PHOTO 1 - Looking north east on bridleway with crossing in the distance

PHOTO 2 - Looking north east on bridleway at crossing point
PHOTO 3 - Looking north on footpath towards crossing

PHOTO 4 - Looking south on footpath towards A605
PHOTO A - Panorama viewing north showing shaped reservoir

PHOTO B - Panorama viewing south towards shallows area

PHOTO C - Panorama viewing north at remaining area
6th September 2013

Dear Frankie,

Re: Ecological data search, Elton Park (Ref: Elton Park)

Thank you for approaching the NBRC with this enquiry. All the information that you have requested is contained within this report. This includes a map of the search area, statutory and non-statutory site details and a list of protected and notable species records from your specified search area. For definitions of these sites please refer to the document at the end of this report.

Statutory sites

According to the most recent GIS layers available to NBRC from Natural England there are currently no statutory sites within your specified search area.

Non-statutory sites

Following the Natural Environment White Paper (2011), twelve Nature Improvement Areas (NIA’s) were designated and granted government funding in February 2012. They should aim to achieve significant and demonstrable enhancements of the ecological network over large areas by undertaking the actions prioritised in the review.

Further information regarding the Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area can be found on the Natural England website using the following link: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/funding/nia/projects/nenevalley.aspx

The following non-statutory sites are located within your specified search area. These sites have been labelled on the accompanying map.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Site Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eaglethorpe New Lake</td>
<td>Local Wildlife Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elton Estate Mill Fields</td>
<td>Potential Wildlife Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lady Margaret's Wood</td>
<td>Local Wildlife Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warmington Big Green</td>
<td>Pocket Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warmington Old Orchard</td>
<td>Pocket Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Descriptions for most of these non-statutory sites are attached to this report.

Unfortunately we do not hold descriptions for Pocket Parks (please refer to the website for further information [www.pocketparks.com](http://www.pocketparks.com)).

In addition some Potential Wildlife Sites have been highlighted in blue on the map. Please note that we do not hold information for all of these sites. For a full definition of Potential Wildlife Site please refer to the section “Sites of wildlife and geological importance in Northamptonshire” below.

**Species records**

Please note that we do not provide data for bats. This information can be obtained directly from the Northants Bat Group/County Recorder for Mammals using the contact details already provided.

99 other protected and notable species records fall within your specified search boundaries. A list of these species records is attached to this report.

This report contains sensitive information about the location of protected species and has been provided in confidence to assist you in your work. Because of this OS Grid References must be withheld from documents destined for public consumption.

I would remind you that these data are limited spatially and temporally and I would strongly recommend that follow-up surveys be carried out to support the baseline provided. I would also like to draw your attention to our terms and conditions once again.

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**Northamptonshire Biodiversity Records Centre**

**Terms and conditions**

1. All rights to the data are reserved and ownership is not transferred with it. Data held by the Northamptonshire Biodiversity Record Centre (N.B.R.C.) remains the intellectual property, and in the ownership and copyright, of the originator(s).

2. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all the data provided, the N.B.R.C. can accept no responsibility for any costs, damages or liabilities whatsoever arising from the use of the data or for any omissions or inaccuracies within it.

3. The data held by the N.B.R.C. may not be comprehensive and the absence of data, in response to a data search, does not imply that a species, important habitat or designation does not exist within that search area. Recorded presence does not imply current presence and the date for all records will be provided.

4. Data is provided solely for the use of the enquirer (and their client) and only for the purpose(s) specified by the enquirer at the time of its request. Data must not be reused or stored beyond the life of the project for which they were acquired.
As agreed, the total charge for the time taken to extract this information and put together the report is £90 plus VAT (£108 including VAT). An invoice will be sent under different cover from our Cambridgeshire office.

Should you have any enquiries please feel free to contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely,

James Skinner  
**Biodiversity Data Officer**
Sites of wildlife and geological importance in Northamptonshire

Statutory Sites:

Special Protected Area (SPA)
SPAs are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with Article 4 of the EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds (79/406/EEC), the Birds Directive.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
The SSSI series provide statutory protection for the best examples of the natural environment. SSSI were originally notified under the National Park and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and they were renominated under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Improved provisions for their protection and management were introduced in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

National Nature Reserve (NNR)
NNRs are declared by the statutory country conservation agency (English Nature) under the National Park and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. NNR contain the most important examples of natural and semi-natural ecosystems within Great Britain. NNR conserve the habitats within them and offer opportunities for research.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
LNRs are declared under the National Park and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 by local authorities. LNR are declared and managed for nature conservation, education and research or opportunities for public access to nature.

Non-statutory sites:

Nature Improvement Area (NIA)
Following the Natural Environment White Paper (2011), twelve NIA were designated and granted government funding in February 2012. They should aim to achieve significant and demonstrable enhancements of the ecological network over large areas by undertaking the actions prioritised in the review:
- Improving the management of existing wildlife sites
- Increasing the size of existing wildlife sites
- Increasing the number of wildlife sites
- Improving connectivity between sites
- Creating wildlife corridors

Local Wildlife Site (LWS)
Local Wildlife Sites are areas of land which are rich in wildlife and are the equivalent to Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. Criteria for selection take in threats and declines in certain species, national priorities and local distinctiveness. The LWS system is managed, in partnership, by the Wildlife Trust, local authorities, statutory nature conservation agencies, local naturalists and landowners. Local Wildlife Sites were previously known as County Wildlife Site (CWS) in the past.

Protected Wildflower Verges (PWW)
Protected Wildflower Verges are roadside verges in wildlife and are crucial to the success of the local Biodiversity Action Plan. Criteria for selection take in threats and declines in certain species, national priorities and local distinctiveness. The PWW system is managed, in partnership, by the Wildlife Trust, local authorities, statutory nature conservation agencies, local naturalists and landowners.

Pocket Park
The Pocket Park vision is to develop easy public access to the countryside, bringing the countryside to the people and providing opportunities for enjoyment and understanding of 'Countryside on the Doorstep'. Over the past 16 years, the county council has worked in partnership with many organisations and other local authorities to help create 80 Pocket Parks. For more information on this scheme please refer to the website at www.pocketparks.com.

Local Geological Site (LGS)
Local Geological Sites (LGS) are the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside the statutory SSSI. The sites are designated using locally developed criteria and are assessed by the local geological group.

Potential Local Geological Site (PLGS)
Potential Local Geological Sites (PLGS) are sites that were identified and considered to be important geological exposures. These sites have not yet been formally notified as Local Geological Sites by the local geological group. Currently these sites can only be located by a grid reference, as they do not have a formal site boundary and there is no descriptive survey information.

Potential Wildlife Site (PWS)
Potential Wildlife Sites (PWS) are sites that are either known or thought to be of higher biodiversity value than the average countryside but have not been confirmed to be of Local Wildlife Site (LWS) standard.
PWS can belong to one of three categories: 1. Sites never fully surveyed and assessed against LWS criteria. 2. Sites surveyed and assessed against the LWS criteria but not currently reaching the standard. 3. Sites previously recognised as LWS but not currently reaching the latest LWS criteria.
PWS were originally outlined using a combination of local knowledge and looking at aerial photographs for evidence of biodiverse habitats. All PWS are likely to be important for the County's biodiversity, either in their own right, or through buffering and linking current LWS and contributing to Green Infrastructure. Many of these sites could potentially be of LWS standard once surveyed.
Lady Margaret's Wood

Administrative areas: East Northamptonshire (E District (74-))
                   Warrington (Civil Parish)
Status(es): Local Wildlife Site
Centroid: TL083926 (Site Centroid)
Site type: Site
File code: E1287
Site/Subsite hierarchy: Lady Margaret's Wood
Description: 2008 Survey

This site consists of an area of wood and includes the shallow lake near the house. It was slightly late in the year for woodland surveying. In total 38 woodland species were found although some could have been planted.

The woodland is fairly shaded. The rides are widest at the eastern side although it looks like the rides are regularly mown here. There has been extensive planting in the woodland including a small block of conifers. Other planted species include Box Buxus sempervirens, European Larch Larix decidua, Field Maple Acer campestre and Beech Fagus sylvatica. The ground layer was not particularly exciting, although the number of species recorded was fairly high, but this could have been partly due to the survey being well past the optimal date. Woodland indicators found included Wood-sedge Carex sylvatica, Hazel Corylus avellana, Midland Hawthorn Crataegus laevigata, Stinking Helleborine Helleborus foetidus, Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Dog's Mercury Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Dog's Mercury Mercurialis perennis, Three-needwed Sandwort Moehringia trinervia and Wood Speedwell Veronica montana.

The lake was very shallow with a fairly large well vegetated island. The NW end narrows and is covered in Bulrush Typha latifolia and Reed Sweet-grass Glycera maxima. Despite the shallow depth the rest of the lake is open. The east side of the lake had very little marginal vegetation. This could have been due to grazing although this was not investigated. The side of the lake next to the wood had 1-2m of marginal vegetation. Four freshwater indicators were found here, Meadowsweet Filipendula ulmaria, Yellow Iris Iris pseudacorus, Purple-loosestrife Lythrum salicaria and Water Mint Mentha aquatica.

This woodland site qualifies as a LWS as it contains 9 ancient woodland indicators. The lake on the northern edge of the woodland is also included within the site as it provides valuable supplementary habitat.

Total number of records: 96
Total number of species: 91
Elton Estate Mill Fields

Administrative areas: East Northamptonshire (E District 74-) 
Warmington (Civil Parish)

Status(es): PWS

Centroid: TL073917 (Site Centroid)

Site type: Site

File code: E1266

Site/Subsite hierarchy: Elton Estate Mill Fields

Description:

2008: This site consists of a meadow on an island between two arms of the River Nene that runs south to the Elton Boat Club. This small meadow near the mill was criss-crossed by ditches and interesting floristically.

The field is criss-crossed by ditches. The drier parts of the field held few indicators although Meadow Barley * Hordeum secalinum* was frequent. The most diverse parts of the wetter areas in the depressions held Marsh Foxtail * Alopecurus geniculatus*, Marsh Woundwort * Stachys palustris*, Brooklime * Veronica beccabunga*, Pink Water-speedwell * Veronica catenata*, Wides Forget-me-not * Myosotis scapooides*, and Redshank * Persicaria mascula*. On the edges of the wet areas Hairy Sedge * Carex hirta* is locally dominant. Towards the middle of the field the ditch becomes dominated by Reed Sweet-grass * Glyceria maxima* and Floating Sweet-grass * Glyceria fluitans*.

This site does not qualify as a Local Wildlife Site.

Total number of records: 58

Total number of species: 57
Eaglethorpe New Lake

Administrative areas: East Northamptonshire (E District (74-))
Warrington (Civil Parish)

Status(es): Local Wildlife Site

Centroid: TL076920 (Site Centroid)

Site type: Site

File code: E1284

Site/Subsite hierarchy: Eaglethorpe New Lake

Description:

2008: This site consists of a marshy area in the north where trees have been felled and a new lake and scrape. The area of water marked on the current OS map (2008) (adjacent to the River Nene) did not hold any open water at the time of survey, although it may be present in winter. Unfortunately lack of time meant that the marsh could not be surveyed as thoroughly as we would like. Despite this plenty of noteworthy species were found in good numbers. The site has great potential and an invertebrate survey would be very interesting.

The site is approximately 15 hectares in size. There is a freshly dug lake in the South western part of the site adjacent to the road with an accompanying scrape (neither are shown on current 2008 OS map). The new lake has not yet been colonised by any water plants. The sides of the new lake are quite steep and sparsely covered by species such as Bitterly Ox Tongue Plotois ochroleus, Knotweed Polygonum aviculare and Scentless Mayweed Trileuropsis uniflora. Common Fleabane Pulicaria dysenterica is locally frequent. The scrape is already being used by birds and 2 Common Sandpipers Actitis hypoleucos were present.

The rest of the site appears to have been wetter than it is now. The area of standing water (shown on current 2008 OS map) is no longer there but its location could be recognised by the presence of willow scrub and marshy ground. This old lake has been colonised by New Zealand pygmyweed Grassula helmsii which is locally dominant in places.

A newly cut ditch bisecting the site from west to east has been colonised by a water crowfoot species Ranunculus sp and a water-starwort Callitriche sp.

The poplar plantation which previously formed the northern part of the site appears to have been removed, and has been replaced with a new marsh. This is a very interesting feature. A large patch of Lesser Pond-sedge Carex acutiformis was present. The other frequent species included Creeping Bent Agrostis stolonifera, Creeping Jenny Lysimachia vulgaris and False Fox-Sedge Carex dichotoma which was unusually abundant.

On the whole site, the indicators recorded were Wild Angelica Angelica sylvestris, Meadowweet Filipendula ulmaria. Yellow Iris Iris pseudacorus, Purple-loosestrife Lythrum salicaria. Water Mint Mentha aquatica. Water Forget-me-not Myosotis scorpioides. Common Fleabane Pulicaria dysenterica and Skullcap Scutellaria galericulata.

The marsh area held 8 fen, swamp and marsh indicator species therefore qualifying the site as a Local Wildlife Site.

Total number of records: 50

Total number of species: 45