



## CASE STUDY

# WIND FARM HABITAT MANAGEMENT & ECOLOGICAL MONITORING

CLIENT: CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION: UK

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Habitat & Peatland Management
- Ecological Monitoring & Compliance
- Technical Advisory & Stakeholder Engagement



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## CONTEXT

A repowered wind farm in northern England involved the decommissioning of an older turbine array and the construction of a smaller number of larger turbines, significantly increasing the site's generating capacity. The wind farm became operational in 2017.

Arthian's ecology team has been responsible for implementing and overseeing a range of works associated with the habitat management scheme and reinstatement plan required under planning conditions. This has included environmental audits, peatland monitoring, National Vegetation Classification (NVC) surveys and analysis, breeding bird surveys, environmental compliance reporting, and attendance at stakeholder meetings.



# THE CHALLENGE

The project required long-term ecological monitoring and habitat management to ensure compliance with planning requirements and environmental commitments. Ongoing peatland monitoring identified the need for remedial measures to support the condition of peat habitats and maintain compliance with agreed management objectives.

In addition, ecological monitoring programmes for birds, amphibians and reptiles required regular field surveys, data analysis and reporting. Findings needed to be communicated effectively to both the project team and local planning authority, particularly where notable ecological results had implications for future site management.

As the project progressed, differing expectations emerged regarding the extent of habitat management obligations. This required careful technical review and engagement with regulatory stakeholders to ensure that responsibilities remained aligned with the original planning commitments.

# THE SOLUTION

Arthian delivered a comprehensive programme of ecological monitoring, habitat management oversight and technical support. Peatland monitoring informed targeted remedial actions, including the inspection and assessment of drainage features and habitat enhancement measures. Additional vegetation monitoring provided greater insight into ecological change across key areas of the site.

The ecology team undertook breeding bird, amphibian and reptile surveys using recognised methodologies and provided regular monitoring reports to support informed decision-making. Working closely with the project team and local authority stakeholders, Arthian provided technical guidance on ecological compliance and planning obligations.

The team also acted as a technical representative during discussions with external stakeholders, helping to interpret planning requirements, provide evidence-based ecological advice and support clear agreement on project responsibilities, ensuring that ecological objectives were met while protecting the client's interests.



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