

Broadland catch-up

Newsletter No.6 of the Broadland Catchment Partnership - September 2014

The Broadland Catchment Partnership is seeking to address issues around water quality, water shortage, flooding, wildlife habitat and recreation by joining up the management of land and water in an area more than 10 times the size of the Broads alone.

The aim of this newsletter is to share information on issues, evidence, activity and events relevant to the Broadland rivers catchment.

The catchment includes the area that feeds water into the rivers Bure, Waveney, Wensum and Yare and out to sea at Great Yarmouth or Lowestoft.

The partnership is involving communities, investor organisations, companies and farmers in working together to improve the catchment. If you want to join the partnership, have any queries, or wish to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter please contact:

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Water and Tramline Event

The Broadland Catchment Partnership organised an event for farm advisers and farmers on Wednesday 17th September at Home Farm, Nacton, Ipswich. It was attended by 16 people and included demonstrations of the Wheel Track Roller used for disrupting tramlines and wheelings as currently used as standard practice for some vegetable fields on the farm.

This is a new technique for improving water utilisation and reducing run-off. The partnership wants to get local farmers, and their advisers, views on the viability of the equipment and how it could be incorporated into current farming operations. The pros and cons, including potential costs and water savings were discussed based on practical experience in relation to soil type and condition, compaction and run-off risk. Controlled Traffic Farming and drilling of tramlines was touched on.

Top tips and simple measures for effective tramline and headland management were provided by an animated Robert Camps - Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer for the Waveney & Blyth. These were all well received. The partnership is extremely grateful to Andrew Williams for hosting the event and Charles Creyke for attending, answering questions and providing the Wheel Track Roller.

Tony Bambridge, B&C Farming, has kindly offered to run a demonstration of the kit on his and other local farmers' fields at a later date TBC.



Wheel Track Roller



Heidi Thompson, Farm Conservation

Trials 2005-2008 (MOPS1) focussed on winter cereals and reported that tramlines accounted for over 80% of over-winter losses of phosphorus, nitrogen and sediment in surface run-off on moderate slopes on both lighter and heavier soils. Tramline management was able to reduce sediment and nutrient losses by 72-99%.

Trials 2008-2013 (MOPS2) focussed on spring grown crops, particularly potatoes. The Wheel Track Roller was significantly better than the other options available at reducing run-off. In combinable crop tramlines, the roller reduced run-off from 67.6mm of rainfall from 23.9% to just 1.9%. The reduction in a potato crop was even greater, where a combined irrigation and rainfall of 243mm produced just 2.4mm or 1% run-off from the field area when the machine was used. Find out more by clicking [here](#).



Updates

Catchment Restoration Fund

The partnership received information from the Environment Agency in August about Defra funding for the financial year 2015/16. It was advised that we developed projects bids detailing measures that could help to improve WFD water body status up to a maximum value of £84k (possibly up to £100K), including any top slice (up to £15K) per whole water management catchment to be submitted by the end of October 2014.

It was stressed that funding had not been secured and based on correspondence received in September funding now seems unlikely! We are still planning to develop projects with the Steering Group throughout October so they are 'on the shelf' should any funding opportunities become available. Please contact us if you have projects ideas or own/manage land/water that may be suitable for project funding.

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Catch-up on news from your patch

Wensum

Visit to the River Tat

The River Restoration Centre arranged a site visit on Wednesday 17 September to see river habitat improvement works on the River Tat.

In common with many other lowland rivers the Tat has historically been straightened, deepened and widened, primarily for land drainage. A recently completed section downstream of Tatterford Bridge provided an excellent opportunity to see how newly installed features are interacting with river processes.

The section upstream of Tatterford Bridge revealed how the river has responded in terms of geomorphology and ecology one year after the completion of restoration. The measures used included berm creation, bank re-profiling, glide and pool creation, use of woody deflectors and pinned willow and floodplain reconnection.



River Tat after restoration Environment Agency

The visit was led by Rob Dryden (EA), Adam Thurtle (EA), Hannah Wallace (NE) and Ulrika Åberg (RRC) and provided an opportunity to share learning points and best practice with the project team.

The Broadland Catchment Partnership is aiming for similar improvements in the other river catchments and smaller feeder streams.

Wensum Farmer nominated for Arable Farmer of the Year
Poul Hovesen from the Salle Estate is a finalist in this year's Farmers Weekly Arable Farmer of the Year. Judges liked the fact that the farming philosophy is geared towards sustainable farming. See more by clicking [here](#).

Findings on Diffuse Pollution

Steering Group member Faye Outram is lead author in a recently published Demonstration Test Catchment paper on monitoring of nitrogen and phosphorus response to the end of the 2011–2012 drought. Find out more by clicking [here](#).

Waveney

River Art and Sculpture Trail

The River Waveney Trust hosted a river trail on weekends between 16 August and 7 September. More than a dozen site-specific sculptures and installations by East Anglian artists formed a trail around the site at the former Otter Trust with a themed exhibition by photographer Lynn Gedney in the Study Centre visitor centre. Curator Sarah Cannell sought out and encouraged work that responds to this stunning site, which borders the Waveney as it snakes through water meadows. The exhibition included three pieces by Ptolemy Elrington created from old shopping trolleys fished out of the river on loan from Anglian Water!

<http://groupspaces.com/RiverWaveneyTrust/item/666035>

Yare

Big Skies, Mills and Marshes:

The Broads Landscape Partnership

The Broads Authority and its partners are developing an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, Landscape Partnership Scheme for submission in May 2015. The programme is for schemes led by partnerships of local, regional and national interests which aim to conserve areas of distinctive landscape character throughout the UK.

The proposal is still very much in outline stage and help is requested in refining and shaping the project. The proposed area will link the urban centres of Norwich, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Acle and Loddon following the course of the rivers Yare and Waveney.



The scheme will: tell the story of Halvergate's watery landscape from past to present; work to further conserve and enhance the built and natural heritage of the marshes; re-connect local people with their surroundings; develop a legacy of understanding and appreciation by engendering a local sense of place; invite and encourage the communities to be active in the landscape.

It is envisaged that the first round application (to be submitted in May 2015) will request a grant of up to £3million from the HLF to complete over 20 individual projects within the Landscape Partnership Area during a 5 year delivery phase. For further information about the project please contact Will Burchnall, Broads Authority Projects Manager on: 01603 756003 or will.burchnall@broads-authority.gov.uk

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Bure

Trinity Broads Celebration

The Essex & Suffolk Water Treatment Works at Ormesby Broad was open to the public for a free, unique celebration on Sunday 3 August. Activities included bug hunting, moth trapping and bird box making. Experts were also on hand to demonstrate some water treatment processes. The Trinity Broads Singers Community Choir performed and many families enjoyed a picnic by the Broad. The Trinity Broads lie within the [Bure Valley Living Landscape](#) project area, a key area of conservation interest for Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

Seminar attendance

Horizon 2020

A seminar on applying for this funding was held in Cambridge in July. It was attended by representatives of several partners.

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over seven years (2014-2020) - in addition to the private investment that this money will attract.

Funding is available for partnership projects that address the sustainable management of water and also climate change adaptation. Small and medium enterprises are encouraged to apply with European partners. A presentation by Ewa Bloch was of particular relevance. To find out more click [here](#).

New releases and announcements

CAP reform double funding announcement

Explanations and examples including new payments published 17 September can be found by clicking [here](#).

CAP reform 'greening' announcement

Latest information about new CAP schemes in England, including more detail about greening, crop diversification and Ecological Focus Areas can be found by clicking [here](#).

Ecosystem Services Mapping

Assessing the potential for mapping ecosystem services in England based on existing habitats (NERR056) describes a new approach to mapping ecosystem services at the England scale. It follows the UK National Ecosystem Assessment, 2011. The maps and methodology described use as base data the Centre of Ecology and Hydrology's Landcover Map 2007 (LCM2007) to describe the potential for areas to deliver individual ecosystem services. The report and individual ecosystem service maps are available to download by clicking [here](#).

Sustainable Drainage Systems

Further Defra consultations can be found by clicking [here](#).

A selection of upcoming relevant events

RINSE Closing Conference - Bridging the Gap: Working together to tackle invasive non-native species in Europe.

Tuesday 23 September 2014, 09:15 - 16.10, OPEN, Bank Plain, Norwich, NR2 4SF.

Broads Authority Waveney Valley Parish Forum

Beccles Public Hall, NR34 9AD, Thursday 25 September 17:30-20:30. Presentation and Q&A 19:30. Find out what's happening in your area and chat to staff about landscape, access, planning, tourism and more.

Norfolk Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency: *Getting more for Norfolk - Optimising investment in Flood Risk and the Environment in Norfolk*

Tuesday 7 October 2014 10.00 - 15.30, Ecotech Centre, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37, 7HT

Objectives: to bring together organisations that invest in Norfolk; to identify common interests and multiple benefits; to align plans and bids.

Broadland Catchment Partnership Steering Group Meeting

Thursday 2 October - 10.00-13:00 - EA, Dragonfly House, Norwich. Focus on project development and funding.

Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership - Annual Forum: Landscapes & Species - managing for both in Norfolk.

Thursday 16 October. Click [here](#) for further details.

Controlled Traffic Farming Europe Member's Day

Friday 21 November 2014. CTF, 09:00-16:30, Orston, Nottinghamshire, UK [Events](#) and [Flyer](#) and [Demo](#)

Broadland Catchment Partnership Stakeholder Workshop - *Ecosystem Services Visualisation (Opportunity Mapping)*.

Thursday 4 December 2014, Broads Authority, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1RY

Aim: to use GIS tools and local knowledge to decide which areas of the catchment to target to achieve minimal change of land use and management (financially rewarded) for maximum societal and environmental benefit.