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# Annex 1 - Method statement for applications affecting European Protected Species only

## (Adopted from Marine Management Organisation MMO)

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The method statement will be used to determine the impact of the application on the favourable conservation status of the species concerned. Please use photographs to support descriptions.

### **Document 1: Background and supporting information**

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The format below must be used and completed by a consultant ecologist or other suitably experienced person.

**A. Executive summary** (no more than one side of A4)

**B. Introduction**

- B1.** Background to activity/development, include a brief summary of why the activity is necessary.
- B2.** Full details of proposed works on site that are to be covered by the licence. Include current status of planning permission or other licence applications/permissions (if applicable).

**C. Survey and site assessment**

- C1.** Pre-existing information on the species at the survey site. Provide records from local environmental records centres, local wildlife groups, previous survey work by the applicant or others.
- C2.** Status of species at the regional, national and international level. (See JNCC website.)
- C3.** Objectives of the survey, such as to determine presence/absence of species, species usage of site.
- C4.** Scaled plan/map of site of appropriate scale and orientation.
- C5.** Site/habitat description (relevant to the species concerned), based on day-time visits. Include annotated photographs if helpful.
- C6.** Field survey(s). Include survey method, timings (day/evening), weather conditions (wind, rain, temperature – tabulated for multiple survey visits), personnel involved (provide individual licence numbers, if held), and equipment used.
- C7.** Survey results. Summarise findings in table form (if appropriate); provide clear, annotated and crossreferenced maps/plans/photographs. Raw data to be appended.
- C8.** Interpretation/evaluation of survey results. Provide count/estimate of species numbers, status and significance of population, constraints on survey (such as time of year, cold weather, access problems – justify as necessary).

## **D. Impact assessment in absence of mitigation**

**D1.** Short-term impacts: immediate disturbance.

**D2.** Long-term impacts: habitat loss or modification. Impact on species population(s) to be taken into account at local, regional and national levels. Note that impacts can be positive or negative as this is in absence of mitigation.

**D3.** Long-term impacts: fragmentation, isolation and long-term disturbance.

**D4.** Post-development interference impacts.

**D5.** Predicted scale of impact on species status at the regional, national and international level.

## **E. Land ownership** - Mitigation site(s) (area(s) where any works will be done to offset development impacts, including development plot if applicable)

**E1.** If the mitigation site is not owned by the applicant, you must provide the written consent of the relevant land owner(s). You must also provide details of how any measures to secure the population are to be maintained in the long term (such as a legal agreement).

## **F. References:** List any references cited, and include credits for source information.

## **G. Annexes**

G1. Pre-existing survey reports.

G2. Raw survey data.

## **Document 2: Delivery information**

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The format below must be used and completed by a consultant ecologist or other suitably experienced person. This document will be attached to the licence.

### **A. Mitigation**

**A1.** Summary of mitigation strategy: Overview of how the impacts will be addressed in order to ensure no detriment to the maintenance of the population at a favourable conservation status. To include a scaled map or plan that can be compared with the proposals on the survey results plan.

### **B. Works to be undertaken by the ecologist or suitably experienced person**

**B1.** Capture and exclusion (if applicable). Timings, effort, methods to be employed, care of species, release sites. Include diagrams and photographs to show capture/exclusion apparatus if non-standard techniques are proposed. Include map to show location of capture and exclusion activities.

### **C. Works to be undertaken by the developer/landowner**

**C1.** Habitat creation.

**C1.1** In-situ retention of breeding sites/resting places - providing details of proposed works. Explain how the breeding sites/resting places will be retained. Any enhancements to habitat should also be detailed.

- C1.2** Modification of existing breeding site/resting places dimension details, scale drawings of the proposals.
- C1.3** New breeding site/resting place creation – dimension details, location details, materials to be used (where applicable), aspect.
- C1.4** Scaled maps/plans to show proposals/mitigation outlined above in relation to existing and proposed habitat features.

#### **D Post-development site safeguard**

- D1.** Habitat/site management and maintenance – to include details of what will be done in terms of habitat management and site maintenance required to ensure long-term security of affected population. Include details of site/structure ownership, and who will be responsible for undertaking the work and who is responsible for funding.
  - D2.** Population monitoring – to include details of monitoring effort and timing.
  - D3.** Mechanism for ensuring delivery of post-development works, to include details of who will undertake the population monitoring, habitat management and site maintenance work and reporting details, other covenants or contractual agreements.
- E. Timetable of works.** A diagram to include timings of all capture, exclusion, mitigation and construction works.