Supporting online material to


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Fig. A1 Map of the industrial site showing the distribution of brownfield sites and all nests found in 2013. Map reproduced with permission from Geobasis NRW 2014.
Fig. A2 Aerial view of the industrial site. Brownfield sites are scattered between recently erected buildings and storage halls (09/02/2013, photograph: Kristian Mantel)
Fig. A3 Aerial view of brownfield sites at different stages of development (recently built up, recently bulldozed for development, ‘meadows’ and birch/willow shrub habitat). Lapwings successfully raised chicks on all fields visible on this photograph (22/07/2013, photograph: Kristian Mantel)
Fig. A4 Aerial view of a typical brownfield site bulldozed for development. In 2013, Lapwings bred on bulldozed sites and used the shrubby parts for feeding and chick shelter (22/07/2013, photograph: Kristian Mantel)
Fig. A5 Ground view of a large brownfield. A nest located less than 1m away from the pavement hatched chicks despite frequent disturbance by dog walkers and traffic (20/04/2013, Photograph: Johannes Kamp)
Fig. A6 Ground view of typical breeding habitat on a brownfield in spring. Lapwings nest on the short grass swards found in between willow succession where chicks also feed. Chicks avoid aerial predators and disturbance by retreating into the dense willow shrub, a previously undescribed behaviour (30/05/2013, Photograph: Kristian Mantel).
Fig. A7 A brood of four chicks foraging on a recently mown road verge. Half-grown chicks are usually not very shy and can be approached closely (15/06/2014, Photograph: Lars Gaedicke).