

**Dawn Paton**

---

**From:** Rona Charles  
**Sent:** 09 December 2016 14:21  
**To:** Jill Bastow  
**Cc:** Kate Bailey; Roy McGhie; Planning  
**Subject:** Pre-application enquiry: land at Thirley Beck Farm

Hi Jill

I have been sent a copy of the email and map that David Newham sent on 30/11. I've discussed it with colleagues and here are our comments.

Our records indicate that the land shown is wetland which will have some existing value for wildlife. In addition we are aware that water voles, which are specially protected, have been recorded nearby and that this is habitat that could be utilised by great crested newts, also specially protected. These constraints do not necessarily mean that a pond would be damaging, but they would need to be taken into account along with any habitat creation proposals.

We therefore recommend that an ecological survey is provided with any application which includes an assessment of the impact of the proposals and how they could be mitigated. Unfortunately, our department lacks the capacity to carry out this work, so recommend that the applicant consults a professional ecologist for advice. We have a list of qualified ecologists working locally if that would be helpful.

Rona

Rona Charles  
Ecologist

Conservation Department  
North York Moors National Park Authority  
The Old Vicarage, Bondgate  
Helmsley, York YO62 5BP  
Tel: 01439 772700  
[r.charles@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:r.charles@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

Please note: I normally don't work on Mondays

