

Appendix 9B

Ecology Personnel Experience

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APPENDIX 9B: ECOLOGY PERSONNEL EXPERIENCE

Dr Paul Lynas BSc (Hons) MRes CEnv MCIEEM (Associate Director) is an experienced ecologist with over 18 years' professional consultancy and conservation experience in carrying out a range of habitat and species surveys. He has carried out numerous flora and fauna assessments for both public and private sector clients, including those for protected species such as birds, badgers, bats and otters. Whilst specialising in biodiversity and farmland bird ecology, Paul brings extensive experience in a variety of monitoring and survey techniques for both species and habitats. Paul has valuable experience working closely with a vast array of environmental organisations, local and central government departments and agencies. In his previous employment with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), he was heavily involved in the Northern Ireland biodiversity process, writing Northern Ireland Species Action Plans and sitting on several biodiversity delivery groups. Paul led the team which revised the All-Ireland Birds of Conservation Concern list 2008-2013 – the traffic light system of assessing conservation priorities for birds in Ireland. He was lead author on the final paper.

Jenny Hunter (née Jones) BSc (Hons) MSc AMRSB (Principal Ecologist) has over eight years' professional experience of ecological consultancy. She has worked as part of multidisciplinary and dedicated ecological teams contributing to projects in power and energy, infrastructure, industrial and commercial, and property and development across the UK and Ireland. Jenny has extensive field experience of a variety of species and habitat survey techniques. She is proficient in Phase 1 Habitat surveys across a variety of habitats including detailed hedgerow assessments. She has extensive experience of protected species surveys for badger, otter, pine marten, smooth newt, red squirrel, and wintering aquatic and seabirds. Jenny has held licences for smooth newt and has assisted in licensed activities for badger and bat exclusions, and bat trapping and radiotagging. Jenny has also conducted numerous bat surveys, including bat activity, emergence / re-entry, assessments of trees and structures for roost suitability, assessment of habitats for commuting and foraging suitability, and subsequent acoustical call analysis using a range of programmes. Jenny has extensive experience surveying for invasive species. Jenny is also a pioneer in the use of mobile mapping technology for high quality data collection in the field. She is constantly reviewing the use of this technology and training her colleagues in its use. To complement this, she is proficient in GIS.

Alison Donnelly BSc (Hons) MSc is a Consultant Marine Ecologist who has been with AECOM since November 2018. Alison has gained experience surveying on a range of commercial and residential infrastructure projects. Alison's survey experience ranges from marine to terrestrial habitats varying from deep sea pelagic fish abundance assessments to wintering bird surveys. Alison's primary expertise involves surveying for protected species including birds, bats, amphibians and mammals. Alison has carried out numerous bat emergence / re-entry surveys and preliminary roost assessment surveys, assessing both trees and buildings for roost suitability. Alison has also carried out protected terrestrial mammal surveys for a wide range of projects including road, railway, housing and a range of large-scale private sector developments.

Laura Cappelli BSc (Hons) MSc is a Senior Ecologist with over five years professional experience carrying out a range of ecological surveys for terrestrial and wetland habitats and protected species including amphibians, mammals, and bats. Bat surveys that she has carried out includes preliminary roost assessments, walked activity transects, bat roost emergence/re-entry surveys, bat tracking surveys and static detector surveys. Furthermore, Laura has carried out habitat, rare and invasive species, wintering and breeding bird, smooth newt, common frog, badger and otter surveys for a wide range of residential and commercial projects. Laura is also proficient in the use of Geographic Information System (GIS).

Dr Erfan Fadaei BSc (Hons) ACIEEM is a Senior Ecologist with eight years' experience carrying out a wide range of ecological surveys including bat, wintering and breeding bird, badger, pine marten, otter, smooth newt, common lizard, deer, and invasive species. Erfan is a competent

habitat surveyor and has carried out numerous surveys using both Phase 1 and NVC methods. Erfan is proficient in the use of GIS and has significant experience of conducting various ecological assessments, from Preliminary Ecological Appraisals to Ecological Impact Assessments.