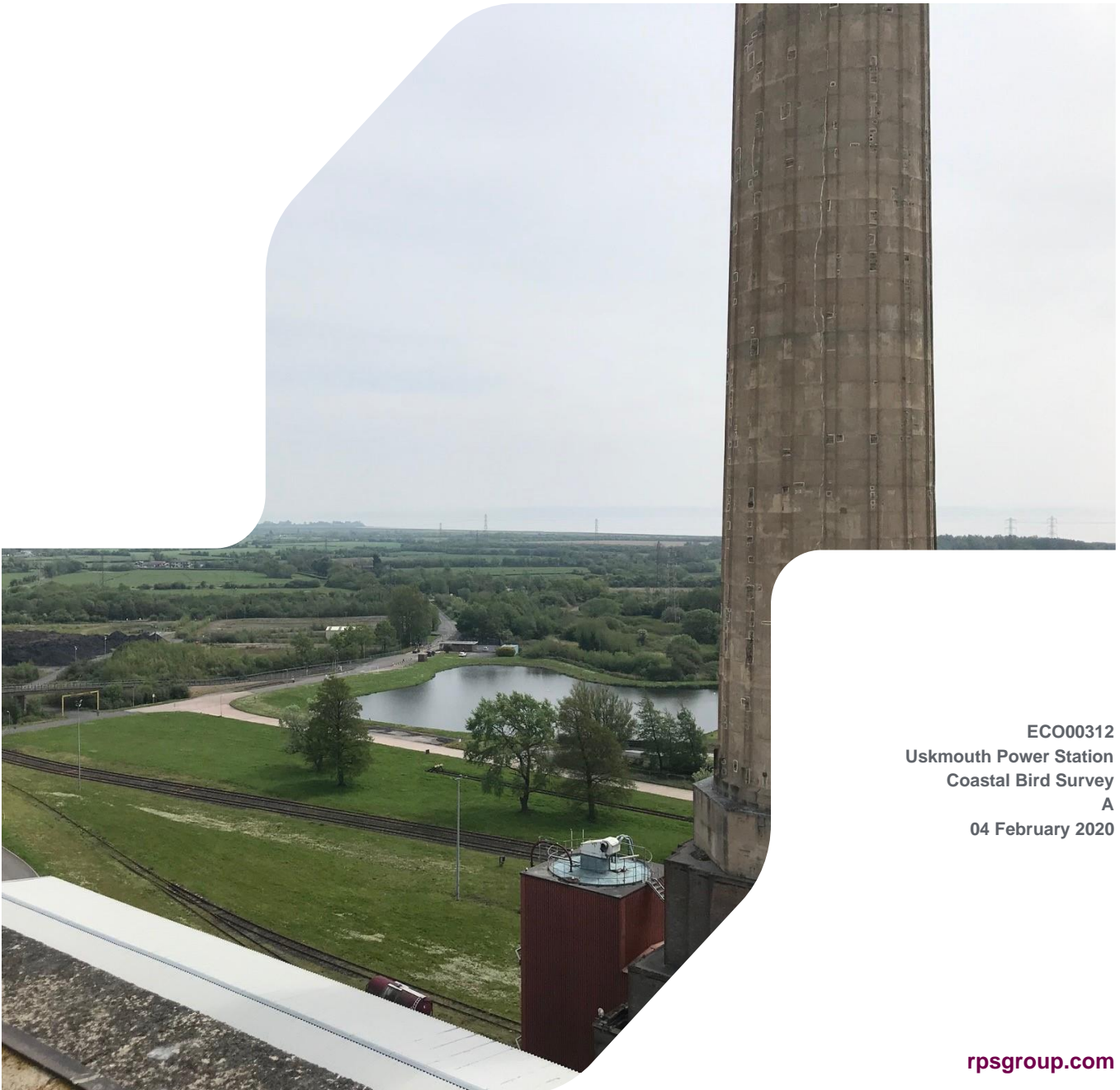


# USKMOUTH POWER STATION

## Coastal Bird Survey



ECO00312  
Uskmouth Power Station  
Coastal Bird Survey  
A  
04 February 2020

## REPORT

### Document status

Version	Purpose of document	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Review date
A		Kate Davies	Laura White	Tim Oliver	04/02/20

### Approval for issue

Tim Oliver

[Signature]

4 February 2020

© Copyright RPS Group Plc. All rights reserved.

The report has been prepared for the exclusive use of our client and unless otherwise agreed in writing by RPS Group Plc, any of its subsidiaries, or a related entity (collectively 'RPS'), no other party may use, make use of, or rely on the contents of this report. The report has been compiled using the resources agreed with the client and in accordance with the scope of work agreed with the client. No liability is accepted by RPS for any use of this report, other than the purpose for which it was prepared. The report does not account for any changes relating to the subject matter of the report, or any legislative or regulatory changes that have occurred since the report was produced and that may affect the report. RPS does not accept any responsibility or liability for loss whatsoever to any third party caused by, related to or arising out of any use or reliance on the report.

RPS accepts no responsibility for any documents or information supplied to RPS by others and no legal liability arising from the use by others of opinions or data contained in this report. It is expressly stated that no independent verification of any documents or information supplied by others has been made. RPS has used reasonable skill, care and diligence in compiling this report and no warranty is provided as to the report's accuracy. No part of this report may be copied or reproduced, by any means, without the prior written consent of RPS.

Prepared by:

**RPS**

Kate Davies  
Consultant Ecologist

Park House  
Greyfriars Road  
Cardiff  
CF10 3AF

**T** +44 2920 668 662

**E** kate.davies@rpsgroup.com

Prepared for:

**SIMEC Atlantis Energy**

Cara Donovan  
Environment and Consents Manager

4th floor, Edinburgh Quay 2,  
139 Fountainbridge,  
Edinburgh,  
EH3 9QG

**T** 07469 854 528

**E** cara.donovan@simecatlantis.com

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.2	Site Description .....	1
	Power Station .....	1
1.3	Legislation .....	1
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) .....	1
	European Commission (EC) Birds Directive .....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>METHODS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Desk Study .....	3
2.2	Field Survey .....	3
2.3	Limitations .....	4
<b>3</b>	<b>RESULTS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Desk Study .....	5
	International Statutory Designations .....	5
	Severn Estuary SPA .....	5
	Severn Estuary Ramsar .....	5
	Other Statutory Designations .....	5
	Newport Wetlands SSSI and National Nature Reserve (NNR).....	5
3.2	Field Survey .....	6
	Severn Estuary SPA Qualifying Species .....	6
	Redshank .....	6
	Curlew .....	6
	Shelduck.....	6
	Severn Estuary Assemblage Species .....	6
	Teal .....	7
	Mallard.....	7
	Tufted Duck .....	7
	Wigeon .....	7
	Shoveler .....	7
	Schedule 1 Species .....	7
	Other Target Species .....	7
<b>4</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS .....</b>	<b>9</b>

## Tables

Table 2.1	Survey dates, surveyors and times. ....	3
Table 3.1	Summary of target species data from 2018-2019 surveys.....	8

## Figures

- Figure 1. (ECO00312-ECO-019) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 1
- Figure 2. (ECO00312-ECO-020) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 2
- Figure 3. (ECO00312-ECO-021) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 3
- Figure 4. (ECO00312-ECO-022) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 4
- Figure 5. (ECO00312-ECO-023) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 5
- Figure 6. (ECO00312-ECO-024) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 6

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 RPS were commissioned by SIMEC Energy Atlantic Ltd to undertake a coastal bird survey of intertidal habitats adjoining the Uskmouth Power Station at Uskmouth near Newport with the operational site centred on the Ordnance Survey grid reference SN141072.

## 1.2 Site Description

### Power Station

- 1.2.1 The Uskmouth Power Station Site is approximately 3ha in extent and centred on Ordnance Survey Grid Ref SN141072. The site comprises two main power station compounds, the operational gas fired power station (Power Station A), and the currently non-operational coal fired power station (Power Station B), both of which comprise large buildings, with various ancillary structures, cooling towers, and areas of bare ground, plant, and hardstanding. An electricity sub-station lies to the west of the gas fired power station.
- 1.2.2 South of the power station buildings is a Coal Storage Area and a reservoir known as Lamby's Lake. In the south-western part of the site two large raised landforms made from ash spoil have been restored and now support dense scrub, bramble, neutral grassland and tall herb vegetation.
- 1.2.3 A previously operational railway line running east-west through the power station site supports a sparsely vegetated ground cover and this is bounded by scrub and woodland.
- 1.2.4 Two drains on the northern and southern sides of the railway line and are largely covered by dense scrub and bramble thicket. A ditch is present on the south-eastern boundary and connects to a ditch that runs along the southern boundary of the power station site.
- 1.2.5 The power station site adjoins the River Usk estuary shoreline with the Newport Uskmouth Sailing club based to the edge of the estuary to the north of the power station site. Reed and saltmarsh habitats occur in the intertidal areas with a narrow belt of scrub / woodland on the edge. To the north-west of the site there is a tidal creek, known as Julian's Pill, adjoining the northern site boundary. The River Usk including the tidal creek is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Julian's Reen flows through a wide culvert beneath the railway line and site access track into Julian's Pill.
- 1.2.6 The River Usk flows into the Severn Estuary to the western side of the power station site. The Severn Estuary is designated as a SSSI, Special Protection Area (SPA) SAC and Ramsar site and adjoins the power station to the south and west.
- 1.2.7 To the south, the power station site adjoins the Newport Wetlands SSSI and National Nature Reserve (NNR). A deep ditch, bounded on both sides by dense continuous scrub, forms the boundary with both the SSSI and the adjacent sewage treatment works. Extensive scrub and grassland are located on the boundary of the SSSI adjoining the power station.

## 1.3 Legislation

- 1.3.1 A summary of legislation relevant to the ornithological receptors identified during this baseline survey is presented below for reference.

### Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

- 1.3.2 All wild birds in the UK are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA). Schedule 1 bird species are those listed on Schedule 1 (Part 1) of the WCA, under which there are special penalties for contravention of the provisions of the Act, including for disturbance to breeding birds. Birds listed under Schedule 1 (Part 1) are protected by special penalties at all times of the year.
- 1.3.3 It is an offence under the act to intentionally or recklessly:

- Kill, injure or take a wild bird;
- Take, damage, destroy or interfere with a nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built;
- Obstruct or prevent any wild bird from using its nest;
- Take or destroy an egg of any wild bird;
- Disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 whilst it is building a nest or is in, on, or near, a nest containing eggs or young; and
- Disturb the dependent young of any wild bird listed on Schedule 1

1.3.4 For Schedule 1 bird species, a licence is required from the appropriate statutory nature conservation agency to carry out activities that may disturb birds while they are building a nest or are in, on, or near, a nest containing eggs or young; or disturbance of the dependent young.

### European Commission (EC) Birds Directive

1.3.5 Bird species listed on Annex I of the EC Directive of the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) are “the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution”.

1.3.6 In addition, Annex I species are protected from:

- deliberate killing or capture by any method;
- deliberate destruction of, or damage to, their nests and eggs or removal of their nests; and
- deliberate disturbance, particularly during the period of breeding and rearing, in so far as disturbance would be significant, having regard to the objectives of the Directive.

## 2 METHODS

### 2.1 Desk Study

2.1.1 Information on the following nature conservation designation sites (where they support overwinter/passage ornithological features of interest) was sought from the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside<sup>1</sup> and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee website<sup>2</sup>.

- Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within 10 km of the proposed site boundary;
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within 5 km of the proposed site boundary;
- National Nature Reserves (including RSPB and Wildlife Trust Reserves) within 5km of the site boundary

### 2.2 Field Survey

2.2.1 The survey methodology utilised was based on the methodologies developed by the BTO for the WeBS and consisted of both Core Count and Low Tide Count methods (Gilbert et al, 1998). WeBS Low Tide Counts are used to determine the spatial distribution of birds across a site and the relative importance of different areas, while WeBS Core Counts are carried out at high tide when wading birds gather into roost sites and are more easily counted. Together, these counts give accurate counts of the number of birds using a site.

2.2.2 Two survey visits were undertaken on a monthly basis at both high and low tide. Visits were carried out during the core winter months as well as during the spring passage period from December 2018 – May 2019. Surveys were undertaken by Kate Davies (Grad CIEEM) and Mike Shewring (MCIEEM, CECOL), dates of surveys can be found in Table 2.1.

2.2.3 Wildfowl (ducks, geese and swans), waders, rails, divers, grebes, cormorants and herons were considered target species. Surveys covered intertidal habitats within 500 m of the eastern half of the power station which could be indirectly disturbed by proposed development.

2.2.4 The survey predominately focused on Julian's Pill to the north of the site, and other intertidal habitats of the River Usk adjoining the north-western boundary. Bird activity of Lamby's Lake, a man made reservoir within the site was also recorded.

2.2.5 Due to the size of the site, surveyors systematically moved between many suitable vantage points and utilised a 'look and see' methodology to maximise coverage of the large survey area. All birds utilising the survey area were recorded. Surveys were carried out from one hour prior to the target high or low tidal state to one hour after<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 2.1 Survey dates, surveyors and times.**

Date	Surveyors	Tidal state	Tide time
10/12/2018	Kate Davies Mike Shewring	High	08:42
20/12/2018	Mike Shewring	Low	11:14
24/01/2019	Kate Davies	High	09:29

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.magic.gov.uk/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> WeBS survey methodology for Core Counts/High Tide Counts refers to completing counts within a 4 hour window around High Tide. A two hour time period around high tide was used in this assessment as this was the highest state of the tidal cycle and allowed sufficient time to cover the survey areas.

## REPORT

---

07/02/2019 (January survey)	Kate Davies	Low	15:15
26/03/2019	Kate Davies	High	10:30
26/03/2019	Kate Davies	Low	16:36
18/04/2019	Kate Davies	Low	13:54
29/04/2019	Kate Davies	High	16:12
17/05/2019	Kate Davies	Low	13:21
29/05/2019	Kate Davies	High	16:14

---

## 2.3 Limitations

2.3.1 The surveys were carried out from early December and the autumn passage period was not covered.



## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Desk Study

#### International Statutory Designations

- 3.1.1 Both the Severn Estuary SPA and the Severn Estuary Ramsar border the site to the south west with the wintering bird populations qualifying reasons from there designation.

#### Severn Estuary SPA

- 3.1.2 The Severn Estuary SPA adjoins the site to the south and west. The SPA covers 24700.91 ha and comprises extensive intertidal mud-flats and sand-flats, rocky platforms and islands. Saltmarsh fringes are backed by grazing marsh with freshwater ditches and occasional brackish ditches. The SPA is designated for the following bird species and assemblages (population percentages are a 5 year peak mean for 1991/2 to 1995/6):
- Habitats Directive Annex 1 species over winter: Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*, at least 4.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain.
  - Migratory bird species on passage: ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, at least 1.3% of the Europe/Northern Africa - wintering population.
  - Migratory species over winter: Curlew *Numenius arquata*, 3,903 individuals representing at least 1.1% of the wintering Europe - breeding population; dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*, at least 3.2% of the wintering Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa population; pintail *Anas acuta*, at least 1.0% of the wintering Northwestern Europe population; redshank *Tringa totanus*, at least 1.6% of the wintering Eastern Atlantic; and shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*, at least 1.1% of the wintering Northwestern Europe population.
  - Assemblage (Wetland of International Importance): gadwall *Anas strepera*, shelduck, pintail, dunlin, curlew, redshank, Bewick's Swan, wigeon *Anas penelope*, lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, teal *Anas crecca*, mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*, shoveler *Anas clypeata*, pochard *Aythya ferina*, tufted duck *Aythya fuligula*, grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, white-fronted goose *Anser albifrons albifrons* and whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*.

#### Severn Estuary Ramsar

- 3.1.3 The Severn Estuary Ramsar designation is partially based on the following ornithological criteria:
- The site supports an assemblage of waterfowl of international importance including 6 species with internationally important populations: Bewick's swan, gadwall, dunlin, shelduck, redshank and white-fronted goose.

#### Other Statutory Designations

##### Newport Wetlands SSSI and National Nature Reserve (NNR)

- 3.1.4 Newport Wetlands SSSI and NNR borders the site along the southern boundary with a reen (hereafter referred to as the boundary reen) acting as the boundary between the sites.
- 3.1.5 Newport Wetlands SSSI and NNR covers an area of 374.2ha and is designated for its breeding and over-wintering birds, invertebrates and aquatic and marginal flora. In winter, Newport Wetlands support nationally (UK) important numbers of shoveler *Anas clypeata* and black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa*. During the summer, the wet grasslands, saline lagoons and reedbeds on the site support an exceptional variety of breeding birds, including nationally (UK) important breeding populations of avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*, redshank, lapwing, water rail *Rallus aquaticus*, Cetti's warbler *Cettia cetti* and bearded tit *Panurus biarmicus*. The aquatic invertebrate assemblage is very diverse and includes many nationally rare and scarce species including the great silver water beetle *Hydrophilus*



*piceus*, the water beetle *Hydaticus transversalis* and the ornate brigadier soldierfly *Odontomyia ornate*, the spider *Tetragnatha striata* and shrill carder bee *Bombus sylvarum* is found throughout the site. Variations in ditch type and water regime management enables the watercourses to support a rich diversity of plant species including curly pondweed *Potamogeton crispus*, rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* and stoneworts *Chara* spp. The reedbeds at Newport Wetlands are the largest within the south-east Wales area.

## 3.2 Field Survey

- 3.2.1 A total of 16 target species were recorded during the 2018/2019 winter and passage WeBS surveys. A breakdown of those recorded along with peak counts, legislation pertaining to the species, numbers considered important and their inclusion on any nearby designated sites can be found in Table 3.1.
- 3.2.2 Due to the relatively small area of the study area and the time the surveyor to carry out the survey the peak counts were taken from the total number of individuals recorded throughout each survey. The full results of each survey can be found in Figures 1 to 6.
- 3.2.3 In addition to those species discussed below and in Table 3.1 a number of gull species were noted within the survey area including black-headed gull, herring gull and lesser black-backed gull. These species were recorded intermittently and in low numbers.

## Severn Estuary SPA Qualifying Species

- 3.2.4 The Severn Estuary qualifies as an SPA under Article 4.2 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by regularly supporting at least 1% of the biogeographical populations of the following regularly occurring migratory species during the winter period and on passage; ringed plover (on passage), curlew (over winter), dunlin (over winter), pintail (over winter), redshank (over winter), and shelduck (over winter).
- 3.2.5 A total of three Severn Estuary SPA qualifying species were recorded within the survey area; curlew, redshank and shelduck and the levels of activity are described below. Redshank and shelduck are also listed under the Severn Estuary Ramsar designation.

### Redshank

- 3.2.6 Redshank were recorded during every survey during the core winter months with the highest numbers recorded at high tide. Peak counts of 88 and 35 were recorded within the survey area for both high and low tide respectively. Redshank were regularly recorded roosting within Julian's Pill, both just east of the power station outlet and on the northern shore opposite the outlet.

### Curlew

- 3.2.7 Curlew were recorded within the survey area in low numbers (peak count of two and three at high and low tide respectively) during the months of December through to March, the majority of records were made during low tide surveys. Curlew utilised the River Usk estuary shoreline to forage on the exposed mudflats at low tide.

### Shelduck

- 3.2.8 Shelduck were recorded infrequently and in low numbers during the 2018-2019 surveys. Shelduck were recorded during two surveys at counts of five and seven during March and May respectively. Both of these counts were made during the low tide surveys where shelduck were recorded foraging on the mudflats along the River Usk estuary shoreline.

## Severn Estuary Assemblage Species

- 3.2.9 The Severn Estuary SPA also qualifies under article 4.2 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by regularly supporting over 20,000 waterbirds in any season. In the non-breeding season, the area regularly supports 93,986 individual water birds (five year peak mean 1991/92-1995/6), including: gadwall, wigeon, lapwing, teal, mallard, shoveler, pochard, tufted duck, grey plover, white-fronted goose and

whimbrel. A total of five of these species were recorded during this 2018-2019 survey including wigeon, teal, mallard, shoveler and tufted duck and are described further below.

### Teal

- 3.2.10 Teal were recorded using the survey area during every survey within the core winter months, with birds absent from the area during surveys from April. Teal were recorded during both high and low tide surveys with a peak count of 167 and 59 respectively. The majority of teal records were birds utilising Julian's Pill, with this area used regularly in both tidal states. Surveys during low tide also recorded birds utilising the shoreline of the River Usk estuary, particularly at the confluence of Julian's Pill.

### Mallard

- 3.2.11 Mallard were recorded in relatively low numbers throughout every survey with peak counts of 51 and 20 during high tide and low tide surveys respectively. The peak count of 51 was made during May with 6 individuals being ducklings. Mallard were primarily associated with Julian's Pill as well as the confluence with the River Usk at low tide.

### Tufted Duck

- 3.2.12 Tufted duck were recorded intermittently throughout the surveys and at relatively low numbers. Peak counts of both eight and six were recorded during high and low water surveys respectively. Tufted duck were recorded during both surveys in January and February as well as the high tide survey in May. All records of tufted duck within the survey area were made at Lamby's Lake with individuals using the area to forage and lough on the water.

### Wigeon

- 3.2.13 One record of a single wigeon was made during the 2018-2019 surveys during the January low tide survey. The individual was amongst small numbers of mallards and teal at the confluence of Julian's pill and the River Usk. An incidental record for a flock of ~80 wigeon was also made on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 during a breeding bird survey. The flock was noted at the shoreline of the River Usk estuary at its estuary into the Bristol channel.

### Shoveler

- 3.2.14 A single record of shoveler was made during the 2018-2019 surveys. This was during the high tide survey in January where a single bird was identified foraging on Lamby's Lake within the power station grounds.

### Schedule 1 Species

- 3.2.15 Two species listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded during the 2018-2019 surveys.
- 3.2.16 Both greenshank and black-tailed godwit were recorded at low numbers and infrequently. Black-tailed godwit was recorded within the survey area of three occasions with counts of four recorded during the January low tide survey and February high tide survey. An individual was also recorded during the low tide survey in February. During the January low tide survey birds were recorded foraging on the mudflats at confluence of Julian's Pill and the River Usk. Birds were also recorded roosting along Julian's Pill on the northern shore just east of the power station outlet.
- 3.2.17 Greenshank were recorded within the site on one occasion; during the high tide February survey. This record was of an individual roosting along Julian's Pill in the vicinity of the black-tailed godwits noted above and a flock of redshank.

### Other Target Species

- 3.2.18 In addition to those species previously discussed, oystercatcher, coot and grey heron which are listed as Amber species of conservation concern in Wales were also recorded. These species were

recorded infrequently and in low numbers. Two records of oystercatcher were made during both the February high tide survey and January low tide survey, peak counts for this species was two. Coot were also recorded on two occasions, both were of one individual during both the January low and high tide surveys. One record of heron was made of one individual foraging during the January low tide survey.

- 3.2.19 In addition, moorhen, little grebe and mute swan were also recorded during the 2018-2019 surveys. Moorhen were recorded during both the high and low tide January surveys with a peak count of two and one respectively. Mute swan and little grebe were recorded on one occasion each, both at high tide in March and December respectively. Both records were of individual birds.

**Table 3.1 Summary of target species data from 2018-2019 surveys.**

Species	Peak Count (Core counts)	Peak Count (Low Tide)	Legislation <sup>4</sup>	Nationally/ Internationally important numbers <sup>5</sup>	Designated Sites
Mute Swan	1 (March)	-		No 740/320	
Shelduck	-	7 (May)	Amber	No 3000/610	Severn Estuary SPA (Qualifying species) Severn Estuary Ramsar
Wigeon	-	1 (Low)	Amber	No 4400/15000	Severn Estuary SPA (Assemblage)
Teal	167 (January)	59 (February)	Amber	No 2100/5000	Severn Estuary SPA (Assemblage)
Mallard	51 (May – 6 ducklings)	20 (January)	Amber	No 6800/45000	Severn Estuary SPA (Assemblage)
Shoveler	1 (January)	-	Amber	No 180/400	Severn Estuary SPA (Assemblage) Newport Wetlands SSSI & NNR
Tufted Duck	8 (January)	6 (February)		No 1100/12000	Severn Estuary SPA (Assemblage)
Grey Heron	-	1 (January)	Amber	No 610/2700	
Little Grebe	1 (December)	-		No 160/3900	
Moorhen	2 (January)	1 (January)		No 3200/20000	
Coot	1 (January)	1 (January)	Amber	No 1800/17500	
Oystercatcher	2 (February)	1 (January)	Amber	No 3200/8200	
Curlew	2 (February)	3 (March)	Red	No 1400/8400	Severn Estuary SPA (Qualifying species)
Black-tailed Godwit	4 (February)	4 (January)	Sch1; Amber	No 430/610	Newport Wetlands SSSI & NNR
Greenshank	1 (February)	-	Sch1	No 6/2300	
Redshank	88 (December)	35 (March)	Red	No 1200/2400	Severn Estuary SPA (Qualifying species) Severn Estuary Ramsar

<sup>4</sup> Listed as Red or Amber bird of conservation concern in Wales (Wales BoCC 2016); sch1 – listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act as amended 1981

<sup>5</sup> BTO Threshold Levels for sites considered either nationally or internationally important for supporting 1% of national/international population

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 During the 2018-2019 winter and passage period surveys an assemblage of species were recorded including a number which are listed as either qualifying or assemblage species associated with the Severn Estuary SPA. In addition, to those considered under the nearby SPA a number of Schedule 1 and red/amber list species of conservation concern in Wales were also recorded using the survey area.
- 4.1.2 Of those species listed as qualifying species under the Severn Estuary SPA, redshank was the most frequently recorded, as well as relatively infrequent records for curlew and shelduck. Redshank tended to favour Julian's Pill which they utilised for roosting and appeared to move towards and within the River Usk estuary shoreline for foraging. Peak numbers for this species were recorded during the high tide counts (peak count 88 individuals). The favoured roosting location appeared to be the shore of Julian's Pill in the vicinity of the power station outlet location.
- 4.1.3 Both shelduck and curlew were recorded utilising the shore of the River Usk, primarily for foraging and loafing, Peak counts for these species were seven and three respectively.
- 4.1.4 A total of five assemblage species of the Severn Estuary SPA were recorded, all of which were waterfowl species including teal, mallard, tufted duck, wigeon and shoveler. Teal was the most frequently recorded of these species, particularly during the core winter months. Teal were most frequently recorded in highest numbers within Julian's pill, using the sheltered area for loafing and foraging. Mallard were recorded during each survey visit. Mallard were regularly found within larger flocks of teal on Julian's Pill or in smaller numbers loafing on the mudflats of the River Usk. Wigeon were recorded on one occasion with an individual bird loafing amongst further waterfowl. In addition a further incidental record of a larger flock of approximately 80 wigeon was made at the River Usk estuary. Small numbers of tufted duck and mallard were recorded utilising Lamby's Lake during the core winter months. A single teal on one occasion in April. This area was most likely utilised for a foraging area by birds from the adjacent Newport Wetlands NNR.
- 4.1.5 Shoveler and black-tailed godwit is also noted under the Newport Wetlands SSSI due to it supporting a nationally important overwintering population. Black-tailed godwit was recorded utilising the site for both foraging and roosting on three occasions. These were in small numbers (peak count of 4) and are likely to be part of the wider population supported by the adjacent wetlands.
- 4.1.6 The results of this 2018-2019 winter and passage survey has identified frequent use of the more sheltered area of Julian's Pill being utilised by species such as redshank, teal and mallard for roosting and loafing. With occasional use during the core winter months by black-tailed godwit and greenshank. During low tide species such as redshank were recorded in lower numbers foraging along the River Usk mudflats along with species such as curlew and shelduck.
- 4.1.7 Due to the presence of qualifying and assemblage species listed under the nearby Severn Estuary SPA any works within the vicinity of areas supporting these species will require suitable mitigation in order to avoid any negative impacts upon the designated site. Any potential impacts on the nearby Severn Estuary SPA will also be considered within a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).

## FIGURES

- **Figure 1.** (ECO00312-ECO-019) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 1
- **Figure 2.** (ECO00312-ECO-020) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 2
- **Figure 3.** (ECO00312-ECO-021) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 3
- **Figure 4.** (ECO00312-ECO-022) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 4
- **Figure 5.** (ECO00312-ECO-023) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 5
- **Figure 6.** (ECO00312-ECO-024) Coastal Bird Survey Visit 6



\\CARD-PH-02\\Env\\Planning\\Projects\\Current projects\\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\\4. Data & Fieldwork\\GIS\\Ecology- Internal use\\Ecology- Internal use.aprx



© 2019 RPS Group  
Notes  
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.  
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

Legend

Approximate Site Boundary

December 2018

High Tide

Low Tide

Roosting

Foraging

Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: rpssw@rpsgroup.com

Client SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project Uskmouth Power Station

Title Figure 1. Coastal Bird Survey -Visit 1

Status DRAFT Drawn By LW PM/Checked By TO

Project Number ECO00312 Scale @ A3 1:4,600 Date Created OCT 2019

Drawing Number ECO00312-ECO-019 Rev -

rpsgroup.com

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



\\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanning\Projects\Current projects\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\4. Data & Fieldwork\GIS\Ecology- Internal use\Ecology- Internal use.aprx



© 2019 RPS Group  
Notes  
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.  
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

**Legend**

Approximate Site Boundary

**January 2019**

High Tide

Low Tide

Roosting

Foraging

Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: rpssw@rpsgroup.com

Client SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project Uskmouth Power Station

Title Figure 2. Coastal Bird Survey - Visit 2

Status DRAFT Drawn By LW PM/Checked By TO

Project Number ECO00312 Scale @ A3 1:3,150 Date Created OCT 2019

Drawing Number ECO00312-ECO-020 Rev -

rpsgroup.com

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

© Crown copyright, All rights reserved. 2019 License number 0100031673,10001998,100048492. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019.



\\CARD-PH-02\\Env\\PlanningProjects\\Current projects\\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\\4. Data & Fieldwork\\GIS\\Ecology- Internal use.aprx



© 2019 RPS Group

Notes

1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.

2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

**Legend**

Approximate Site Boundary

**February 2019**

High Tide

Low Tide

Roosting

Foraging

Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

MAKING  
COMPLEX  
EASY

260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: [rpssw@rpsgroup.com](mailto:rpssw@rpsgroup.com)

Client     SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project    Uskmouth Power Station

Title       Figure 3. Coastal Bird Survey -Visit 3

Status	Drawn By	PM/Checked By
DRAFT	LW	-
Project Number	Scale @ A3	Date Created
ECO00312	1:2,750	OCT 2019
Drawing Number		Rev
ECO00312-ECO-021		-

[rpsgroup.com](http://rpsgroup.com)

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

© Crown copyright, All rights reserved. 2019 License number 0100031673,10001998,100048492. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019.



\\CARD-PH-02\\EnvPlanningProjects\\Current projects\\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\\4. Data & Fieldwork\\GIS\\Ecology- Internal use.aprx



© 2019 RPS Group  
Notes  
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.  
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

**Legend**  

Approximate Site Boundary

**March 2019**  

High Tide

Low Tide

Roosting

Foraging

Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

MAKING  
COMPLEX  
EASY

260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: [rpssw@rpsgroup.com](mailto:rpssw@rpsgroup.com)

Client

SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project

Uskmouth Power Station

Title

Figure 4. Coastal Bird Survey - Visit 4

Status

DRAFT

Drawn By

LW

PM/Checked By

-

Project Number

ECO00312

Scale @ A3

1:4,250

Date Created

OCT 2019

Drawing Number

ECO00312-ECO-022

Rev

-

[rpsgroup.com](http://rpsgroup.com)

Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



\\CARD-PH-02\Env\Planning\Projects\Current projects\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\4. Data & Fieldwork\GIS\Ecology- Internal use.aprx



© 2019 RPS Group  
Notes  
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.  
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

**Legend**

- Approximate Site Boundary
- April 2019**
- Hide Tide
- Low Tide
- Foraging
- Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: rpssw@rpsgroup.com

Client SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project Uskmouth Power Station

Title Figure 5. Coastal Bird Survey - Visit 5

Status DRAFT Drawn By LW PM/Checked By -

Project Number ECO00312 Scale @ A3 1:3,400 Date Created OCT 2019

Drawing Number ECO00312-ECO-023 Rev -

rpsgroup.com

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



\\CAPD-PH-02\Env\Planning\Projects\Current projects\B ECO00312 Uskmouth power station EIA (Bristol)\4. Data & Fieldwork\GIS\Ecology- Internal use.aprx




© 2019 RPS Group  
Notes  
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.  
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

- Legend**
- Approximate Site Boundary
  - May 2019**
  - High Tide
  - Low Tide
  - Roosting
  - Foraging
  - Loafing

Individual count (if higher than 1) is provided right of the symbol.

Species	BTO Code
Black-tailed Godwit	BW
Coot	CO
Curlew	CU
Greenshank	GK
Grey Heron	H.
Little Grebe	LG
Mallard	MA
Moorhen	MH
Mute Swan	MS
Oystercatcher	OC
Redshank	RK
Shelduck	SU
Teal	T.
Tufted Duck	TU
Wigeon	WN

1	--	--	--	--
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



260 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4SY  
T: +44(0)1454 853 000 E: [rpssw@rpsgroup.com](mailto:rpssw@rpsgroup.com)

Client SIMEC Atlantis Ltd.

Project Uskmouth Power Station

Title Figure 6. Coastal Bird Survey - Visit 6

Status	Drawn By	PM/Checked By
DRAFT	LW	-
Project Number	Scale @ A3	Date Created
ECO00312	1:4,000	OCT 2019
Drawing Number		Rev
ECO00312-ECO-0024		-

[rpsgroup.com](http://rpsgroup.com)