

Milgate Farm – Additional Storage

MANAGEMENT OF REPITE RECEPTOR SITE



March 2021

This statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for additional caravan and motorhome storage at Milgate Farm in Hawkinge.

As part of the consultation process the EA have requested that a Reptile Receptor site is provided to mitigate the loss of an area suitable for Reptiles.

The scheme includes the removal of 75m of hedge row to enable the additional parking. However, the landscape proposals include planting an additional 125 linear meters of hedgerow to replace and create new habitats for species.

As indicated on the site plan below Reptile Receptor site will be provided on an uncultivated margin consisting of an overgrown grass bank with scrub and native species to the southern boundary of the site; being adjacent to the proposed development area it is ideal due to close proximity.

This was formed in 2012 and has a mix of grass scrub and natural vegetation that is an ideal habitat for reptiles. The total area for the proposed site as hatched in green is 615m²; the area of the hedgerow for removal is 315m² therefore there is a significant increase in the area for the proposed.

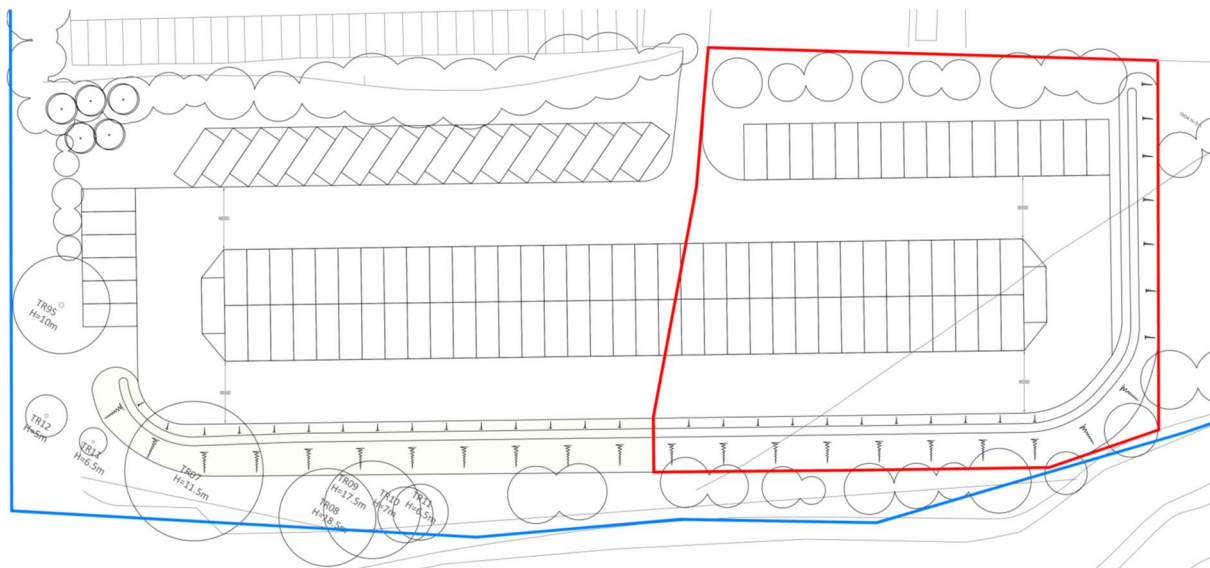


Image 1: Proposed Receptor Site hatched in green and adjacent to the proposed area of works.

The client is looking to follow the advice from the projects Ecology Consultant Katia Bresso and manage this site with a half cut annually in August – September using handheld machinery only, to 15cm height minimum during sunny conditions.

The selection, location and maintenance of the proposed receptor site are all in accordance with the recommendations set out in Natural England's Technical Information Note TIN 102 – Reptile Mitigation Guidelines.



Image 2: Photo of existing grass bank which is proposed to be the Reptile Receptor Site.