

What the future might hold for birds at the Havant Thicket Winter Storage Reservoir site

Existing birds which are likely to be more successful if the reservoir is constructed;



Coot with chick

© Dennis Bright



Mallard ducklings

© Dennis Bright

Coots, Moorhens, Lapwings and Mallards are more likely to be able to raise their young in the marshy wetland edges, where they will find it easier to avoid predators like foxes and crows



Black-headed Gulls

© Dennis Bright



Snipe

© Dennis Bright

Gulls are likely to use the site in larger numbers to bathe in the fresh water and to roost in safety

Wading birds will use the shallow vegetated edges of the wetland as a feeding and resting area

New birds that are likely to be attracted to the site if the reservoir is constructed;



Mute Swan

© Dennis Bright



Redshank

© Dennis Bright

Mute Swans are likely to set up home on the new reservoir and nest in the wetland

Wading birds will use the wetland as a feeding station as they migrate in the spring & autumn, probing in the soft muddy edges for food



Shoveler

© Dennis Bright



Wigeon

© Dennis Bright

New species of duck will feed and roost on the reservoir, especially in the winter months. Some may even stay and nest in the wetland area



Great Crested Grebes displaying © Dennis Bright



Little Grebe (Dabchick) on nest © Dennis Bright

Reservoirs are a favourite home for both the Great Crested and Little Grebes. These engaging birds dive under the water to catch fish



Kingfisher

© Dennis Bright

Hopefully the fish in the wetland area will attract the electric blue Kingfisher to the site



Little Egret

© Dennis Bright

Little Egrets use their dagger shaped bill to catch small fish in wetland areas, then they like to roost in nearby trees

We may even be lucky enough to attract some elusive birds of prey to the new reservoir;



The Hobby loves to hunt for dragonflies, moths and other prey over areas of marsh, open water and woodland. Often eating in flight.

They like to perch in water side trees to roost and preen between hunting sessions.

Hobby © Dennis Bright

The Osprey is a master fisherman, diving in to open areas of water to catch large fish.

In most years an Osprey has been seen hunting over Langstone Harbour, in August and September, catching fish to replenish its energy supplies before migrating south to Africa.

The reservoir would provide an ideal location for the Osprey to rest and feed on the long annual migration to and from Scotland.



Osprey © Dennis Bright

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If you see an unusual bird at the Havant Thicket Winter Storage Reservoir site please let us know. You can email us at: havantthicket@portsmouthwater.co.uk

