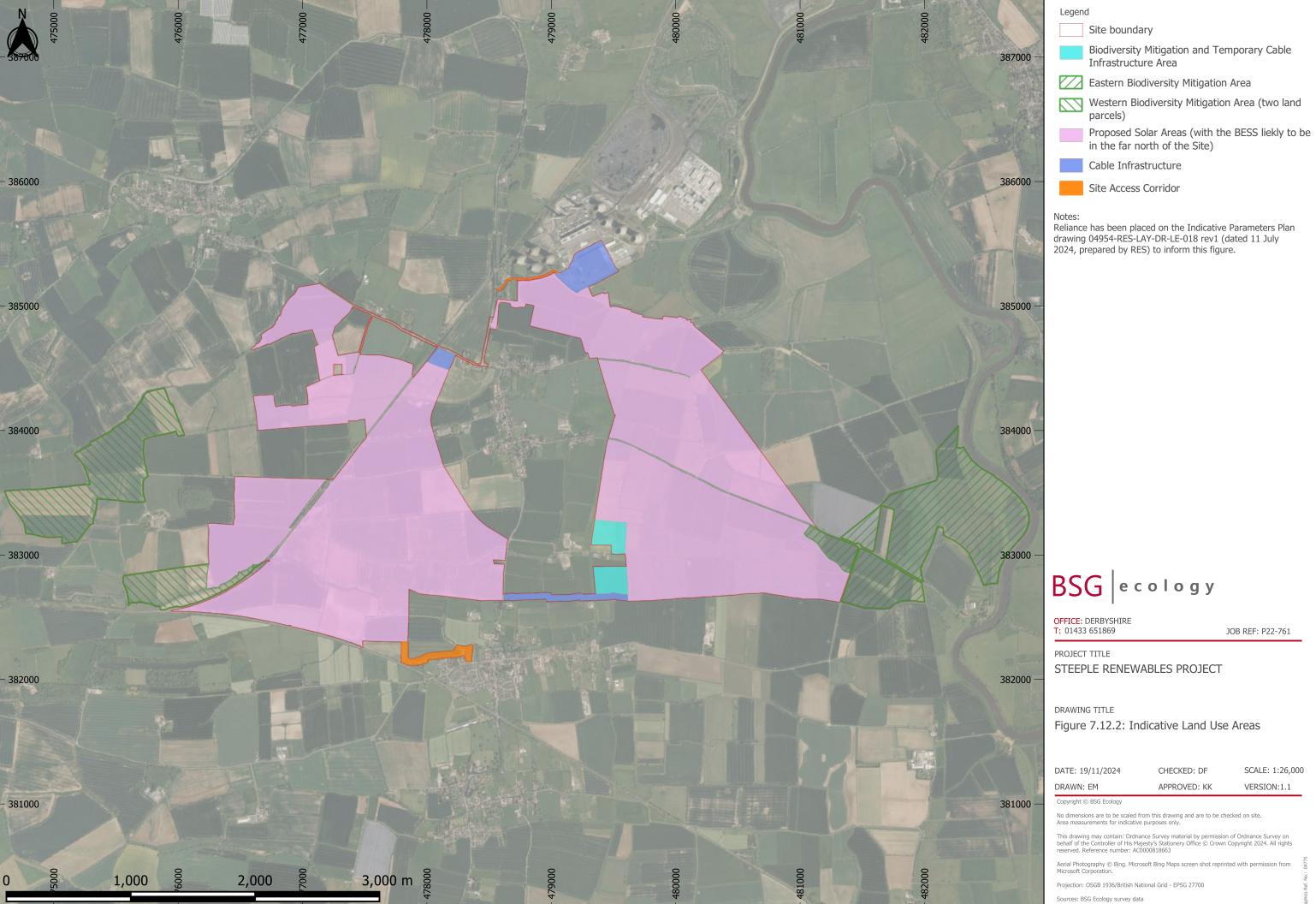


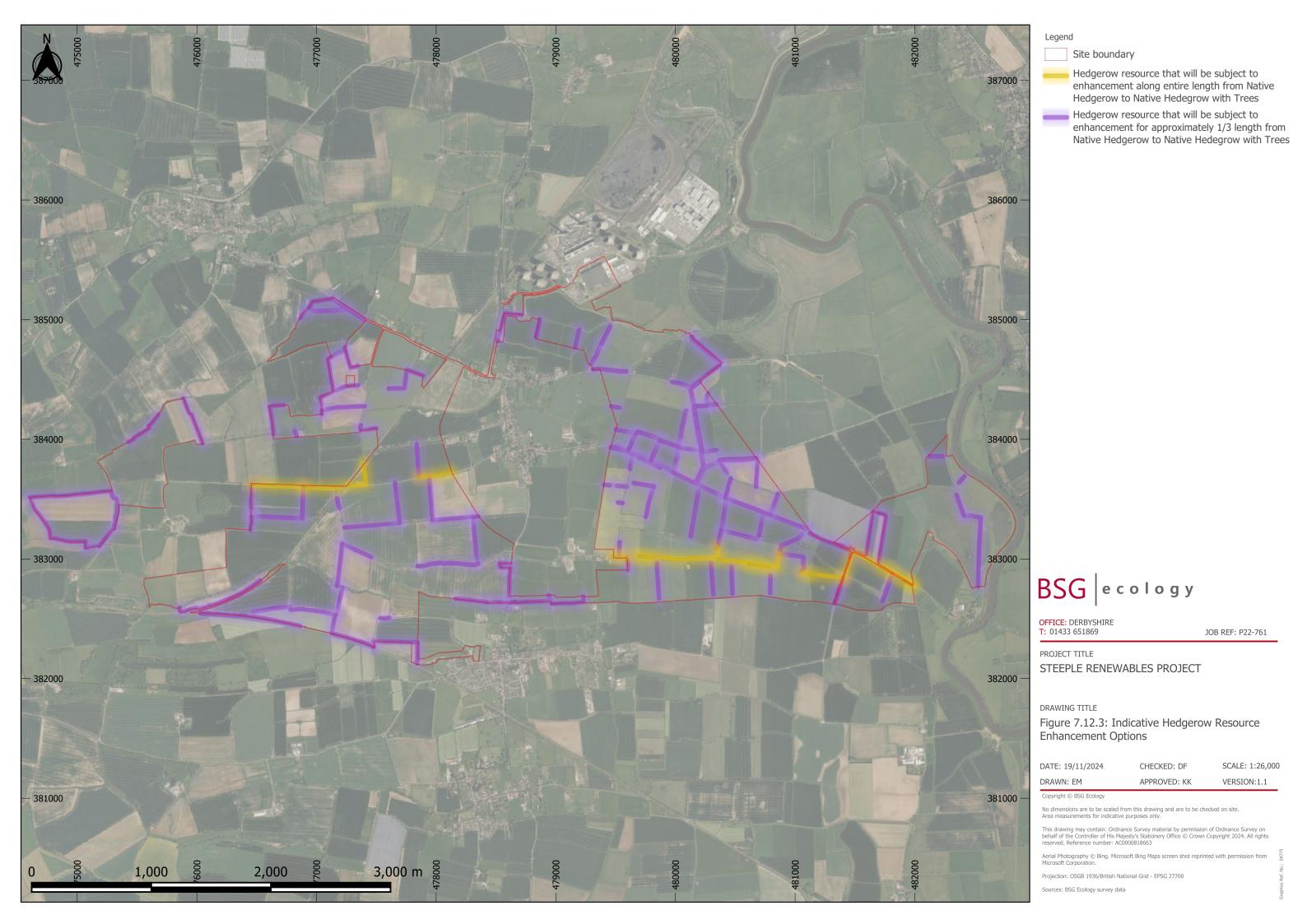
Graphics Ref. No.: 04775

Sources: BSG Ecology survey data

raphics Ref. No.: 04775

Sources: BSG Ecology survey data





Legend

Site boundary

--- Dry ditch

Wet ditch or watercourse

Proposed biodiversity enhancement measures to be applied to ditches

- Manage the ditch vegetation on a 10-year cutting rotation, and/or on one bank only (allowing some sections to become well-structured vegetation that is allowed to seed/fruit while other sections are cut to 10cm sward height in winter to control long-term scrub growth).
- Possibly plant aquatic and emergent plant species as plug plants and reed transplants every 10-20m (secured with pegs and hessian liner if required). Plants to be native, sourced from the UK and grown to Flora Locale guidelines.

Control scrub or reeds and enhance ditch by:

- Targeted vegetation cutting/thinning on rotation (to control scrub/reeds in addition to regular management)
- Apply measures outlined above in relation to enhancing ditch plant diversity.

No reprofiling of watercourse channels is currently proposed. No tree planting on the channel banks or within 8m of watercourses is currently proposed, with reference to discussions with the project flood risk and drainage engineers/hydrologists (RSK Land & Development Engineering) and RES on 20 June 2024 and 07 August 2024.

The success of the watercourse enhancement partly relies upon the reduction of nutrient inputs and potential pollutant inputs that are anticipated to occur as an indirect outcome from the land use change from agriculture to a solar farm. As the use of hard engineering works, such as bank or ditch re-profiling is not possible at this stage, there remains a level of uncertainty about the extent of habitat enhancements that can be measured and delivered by soft landscaping works i.e. planting of native species and habitat management for biodiversity purposes. To address this risk, additional watercourse lengths are proposed to be subject to enhancement measures over and above what would normally be proposed, as a contingency measure to help aid the delivery of a successful outcome.

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JOB REF: P22-761

PROJECT TITLE

STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT

DRAWING TITLE

Figure 7.12.4: Indicative Watercourse **Enhancement Scenario**

DATE: 19/11/2024

CHECKED: DF

SCALE: 1:26,000

DRAWN: EM APPROVED: KK VERSION:1.1

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No dimensions are to be scaled from this drawing and are to be checked on site. Area measurements for indicative purposes only.

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 $\label{eq:Aerial Photography @ Bing. Microsoft Bing Maps screen shot reprinted with permission from Microsoft Corporation.$

Projection: OSGB 1936/British National Grid - EPSG 27700

Sources: BSG Ecology survey data



Appendix 1: Drawing used to inform the assessment

The Indicative Parameters Plan drawing 04954-RES-LAY-DR-LE-018 rev1, dated 11 July 2024, prepared by RES

19 08/01/2025

