



**Somerset**  
Wildlife Trust

Invitation to tender for:

**Ditching at three Somerset Wildlife Trust sites  
& phase 3 hydrological interventions for one of those sites (Honeygar).**

The deadline for responses to this tender is **5pm 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025**.

The final output from the work must be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Tenders should be e-mailed to Finlay Clothier at  
[finlay.clothier@somersetwildlife.org](mailto:finlay.clothier@somersetwildlife.org).

**SPECIES  
SURVIVAL  
FUND**



Funded by  
UK Government

Heritage  
Fund

Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT) annually delivers ditch maintenance work to establish a functioning ditch system of varying age structure and high biodiversity.

SWT invite you to tender for **ditching** across three sites on the Avalon Marshes: Catcott, Tealham Moor, and Honeygar. As well as the ditching work, SWT would like to provide an opportunity for contractors to apply to tender for **phase 3 of hydrological interventions** at Honeygar, as a combined tender.

## Background

### About Somerset Wildlife Trust

SWT is a local independent charity and the only organisation uniquely focused on improving the natural environment of Somerset for the benefit of wildlife and people. We champion Somerset's stunning, diverse, and important natural environment, making the case for nature to the public and politicians. We protect wildlife and lead the recovery of the environment by example, including on our nature reserves.

SWT is one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across Britain which together with the *Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts* collectively form *The Wildlife Trusts*. We are the biggest charity movement in the UK working solely for nature and we believe that restoring nature on a landscape scale is essential for tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.

The climate and ecological crises require comprehensive, ambitious solutions and urgent action across all sections of society. The crises are also inexorably linked so it is vital that our strategy, '[Wilder Somerset 2030](#)' is delivered with both at its core. We recognise that people are part of the solution and everyone has a role to play in restoring nature and averting the worst of the climate change. Research suggests that if 1 in 4 people in society take action then social tipping points can be achieved and widespread positive change can happen. This underpins one of our key strategic goals and Team Wilder is our delivery approach to inspiring and empowering others to help nature recover.

### Our New Mission

To champion the change needed to rebalance our relationship with wildlife and the natural world.



## Our Goals for 2030:

To ensure that nature is improving across the county, supported by restored natural processes, and is connected and protected through a Nature Recovery Network, with at least 30% of land and sea managed positively for nature.

## About the Project

### Funding by the Government's Species Survival Fund

This project is funded by the Government's Species Survival Fund. The Species Survival Fund supports the creation and restoration of wildlife-rich habitats in England to support species abundance at a landscape, catchment or local scale, either within or outside of protected sites.

The fund was developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies. It is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency.

### Species Survival Fund – Bogs and Bitterns: Somerset wetland restoration NL-23\_00073

The primary aim is to create, restore and enhance 54 ha of wetland habitats, establishing seven key stepping stone sites in the Avalon Marshes between Westhay village and Glastonbury to support species abundance and to balance local hydrology to mitigate a changing climate.

The project runs from April 2024 until 28 February 2026. The project will deliver habitat creation, restoration/enhancement capital works at seven sites:

Ref	Project site	Ownership	Designation	Area to create/restore
1	Westhay South (former maize Fields)	SWT owned land - purchased July 2023	Currently not designated.	14 ha
2	Westhay Moor	SWT owned site	National Nature Reserve, SSSI.	Approx. 3 ha of 106 ha site
3	Catcott reserves	SWT owned site	Nature Reserve, SSSI	Approx. 4 ha of 73 ha site
4	Westhay Heath	SWT owned site	Nature Reserve complex, SSSI	5.5 ha
5	Tealham Moor	SWT owned site	Nature Reserve, SSSI	Approx. 3 ha of 44.81 ha site
6	Honeygar	SWT owned site	Undesignated former dairy-farm under restoration.	11.76 ha
7	Beckery Fields	Land owned by Somerset County Council & Friends of St Brides Mound	No nature designation, contains scheduled monument managed by South West Heritage Trust.	13 ha

# The Brief

## Catcott & Tealham Moor – ditching

- 12 days ditching split between Catcott and Tealham Moor.
- Vegetation is to be removed from the ditch and brought back onto our fields, spread to a maximum distance of 2 m into the field.
- Works can commence from August 25<sup>th</sup> 2025 and must be completed by the end of September 2025.
- Access will be gained via field gates at each field.

## Honeygar – ditching

- Ditch-side cutting required (see **Figure 2** below).
- The window of opportunity for delivery is between August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Work must be carried out sensitively in order to not disturb ditch-side habitats any more than necessary and cause no damage to existing site infrastructure.
- In order to ensure our hydrological interventions continue to function, a bucket must be taken from behind each bund, labelled non-return valve, to mitigate these structures silting up (see hydrological intervention map below – **Figure 3**).

## Honeygar – phase 3 hydrological interventions

The drainage system on Honeygar has been designed over decades to drain and direct water off site to a shared pump location. SWT would like to continue to remove sections of the site from the pump scheme without impacting our neighbour's ability to manage their land. This work will not impact any viewed rhyne.

This work will involve:

- The installation of nine further piling bunds (4 m x 5 m), with 300 mm non-return valves set no more than 20 cm below the top level of the ditch, focusing on field compartments shown in the phase 3 hydrological intervention map (see **Figure 3** for details of each *piling bund*).
- This work is to retain as much rainfall as possible. The non return valve fitted will enable refill of the system from the viewed rhyne if water drops below the pen.
- **Please note:** 3 x metal piling bunds with non-return valves have already been purchased for this work.

Site visits and more detailed maps or photos can be arranged prior to tender or works commencing with the Reserves Manager or Honeygar Wilding Officer, if required by the contractor.

## Timescales

Milestone	Deadline
Deadline of proposal submission	5pm 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
Tender decision	w/c 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Ditching at Honeygar	20 <sup>th</sup> August – 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
12 days of ditching (reserves)	25 <sup>th</sup> August – 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Phase 3 rewetting	Ideally similar August-September window, however, there is more flexibility to work before this (October deadline).

Payment will be made on completion of works.

## Proposal Considerations

Proposals will be assessed on the following criteria (in no particular order):

- Approach
- Experience
- Value for money
- Ability to deliver in the timeframe

## Key Contacts

For information on the ditching works at Catcott and/or Tealham Moor reserves, contact Mark Blake, Senior Reserves Manager – [mark.blake@somersetwildlife.org](mailto:mark.blake@somersetwildlife.org). Please expect a delay in responses w/c 21<sup>st</sup> April due to annual leave.

For information on the ditching works and/or phase 3 rewetting at Honeygar, contact Joe Hampson, Honeygar Wilding Officer – [joe.hampson@somersetwildlife.org](mailto:joe.hampson@somersetwildlife.org).

Please **submit your proposal** to [finlay.clothier@somersetwildlife.org](mailto:finlay.clothier@somersetwildlife.org).

## Proposal Requirements

You are invited to submit a document outlining your proposal – in Word, PDF, or PowerPoint. The following elements should be included in your proposal:

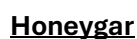
- A brief overview of your experience and details of the individuals who will be taking part in the works.
- Details of the proposed methodology.
- Breakdown of the costs for undertaking the works, including day rate and number of days for each team member.
- Copy of your organisation's Health and Safety at work policy.
- Copy of your Public Liability Insurance (including name of insurer, policy number, expiry date and limits for any one accident and excesses under the policy)

## Supporting information





# Honeygar Ditching Map



The entrance to Honeygar Farm is through a gate on the right hand side before the Godwins site; see [Dropped pin](#) on Google Maps. Please note that there is **NO ENTRANCE** from Honeygar Lane.

Grid Ref: ST42473 42718



# Honeygar Farm Hydrological Interventions

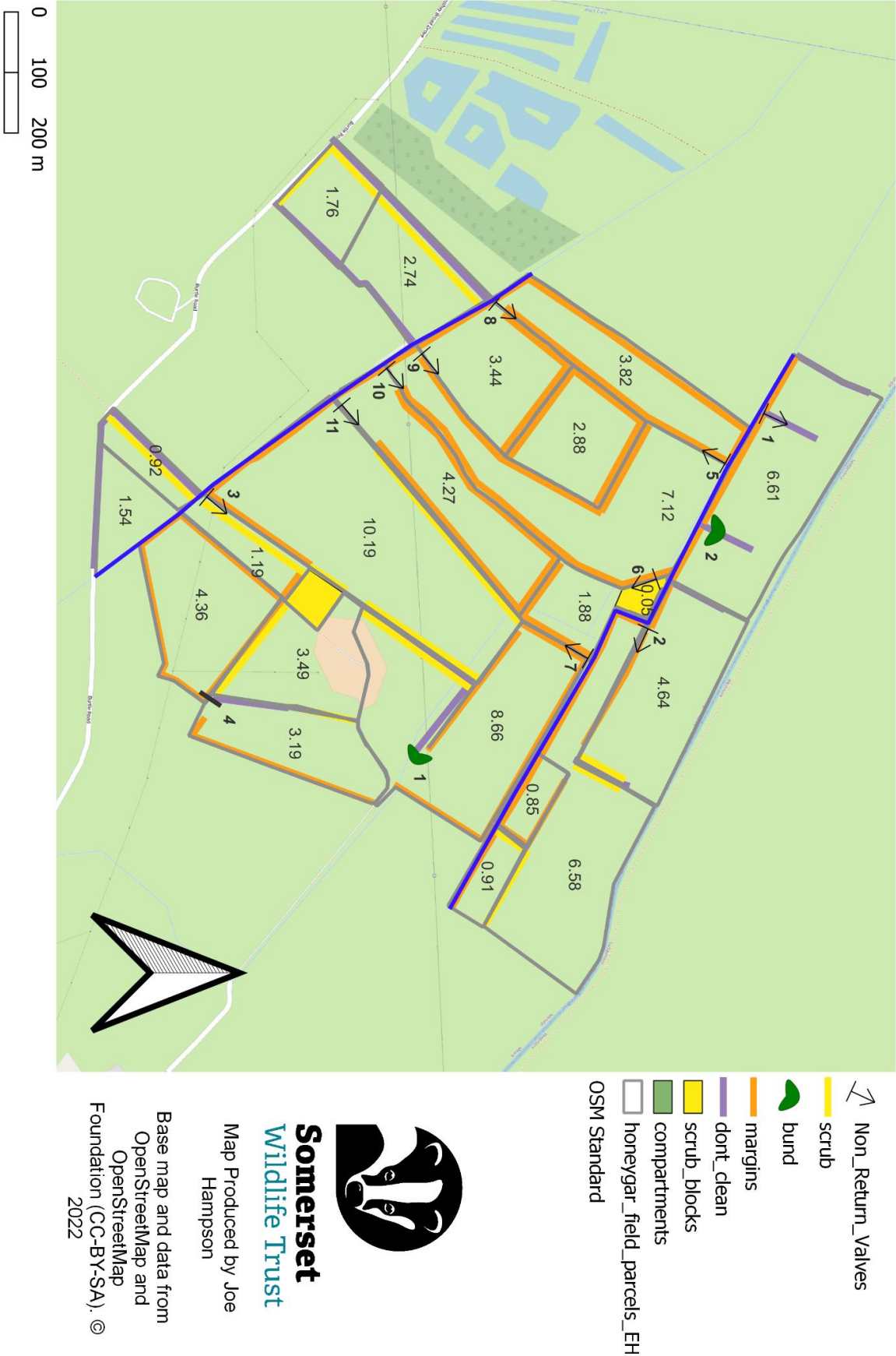
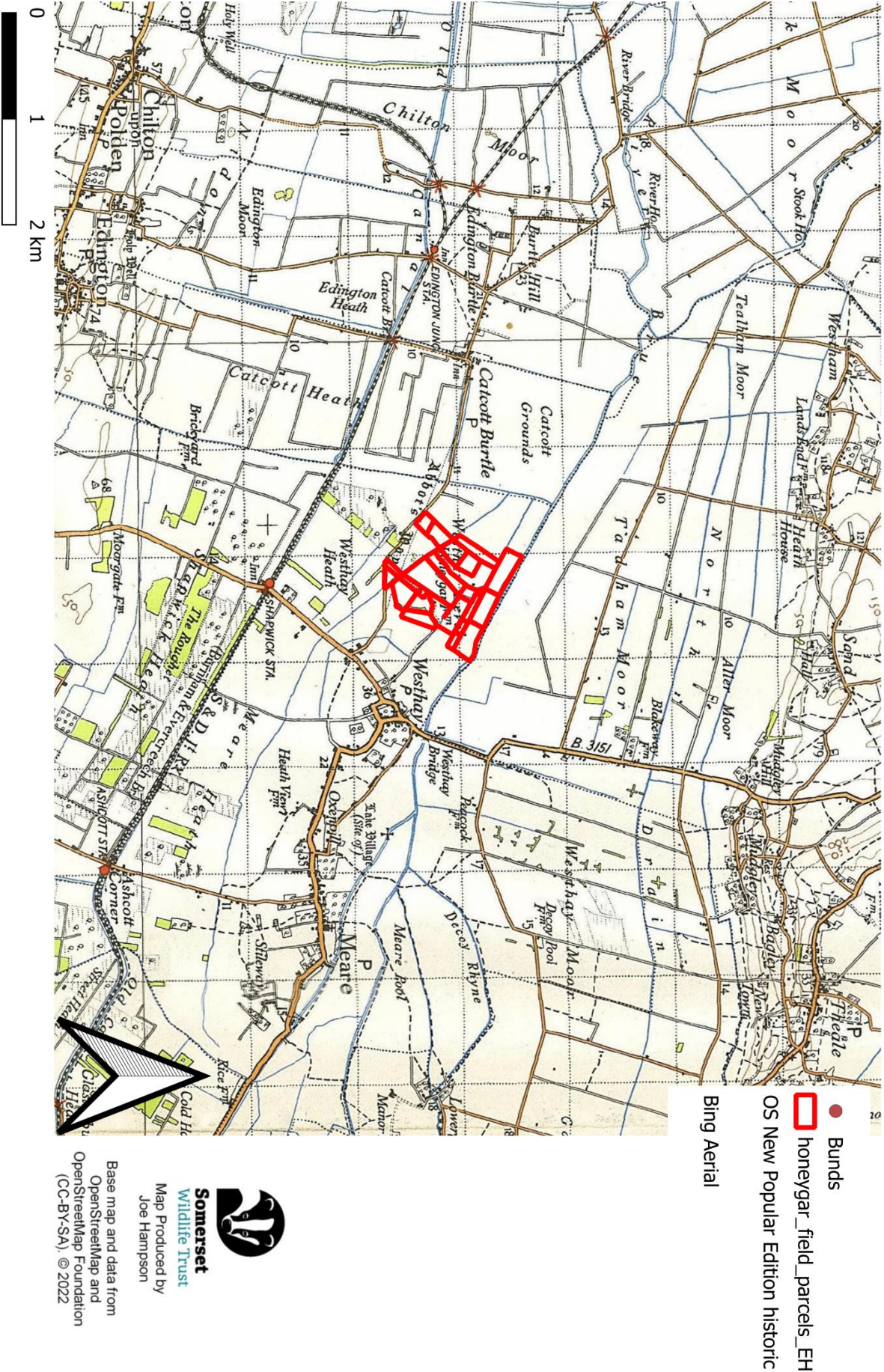


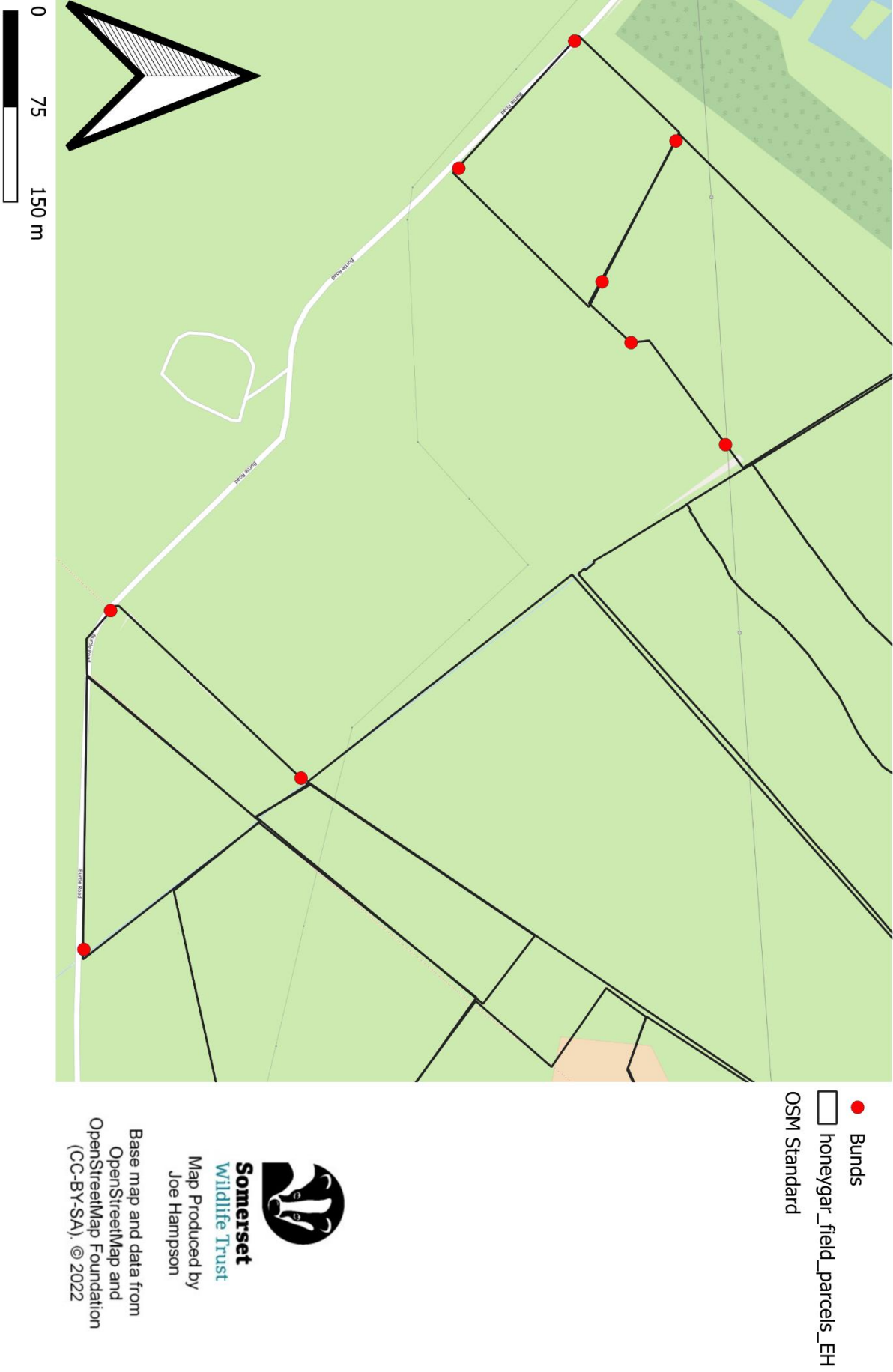
Figure 3: Honeygar – Phase 3 hydrological works



# Honeygar Extent



# Honeygar Phase 3 Interventions



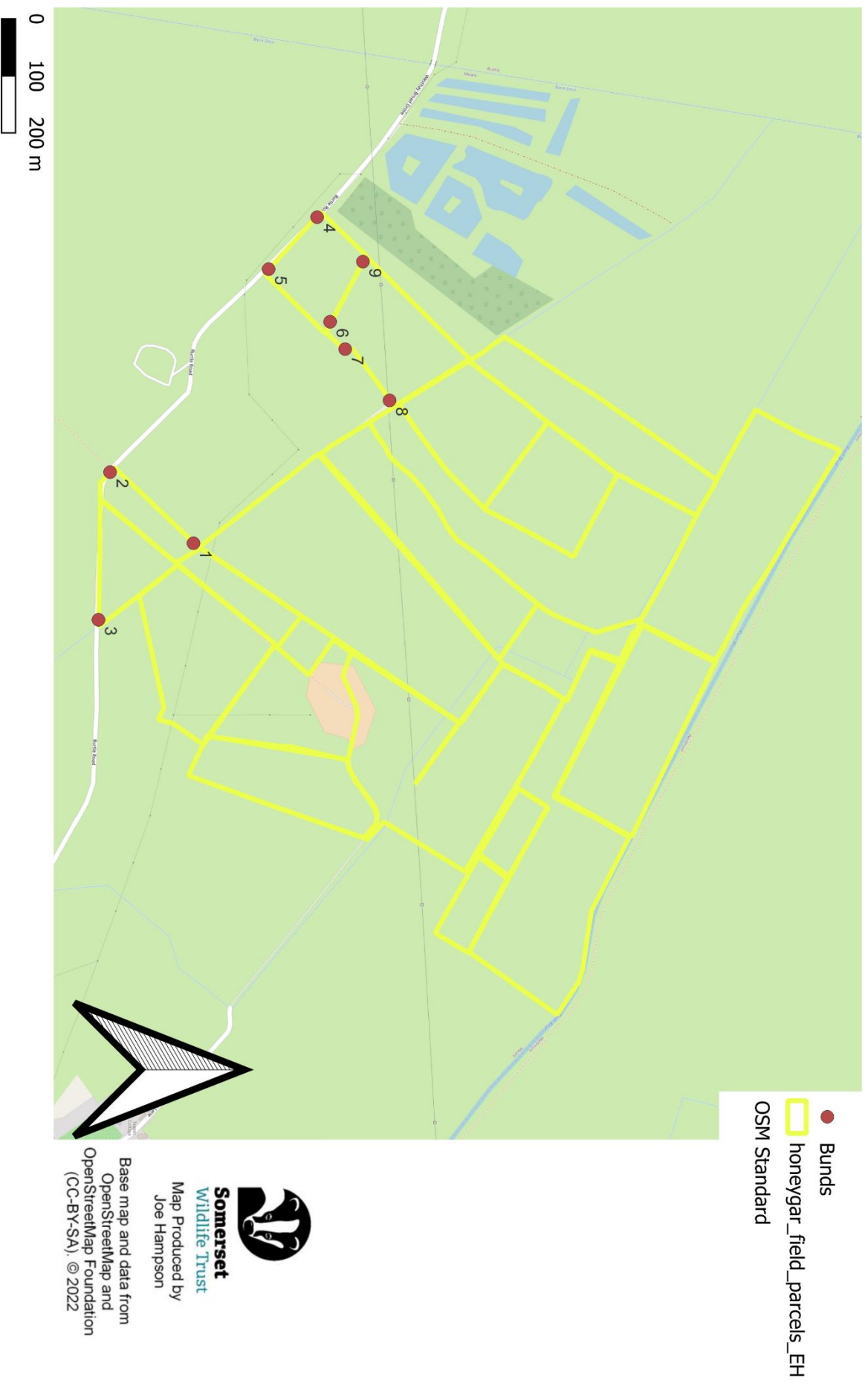
**Somerset**  
Wildlife Trust

Map Produced by  
Joe Hampson

Base map and data from  
OpenStreetMap and  
OpenStreetMap Foundation  
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# Honeygar Phase 3 Labelled



GPS locations of proposed phase 3 interventions are listed below (see labelled map above):

**1) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (342197.80,142468.37) (-314845.9,6652929.1)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**2) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (342071.48,142323.69) (-315044.4,6652694.5)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**3) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (342329.32,142300.78) (-314633.4,6652663.9)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**4) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341627.44,142687.88) (-315758.1,6653272.1)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**5) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341718.92,142605.09) (-315615.0,6653136.0)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**6) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341809.91,142709.28) (-315465.1,6653311.0)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**7) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341859.05,142736.55) (-315387.3,6653349.8)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**8) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341948.82,142811.19) (-315245.7,6653474.8)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

**9) Metal piling bund with non-return valve: (341706.84,142769.59) (-315628.9,6653401.2)**

Install galvanised sheet piling bund to remove ditch from site drainage scheme. 4m long piling x 5m with 300mm non return valve. Piling will be set at a level of no more than 20cm below the top of the ditch level.

