H09-1088-24 Proposed pallet storage shed

D G M Growers Roman Bank Holbeach Clough Spalding

Introduction

This 30-year Habitat Management and Maintenance Plan outlines a strategic approach to conserving, enhancing, and maintaining biodiversity within the designated site. The plan aims to balance ecological preservation with sustainable land use while complying with environmental regulations and best management practices.

2. Site Description

- **Location:** DGM Growers
- **Size:** 10.5acres Approx
- **Ecological Characteristics:** the Existing habitat conditions are poor/moderate there are some trees on the north and south sides of the site and 2 bunds following the east side of the greenhouse and the west side of the new tray barn, and a hedgerow on our west entrance road
- **Current Land Use and Management:** the site is largely covered by buildings for storage and packing/growing and a 1.5-hectare greenhouse with concreate yard and hard standing areas.

3. Objectives

1. Enhance and maintain biodiversity through habitat management.
2. Improve the ecological connectivity within and beyond the site.
3. Control invasive species and support native species conservation.

4. Habitat Management and Maintenance Actions

4.1 Woodland Management

- Coppicing and selective thinning every 10 years.
- Planting of 7 native tree species only, around the bunding area of the new tray barn Nov 2025(dormant time for planting).
- Deadwood retention for invertebrate and fungi habitats.

4.2 Grassland Management

- Rotational mowing to prevent scrub encroachment on the bunds and any grass areas.
- Wildflower seeding to enhance pollinator support (March 2025).

4.3 Hedgerow Management

- Cutting annually before nesting time for birds.

4.4 Species-Specific Conservation Measures

- Installation of 1 bat and 4 swift bird boxes (April 2025)

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

5.1 Ecological Monitoring

- **Yearly surveys**: Breeding birds, bats activity.
- **Vegetation assessments**: Every five years to track habitat condition changes.

5.2 Adaptive Management Strategy

- Data review and adjustment of management practices every five years.
- Stakeholder consultations to integrate new ecological insights.

6. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Involvement

- Collaboration with local conservation groups and landowners.

7. Funding and Resources

- Look at securing funding through grants and conservation partnerships where applicable to enhance and improve biodiversity of the site and surround areas.

8. Risk Management

- Assessment of climate change impacts and mitigation strategies.
- Contingency planning for extreme weather events.
- Control measures for potential habitat degradation threats.

9. Conclusion

This 30-year Habitat Management and Maintenance Plan provides a comprehensive framework for sustaining and enhancing biodiversity. By implementing adaptive and science-based management strategies, the plan ensures the long-term ecological health of the site while promoting stakeholder participation and sustainable land use practices.

This plan should be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect emerging conservation challenges and opportunities by the Site management team lead by the Operations Director.