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**Moverons Farm**

**Solar pump installation**

**Client brief.**

1. **Introduction and overview.**

The RSPB has secured funding from the Natural England Species Recovery Project to carry out works to improve the habitats found at Moverons Farm.

Moverons Farm is a privately owned mixed arable and grassland farm, adjacent to the Colne Estuary, in Essex. Recently the farm has, funded by agri-environment schemes, reverted several fields from arable to grassland, this means there is an opportunity to create habitat for locally important ground nesting waders including lapwing and redshank. Lapwing and redshank depend on an interface of wet and terrestrial habitat, with higher water levels in the winter and spring drawing down through the spring months to expose wet mud that their chicks feed on. We propose to install 2 x solar water pumps to enable these ideal conditions to be created, even in drier years. These are funded by the Natural England species recovery project fund.

This project will help achieve suitable wet conditions to benefit breeding wading birds such as lapwing and redshank, and other wetland wildlife, reduce dependence on Diesel pumps to move water around and increase climate resilience.

It should be noted that two contractors will be involved in delivering the project, one for installation of the solar pumps and the other for the associated groundworks.

1. **Objectives and outcomes.**

The objectives are as follows:

* Increased climate resilience
* Wet features including footdrains and scrapes maintained in suitable wet condition to benefit breeding wader birds and wintering wildfowl

Outcomes are as follows:

* + Improvement of hydrological features at Moverons Farm
	+ Increased numbers of lapwings, redshank, and other wetland wildlife using the site
1. **Constraints.**
* Whilst all necessary consents and permissions have been secured for these works to proceed, care must be taken not to damage the site or its wildlife during these works, and care must be taken not to damage or pollute any watercourse on site.
* The site is located on an active floodplain – attention will need to be paid to ground conditions which can become waterlogged, and to any prevailing Flood Alerts.
* No unattended storage, temporary or otherwise, of plant or fuel will be allowed on the floodplain.
* Biosecurity must be maintained.
1. **Pump and works specification.**
* See Document C, locations, and photos for work specifications.
1. **Management arrangements.**
* The landowners are Payne and Lesley Gunfield.
* Onsite and day to day management of the tender will be provided by Kieren Alexander, Site Manager, RSPB Old Hall Marshes
* Contract and financial control will be provided by Michelle Abel, RSPB Project Manager.