



Tel: 01798 861800, E-Mail: info@ecologyco-op.co.uk

Figure 1. An extract from the Arbortrak report, illustrating trees that will be lost at the site access point (outlined in blue).

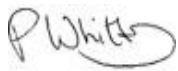
Conifers to be removed

The coniferous trees bordering the site includes a line of small Lawson's cypress (some of which are no more than 3m tall) and mixed conifers, including Leyland cypress. Such conifers very rarely are observed to support bat roost features due to the small branch sizes (which when split or fall do not leave sufficient sized wounds to form crevices), the rarity with which woodpeckers will nest in living cypress trees and the lack of clear flight paths within the canopy of such trees for bats. These trees were not closely inspected as part of a GLTA as a general inspection of this group concluded the clear likely absence of suitable features and because the dense foliage around cypress trees would make a detailed inspection particularly challenging. Photographs 3 and 4 in the accompanying appendix illustrate the character of these trees in support of this description.

I hope the above description of the trees at the site and their suitability with respect to bats is satisfactory. I am satisfied that the small number of largely immature or semi-mature trees that do need to be removed to make way for this development proposal pose a negligible risk to bats.

Should you require any clarification on this assessment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards



Paul Whitby

MCIEEM, CEcol

Tel: 07761154345

Email: paul@ecologyco-op.co.uk

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Photograph 1. A view of the proposed access point from the south.



Photograph 2. A view of the proposed access point from the north.



Photograph 3. The character of the Leyland Cypress trees immediately north of the barn.



Photograph 4. Some of the mixed conifers leading south towards the barn