotted Redshank
 - BH - Black-headed Gull
 - CM - Common Gull
 - HG - Herring Gull
 - CA - Cormorant
 - ET - Little Egret
 - MR - Marsh Harrier

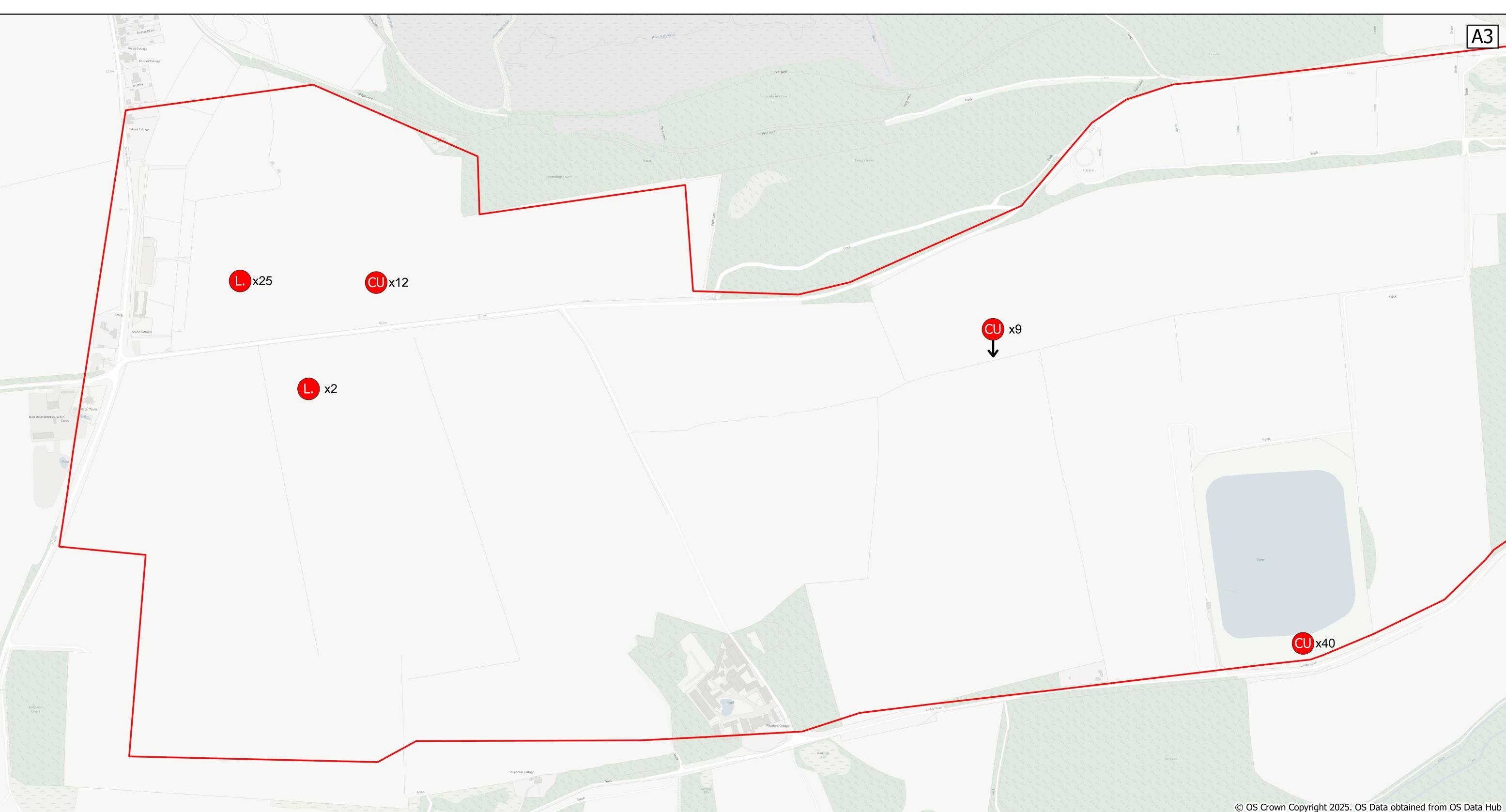


Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.08

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Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



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Figure 4.09
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results February 2025

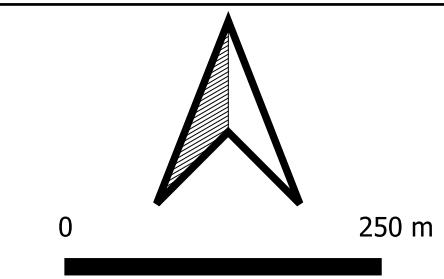
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- GA - Gadwall
- RK - Redshank
- SU - Shelduck
- WN - Wigeon
- MA - Mallard
- T. - Teal
- L. - Lapwing
- CU - Curlew
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- CM - Common Gull
- HG - Herring Gull
- CA - Cormorant

MR - Marsh Harrier



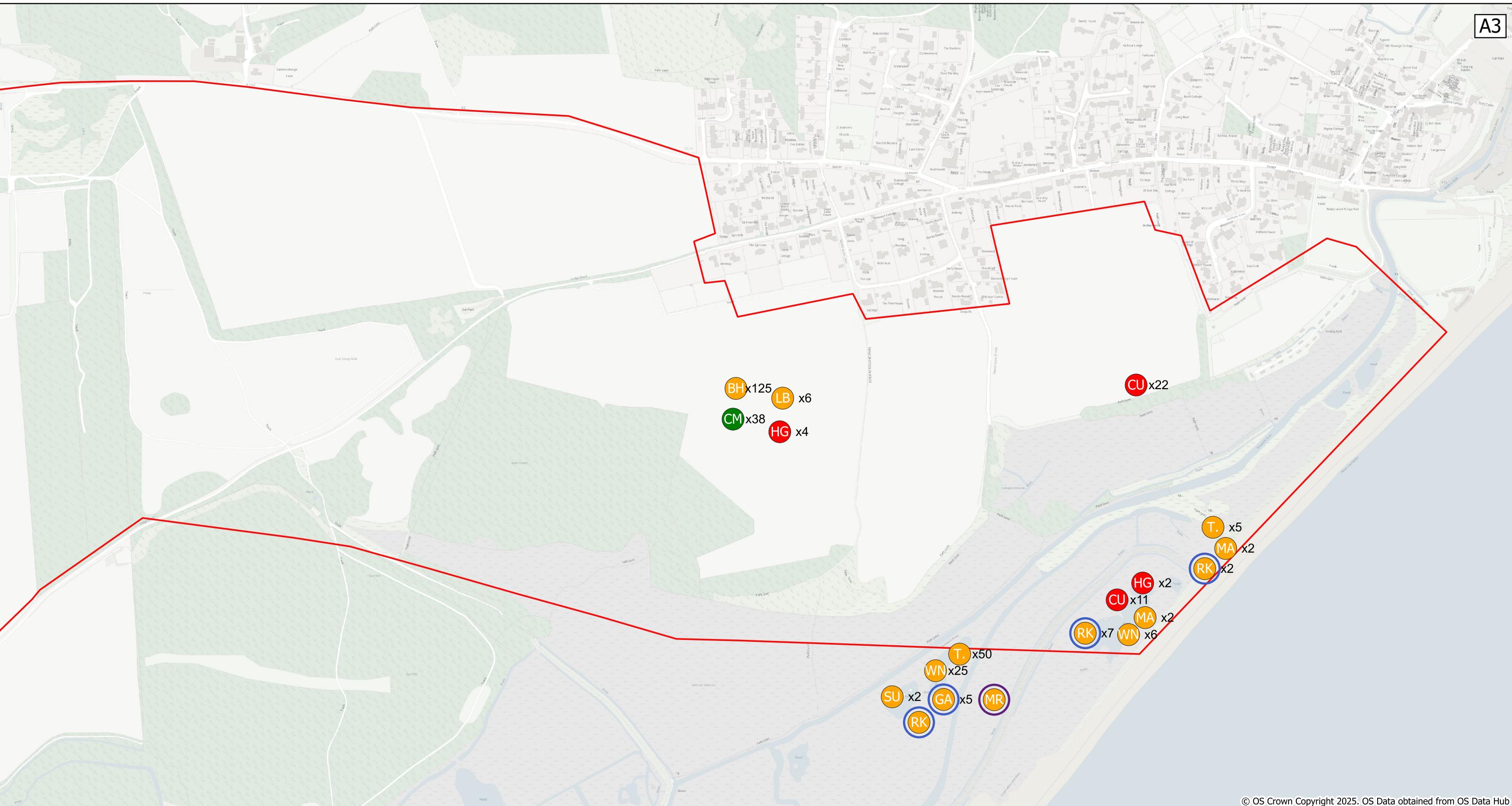
Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.09

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Figure 4.10
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results February 2025

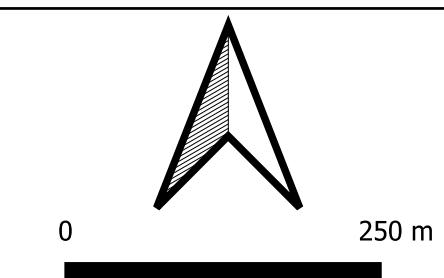
1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd

Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

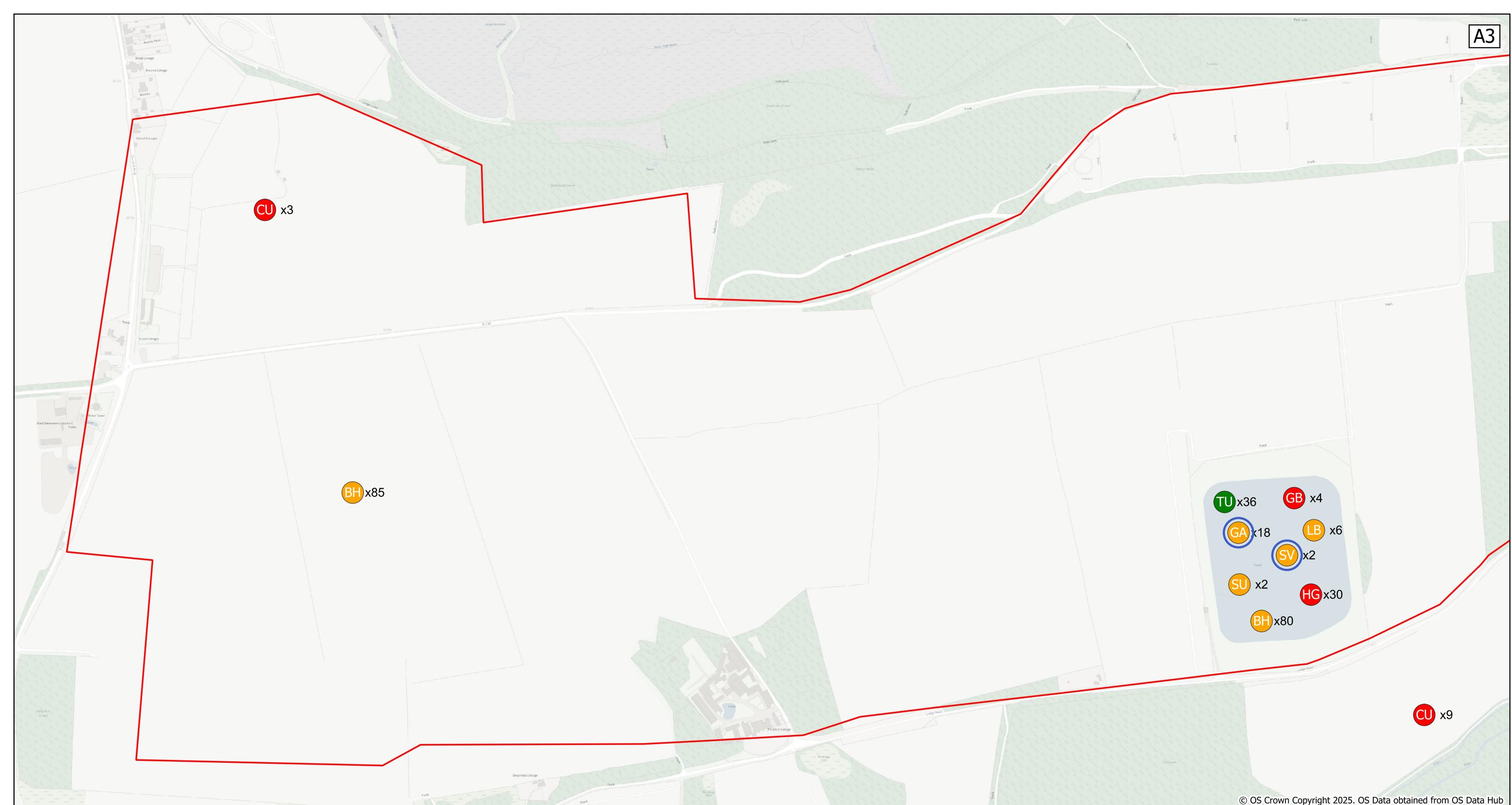
- GA - Gadwall
- RK - Redshank
- SU - Shelduck
- WN - Wigeon
- MA - Mallard
- T. - Teal
- L. - Lapwing
- CU - Curlew
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- CM - Common Gull
- HG - Herring Gull
- CA - Cormorant
- MR - Marsh Harrier



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.10

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Figure 4.11
Walberswick Corridor (West) Survey Results March 2025

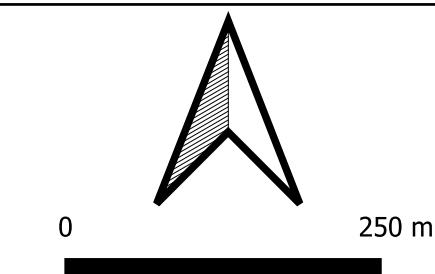
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

- SV - Shoveler
- GA - Gadwall
- RK - Redshank
- MS - Mute Swan
- SU - Shelduck
- MA - Mallard
- T. - Teal
- TU - Tufted Duck
- CU - Curlew
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- GB - Great Black-backed Gull
- HG - Herring Gull

LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
MR - Marsh Harrier



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.11

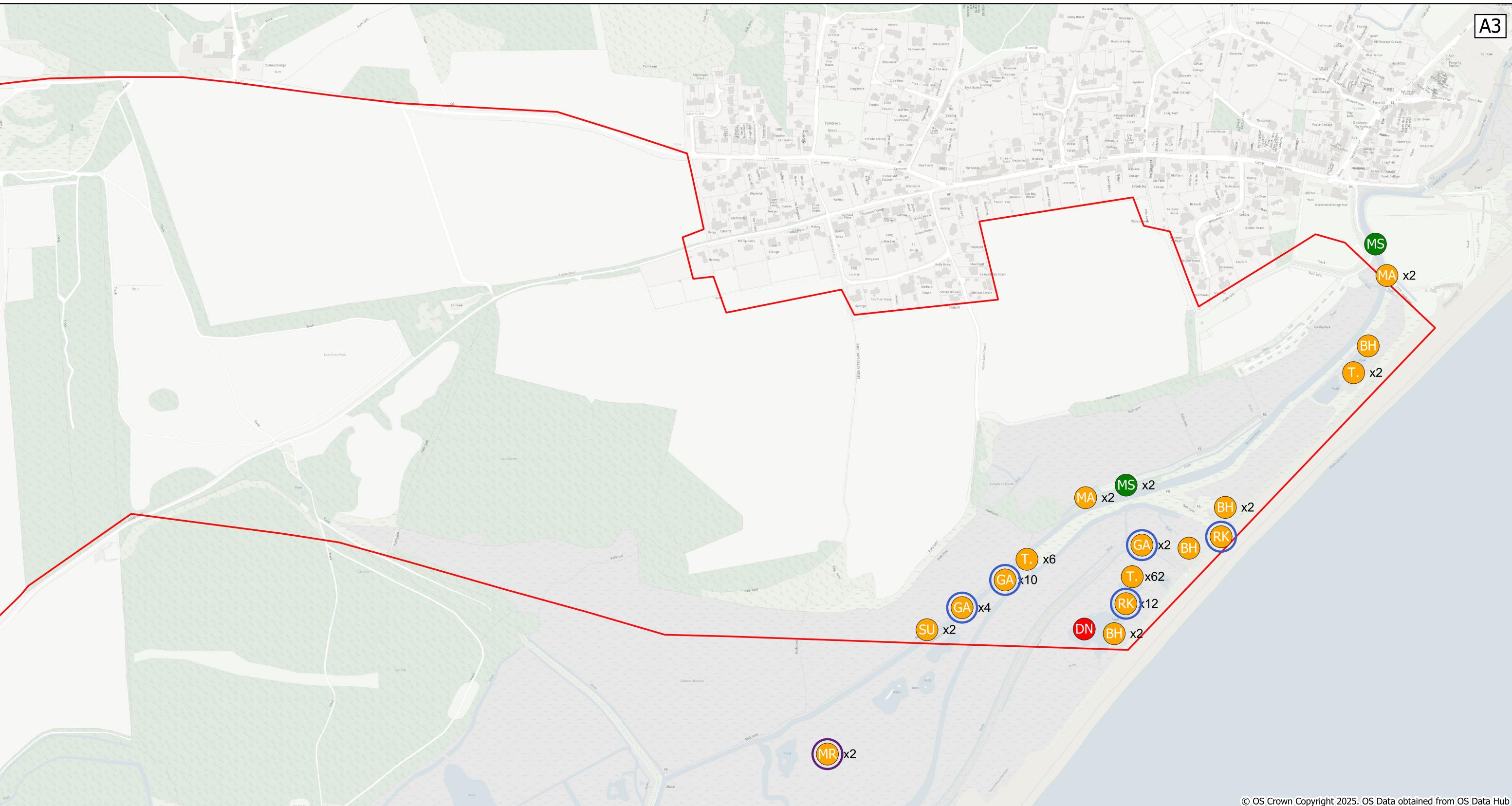
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Wintering Bird Survey Report 2024-25

Figure 4.12
Walberswick Corridor (East) Survey Results March 2025

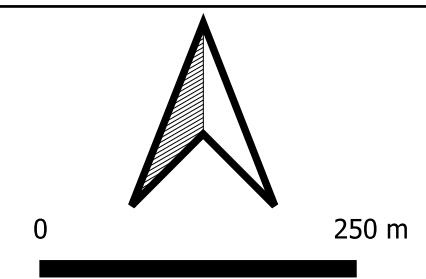
Legend:

- Search Area
- Green List
- Amber List
- Red List
- Not Assessed
- Schedule 1/Annex 1
- SPA/Ramsar Qualifying Feature

BTO Species Codes:

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- MA - Mallard
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- TU - Tufted Duck
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- HG - Herring Gull

LB - Lesser Black-backed Gull
MR - Marsh Harrier



Scale at A3: 1:6,000
Role: Ecology
Suitability: For Information
Project Number: 287334
Drawing Number: Figure 4.12

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1	25/04/2025	DB	RM	RM	AC
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd

Annex B: Survey Details

B.1 Weather data

Transect Ref	Date	Start Time	End Time	High Tide	Low Tide	Wind Speed (Beaufort Scale)	Wind Direction	Precipitation (0 - none to 4 - heavy rain/snow)	Cloud cover (oktas)	Cloud Height (0 - <150m, 1 - 150-500m, 2 - >500m)	Visibility (0 - <1km, 1 - 1-3km, 2 - >3km)	Lying Snow (0 - none, 1 - on site, 2 - on higher ground)	Frost (0 - none, 1 - ground, 2 - all day)	Temp (°C)
Visit 1 (October 2024)														
Walberswick corridor	18/10/2024	09:00	13:10	-	-	0-1	S	0	0	2	2	0	0	13-16
Blyburgh marshes	21/10/2024	08:40	13:00	-	-	3	SW	0	8	2	2	0	0	13-14
Visit 2 (November 2024)														
Walberswick corridor	18/11/2024	09:20	13:20	-	-	1	NW	0	7	2	2	0	0	3-5
Blyburgh marshes	21/11/2024	09:00	13:15	-	-	2	W	0	2-7	2	2	0	0	0-2
Visit 3 (December 2024)														
Walberswick corridor	05/12/2024	08:30	13:20	-	-	3	SW	0	8	2	2	0	0	11
Blyburgh marshes	06/12/2024	09:00	12:55	-	-	3-4	W	0	1	2	2	0	0	7-8
Visit 4 (January 2025)														
Walberswick corridor	08/01/2025	08:00	12:00	-	-	2	W	0	5	2	2	0	0	0-2
Visit 5 (February 2025)														
Walberswick corridor	10/02/2025	08:00	12:20	-	-	4-5	E	1	8	2	2	0	0	4
Visit 6 (March 2025)														

Transect Ref	Date	Start Time	End Time	High Tide	Low Tide	Wind Speed (Beaufort Scale)	Wind Direction	Precipitation (0 - none to 4 - heavy rain/snow)	Cloud cover (oktas)	Cloud Height (0 - <150m, 1 - 150-500m, 2 - >500m)	Visibility (0 - <1km, 1 - 1-3km, 2 - >3km)	Lying Snow (0 - none, 1 - on site, 2 - on higher ground)	Frost (0 - none, 1 - ground, 2 - all day)	Temp (°C)
Walberswick corridor	05/03/2025	10:45	13:55	-	-	2-3	NE	1	4-7	2	2	0	0	12

Topic Glossary

Acronym/ Phrase/ Abbreviation	Definition
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
gw	Gigawatt
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MAGIC	Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NERC	Natural Environment and Rural Communities
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SPA	Special Protection Areas
SNCO	Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation
WCA	Wildlife and Countryside Act

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- Ref 3 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2017.
- Ref 4 The Convention on Wetlands 1971
- Ref 5 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Chapter 16, Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities, 2006.
- Ref 6 Stanbury, A. Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Douse, A., Lindley, P., McCulloch, N., Noble, D. and Win, I. (2021) The Status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. *British Birds* 114, December 2021, 723-747.
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- Ref 14 <https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/75> [Accessed 25/04/2025]
- Ref 15 <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9009101.pdf> [Accessed 25/04/2025]

- Ref 16 <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11002.pdf> [Accessed 25/04/2025]
- Ref 17 <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9009112.pdf> [accessed 28/01/2025]
- Ref 18 <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9020309.pdf> [accessed 28/01/2025]
- Ref 19 <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SPA-N2K/UK9009291.pdf> [accessed 28/01/2025]

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