

Ecology Technical Note



**Land East of Crick Road,
Caldicot
28th March 2024**



**Tyler
Grange**

TG Report No. 16528_R01_JS

Project No:	Report No.	Date	Revision
16528	R01	28th March 2024	-
Admin QA	Author	Checked	Approved
XX	Joseph Small BSc (Hons)	Tristan Loughrey- Robinson BSc MSc	Rachel Chatting BSc MSc MCIEEM

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Contents:

Section 1: Introduction and Context	3
Section 2: Methodology	4
Section 3: Wintering Bird Survey Results	5
Section 4: Recommended Further Work	7

Plans:

- Plan 1: Habitat Features Plan (16528/P01)
- Plan 2: Wintering Bird Survey December(16528/P02)
- Plan 3: Wintering Bird Survey January (16528/P03)
- Plan 4: Wintering Bird Survey February (16528/P04)
- Plan 5: Wintering Bird Survey March (16528/P05)



Section 1: Introduction and Context

Introduction

- 1.1. This report has been prepared by Tyler Grange Group Ltd on behalf of Monmouthshire County Council. It sets out the results of wintering bird surveys (WBS), completed at the site between December 2023 and March 2024 at the land east of Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, NP26 5UT. (OS Grid Reference ST 49213 89303), hereafter referred to as 'the site'. See Figure 1.1 for the indicative red line boundary.



Figure 1.1: Indicative red line boundary (© Google Aerial Imagery)

Purpose

- 1.2. This report:
- Presents the results of wintering bird surveys completed at the site between December 2023 and March 2024.
 - Discusses further survey work in respect to birds and in line with the current guidance, in order to inform a future planning application.



Section 2: Methodology

Wintering Bird Surveys

- 2.1. The survey methodology followed guidance produced by the Bird Survey & Assessment Steering Group for non-breeding bird surveys¹. The objective of the surveys was to identify the scale and distribution of non-breeding bird populations within/adjacent to the site and the areas that they favour.
- 2.2. The survey area comprised the red line boundary that is scheduled for development (see **Plan 16528/P01**) plus 100m in all directions around the site where access/views permitted.
- 2.3. The surveys covered the core winter period; commencing in December 2023 and concluding in March 2024, with one visit completed each month.
- 2.4. Although the same survey route was used during all visits, the starting point and survey direction were alternated during each survey so that all areas were covered at varied times to ensure even coverage during the peak period of bird activity.
- 2.5. The conservation status of the birds observed was ascertained through consultation of national, regional and local bird reports.
- 2.6. Dates, times and weather conditions are presented below in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1. Date, Time, and Weather Conditions

Visit	Date	Time		Weather (temperature, Beaufort scale wind, cloud cover)	
		Start	End	Start	End
1	20/12/23	08:30	11:00	11°C, 1 bft, 85% cc	12°C, 1 bft, 85% cc
2	11/01/24	09:00	11:30	7°C, 2 bft, 20% cc	9°C, 2 bft, 35% cc
3	04/02/24	09:15	12:15	10°C, 2 bft, 75% cc	11°C, 4 bft, 90% cc
4	13/03/24	09:15	11:00	13°C, 2 bft, 100% cc	14°C, 3 bft, 100% cc

¹ Bird Survey & Assessment Steering Group. (2023). Bird Survey Guidelines for assessing ecological impacts, v.1.1.0. Available at: <https://birdsurveyguidelines.org>



Section 3: Wintering Bird Survey Results

Wintering Bird Surveys

- 3.1. 37 bird species were recorded onsite/immediately adjacent to the site during the surveys, from December to March. Of these, 16 are species of Conservation Concern, with peak numbers and frequency of recordings highlighted in **Table 3.3**.

Table 3.3. Birds of Conservation Concern within Site/Immediately Adjacent, during December to March

Species	BTO Code	Survey Visits Recorded	Peak Numbers	Conservation Status	Location
Blackbird	B.	4	14	Green	On site and adjacent
Black-headed Gull	BH	1	22	Amber	On site and adjacent
Bluetit	BT	4	23	Green	On site and adjacent
Buzzard	BZ	4	3	Green	On site and adjacent
Carrion Crow	C.	4	35	Green	On site and adjacent
Chiffchaff	CC	1	1	Green	On site
Canada Goose	CG.	2	43	Green	On site and adjacent
Chaffinch	CH	3	9	Green	On site and adjacent
Dunnock	D.	1	5	Amber	On site
Fieldfare	FF	1	3	Red	On site
Feral Pigeon	FP	1	3	Green	On site
Green Woodpecker	G.	1	1	Green	On site
Goldfinch	GO	2	10	Green	On site and adjacent
Greenfinch	GR	1	15	Red	Immediately adjacent
Great Spotted Woodpecker	GS	1	1	Green	On site
Great Tit	GT	3	12	Green	On site
Herring Gull	HG	4	13	Red	On site and adjacent
Jay	J.	1	2	Green	On site
Jackdaw	JD	3	32	Green	On site and adjacent



Species	BTO Code	Survey Visits Recorded	Peak Numbers	Conservation Status	Location
Lesser Black-backed Gull	LB	1	1	Amber	On site
Long Tailed Tit	LT	2	9	Green	On site and adjacent
Mistle Thrush	M.	2	2	Red	Immediately adjacent
Magpie	MG	4	12	Green	On site and adjacent
Meadow Pipit	MP	1	1	Amber	Immediately adjacent
Nuthatch	NH	1	1	Green	On site
Pied Wagtail	PW	4	76	Green	On site and adjacent
Robin	R.	4	19	Green	On site and adjacent
Redwing	RE	3	29	Amber	On site and adjacent
Raven	RN	1	5	Green	On site and adjacent
Rook	RO	1	4	Amber	On site
Skylark	S.	3	5	Red	On site and adjacent
Starling	SG	4	72	Red	On site and adjacent
Sparrowhawk	SH	1	1	Amber	On site
Song Thrush	ST	2	1	Amber	Immediately adjacent
Treecreeper	TC	2	1	Green	On site and adjacent
Woodpigeon	WP	4	33	Amber	On site and adjacent
Wren	WR	4	10	Amber	On site and adjacent

- 3.2. The results of each survey visit between December and March, along with the location of the recorded birds can be seen on Plans **16582/P02-P05**.



Section 4: Further Work

- 4.1. Following the completion of the wintering bird surveys, Tyler Grange are completing breeding bird surveys at the site. Surveys for breeding birds on site are scheduled to take place from March onwards, as set out in **Table 4.1** below.

Table 3.1. Further surveys, timing of surveys and relevant parcels.

Survey	Visits and Timings
Birds	Breeding bird surveys spread evenly between March and July, with at least one visit to be conducted in the evening. Breeding bird surveys are already scheduled for completion commencing in March 2024.

- 4.4. A second technical note will be produced in July 2024, presenting the results of the breeding bird surveys. These surveys would inform any future planning application and allow the site to be developed in accordance with relevant planning policy and legislation.



Plans:

Plan 1: Habitat Features Plan (**16528/P01**)

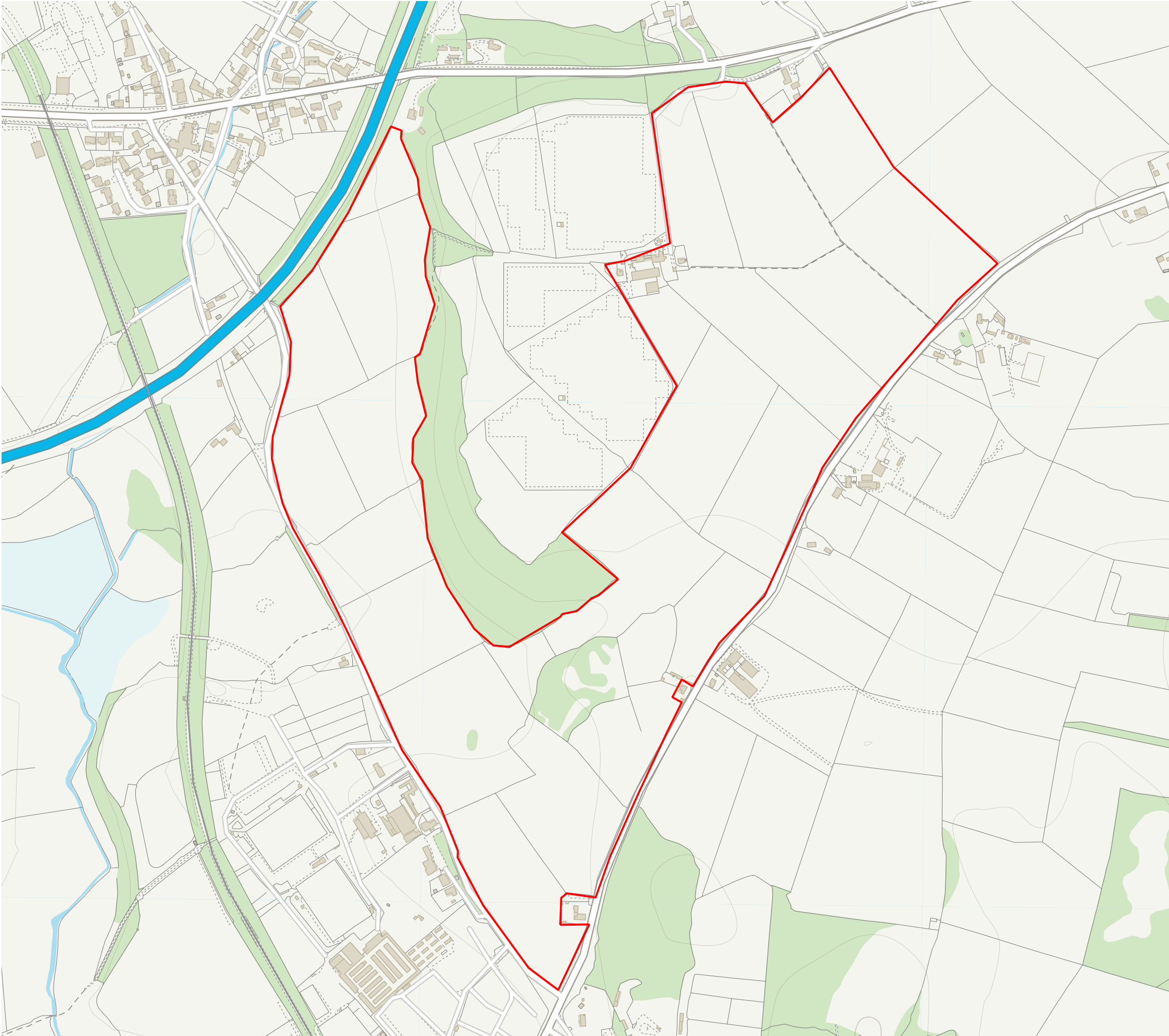
Plan 2: Wintering Bird Survey December(**16528/P02**)

Plan 3: Wintering Bird Survey January (**16528/P03**)

Plan 4: Wintering Bird Survey February (**16528/P04**)

Plan 5: Wintering Bird Survey March (**16528/P05**)

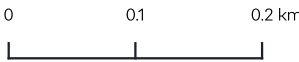




Legend

Boundaries

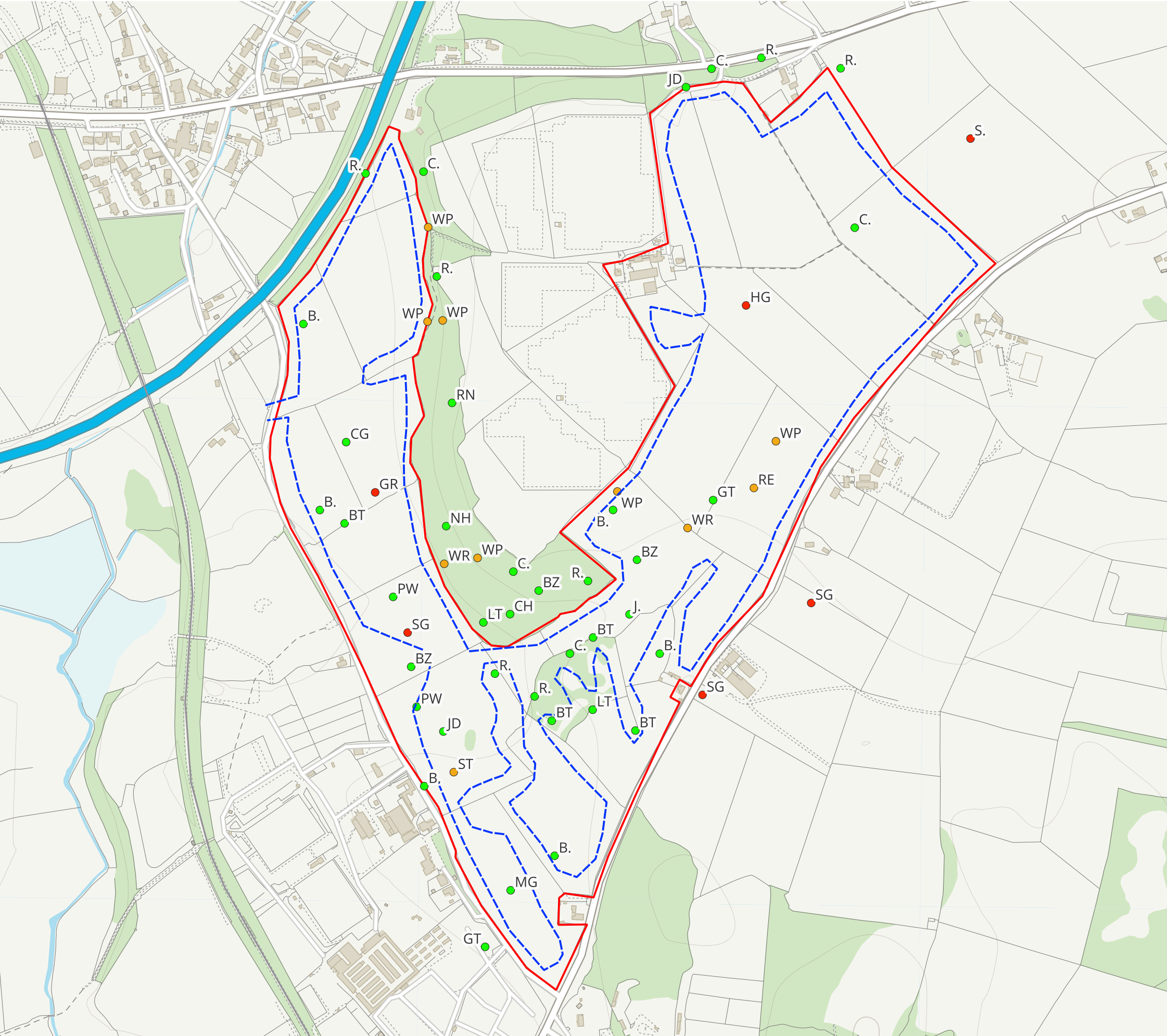
 Redline Boundary



Project	Land east of Crick Road
Drawing Title	Red Line Boundary Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16528/P01
Date	December 2023
Checked	LB/RC



Runway East, 101 Victoria Street, Bristol BS1 6PU
T: 0121 828 4043 E: hello@tylergrange.co.uk W: tylergrange.co.uk



Legend

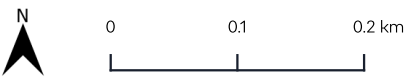
Boundaries

- Transect Route
- Redline Boundary

BOCC Code

- Amber
- Red
- Not listed

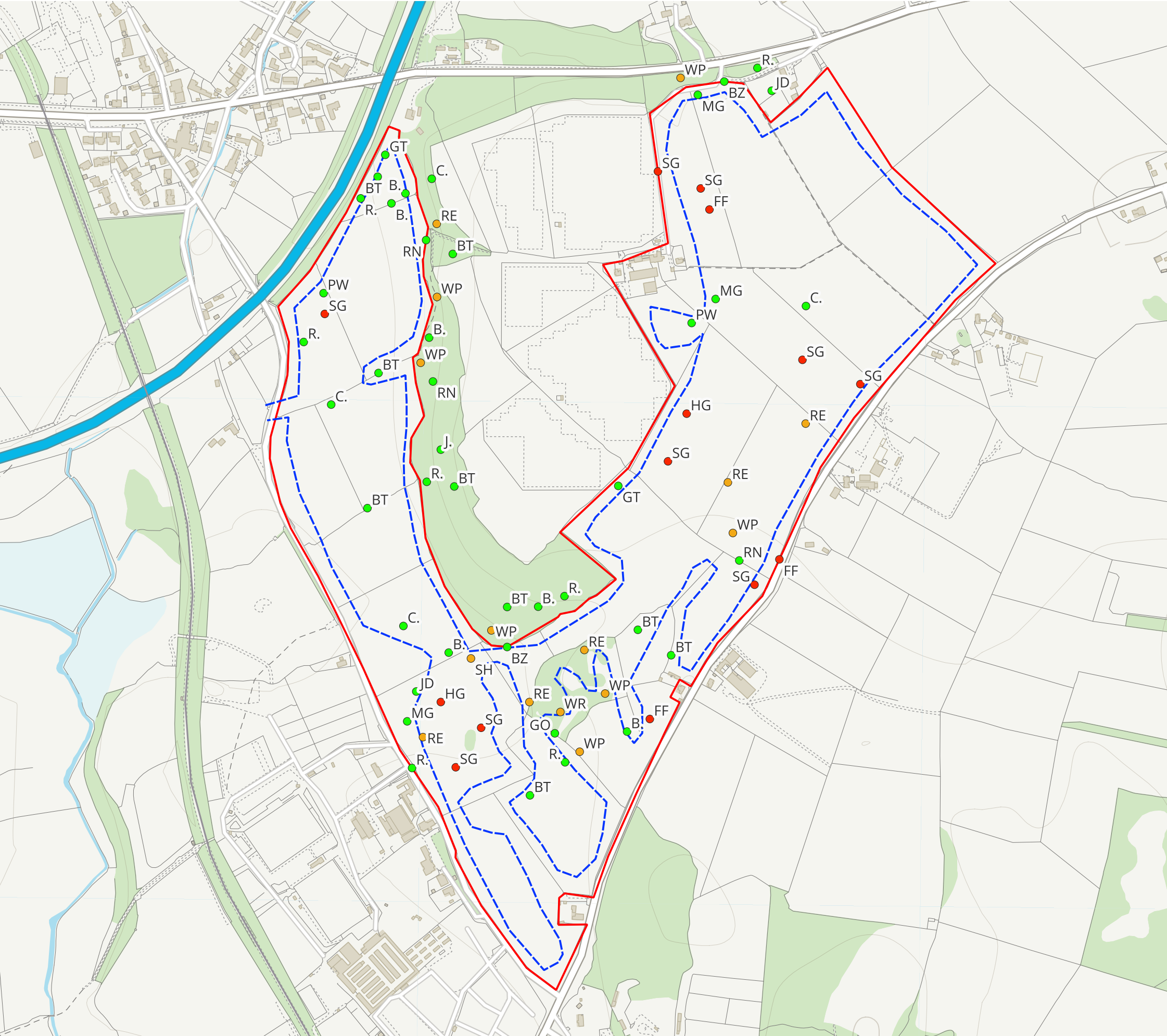
- B. - Blackbird
- BT - BLue Tit
- BZ - Buzzard
- C. - Carrion Crow
- CG - Canada Goose
- CH - Chaffinch
- GR - Greenfinch
- GT - Great Tit
- HG - Herring Gull
- J. - Jay
- JD - Jackdaw
- LT - Long Tailed Tit
- MG - Magpie
- NH - Nuthatch
- PW - Pied Wagtail
- R. - Robin
- RE - Redwing
- RN - Raven
- S. - Skylark
- SG - Starling
- ST - Song thrush
- WP - Wood Pigeon
- WR - Wren



Project	Land East of Crick Road
Drawing Title	December Wintering Bird Survey Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16528/P02
Date	January 2024
Checked	LB/RC



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Legend

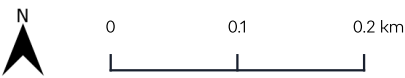
Boundaries

- Transect Route
- Redline Boundary

BOCC Code

- Amber
- Red
- Not listed

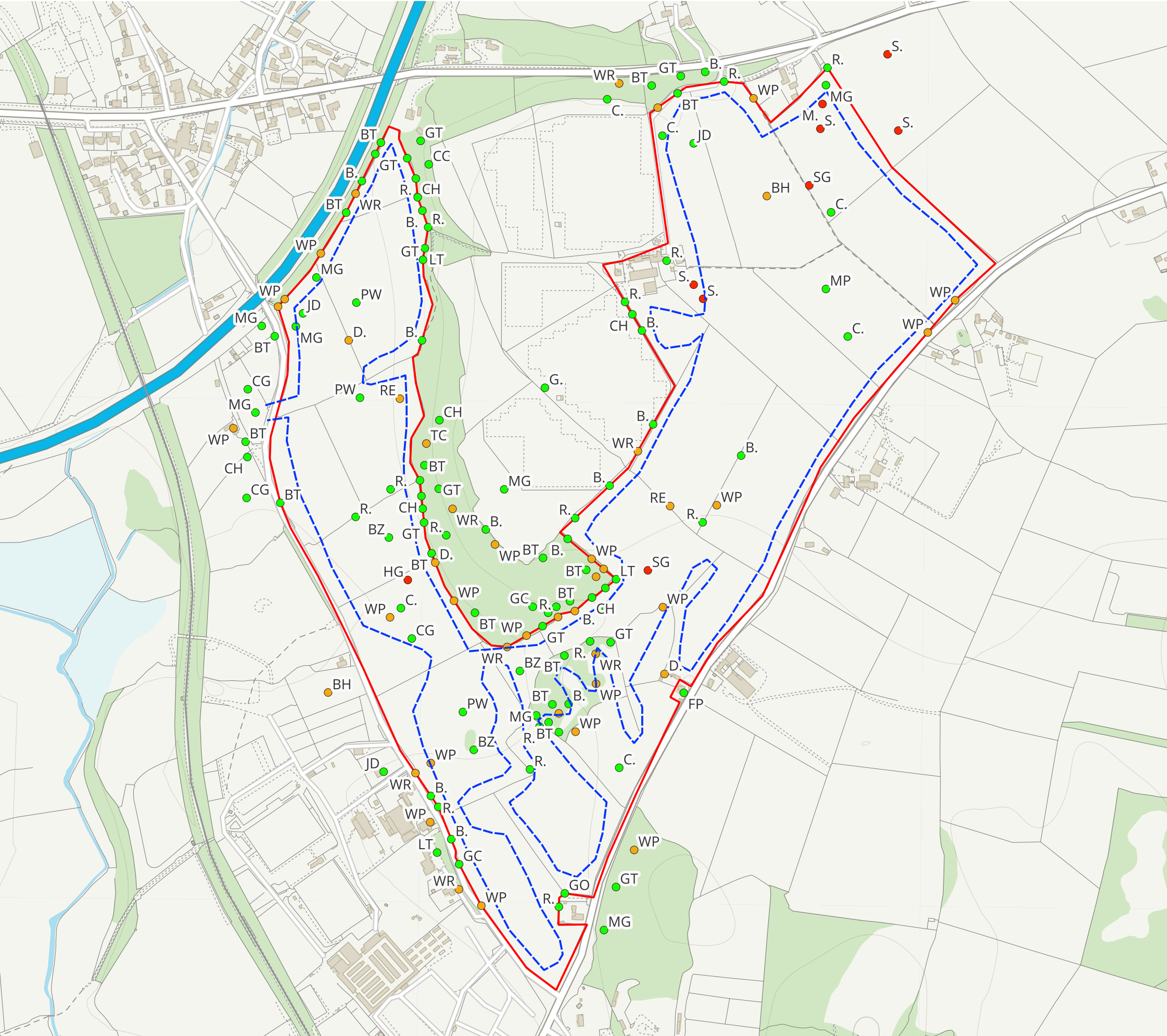
- B. - Blackbird
- BT - BLue Tit
- BZ - Buzzard
- C. - Carrion Crow
- GT - Great Tit
- HG - Herring Gull
- J. - Jay
- JD - Jackdaw
- MG - Magpie
- PW - Pied Wagtail
- R. - Robin
- RE - Redwing
- RN - Raven
- SG - Starling
- WP - Wood Pigeon
- WR - Wren



Project	Land East of Crick Road
Drawing Title	January Wintering Bird Survey Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16528/P03
Date	February 2024
Checked	LB/RC



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Legend

Boundaries

Redline Boundary

Transect Route

BOCC Code

Amber

Red

Not listed

- B. - Blackbird
- BH - Black-headed Gull
- BT - Blue Tit
- BZ - Buzzard
- C. - Carrion Crow
- CC - Chiffchaff
- CG - Canada Goose
- CH - Chaffinch
- D. - Dunnock
- FP - Feral Pigeon
- G. - Green Woodpecker
- GC - Goldcrest
- GO - Goldfinch
- GT - Great Tit
- HG - Herring Gull
- JD - Jackdaw
- LT - Long Tailed Tit
- M. - Mistle Thrush
- MG - Magpie
- MP - Meadow Pipit
- PW - Pied wagtail
- R. - Robin
- RE - Redwing
- S. - Skylark
- SG - Starling
- TC - Treecreeper
- WP - Wood Pigeon
- WR - Wren

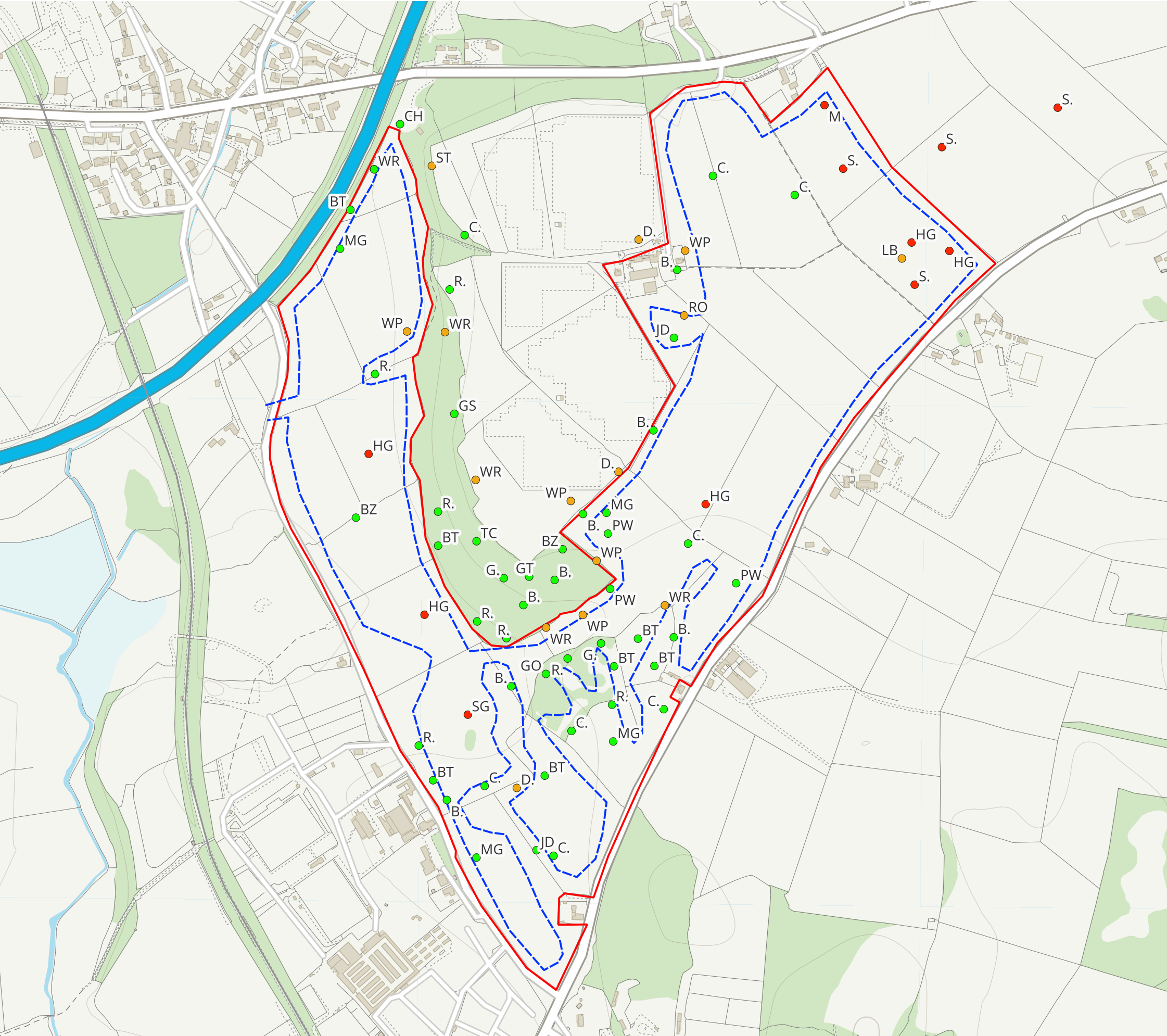
N

0 0.1 0.2 km

Project	Land East of Crick Road
Drawing Title	February Wintering Bird Survey Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16528/P04
Date	February 2024
Checked	LB/RC



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Legend

Boundaries

Redline Boundary

Transect Route

BOCC Code

Amber

Red

Not listed

- B. - Blackbird
BT - Blue Tit
BZ - Buzzard
C. - Carrion Crow
CH - Chaffinch
D. - Dunnock
G. - Green Woodpecker
GO - Goldfinch
GS - Greater Spotted Woodpecker
GT - Great Tit
HG - Herring Gull
JD - Jackdaw
LB - Lesser Black-Backed Gull
LT - Long Tailed Tit
M. - Mistle Thrush
MG - Magpie
PW - Pied wagtail
R. - Robin
RO - Rook
S. - Skylark
SG - Starling
ST - Song Thrush
TC - Treecreeper
WP - Wood Pigeon
WR - Wren

0 0.1 0.2 km

Project	Land East of Crick Road
Drawing Title	March Wintering Bird Survey Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16528/P05
Date	March 2024
Checked	JH/RC



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