

From: [Johnston, Christopher](#)
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: FW: SMD/2021/0193 Copeland Field Farm
Date: 10 June 2021 10:21:39

From: Kate Dewey <k.dewey@staffs-wildlife.org.uk>
Sent: 09 June 2021 08:37
To: Johnston, Christopher <Christopher.Johnston@StaffsMoorlands.gov.uk>
Subject: SMD/2021/0193 Copeland Field Farm

SMD/2021/0193
Copeland Field Farm, Salters Lane, Hulme, Werrington, Staffordshire, ST9 0DA
Construction of an equestrian all-weather outdoor riding area (40m x 20m)
0.08 hectares

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has been asked to review the above application as part of a service level agreement with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to provide ecology advice regarding planning and development management functions.

SUMMARY –No objection subject to conditions requiring details of levels, landscaping and amphibian protection measures

Documents reviewed:

- GCN Scoping Survey March 2021 Andrew Tillson-Willis
- Topographical survey

HABITATS

Biodiversity Net Gain

The proposal would involve the net loss of an area of poor semi-improved grassland. Given the slope of the land, some cut and fill would also appear to be necessary- further information on this should be sought. This loss should be mitigated by providing new hedge planting within the landholding, such as restoring the hedgerow to the east or other boundary hedges. This would also provide a visual landscape benefit. Details of proposed levels and landscaping should be secured via condition.

SPECIES

Great Crested Newts, Amphibians

The GCN Scoping Survey found the pond next to the site to be poor for GCN, and ponds to the south were assessed in 2016 to be poor also. Given the habitats affected, it is unlikely GCN would be impacted and it is concluded there is no requirement for further surveys.

Amphibians cannot be ruled out so to ensure any in the area are protected during works, an amphibian method statement should be secured via condition.

Regards,

Kate Dewey BSc (Hons) MCIEEM

Senior Planning Officer

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Planning consultations- please send to planning@staffs-wildlife.org.uk

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