

1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

AWHe Interim Report for Phase 2 of Trial Trench Evaluation at Upper Wendover Dean Farm, Rocky Lane Cutting, Wendover, Buckinghamshire (AC210/6)

Site Code: 1C19RLATT

Document no.: 1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-000016

MDF ref:

Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Approved by	Revision Details:
C01	12/02/21	B. Cosham	S. Roper G.Crees	D. Bonner	For acceptance

Contents List

1	Executive Summary	3
2	Site Location	3
3	Methodology	3
4	Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings	5
4.1	Site Geology	5
4.2	Archaeological Results (figures 3 – 11)	5
5	Interim Artefactual Summary	5
6	Interim Palaeo-Environmental Summary	5
7	Provisional Interpretation and Discussion	6
8	Potential Contribution to Specific Objectives	6
9	Provisional Conclusion	6
	Appendix 1	7
	Appendix 2 Figures	8
	Appendix 3 Plates	20

Figure List

Figure 1	Site Location
Figure 2	Overview of excavated evaluation trenches and geophysics
Figure 3	Overview of evaluation trenches and test pits
Figure 4	Detail of trench results, 1 of 4
Figure 5	Detail of trench results, 2 of 4
Figure 6	Detail of trench results, 3 of 4
Figure 7	Detail of trench results, 4 of 4
Figure 8	Detail of test pits, 1 of 4
Figure 9	Detail of test pits, 2 of 4
Figure 10	Detail of test pits, 3 of 4
Figure 11	Detail of test pits, 4 of 4

Plate List

Plate 1	Trench 104, facing southeast
Plate 2	Trench 83, facing northwest
Plate 3	Trench 106, facing northeast

Plate 4	Trench 116, facing southeast
Plate 5	Trench 117, facing northwest
Plate 6	Trench 118, facing northwest

Table List

Table 1	Summary of trench records
---------	---------------------------

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 An archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation was undertaken on land at Upper Wendover Dean Farm, (henceforth the 'Site') Buckinghamshire. The site code allocated for this work was 1C19RLATT. The evaluation was carried out during January 2021. This was the second phase, with the previous phase being conducted in February 2019 which was subject to a separate report (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-009411).
- 1.1.2 The Site was located on the east side of the A413 trunk road immediately north of Wendover Dean, a small hamlet located between Great Missenden and Wendover, Buckinghamshire. The evaluation was targeted on one of three land parcels that form the Upper Wendover Dean – Rocky Lane site. These are required to enable the construction of the Small Dean South Embankment and excavation of the Rocky Lane Cutting, as outlined in the Project Plan (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-002524) and followed the methodology laid out in the Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-000007).
- 1.1.3 A total of 26 trenches were excavated; all of which were archaeologically sterile.
- 1.1.4 The key findings are summarised in this Interim Report in order to inform subsequent decision making for any further archaeological works at the Site.

2 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The Site lies on the eastern side of a dry valley through the Chilterns, which further south becomes the valley of the River Misbourne, the river rising at Great Missenden, a little more than 3km down the valley from the Site. The evaluation addresses an area of land located north of Wendover Dean (central NGR 487969 205521; Figure 1).
- 2.1.2 The Site is located within land parcel C21011 which comprises parts of six arable fields and lies within the Dunsmore, Wendover and Halton Community Forum Area (CFA10), Archaeological Character Area (ACA) 10-2, Chiltern Scarp and occupies Archaeological Character Sub-Zone (ASZ) 10-10, Land around Wendover Dean Farm and Upper Wendover Dean Farm
- 2.1.3 The land was under arable agriculture and/or lying fallow at the time of the works.

3 Methodology

- 3.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken as outlined in the Project Plan (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-002524) and followed the methodology laid out in the Location Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS_IFA-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-000007). A total of 26 trenches were excavated, no trenches were descope and two were moved through change control (Figure 2).

3.1.2 Most of the evaluation trenches were located randomly within land parcel c21011 with only three of the twenty-six trenches (TR 116 – 118) having specific targets as identified within the Project Plan.

3.1.3 The general aims of the trenching were to:

- confirm the presence/ absence, extent and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site.
- determine the nature, date, condition, state of preservation including any preservation bias, complexity and significance of any archaeological remains.
- determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present.
- suggest measures, if appropriate and feasible, for further archaeological investigation to mitigate identified significant impacts
- contribute to the delivery of GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives as specified in Section 4.2 of the project plan.

3.1.4 The GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives of the Trial Trench Evaluation were:

- KC5: Identifying settlement location and developing models for settlement patterns for the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.
- KC15: Can we identify regional patterns in the form and location of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements across the route, and are there associated differences in landscape organisation and enclosure?
- KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Romano-British period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.
- KC23: Identify evidence for late Roman occupation and attempt to identify any continuity in settlement patterns between the end of the Romano-British period and the Early Medieval period.
- KC31: Identify the location of Middle to Late Saxon settlement, explore processes of settlement nucleation and understand the development of associated field types and agricultural regimes.
- KC40: Identify patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.

Change Controls

3.1.5 The relocation of 2 of the 26 trenches from their original locations was implemented through change control:

- Trenches 83 and 84 were moved slightly to the southwest to avoid the exclusion zone of a badger sett (Change Control Doc No. To Be Confirmed)

4 Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings

4.1 Site Geology

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey maps the underlying geology of the Site as chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and the New Pit Chalk Formation, deposited c. 101 to 90 million years ago (MYA) in the Cretaceous period (BGS 2021). The parent geology gives rise to freely draining, slightly acid but base-rich soils (Cranfield Online 2021).
- 4.1.2 Upon excavation, superficial geological deposits were encountered in many trenches, usually comprising orange/brown silt/clays.
- 4.1.3 The average thickness of the topsoil and subsoil was 0.23 m and 0.09 m respectively.

4.2 Archaeological Results (figures 3 – 11)

- 4.2.1 None of the trenches revealed any archaeological features. An animal burrow was noted within Trench 104. Several trenches contained geological scarring from the last glaciation (plate 1) and patches of superficial geological variation were also fairly common (plates 2 & 3). A summary of the trench records can be found in appendix 1.

Targeted trenches

- 4.2.2 Trenches 116 and 117 were specifically located to test for the presence of ridge and furrow. Neither of the trenches revealed evidence for ridge and furrow, instead showing patches of superficial geological variation comprising orange-brown stony clay (plates 4 & 5)
- 4.2.3 Trench 118 was specifically located to test a geophysical anomaly. Excavation of the trench proved the anomaly was the result of variation in the natural geology, specifically a patch of homogenous orange/brown silty clay (plate 6).

5 Interim Artefactual Summary

- 5.1.1 Very small quantities of modern CBM were noted as present within the topsoil during the machine excavation of several trenches, these were not retained. No artefacts were recovered from the evaluation trenches or test pits.

6 Interim Palaeo-Environmental Summary

- 6.1.1 No deposits that required environmental sampling were identified during the evaluation.

7 Provisional Interpretation and Discussion

- 7.1.1 The results of the Phase 2 of the Trial Trench Evaluation on the Site revealed no evidence for any archaeological features or deposits. Geological variation was noted across many trenches and was likely the result of the last glaciation and its immediate aftermath.
- 7.1.2 The geophysical results applicable to this phase of evaluation were all proved to be non-archaeological in origin, resulting from geological processes related to the last glaciation.
- 7.1.3 The phase 1 Trial Trench Evaluation exposed a small scatter of prehistoric features, including four pits and a ditch in three trenches. A further four trenches exposed another pit, gully, ditch and three post holes which were undated. This indicates moderate human activity within The Site but no obvious concentration such as a settlement or farmstead (Document Ref: 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-009411).
- 7.1.4 One further feature, a quarry pit, was possibly associated with the nearby farm and was therefore likely to be post-medieval.

8 Potential Contribution to Specific Objectives

- 8.1.1 The negative results of the second phase of the Trial Trench Evaluation has no potential to contribute to the HERDS objectives outlined in the Project Plan.
- 8.1.2 The first phase may be able to contribute to specific objectives KC5 and KC15 depending on the dating of the recovered pottery.

9 Provisional Conclusion

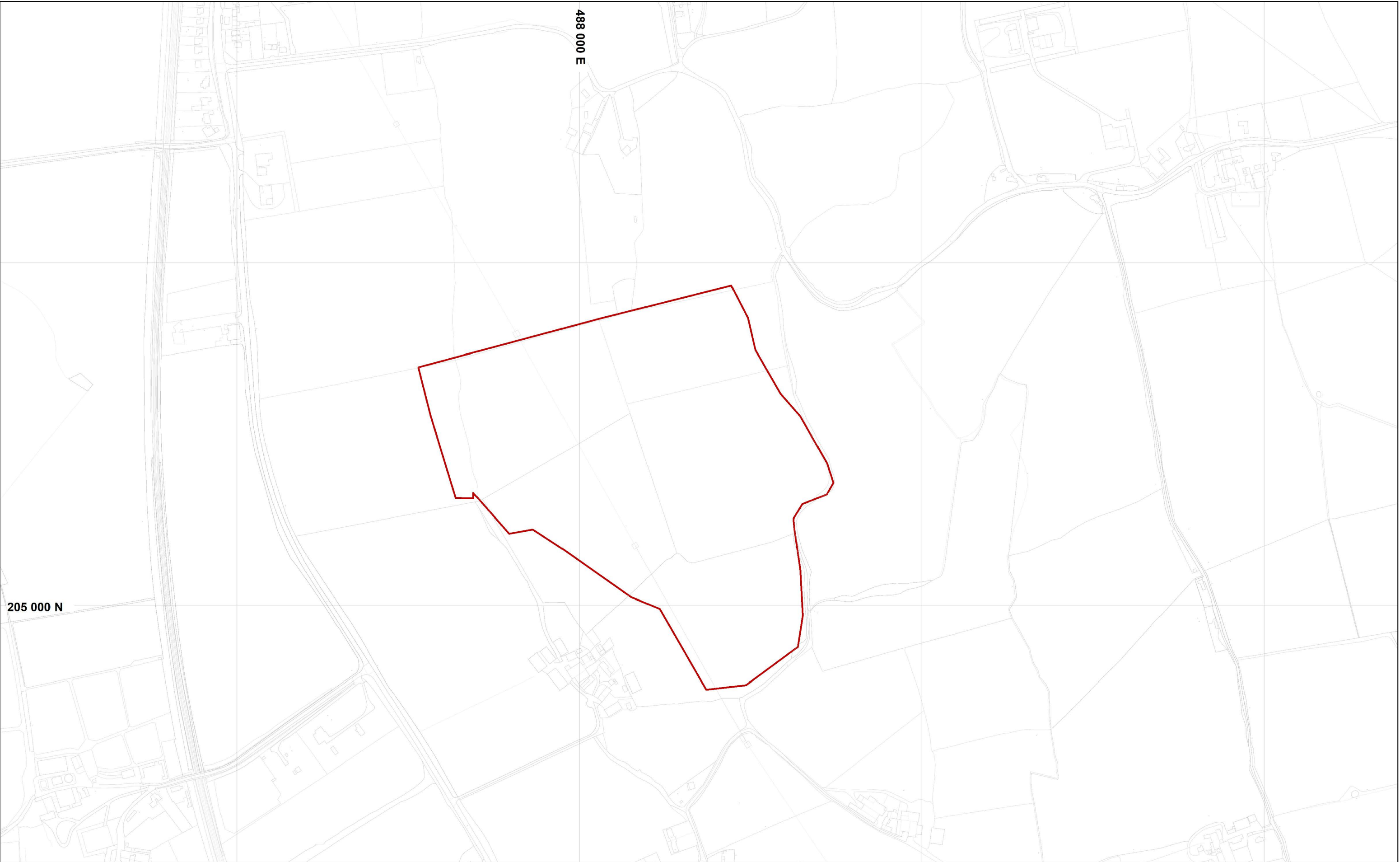
- 9.1.1 The phase 2 Trial Trench evaluation of c21011 revealed no archaeological features or deposits, and therefore this area is not considered high potential for the presence of archaeological remains. Whilst the phase 1 results suggest a low potential to contribute to Specific Objectives, there is limited potential to contribute to broader regional or national Specific Objectives and the remains do not indicate that a substantial contribution to the resource assessment could be made.
- 9.1.2 The decision not to undertake further work will be recorded in a Decision Record Notice prepared by the Contractor following stakeholder consultation.
- 9.1.3 The provisional findings indicate:
- The type of archaeology is not rare in a local, regional or route wide context
 - The frequency of archaeological features and deposits is low
 - There are limited opportunities for community-based work

Appendix 1

Table 1 Summary of trench records

Trench No.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Topsoil thickness (m)	Subsoil Thickness (m)	Results	Trench target
83	30	1.8	0.24	0.06		Random
84	30	1.8	0.16	0.06		Random
85	30	1.8	0.16	0.10		Random
86	30	1.8	0.22	0.09		Random
94	30	1.8	0.22	0.09	Geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
95	30	1.8	0.31	0.11		Random
96	30	1.8	0.21	0.09		Random
99	30	1.8	0.26	0.07		Random
100	30	1.8	0.32	n/a		Random
101	30	1.8	0.16	0.09		Random
104	30	1.8	0.30	0.08	Presence of animal burrowing and geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
105	30	1.8	0.25	0.05		Random
106	30	1.8	0.14	0.10		Random
107	30	1.8	0.26	0.06		Random
110	30	1.8	0.18	0.08	Geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
111	30	1.8	0.27	0.11		Random
112	30	1.8	0.24	0.10		Random
113	30	1.8	0.20	0.08	Geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
114	30	1.8	0.26	0.12	Geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
115	30	1.8	0.34	0.14		Random
116	30	1.8	0.24	0.14		Ridge and Furrow
117	30	4	0.24	0.10		Ridge and Furrow
118	30	6	0.20	0.09	Patch of homogenous orange/brown silty clay - natural variation	Geophysical anomaly
122	30	1.8	0.20	0.08	Geological/glacial scarring noted	Random
123	30	1.8	0.20	0.09		Random
124	30	1.8	0.21	0.08		Random

Appendix 2 Figures



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

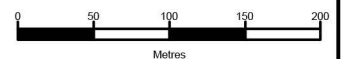
 Site extent

High Speed Two
Figure 1. C21011 site location

Published

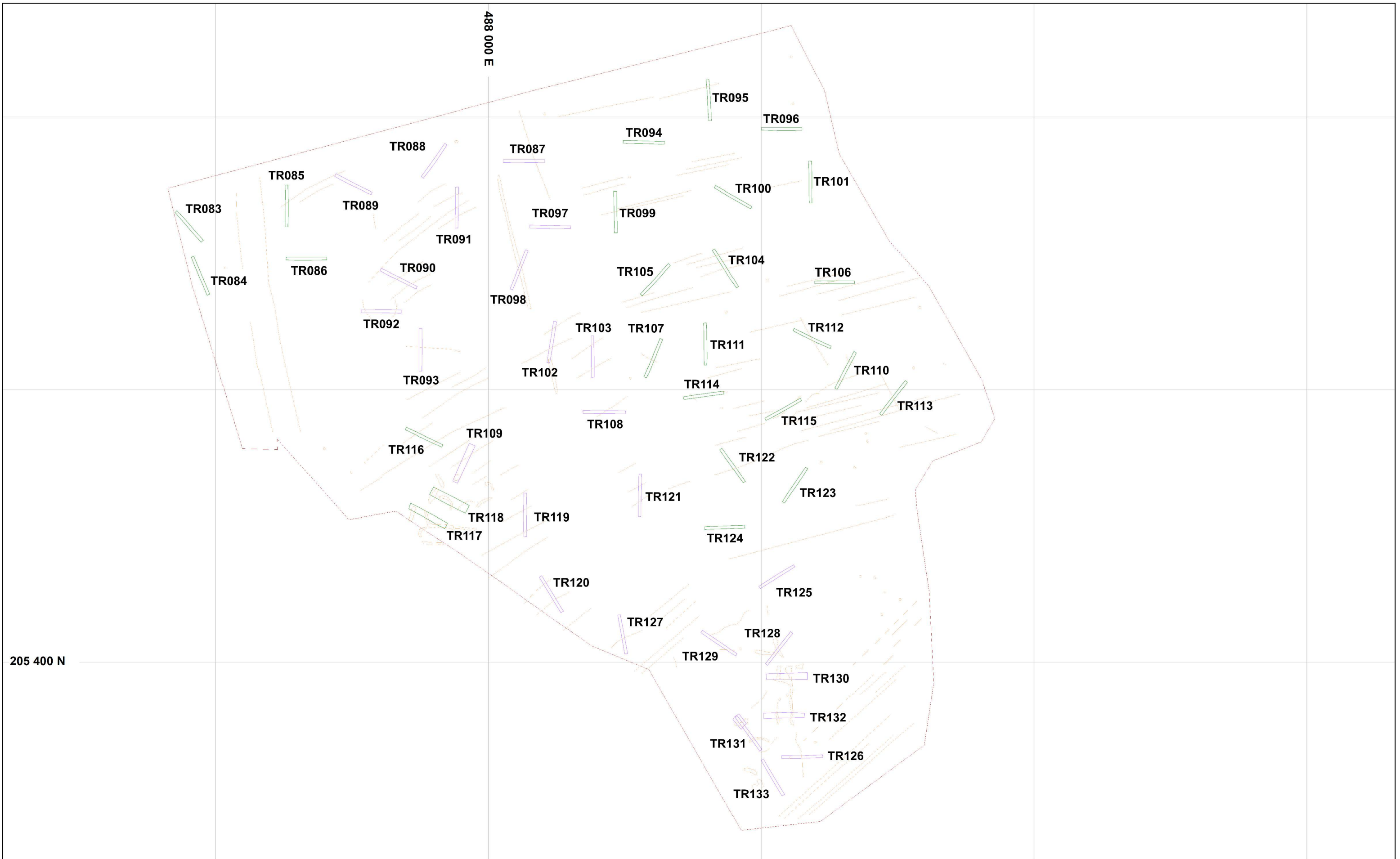
HS2

Scale at A3: 1:5,000



Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

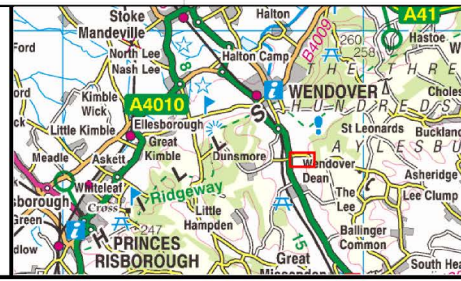
Legend

Site extent

Phase one excavated evaluation trench

Phase two excavated evaluation trench

Geophysical anomaly



High Speed Two
Figure 2. Overview of excavated evaluation trenches and geophysics

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1:2,500

0255075100

Metres

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

Date: 12/02/21

Figure 4, 8

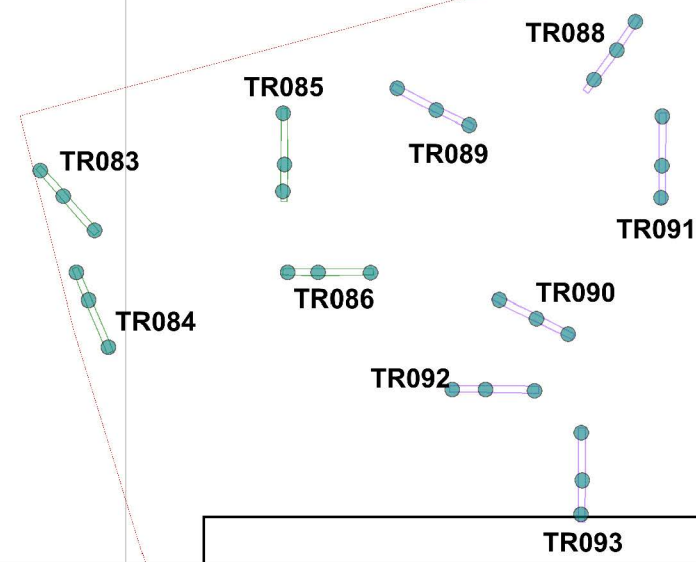


Figure 5, 9

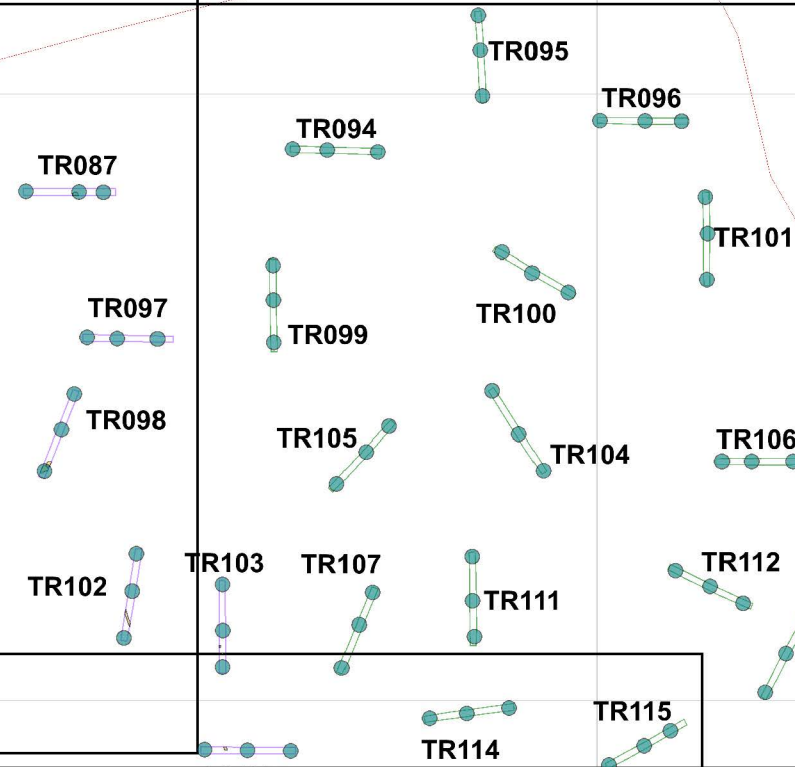


Figure 6, 10

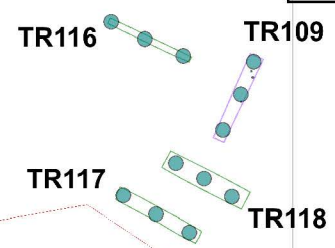
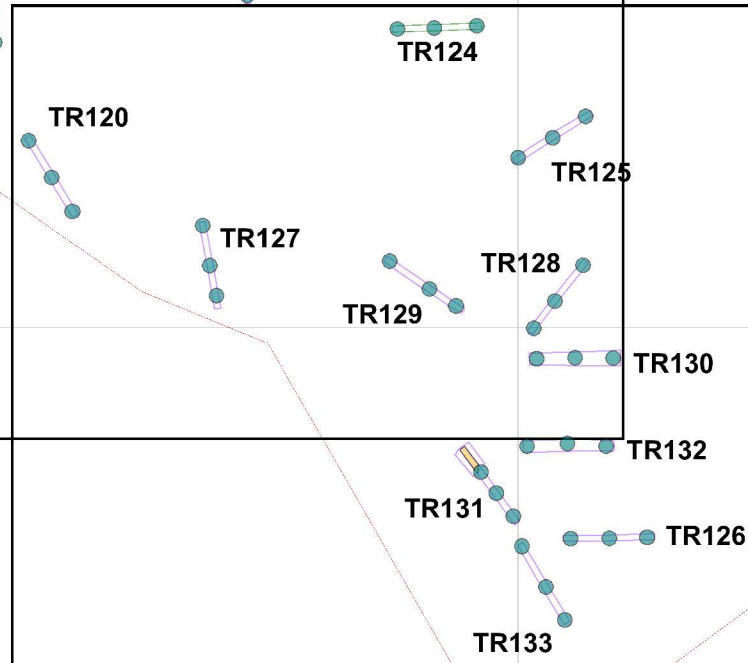


Figure 7, 11



205 400 N

488 000 E

HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Test pit

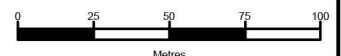


High Speed Two
Figure 3. Overview of excavated evaluation trenches and test pits

Published

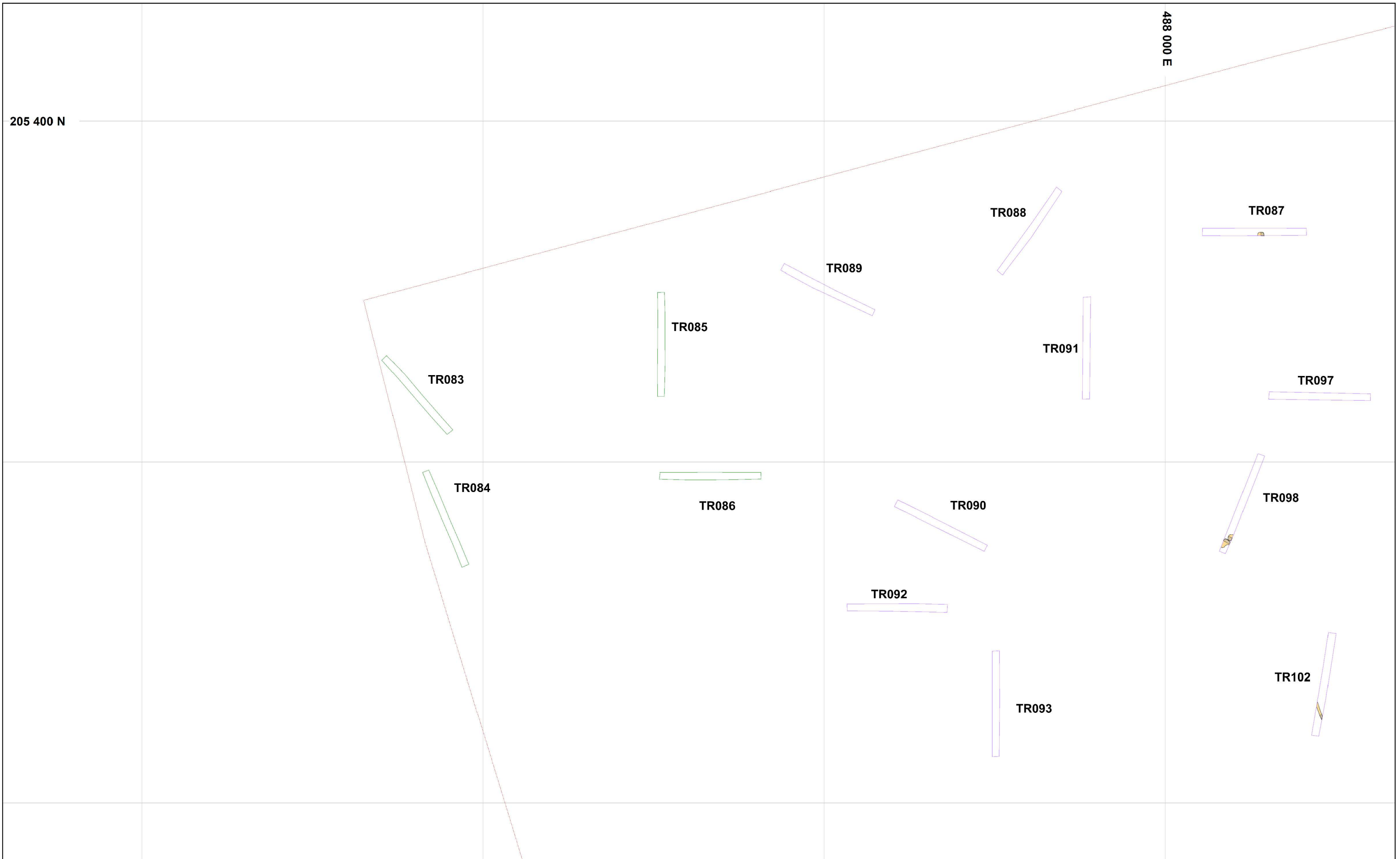
HS2

Scale at A3: 1:2,500



Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.



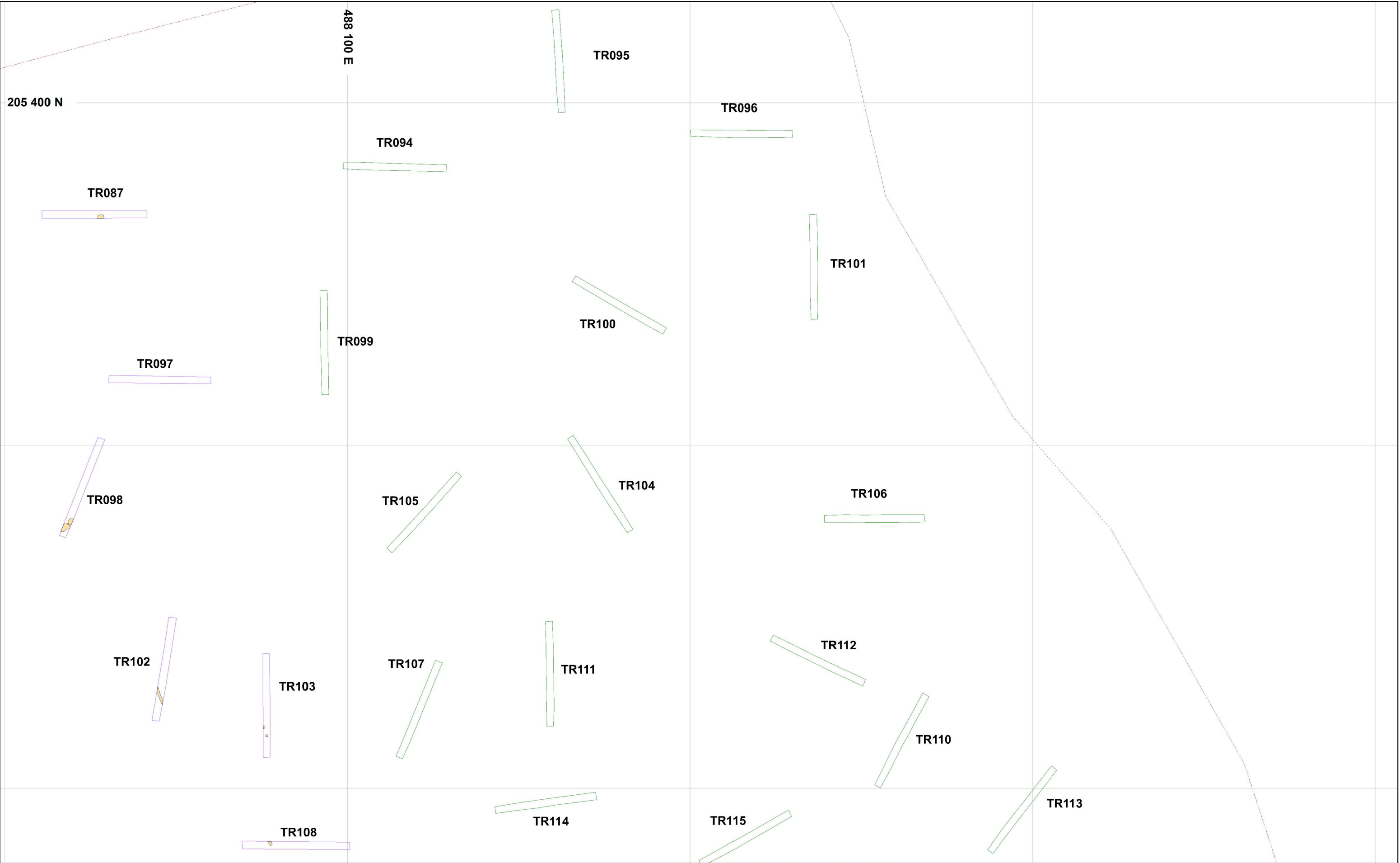
High Speed Two
Figure 4. Details of trench results, 1 of 4
Published

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

0 10 20 30 40
Metres

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

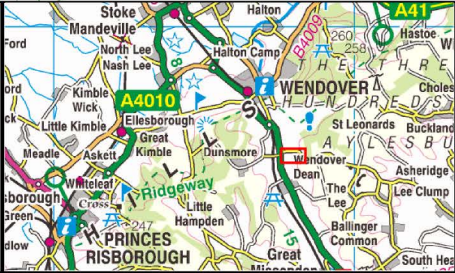
Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature



High Speed Two
Figure 5.Details of trench results, 2 of 4

Published

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature

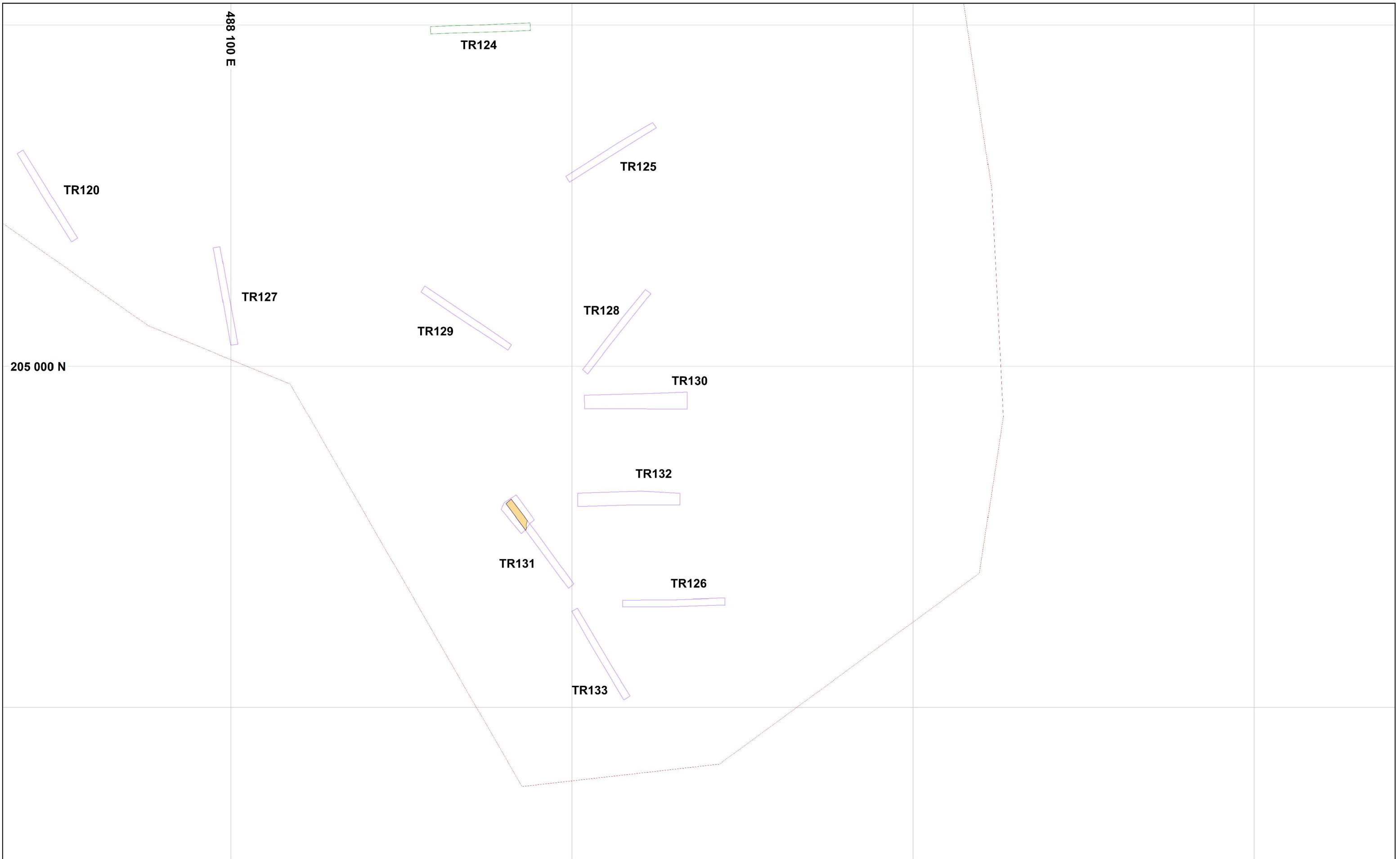
High Speed Two
Figure 6. Details of trench results, 3 of 4

Published

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

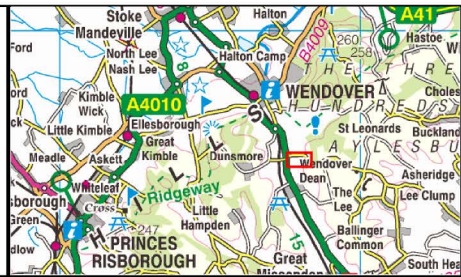
Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature



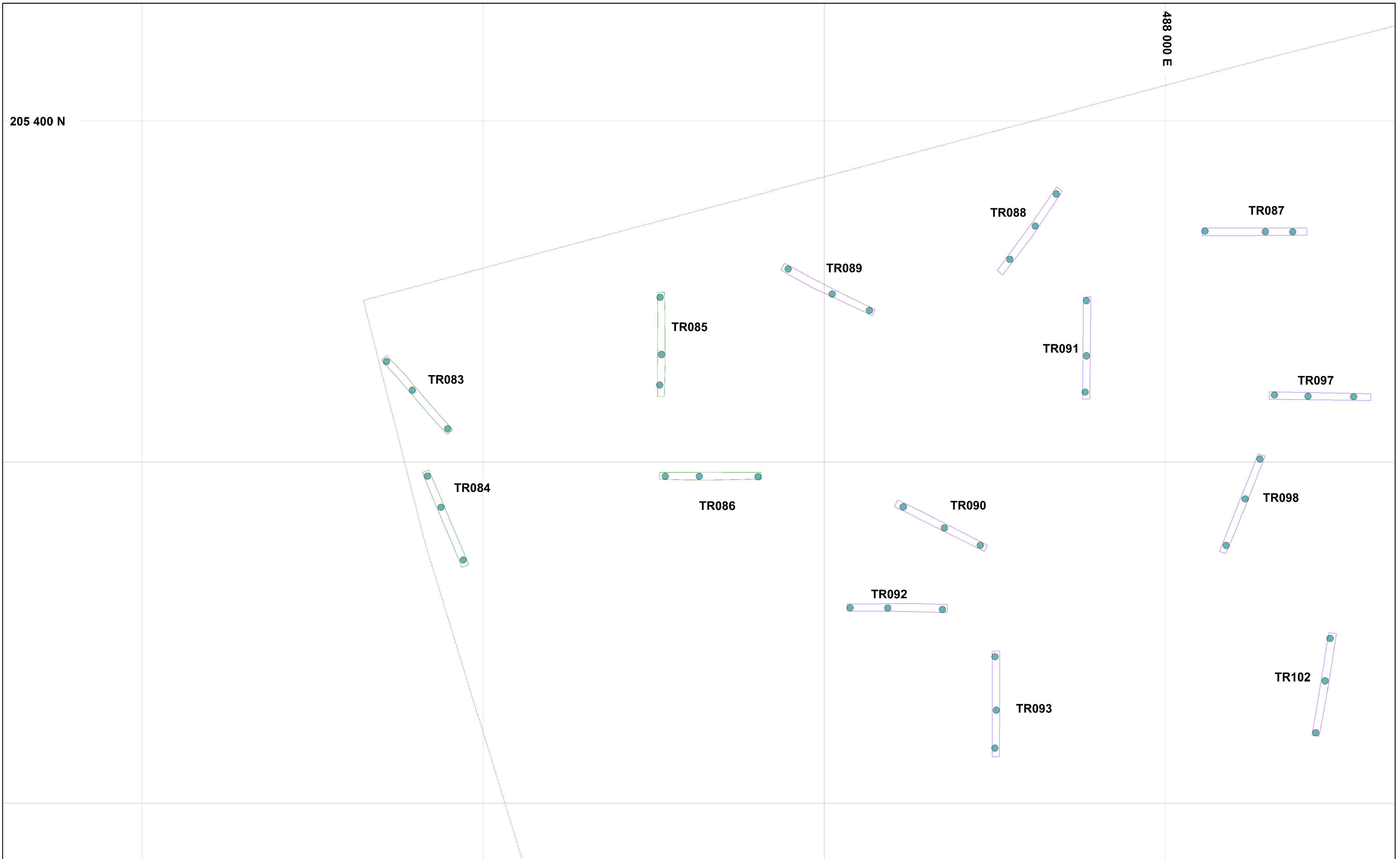
High Speed Two
Figure 7. Details of trench results, 4 of 4

Published

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Test pit

High Speed Two

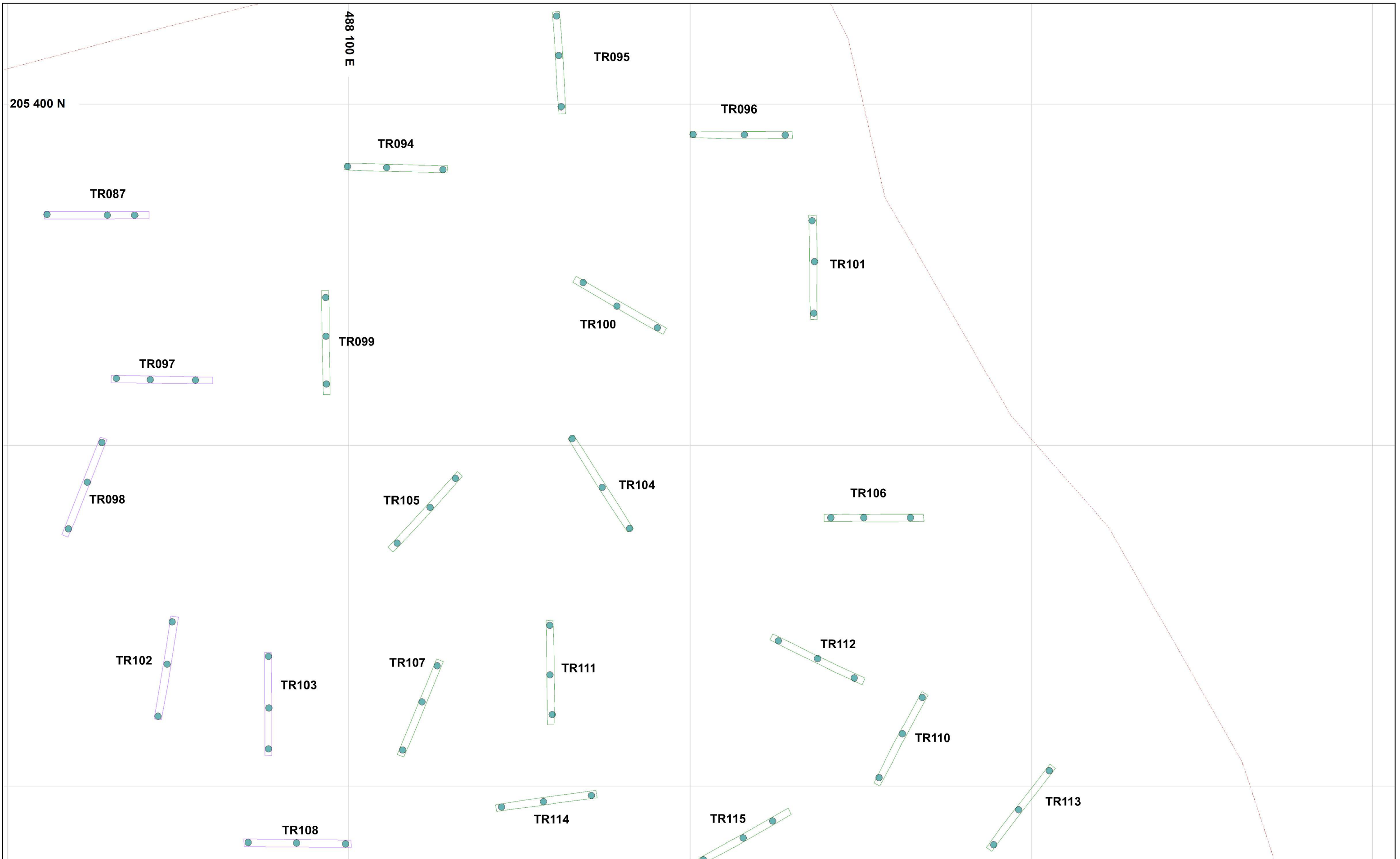
Figure 8. Details of test pits, 1 of 4

Published

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021

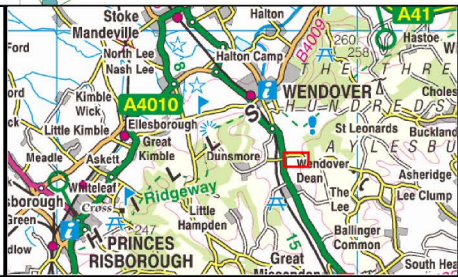
Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Test pit

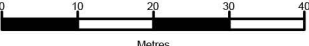


High Speed Two
Figure 9. Details of test pits, 2 of 4

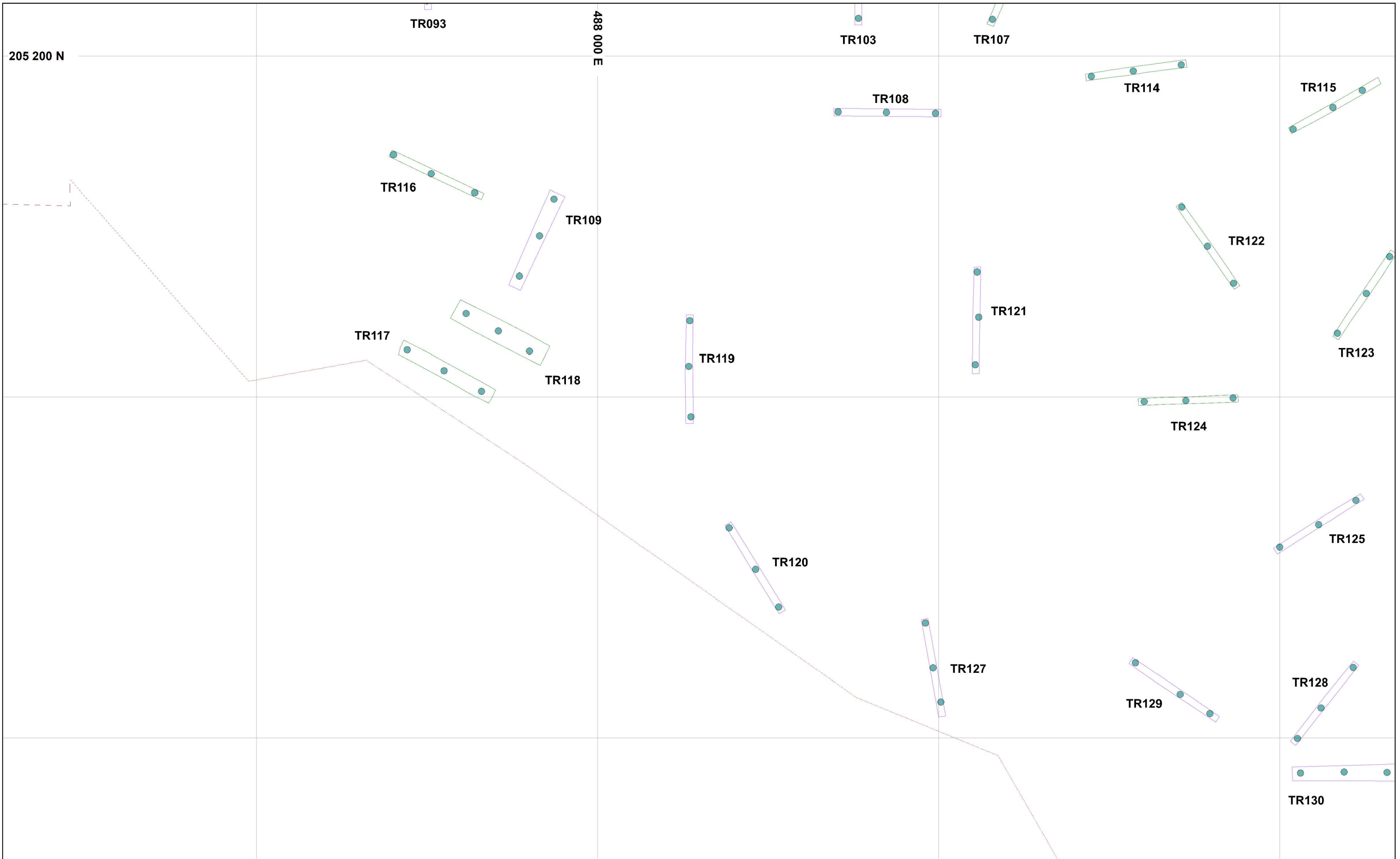
Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1:1,000



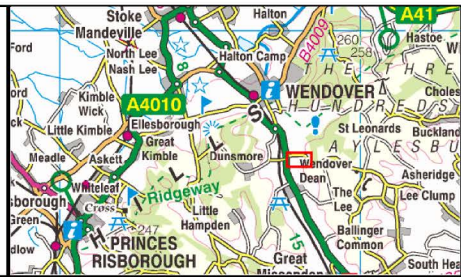
Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021**Date:** 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Test pit



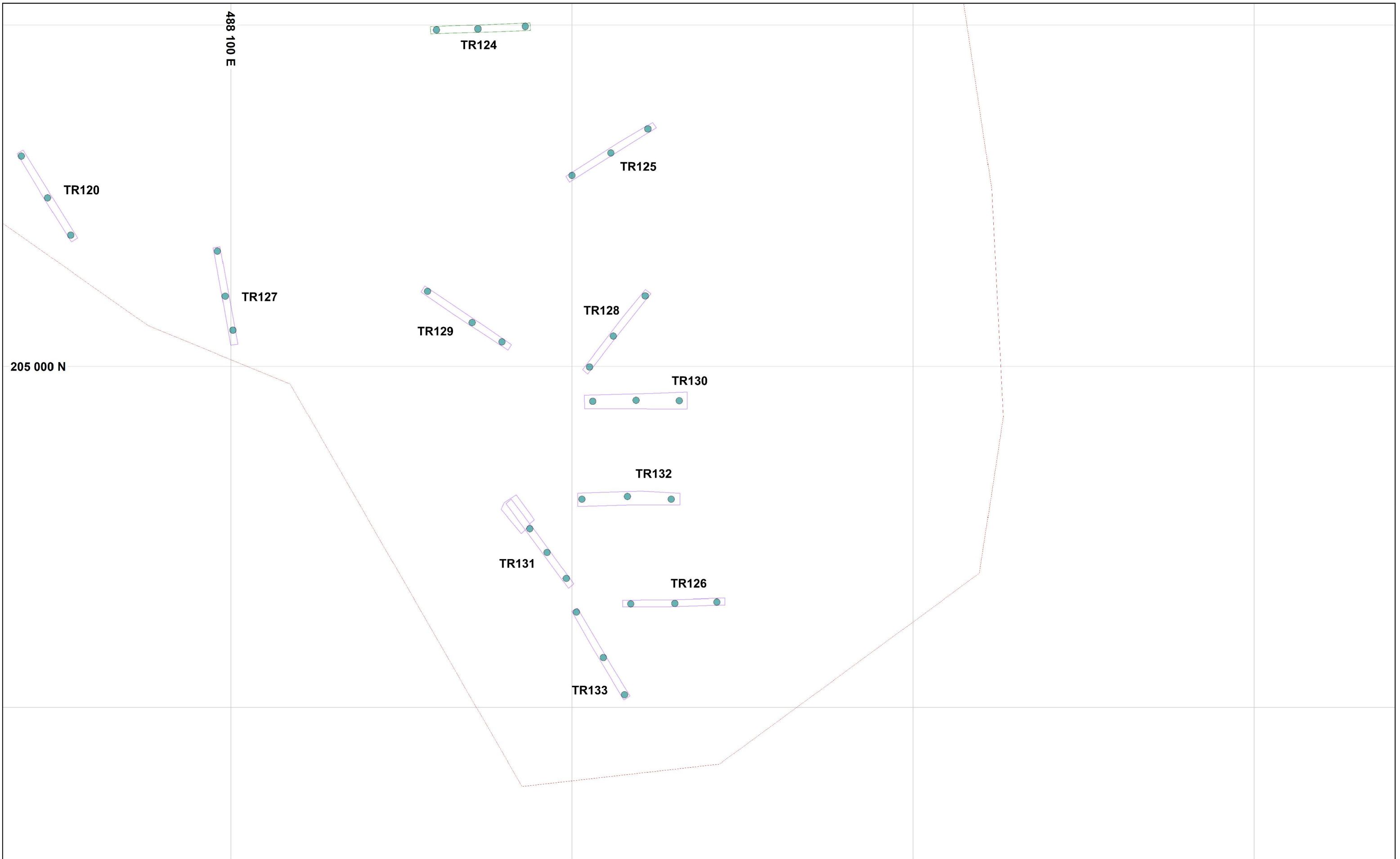
High Speed Two
Figure 10. Details of test pits, 3 of 4
Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

0 10 20 30 40
Metres

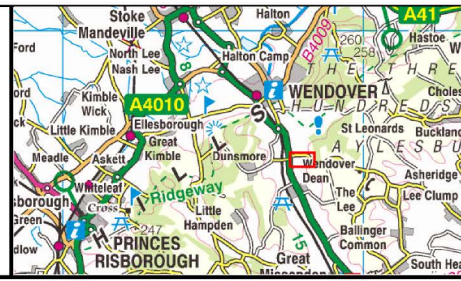
Doc Number: 1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021 Date: 12/02/21



HS2 Ltd accept no responsibility for any circumstances, which arise from the reproduction of this map after alteration, amendment or abbreviation or if it issued in part or issued incomplete in any way.

Legend

- Site extent
- Phase one excavated evaluation trench
- Phase two excavated evaluation trench
- Test pit



High Speed Two
Figure 11. Details of test pits, 4 of 4

Published

HS2

Scale at A3: 1:1,000

0 10 20 30 40
Metres

Doc Number:1EW03-FUS_IFA-GI-MAP-CS03_CL05-000021
Date: 12/02/21

Appendix 3 Plates



Plate 1 - Trench 104 facing southeast



Plate 2 - Trench 83 facing northwest



Plate 3 - Trench 106 facing northeast



Plate 4 - Trench 116 facing southeast



Plate 5 - Trench 117 facing northwest



Plate 6 - Trench 118 facing northwest