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## BEACON FARMS & BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN PRIORITY HABITATS AND SPECIES

The following offers guidance on habitats present in CFE beacon farms in Lincolnshire.

Please refer to ELS & CFE handbooks for detailed guidance on suggested options.

### **Norfolk House Farm Gedney Marsh, Holbeach**

#### **Fens Habitats:**

- Watercourses (Rivers, Canals & Drains in Lincolnshire BAP) – protect with buffer strips
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Arable field margins – **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Coastal grazing marsh – appropriate for those close to Wash Banks, but would be a HLS issue

#### **Fens Species**

- Water vole – drain management according to guidelines. Buffer strips very valuable. Fens are national stronghold.
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses
- Brown hare – general recommendations

**Also potential links for those on west side of fens with South Lincolnshire Fenland project and, for those on the other side with Wash Estuary Project**



## Cotes Grange South Elkington

### Wolds Habitats

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Calcareous grassland – **if** species rich chalk grassland present, manage accordingly. More likely that spp rich grassland would be on adjacent roadside verges – if so, grass buffer on field side would protect from spray/fertiliser. Ideally develop into species rich grassland (by spreading green hay from adjacent verge)
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Meadows and pasture – may be species-rich non-calcareous grassland in certain areas. Recommendations as per calcareous grassland
- Chalk streams (including blow wells) – **Chalk Streams Partnership** able to advise. Sutton Estate demonstration sites. Minimum – protect with buffer zones, but added value in re-profiling etc
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management

### Wolds Species

- Water vole (& otter) Buffer strips + cover very valuable
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses & other field boundaries. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses and other field boundaries
- Brown hare – general recommendations

**Also advice through Wolds Countryside Service**



## Willow Farm Dogdyke

### Habitats in the area

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Watercourses (Rivers, Canals & Drains in Lincolnshire BAP) – protect with buffer strips
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Meadows and pasture – may be species-rich grassland in certain areas. If so, manage accordingly and buffer.
- Wetlands – manage accordingly and buffer
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management. Close to **Lincolnshire Limewoods** – priority area for buffering, linking and extending woodland, including through hedgerow enhancement

### Species in the area

- Water vole (+ otter) – drain management according to guidelines. Buffer strips + cover very valuable
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses & other field boundaries. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses and other field boundaries
- Brown hare – general recommendations

## Tillbridge Farm

### Habitats in the area

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Watercourses (Rivers, Canals & Drains in Lincolnshire BAP) – protect with buffer strips
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Wetlands – manage accordingly and buffer
- Ponds (and reservoirs) – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management.

### Species in the area

- Water vole (+ otter) – drain management according to guidelines. Buffer strips + cover very valuable
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses & other field boundaries. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses and other field boundaries
- Brown hare – general recommendations

**For farms in Trent Vale – potential advice & assistance through Trent Vale Landscape Partnership project**



## Tongs Farm

### Wrawby

#### Habitats in the area

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Calcareous grassland (for nearby Wolds farms) – **if** species rich chalk grassland present, manage accordingly. More likely that spp rich grassland would be on adjacent roadside verges – if so, grass buffer on field side would protect from spray/fertiliser. Ideally develop into species rich grassland (by spreading green hay from adjacent verge)
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Meadows and pasture – may be species-rich non-calcareous grassland in certain areas. Recommendations as per calcareous grassland.
- Chalk streams (including blow wells) – **Chalk Streams Partnership** able to advise. Sutton Estate demonstration sites. Minimum – protect with buffer zones, but added value in re-profiling etc
- Other watercourses – protect with buffer strips
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management

#### Species in the area

- Water vole (& otter) Buffer strips + cover very valuable
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses & other field boundaries. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses and other field boundaries
- Brown hare – general recommendations

#### Also advice through Wolds Countryside Service



## Somerby Top

### Barnetby

#### Habitats in the area

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Calcareous grassland (for nearby Wolds farms) – **if** species rich chalk grassland present, manage accordingly. More likely that spp rich grassland would be on adjacent roadside verges – if so, grass buffer on field side would protect from spray/fertiliser. Ideally develop into species rich grassland (by spreading green hay from adjacent verge)
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Meadows and pasture – may be species-rich non-calcareous grassland in certain areas. Recommendations as per calcareous grassland
- Chalk streams (including blow wells) – **Chalk Streams Partnership** able to advise. Sutton Estate demonstration sites. Minimum – protect with buffer zones, but added value in re-profiling etc
- Other watercourses – protect with buffer strips
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management

#### Species in the area

- Water vole (& otter) Buffer strips + cover very valuable
- Farmland birds – in-field options plus Barn Owl – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses & other field boundaries. Lincolnshire national stronghold
- Bats – benefits from buffer strips along watercourses and other field boundaries
- Brown hare – general recommendations

#### Also advice through Wolds Countryside Service



## Manor House

### Bracebridge Heath

#### Habitats in the area

- Arable field margins - **if** assemblage of arable weeds present – manage accordingly
- Calcareous grassland (limestone) – **if** species rich limestone grassland present, manage accordingly. More likely that spp rich grassland would be on adjacent roadside verges – if so, grass buffer on field side would protect from spray/fertiliser. Ideally develop into species rich grassland (by spreading green hay from adjacent verge). Work going on to identify important verges through **Life on the Verge** project ([www.lifeontheverge.org.uk](http://www.lifeontheverge.org.uk))
- Hedgerow and hedgerow trees – general recommendations
- Meadows and pasture – may be species-rich non-calcareous grassland in certain areas. Recommendations as per calcareous grassland
- Watercourses – protect with buffer strips
- Ponds – create/manage/buffer (including links to uncultivated habitats for great crested newts & other amphibians)
- Wetlands – manage accordingly and buffer
- Woodland – value in buffering with grass strips + edge management. Close to **Lincolnshire Limewoods** – priority area for buffering, linking and extending woodland, including through hedgerow enhancement

#### Species in the area

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