

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Erection of an Extension to a Poultry Rearing Unit At Rhosfawr Uchaf, Llanfair Caereinion, Powys, SY21 9HE

Prepared for PL & PG Bumford



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for

Rhosfawr Uchaf, Llanfair Caereinion, Powys, SY21 9HE

Introduction

Planning permission has been applied for an extension to a poultry rearing unit at Rhosfawr Uchaf.

The proposed development consists of two poultry buildings and feed bins which is accessed of an existing farm access track. The building will extend the site which consists of one existing poultry unit.

This document is to provide a biodiversity enhancement plan for the proposed development.

Proposed Enhancements

Hedgerow Management

The applicant proposes to maintain the existing mature hedgerows and to grow an effective screen through hedgerow management.

Rough Grassland Creation

Within the site boundaries on land that can no longer be cultivated as part of usual cropping, areas of rough grassland will be created. The provision of a grassy area will greatly increase the wildlife interest. The provision of a natural grassy area containing some grassland flowering plants and scrub will benefit wildlife including invertebrates, birds and reptiles.

A 'floristically enhanced buffer strip' mix (Boston seeds) will be used [which contains fine leaved Fescues, Meadow-grass, Birds-foot-trefoil, Yarrow, Common Knapweed, Wild Carrot, Red Clover, Selfheal and Ox-eye Daisy] and will be managed by annual topping in autumn at a height of 15-20cm. injurious weeds (Thistle and Dock) and Common Ragwort may take hold and will need to be controlled; herbicide treatment will be used but cutting or pulling are other options, pulling being particularly effective for Ragwort. The grassland will require more intensive management in the first year to allow the sward to become established.

Bird and Bat Boxes

Bird and bat boxes will be installed, with the installation to be supervised by an experienced ecologist to ensure the correct positioning. A total of 5 Schwegler nest boxes will be installed.

The boxes are to be installed on the boundary trees at a sufficient height to prevent ground predation. The boxes will ideally be on varying elevations to provide the best variation in temperature, shelter and flight lines.

Conclusion

The habitats and potential for protected species being lost on the site due to the proposed development is minimal. The recommendations contained within this document are considered to be a proportional response to the projects' impact and will represent a real biodiversity gain on the site.