

## Road Project CE-938 High Langdale Extraction Route

### **Design and Access Statement.**

The approved forest design plan for Langdale, includes the felling of the conifer crop within the Forestry England High Langdale Bank plantation. Phase 1 is planned to take place in March 2023, with operations due to start in the 2023/2024 felling year. Access to the plantation is required for the uplift of the felled timber. Forestry England currently has an existing track which starts from West Side Road and joins the top of Langdale rigg and follows the field boundary to meet the public foot path at SE 9299 9402. The proposal is to upgrade this existing access track.

The proposal has the following advantages:

- a) Using the existing track reduces disturbance in that would be caused by excavating a new access track.
- b) The use of a borrow pit within the FE plantation as a source of material to construct the route which will have two benefits – a reduced impact on the ecology by using material local to the area, and by eliminating the need to import over 4200 tonnes of material along the council road from Pickering to Fylingdales. The borrow pit will be reinstated and landscaped to leave a shallow depression within the FE plantation.
- c) The appearance of the road will be made to blend in with the surrounding area of Langdale by dressing the road edges with topsoil and by using material from within the Forestry England plantation to encourage growth. Mature trees on the Western fringe of the track will be left in place in the short term to further mask the potential visual effects of the upgrade.

The public footpath crossing point will be constructed using precast concrete sleepers with a nominal layer of 20mm to dust filling in any voids. This will transfer the load of the harvesting machinery to the ground without make any significant impact to the footpath. This will also reduce rutting at that point to ensure the footpath is still usable during our operations. There will be a ramp on and off the sleepers on the line of the footpath. This crossing point will be tidied and made safe after phase 1 ready for use over the Summer, and phase 2 operations in August 2023.

Potential unauthorised vehicular access along the new road will be controlled by the installation of a suitable timber barrier at the entrance off West Side Road.

# High Langdale Construction Environmental Management Plan Prepared by Forestry England January 2023

## CONTENTS

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Project Overview
- 3 Construction programme and project timescales
- 4 Roles and Responsibilities
- 5 Overarching Environmental Requirements
  - Environmental policy
  - Ecology
  - Waste management
  - Fuel and other materials storage
  - Noise and vibration
  - Dust
  - Surface water drainage and water pollution prevention
  - Vehicle and plant operation and maintenance
  - Health and safety

# 1 Introduction

1.1 This Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) has been produced by Forestry England (the applicant) for the works associated with the construction of a forwarder track from West Side Road up on to Langdale Rigg, to allow the removal of timber from High West Side as per the agreed design plan. The layout of the road is on drawing CE-938 Rev A Site Plan accompanies the application.

1.2 The purpose of the CEMP is to ensure that any potential environmental effects associated with the track construction are minimised during the works and to provide a framework which will ensure that environmental legislation is complied with. The CEMP provides information on the overarching environmental principles and procedures which will be adhered to throughout the course of the works and is supported by the following documents:

- CE-938 Site Plan Rev A
- CE-938 PROW crossing point details
- CE-938 Ecological Report
- CE-938 Design and Access Statement

1.3 It is estimated that the works will take approximately 6 weeks to complete. However, this is weather dependent as works would stop in periods of very wet weather to protect ground conditions.

## 2 Project Overview

2.1 The approved forest design plan for Langdale, includes the felling of the conifer crop within the Forestry England High West Side plantation. The first phase is planned to take place over a period of 4 months with operations due to start in the 2023/2024 felling year. Phase 2 will commence in the 2024/2025 felling year. Access to the plantation is essential for the uplift of the felled timber to roadside.

2.2 The project will also give access to blocks on the Western side of the river Derwent for future felling operations.

2.4 At the end of the felling period the forwarder track will be tidied and public footpath crossing point removed.

## 3 Construction Programme and Project Timescales

3.1 A detailed construction Programme will be confirmed with the Contractor to accommodate the environmental and ecological constraints.

3.2 Construction is planned to commence in March 2023, in line with the end of the reptile hibernation season. The construction for phase 1 is planned to take approximately 4 weeks.

## 4 Roles and Responsibilities

Environmental policy

4.1 The appointed contractor will be required to minimise consumption of natural resources and materials, to maximise recycling and to limit pollution and disturbance in the course of the works. The following measures will be encouraged:

- Minimise the use of natural resources through conserving energy and ensuring efficient running and maintenance of equipment and machines.
- Seek methods of working that minimise materials usage and limit waste.
- Minimise environmental disturbance (noise, dust, pollution) and control and treatment of discharges where appropriate.
- Encourage environmental awareness of all personnel.

4.2 The appointed contractor will also be required to ensure that industry Codes of Practice, Government Guidelines and appropriate Regulations are adhered to. Where relevant, these are specified within this document.

### **Ecology**

4.1 The purpose of the CEMP is to minimise the effects of the construction on the environment, public access, and any ecologically sensitive areas.

4.2 The working corridor will be marked along its centre line and no plant movements will be allowed outside this 6m wide corridor.

4.3 The use of a borrow pit within the FE plantation as a source of material to construct the road which will have two benefits – a reduced impact on the ecology by using material local to the area, and by eliminating the need to import over 4200 tonnes of material along the council road from Pickering. The borrow pit will be reinstated and landscaped to leave a depression within the FE plantation.

4.4 The timings of the construction will be as per the Ecological report written 18.01.23 to avoid potential impact on hibernating reptiles and nesting schedule 1 birds.

### **Waste management**

4.5 At this stage there are no planned waste arisings from this work. That will not be used for reinstatement of the borrow pit.

4.6 In addition to any waste generated as a direct consequence of the works, waste generated by site personnel will also need to be carefully managed.

### **Fuel and other materials storage**

#### **Fuel**

4.7 Where re-fuelling of plant is required, this will take place in a designated area away from potential contamination of a water course, within the FE forest block.

4.8 Storage of fuel will not be permitted on site. A spill kit with sand, earth or other commercial products will be located close to the refuelling area with a fire extinguisher in each machine.

### **Noise and vibration**

4.9 Noise and vibration associated with the works will be predominantly associated with vehicles and plant equipment.

4.10 The nearest properties are over 1000m away, but the contractor will still implement the best practicable means to minimise disturbance, including:

- the use of low vibration methods where practicable.
- the use of silenced equipment and machinery.
- the use of modern plant which emits lowest levels of noise and vibration where possible.
- careful selection of equipment location.
- undertaking regular plant maintenance.

#### **Dust**

4.11 Its not anticipated that dust will be an overriding issue due to the time of year of the works, following on from Winter.

#### **Flood risk assessment**

4.12 Due to the nature of the site being on a watershed, it does not fall into any flood risk zones.

#### **Surface water drainage and water pollution prevention**

4.13 The track design is such that on steeper gradients surface water will be kept on the topside and then managed.

4.14 There will be culverts under the road construction to allow surface water to be distributed responsibly.

4.15 The key good practice measures associated with prevention of water pollution which will be implemented are set out below.

- Works will be planned and managed carefully, detailed within the contractors Method Statements to ensure that the risk of pollution incidents is reduced as far as possible.
- Procedures will be adhered to for storage of fuel, oils and other potentially contaminating materials as detailed in paragraphs 4.6 to 4.7 above.
- A plan for dealing with spillage incidents will be designed by the appointed contractor prior to the works commencing and this will be adhered to should any incident occur, reducing the effect as far as practicable.
- Within the construction site and on all operating plant, there will be the provision of spill containment equipment including absorbent material.
- Where culverts have been installed and there is potential for contamination to make its way towards the river Derwent or roadside drains, silt traps will be created after the outfall of each pipe and grade reversals with straw bales and silt netting.

4.16 Any pollution incidents will be reported to Forestry England as soon as it is safe and possible to do so.

### **Vehicle and plant operation and maintenance**

4.17 Any plant being operated on site (i.e., excavators, dumpers) would be required to have a current Certificate of Thorough Examination and Certificate of Conformity.

4.18 Any vehicles and plant onsite will be required to be operated by competent, certified personnel.

### **Working hours**

4.19 Site hours are anticipated to be 07.30am to 17.30pm.

### **Programme of works**

4.20 The works are anticipated to last for 4 weeks. If weather conditions are poor (wet), works may be halted temporarily to protect ground conditions.

### **Health and safety**

4.21 The access points to the work site off West Side Road will have appropriate Chapter 8 signage to warn road users, and health and safety warning signs, to advise members of the public of the ongoing works.

4.22 All personnel working onsite will be given a site induction or 'toolbox talk' which will discuss health and safety and environmental issues associated with the works. This will cover emergency procedures, site waste management, identifying site risks, discussing required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and an overview of any other housekeeping measures required when working in remote locations. The induction will be carried out by the appointed contractor. A record of all site inductions will be maintained by the appointed contractor.

4.23 Each site visit by Forestry England staff will generate a site visit report form, which will record all persons present on site, whether contract conditions are being met, work progress, items discussed and any actions arising. Completion of actions arising will be noted on the following site visit report form.

4.24 Any safety incidents will be reported to Forestry England as soon as it is possible.

4.25 Specific health and safety risks, control measures and requirements associated with the specific works required will be detailed in the method statements and risk assessments carried out by the contractor upon contract award

## **5 Implementation, Managing, Monitoring, Compliance and Reporting**

5.1 Communication throughout the works will be essential for the implementation of the CEMP and the safe and efficient running of the project. Formalised communication and implementation of the CEMP will consist of the site induction, toolbox talks and site visit reports (as detailed in Section 4). The induction and toolbox talks will include specific information in relation to any environmental sensitivities which have been identified. Any new issues arising or suggested modifications to working practices will be raised at site visit meetings and the decisions and rationale for these will be recorded on site visit report forms. Personnel will be encouraged to communicate closely to ensure that activities run smoothly throughout the duration of the works programme.

5.2 The appointed contractor will be responsible for managing, monitoring and compliance with the CEMP and will report to the Forestry England Project Manager.

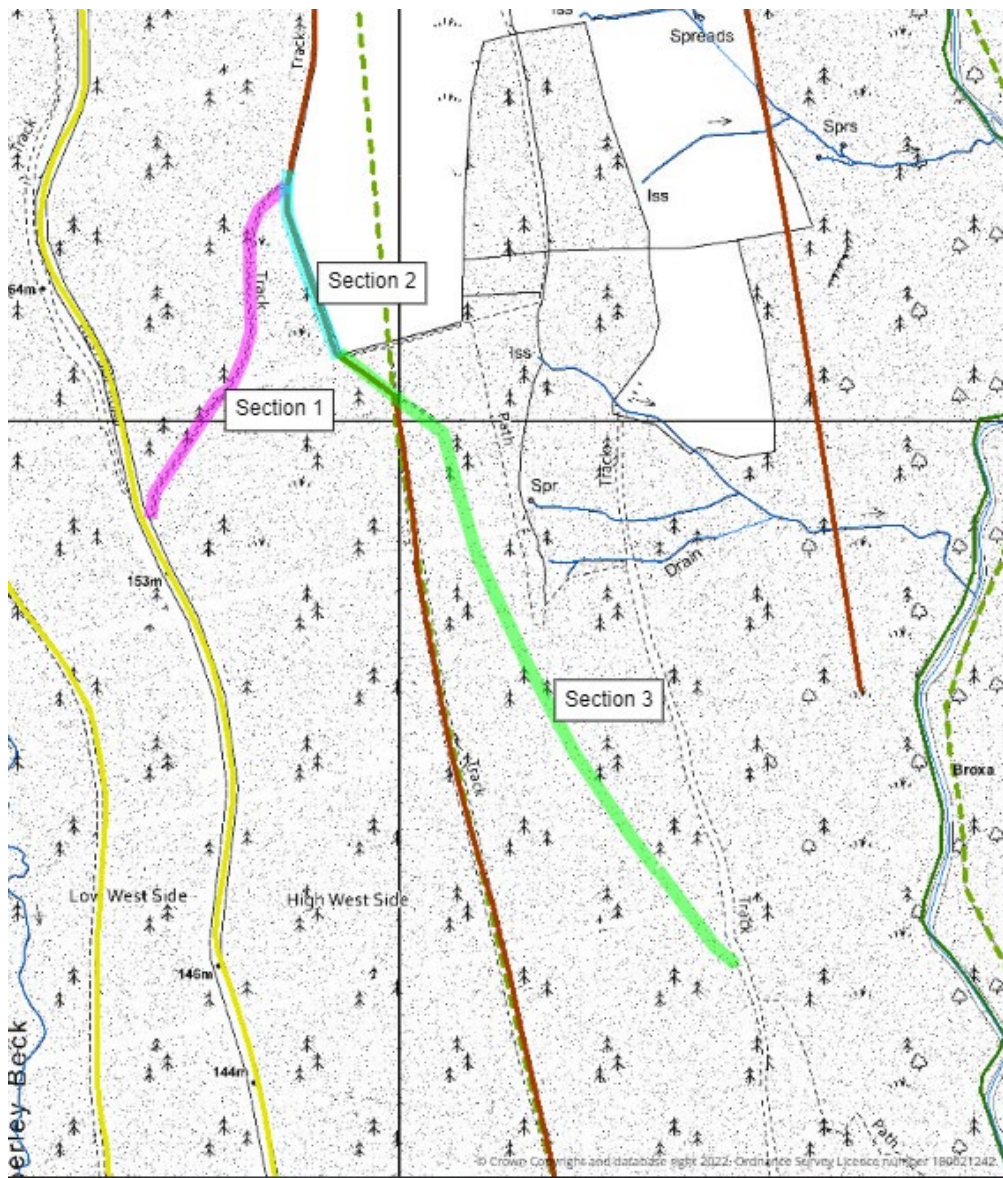
Should any alterations to the CEMP be required, this will be documented and communicated to all personnel through briefings, safety alerts and emails as appropriate.

## Ecological and Habitat report High Langdale End Track

### Habitat description

The habitat along the edge of the proposed track can be split into 3 distinct areas as shown on the map **figure 1**.

- Section 1 - Mixed conifer planted in 1994 to the west and younger Norway Spruce planted in 2016 to the east.
- Section 2 - 2006 Scots pine and Sitka Spruce to the west (planted and natural regeneration) and Grazed fields to east and
- Section 3 - Douglas Fir, Japanese Larch and Sitka Spruce - planted 1998 on both sides.





## Section 1

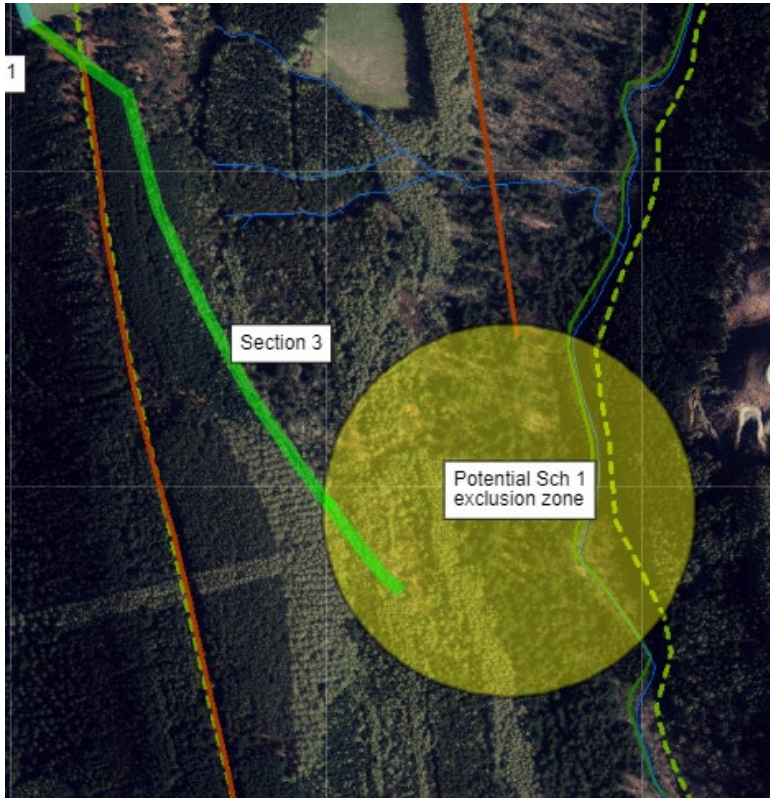


## Section 2





## Section 3



### Reptile potential on site

The habitat in sections 1 and 3 are sub optimal for reptiles - with dense conifers and shading along their length. The habitat along the field edge in section 2 is more suitable in places where conifer regeneration is reduced, and the areas receive more sun. It is possible that reptiles may use this area for hibernation.

### Sch1 bird nesting.

The crop in sections 1 and 2 are not of sufficient size for raptor nesting. We have historic records of Scheduled 1 bird nesting to the east of section 3. The exclusion zone for this site would affect the most southerly 100m of this section. The most recent record we have of birds nesting in this area is 2016.

### Recommendations.

After discussions with the civil engineering teams it is possible to undertake the work in 2 phases. **Phase 1** -sections 1 and 2 and **Phase 2** -section 3.

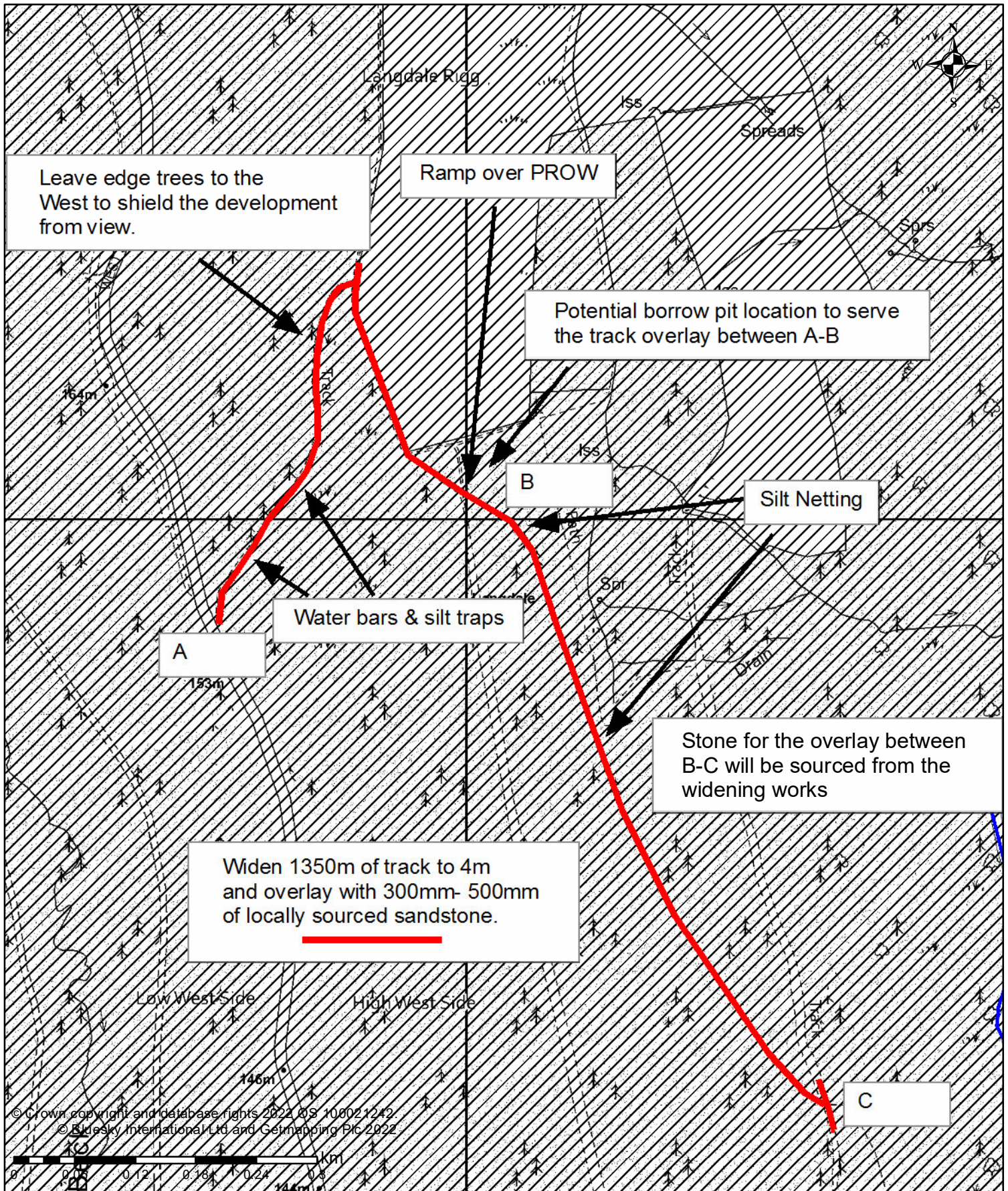
**Phase 1** should be delayed until March to remove the risk of disturbing potentially hibernating reptiles using the habitat alongside the existing track along the field edge.

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Before **Phase 2** is undertaken an assessment of the nesting status of the Scheduled 1 bird will be undertaken by an appropriately experienced, licenced ornithologist. If nesting was confirmed construction of the proposed track within the exclusion zone would be delayed until post breeding (August)

If no nesting was confirmed the proposal would be to undertake **Phase 2** works following the completion of the **Phase 1** in April.





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**Title: CE-938 Site Plan Rev A**

Date: 8 November 2022

Author: Stuart Startup

Scale @ A4: 1:5,000

 Blocks

NYMNPA

27/01/2023



Forestry England  
 forests and woodlands  
 have been certified in  
 accordance with the UK  
 Woodland Assurance  
 Standard (UKWAS)



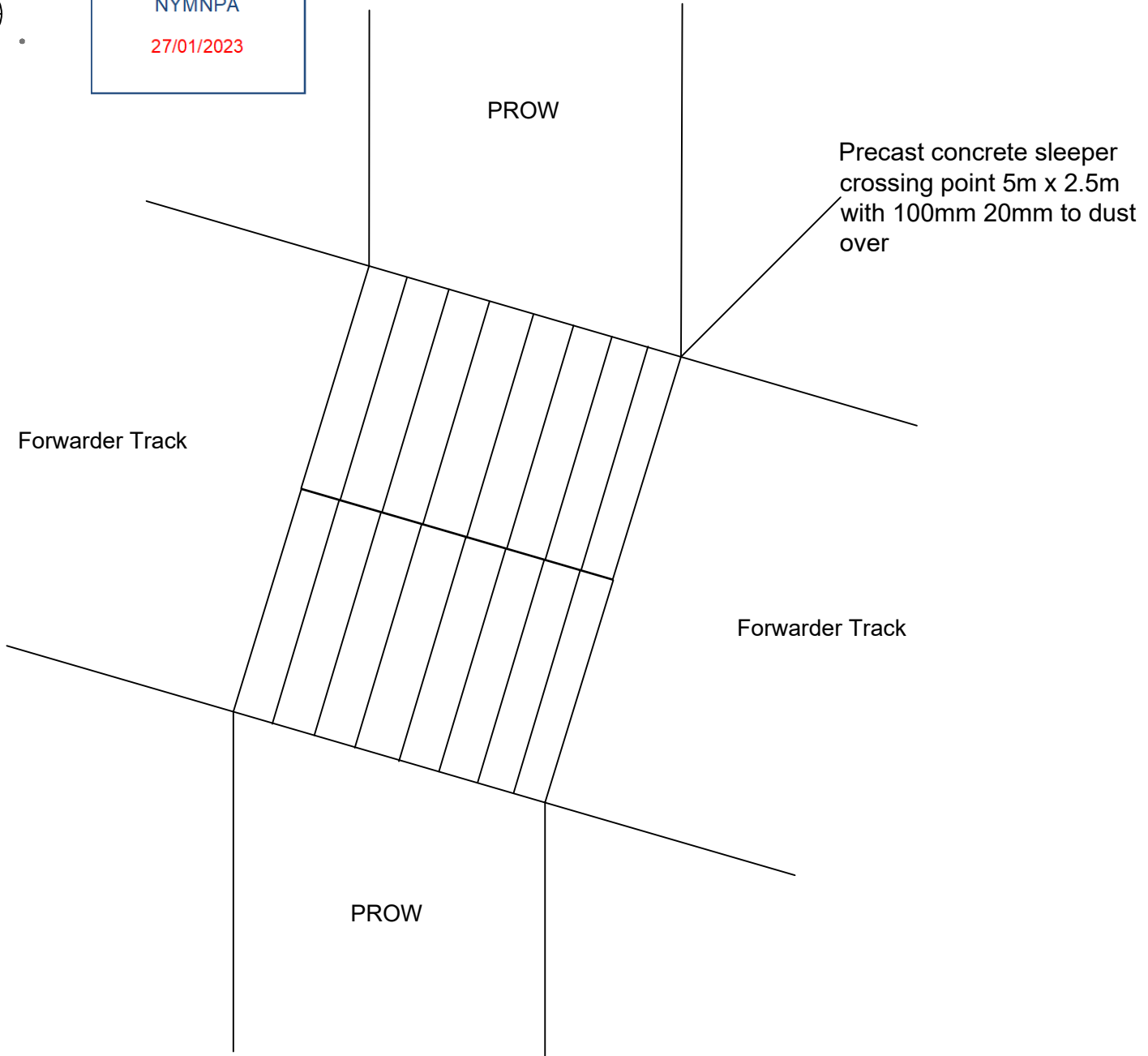
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North

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27/01/2023



**Notes:**

1. If in doubt ask.
2. Drawings should not be scaled either by hand or from the computer digital data, only figured dimensions are to be used.
3. All dimensions must be checked on site, prior to the works commencing.
4. All dimensions shown on this drawing are in metres unless stated otherwise.
5. Levels are shown in metres and are related to Ordnance Datum.
6. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all other relevant drawings, reports and specifications.
7. All services within the area of the works are to be located and clearly marked by the contractor prior to works commencing.
8. The Contractor is responsible for the temporary stability of any excavations or structures. Where necessary they shall ensure suitable designs and temporary works are in place to allow safe construction of the works.
9. Refer to project specific 'Designers Risk Register' for all risks identified during the pre-construction phase.



**Health, Safety and Environmental Information**

In addition to the hazards/risks normally associated with the types of work detailed on this drawing, special attention should be given to:

DRAWING STATUS			
<b>S0 - WORK IN PROGRESS</b>			
LOGO	FORESTRY COMMISSION 620 BRISTOL BUSINESS PARK COLDHARBOUR LANE BRISTOL, BS16 1EJ T: 0300 067 4000 E: info@forestryengland.uk		
CLIENT	<b>Forestry England</b>		
JOB TITLE	<b>High Langdale</b>		
DRAWING TITLE	<b>Plan View</b>		
DRAWN	CHK	APP	DATE
SS	MOV	-	17/1/23
JOB NUMBER	SCALE	UNITS	SIZE
-	NTS	m	A4
DRAWING NO.			REV.
CE-01			01



Scale 1:20