

SILVERTOWN TUNNEL CROSSING BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Natural Capital Case Study | Dr. Martina Girvan and Gregor Pecnik |
Transport for London and Arcadis London | July 2016

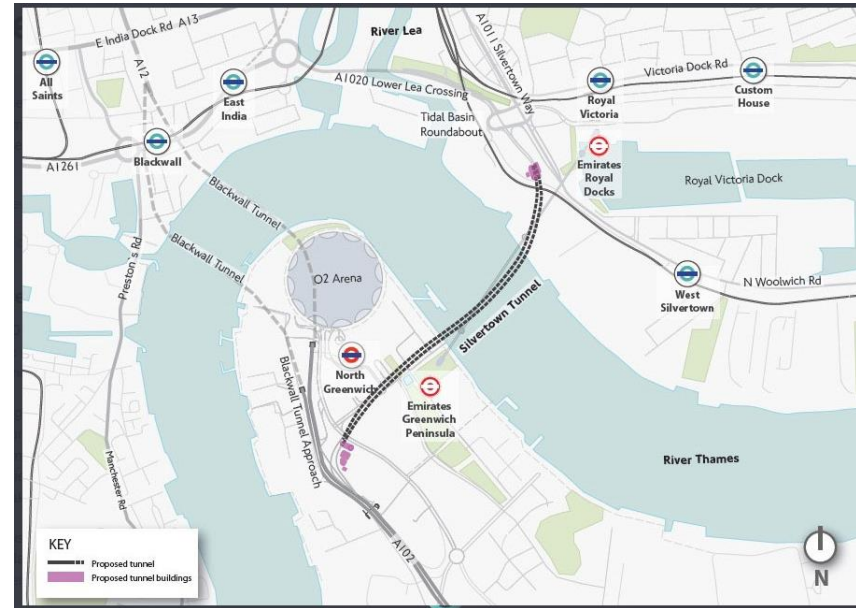


Maximising Site Value Minimising Cost

“Securing Mitigation and Optimising Biodiversity Value”

Client Challenge

Provide Certainty over Mitigation to secure planning, reduce cost but increase value of Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancements



- Silvertown Tunnel Crossing is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project linking the Greenwich Peninsula and Silvertown in the UK. It's the first major crossing of the River Thames in several years.
- As an NSIP it will be considered under the Development Consent Order (DCO) regime and will be assessed by the Secretary of State.

Silvertown Tunnel Crossing

Need: To submit an NSIP Environmental Statement with certainty on Mitigation and Residual Effects without a detailed design



Brownfield Habitat a UK BAP Priority Habitat

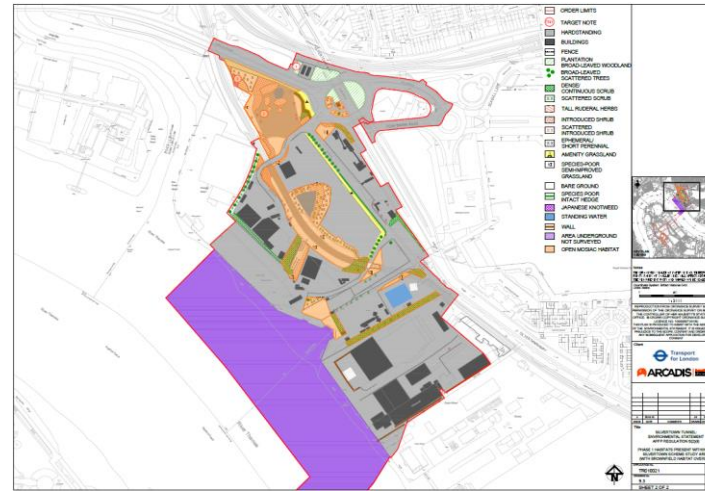
“Ensuring that brownfield and other urban habitats are not overlooked “no net loss”

Client Challenge

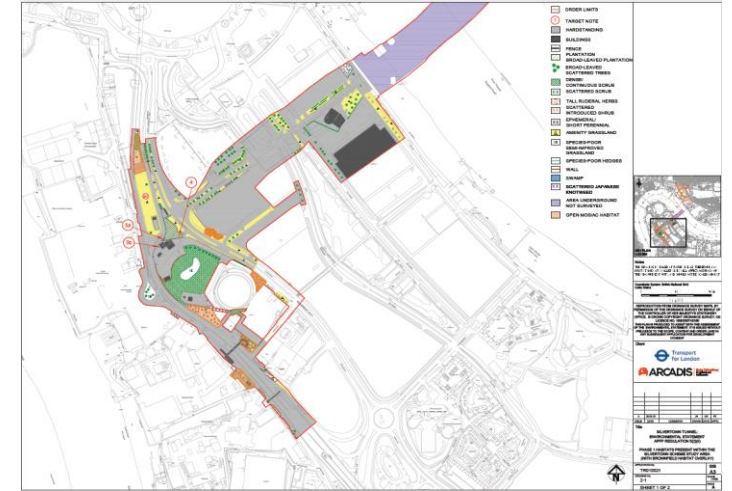
Mitigate for brownfield habitat which is a prime development target in London and other urban environments but provides a unique habitat for rare and notable species



Silvertown: Northern Parcel



Greenwich: Southern Parcel



Silvertown Tunnel Crossing

Need: To submit an NSIP Environmental Statement with certainty on Mitigation and Residual Effects without a detailed design



Silvertown Tunnel BAP and Mitigation Strategy

“Securing Mitigation and Optimising Biodiversity Value”

Key Success

Demonstrating a “net gain” as a minimum delivery in the ES. Ensuring implementation through the detailed design, enabling, construction and management phases



- Obtained stakeholder agreement (Natural England)
- Provided certainty by quantification of maximum losses by habitat type and area to provide “worst case” on site residual losses
- Key receptors (priority species and habitats targeted) targeted for mitigation
- Design parameters for habitats to be created provided to the design team
- Natural Capital valuation and monetisation of habitats to be lost to allow residual losses to be mitigated for by off site provision
- Secured via DCO planning permission
- A design review panel and core stakeholders will review throughout detailed design to ensure that the BAP and MS is implemented and “net gain” secured



Silvertown Tunnel Crossing

Outcome: Demonstrating “net gain” for planning without the need for CPO of land outwith the Order limits which would be fragmented, incredibly expensive and hard to obtain thus maximizing the value of biodiversity mitigation