

CASE STUDY: NOVARTIS INGS

OVERVIEW

Location	Novartis Ings, on the South Bank of the Humber located near the old Novartis pharmaceutical plant.
Team Members	Novartis, North East Lincolnshire Council, Humber Nature Partnership (HNP), ERDF and Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Duration	2020-2022

1. REASONING

The site was developed as a refuge for migrating birds. The site not only provides a wildlife haven but also allows for wildlife offsets for developers looking to move to the area. Novartis was closing after operating for 73 years in Grimsby and this was a final goodbye to the community.

2. APPROACH

The site was developed with funding from ERDF, the Greater Lincolnshire LEP and support from Novartis Grimsby. The wetland habitat comprises several drainage ditches and flood land that was created to provide a wetland habitat for wading birds. The site was designed in collaboration with HNP and North East Lincolnshire Council, who hold the land now that Novartis have left. With the site on the bank of the Humber, it's a prime location for natural flood management and to act as suitable habitat for a variety of species. By building the pre-existing mitigation site, the hopes were to increase development in the area under the South Humber Industrial Investment Programme (SHIIP).

3. OUTCOMES

In 2022 there were more than 500 curlew seen on site, the highest number recorded since 1998 of an IUCN Red-Listed bird of much concern. How the site has fully impacted the local wildlife in the area has not yet been studied or reviewed. Other birds at that time included 260 redshank, 460 black tailed godwits and a range of other target waders and some scarce species. Grazing cattle are introduced seasonally to keep the sward height down, maintaining the site for wading bird species.

