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James Blake Associates Ltd

Our Ref: JBA 10/35 ECO11 GP/CA

20th July 2018

Dear Mr Perfect,

RE: Reptile Survey Interim Report of Reservoir for Bat Use at Gondar Gardens, West Hampstead, London.

James Blake Associates Ltd was commissioned by LifeCare Residences Ltd to carry out a reptile survey of The Covered Reservoir at Gondar Gardens in London. Grid reference TQ: 248 853 (taken from the centre of the site).

LifeCare Residence Ltd has requested an interim report on the 20th of July detailing the number and distribution of slow worms observed on the site visits up to this date. This letter is intended to compare the 2018 results with the previous reptile survey in 2016, in regards to the number of slow worms recorded and distribution of slow worms across the site'.

The surveys were carried out on 10th, 13th and 18th July 2018 by Crystal Acquaviva BSc (Hons), MSc MCIEEM, George Poulton BSc (Hons), MSc, GradCIEEM and Isaac Stirling BSc (Hons).The weather conditions during the survey are shown in Table 1. The first and third surveys were carried out during suitable weather conditions, the second surveys was not carried out under optimal conditions as the temperature was above 20°C.

It should be noted that the results recorded so far may not be a representative of the final reptile survey results. Variables such as the relative distribution of slow worms and the maximum recorded individuals may change as the survey progresses. It should also be noted that these results cannot be used to make an accurate population estimate at this stage.

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Previous surveys

Reptile surveys were previously carried out at the site from 22nd July to 20th September 2010 and from 4th September to 2nd October 2013 by James Blake Associates. During 2010 a low population of slow worms was found using the site, with a good population of slow worms using the site in 2013, predominantly in the rough grass on the southern boundary and one individual on the northern boundary. The most recent reptile survey was undertaken between 29th July and 28th September 2016, where a good population of slow worms was found using the site, the results from this survey can be found in Appendix A.

2018 Survey results

The preliminary results of the 2018 survey are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of 2018 survey results for slow worms.

Visit	Date	Weather conditions	Adult Slow worm	Juvenile Slow worms
1	10 th July 2018	20°C, 96% cloud cover and Beaufort 3	1♂ 2♀	5
2	13 th July 2018*	22°C, 0% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	0	0
3	18 th July 2018	18°C, 10% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	3♂ 2♀	2

**As survey was not conducted during suitable weather conditions, an additional survey will need to be conducted*

For distribution see Appendix A

Five (2♀ 3♂) adult slow worms and two juvenile slow worms were recorded on the 18th July 2018. Therefore the current maximum population estimate indicates that there is a low population of slow worms using the site. The distribution of slow worms was centralised around the south facing slope, comprised of rough grassland and scattered scrub, this is a similar distribution to what was recorded in 2016 (Appendix B). The results above should not be interpreted as a representative of the final survey results, this can only be determined once all site visits are completed during suitable weather conditions.

Yours sincerely,



George Poulton
Assistant Ecologist
James Blake Associates Ltd.

Appendix A: Results from 2016 reptile survey

Visit	Date	Weather conditions	Adult Slow worm	Juvenile Slow worm
1	29 th July 2016	16°C, 100% cloud cover and Beaufort 1, very light rain	3♂ 1♀	1
2	4 th August 2016	17°C, 90% cloud cover and Beaufort 3	5♂ 6♀	9
3	9 th August 2016	13°C, 10% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	1♀	0
4	16 th August 2016	15°C, 20% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	2♂ 6♀	1
5	22 nd August 2016	17°C, 100% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	5♀	16
6	25 th August 2016	16°C, 100% cloud cover and Beaufort 0	1♀	2
7	30 th August 2016	20°C, 15% cloud cover and Beaufort 1	0	0
8	2 nd September 2016	18°C, 100% cloud cover and Beaufort 0	2♂ 7♀	12
9	23 rd September 2016	16°C, <5% cloud cover and Beaufort 0	5♀	7
10	28 th September 2016	19°C, 80% cloud cover and Beaufort 2	1♂ 12♀	12

For distribution see Appendix B

Appendix B: Indicative location of reptile mats and slow worm locations in 2016 & 2018 surveys.

