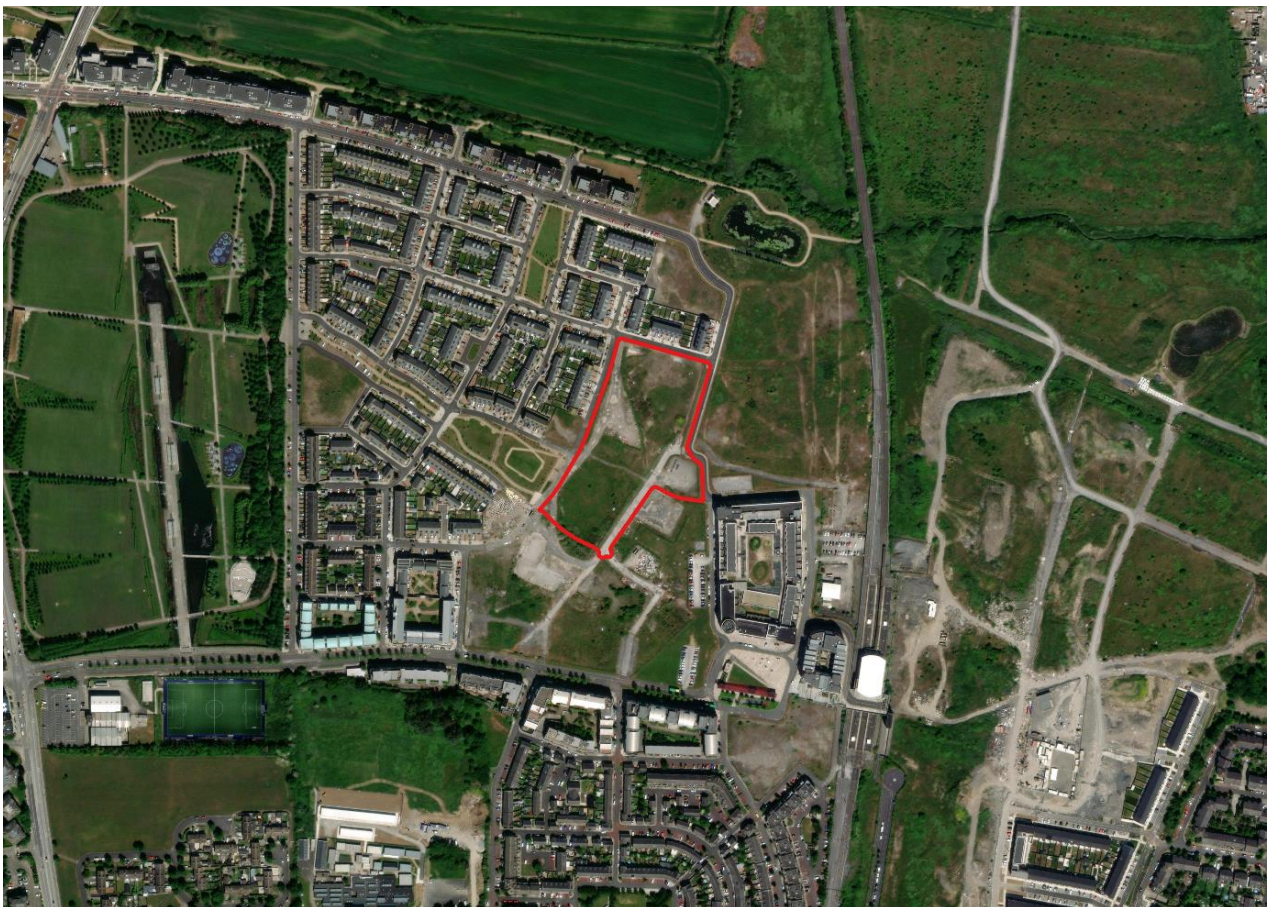


Wintering Bird Assessment for a proposed development at Clongriffin, Co. Dublin



30th July 2024

Prepared by: Frank Spellman of Altemar Ltd.
On behalf of: The Land Development Agency

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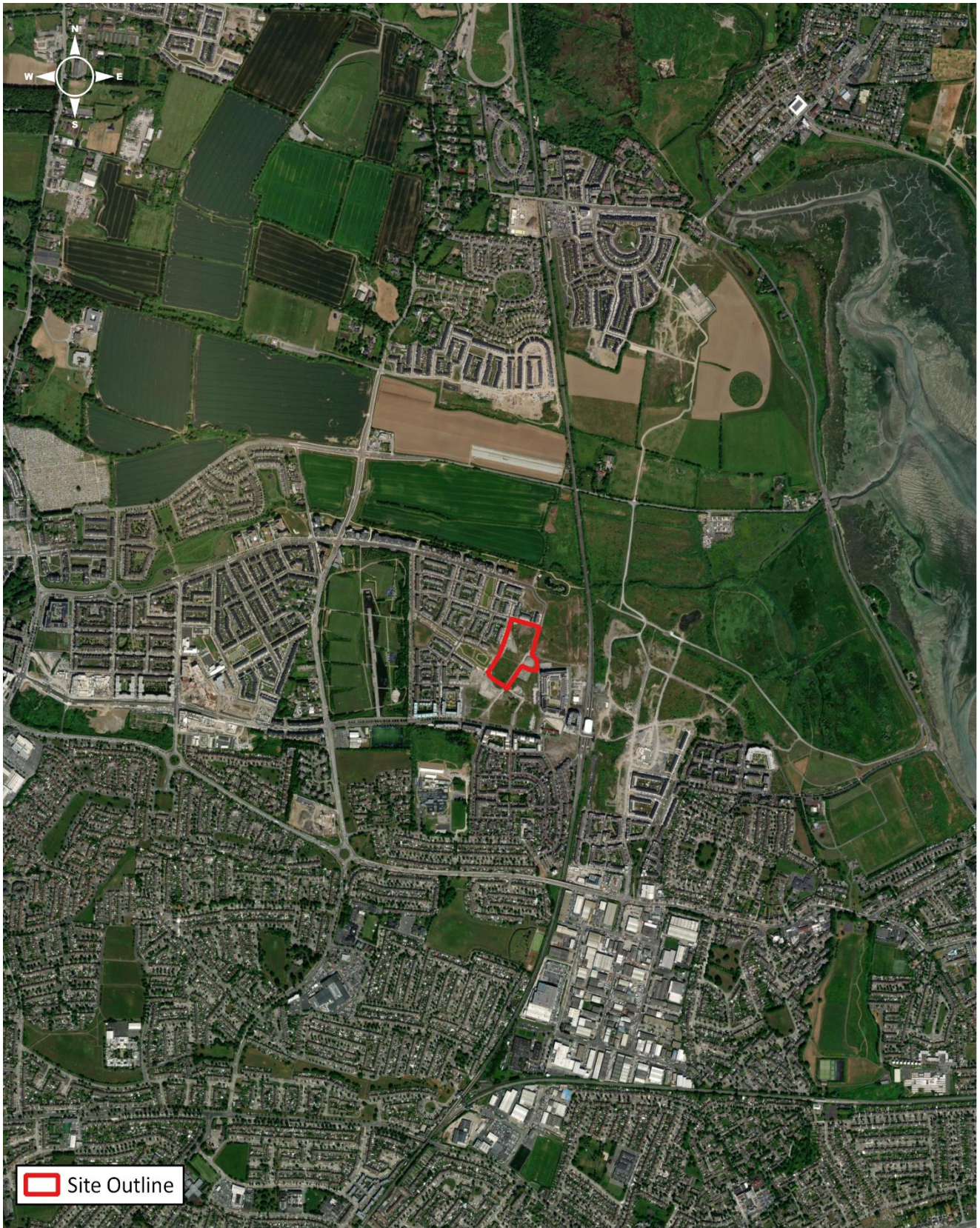
Document Control Sheet			
Client	Land Development Agency		
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Report	Wintering Bird Assessment		
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Summary

Structure/features:	The site outline consists predominantly of bare ground and artificial surfaces, with remnants of grassland and scrub plant species.
Location:	Clongriffin, Co. Dublin
Bird species present:	Black-headed Gull, Feral Pigeon, Goldfinch, Grey Heron, Herring Gull, Hooded Crow, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Linnet, Magpie, Meadow Pipit, Pied Wagtail, Rook, Snipe, Starling.
Proposed work:	Residential development.
Impact on wintering birds:	The proposed development is considered to have a low adverse long-term impact on species associated with the conservation objectives of nearby SPAs. A low adverse long-term impact on red-listed meadow pipit and snipe are predicted due to a loss of habitat and foraging area but is not considered significant due to the size of the site in relation to the widespread availability of suitable habitat in the surrounding area, including Baldoyle Bay and Sluice River Marsh proposed Natural Heritage Areas. No significant impact on wintering birds and/or species associated with the conservation objectives of nearby SPAs due to the proposed development is predicted.
Surveys by:	Frank Spellman
Survey dates:	24 th October 2023, 27 th October 2023, 07 th November 2023, 20 th November 2023, 04 th December 2023, 22 nd December 2023, 15 th December 2023, 18 th December 2023, 15 th February 2024, 29 th February 2024, 07 th March 2024, 25 th March 2024



Project: Blocks 5 & 6
 Location: Clongriffin, Co. Dublin
 Date: 12th April 2024
 Drawn By: Frank Spellman (Altamar)

ALTEMAR
 Marine & Environmental Consultancy

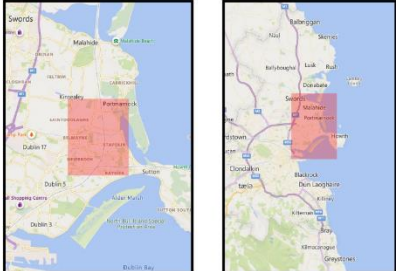


Figure 1. Proposed site outline and location



0 75 150 225 m

Project: Blocks 5 & 6
 Location: Clongriffin, Co. Dublin
 Date: 12th April 2024
 Drawn By: Frank Spellman (Altamar)



Figure 2. site outline

Competency of assessor

This report has been prepared by Frank Spellman (BSc Zoology, MSc Zoology). Frank has previous experience in carrying out a wide range of fauna surveys as both a sub-contractor and employee for consultancies and organisations in Ireland and the US. These include both roving and static acoustic bat surveys, terrestrial non-avian mammal surveys, breeding/wintering bird surveys, and freshwater ecology surveys. The desk and field surveys were carried out using techniques approved and recommended by CIEEM.

Legislative context

The Wildlife Act 1976 protects wild birds in Ireland. Based on this legislation it is an offence to wilfully interfere with or destroy wild birds and their nests and eggs (other than the wild species mentioned in the Third Schedule of this Act). Under this legislation it is an offence for any person who *“wilfully takes or removes the eggs or nest of a protected wild bird otherwise than under and in accordance with such a licence, wilfully destroys, injures or mutilates the eggs or nest of a protected wild bird, wilfully disturbs a protected wild bird on or near a nest containing eggs or unflown young.”*

Habitats Directive- Council Directive 92/43/EEC 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora has been transposed into Irish Law, including, via, *inter alia*, the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

Council Directive 2009/147/EC 2010 on the conservation of wild birds provides for the conservation of wild birds by, among other things, classifying important ornithological sites as Special Protection Areas. The Directive relates to the conservation of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state, their eggs, nests and habitats in the European territory of the Member States. The Directive prohibits in particular:

- deliberate killing or capture by any method;
- deliberate destruction of, or damage to, their nests and eggs or removal of their nests;
- taking their eggs in the wild and keeping these eggs even if empty;
- deliberate disturbance of these birds particularly during the period of breeding and rearing, in so far as disturbance would be significant having regard to the objectives of this Directive;
- keeping birds of species the hunting and capture of which is prohibited.

Under the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended), notwithstanding any consent, statutory or otherwise, given to a person by a public authority or held by a person, except in accordance with a licence granted by the Minister under Regulation 54, a person who in respect of the species referred to in Part 1 of the First Schedule:

- deliberately captures or kills any specimen of these species in the wild,
- deliberately disturbs these species particularly during the period of breeding, rearing, hibernation and migration,
- deliberately takes or destroys eggs of those species from the wild,
- damages or destroys a breeding site or resting place of such an animal, or
- keeps, transports, sells, exchanges, offers for sale or offers for exchange any specimen of these species taken in the wild, other than those taken legally as referred to in Article 12(2) of the Habitats Directive, shall be guilty of an offence.

Wintering bird surveys

This report presents the results of bimonthly site visits by Frank Spellman from October 2023 to March 2024. A Wintering bird transect and vantage point survey was carried out on each occasion.

Survey methodology

This wintering bird survey was carried out based on the BTO Common Bird Census (Bibby *et al.*, 2000 and Gilbert *et al.*, 1998), I-WeBS Counter Manual: Guidelines for Irish Wetland Bird Survey counters (BWI & NPWS), and CIEEM guidelines.

A 15-minute settlement period was given following arrival to allow resumption of bird activity after any possible disturbance caused by arrival to the site. Few features and habitats were present within the site outline. Standing water, exposed earth, grassland, artificial surfaces, and a boundary fence were present within the site outline. A single transect following the full perimeter of the site outline was carried out on each occasion, covering all areas and features available for wintering bird activity within and adjacent to the site outline. A vantage point was used for assessing flight lines from the southwest of the site outline, however flight lines were also recorded when observed during the transect and while surveying adjacent areas for subsequent planning applications. Each survey was carried out by a single surveyor.

A single roving transect following the full perimeter and circumnavigating all habitats and features within the site outline was carried out by a single surveyor. A vantage point was also used for assessing flight behaviour.

The transect start alternated irregularly between either the southwest or southeast of the site outline. Standing water, vegetation and bare ground within the site outline was observed carefully for foraging/resting birds. The centre of the site outline was also crossed into regularly. A vantage point in the southwest of the site outline provided excellent views over this area, and views from the majority of the transect also provided excellent views of flight paths over this area.

Each survey of the general area took approximately 2.5-3.5 hours to complete, ending once all areas/features had been surveyed. Although birds foraging within the site outline were covered for a small portion of the overall survey time/area, flight lines over the site outline were clear throughout the survey period and were recorded as observed. Care was taken not to double count any observations. Surveys were initiated at varying times (morning/midday/afternoon) and at varying tide levels to account for potential associated fluctuations in bird activity. Weather conditions were favourable for all dates, except for the 18th January 2024 where freezing temperatures the previous night and cold temperatures on the day (1°C) froze the ground, which likely impacted foraging activity across all bird species.

Survey results

Habitats of wintering bird potential

A desk and ground level wintering bird habitat assessment were carried and used to examine the structures and vegetation on site for features that could provide wintering bird habitat. Potential features associated with foraging/resting included standing water, exposed earth, grassland, artificial surfaces, and a boundary fence. All open and vegetated areas, built areas and water-holding features on site were assessed for wintering bird potential.

Areas of high wintering bird potential included standing water and exposed earth throughout the site outline.

Wintering bird activity survey

A total of 12 species were recorded within the site outline across twelve surveys (see Appendix I for individual observations).

Eight green-listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline.

Five amber-listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline: black-headed gull, house sparrow, herring gull, linnet, and starling.

Two red listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline: meadow pipit and snipe.

Herring gull flight paths altitude averaged 38.3 m based on observation estimates. Flight paths occurred over the entire site outline. This species was also observed foraging within the site outline in low numbers (< 10).

Black-headed gull flight path altitude averaged 50 m based on observation estimates.

House sparrows were observed on one occasion foraging in the field to the northeast of the site outline.

Linnets were observed on four surveys in numbers ranging from 1 – 22 individuals throughout the southern half of the site outline.

Starlings were observed on three surveys foraging and bathing in the southwest of the site outline and flying from north to south over the site outline (20 m).

Meadow pipit was observed on four surveys. Foraging was observed regularly throughout the site outline, and flying was observed from west to east and east to west over the site outline.

Snipe were observed on eight surveys. 24 individuals were flushed from the north of the site outline, foraging was observed throughout the site outline, predominantly in the northwest. No flying was observed.

Table 1. Species observed on site.

Common name	BTO	Latin name	BoCCI
Black-headed Gull	BH	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Amber
Feral Pigeon	FP	<i>Columba livia f. domestica</i>	Green
Goldfinch	GO	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Green
Grey Heron	H.	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Green
Herring Gull	HG	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Amber
Hooded Crow	HC	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	Green
House Sparrow	HS	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Amber
Jackdaw	JD	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Green
Linnet	LI	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Amber
Magpie	MG	<i>Pica pica</i>	Green
Meadow Pipit	MP	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Red
Pied Wagtail	PW	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	Green
Rook	RO	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Green
Snipe	SN	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Red
Starling	SG	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Amber



Figure 2. Wintering bird hotspots within the site outline site outline based on observations.

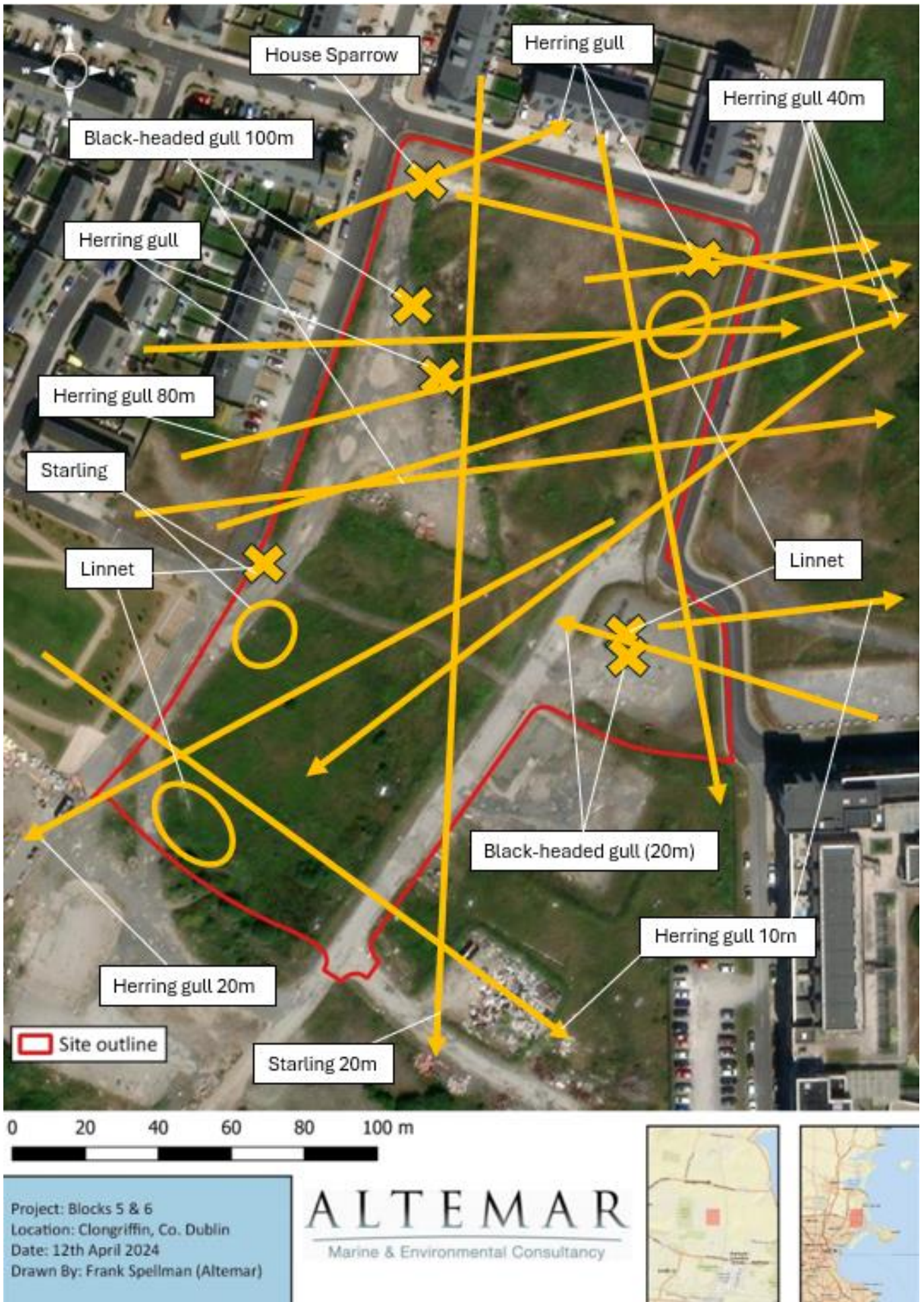


Figure 3. Observations of amber BoCCI within and over the proposed site outline.

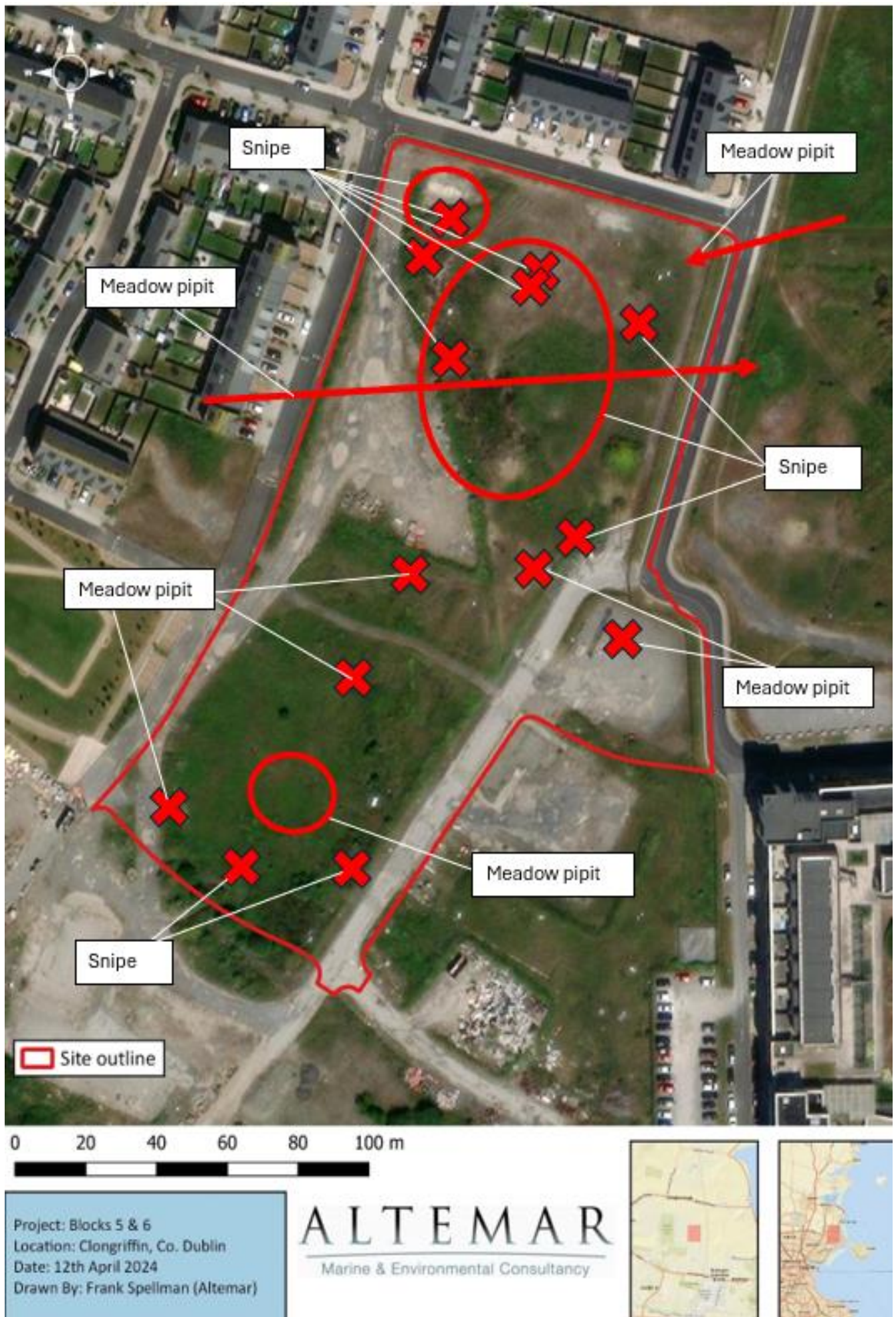


Figure 4. Observations of red BoCCI flying (arrow), perched/flushed/foraging (cross (ind.) & circle (multiple)) within and over the proposed site outline.

Wintering bird assessment findings

Review of local bird records

The review of existing bird records (sourced from NBDC Database) within a 2 km² grid (Reference grid O24F) encompassing the study area reveals that 72 known bird species have previously been observed and recorded locally, of which 15 are currently red and 22 are amber listed BoCCI (*Table 2*).

Considering the lack of suitability, quality and quantity of habitat within the proposed area for development in relation to agricultural, grassland, wetland and intertidal habitats available in the surrounding area, including a number of SPAs, in addition to the lack of observations of the majority of sensitive species historically recorded in the surrounding area, it is not anticipated that the proposed development will have any significant impact on any of the additional species listed in Table 2 that were not detected during the surveys carried out for this report.

Table 2: Status of bird species within 2 km² (grid O24F)

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
Barn swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)		31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Black-billed Magpie (<i>Pica pica</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Blackcap (<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Blue Tit (<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
<i>Branta bernicla subsp. Hrota</i>	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	
Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Chaffinch (<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Common Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Common Bullfinch (<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>)	1	31/07/1991	The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland: 1988-1991	Green List
Common Buzzard (<i>Buteo buteo</i>)	10	13/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Green List

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
Common Kestrel (<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>)	5	07/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Linnet (<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>)	4	07/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Moorhen (<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>)	4	22/03/2022	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Common Pheasant (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>)	1	31/07/1991	The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland: 1988-1991	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Common Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Common Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	3	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	5	25/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Swift (<i>Apus apus</i>)	1	31/07/1991	The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland: 1988-1991	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Whitethroat (<i>Sylvia communis</i>)	2	07/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Green List

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
Common Wood Pigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>)	5	21/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>)	1	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Collared Dove (<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>)	5	01/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Eurasian Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	4	13/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Eurasian Jackdaw (<i>Corvus monedula</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Eurasian Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	3	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i>)	2	05/03/2023	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Eurasian Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Tree Sparrow (<i>Passer montanus</i>)	1	31/07/1991	The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland: 1988-1991	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
Eurasian Woodcock (<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
European Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>)	4	25/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Green List
European Greenfinch (<i>Carduelis chloris</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Amber List
European Robin (<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>)	6	01/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Fieldfare (<i>Turdus pilaris</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Goldcrest (<i>Regulus regulus</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Amber List
Great Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus marinus</i>)	1	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Great Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	2	05/04/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Great Tit (<i>Parus major</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>)	2	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Grey Wagtail (<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Red List
Hedge Accentor (<i>Prunella modularis</i>)	4	01/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	
Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>)	2	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Hooded Crow (<i>Corvus cornix</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
House Martin (<i>Delichon urbicum</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
House Sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Lesser Redpoll (<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
Little Egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>)	4	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species
Long-tailed Tit (<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	6	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Meadow Pipit (<i>Anthus pratensis</i>)	6	07/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Red List
Mew Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mistle Thrush (<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Mute Swan (<i>Cygnus olor</i>)	3	11/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Northern Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	6	13/12/2022	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Northern Wheatear (<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>)	1	09/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Redwing (<i>Turdus iliacus</i>)	1	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Red List
Reed Bunting (<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>)	2	12/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Rock Pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species
Rook (<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Sedge Warbler (<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>)	2	07/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Green List
Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>)	2	04/01/2003	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Protected Species: EU Birds Directive Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Sky Lark (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>)	6	01/03/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of

Species Name	Record count	Date of last record	Title of data set	Designation
				Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>)	2	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Spotted Flycatcher (<i>Muscicapa striata</i>)	1	31/07/1991	The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland: 1988-1991	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Stock Pigeon (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	4	01/03/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Stonechat (<i>Saxicola torquata</i>)	1	12/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Green List
White Wagtail (<i>Motacilla alba</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	
Willow Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>)	2	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Amber List
Winter Wren (<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>)	3	31/12/2011	Bird Atlas 2007 - 2011	Green List
Yellowhammer (<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>)	2	11/07/2019	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern Threatened Species: Birds of Conservation Concern >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List

Discussion/Conclusion

Twelve wintering bird surveys (bimonthly) were carried out at this site between October 2023 and March 2024. The surveys comply with bird survey guidance documentation including BTO Common Bird Census and RSPB Bird Monitoring Methods (Bibby *et al.*, 2000 and Gilbert *et al.*, 1998), I-WeBS Counter Manual: Guidelines for Irish Wetland Bird Survey counters (BWI & NPWS), and CIEEM guidelines.

A total of 15 species were recorded within the site outline across twelve surveys. Eight green-listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline.

Five amber-listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline: black-headed gull, greenfinch, house sparrow, herring gull, linnets and starling.

Two red listed bird species of conservation concern were recorded within the site outline: meadow pipit and snipe. Both species utilised the area within the proposed site outline for foraging.

Black-headed gull and herring gull are species listed under conservation objectives of Northwest Irish Sea SPA that were recorded foraging on and flying over the site outline. These species' occurred foraging in low peak numbers on site (2 and 4, respectively), equivalent to 0.4% and 0.1% of the estimated abundance of these species within this SPA (NPWS 2023). The peak number of individuals of these species to fly over the site outline in a single survey was 9 and 43, respectively, equivalent to 1.8% and 0.6% of the estimated abundance of these species within this SPA (NPWS 2023). We consider peak numbers of these species within the proposed area for development to be insignificant in relation to the conservation objectives of this SPA.

Black-headed gull was recorded both flying over and foraging within the site outline and is listed as a conservation objective of the nearby North Bull Island SPA. This species occurred foraging in low numbers on site (2 individuals) equivalent to 0.1% of the estimated peak abundance of this species within this SPA (NPWS 2015). The highest number of individuals to fly over the site outline in a single survey was 9 individuals, equivalent to 0.3% of the estimated peak abundance of this species within this SPA. We consider the peak numbers of this species within the proposed area for development to be insignificant in relation to the conservation objectives of this SPA.

Herring gull was recorded within the site outline and is listed as a conservation objective of Ireland's Eye SPA. This species occurred foraging in low numbers on site (4 individuals peak count), equivalent to 0.8% of the estimated breeding population of this species within this SPA (NPWS 2011). The highest number of individuals to fly over the site outline in a single survey was 43 individuals which, assuming that all individuals are members of this colony, is equivalent to 8.7% of the estimated breeding population within this SPA (NPWS 2011). Altitude of this flyover was estimated at 80 metres, and therefore would not be impacted by developments built under this height within the proposed development. Buildings at or above this height would be easily navigated around from all directions due to the low level of developments to the west, south and east, and undeveloped lands to the north. Collision risk is also minimised by distance (> 5 km) of the proposed site from this SPA. Flights of this abundance were not observed during any other survey. We consider the peak numbers of this species flying over the proposed area for development to be potentially significant in relation to the conservation objectives of this SPA. However, we do not predict significant negative impacts on this species that would compromise the conservation objectives of this SPA due to the mitigating factors mentioned above.

Black-headed gull is also listed as a conservation objective of South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA. This species occurred foraging in low numbers on site (2 individuals), equivalent to 0.07% of the estimated peak abundance of this species within this SPA (NPWS 2015). The highest number of individuals to fly over the site outline in a single survey was 9 individuals, equivalent to 0.3% of the estimated peak abundance of this species within this SPA (NPWS 2015). We consider the peak numbers of this species within the proposed area for development to be insignificant in relation to the conservation objectives of this SPA.

No species listed under the conservation objectives of Baldoyle Bay SPA, Howth Head Coast SPA or Malahide Estuary SPA were recorded within the survey area.

The proposed development is considered to have a low adverse long-term impact on species associated with the conservation objectives of nearby SPAs. A low adverse long-term impact on red-listed meadow pipit and snipe are predicted due to a loss of habitat and foraging area but is not considered significant due to the size of the site in relation to the widespread availability of suitable habitat in the surrounding area, including Baldoyle Bay and Sluice River Marsh proposed Natural Heritage Areas. No significant impact on wintering birds and/or species associated with the conservation objectives of nearby SPAs due to the proposed development is predicted.

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Appendix I

Table 1: Individual observations recorded

Survey	Date	Area	Time	Species	No.	Behaviour	Height (m)	Details
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:02	Rook	2	Foraging	0	Foraging on south-east boundary of area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:07	Goldfinch	2	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:12	Snipe	24	Flushed	0	Flushed north of area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:15	Jackdaw	1	Flight Path	30	Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:20	Herring Gull	1	Flight Path		Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:22	Feral Pigeon	30	Flight Path		Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:24	Meadow Pipet	3	Foraging	0	Foraging centre of area B5 + B6
1	24/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:24	Linnet	1	Foraging	0	Foraging to east of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	12:49	Rook	3	Flight Path		Flying southwest across area b5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	12:53	Goldfinch	4	Foraging	4	Foraging south of area B5 and B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	12:53	Linnet	22	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 and B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:06	Herring Gull	1	Flight Path	20	Flying southwest across area b5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:14	Jackdaw	26	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:26	Magpie	1	Foraging	0	Foraging south of site of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:29	Herring Gull	1	Flight Path		Flying west to northeast across area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:36	Snipe	49	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:46	Herring Gull	3	Flight Path	10	Flying across south of site from west to east
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:56	Herring Gull	1	flight Path	40	Flying west to east of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	13:57	Herring Gull	1	Flight Path	40	Flying west to east of area B5 + B6
2	27/10/2023	B5 + B6	14:12	Black- headed Gull	1	Flight Path	30	Flying west to east of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:39	Hooded Crow	1	Foraging	0	Foraging west in area B5
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:39	Jackdaw	2	Foraging	0	Foraging west in area B5
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:39	Rook	1	Foraging	0	Foraging west in area B5 + B6 beside site boundary

3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:40	Jackdaw	23	Flight Path		Flying West to East across area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:40	Hooded Crow	2	Flight Path		Flying West to East across area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:40	Rook	1	Flight Path		Flying West to East across area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:40	Herring Gull	2	Flight Path		Flying West to East across area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:41	Meadow Pipet	2	Foraging	0	
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:42	Meadow Pipet	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:43	Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:45	Herring Gull	4	Foraging	0	Foraging in core Sampling pit north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:46	Snipe	9	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:48	Meadow Pipet	4	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	13:58	Meadow Pipet	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
3	07/11/2023	B5 + B6	14:27	Black- headed gull	5	Flight Path	20m	Flying east to west across area B5 + B6
4	20/11/2023	B5 + B6	14:42	Black- headed gull	1	Foraging	0	Foraging east of area B5 + B6
4	20/11/2023	B5 + B6	14:54	Herring Gull	3	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
4	20/11/2023	B5 + B6	14:58	Meadow Pipet	2	Foraging	0	Foraging in centre of area B5 + B6
4	20/11/2023	B5 + B6	15:00	Jackdaw	105	Large Flight and Foraging	0	Large flight and Foraging north of area B5 + B6
4	20/11/2023	B5 + B6	15:12	Snipe	10	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	10:36	Pied Wagtail	1	Foraging	0	Foraging east boundary of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	10:43	House Sparrow	10	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	10:44	Hooded Crow	2	Foraging	0	Foraging centre of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	10:44	Rook	1	Foraging	0	Foraging centre of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	10:46	Jackdaw	2	Flight Path	10m	Flying across northwest corner of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	11:02	Jackdaw	15	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	11:05	Meadow Pipet	1	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	11:05	Jackdaw	8	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6

5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	11:06	Pied Wagtail	1	Foraging	0	Foraging west of area B5 + B6
5	04/12/2023	B5 + B6	11:29	Meadow Pipet	1	Foraging	0	Foraging centre of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Snipe	3	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Hooded Crow	4	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Jackdaw	2	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Black- headed Gull	2	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Jackdaw	12	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Hooded Crow	3	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Hooded Crow	2	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
6	22/12/2023	B5 + B6		Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	13:32	Hooded Crow	1	Foraging	0	Foraging south-west of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	13:35	Hooded Crow	2	Foraging	0	Foraging in centre of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	13:37	Hooded Crow	3	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	13:37	Jackdaw	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	14:14	Snipe	3	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
7	15/01/2024	B5 + B6	14:56	Hooded Crow	2	Flight Path	10	Flying east to west across area B5 + B6
8	18/01/2024	B5 + B6	14:20	Herring Gull	43	Flight Path	80	Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
8	18/01/2024	B5 + B6	14:41	Rook	9	Flight Path	10	Flying east to west across area B5 + B6
8	18/01/2024	B5 + B6	16:16	Hooded Crow	2	Foraging	0	Foraging in centre of area B5 + B6
8	18/01/2024	B5 + B6	16:24	Starling	2	Flight Path	20	Flying north to south across area B5 + B6
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:04	Herring Gull	4	Flight Path	40	Flying northeast to south west across area B5 + B6
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:40	Hooded Crow	2	Flight Path	5	Flying east to west across site
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:51	Rook	1	Foraging	0	Foraging east of area B5 + B6
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:54	Linnet	9	Foraging	0	Foraging east boundary of area B5 + B6
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:54	Starling	2	Foraging	0	Foraging east boundary of area B5 + B6
9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	11:54	Goldfinch	1	Foraging	0	Foraging east boundary of area B5 + B6

9	15/02/2024	B5 + B6	12:10	Feral Pigeon	1	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	14:48	Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	14:50	Pied Wagtail	2	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	14:50	Hooded Crow	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	14:54	Starling	8	Bathing	0	Bathing south of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	14:56	Hooded Crow	2	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	15:18	Magpie	2	Large Flight	50m	Flying above northwest corner of area B5 + B6
10	29/02/2024	B5 + B6	16:09	Black- headed Gull	9	Flight Path	100m	Flying west to northeast across area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	10:30	Starling	14	Large Flight	10	Circling above northwest
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	10:33	Herring Gull	1	Flight Path	10	Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	10:42	Herring Gull	2	Flight Path	10	Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	11:21	Herring Gull	28	Flight Path	20	Flying south of area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	11:42	Pied Wagtail	2	Foraging	0	Foraging east boundary of area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	11:45	Linnet	15	Foraging	0	Foraging northeast of area B5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	11:49	Rook	2	Foraging	0	Foraging centre of area b5 + B6
11	07/03/2024	B5+ B6	12:15	Grey Herron	1	Flight Path	10	Flying west to east across area B5 + B6
12	25/03/2024	B5 + B6	10:30	Magpie	1	Foraging	0	Foraging on east boundary of area B5 + B6
12	25/03/2024	B5 + B6	10:38	Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
12	25/03/2024	B5 + B6	10:40	Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging north of area B5 + B6
12	25/03/2024	B5 + B6	10:47	Snipe	1	Foraging	0	Foraging south of area B5 + B6