

Lower Ouse & Fenland Fisheries Consultative Association

7 October 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:

- To date x43 sites have been completed. Unfortunately we've missed the survey window for monitoring on the river Ivel, so this won't be surveyed in 2019.
- The Relief Channel hydroacoustic map is now available from the regional Angling Trust website, click [here](#) to download your copy.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the river Nar.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the river Cam.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the St Ives Chub Stream.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the river Tove.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the river Hiz.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the Sheep's Green Stream.
- Click [here](#) to see the latest fish caught from the river Great Ouse between Brackley and Earith.

Fisheries enforcement:

- For monthly enforcement figure updates please click [here](#).
- On the 16 September 2019 we carried out a joint patrol with Cambridgeshire Police Rural Crime Action Team at Waterbeach AC's complex following reports of travellers fishing, not buying day tickets and taking fish. Nothing found but two anglers were issued tickets for fishery offences.
- On Sunday 6 October we came across the Great Britain vs Ireland Pike match on the Sixteen Foot Drain. This was part of a two day competition with the first match held the day before on the Forty Foot Drain. It's the top 10 best anglers from each country representing the teams with Ireland winning with 86 Pike totalling 430lb to GB's 79 Pike for 382lb. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- Week commencing 7 October is Operation Traverse Wildlife Crime Week. We have joint patrols arranged with Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk Police and the Angling Trust VBS.
- The bailiffs are more than happy to carry out rod licence checks at fisheries with club officials, if your 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 or equipment e.g. nets, traps, set lines should be reported to the Environment Agency's Incident Hotline on 0800 807060 and please request the NIRS reference number.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Fisheries incident response:

- On the 9 July 2018 we responded to low dissolved oxygen alarms from the water quality monitoring sonde on the Counter Drain at Welney. Upon arrival dissolved oxygen was in single figures with fish in distress gasping at the surface, we ended up dosing hydrogen peroxide to increase oxygen levels. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- On the 28 July we responded to reports of fish in distress gasping at the surface at a syndicate stillwater fishery in Cambridgeshire. Dissolved oxygen levels had crashed and we ended up deploying hydrogen peroxide. Click [here](#) for further information and to view a video clip on our Facebook page.
- In August we responded to reports of fish in distress at Willian Pond near Letchworth. We were happy to dose hydrogen peroxide and raise the oxygen levels in this village pond as it's used by juniors for angling coaching sessions. Usually most village ponds are full of unwanted ornamental species and we tend to only offer verbal advise/water quality monitoring as these are council owned and tend not to allow fishing.
- On the 18 September we assisted colleagues over in the East with a Cat 1 fish kill at an angling club stillwater. The local team deployed mechanical aerators whilst we dosed two areas with hydrogen peroxide. Click [here](#) for further information and to view a video clip on our Facebook page.
- If you see dead or distressed fish anglers are reminded to phone the incident hotline number immediately on 0800 807060.

Habitat enhancement:

- On the 26 September 2019 we held a River Restoration workshop in partnership with the Wild Trout Trust on the river Great Ouse as part of the upper Ouse post pollution recovery project. In total 24 people attended, these included angling clubs, land owners, farmers and local conservationists. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- This pollution incident and workshop have brought local people together and inspired them to work together to restore the river through restoration techniques and there's even talk of creating an Upper Ouse Catchment Partnership group.

Fish stockings:

- On the 12 July 2019 we stocked 5,000 chub and 20,000 dace in and around Buckingham as part of the upper Ouse post pollution recovery project. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- We also created a mini video showing some of the excellent quality fish, click [here](#) for further information and to view a video clip on our Facebook page.

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

Angling coaching events:

- On the 14 July 2019 we attended the Somersham Angling Club Family Open Day. This was a brilliant event with all of the juniors catching fish. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- On the 7 and 8 September Norfolk Police invited us to join them on their stand at Sandringham Game and Country Fair 2019. We work closely with the Wildlife Crime Officers in detecting and preventing fisheries offences across Norfolk. Click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.
- On the 22 September 2019 we assisted Cambridge Fish Preservation & Angling Society with their angling coaching event at Milton Country Park for Autumn Festival 2019. Almost 70 juniors had ago at fishing with all of them managing to catch a fish or two, click [here](#) for further information and to view the photos on our Facebook page.

Social media update:

- Like and follow our team on Facebook 'Environment Agency - Great Ouse and Fenland Fisheries Team' (@OuseFishEA) for all the latest fisheries information from across the Great Ouse catchment and fenland area, please click [here](#).
- Our Twitter account has now changed from a dedicated fisheries account to a FBG team account (@OuseEcologyEA) and now includes all the great work we undertake improving biodiversity and ecology across the area, to find the account please click [here](#).
- Please send us your catch photos/videos and we'll happily post/tweet/or retweet these from our social media accounts.