



KEY ELEMENTS

CLIENT

- Biffa Waste Services Ltd.

LOCATION

- Eye, Peterborough

SCOPE OF SERVICES

- Grassland Monitoring
- Wetland Monitoring
- Bare Ground Monitoring
- Breeding Bird Surveys
- Aquatic Invertebrate Surveys
- Terrestrial Invertebrate Surveys
- Water Vole Surveys
- Mink Raft Inspections
- Great Crested Newt Surveys
- Great Crested Newt Fence Inspections
- Badger Survey

DATE OF PROJECT

- 2015-2017

Client Details:

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Eye Landfill Annual Ecological Monitoring 2015-2017



Biffa Waste Services Ltd planned expansion of their landfill site at Eye, Peterborough ran into planning issues as part of the site was designated as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS). However, the LWS was in poor condition and it was agreed an area of arable land adjacent to the site would be purchased and converted into a Wildlife Corridor, specifically managed to retain the high biological diversity of the area.

This area holds a mosaic of habitats including woodland, grassland and wetland habitats. Biffa Waste Services Ltd. commissioned AB Ecology to undertake the Annual Ecological Monitoring on the Wildlife Corridor and Lakes Area adjacent to the landfill site, between 2015 and 2017. Different species groups are surveyed each year to inform the management of the site and to ensure it maintains its high ecological value. In 2015 the boundary of the Local Wildlife Site was changed to cover the Wildlife Corridor instead of the active landfill areas. The Local Wildlife Site is now in excellent condition and meets the criteria for LWS status in a number of areas including great crested newts, aquatic beetles, aquatic plants and grassland species.

Between 2015 and 2017 AB Ecology undertook grassland monitoring, wetland monitoring, bare ground monitoring, breeding bird surveys, badger surveys, aquatic invertebrate surveys, terrestrial invertebrate surveys, water vole surveys, mink raft inspections, great crested newt surveys and great crested newt fence inspections. The results of the surveys are used to fine tune the existing management plan so that the site is managed in the most beneficial way to local wildlife populations.

The site is in excellent condition and habitats are developing well on the Wildlife Corridor. Numbers of aquatic beetles were the highest since the habitat was created, with 47 different species identified in 2017. A high number of bird species was also recorded including kingfisher for the first time in 2015. The number of breeding reed bunting is also increasing. Water vole are slowly colonising the waterbodies within the Wildlife Corridor and badger have also been found foraging around the site.