

Lower Ouse & Fenland Fisheries Consultative Association

7 January 2019

East Anglia West Fisheries Update

The following document provides LOFFCA members and anglers with up to date area fisheries information together with details of our recent activities.

Fisheries monitoring programme:

- There are 56 sites currently scheduled in for monitoring in 2019, this is subject to change (see Appendix 1).
- See the LOFFCA Facebook page for the latest fish photos, please click [here](#).
- See our team Facebook page for the latest fish photos, please click [here](#).
- See our team Twitter page for the latest fish photos, please click [here](#).

Fisheries enforcement:

- Across the Great Ouse and Fenland area, the fisheries enforcement team checked 2,072 anglers between January and December 2018.
- Of these 2,072 checks, 2,047 were 'new checks'.
- In total 56 offence reports were issued.
- During 2018 we carried out three audits across the Great Ouse catchment; one fish removal and two fish stockings as part of our duties under the Keeping & Introduction of Fish Regulations 2015. A fisheries consultant was employed by a local wildlife trust to catch and remove any carp they found from a nature reserve near Huntingdon, the fish which had previously passed a health check, would be moved to an Embryo Angling Habitats fishery in Oxfordshire. Unfortunately after 4 days of searching the consultant failed to locate and catch any carp. The second audit was a carp stocking into a syndicate fishery in Norfolk and the third a tench stocking into a fishery in Northamptonshire. See our Facebook page for the latest fish audit photos, please click [here](#).
- The bailiffs are more than happy to carry out rod licence checks at fisheries with club officials, if you keen to accompany the bailiff please get in contact (chris.middleton@environment-agency.gov.uk or 07881 512038) and I'll provide the bailiffs contact details.
- Any suspected illegal fishing activity should be reported to the Environment Agency's Incident Hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

Fisheries incident response:

- The fisheries team responded to 11 incidents in 2018.
- Incidents included: fish disease, low water levels, algal crashes, spikey diatom blooms and high ammonia.
- If you see dead or distressed fish anglers are reminded to phone the incident hotline number immediately on 0800 807060.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Winter fisheries investigations:

- Over the next few winters we plan to monitor the distribution of winter aggregations of fish throughout the Fen drains and sections of rivers with adjoining marinas, using the sonar monitoring equipment. The data collected will be used as supporting evidence in our fisheries and WFD reports.
- Providing we're granted access, the marinas we plan to target are Hartford, Pike and Eel, Jones's, Fish and Duck, Littleport and Isleham marina. We plan to monitor half a kilometre up and downstream of each marina entrance to use this as control site, then enter the marinas and collect video evidence of fish species present. Footage will be posted on our social media accounts.

Winter work:

- During November we assisted Bournemouth University with three Bitterling specific surveys on the river Wissey to establish species distribution.
- Stock assessment survey planned on Bear Lake (Shepherds Port complex) for Kings Lynn Angling Association.
- Stock assessment survey planned on Atkins Water for Waterbeach Angling Club.
- Dace broodstock collection for Calverton Fish Farm.

Habitat enhancement:

- Tree planting along the river Great Ouse between Pike & Eel marina and Brownhills Staunch. In total we planted 30 willow trees in the hope these will eventually provide crucial habitat for fish and wildlife and help stabilise the banks.

Fisheries regulation:

- In 2018 we issued 101 crayfish permits across the river Great Ouse and Fenland area for personal consumption and 33 crayfish permits for commercial trapping.
- In 2018 we issued 39 Fishery Site Permits, these are compulsory for fisheries which have non-native fish species present and or wish to stock fish. This now means these venues are compliant with the Keeping & Introduction of Fish Regulations 2015.
- In 2018 we issued 38 equipment permits, these are required under section 27a of the Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 for using equipment other than rod and line e.g. contractor carrying out a fish rescue or a fisheries consultant undertaking a fisheries survey for an angling club on a stillwater.

Match catch data:

- Angling clubs are still encouraged to submit angling match catch data, this crucial supporting evidence is utilised in our fisheries reports.
- Huge thank you to those clubs which have submitted catch data.

Fisheries improvement programme (FIP):

- Please keep the potential habitat enhancement/fish passage projects coming through, click [here](#) for further information or contact me directly on chris.middleton@environment-agency.gov.uk

Fisheries videos:

- The Rush fish pass video is now live on our Facebook page, please click [here](#).

Social media update:

- Our team now has a Facebook page (@OuseFishEA), for all the latest fisheries information, please click [here](#).
- Follow our team on Twitter (@OuseFishEA) for all the latest fisheries information, please click [here](#).
- Please send us your catch photos/videos and we'll happily post/tweet/or retweet these from our social media accounts.

Appendix 1:

Site Parent	Site Name
Bourn Brook	Westfield Farm
U/s Cam	Littlebury
U/s Cam	Pampisford Mill
U/s Cam	Sawston Paper Mill
U/s Cam	P.B.I
D/s Cam	Midsummer Common
D/s Cam	Baits Bite Lock
D/s Cam	Fen Ditton
D/s Cam	Ducketts Farm Upware
D/s Cam	Clayhithe Bridge
Granta	Barham Hall Linton
Granta	Hildersham
Granta	Babraham (I.A.P)
Granta	Babraham
Granta	Great Shelford
Mel	Meldreth
Mel	D/s Meldreth Mill
Sheep's Green Stream	U/s Fen Causeway Bridge
Sheep's Green Stream	D/s Fen Causeway Bridge
Great Ouse (Brampton to Earith)	Portholme Meadow
Great Ouse (Brampton to Earith)	Houghton
Great Ouse (Brampton to Earith)	U/s Dolphin Meadow
Great Ouse (Brampton to Earith)	Holywell
Great Ouse (Brampton to Earith)	Pike & Eel
Houghton Trout Stream	Houghton Trout Stream

Ivel	Henlow
Ivel	D/s Iron Bridge
Ivel	Biggleswade Common
Ivel	Girtford Weir
Ivel	Gt Ouse Confluence
Marley Gap Brook	Manchester Arms
St Ives Chub Stream	St Ives Chub Stream
Swavesey Drain	U/s Webs Hole Sluice
Nar	West Lexham
Nar	Castle Acre
Nar	Manor Farm
Nar	Narford Hall Estate
Nar	Bradmoor Cottages Narborough
Nar	Narborough
Nar	Marham Intake
Nar	Abbey Farm
Nar	D/s Marham Sluice
Nar	D/s Abbey Farm Weir (Eel Monitoring)
Nar	Wormegay High Bridge
Great Ouse (Brackley to Newport Pagnell)	Buckingham
Great Ouse (Brackley to Newport Pagnell)	Thornborough Mill
Great Ouse (Brackley to Newport Pagnell)	Passenham
Great Ouse (Brackley to Newport Pagnell)	D/s Wolverton Mill
Great Ouse (Brackley to Newport Pagnell)	Mill Farm Gayhurst
Ouzel	Eton Bray
Ouzel	Leighton Buzzard
Ouzel	Manor Sports Field
Ouzel	Open University
Ouzel	D/s Caldecote Mill
Ouzel	Newport Pagnell