Sylvan Ecology

BAT TREE SURVEY REPORT

HOOVER SITE,

MERTHYR TYDFIL

For:

WALTERS

Project: Hoover Site, Merthyr Tydfil		
Project Number	K001	
Title	Bat Tree Report	
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Client	Walters	
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Executive summary	
Site	The survey was conducted on all trees within or on the boundary of the site, to assess their suitability for roosting bat.
Protected Spp (Bats)	**Potential low Impact** – Some PRF-I trees were identified on site, that could be utilised by individual trees – Recommendations: impacts negated through mitigation
Conclusion	Mitigation will be implemented to prevent contravention of legislation.

Contents

1 INTRODUCTION

Background

1.1 This report presents information on a bat ground level tree assessment and where appropriate PRF aerial inspection survey of trees, that Sylvan Ecology were commissioned to produce in order to inform on the proposed development at *Hoover Site, Merthyr Tydfil*.

Ecological Context

1.2 The site is comprised of one large site and two smaller secondary sites. The largest area is located to the west of Merthyr Road and is an industrial unit. The site is mainly comprised of several large buildings and areas of hard standing. Multiple small buildings are located throughout the site. Around the site boundaries are scattered broadleaved trees, scrub, and semi-improved grassland. The south of the site is comprised of a cricket club which has a large area of amenity grassland, bare ground, two buildings and areas of scrub, woodland and introduced shrubs. A smaller site is located to the northeast of the largest site. The site is an old car park comprised mainly of hard standing with borders of scrub and woodland. The smallest site is located to the south of this site. It comprises two buildings, hard standing and boundaries of scrub and woodland.

1.3 The site lies approximately 2km to the southeast of Merthyr Tydfil. All associated land for the proposed development (herein referred to as the site) is located at:

- central OS grid reference: SO 05768 04156;
- nearest post code: CF48 4TU.

1.4 The immediate surrounding landscape is mainly industrial and commercial units. In the wider surrounding area there are residential areas, fields, and wooded areas. The Cardiff to Merthyr railway line is adjacent to the west of the site. The River Taff is located on the far side of the railway line approximately 30m to the west of the site boundary. The town of Merthyr Tydfil is located to the northwest.

Aims of Study

1.5 The aims of the study are to:

- determine the potential impacts on any bat roost from the proposed works; and
- outline the mitigation strategy, which will be required to

minimise impacts on bats within the site and to comply with any legal requirements, and identify requirements for any additional ecological surveys needed to determine potential ecological impacts.

2 METHODOLOGY

Visual Tree inspection

2.1 All trees on site were subject to a ground-based inspection for/of potential roosting features (PRFs) for bats. The survey was conducted under optimal conditions by a suitably experienced ecologist. Surveys were led by licenced bat worker and tree climber, David Price MCIEEM. Mr Price has 20 yrs professional consultancy experience and has worked on a variety of bat related projects throughout the UK.

2.2 All observations were made from the ground; using short focal range binoculars or a *Ridgid 40613, DJI Phantom* and *FLIR TG165-X* where appropriate.

2.3 The following signs were searched for:

- Woodpecker holes;
- Rot holes;
- Hazard beams;
- Partially detached plated bark;
- dead bats, as either complete or partial skeletons;
- insect remains (mainly wings & legs) below feeding perches;
- droppings;
- discolouring of entrance holes &;
- scratch-marks.

2.4 The tree survey includes all trees included in the topographical survey, as well as any small trees that might have been missed, additionally any off-site trees that could be impacted by the design should be included. The trees are sequentially numbered and, where appropriate, tagged, with the tags being placed as high as is convenient on the stem of each tree.

2.5 Trees growing as groups will be identified and assessed as such where the ecologist determines that this is appropriate. However, individual trees within any group should still be assessed separately if there is a need to differentiate between them, e.g. in order to highlight significant variation in attributes.

2.6 Individual trees and groups of trees are assessed in a transparent, understandable, and systematic way. The suitability of each tree or group of trees is recorded by allocating it to one of three categories, according to a scheme published in *Bat Conservation Trust's Bat Surveys*

– *Good Practice Guidelines* (2023). These categories are described below:

- Confirmed roosts
- PRF-M: PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.
- PRF-I: PRF is only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats ether due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.
- None: Trees with negligible potential to support bat roosts.

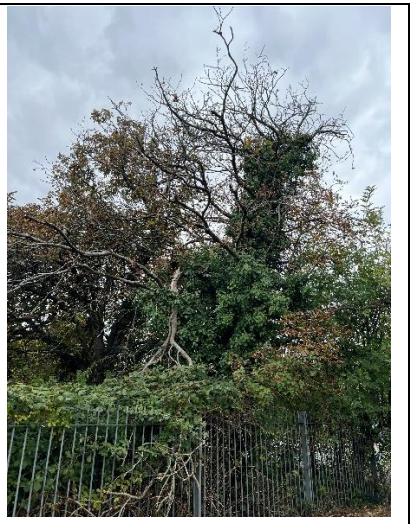
2.7 A description of the tree was made, with particular attention to the PRFs like those listed above. Where possible voids, cracks and crevices were noted. The categories should be differentiated on the tree survey plan by colours, and/or by suffixing the category adjacent to the tree identification number on the tree survey plan. The results of the inspection can be found below.

3 RESULTS

3.1 The majority of the trees on site were young / semi mature trees and formed groups on site. The trees were in good condition and due to their age, had negligible suitability for roosting bats. Within the groups, any trees that had features suitable for bats were recorded separately. Nine trees were deemed worthy of a *Category PRF-I* grade; the remainder of the trees and groups were *Category None,* no *Category PRF-M* trees were identified on site. A table depicting the results is shown below, not all trees required a photo to be taken, any tree that was healthy with no visible PRFs a photo was considered unnecessary. Any trees where decay was present, or a PRF was present a photo was taken, occasionally a photo was taken to better describe a tree, even though no features were present.

Table 1: Summery of the tree survey results

Tree No	Spp	Height (m)	Age	Condition	Tree description	PRF description	Bat Category	Photo
T1	Lawson Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)	4	Young	Poor	Unstable ornamental conifer leaning to the east.	N/A	None	N/A
T2	Cherry (*Prunus* spp.)	5	Mature	Fair	Short shrubby ornamental specimen of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

G3	Group of 2: Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	11	Mature	Fair	Inaccessible trees thus preventing full inspection and accurate measurement. Prominent specimens of reasonable form. Some dieback within upper crowns.	Dieback is within the upper crown and offers no suitability for bats. There is thin Ivy on the trees, though the ivy isn't thick enough to offer roosting potential, its possible that the ivy is obscuring other features, as a result the tree has been categorised as PRF-I.	PRF-I	
T4	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	5	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimen of poor form exhibiting weak basal forks.	N/A	None	N/A
T5	Cherry (*Prunus* spp.)	10	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent specimen that has suffered poor quality pruning work on western side of main stem leading to development of some internal decay within major branches.	Very thin ivy, not suitable for roosting. Minor rot hole, pointing up so likely fills with water, depth is negligible and not suitable for roosting.	None	
T6	Dead				Small stump	N/A	None	N/A

T7	Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*)	10	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent specimen that has suffered poor quality pruning work on western side of crown leading to commencement of some internal decay within major branches.	Very thin ivy, not suitable for roosting. Decay in upper branches, thin and not suitable for roosting.	None	
T8	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	10	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimen exhibiting early-stage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
T9	Crab Apple (*Malus sylvestris*)	6	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form that has suffered poor quality pruning on western side of crown.	N/A	None	N/A
T10	Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	5	Young	Poor	Coppice regrowth from decayed stump. These stems are vulnerable to structural failure as they mature.	N/A	None	N/A
G11	Group of: Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	6	Middle aged / Mature	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens of poor form and vigour. Some specimens exhibit significant basal decay.	Scrubby vegetation, decay in the form of fungus, no suitable PRFs. Ivy is thin an not suitable for roosting, trees to small to have features hidden by ivy.	None	
T12	Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	22	Mature	Fair to poor	Heavily suppressed specimen leaning to the north with crown developed on northern side only.	N/A	None	N/A

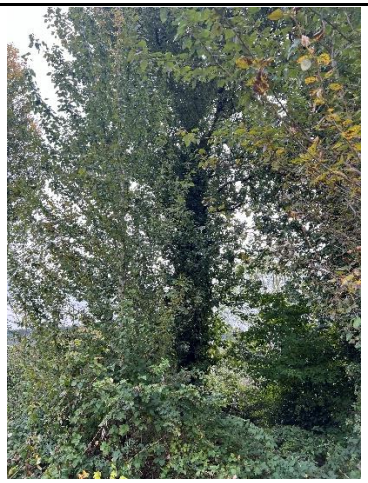
T13	Dead cherry	2				There are rot holes present, but they are very open and offer negligible potential for crevice dwelling bats.	None	
T14	Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	24	Mature	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T15	Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	24	Mature	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G16	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	21	Mature	Good	Prominent boundary specimens forming robust linear arboricultural feature. Trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T17	Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	25	Mature	Good	Prominent specimen of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G18	Group of 2: Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)	Up to 18	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G19	Group of 2: Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)	18	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T20	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	7	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimen of variable form.	N/A	None	N/A
G21	Group of 2: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	14	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

T22	Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)	14	Middle aged	Good	Tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T23	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	5	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated boundary tree of poor form heavily suppressed to the north and west.	N/A	None	N/A
G24	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	15	Middle aged	Good	Prominent trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T25	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	13	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary tree exhibiting significant dieback in centre of crown.	N/A	None	
T26	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	15	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T27	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	15	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary tree exhibiting significant dieback in centre of crown.	N/A	None	N/A
T28	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	14	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

G29	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	11	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary trees forming robust linear feature.	N/A	None	
T30	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	16	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T31	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	6	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimen of variable form whose crown extends over railway land.	N/A	None	
T32	Birch (*Betula pendula*)	13	Middle aged	Fair	Triple-stemmed naturally regenerated specimen of reasonable form and vigour. Basal forks are mildly included and may become a point of weakness as this specimen matures.	N/A	None	N/A

G33	Group of: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	6	Young	Fair	Naturally regenerated specimens of variable form that are vulnerable to structural failure as they mature.	N/A	None	N/A
T34	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	8	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimen exhibiting weak basal forks that are vulnerable to structural failure.	N/A	None	N/A
G35	Group of: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*), Birch (*Betula pendula*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	Up to 10	Young / Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens located immediately adjacent to structures that are in direct conflict with branching. All specimens are unsuitable for retention.	N/A	None	N/A
T36	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	5	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimen established immediately adjacent to retaining wall. This specimen is vulnerable to structural failure and unsuitable for safe retention.	N/A	None	N/A
T37	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	9	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimen exhibiting symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	

T38	Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	25	Mature	Fair	Prominent boundary tree that has been significantly pruned on western side of crown leading to development of some internal decay within main stem. This specimen is vulnerable to significant structural failure as it matures.	Monitor annually for safety.	None	
T39	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	9	Middle aged	Poor	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimen exhibiting weak basal forks.	N/A	None	
G 40	Group of: Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	8	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens located immediately adjacent to structures. These specimens are unsuitable for retention.	N/A	None	N/A
T41	Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	23	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary tree whose main stem is heavily colonised by ivy thus preventing full inspection. Historical crown reduction work has led to development of dysfunctional growth in upper crown. This specimen is vulnerable to structural failure as it matures.	There is ivy on the trees, though the ivy isn't thick enough to offer roosting potential, its possible that the ivy is obscuring other features, as a result the tree has been categorised as PRF-I.	PRF-I	

T42	Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	10	Mature	Poor	This specimen has been severely topped leading to significant development of internal decay.	There is ivy on the trees, though the ivy isn't thick enough to offer roosting potential, its possible that the ivy is obscuring other features, as a result the tree has been categorised as PRF-I. PRF-I	PRF-I	
G43	Group of 2: Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	22	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary trees that have suffered significant crown reduction in the past leading to development of dysfunctional growth in mid and upper crown. These specimens are vulnerable to significant structural failure as they mature.	There is ivy on the trees, though the ivy isn't thick enough to offer roosting potential, its possible that the ivy is obscuring other features, as a result the tree has been categorised as PRF-I. PRF-I	PRF-I	
G44	Group of: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	12	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated scrubby specimens of variable form that are unsuitable for long term retention. Ash are infected with Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A

G45	Group of 6: Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	21	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent linear feature containing trees that have been historically heavily crown reduced leading to development of internal decay in mid and upper crown as well as dysfunctional branch growth. These specimens are vulnerable to significant structural failure as they mature.	Very thin ivy, not suitable for roosting. Some bracket fungus, but no obvious PRFs from decay.	None	
G46	Group of: Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'), Birch (*Betula pendula*), Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	Up to 10	Young / Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimens forming linear screen adjacent to boundary.	N/A	None	

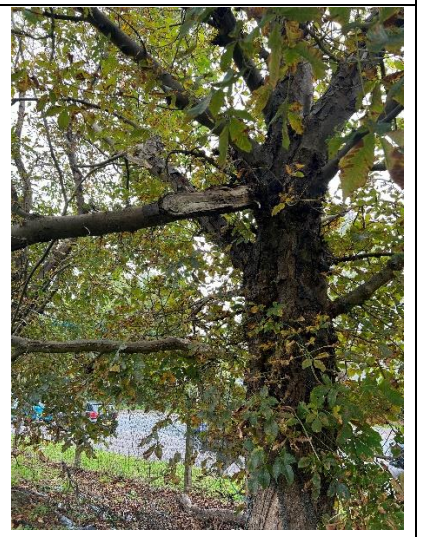
T47	Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	21	Mature	Fair to poor	Isolated and prominent specimen that has suffered significant historical crown reduction leading to development of dysfunctional growth in mid and upper crown. This specimen is vulnerable to significant structural failure as it matures.	N/A	None	
G48	Group of 2: Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')	24	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary specimens that have suffered significant historical crown reduction leading to development of dysfunctional growth in mid and upper crown. These specimens are vulnerable to significant structural failure as they mature.	N/A	None	
G49	Group of: Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*)	2	Middle aged	Fair	Dense boundary hedgerow.	N/A	None	N/A

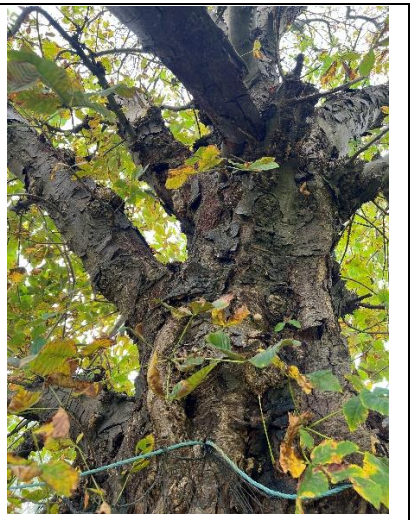
G50	Group of: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	10	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimens of variable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T51	Leyland Cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*)	15	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form exhibiting some thinning of foliage in mid and upper crown.	N/A	None	N/A
G52	Group of: Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	8	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens exhibiting early-stage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
T53	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	16	Middle aged	Good	Tree of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T54	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	15	Middle aged	Poor	Multi-stemmed specimen exhibiting early-stage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
T55	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	12	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby slightly suppressed specimen exhibiting some mechanical damage on northern side of main stem.	N/A	None	N/A
G56	Group of: Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	15	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimens of variable form.	N/A	None	N/A

G57	Group of: Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), Birch (*Betula pendula*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	Up to 18	Middle aged	Fair	Evergreen hedgerow containing some scrubby specimens of naturally regenerated trees.	N/A	None	
T58	Birch (*Betula pendula*)	19	Mature	Good	Prominent specimen surrounded by dense vegetation thus preventing full inspection and accurate measurement. A tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	
G59	Group of: Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*)	2	Middle aged	Fair	Dense boundary hedgerow.	N/A	None	

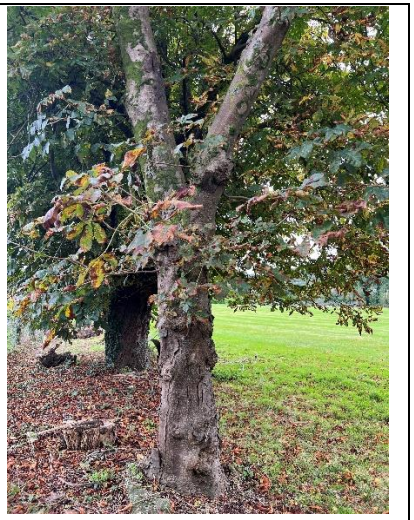
T60	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	11	Mature	Fair	Prominent and isolated naturally regenerated specimen located within roadside verge.	N/A	None	
G61	Group of: Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*)	11	Middle aged	Poor	Boundary trees of variable form. Ash are infected with Ash Dieback Disease. Whitebeam has suffered significant basal pruning leading to development of internal decay.	No visible PRFs.	None	
T62	Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)	5	Mature	Fair to poor	Naturally regenerated specimen of variable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G63	Group of: Swedish Whitebeam (*Sorbus intermedia*), Lime (*Tilia × europaea*), Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	Up to 19	Middle aged	Fair	Tree group dominated by reasonable specimens of Lime.	N/A	None	N/A

G64	Group of: Lime (*Tilia × europaea*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), Swedish Whitebeam (*Sorbus intermedia*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Up to 19	Middle aged	Fair	Tree group dominated by a tall specimen of Lime. Some trees exhibit minor mechanical damage at base.	N/A	None	N/A
T65	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	17	Middle aged	Poor	Multi-stemmed boundary tree exhibiting early-stage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	

G66	Group of 2: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	11	Mature	Fair	Prominent naturally regenerated specimens of a species that is vulnerable to structural failure at the base as it matures.	Light ivy growth, offers negligible roosting potential	None	
T67	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	17	Mature	Poor	Prominent boundary tree exhibiting significant internal decay within main stem and mid crown.	Some minor rot and damage to the tree, none of which offers viable roosting features. Some lifted bark offering limited roosting offer opportunities for crevice dwelling bats.	PRF-I	

T68	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	17	Mature	Poor	Prominent boundary tree exhibiting significant internal decay within main stem and major limbs.	Some lifted bark offering limited roosting offer opportunities for crevice dwelling bats.	PRF-I	
T69	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	18	Mature	Fair	Prominent and isolated boundary tree of reasonable form and vigour.	Small rot hole at the base of the tree. The hole is covered by a net limiting its roosting potential. An inspection with an endoscope found no evidence of roosting bats, the hole only entered a small distance into the tree. Some lifted bark offering limited roosting offer opportunities for crevice dwelling bats.	PRF-I	

T70	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	16	Mature	Fair to poor	Boundary tree of variable form exhibiting some decay within main branches.	Small rot hole, doesn't go far enough into tree to be a viable roosting feature. Some lifted bark offering limited roosting offer opportunities for crevice dwelling bats.	PRF-I	
T71	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	19	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent boundary tree of variable form exhibiting some dieback in mid and upper crown.	Small rot hole, doesn't go far enough into tree to be a viable roosting feature. Some lifted bark offering limited roosting offer opportunities for crevice dwelling bats.	PRF-I	

T72	Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)	17	Middle aged	Poor	Tree of poor form exhibiting significant internal decay as well as decay within major limbs.	N/A	None	
G73 Off site	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*), Aspen (*Populus tremula*)	Up to 20	Middle aged / Mature	Good	Prominent specimens forming robust linear arboricultural feature. Trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G74 Off site	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	Up to 18	Middle aged	Fair	Trees of reasonable form creating linear roadside feature. Ash is vulnerable to developing Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A

G75 Off site	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	Up to 22	Mature	Good	Trees of reasonable form and vigour creating robust linear arboricultural feature.	N/A	None	N/A
T76 Off site	Dead					N/A	None	N/A
T77 Off site	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	18	Middle aged	Fair	Slightly suppressed specimen with crown more heavily developed on southwestern side.	N/A	None	N/A
G78	Group of: Birch (*Betula pendula*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Oak (*Quercus robur*)	8	Young	Fair to poor	Naturally regenerated specimens of variable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G79	Group of 2: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	9	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby multi-stemmed specimens of variable form and vigour.	N/A	None	
G80	Group of 2: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	11	Middle aged	Good	Trees of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

G81	Group of: Birch (*Betula pendula*)	14	Middle aged	Fair	Naturally regenerated specimens established immediately at base of chain link fence. These specimens are unsuitable for long term retention in this location.	N/A	None	N/A
G82	Group of: Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	7	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens established immediately at base of chain link fence. These trees are unsuitable for retention.	N/A	None	N/A
G83	Group of: Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	8	Young	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens exhibiting symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
G84	Group of 2: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	8	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Trees of variable form and vigour exhibiting some minor dieback in upper crown.	N/A	None	N/A
G85	Group of: Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	9	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens of poor form and vigour. Ash exhibit symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
G86	Group of: Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	7	Middle aged	Poor	Naturally regenerated specimens of poor form and vigour. Ash exhibit symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A
T87	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	9	Middle aged	Poor	Boundary tree exhibiting earlystage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.	N/A	None	N/A

G88	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	9	Middle aged	Good	Trees of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G89	Group of: Birch (*Betula pendula*), Aspen (*Populus tremula*)	15	Young	Fair	Naturally regenerated specimens of variable form.	N/A	None	N/A
T90	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	10	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T91	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	6	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form exhibiting some dieback in upper crown.	N/A	None	N/A
T92	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	13	Middle aged	Fair	Prominent boundary tree of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T93	Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	9	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby naturally regenerated specimen of variable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
G94	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	11	Middle aged	Fair	Scrubby multi-stemmed specimens exhibiting included basal forks that may become a point of weakness as these trees mature.	N/A	None	N/A
T95	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	10	Middle aged	Fair	Prominent specimen of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T96	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	12	Middle aged	Fair	Multi-stemmed scrubby specimen exhibiting included basal forks that may become a point of weakness as this specimen matures.	N/A	None	N/A
T97	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	12	Middle aged	Fair	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

T98	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	13	Middle aged	Good	Prominent boundary tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	
T99	Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)	5	Mature	Poor	Multi-stemmed scrubby specimen exhibiting significant dieback on northern side of crown.	N/A	None	N/A
T100	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	15	Middle aged	Fair	Tree of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	
T101	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	14	Middle aged	Fair	Tree of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	

G102	Group of: Birch (*Betula pendula*), Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	Up to 18	Young / Middle aged	Fair	Spindly trees with low stem diameter to height ratio.	N/A	None	
G103	Group of: Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)	11	Young	Poor	Scrubby. Naturally regenerated specimens established on tarmac surface that is likely to lead to instability in the foreseeable future.	N/A	None	
G104	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	12	Middle aged	Fair	Woodland edge trees of reasonable form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A
T105	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	11	Middle aged	Good	Prominent roadside tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	
G106	Group of: Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	12	Middle aged	Good	Prominent specimens of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	N/A

T107 Off site	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	11	Middle aged	Fair	Prominent roadside tree that has suffered poor quality pruning on northern side of lower crown.	N/A	None	
T108 Off site	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	13	Middle aged	Fair	Prominent roadside tree that has suffered significant poor quality pruning on northern and eastern side of lower crown. Possible weakness in lower fork at 2m.	N/A	None	
T109 Off site	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)	14	Middle aged	Good	Prominent roadside tree of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	

G110	Group of: Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)	10	Middle aged	Good	Boundary trees of good form and vigour.	N/A	None	

4 INTERPRETATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Trees or groups of a Category PRF-I grade should be considered as constraints and any impacts on these trees should be mitigated.

4.2 If trees of a Category PRF-I grade are scheduled to be felled and/or subject to surgery, as per current best practice guidance, the trees will be thoroughly inspected prior to felling, inspection would encompass climb and inspect surveys, using endoscope and torch, assuming it is safe to do so; and possibly detector surveys. and a watching brief of all works that could impact the tree will be undertaken. Should features suitable for multiple bats be found, then additional survey work would be required

4.3 In the unlikely event that bats are confirmed to be roosting within the surveyed trees, the felling of the tree(s) in question may need to be carried out under licence from NRW. Planning permission for the development must be in place (and all relevant conditions must have been discharged) before the licence from NRW will be granted.

4.4 It is recommended that should the development be delayed for a significant amount of time (>1 year), an ecologist assess the site prior to works commencing. Should it appear that circumstances have changed and the development could impact a bat roost, surveys will be necessary to confirm the presence or likely absence of roosting bats. This survey work would encompass climb and inspect survey, using endoscope and torch, assuming it is safe to do so; and possibly detector surveys.

Mitigation

4.5 To mitigate the loss of PRF-I trees, a total of nine *2F Schwegler Bat Boxes* will be added to retained trees on site prior to felling works.

5 APPENDIX

Legislation pertaining to bats

5.1 All species of British bat are European Protected Species protected under *The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (Eu Exit) Regulations 2019*. It is therefore an offence to:

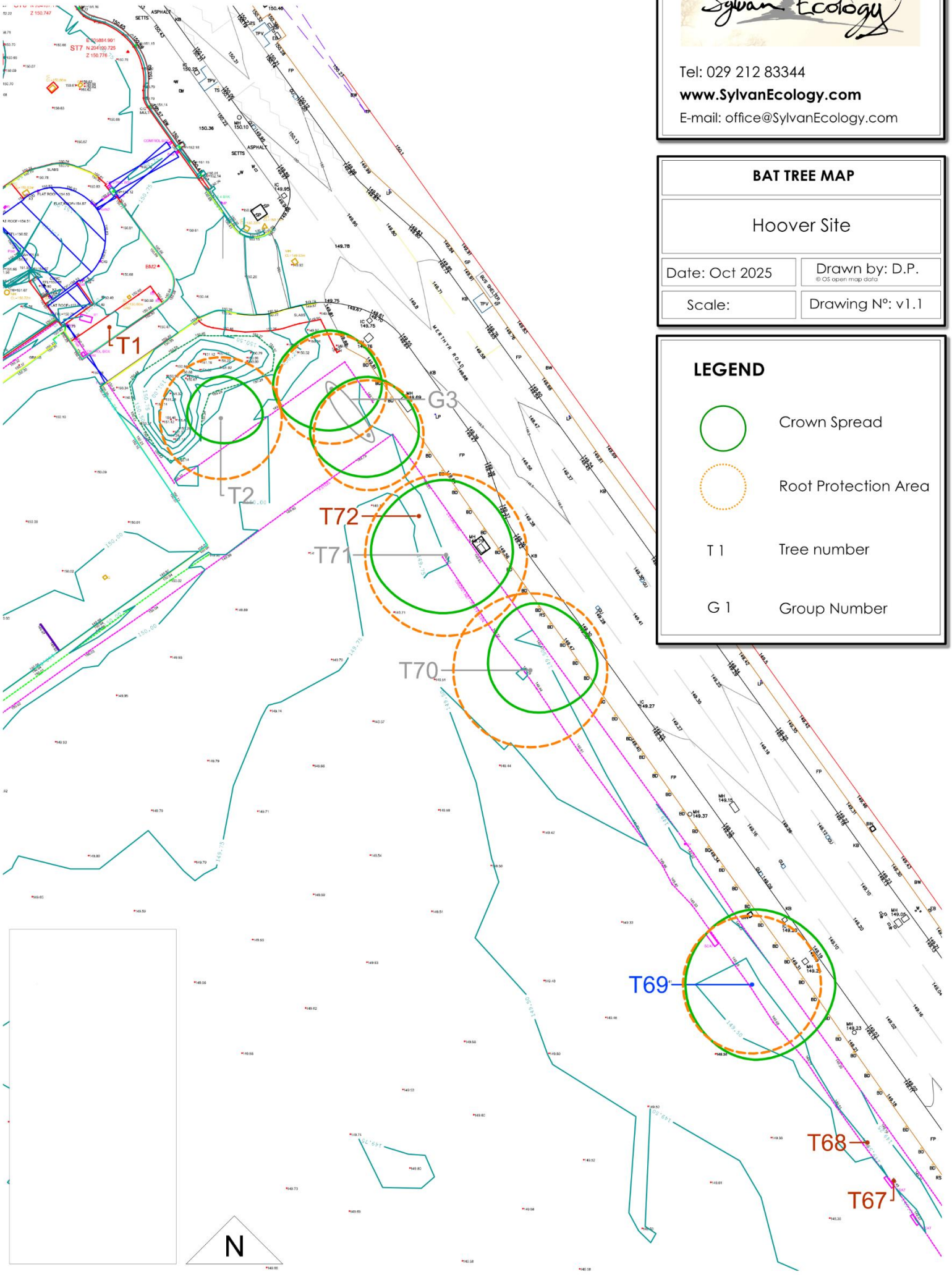
- recklessly, intentionally, or deliberately kill, injure or capture (take) bats;
- deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not);
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts;
- possess or transport a bat or any part of a bat, unless acquired legally; and
- sell, barter or exchange bats, or parts of a bat.

5.2 Developments that compromise the protection afforded to bats or roosts under the provisions of the *Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (Eu Exit) Regulations 2019* will require a European Protected Species (EPS) licence from NRW. Three tests must be satisfied before this licence (to permit otherwise prohibited acts) can be issued:

5.3 Regulation 44(2)(e) states that licences may be granted to "*preserve public health or public safety or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment*."

5.4 Regulation 44(3)(a) states that a licence may not be granted unless "*there is no satisfactory alternative*".

5.5 Regulation 44(3)(b) states that a licence cannot be issued unless the action proposed "*will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range*".



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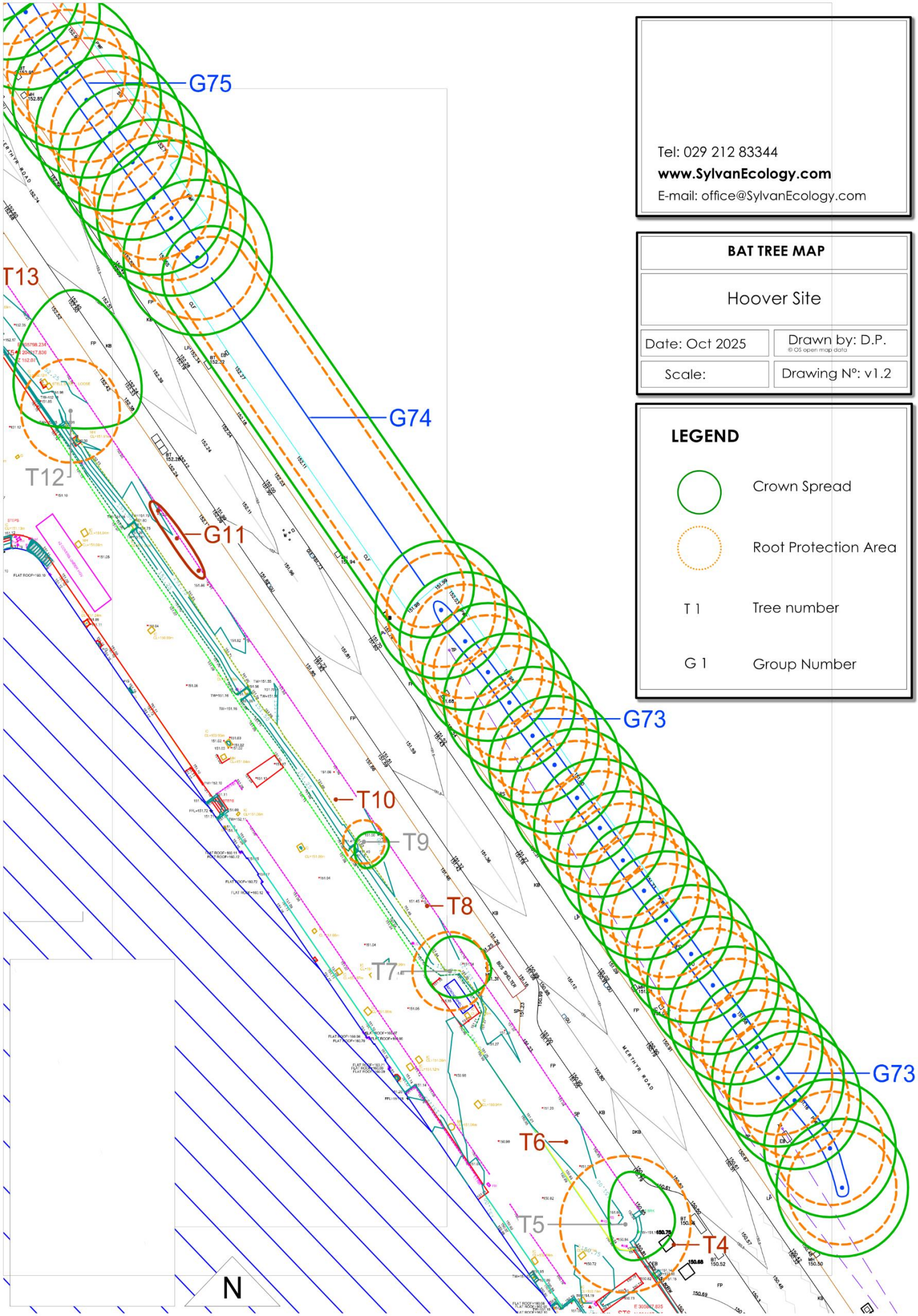
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.1

LEGEND

	Crown Spread
	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number



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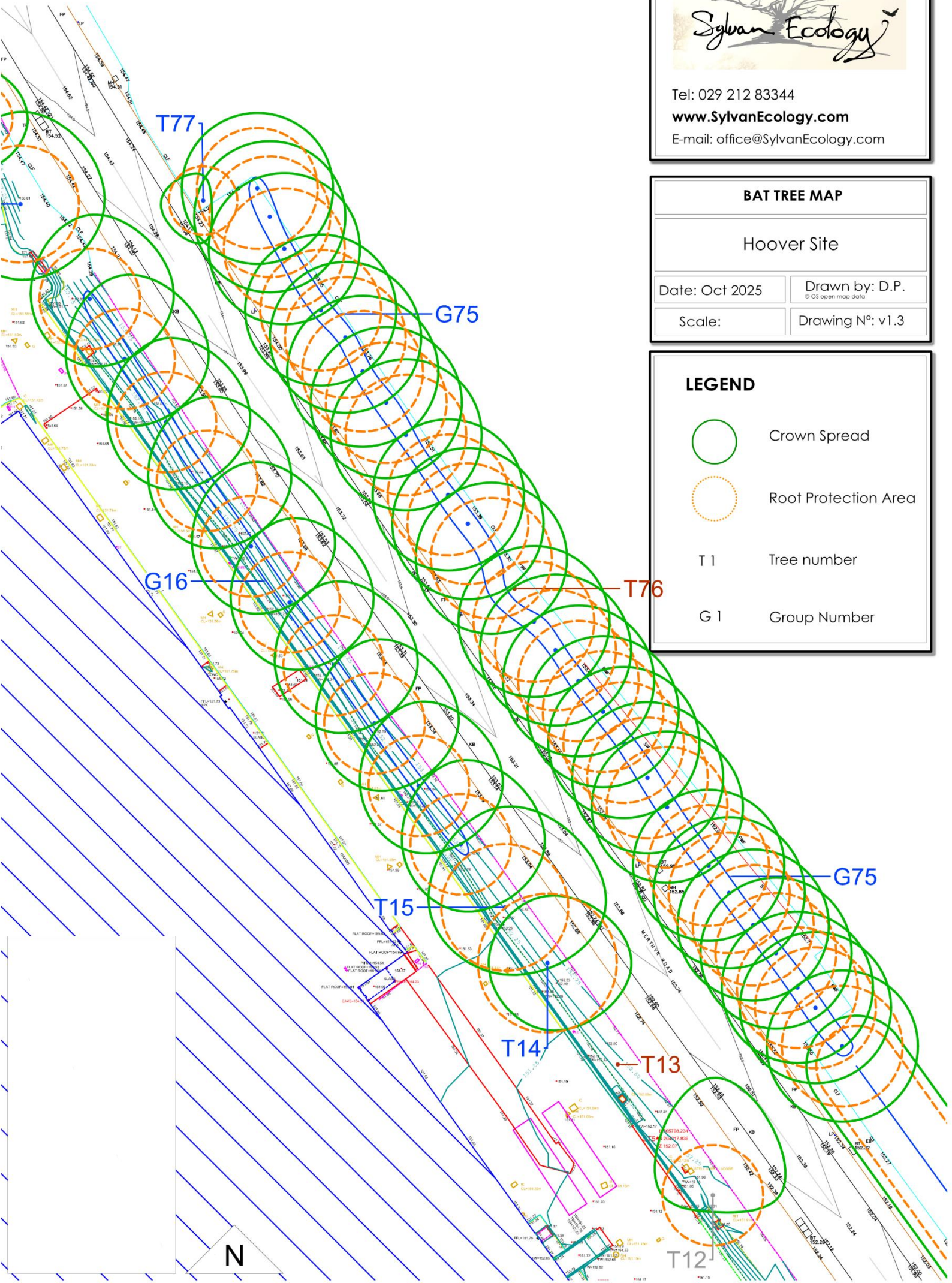
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.2

LEGEND

	Crown Spread
	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number



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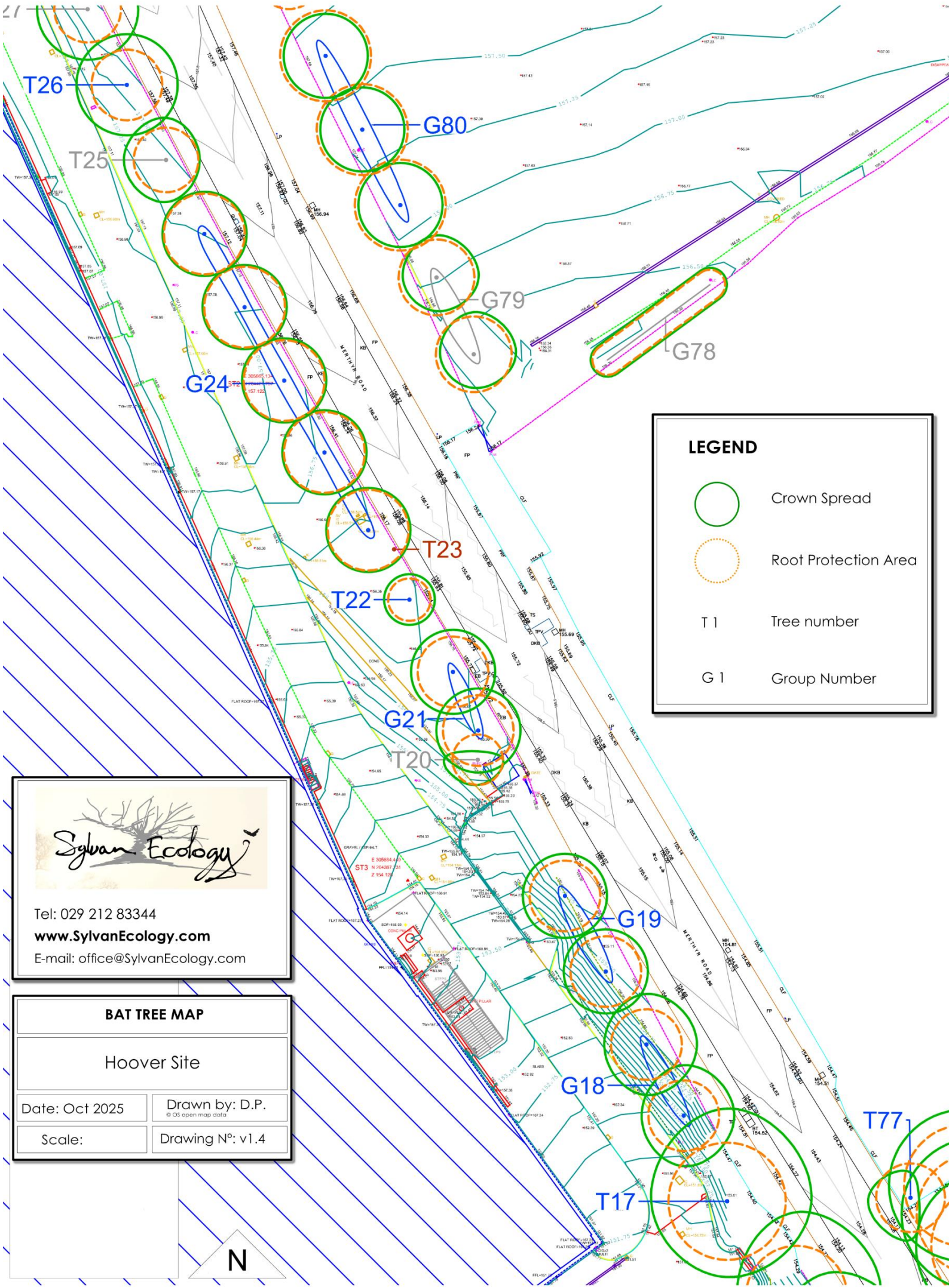
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.3

LEGEND

	Crown Spread
	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number



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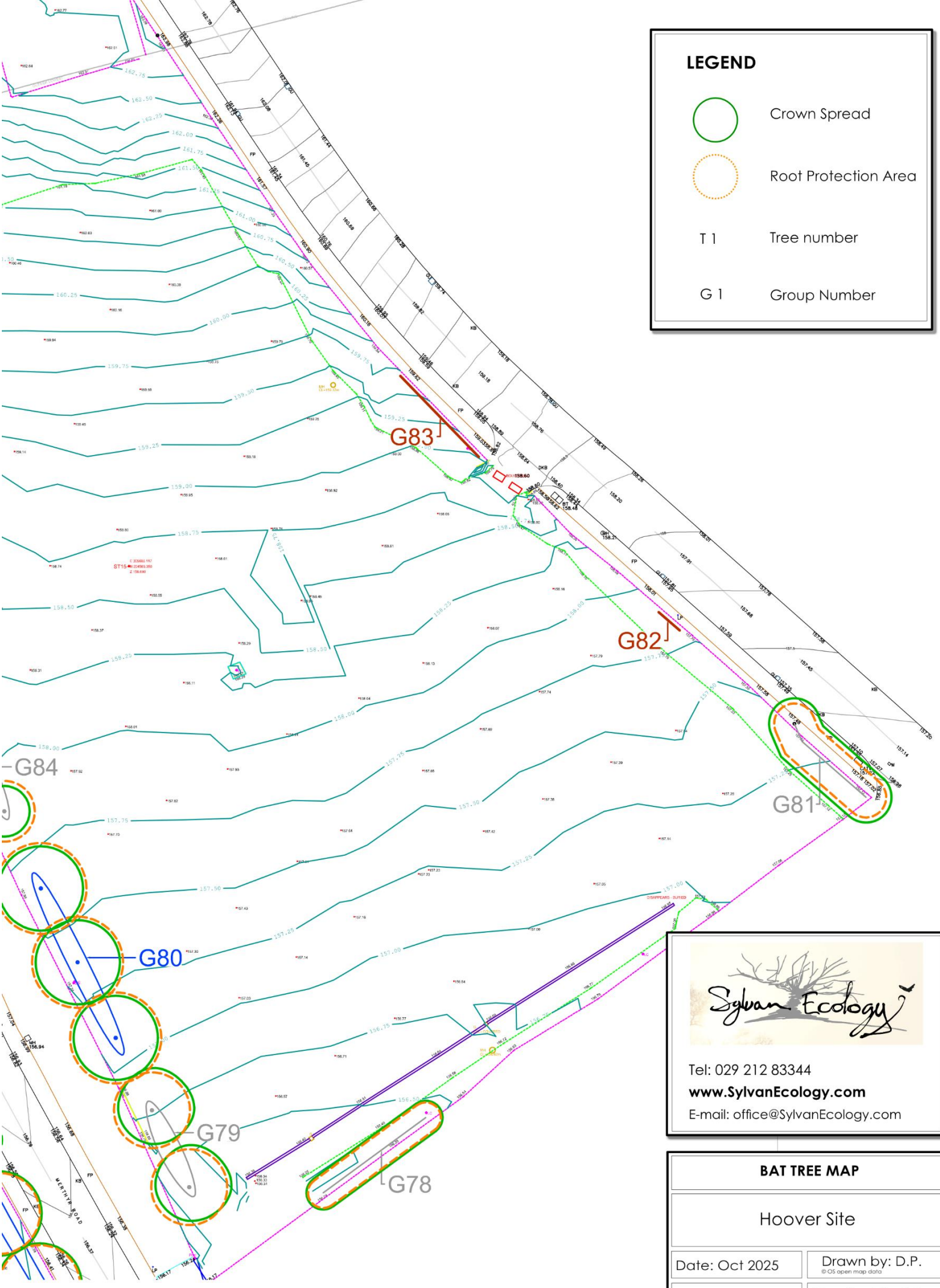
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.4

N



LEGEND

Crown Spread	
Root Protection Area	
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number

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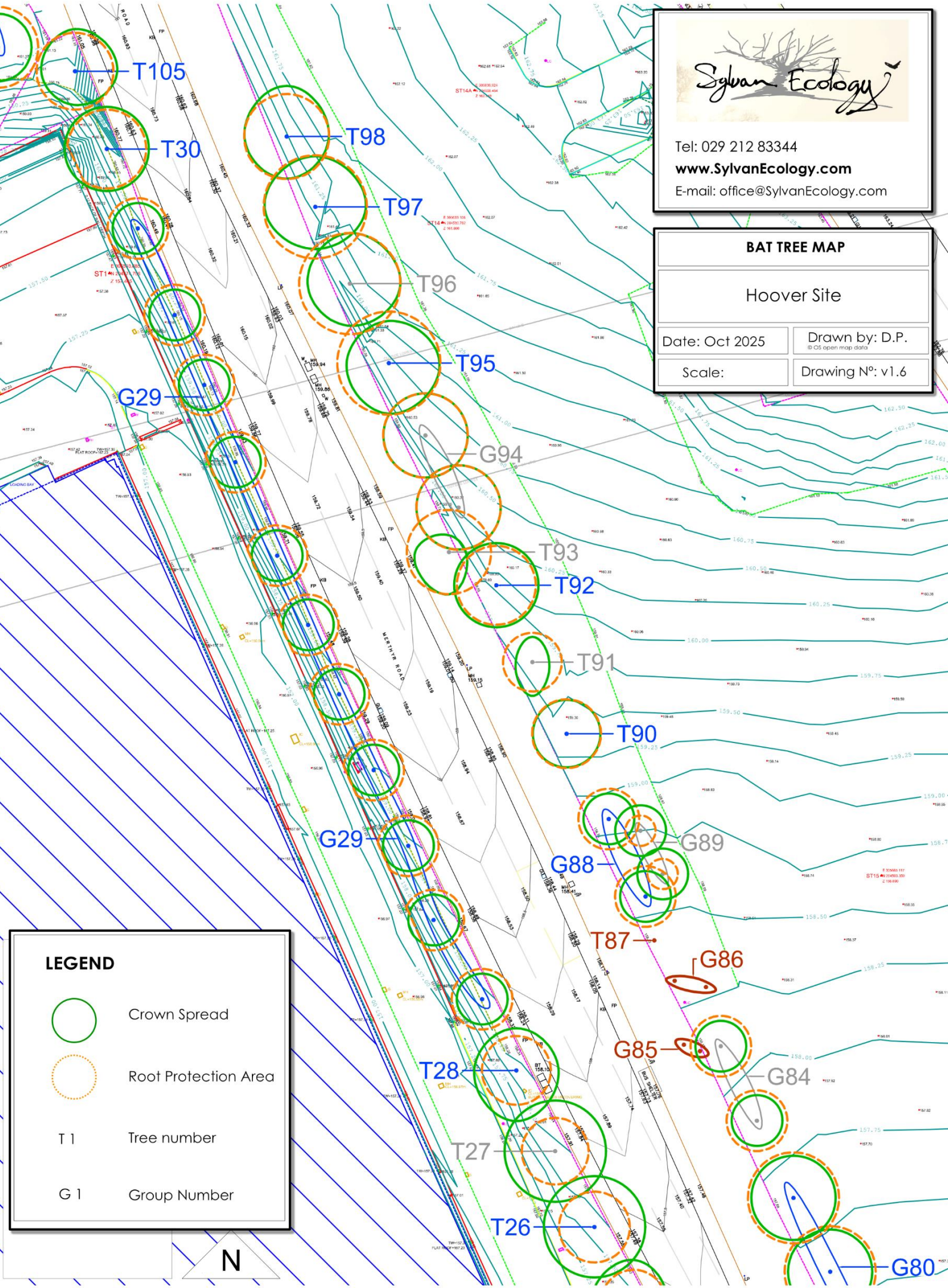
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.5



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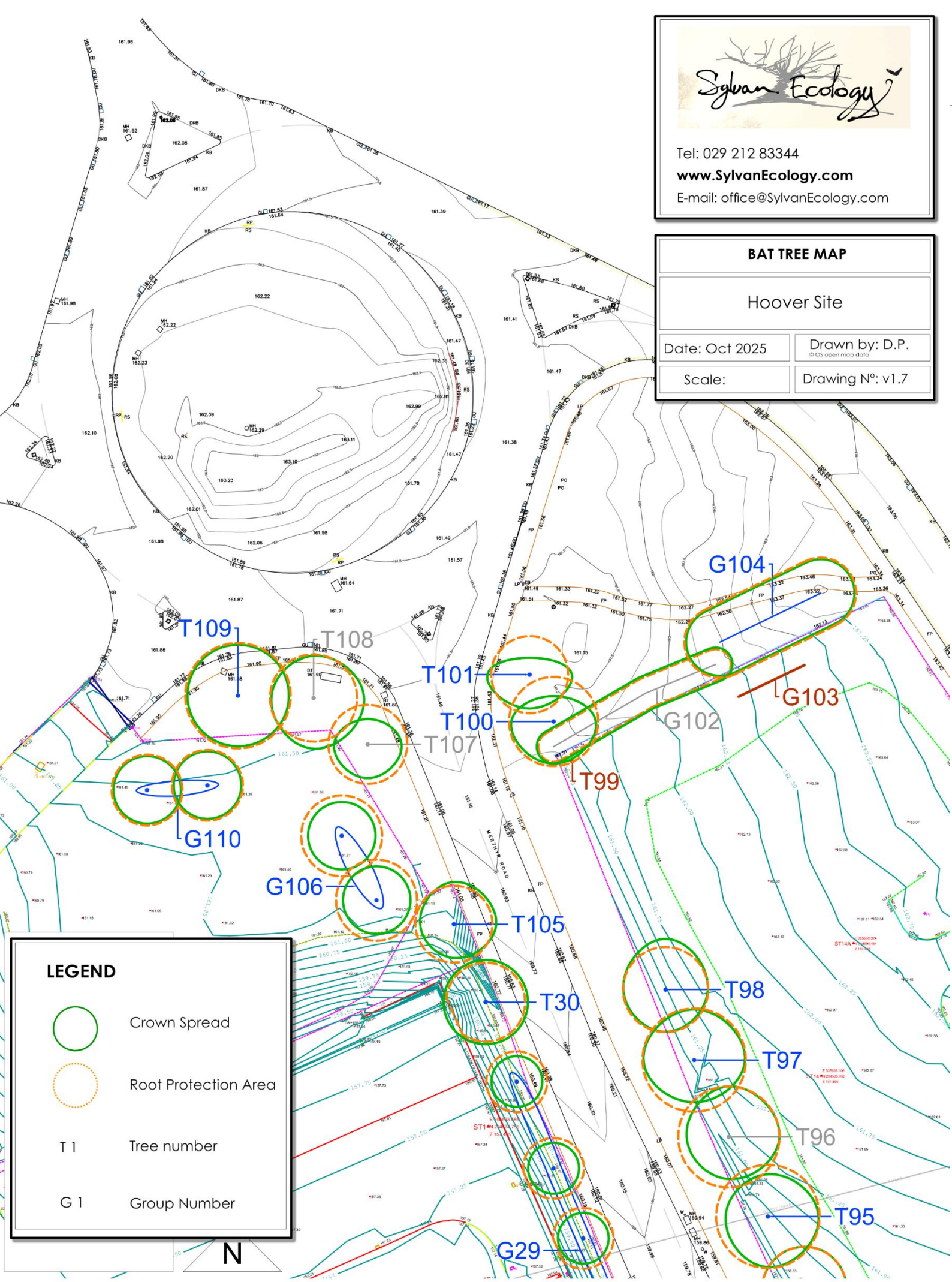
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.6

LEGEND

- Crown Spread
- Root Protection Area
- T 1 — Tree number
- G 1 — Group Number



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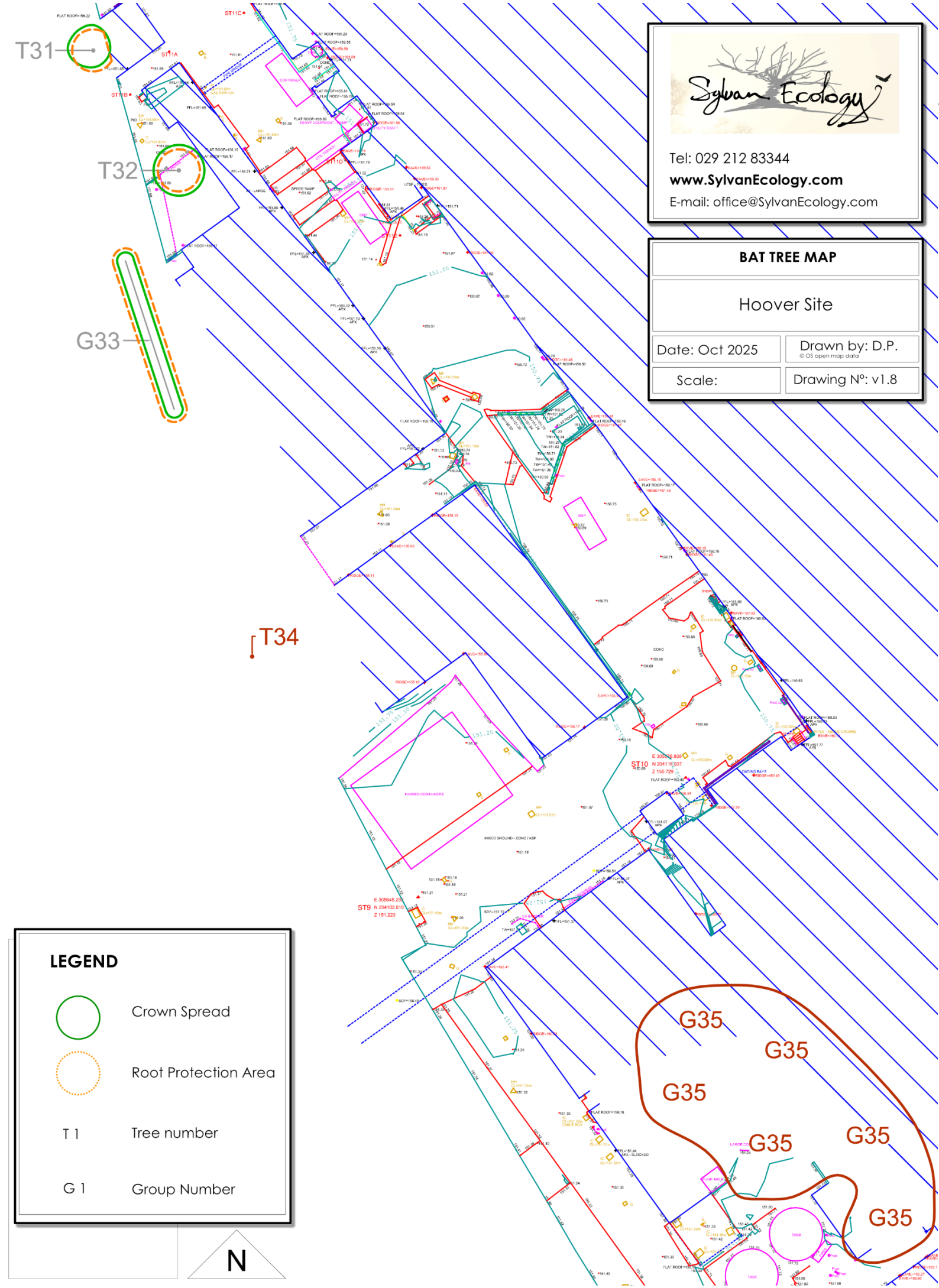
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.7



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BAT TREE MAP

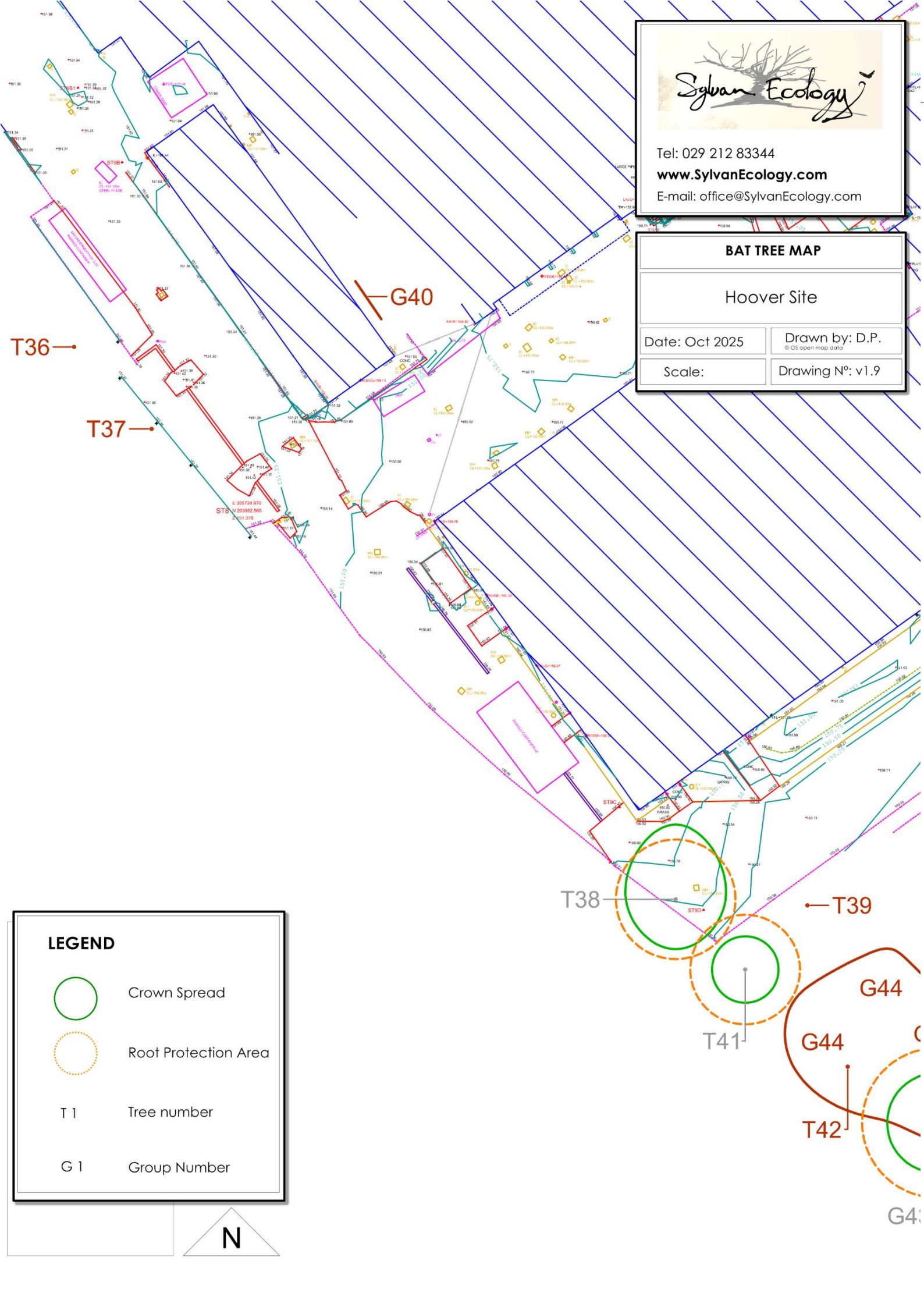
Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.8

LEGEND

	Crown Spread
	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number

N



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BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.9

LEGEND

○	Crown Spread
○	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number

N

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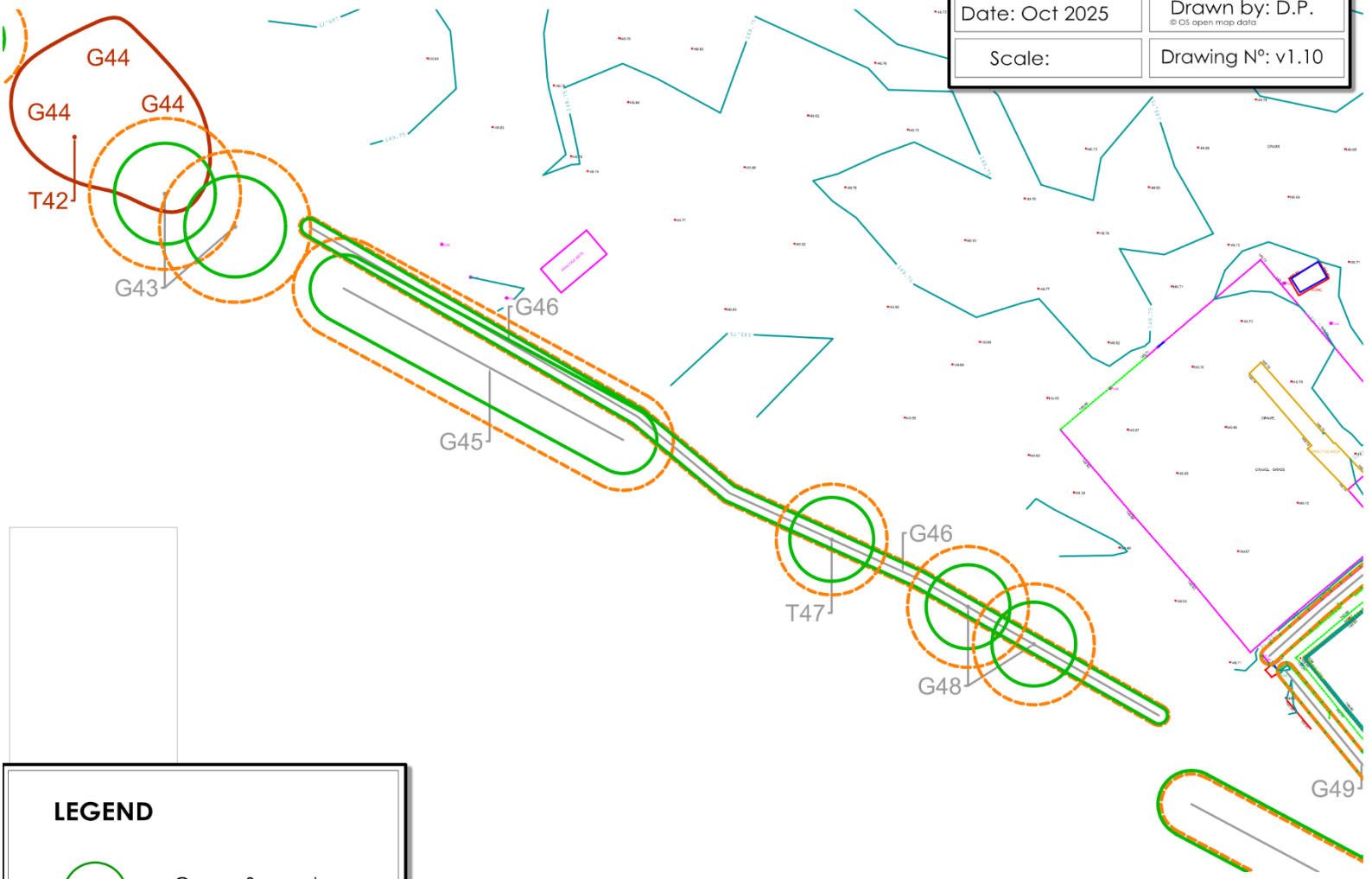
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.10



LEGEND

	Crown Spread
	Root Protection Area
T 1	Tree number
G 1	Group Number

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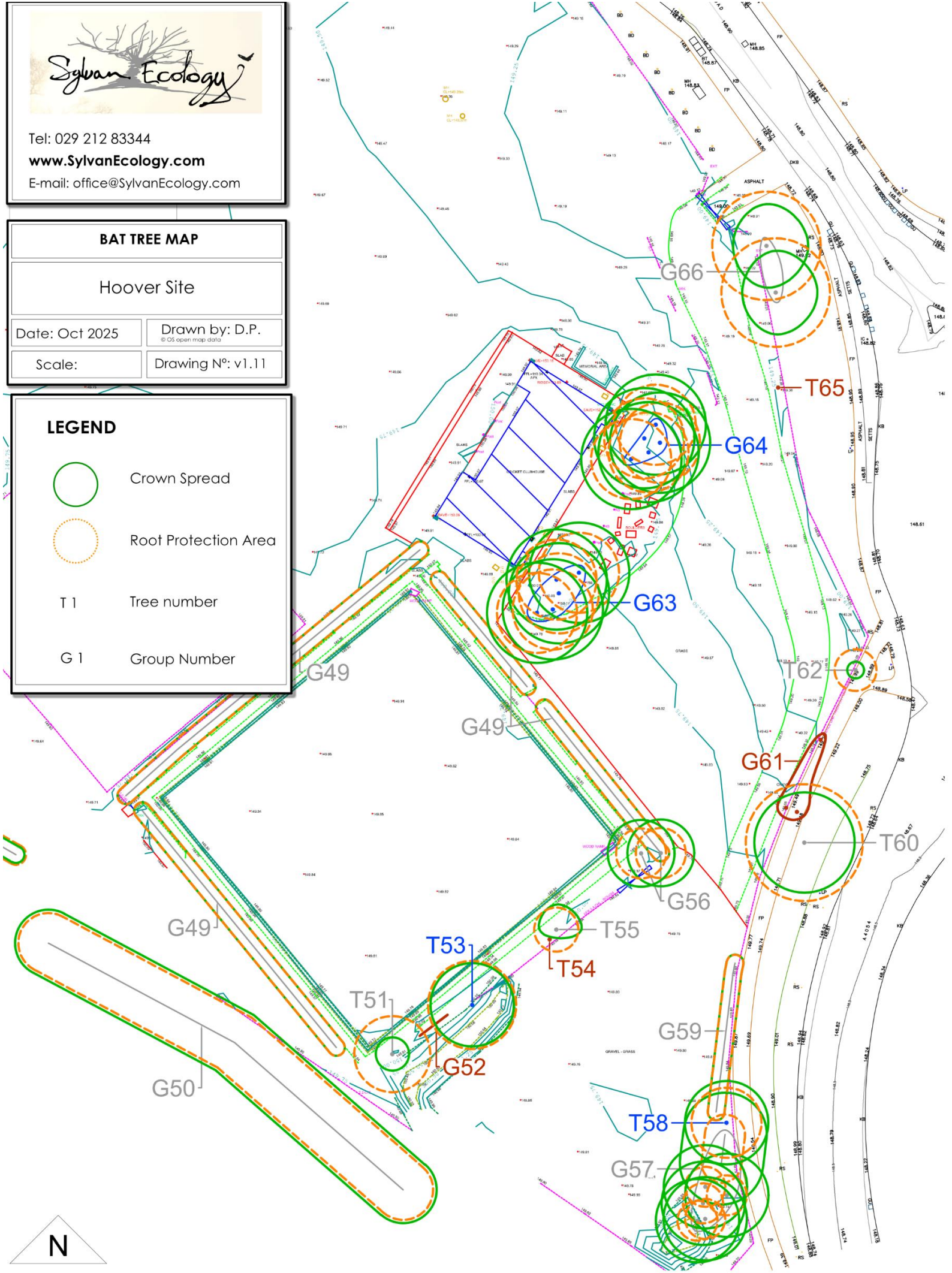
BAT TREE MAP

Hoover Site

Date: Oct 2025	Drawn by: D.P.
Scale:	Drawing N°: v1.11

LEGEND

- Crown Spread
- Root Protection Area
- T 1 — Tree number
- G 1 — Group Number



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