



Critical Habitat Assessment for the Gebel El Zeit 580 MW Wind Farm, Egypt

Key findings inside:

- *Project is in Critical Habitat for six species of migratory soaring birds*
- *19 species are Priority Biodiversity Features for the Project*

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Citation: TBC. (2026). Critical Habitat Assessment for the Gebel El Zeit 580 MW Wind Farm, Egypt. The Biodiversity Consultancy, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

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Document information	
Document title	Critical Habitat Assessment for the Gebel El Zeit 580 MW Wind Farm, Egypt.
Document subtitle	
Project No.	AEP01
Date	21 September 2026
Version	Final CHA
Author	D. Pires, F. Canário; V. Katariya, M. Coroi
Client name	Alcazar Energy Partners

Document history						
Revision no.	Author/s	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2	Date	Comments	Final/draft
1	DP, FC, VK	MC		20 February 2026	For client review	Draft
2	DP, FC, VK, LM	FC		29 July 2026	Incorporating comments from the client, LESA and Lenders	Final
3	FC, VK, LM, MC	FC		16 September 2026	Incorporating comments from the Lenders	Draft
4	FC, VK, LM, MC	FC		21 September 2026	Incorporating comments from the Lenders	Final

Signature of Technical Director

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Acronym table

Acronym	Definition
AZE	Alliance for Zero Extinction (site)
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
CH	Critical Habitat
CHA	Critical Habitat Assessment
CR	Critically Endangered
EAAA	Ecologically Appropriate Area of Analysis
EBRD	European Bank of Reconstruction and Development
EIB	European Investment Bank
EN	Endangered
EOO	Extent of Occurrence
ESA	European Space Agency
ESR6	(EBRD) Environmental and Social Requirement 6
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESS4	(EIB) Environmental and Social Standard 4
EU	European Union
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GN	(IFC) Guidance Note
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
IBAT	Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IRA	Internationally Recognised Areas
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LC	Least Concern
LPA	Legally Protected Area
NG	Net Gain
NH	Natural Habitat
NNL	No Net Loss
NREA	New and Renewable Energy Authority
NT	Near Threatened
MH	Modified Habitat
PBF	Priority Biodiversity Feature

Acronym	Definition
PS6	(IFC) Performance Standard 6
TBC	The Biodiversity Consultancy
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VU	Vulnerable

Executive summary

This report is the Critical Habitat Assessment (CHA) for the Gebel El Zeit 580 MW Wind Farm wind farm (the Project), in alignment with International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standard 6 (PS6), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Environmental and Social Requirement 6 (ESR6) and European Investment Bank (EIB) Environmental and Social Standard 4 (ESS4).

The purpose of the CHA is to determine the presence of Critical Habitat-qualifying biodiversity features, Natural Habitat, Priority Biodiversity Features (PBFs) and overlap with Protected Areas or otherwise Internationally Recognised Areas, which will require special attention and specific mitigation planning under IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4.

A total of 361 species were identified as having global ranges that overlapped the Ecologically Appropriate Areas of Analysis (EAAAs) and 39 species were screened in detail against PS6, ESR6 thresholds and ESS4 using global datasets, available literature and field data. This CHA determines that:

- Six species meet CH-qualifying thresholds for any of the three standards: Levant Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*), White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*), Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) and European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*) under IFC PS6 Criterion 3 and EBRD ESR6 Criterion 4 due to regular passage of more than 1% of the global population through the soaring bird Area of Analysis¹.
- 19 species are PBFs for the Project, five under EBRD ESR6 Criterion 2b and the remaining under Criterion 4a
- Both the Project area and the wider EAAAs are in Natural Habitat; and
- The Project is located within an Internationally Recognised Area, the Gebel el Zeit Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), which is also an Important Bird Area (IBA). Both the KBA and IBA are designated for migratory soaring birds. Most species that are trigger species for the KBA/IBA are considered either CH-qualifying or PBFs.

To meet lender requirements, the Project needs to demonstrate Net Gain (NG) for all CH-qualifying features and No Net Loss (NNL) for Natural Habitat and all PBFs.

The Project's mitigation strategy must be described in a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) that quantifies the residual impacts to identified priority species and habitats, and proposes conservation actions that would support the Project to meet its NG commitments for CH-qualifying

¹ Consistent with EBRD guidance, the soaring bird Area of Analysis includes airspace associated with the Gebel el Zeit migratory bottleneck, where topographic features concentrate migratory soaring birds and anchor airspace use to the underlying terrestrial habitat (EBRD 2026).

species and NNL commitments for Natural Habitat and PBFs. The BAP should also include actions that promote the conservation aims and management of the Gebel el Zeit KBA.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and context

Alcazar Energy Partners (Alcazar Energy, the Client) has commissioned The Biodiversity Consultancy (TBC), to prepare a Critical Habitat Assessment (CHA) for the Gebel El Zeit 580 MW operational wind farm (the Project), located in the Ras Gharib region within the Red Sea Governorate, Egypt.

The Client is planning to acquire the Project, which is currently owned by the New and Renewable Energy Authority (NREA) and is operated by Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy, the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) contractor. Alcazar Energy is seeking financing from international lenders and therefore aims to align the Project with international environmental and social standards and best practices.

The Project currently follows some good international industry practices (e.g., shutdown on demand, post-construction fatality monitoring (Camina *et al.* 2025); however, it has not completed a CHA and has not established No Net Loss (NNL) or Net Gain (NG) biodiversity targets.

This CHA has been developed in alignment with the IFC Performance Standard 6 (PS6), EBRD Environmental and Social Requirement 6 (ESR6) and EIB Environmental and Social Standard 4 (EIB ESS4) criteria and thresholds².

The aim of this CHA is to identify potential Critical Habitat (CH)-qualifying species and ecosystems, based on IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 criteria and thresholds, which will require special attention and specific mitigation planning, and to determine whether the Project is in an area of Natural or Modified Habitat. EBRD ESR6 also defines Priority Biodiversity Features (PBFs), which have also been addressed in this CHA.

1.2 Description of the project

The Project is located in the western coast of the Gulf of Suez, within the Red Sea Governorate, approximately 280 km southeast of Cairo, 20 km south of Ras Ghareb and 3 km from Ras Shukeir (Figure 1).

The Project covers approximately 10,683 ha and comprises three adjacent operational wind farms:

² Where criteria and/or thresholds differ, the most stringent and/or precautionary have been applied (see Appendix 1 for a comparison table which includes all criteria).

- KfW 240 MW wind farm, with 120 turbines
- JICA 220 MW wind farm with 110 turbines, and
- FIEM 120 MW wind farm with 60 turbines

Associated infrastructure includes cables connecting the turbines to an onsite substation, a substation, the portion of the Overhead Transmission Line (OHTL) located within the Project site, offices and a warehouse, and a network of access roads.

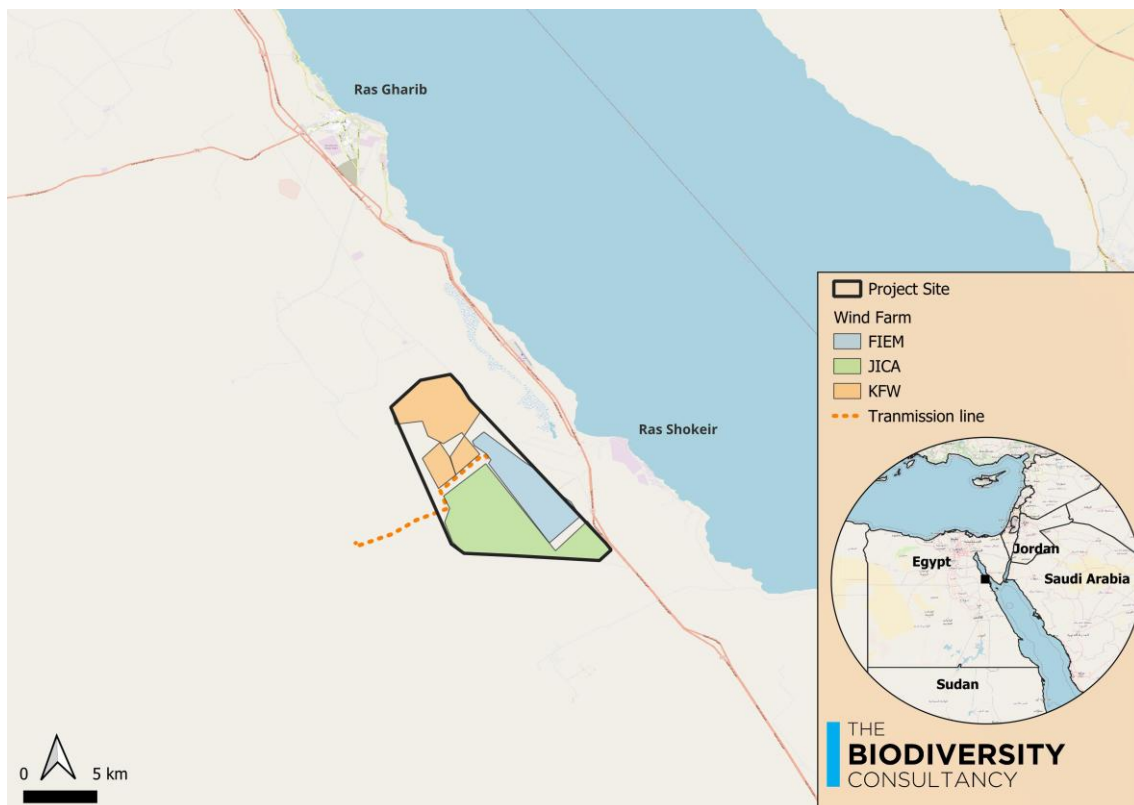


Figure 1. Project location and boundaries, showing the three adjacent wind farms (KfW 240 MW, FIEM 120 MW and JICA 220 MW).

1.3 Ecological context

The Project is in the Red Sea Coastal Desert Ecoregion (Dinerstein *et al.* 2017), which runs south from the Suez Canal, parallel to the coastline. It occupies a desert area of sand and gravel plains bisected by several shallow wadis. Land cover consists primarily of bare ground with very scattered low-growing vegetation, supporting a low diversity and abundance of terrestrial fauna (AL AMAR Consulting Group & Energy & Environment Consultant (E&E) 2008, STRIX 2018).

The Project occurs within the Red Sea/Rift Valley flyway for migratory soaring birds which connects breeding grounds in Europe with wintering areas in Africa (Figure 2). This flyway is used by over 1.5 million individuals from 37 species of migratory soaring birds, as well as a suite of migratory passerines and other bird groups (Porter 2005; Jobson *et al.* 2021). Due to the Project's location and potential interaction with migratory birds, systematic bird migration monitoring, associated with the implementation of the Project Active Turbine Management Program (ATMP), was initiated in spring 2016, with the start of the operation phase of the first individual wind farm within the Project, the KfW wind farm (STRIX 2018; Ehab Ameen No date). In Autumn 2020, a wider monitoring program started, involving all three wind farms within the Project and the monitoring of both Spring and Autumn migratory periods (Ehab Ameen No date).

The number of migratory soaring birds crossing the Project area is very high during both the spring (northward) and autumn (southward) migration periods, exceeding 400,000 individuals (e.g. STRIX 2018; GreenPlus 2022; NREA & SafeSoar 2023; Camina 2025). Most abundant species include White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), European Honey Buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard (*Buteo buteo vulpinus*), Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*), Levant Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) and Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*).

The Project overlaps with the Gebel El Zeit Key Biodiversity Area³ (KBA) and Important Bird Area⁴ (IBA). This IBA is a very important migration corridor for soaring migrants, particularly birds of prey and storks, and forms an important stop-off point in the Red Sea/Rift Valley flyway. The IBA is the narrowest point in the southern part of the Gulf of Suez and migratory birds using this flyway are funnelled through the area during both spring and autumn journeys. The northern section of the IBA is a wide coastal plain with several areas of *sabkha* (coastal mudflat in which evaporite-saline minerals accumulate), containing pools of hyper-saline water and large patches of saltmarsh⁵.

³ <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/6217>

⁴ <https://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/gebel-el-zeit-iba-egypt>

⁵ <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/6217>

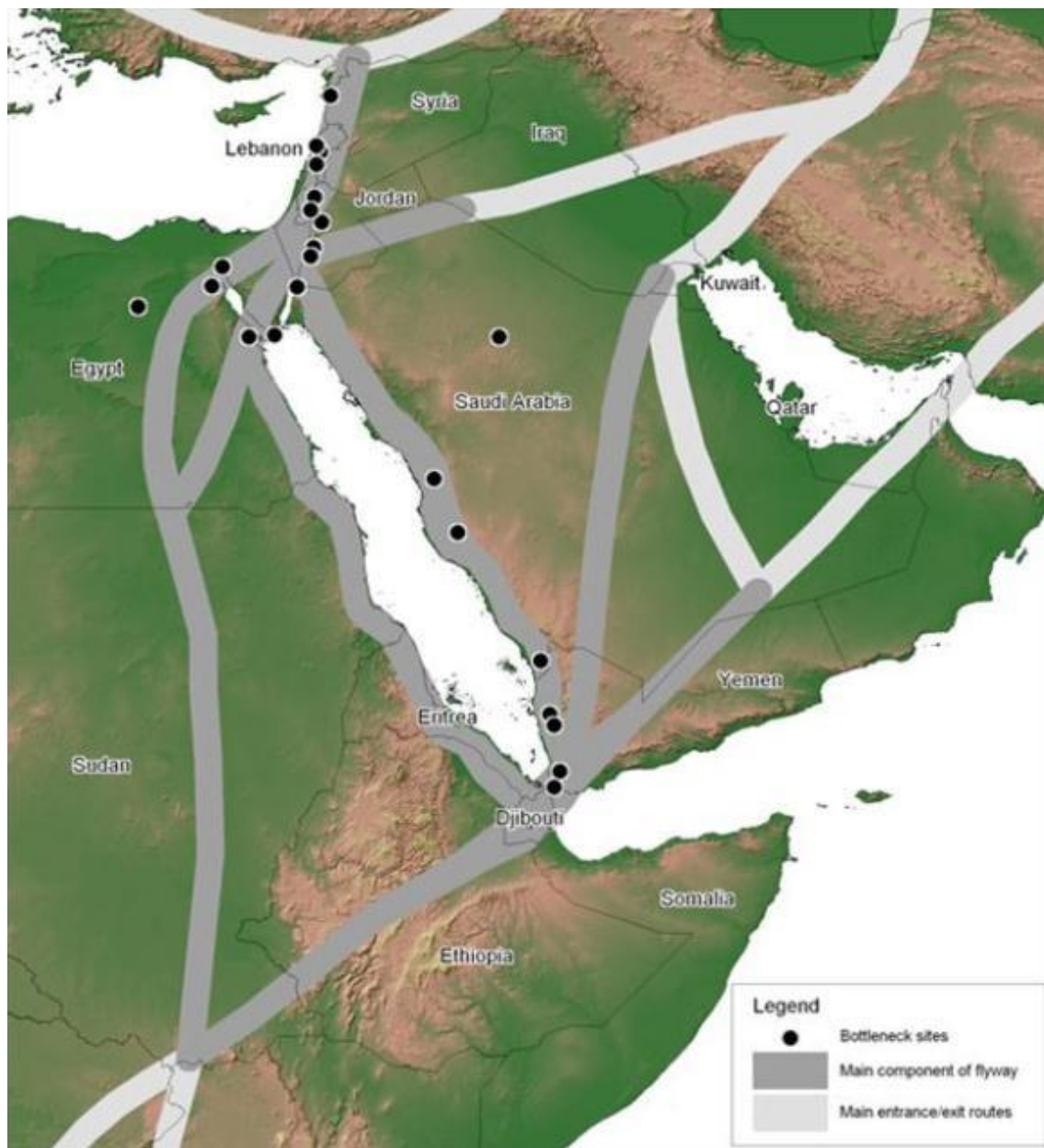


Figure 2. Map of the main elements of the Rift Valley/Red Sea flyway showing key bottleneck sites (source: BirdLife International).

1.4 IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4

The objectives of IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 are to protect and conserve biodiversity, adopt the mitigation hierarchy, maintain benefits from ecosystem services, and promote the sustainable management of living natural resources through the adoption of practices that integrate conservation needs and development priorities.

1.4.1 Critical Habitat, Natural Habitat and Priority Biodiversity Features

IFC PS6 and EIB ESS4 require projects to classify the area within which they operate into the following categories: Modified Habitat (MH), Natural Habitat (NH) and Critical Habitat (CH) based on the extent of human modification of the ecosystem and the presence of high biodiversity values (Table 1). Note that, although EIB ESS4 also allows areas to be assigned to the category “semi-natural habitat”, this category is not recognised by IFC PS6.

Table 1. Summary of the PS6 scheme for classifying habitat.

		Human modification of the ecosystem	
		Not significant	Significant
High biodiversity values	Present	Critical Habitat	Critical Habitat
	Absent	Natural Habitat	Modified Habitat

Note: No universal thresholds exist for identifying natural habitat and modified habitat

As a rule of thumb, a project should favour developments in areas of modified habitat over Natural Habitat, and natural habitat over critical habitat. It must demonstrate the full application of the mitigation hierarchy framework to manage biodiversity impacts (avoid, minimise, restore, and when needed, offset) (CSBI & TBC 2015) in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and should achieve a NNL of biodiversity in areas of Natural Habitat and NG in CH.

The relevant lender standard/requirement guidance notes (EIB 2018, 2022; IFC 2019; EBRD 2025, 2026), as well as EBRD guidance on determining biodiversity management requirements related to airspace around wind energy facilities (IFC & EBRD 2023), provide further guidance through well-defined criteria and thresholds on how to identify critical habitat, as well as guidance on identifying natural and modified habitat (IFC 2019), which are summarised in Appendix 1. Note that, as Egypt is not a European Union (EU) member state and is not a signatory nation of the Bern Convention, some EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 criteria for Critical Habitat do not apply to this project, namely those relating to the EU Habitats Directive, the EU Birds Directive and the Bern Convention.

Criteria to consider when assessing the presence of critical habitat are:

1. **Globally and/or regionally threatened species** (IFC PS6 Criterion 1, EBRD ESR6 Criterion 2 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 2)
2. **Endemic and restricted range species** (IFC PS6 Criterion 2, EBRD ESR6 Criterion 2 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 3)
3. **Migratory and congregatory species** (IFC PS6 Criterion 3, EBRD ESR6 Criterion 2 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 4)
4. **Highly Threatened and/or Unique Ecosystems** (IFC PS6 Criterion 4, EBRD ESR6 Criterion 1 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 1)
5. **Key evolutionary processes** (IFC PS6 Criterion 5 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 6)

6. **Biodiversity of socio-economic value** (EIB ESS4 Criterion 5)

The determination of critical habitat for the first four criteria in the above list (corresponding to IFC PS6 Criteria 1-4, EBRD ESR6 Criteria 1 and 2, and EIB ESS4 Criteria 1-4) is based on quantitative thresholds, whereas the last two criteria above (IFC PS6 Criterion 5 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 5 and 6) are determined through a qualitative expert-based judgement (see Appendix 1). The identification of critical habitat should be done at a landscape-level to consider the dynamics of the ecosystem beyond the project footprint.

IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 also make provision for Legally Protected Areas (LPAs) and Internationally Recognised Areas (IRAs), which should be duly identified and mapped (see PS6 paragraph 20). IFC PS6 requires projects in LPAs and IRAs to be developed in line with any government-recognized management plans, be legally permitted, and implement additional programs to promote and enhance the conservation aims and effective management of those areas. Similarly, EBRD ESR6 requires that the Project will not compromise the integrity, conservation objectives and/or biodiversity importance of Legally Protected and Internationally Recognised Areas. EIB ESS4 requires the Project to be able to demonstrate that the proposed development 'is legally permitted and that the design of the project is consistent with a recognised management plan for the protected or designated conservation area. In the absence of a recognised plan, the project should be compatible with the achievement of the relevant conservation objectives used to designate the area in question'.

IFC PS6 defines Natural Habitat as "*areas composed of viable assemblages of plant and/or animal species of largely native origin, and/or where human activity has not essentially modified an area's primary ecological functions and species composition*". It also notes that "Project sites will often be located among a mosaic of habitats with varying levels of anthropogenic and/or natural disturbance. Clients are responsible for delineating the project site as best as possible in terms of modified and Natural Habitat. This determination is made based on the level of human-induced disturbance (for example, presence of invasive species, level of pollution, extent of habitat fragmentation, viability of existing naturally occurring species assemblages, resemblance of existing ecosystem functionality and structure to historical conditions, degree of other types of habitat degradation) and the biodiversity values of the site (for example, threatened species, ecosystems, and ecological processes necessary for maintaining nearby critical habitats). The level of anthropogenic impact should be determined with respect to the greater landscape/seascape in which the project is located."

IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 stipulate that critical, natural and modified habitats should be mapped within an Ecologically Appropriate Area of Analysis (EAAA) (PS6 GN26). The EAAA is identified at a landscape level, considering large-scale ecological processes where appropriate, which are often larger than the project impact area to ensure all risks are taken into consideration. The EAAA is designed to ensure that the biodiversity significance of the project landscape is appropriately evaluated; it is not a management unit and the choice of EAAA does not place any management obligations on the project. For wind energy projects, additional guidance is available regarding the consideration of birds, bats and relevant airspace in the

delineation of the EAAA and the assessment of biodiversity risks associated with wind energy infrastructure (IFC & EBRD 2023; EBRD 2026).

In addition to critical habitat values, EBRD ESR6 also considers a suite of PBFs which are of lower concern, but still important for a project to consider. PBFs include: threatened ecosystems, threatened, range-restricted, migratory and congregatory species (see Appendix 1 for details) (EBRD 2025).

1.4.2 Implications of findings

Projects located within critical habitat need to pay special attention to the management of biodiversity impacts, especially on the biodiversity values that trigger critical habitat. Where impacts do occur, lender standards require projects to fully execute the mitigation hierarchy. In critical habitat, this means that overall NG of critical habitat-qualifying biodiversity is required. A high threshold of proof will be required to demonstrate that it is feasible to deliver these NG.

Critical habitat determination is an assessment of the biodiversity importance of an area, based on the biodiversity values and not the potential impacts associated with a project. The presence of critical habitat does not necessarily imply an impact from the project. [Table 2](#) shows the requirements of IFC PS6 paragraph 17 and 18, with respect to critical habitat⁶. EBRD and EIB have similar requirements.

The projects will also need to meet the IFC PS6 expectations for the management of impacts on modified and Natural Habitat. [Table 3](#) shows the requirements of IFC PS6 paragraph 15 with respect to these.

Table 2. IFC PS6 paragraphs 17 & 18 on critical habitat.

PS6 reference	PS6 text
PS6 paragraph 17	'In areas of critical habitat, the client will not implement any project activities unless all of the following are demonstrated: • No other viable alternatives in the region exist for development of the project on modified or natural habitats that are not critical; • The project does not lead to measurable adverse impacts on those biodiversity values for which the critical habitat was designated, and on the ecological processes supporting those biodiversity values; • The project does not lead to a net reduction in the global and/or national/regional population of any Critically Endangered or Endangered species over a reasonable period of time; • A robust, appropriately designed, and long-term biodiversity monitoring and evaluation program is integrated into the client's management program'.

⁶ IFC is generally the most stringent of the lenders in regard to critical habitat.

PS6 reference	PS6 text
PS6 paragraph 18	'In such cases where a client is able to meet the requirements defined in paragraph 17, the project's mitigation strategy will be described in a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and will be designed to achieve net gains of those biodiversity values for which the critical habitat was designated'.

Table 3. IFC PS6 paragraphs related to requirements for projects in natural habitat and modified habitat that holds significant biodiversity value.

PS6 reference	PS6 text
PS6 paragraph 12	'This Performance Standard applies to those areas of modified habitat that include significant biodiversity value , as determined by the risks and impacts identification process required in Performance Standard 1. The client should minimize impacts on such biodiversity and implement mitigation measures as appropriate.'
PS6 paragraph 15	'In areas of natural habitat, mitigation measures will be designed to achieve no net loss of biodiversity where feasible.'
PS6 footnote 9	'No net loss is defined as the point at which project-related impacts on biodiversity are balanced by measures taken to avoid and minimize the project's impacts, to undertake on-site restoration and finally to offset significant residual impacts, if any, on an appropriate geographic scale (e.g. local, landscape-level, national, regional).

In addition to NG of critical habitat- qualifying values, EBRD ESR6 also requires no net loss (NNL), and preferably a NG, of PBFs over the long term to achieve measurable conservation outcomes (EBRD ESR6 2024).

2 Determination of critical habitat

2.1 Review of available information

The initial study area for CHA was defined to capture both the Project footprint and the wider ecological context. Spatially this included the Project concession area and a wider landscape around the Project, which included the Gulf of Suez section of the Red Sea/Rift Valley Flyway for soaring birds. Temporally, the assessment considered the operational phase of the existing Project and the period for which relevant biodiversity information was available, including Project monitoring data from 2016 onwards, with emphasis on the spring and autumn migration seasons.

TBC consulted the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT)⁷, a source of globally authoritative biodiversity datasets including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, the World Database on Protected Areas, and the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas (including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas). IBAT was used to identify the presence of threatened, restricted-range and migratory species, protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas (including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas), World Heritage Sites and Alliance for Zero Extinction sites. European Space Agency (ESA) landcover data was used to classify natural and modified habitats within the Ecologically Appropriate Areas of Analysis.

In addition to IBAT, several internationally and nationally relevant datasets and assessments were consulted, including:

- The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ([IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#))
- IUCN Red List of Ecosystems ([IUCN Ecosystems](#))
- The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) (<https://www.gbif.org/>)
- eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>)
- BirdLife data zone (<http://datazone.birdlife.org/home>)
- Movebank ([Movebank](#))
- POWO – Plants of the world online, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (<https://powo.science.kew.org>)
- WFO – The World Flora Online (<http://wfoplantlist.org>).
- Mammals of Egypt: Atlas, red data listing and conservation (Basuony *et al.* 2010)
- Butterflies of Egypt: Atlas, red data listing and conservation (Gilbert & Zalat 2007)
- The conservation status and distribution of the breeding birds of prey of North Africa (Garrido *et al.* 2021).

The following documents were developed for the Project and have also been consulted in the preparation of this assessment:

- Gulf of El Zayt 220 MWe Wind Power Plant Project – Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) (Executive Summary) (AL AMAR Consulting Group & Energy & Environment Consultant (E&E) 2008)
- Gebel El Zeit WPP and IBA Due Diligence Wind farm operation and MSBs conservation (Camina *et al.* 2025)
- Shutdown on Demand and Bird Monitoring - Spring Seasons 2018-2025 (GreenPlus Environmental Solutions 2018a, 2018b, 2018c; Envirionics 2019a; Scientific Environmental

⁷ [Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool](#)

Services 2020a, 2020b; GreenPlus Environmental Solutions 2023a, 2023b, 2023c, 2024a, 2024b, 2024c; Safe Soar 2025a, 2025b, 2025c)

- Shutdown on Demand and Bird Monitoring - Autumn Seasons 2018-2024 (GreenPlus Environmental Solutions 2018d, 2018e, 2018f, 2020a, 2020b, 2020c, 2022b, 2022c, 2022d, 2022e, 2022f, 2022g, 2023d, 2023e, 2024d, 2024e, 2024f; Environics 2019b, 2019c, 2019d).

2.2 Ecologically Appropriate Area of Analysis

In line with IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 (EIB 2018, 2022; IFC 2019; EBRD 2025), a CHA should be carried out for an Ecologically Appropriate Area of Analysis (EAAA), defined considering the distribution of species or ecosystems (within and sometimes extending beyond the project's area of influence) and the ecological patterns, processes, features, and functions that are necessary for maintaining them. This means EAAAs are usually at a scale larger than a project site or impact area. Such a precautionary approach ensures that the EAAA considers the area in which most potential risks from a Project could occur.

For a wind generation project located within the Red Sea / Rift Valley flyway, the main biodiversity risk is associated with the collisions between migratory birds and the wind energy infrastructure. Therefore, the inclusion of the airspace associated with the Project in the EAAA must be evaluated. The Project airspace should be included the EAAA where it is anchored to an important terrestrial or water area through its ecological use by relevant species (EBRD 2025, 2026), as depicted by any of the following situations: (i) airspace above important terrestrial areas where the species regularly occurs as part of their utilization of the area; or (ii) an airspace linking two or more nearby sites in the same landscape where there is frequent (especially low altitude) movement of birds; or (iii) airspace associated with distinct topographic or physical features that concentrate birds or otherwise constrain flight behaviour, such as migration bottlenecks, sea-crossing points, or areas where birds congregate before or after crossing ecological barriers (IFC 2019; IFC & EBRD 2023; EBRD 2025, 2026).

The Project is fully within the Gebel el Zeit KBA⁸ and IBA⁹, which is identified as a 'bottleneck' site for migratory soaring birds on the Red Sea/Rift Valley flyway (BirdLife International 2024). Although large numbers of migratory soaring birds use the entire length of the Red Sea/Rift Valley flyway along the western Gulf of Suez/Red Sea coast in Egypt, the Gebel el Zeit KBA represents a particularly important bottleneck site within this flyway, as it is located at the narrowest crossing point over the southern Gulf of Suez, through which migratory soaring birds are funnelled (BirdLife International 2024).

Birds of prey, storks and pelicans migrate through and usually land, rest or roost near the coastline and on the surrounding desert plains and hills (BirdLife International 2024). Migratory soaring bird species were reported as resting on the ground during field surveys in the Project

⁸ <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/6217>

⁹ <https://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/gebel-el-zeit-iba-egypt>

area and within KBA where the project is located (Camina *et al.* 2025). These records include documented landings of White Stork, Great White Pelican, Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*), European Honey Buzzard, Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard and Black Kite. Additional species reported resting on the ground within the wider Gebel el Zeit KBA region (Camina *et al.* 2024) include Steppe Eagle, Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*), Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Clanga pomarine*), Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) and Booted Eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*). Roosting and resting locations are likely temporally and spatially variable and in most instances are not predictable (Camina *et al.* 2024). It is likely that other migratory soaring bird species which migrate through the area will also be recorded resting on the ground in the future, especially when conditions prevent them from continuing their migration (e.g. during sandstorm events or other adverse weather conditions). In autumn, many birds arrive tired after crossing the Gulf of Suez, flying at low altitudes and often land in large numbers (BirdLife International 2024). Accordingly, the Project airspace was included in the CHA.

Two EAAAs were initially defined, one for terrestrial resident species and another for migratory bird species. The initial EAAA for resident species was subsequently divided as explained in the section below.

2.2.1 Resident Species EAAA

As a first step, an area of assessment for resident species was initially established as the Project concession area plus the catchments overlapping a buffer distance of 20 km around the wind farm area. The buffer distance applied reflects a conservative distance beyond the Project boundary that a highly mobile resident species (e.g. a lark or a Dorcas Gazelle [*Gazella dorcas*]) might occur and still reasonably be expected to interact with Project infrastructure (Reitz & Benellem 2023; Kemp *et al.* 2024). For some species (e.g. terrestrial flora and less mobile species like reptiles), a 20 km buffer is likely to be highly conservative as potential impacts to species are unlikely to occur more than a few hundreds of meters beyond the Project boundary. Within this area, the dominant habitats within the Project area were used to refine the EAAA. Escarpment areas above 250 m a.s.l. were excluded, because (i) they represent very different habitat types to the gravel and sand plain desert habitat within which the Project occurs and (ii) Project impacts (direct or indirect) on these systems are unlikely. This area was used as a study area for the initial screening.

Following this exercise, the need to establish bespoke EAAAs was investigated, based on landscape characteristics, habitat availability and potential species ranges, for species considered potential triggers of CH (Table 4, see Section 2.3 - Determination of CH).

For all species, except the Greater Mouse-tailed Bat (*Rhinopoma microphyllum*), the area of EAAA based on the 20 Km buffer was considered appropriated and retained as the EAAA (Figure 3). For the Greater Mouse-tailed Bat, a specific, a wider EAAA was defined, based on the known maximum foraging movement distance of 90 km (Wilson & Mittermeier 2026) The EAAA was delineated by establishing a buffer of 90 km radius around the Project perimeter, excluding

marine areas but retaining mountainous area as these may also provide suitable habitat for the species.

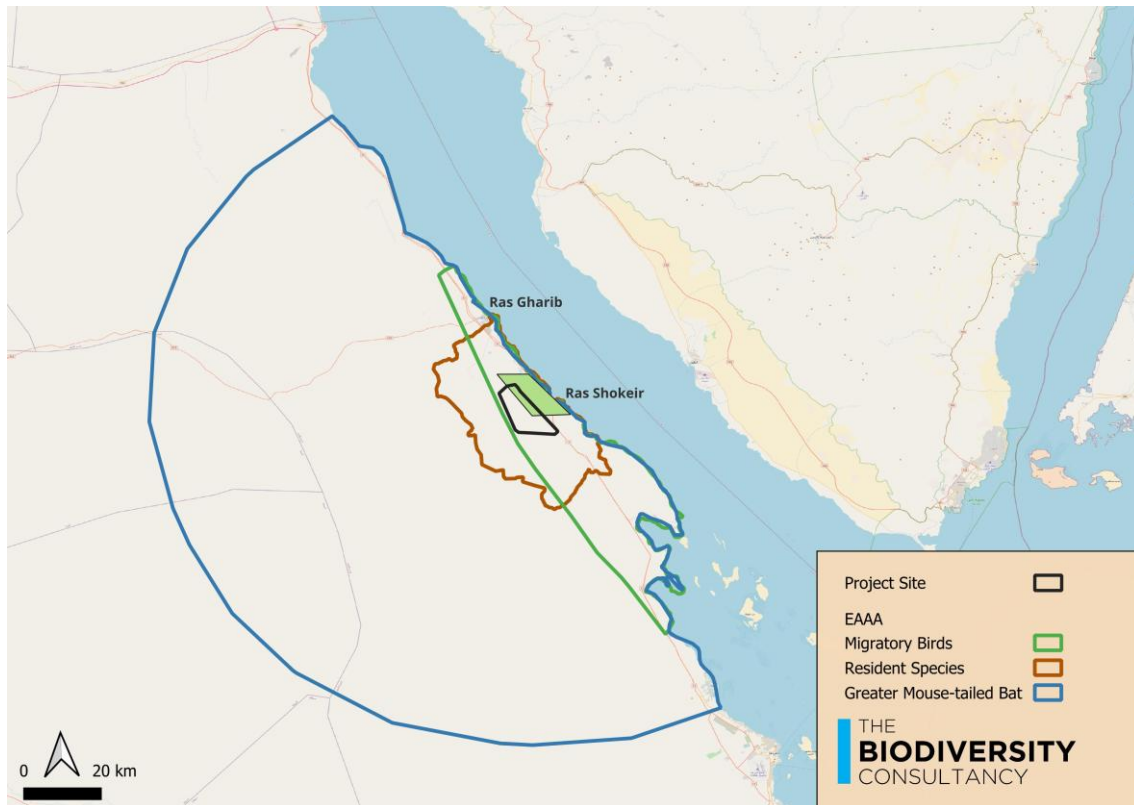


Figure 3. EAAAs used in the CHA.

2.2.2 Migratory Bird EAAA

The Migratory Bird EAAA was defined based on the Gebel el Zeit KBA¹⁰ and IBA¹¹ boundaries. As mentioned at the beginning of Section 2.2, this area represents a particularly important bottleneck site within the Red Sea/Rift Valley flyway where birds of prey, storks and pelicans migrate through and usually land, rest or roost (GreenPlus Environmental Solutions 2023d, 2023e, 2024e, 2024d, 2024a, 2024b; Safe Soar 2025d; Safe Soar for Environmental Studies and Consultations 2025). Species reported on the ground very close to the Project area include Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*), Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) and Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) (Camina *et al.* 2024), while Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Clanga pomarina*), Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) and Booted Eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*) have been recorded on the ground in the wider Gebel el Zeit KBA region (Camina *et al.* 2024). The EAAA includes the airspace up to the turbine blade height as a proxy for the ecological constraint on migratory

¹⁰ <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/6217>

¹¹ <https://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/gebel-el-zeit-iba-egypt>

soaring birds related to the environmental, geographic and topographic characteristics of the area.

2.3 CH Determination

To support the identification of Critical Habitat- qualifying features, TBC conducted an IFC PS6/EBRD ESR6/EIB ESS4 aligned biodiversity screening, to identify a shortlist of species for more detailed assessment. These included:

- All globally or nationally Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) species with overlap between the initial EAAA that was used as a screening area (see Section 2.2) and their global ranges and potential presence in the EAAAs;
- All restricted-range species (i.e. species that have an Extent of Occurrence (EOO) less than 50,000 km²) which have a global range overlapping the screening area;
- Migratory and congregatory species which have a global range overlapping the screening area;
- Species that trigger the designation of KBAs and/or IBAs overlapping with, or in proximity to, the EAAAs.

For the non-migratory terrestrial species, a further refinement was conducted for these lists to screen out those species which would clearly not meet relevant thresholds (e.g. due to the low level of overlap between the relevant EAAA and the species' range, habitat unsuitability, or because they are known to be extinct in the EAAA, etc.).

The shortlist of species, which occur (or are likely to occur) in the Project area of influence, was then assessed against the applicable CH criteria and thresholds ([Appendix 1](#)) and informed by field survey data¹², secondary data and expert input on their status and distribution within the relevant EAAAs. Where population data was not available, the percentage overlap between the species range and the EAAA, calculated in GIS using species range data obtained from IBAT and the EAAA boundary, was used as a proxy for the population likely to be present. In the absence of species-specific population distribution data, this approach assumes that population is distributed approximately in proportion to range extent.

Data used to assess relevant thresholds for the Migratory Bird EAAA includes count information from surveys undertaken primarily within the Project area. Monitoring associated with the Project has been ongoing since 2016, providing a substantial dataset on bird migration within the EAAA. Where data were missing on bird flight heights, this was supplemented with flight

¹² Conducted by consultants on behalf of the Project. No field work was undertaken specifically for the CHA.

height data from the site adjacent to the Project (SWE Plot 2) over 4 seasons (spring and autumn 2022 and 2023) (EcoConServ *et al.* 2023, 2024a, 2024b, 2024c, 2024d).

Because the three wind farms that are part of the Project are monitored independently, the maximum species count recorded across the three wind farms for each migratory season was selected as the seasonal estimate of migratory bird numbers. This approach was used to avoid double-counting individuals observed at multiple locations. However, this method is expected to underestimate actual migratory flows. It assumes that all birds crossing the Project area can be detected from the three wind farms, which is not the case given visibility limitations and observation constraints. Additional underestimation arises because not all species migrating through the KBA necessarily pass over the Project area, meaning those individuals are not accounted for in Project monitoring data.

For critical habitat determination, the assessment considered only individuals recorded within the EAAA flying below 200 m, together with birds recorded resting or roosting within the area. This low altitude was used as a proxy for the ecological constraint on migratory soaring birds related to the environmental, geographic and topographic characteristics of the area, including the extent of thermal uplift and other conditions that concentrate migratory soaring birds within the air column. These individuals are therefore more likely to be ecologically associated with the landscape than birds passing through at higher altitudes. Species were assessed against the applicable thresholds using these estimates rather than total seasonal passage numbers.

A precautionary approach was taken to assess the importance of low-flying migratory bird counts. The percentage of the global population was based on the lowest estimate of the global population published by IUCN (most bird population estimates have substantial confidence intervals)¹³.

For species which the IUCN Red List reports only the number of mature individuals, these values were converted to total population estimates by applying the ratio of mature to total individuals derived from closely related taxa.

Species were categorised, based on available evidence for whether they are CH-qualifying, as:

- **Certain** – where the available data demonstrate exceedance of CH threshold(s) (e.g. based on numbers already confirmed by field verification);
- **Likely** – where the available evidence (e.g., range overlap and habitat suitability) suggests that species' presence in the EAAA is likely to exceed CH threshold(s), but where there is no direct field verification of such numbers;
- **Possible** – where:

¹³ In the case of Levant Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), the lower global population estimate by IUCN (i.e. 10,000 mature individuals, or 14,925 total individuals) is known to significantly underestimate the global population size of the species. Numbers of individuals observed migrating through the Project area (e.g. 28,120 in spring 2025 reported in Safe Soar 2025d) greatly exceed this lower global population estimate. Our assessment therefore used the maximum, instead of minimum, available global population estimate (19,999 mature individuals, or 29,849 total individuals) to reduce the overestimation of count significance.

- the available evidence (e.g., range overlap and habitat suitability) suggests that species presence in the EAAA is close to CH threshold(s);
- there is the potential for the EAAA to have a higher proportion of the population than average; or,
- suitable habitat for a species is present in the EAAA, but the species' range or abundance is poorly understood, and no targeted surveys have been undertaken to determine the species' status in the Project area or EAAA; or,
- **Does not qualify** – where the available evidence indicates that CH threshold(s) would not be exceeded.

2.4 Constraints and limitations

Potential constraints to the desktop-based analysis for this CHA include the usage of some global biodiversity datasets, which may not yet include species that could be present, but which have not yet been evaluated on the IUCN Red List.

Those species with national Red List assessments were possible to assess against Criterion 1.c (IFC 2019) but this criterion does not provide quantitative thresholds for assessment, requiring the use of expert judgement.

Additionally, the application of the quantitative critical habitat thresholds should be considered precautionary, due to lack of population data for some species, which sometimes makes it challenging to determine whether a species is likely to meet the IFC PS6 GN6 thresholds for criteria 1-3 and equivalent criteria for EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4.

3 Results of the CHA

3.1 Critical habitat-qualifying species

The initial screening has identified a total of 361 species as indicated in IUCN Red List distribution maps, other global datasets such as GBIF, eBird or BirdLife data zone, or from field survey data.

An initial review of species was conducted to screen out those species which would clearly not meet relevant thresholds, due to:

- Having a range/EAAA overlap of <0.5% and no indication of >0.5% of the population being present in the EAAA;
- Being non-migratory and having an IUCN threat status of LC or NT, despite having a range overlap >0.5%;
- Species strongly associated with habitats that are not present in the Project area (e.g. resident marine bird species); or,
- Vagrant species (occasional individuals that wander far from their usual breeding, wintering, or migration routes)

This resulted in 197 species, listed in Appendix 2, that met one or more of the following criteria: an IUCN or national threat status of CR, EN or VU or being a migratory species (including migratory birds potentially crossing the Project airspace). No restricted-range species were identified within the EAAAs.

Following this process, bird species that do not occur regularly in the EAAA or that occur in very low numbers comparing to the population size, were excluded from the analysis (e.g. waterbirds and passerines that migrate at night and do not stop-over at the site were excluded). This resulted in a short-list of 39 species, that were screened in detail against relevant thresholds (Table 4), of which:

- Six species are certain to qualify the Migratory Bird EAAA as Critical Habitat: Levant Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter brevipes*), Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*), White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*), Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) and European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*);
- One species possibly qualifies the Migratory Bird EAAA as Critical Habitat: Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard (*Buteo buteo vulpinus*), and it is recommended that this species should be treated as a PBF (see Section 3.2) by the Project unless additional information becomes available to suggest it would exceed CH-qualifying numbers in the Migratory Bird EAAA.

Table 4. Species assessed in detail against critical habitat criteria. For the long list of species screened, refer to Table A2 of Appendix 2. Unless where otherwise noted, all survey results are taken from the references listed in section 2.1

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Species confirmed to qualify the relevant EAAA as CH							
Levant Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>)	Least Concern (LC)	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	60,390	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 16,622 individuals (range: 11,516 - 28,120 individuals) per spring migratory season between 2022 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 57% of the species' minimum global population, therefore greatly exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species
Steppe Eagle (<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>)	EN	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1a, 3a ESR6: 2b, 4a ESS4: 2a, 4a	94,116	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 11,978 individuals (range: 10,882-13,104) per spring migratory season between 2022 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 9% of the species' minimum global population, therefore exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species
White Stork (<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR: 4a ESS4: 2a	882,000	An average of 347,933 individuals (range: 288,271-445,794 individuals) have been recorded during the spring and autumn migratory periods in the Project area from 2022 to 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 43% of the species' minimum global population, therefore greatly exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Black Stork (<i>Ciconia nigra</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	32,110	An average of 2,258 individuals (range: 1,712-2,693 individuals) were recorded during the spring seasons from 2022 to. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 6% of the species' minimum global population, therefore exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 2a/ESS4 4a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species
Great White Pelican (<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	265,000	An average of 38,152 individuals (range: 22,766-51,840 individuals) have been recorded during the spring and autumn migratory periods in the Project area from 2022 to 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 15% of the species' minimum global population, therefore exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species
European Honey-buzzard (<i>Pernis apivorus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	528,000	Surveys conducted in the project area recorded an average of 46,198 individuals (range: 21,150–96,898 individuals) have been recorded during migration periods since autumn 2021 season and spring 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 12% of the minimum global population, therefore exceeding the threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a.	The EAAA qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species
Species possibly qualifying the relevant EAAA as CH							
Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard (<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR: 4a ESS4: 2a	3,340,000	Surveys in the Project area recorded an average of 35,078 birds (range: 24,999-43,302 individuals) individuals per spring migratory season from 2022 to 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.9% of the species' minimum global population, close to the 1% threshold for qualification under Criteria PS6 3a/ESR6 4a/ESS4 2a. Given	The EAAA possibly qualifies as Critical Habitat for this species

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
						that vantage point surveys cover a limited spatial extent of the KBA it is considered that the total number of birds flying low through the Migratory Bird EAAA during an entire migratory season may still exceed 1% of the species' minimum global population.	Considered PBF
Species that do not qualify the relevant EAAA as CH - birds							
Lesser Spotted Eagle (<i>Clanga pomarina</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	76,500	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 640 individuals (range: 525-794 individuals) per spring migratory season between 2023 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.6% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Common Crane (<i>Grus grus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	718,160	Spring surveys conducted from 2022 to 2025 recorded an average of 9,931 individuals (range: 3,657-14,844 individuals). The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.04% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered PBF.
Egyptian Vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>)	EN	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1a, 3a ESR6: 2c, 4a ESS4: 2a, 4a	18,600	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 100 individuals (range: 45-181 individuals) per migratory season between 2023 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.6% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species Considered a PBF.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Greater Spotted Eagle (<i>Clanga clanga</i>)	VU	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1b, 3a ESR6: 2c,4a ESS4: 2b, 4a	16,998	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 31 individuals (range: 1-89 individuals) per migratory season between 2023 and spring 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.5% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Eastern Imperial Eagle (<i>Aquila heliaca</i>)	VU	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1b, 3a ESR6: 2c,4a ESS4: 2b, 4a	27,200	An average of 62 individuals (range: 38-86 individuals) have been recorded in the Project area or vicinity during spring migration between 2022 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.3% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Black Kite (<i>Milvus migrans</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	6,680,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 15,415 individuals (range: 3,415-27,662 individuals) per migratory season between 2023 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.3% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Pallid Harrier (<i>Circus macrourus</i>)	Near Threatened (NT)	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	30,060	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 20 individuals (range: 4-47 individuals) per migratory season between 2023 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.1% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Eurasian Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	2,800,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 59 individuals (range: 8-166 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.01% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Bonelli's Eagle (<i>Aquila fasciata</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	34,000	This species was detected twice since 2022, in the spring migratory periods of 2022 and 2023 when, respectively, 3 and 2 individuals were recorded. It is possible that these individuals may be part of a breeding population occurring in the Red Sea mountain chain, thus not corresponding to migratory individuals. In any case, these counts represent less than 0.01% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Long-legged Buzzard (<i>Buteo rufinus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	167,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 159 individuals (range: 83-298 individuals) per spring migratory season between 2022 and 2025. These count values represent a maximum of 0.2% of the species' minimum global population. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.1% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Short-toed Eagle (<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	85,000	An average of 210 individuals (range: 170-242 individuals) have been recorded in the Project area during spring migration between 2022 and 2025. The percentage of low-flying birds recorded within the EAAA represents 0.2% of the species' minimum global population, and it is considered very unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates at a low height through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Western Marsh Harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	1,002,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 200 individuals (range: 41-426 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.1% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Montagu's Harrier (<i>Circus pygargus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	501, 000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 31 individuals (range: 5-69 individuals) per migratory season between autumn 2021 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.02% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Lanner Falcon (<i>Falco biarmicus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	100,001	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 10 individuals (range: 2-39 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.04% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Sooty Falcon (<i>Falco concolor</i>)	VU	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1b, 3a ESR6: 2c, 4a ESS4: 2b, 4a	3,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 2 individuals (range: 1-7 individuals) per migratory season between autumn 2022 and spring 2025 season These counts represent a maximum of 0.2% of the species' minimum global population and it is unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF
Eleonora's Falcon (<i>Falco eleonora</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	48,600	A maximum of two individuals per migratory season was recorded for this species. between autumn 2021 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.005% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Lesser Kestrel (<i>Falco naumanni</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	120,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded 0 to 3 individuals per migratory season between 2023 and 2025. The species has been recorded 60 times within the Migratory Bird EAAA on GBIF (2026), with a high count of 45 individuals in the Gebel el Zeit IBA (https://ebird.org/checklist/S84991296). Despite being a trigger species for the Gebel el Zeit IBA, and notwithstanding that day-time surveys may be less accurate for this species, which also migrates at night (Camina <i>et al.</i> 2024) it is unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	140,000	A maximum of two individuals per migratory season was recorded for this species. between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.002% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Eurasian Hobby (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	1,260,000	A maximum of three individuals per migratory season was recorded for this species. between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.001% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Common Kestrel (<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	6,020,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 92 individuals (range: 21-190 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.004% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA. It should be noted that a portion of these records are likely to correspond to resident individuals.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Red-footed Falcon (<i>Falco vespertinus</i>)	VU	-	Confirmed	PS6: 1b, 3a ESR6: 2c,4a ESS4: 2b, 4a	402,500	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 5 individuals (range: 0-19 individuals) per migratory season between autumn 2022 and spring 2025 season. These count values represent less than 0.01% of the species' minimum global population. While surveys covered a limited spatial extent, it is unlikely that the total number of birds passing through the Migratory Bird EAAA during an entire migratory season would exceed 1% of the species' minimum global population.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Griffon Vulture (<i>Gyps fulvus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	80,000	A maximum of six individuals per migratory season was recorded for this species. between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.008% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that >1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Booted Eagle (<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	250,500	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 108 individuals (range: 38-189 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent a maximum of 0.07% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that > 1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	167,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 16 individuals (range: 11-22 individuals) per migratory season between 2022 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.02% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that > 1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.
Crested Honey Buzzard (<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>)	LC	-	Confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 2a	100,000	Surveys within the Project area recorded an average of 3 individuals (range: 0-9 individuals) per migratory season autumn 2021 and spring 2025. These counts represent less than 0.01% of the species' minimum global population and it is considered unlikely that > 1% of the species' minimum global population migrates through the EAAA.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Species that do not qualify the relevant EAAA as CH - other species							

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
Painted Lady (<i>Vanessa cardui</i>)	LC	-	Not confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 4a	Unknown	This is a migrant species from North Africa colonizing Europe and the Near East each year. Although it is listed in the Egyptian Red List of Butterflies (Gilbert & Zalut 2007), its national conservation status was not assessed because it is not considered a resident species in Egypt. As the EAAA represents less than 0.001% of the species' global range, it is unlikely to hold more than 1% of the global population and therefore does not trigger PS6 Criterion 3a, ESR6 Criterion 4a or EIB ESS4 Criterion 4a.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Vagrant Emperor (<i>Anax ephippiger</i>)	LC	-	Not confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 4a	Unknown	This species is a common Afrotropical migratory and congregatory taxon that expands northward with the seasonal monsoon fronts (Subramanian 2016). As the EAAA represents less than 0.01% of the species' global range, it is unlikely to hold more than 1% of the global population and therefore does not trigger PS6 Criterion 3a, ESR6 Criterion 4a, or EIB ESS4 Criterion 4a.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard (<i>Uromastix aegyptia</i>)	VU		Confirmed	PS6: 1b ESR6: 2c ESS4: 2b	Unknown	The Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard has a distribution extending across most of the Arabian Peninsula and northeast Egypt. Its population size is unknown, although its occurrence is very patchy and it appears to be uncommon and declining in Egypt (IUCN 2024). This species occurs in open, flat, gravelly, stony and rocky areas, and it is infrequently seen in sandy areas (IUCN 2024). The Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard has a range of 2,953,120 km ² , of which 0.04% overlaps with the Resident Species EAAA. It is very unlikely that the Resident Species EAAA contains >0.5% of the global population, nor sufficient numbers, the loss of which, would cause the species to be upgraded to EN, and thus the	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF.

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
						species does not qualify under EIB Criterion 2b or PS6 Criterion 1b respectively.	
Nubian Ibex (<i>Capra nubiana</i>)	VU	EN	Confirmed	PS6: 1b ESR6: 2c ESS4: 2b	4,500 (Ross <i>et al.</i> 2020)	This species typically occurs in rocky desert mountains with steep slopes and hills. It is also found in associated plateaus, canyons and wadis (Ross <i>et al.</i> 2020). The global population is estimated at approximately 4, 500 individuals. In Egypt, two main populations are recognized, the Eastern Desert Population, and the South Sinai population, with a combined estimated size ranging from 600 to 1250 individuals. The species is classified as Endangered in the National Red List (Basuony <i>et al.</i> 2010) due to reductions in its area of occupancy and habitat fragmentation. At least one individual was detected within the Resident Species EAAA (Safe Soar 2025), which was considered to be a vagrant, as the EAAA does not represent the typical mountain habitat of the species and does not contain relevant grazing areas. Additionally, the EAAA represents 0.25% of the species; global range (344,026 km ²) making it unlikely that it could support a number of individuals whose loss would cause the species status to be upgraded to EN. Therefore, the species does not qualify under PS6 Criterion 1b, ESR6 Criteria 2c or EIB ESS4 Criteria 2b.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species.
Dorcas Gazelle (<i>Gazella dorcas</i>)	VU	VU	Confirmed	PS6: 1b ESR6: 2c ESS4: 2b	Unknown (IUCN SSC)	There is uncertainty regarding the species' current global population size, as the most recent comprehensive estimate is over 20 years old. More recent reports indicate declines across much of its range and the disappearance of the species from several areas of former occurrence (IUCN SSC Antelope Specialist Group 2017). In Egypt, the population is estimated at 1,000–2,000 individuals (IUCN SSC Antelope Specialist Group 2017) and is considered to be in decline (Basuony <i>et al.</i> 2010). One individual was recorded	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered PBF

Species	IUCN Status*	National Status**	Presence in EAAA	Criteria considered	Minimum global population estimate (IUCN 2026)***	Commentary	Conclusion
						within the EAAA (Safe Soar 2025e). The EAAA represents only 0.01% of the species' global range (9,951,434 km ²), making it unlikely that to hold a sufficient number of individuals whose loss would result in the species being uplisted to Endangered. Although there have been recent records of this species near the Project area, close to the Red Sea mountains, the site is being visited regularly by ecologists since 2016 and there is not a single record of the species in the area, so it is not likely to be present at the Project site. Therefore, the species does not qualify under PS6 Criterion 1b, ESR6 Criterion 2c or EIB ESS4 Criterion 2b.	
Greater Mouse-tailed Bat (<i>Rhinopoma microphyllum</i>)	LC	VU	Not confirmed	PS6: 3a ESR6: 4a ESS4: 4a	Unknown	The species is distributed from northern Africa through southwest Asia to Afghanistan, Pakistan and India having an estimated range of 7,186, 267 km ² (Monadjem <i>et al.</i> 2017). It is a migratory species, typical of arid areas. Roosts in crevices, small caves, mines, underground tunnels, wells, old monuments and buildings. Despite the species being considered uncommon and classified as Vulnerable at the national level (Basuony <i>et al.</i> 2010), colonies of several thousand individuals have been reported in Egypt (Monadjem <i>et al.</i> 2017), As the EAAA represents 0.02% of the species range it is unlikely that it holds > 1% of the population and triggers PS6 Criterion 3a, ESR6 Criterion 4a or EIB ESS4 Criterion 4a.	The EAAA does not qualify as Critical Habitat for this species. Considered a PBF
*Red List (RL) status: CR = Critically Endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near Threatened; LC = Least Concern; DD = Data Deficient; NE = Not Evaluated (IUCN 2025) ** Butterflies: (Gilbert & Zalut 2007); Mammals (Basuony <i>et al.</i> 2010) *** Minimum population estimates are as reported in the IUCN Red List. For some species the IUCN Red List reports the estimated number of mature individuals only. Where this was the case, these values were adjusted by the ratio of mature individuals to total individuals for related taxa.							

3.2 Priority Biodiversity Features – Species

The EAAAs overlap the range of 9 regularly occurring bird species and other resident fauna which are globally Endangered or Vulnerable. Of these:

- One species, the Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), qualifies as a PBF under EBRD ESR6 Criterion 2b as it is globally Endangered but does not meet CH-qualifying thresholds (see Table 4)
- One VU species, Greater Spotted Eagle, occurs regularly within the Project area of impact¹⁴, with an average of 31 individuals (range: 1-89 individuals) recorded per migratory season. This species does not meet CH-qualifying thresholds but should be treated as PBF (see Table 4)
- Two VU species do not meet the thresholds for Critical Habitat (see Table 4) and occur regularly within the Project area of impact, and should be considered as PBFs: Sooty Falcon (*Falco concolor*) and Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard (*Uromastix aegyptia*)
- The EN Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*), EN Lappet-faced Vulture (*Torgos tracheliotos*), VU Red-footed Falcon (*Falco vespertinus*) and VU European Turtle-dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) are not considered to occur regularly within the Project area of impact and are not considered as PBFs
- Habitats within the Project area are unlikely to support populations of two threatened mammal species: Nubian Ibex (*Capra nubiana*) and Dorcas Gazelle (*Gazella Dorcas*)
- Threatened bird species, such as Broad-billed Sandpiper (*Calidris falcinellus*), Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) and Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) do not occur in the project area and therefore were not considered as PBFs.

In addition, all migratory species regularly occurring in the Project area of impact that are not CH-qualifying or globally Endangered or Vulnerable should be considered as PBFs under EBRD ESR6 Criterion 4a (Table 5). Seventeen migratory soaring bird species qualify as PBF under EBRD ESR6 Criterion 4a. The Eastern Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*), Greater Spotted Eagle (*Clanga clanga*) and Sooty Falcon (*Falco concolor*) also qualify under Criterion 2b (Table 5). Migratory soaring birds which were not detected in all seasons and had a higher count in any of the seasons under five individuals were not considered as regularly occurring in the area of impact. The full list of species classifying as PBFs can be found in Table 5. Most other migratory birds, especially nocturnal migrants such as most passerines, are thought to migrate at high altitudes, well above the turbines, when crossing deserts (Dufour *et al.* 2026), and were not considered to regularly use area of impact. Post-Construction Fatality Monitoring conducted in operational wind farms in the region have recorded negligible numbers of non-soaring

¹⁴ Project area of impact refers to the total area likely to be affected by the Project's direct, indirect and cumulative impacts. In line with EBRD ESR6 guidance, the Project area of impact may be smaller or larger than the Ecological Area of Analysis and Assessment (EAAA), which is defined based on the ecology and distribution of the biodiversity feature concerned rather than the Project's impacts (EBRD 2025). This concept is broadly equivalent to the IFC PS6 term "project area of influence".

migrants. The migratory Greater Mouse-tailed Bat (*Rhinopoma microphyllum*) is also considered a PBF for the Project under Criterion 4a.

Egypt has a national Red Lists of threatened species for mammals and butterflies (Gilbert & Zalut 2007; Basuony *et al.* 2010). However, no species of these two groups qualified as PBFs under Criterion 2d of EBRD ESR6.

Table 5. Bird PBF species for the Project under EBRD ESR6, with an indication of IUCN Red List Conservation status, EBRD ESR6 criteria and the highest count in any of the surveyed seasons (Spring 2018-2025, Autumn 2018-2024).

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category*	National Red List Category**	EBRD ESR6 Criterion	Highest count
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	LC	-	4a	166
<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Eastern Imperial Eagle	VU	-	2b, 4a	86
<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>	Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard	LC	-	4a	43,302
<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	Long-legged Buzzard	LC	-	4a	298
<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake-Eagle	LC	-	4a	242
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western Marsh-Harrier	LC	-	4a	426
<i>Circus macrourus</i>	Pallid Harrier	NT	-	4a	47
<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Montagu's Harrier	LC	-	4a	69
<i>Clanga clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	VU	-	2b	89
<i>Clanga pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle	LC	-	4a	794
<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle	LC	-	4a	189
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite	LC	-	4a	27,662
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	LC	-	4a	22
<i>Falco concolor</i>	Sooty Falcon	VU	-	2b	7
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel	LC	-	4a	190
<i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	LC	-	4a	14,844
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Egyptian Vulture	EN	-	2b, 4a	181

Table 6. Non-bird PBF species for the Project

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category*	National Red List Category**	EBRD ESR6 Criterion
MAMMALIA	<i>Rhinopoma microphyllum</i>	Greater Mouse-tailed Bat	LC	VU	4a
REPTILIA	<i>Uromastix aegyptia</i>	Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard	VU	-	2b

3.3 Highly Threatened or Unique Ecosystems

A Red List Assessment of Ecosystems has not been produced for Egypt. Therefore, highly threatened and/or unique ecosystems were considered through a screening-level assessment, using ecosystem information and expert judgement. This assessment suggested that habitat present in the Project area does not likely satisfy the thresholds for highly threatened or unique ecosystems.

The habitats within the Project area, primarily sand and gravel plains and shallow wadis appear unlikely to qualify under IFC PS6 Criterion 4, EBRD ESR6 Criterion 1 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 4 based on a qualitative visual analysis using aerial imagery, their large spatial extent, and the lack of evidence that they contain unique plant or animal assemblages (with the exception of migrating birds, the area hosts a low diversity of plants and animals (Camina *et al.* 2025)).

3.4 Key Evolutionary Processes

Indicators for the potential presence of key evolutionary process include certain features of a landscape, including high spatial heterogeneity, environmental gradients, connectivity between habitats and sites of demonstrated importance for climate change adaptation. No quantitative thresholds exist for this criterion, so there is a reliance on expert opinion and qualitative value judgement. Review of existing information did not identify any structural attributes of the landscape within the EAAAs that are likely to be associated with key evolutionary processes, suggesting the Project area would not qualify as CH under IFC PS6 Criterion 5 and EIB ESS4 Criterion 6.

3.5 Biodiversity of socio-economic value (EIB criterion)

EIB ESS4 contains a CH criterion (Criterion 5) that is additional to IFC PS6 and EBRD ESR6 on biodiversity of socio-economic value, which states that *"areas of semi-natural and Natural Habitat used by indigenous peoples and local communities to obtain essential or priority benefits will be considered critical from an ecosystem service perspective."*

Review of existing information identified no biodiversity or ecosystems of significant social, economic or cultural importance to local communities and indigenous groups within the EAAA (AL AMAR Consulting Group & Energy & Environment Consultant (E&E) 2008; Camina *et al.* 2025). Ecotourism, especially related to birdwatching activities, is growing in Egypt and along the Gulf of Suez in particular (e.g., the Galala Observatory). To our knowledge, there is currently no quantification of the socio-economic value of these activities, but it is expected to be relatively low, especially around the Ras Ghareb region. Therefore, no areas are likely to qualify as CH under Criterion 5 of EIB ESS4.

3.6 Natural and modified habitat

Both the Project area and the EAAAs are in Natural Habitat (desert), with residual areas of modified habitat (Figure 4), based on satellite derived landcover layers (European Space Agency WorldCover 2021) and aerial imagery (GoogleEarth, viewed January 2026). Natural Habitat is represented by desert, including wadis and rock outcrops. The Greater Mouse-tailed Bat EAAA also includes mountainous desert. Modified Habitat is comprised of small agricultural areas (mostly poultry farms and plantations), wind farm infrastructure (located inside and outside the Project area), roads, and the Rhas Garib and Ras Shokeir urban areas that are within the Greater Moused tailed bat and Migratory Birds EAAA and partially covered by the Resident Species EAAA.

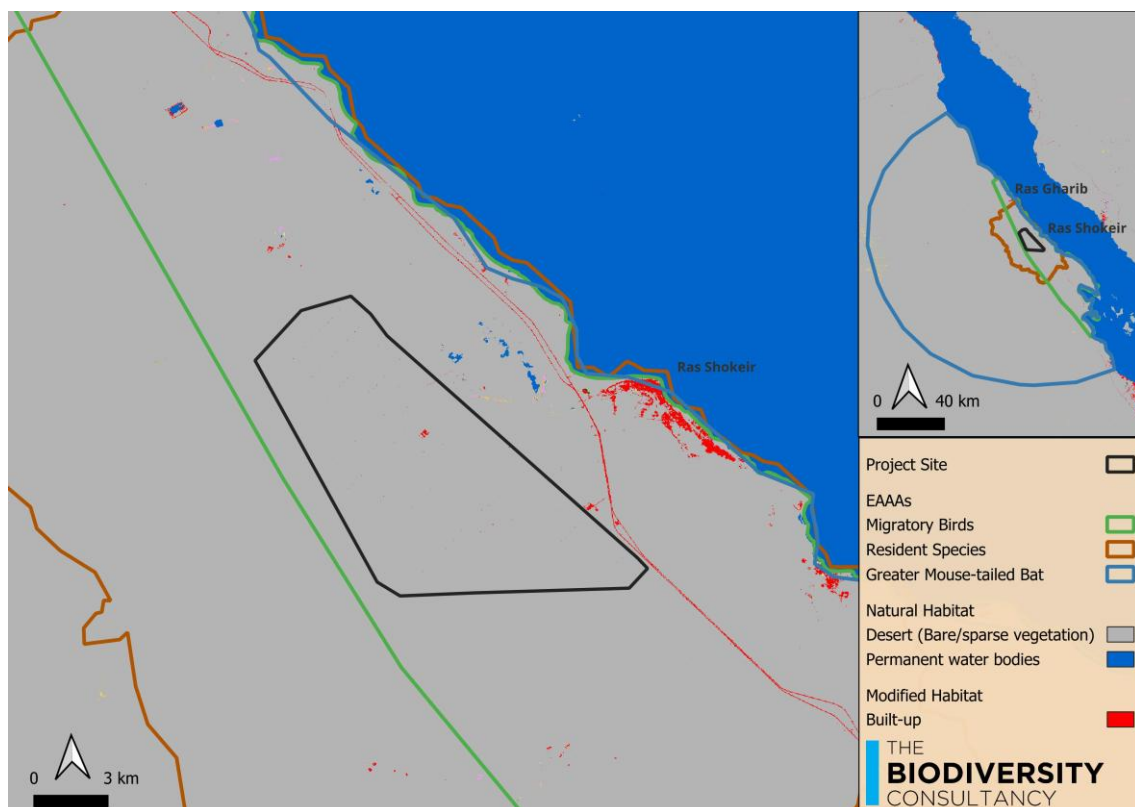


Figure 4. Map of land cover, including natural and modified habitats, across the EAAAs.

3.7 Legally Protected Areas and Internationally Recognised Areas

The Project is located entirely within an Internationally Recognised Area, the Gebel el Zeit KBA, which is also an Important Bird Area (IBA) (Figure 5).

The [Gebel el Zeit KBA](#) covers 1,584 km² of the Gulf of Suez coast from Ras Gharib in the north to the bay of Ghubbet El Gemsa in the south. The Gebel El Zeit KBA represents a globally important

migration corridor for soaring migratory birds, particularly birds of prey and storks, which are funnelled through this stretch of coast, between the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea Mountains, on their spring and/or autumn migrations. Birds of prey, storks and pelicans migrate through and usually land, rest or roost near the coastline and on the surrounding desert plains and hills. Gebel El Zeit itself serves as a stepping-stone for birds that make the crossing between the western coast of the Gulf of Suez and south Sinai in spring. In autumn the area is especially critical as many birds, after crossing the Gulf of Suez, arrive tired, flying at low altitudes and often land in large numbers. The KBA was last assessed in 2001, when counts from the KBA triggered criteria A1 (for White-eyed Gull, Eastern Imperial Eagle, Pallid Harrier, and Lesser Kestrel) and A4iv (species group – soaring birds/cranes). The KBA has not been formally assessed against the more recent global KBA standard, and while it is possible that one or more of the initial trigger species/groups may not qualify, there is strong evidence that multiple additional species would trigger the designation of the area as a KBA.

Project infrastructure overlaps the proposed [Malahet Ras Shukier Protected Area](#) (IUCN management category not recorded)(MSEA 2006), which covers an area of 107 km² that encompasses permanent hypersaline wetlands and flat sand plain (Figure 5). The biodiversity values and designation objectives of the proposed Malahet Ras Shukier Protected Area could not be confirmed from the information reviewed. Its relevance to the CHA and to Project biodiversity management therefore remains uncertain and should be verified with the competent authority.

The Greater Mouse-tailed Bat EAAA borders the [Red Sea Islands Protected Area](#) (IUCN management category not recorded), a marine protected area (reported area:1,800.0 km²) and overlaps the proposed [Shaieb El-Banat Protected Area](#) a terrestrial and inland waters protected area (reported area: 4,855.85 km²). Both areas are bordered by the Migratory Birds EAAA. The reason for the designation of these areas is also unknown.

There is no overlap between the Project and any Alliance for Zero Extinction or UNESCO World Heritage sites.

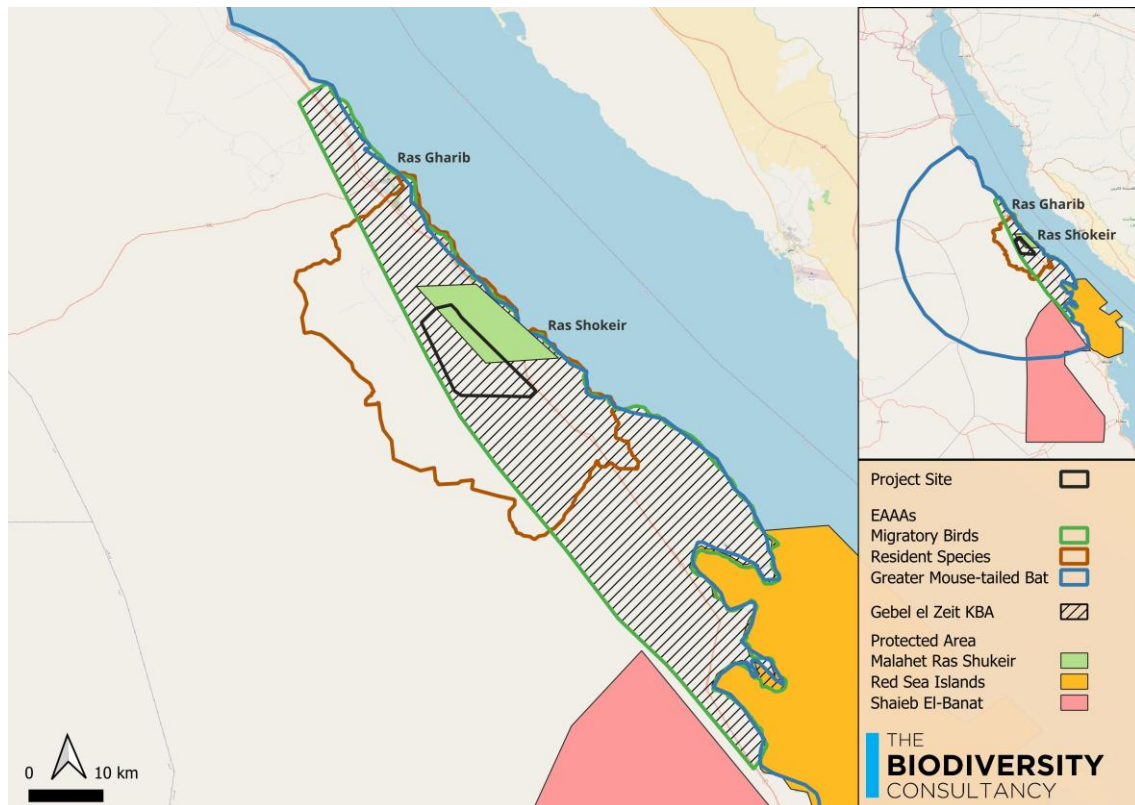


Figure 5. Map of Protected Areas and Internationally Recognised Areas in the context of the EAAAs.

4 Conclusion and recommendations

Based on the available data, this CHA finds that the Project is within an area that is certain to meet the IFC/EBRD/EIB definitions of CH for: Levant Sparrowhawk, Steppe Eagle, White Stork, Black Stork, Great White Pelican and European Honey-buzzard.

IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 set out a number of requirements for projects located in CH. Given that the Project is already operational, some requirements (particularly those relating to project siting and consideration of alternatives) are no longer directly applicable and are therefore presented for context only:

- No other viable alternatives within the region exist for development of the project:
 - on modified or Natural Habitats that are not critical (IFC PS6)
 - in habitats of lesser biodiversity value (EBRD ESR6)
 - and there is rigorous justification of overriding public interest based on human health, public safety considerations and/or beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment (EIB ESS4);

- The project does not lead to measurable adverse impacts:
 - on those biodiversity values for which the critical habitat was designated, and on the ecological processes supporting those biodiversity values (IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6);
 - that will result in any detrimental effect on the ecological and conservation status of the critical habitat, and impacts are avoided and minimised to the extent possible through changes in footprint or design (EIB ESS4);
- The project is designed to deliver NG for the critical habitat impacted by the project, with monitoring systems to demonstrate them (EBRD ESR6)
- The project does not lead to a net reduction in the global and/or national/regional population of any Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable species over a reasonable period of time (EBRD ESR6)
- The project is permitted under applicable environmental laws, recognising the priority biodiversity features (EBRD ESR6)
- Stakeholders are consulted in accordance with EBRD ESR1 and EIB ESS Standards 2 and 7; and,
- A robust, appropriately designed, and long-term biodiversity monitoring and evaluation program is integrated into the client's management program.

Given that the Project is now fully operational, some of the above requirements are no longer applicable. However, the Project is still required to demonstrate a NG for each CH-triggering species in accordance with IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6, and EIB ESS4.

The Project is in an area of mostly Natural Habitat. Therefore, the Project is required under PS6 to fully exercise the mitigation hierarchy, with an emphasis on measures aimed at avoiding and minimizing impacts. Residual impacts to Natural Habitat should be quantified and whether such impacts are considered significant should be assessed. Where significant residual impacts on NH remain, additional remediation and offset measures are likely to be required to achieve NNL, where feasible, on Natural Habitat and associated significant biodiversity. This translates into NNL for the PBF species (Table 5). Given that the Project is already operational, no further significant impacts on Natural Habitat are expected to occur.

Project infrastructure is entirely within the Gebel el Zeit KBA and so the requirements of PS6 paragraph 20, EBRD ESR6 paragraph 22 and ESS4 paragraphs 27-29 apply (IFC 2012; EIB 2022; EBRD 2024). The Project must:

- Demonstrate that the proposed development in the area is legally permitted and that the design of the project is consistent with a recognised management plan for the protected or designated conservation area. In the absence of a recognised plan, the project should be compatible with the achievement of the relevant conservation objectives used to designate the area in question;

- Act in a manner consistent with any government-recognised management plans for such areas
- Consult, as appropriate, the relevant managing authorities for the protected area, local communities and other relevant stakeholders on the proposed project; and,
- Seek to implement additional programmes, as appropriate, to promote and enhance the conservation objectives and effective management of the protected area.

The Project is within an area that meets the EBRD definition of PBFs for several bird species, including several migratory soaring birds, the Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard and the migratory Greater Mouse-tailed Bat. EBRD ESR6 requires>NNL and preferably a NG of PBFs over the long term, to achieve measurable conservation outcomes.

The Project's mitigation and conservation strategy should be documented in a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), demonstrating how the applicable requirements of IFC PS6, EBRD ESR6 and EIB ESS4 will be met. A quantitative Residual Impact Assessment for CH-qualifying features, Natural Habitat and PBFs will also be required – this could be as part of the BAP or as a standalone document. As the Project has been in operation for several years and has implemented a Post Construction Fatality Monitoring for migratory soaring birds, residual impacts of the Project on these species can be quantified.

EIB requires a compensation/offset implementation and management plan to be developed to demonstrate that the project can achieve NG for CH-qualifying features (ESS4 paragraph 21, EIB 2022) – this requirement could be fulfilled by the BAP required by IFC PS6.

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Appendix 1 Critical habitat criteria and thresholds

Table A1. Lenders' criteria and thresholds for critical habitat used for this Critical Habitat Assessment (CHA), according to IFC PS6¹⁵, EBRD ESR¹⁶ and EIB Standard 4¹⁷.

	IFC PS6	EBRD ESR6	EIB Standard 4
Globally and regionally threatened species			
Criteria	Criterion 1: Species threatened with global extinction and listed as CR and EN on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species Species that are listed nationally/regionally as CR or EN in countries that adhere to IUCN guidance shall be determined on a project-by-project basis	Criterion 2: Threatened species (b) IUCN Red List EN or CR species (c) IUCN Red List VU species (d) Nationally or regionally (for example, Europe) listed EN or CR species	Criterion 2: A habitat of priority and/or significant importance to critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable species, as defined by the IUCN Red List of threatened species and in relevant national legislation.
Critical Habitat Thresholds	(a) Areas that support globally important concentrations of an IUCN Red-listed EN or CR species ($\geq 0.5\%$ of the global population AND ≥ 5 reproductive units of a CR or EN species) (b) Areas that support globally important concentrations of an IUCN Red-listed Vulnerable (VU) species, the loss of which would result in the change of the IUCN Red List status to EN or CR and meet the thresholds in (a)	(b) EAAA supports ≥ 0.5 per cent of the global population AND ≥ 5 reproductive units of a CR or EN species (c) EAAA supports globally significant population of VU species necessary to prevent a change of IUCN Red List status to EN or CR, and satisfies threshold (b) (d) EAAA for important concentrations of a nationally or regionally listed EN or CR species	a) A population of an IUCN Red-listed endangered or critically endangered species that is $\geq 0.5\%$ of the global population and/or ≥ 5 established reproductive units of an endangered or critically endangered species b) Significant concentration of an IUCN Red-listed vulnerable species or of multiple IUCN Red-listed vulnerable species, especially where the loss of the area would result in the change of the IUCN Red List status to endangered or critically endangered c) Nationally or regionally important concentration of a species listed as endangered or critically endangered on a

¹⁵ (IFC 2019)

¹⁶ (EBRD 2025)

¹⁷ (EIB 2018, 2022)

	IFC PS6	EBRD ESR6	EIB Standard 4
	(c) As appropriate, areas containing important concentrations of a nationally or regionally listed EN or CR species		regional/national IUCN Red List, or equivalent on national/regional listing.
Priority Feature Threshold	-	(b) Species in the area of impact with IUCN global Red List status of VU, EN or CR. (c) Species in the area of impact with national or regional status of EN or CR	
Endemic and restricted range species			
Criteria	Criterion 2: For terrestrial vertebrates and plants, restricted-range species are defined as those species that have an Extent of occurrence (EOO) less than 50,000 square kilometers (km²). For marine systems, restricted-range species are provisionally being considered those with an EOO of less than 100,000 km². For coastal, riverine, and other aquatic species in habitats that do not exceed 200 km width at any point (for example, rivers), restricted range is defined as having a global range of less than or equal to 500 km linear geographic span (i.e., the distance between occupied locations furthest apart).	Criterion 3: Range-restricted species	Criterion 3: A habitat of priority and/or significant importance to a population, range or distribution of endemic or restricted-range species, or highly distinctive assemblages of species For terrestrial vertebrates and plants, restricted-range species are defined as those species that have an Extent of occurrence (EOO) less than 50,000 square kilometers (km²). For marine systems, restricted-range species are provisionally being considered those with an EOO of less than 100,000 km². For coastal, riverine, and other aquatic species in habitats that do not exceed 200 km width at any point (for example, rivers), restricted range is defined as having a global range of less than or equal to 500 km linear geographic span (i.e., the distance between occupied locations furthest apart).
Critical Habitat Thresholds	Areas that regularly hold ≥10% of the global population size AND ≥10 reproductive units (the minimum number and combination of mature individuals necessary to trigger a successful reproductive event) of a species.	(a) EAAA regularly holds ≥ 10 per cent of global population AND ≥ 10 reproductive units of the species	a) They regularly hold ≥10% of the global population size and support ≥10 reproductive units of an endemic or restricted-range species b) They are considered by relevant specialists to support unique or rare assemblages of species that occur there habitually, predictably or repeatably. The constituent

	IFC PS6	EBRD ESR6	EIB Standard 4
			species may not meet other critical habitat thresholds mentioned here in their own right, but may present assemblages that are considered important to maintain high biodiversity in the area
Priority Feature Threshold	-	(a) All range-restricted species in the area of impact	
Migratory and congregatory species			
Criteria	Criterion 3: Migratory species are defined as any species of which a significant proportion of its members cyclically and predictably move from one geographical area to another Congregatory species are defined as species whose individuals gather in large groups on a cyclical or otherwise regular and/or predictable basis.	Criterion 4: Migratory and congregatory species	Criterion 4: A habitat required for the survival of migratory species and/or congregatory species
Critical Habitat Thresholds	(a) Areas known to sustain, on a cyclical or otherwise regular basis, ≥ 1 percent of the global population of a migratory or congregatory species at any point of the species' lifecycle (b) Areas that predictably support ≥ 10 percent of the global population of a species during periods of environmental stress	(a) EAAA sustains, on a cyclical or otherwise regular basis, ≥ 1 per cent of the global population at any point of the species' lifecycle (b) EAAA predictably supports ≥ 10 per cent of global population during periods of environmental stress	a) They sustain $\geq 1\%$ of the global population of a migratory or congregatory species at any point of the species' lifecycle on a cyclical or otherwise regular basis b) They are needed to support migratory or congregatory species during periods of environmental stress
Priority Feature Threshold	-	(a) All migratory species in the area of impact	
Highly Threatened or Unique Ecosystems			
Criteria	Criterion 4: The IUCN is developing a Red List of Ecosystems; this should be used where formal IUCN assessments have been performed. Where formal IUCN assessments have not been performed, make assessments using systematic methods at the national/regional level.	Criterion 1: (b) IUCN Red List EN or CR ecosystems	Criterion 1: A highly threatened and/or unique ecosystem;

	IFC PS6	EBRD ESR6	EIB Standard 4
Critical Habitat Thresholds	a) Areas representing $\geq 5\%$ of the global extent of an ecosystem type meeting the criteria for IUCN status of CR or EN. b) Other areas not yet assessed by IUCN but determined to be of high priority for conservation by regional or national systematic conservation planning.	(b) EAAA ≥ 5 per cent of global extent of an ecosystem type with IUCN status of CR or EN (c) EAAA is ecosystem determined to be of high priority for conservation by national systematic conservation planning	a) Priority Habitats (listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive) and habitats considered to be their equivalent in countries outside the EU b) $\geq 5\%$ of the global extent of an ecosystem type meeting the criteria for IUCN's Red List of Ecosystems with a status of critically endangered or endangered c) Examples of ecosystems outside the EU and not yet assessed by IUCN, but determined to be of high priority for conservation on the basis of regional or national level systematic conservation planning or informed specialist input
Priority Feature Threshold	-	(b) Ecosystem type with IUCN status of EN or CR	
Key Evolutionary Processes			
Criteria	Criterion 5: The structural attributes of a region can influence the evolutionary processes that give rise to regional configurations of species and ecological properties. For illustrative purposes, some potential examples of spatial features associated with evolutionary processes are as follows: • Landscapes with high spatial <i>heterogeneity</i>. • <i>Environmental gradients</i>, also known as <i>ecotones</i>. • <i>Edaphic interfaces</i> are specific juxtapositions of soil types (for example, serpentine outcrops, limestone, and gypsum deposits). • <i>Connectivity</i> between habitats (for example, biological corridors). • Sites of demonstrated importance to <i>climate change adaptation</i> for either species or ecosystems are also included within this criterion.		Criterion 6: A habitat of key scientific value and/or associated with key evolutionary processes. This may include, but is not limited to, exceptional representations of: a) Landscapes with high spatial <i>heterogeneity</i> b) <i>Environmental gradients</i>, also known as <i>ecotones</i> c) <i>Edaphic interfaces</i> that juxtapose soil types (e.g. serpentine outcrops, limestone and gypsum deposits) d) <i>Connectivity</i> between habitats (e.g. biological corridors) e) Sites of demonstrated importance to <i>climate change adaptation</i> for either species or ecosystems
Critical Habitat Thresholds	The significance of structural attributes in a landscape that may influence evolutionary	Expert Judgement required, no fixed thresholds	Expert Judgement required, no fixed thresholds

	IFC PS6	EBRD ESR6	EIB Standard 4
	processes will be determined on a case-by-case basis, and the determination of critical habitat will be heavily reliant on scientific knowledge.		
Priority Feature Threshold		Expert Judgement required, no fixed thresholds	
Biodiversity of socio-economic value			
Criteria	-	-	Criterion 5: Biodiversity and/or an ecosystem of significant social, economic or cultural importance to local communities and indigenous groups;
Critical Habitat Thresholds	-	-	Areas of semi-natural and natural habitat used by indigenous peoples and local communities to obtain essential or priority benefits will be considered critical from an ecosystem service perspective. Criteria for identifying priority ecosystem services should be developed for each project

Internationally recognized areas

IFC PS6 Guidance Note (GN) 54 (IFC 2019) also states that certain internationally recognized areas of high biodiversity value may be recognized as critical habitat and should be given special attention during assessments. Examples include the following:

- Areas that meet the criteria of the IUCN's Protected Areas Categories Ia, Ib and II (Dudley 2008);
- Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), which encompass Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)

Appendix 2 Species screened as part of the CHA

Table A2. List of species initially considered for critical habitat screening within the relevant EAAA boundary derived from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Spatial data accessed via IBAT and supplemented with species recorded during Project surveys and GBFI data. For the short list of species screened in detail in relation to critical habitat, refer to Table 4.

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category*	National Red List Category**	Migratory / Congregatory	IFC	EBRD	Screened in detail (yes/no)
Birds							
<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	Levant Sparrowhawk	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	Bonelli's Eagle	LC	-	Not a Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Eastern Imperial Eagle	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	Yes
<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	Steppe Eagle	EN	-	Full Migrant	1a, 3a	2b, 2c, 4a	Yes
<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>	Eurasian (Steppe) Buzzard	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	Long-legged Buzzard	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Circus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake-Eagle	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western Marsh-Harrier	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Circus macrourus</i>	Pallid Harrier	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Montagu's Harrier	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Clanga clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	Yes
<i>Clanga pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Griffon Vulture	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Egyptian Vulture	EN	-	Full Migrant	1a, 3a	2b, 2c, 4a	Yes
<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	European Honey-buzzard	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Oriental Honey-buzzard	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	Lappet-faced Vulture	EN	-	Congregatory	1a, 3a	2b, 2c, 4a	Yes
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Anas crecca</i>	Common Teal	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Tufted Duck	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Mareca strepera</i>	Gadwall	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category*	National Red List Category**	Migratory / Congregatory	IFC	EBRD	Screened in detail (yes/no)
<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Northern Shoveler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	Garganey	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Tachymarpis melba</i>	Alpine Swift	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Upupa epops</i>	Common Hoopoe	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Apus apus</i>	Common Swift	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Apus pallidus</i>	Pallid Swift	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>	Egyptian Nightjar	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	Eurasian Thick-knee	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Kentish Plover	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>	Caspian Plover	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Common Ringed Plover	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sandplover	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Grey Plover	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	No
<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	White-tailed Lapwing	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	Spur-winged Lapwing	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Cursorius cursor</i>	Cream-coloured Courser	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Collared Pratincole	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	Black-winged Pratincole	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Eurasian Oystercatcher	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	Whiskered Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	White-winged Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Black Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Common Gull-billed Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus armenicus</i>	Armenian Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	Caspian Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Lesser Black-backed Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus genei</i>	Slender-billed Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus hemprichii</i>	Sooty Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>	Pallas's Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Larus leucophthalmus</i>	White-eyed Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	Bridled Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Sterna repressa</i>	White-cheeked Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Little Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	Lesser Crested Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	Greater Crested Tern	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category*	National Red List Category**	Migratory / Congregatory	IFC	EBRD	Screened in detail (yes/no)
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Black-winged Stilt	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Pied Avocet	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Dunlin	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calidris falcinellus</i>	Broad-billed Sandpiper	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	No
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	No
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Little Stint	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	Ruff	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Snipe	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Marsh Sandpiper	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Common Redshank	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	Terek Sandpiper	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White Stork	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Oena capensis</i>	Namaqua Dove	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	European Turtle-dove	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	No
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Common Kingfisher	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	European Roller	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Merops apiaster</i>	European Bee-eater	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Merops persicus</i>	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Clamator glandarius</i>	Great Spotted Cuckoo	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Common Cuckoo	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Lanner Falcon	LC	-	Not a Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Falco cherrug</i>	Saker Falcon	EN	-	Full Migrant	1a, 3a	2b, 2c, 4a	Yes
<i>Falco concolor</i>	Sooty Falcon	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	Yes
<i>Falco eleonora</i>	Eleonora's Falcon	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Falco naumanni</i>	Lesser Kestrel	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Eurasian Hobby	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes

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<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	Red-footed Falcon	VU	-	Full Migrant	1b, 3a	2b, 4a	Yes
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Common Quail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Crex crex</i>	Corncrake	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Fulica atra</i>	Eurasian Coot	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Porzana porzana</i>	Spotted Crake	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Zapornia pusilla</i>	Baillon's Crake	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Great Reed-warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	Marsh Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	Sedge Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Common Reed-warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	Icterine Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Hippolais languida</i>	Upcher's Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>	Olive-tree Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Iduna pallida</i>	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Eurasian Skylark	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	Greater Short-toed Lark	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Melanocorypha bimaculata</i>	Bimaculated Lark	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Emberiza caesia</i>	Cretzschmar's Bunting	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	Corn Bunting	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Emberiza cineracea</i>	Cinereous Bunting	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Northern House Martin	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i>	Pale Rock Martin	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Eurasian Crag Martin	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Collared Sand Martin	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Red-backed Shrike	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Great Grey Shrike	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	Isabelline Shrike	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius nubicus</i>	Masked Shrike	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>	Red-tailed Shrike	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Lanius senator</i>	Woodchat Shrike	NT	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	River Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	Savi's Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	Common Grasshopper-warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Anthus campestris</i>	Tawny Pipit	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No

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<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	Red-throated Pipit	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Water Pipit	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Tree Pipit	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White Wagtail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	Citrine Wagtail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Western Yellow Wagtail	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>	Rufous-tailed Scrub-robin	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	Collared Flycatcher	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ficedula parva</i>	Red-breasted Flycatcher	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>	Semi-collared Flycatcher	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Common Nightingale	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	Bluethroat	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	Rufous-tailed Rock-thrush	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	Blue Rock-thrush	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted Flycatcher	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe cyprica</i>	Cyprus Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>	Desert Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	Black-eared Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	Isabelline Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe lugens</i>	Mourning Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrna</i>	Kurdish Wheatear	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Black Redstart	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Common Redstart	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Whinchat	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Common Stonechat	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Eurasian Golden Oriole	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	Spanish Sparrow	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Common Chiffchaff	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i>	Eastern Bonelli's Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	Wood Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca cantillans</i>	Subalpine Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca communis</i>	Common Whitethroat	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca conspicillata</i>	Spectacled Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>	Eastern Orphean Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca curruca</i>	Lesser Whitethroat	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No

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<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	Sardinian Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca melanothorax</i>	Cyprus Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca mystacea</i>	Menetries's Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca nisoria</i>	Barred Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Curruca ruppeli</i>	Ruppell's Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Eurasian Blackcap	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Garden Warbler	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great White Egret	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Purple Heron	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Squacco Heron	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cattle Egret	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Butorides striata</i>	Green-backed Heron	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Great White Pelican	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Eurasian Spoonbill	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	Greater Flamingo	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Eurasian Wryneck	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Black-necked Grebe	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>	Spotted Sandgrouse	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	No

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Insects							
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
<i>Anax ephippiger</i>	Vagrant Emperor	LC	-	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
Mammals							
<i>Capra nubiana</i>	Nubian Ibex	VU	EN	Not a Migrant	1b, 1c	2b	Yes
<i>Gazella dorcas</i>	Dorcas Gazelle	VU	VU	Not a Migrant	1b	2b	Yes
<i>Rhinopoma microphyllum</i>	Greater Mouse-tailed Bat	LC	VU	Full Migrant	3a	4a	Yes
Reptiles							
<i>Uromastix aegyptia</i>	Egyptian Spiny-tailed Lizard	VU	-	Not a Migrant	1b	2b	Yes