

Nesting Bird Survey - Site Inspection Report

Brearley Fields, Mytholmroyd.

Site Inspection reference	SI-8573-01	Date of inspection	04.06.25
Inspected by	Josh Birchall BSc (Hons) MCIEEM, Principal Ecologist Carly Lucas BSc (Hons), Graduate Ecologist		
Task description	<u>Nesting Bird Survey</u> A nesting bird survey was undertaken by a suitably trained and experienced ecologist, to determine whether the proposed vegetation clearance works risk impacting upon nesting birds and committing offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). The survey involved periods of prolonged observation to watch for bird nesting behaviour, followed up by direct observations of accessible areas to attempt to physically identify nests.		
Legislation	Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (Part 1 - Protection of Birds), it is an offence for anyone to intentionally (a) kill, injure or take any wild bird; <u>(b) take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built;</u> or (c) take or destroy an egg of any wild bird.		
Limitations	The survey was conducted on the Site where some limited areas were inaccessible due to the density of vegetation which could have concealed potential nests. Such areas were subject to observation to attempt to ascertain the status of any bird activity within.		
Survey Area	The survey encompassed a previously cleared development plot with encroaching rough vegetation and scrub at the peripheries, as shown bounded by a red line on the plan below.		

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Survey area plan



Results

The site primarily supports open uncut vegetation dominated by common grasses and locally abundant competitive species such as horsetail and thistles. In peripheral areas scrub in encroaching comprised mainly of brambles (*Rubus fruticosus*) with dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) and willows (*Salix* sp.).

No ground nesting birds were observed or suspected. With nesting potential limited, likely due to the urban and disturbed location of the site, as well as it being overlooked and relatively small.

Birds noted within the survey area mainly consisted of brief fly overs by goldfinches, blackbirds, wood pigeon, feral pigeon, various gulls and magpies.

Activity was mainly noted offsite where goldfinches, song thrush, blackbirds, wren, crow, jackdaw and chiffchaff were vocalizing. None of these species were exhibiting nesting behavior in the red line area.

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Brooks

Ecological

Grounded advice

Further actions	We understand that clearance on site was due to commence on 4 th of June. If work starts when planned no further survey is deemed necessary. However, should any site worker see, or suspect nesting work should stop around the suspected nest site and an ecologist be called out for further advice.
Photograph1 Showing the low bramble scrub.	

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Photograph 2

Showing willow scrub with limited density.



Photograph 3

Showing open groundcover.

