

Wensum Catchment Partnership Action Plan

Serial No	Title	Action	Defra DWP Task No	Owner	Lead	Target Date	Funding Required	Funding Allocated	Remarks
STG-001	Group Communications	Implement a group wide media solution to promote activities of the group		WCP	?	Apr-20			Explore potential for a Wensum partnership Facebook Group
STG-002	Officer Business Case	Create business case for funding for additional officer to implement and deliver the WCP plan	W-DWP011	WCP	NRT	Mar-20 Annually	25000		Proposal: Seek funding for additional officer (to be employed by Norfolk Rivers Trust to deliver the following projects: P011,P013,P015,P018,P019,P020,P022,P023
STG-003	Financial Support	Explore grant structures and potential funding streams		WCP	Kelvin Allen	Apr-20			Meeting agreed with Andy Thorpe and team from NCC Jan-20
STG-004	WCP Governance	Agree Governance and financial model structures		WCP	Kelvin Allen	Apr-20			Secure a constitutional structure with appropriate financial governance
STG-005	WCP Measurement of Outcomes	Create a set of SMART measures to ensure all outcomes are measured and sustained		WCP	Cass Singleton	Jul-20			Discuss potential with UEA on building measures as scoped by the Wensum DTC
STG-006	Community Engagement	Scope the introduction of a river warden scheme with Parish Councils	W-DWP008 W-DWP011 W-DWP018	WCP	John Flowerdew	Aug-20			
ECO-001	Invertebrate Base Status	Report on the gap analysis between the respective bodies reporting on Invertebrate status		WWG	David Harper	Apr-20			Why is WFD stating good status, when ST&C and Buglife stating poor? We have identified 6 separate survey schemes over the last decade.
ECO-002	Invertebrate Base Reasons	Identify the reasons for variance and agree a way forward on measures for the river Wensum		WWG	Geoff Phillips	Apr-20			What is the root cause of the low volumes in invertebrates
ECO-003	Invertebrate Monitoring Scope	Define and quantify the scale of a riverfly monitoring scheme for the river Wensum		WWG	Geoff Phillips	Apr-20			Potentially Riverfly Plus, we need a single consolidated scheme for the whole river.
ECO-004	Invertebrate Monitoring Definition	Define a riverfly monitoring scheme for the river Wensum and agree volunteer engagement and training		WWG	Dennis Willis	Apr-20			This develops and builds on existing riverfly with additions from items 3
ECO-005	Invertebrate Monitoring	Implement a riverfly monitoring scheme for the river Wensum		WWG	Dennis Willis	May-20			Regular sites and possible focus events along the river
ECO-006	Habitat	Understanding the diversity of Habitats'		WWG	David Harper	Jun-20			
ECO-007	Habitat Middle Reaches	Provision of 150 SqM of additional off channel habitat and refuge annually (Middle and Lower Reaches)	W-DWP-019	WWG	Jez Wood	Annually			Need to consider mtce of such features
ECO-008	Habitat Upper Reaches	Provision of 100 SqM of additional off channel habitat and refuge annually (Upper Reaches)	W-DWP-019	WWG	Jez Wood	Annually			

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ECO-009	Habitat Macrophytes	Summarise the SSSI designations and understanding of macrophytes (plants) across all reaches of the Wensum, building on the 6 year Natural England assessment period.		WWG	David Harper	Aug-20			What is the current status of plant surveys both with EA and NE
ECO-010	Fish Densities	Understand all fish species to enable the identification of any aspect of ecology, pollution or morphology that has a detrimental effect on the health and welfare of River Wensum fish populations		WWG	Kelvin Allen Julia Stansfield	Jun-20			Why is the likes the Wensum lacking detail on fish surveys compared to the great Ouse particularly on yearly trends etc.
ECO-011	Fish Limnophilic	Identify any adverse conditions that undermine ...(habitat, pathway etc)... and make recommendations to the River Wensum catchment Partnership for rectification/referral of the issue as required		WWG	?	Dec-20			These are fish that spawn in macrophytes and structure (Roach, Bream, Perch, Pike)
ECO-012	Fish Rheophilic	Identify any adverse conditions that undermine ...(habitat, pathway etc)... and make recommendations to the River Wensum catchment Partnership for rectification/referral of the issue as required		WWG	?	Dec-20			These are fish that spawn in gravels and fast water (Dace, Chub, Barbel, Trout)
ECO-013	Fish Migratory	Identify any adverse conditions that undermine ...(habitat, pathway etc)... and make recommendations to the River Wensum catchment Partnership for rectification/referral of the issue as required		WWG	Jex Wood	Dec-20			Primary focus on eel and sea trout passage
ECO-014	Fish Predation	To introduce a plan on predation for the Wensum		WWG	Roger Gibbons	Dec-20			
ECO-015	Non-Native Species Crayfish	Explore status and impact informed by other actions		WWG		Mar-21			
ECO-016	Non-Native Species Balsam	Continue to co-ordinate Norfolk Non-Native Species Initiative to remove Himalayan balsam		NCC	Joe Kenworthy	Annually			

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POL-001	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Cover Crops Long Term	Increase use of cover crops Aspirational aim: Green cover (including stubble and winter cash crops) across 100% of all arable land (i.e. no bare soils over winter)	W-DWP005	UWFCG		2027			Lead partners: Norfolk Rivers Trust (Water Sensitive Farming Initiative), Anglian Water (Catchment Management), Natural England (Catchment Sensitive Farming) using existing grant funding.
POL-002	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Cover Crops Short Term	Increase use of cover crops Short term aim: additional 100 hectares	W-DWP005	UWFCG		Nov-20	2500		Lead partners: Norfolk Rivers Trust (Water Sensitive Farming Initiative), Anglian Water (Catchment Management), Natural England (Catchment Sensitive Farming) using existing grant funding.
POL-003	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Silt traps Long Term	Increase construction of in field silt traps including moving high risk field gateways (entrances) Aspirational aim: No run-off to leave any arable fields by 2027.	W-DWP005	UWFCG		2027			Lead partners NRT (WSF) and Upper Wensum Farm Cluster Group - using SCIMAP run-off model, Google Earth and aerial photography to target and prioritise using existing capital grant funding.
POL-004	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Silt traps Short Term	Increase construction of in field silt traps including moving high risk field gateways (entrances) Short term aim: 4 new in-field silt traps in Upper Wensum Farm Cluster Group area	W-DWP005	UWFCG		Mar-21			Lead partners NRT (WSF) and Upper Wensum Farm Cluster Group - using SCIMAP run-off model, Google Earth and aerial photography to target and prioritise using existing capital grant funding.
POL-005	Agriculture Diffuse pollution	Post-harvest cultivation Aspirational aim: Cultivation to commence within 12 hours of harvest on all arable land	W-DWP005	UWFCG		2027			Short term aim: collaborative promotional campaign to farmers on 'New Farming Rules for Water 2018' to commence March 2020 using hard flyers, and digital media including Twitter, Broadland Catchment Partnership newsletter, and Catchment Sensitive Farming + Water Sensitive Farming Initiative workshops ready for harvest 2020/21.
POL-006	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Tramlining	Tramline and wheeling management Aspirational aim: Tramline and wheeling layout change and disruption across all arable land. Short term-aim: Tramline disruption on 100ha of winter cereals using free kit trials via WSF.	W-DWP005	UWFCG		Dec-20			Lead partners: Norfolk Rivers Trust (Water Sensitive Farming Initiative), Natural England (Catchment Sensitive Farming), Anglian Water (Catchment Management), Broads Authority (Broadland Catchment Partnership),

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POL-007	Agriculture Diffuse pollution Education	Tramline and wheeling management Aspirational aim: Hold joint workshop in spring 2020 and promote use at 2019/2020 CSF and WSF workshops,	W-DWP006	UWFCG		May-20			Championing the Farmed Environment and Farm Business Update meetings.
POL-008	Agriculture Land Use Pilot	Small scale pilot land use change for arable fields with high gradient and/or slope length or adjacent to protected sites	W-DWP001	UWFCG		Mar-20			Proposal: Broadland Catchment Partnership grant scheme for farmers to purchase kit - project funding and eligibility to be decided at future Broadland Catchment Partnership Steering Group and Wensum Working Group meetings in January 2020 onwards. Delivery mechanism: Countryside Stewardship/Environmental Land Management Scheme; Business diversification including re-wilding, re-introduction of livestock, forestry, eco-tourism, education.
POL-009	Agriculture Land Use Short Term	Short term aim: 40 hectares of additional land use change using existing organisational resources	W-DWP001	UWFCG		Feb-22			Delivery mechanism: Countryside Stewardship/Environmental Land Management Scheme; Business diversification including re-wilding, re-introduction of livestock, forestry, eco-tourism, education.
POL-010	Agriculture Land Use Long Term	Aspirational aim: High risk fields and those fields adjacent to protected sites (selected using existing SCIMAP and Ecosystem Services maps) to be in stewardship (e.g. buffer strips, permanent pasture; in field strips; hedgerow and wetland restoration) or alternative use	W-DWP001	UWFCG		2027			Delivery mechanism: Countryside Stewardship/Environmental Land Management Scheme; Business diversification including re-wilding, re-introduction of livestock, forestry, eco-tourism, education.
POL-011	Urban Pollution	Reduce urban pollution (industrial, commercial, residential areas) sources Visit commercial, industrial and residential premises and run educational campaigns To achieve 60% Reduced pollution from urban areas	W-DWP011	WCP		2027			Additional officer (to be employed by Norfolk Rivers Trust)
POL-012									
POL-013	Urban Pollution Resources	Annual reduction in pollution reports by 10%	W-DWP011	WCP		Annually			Environment Agency to continue to make visits and investigate pollution using existing limited resources.

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POL-014	Urban Pollution Assess Mapping	Undertake a risk mapping exercise using road network, slope and connectivity to water course to understand the relative risks from road run-off.	W-DWP009	WWG	Colin Howlett Tim Ellis	Mar-20			Ground-truth with site visits to verify. APEM work combined with the report from the sediment mapping has provided understanding of risks from road run off. The next stage is to identify the location of specific issues through wet weather walk/drive overs and reported incidents. This would be to inform locations for passing places
POL-015	Urban Pollution Highways	Reduce pollution from Highways by 68% (acting as conduit/pathway for diffuse and urban pollution more than source)	W-DWP010	NCC		2027			Implement pathway disruption techniques so that roads are not channelling rural run-off directly into water courses. In conjunction with Local Authority, Highways Agency and landowners implement site specific solutions to issues found through W-DWP009
POL-016	Livestock Poaching	Reduce river bank and in-channel erosion caused by livestock trampling, invasive non-native species, and bad practice ditch maintenance a. Continue to promote fencing grants to landowners	W-DWP015	UWFCG		2027			
POL-017	STW P Removal	EA and Water Company to investigate reductions in phosphorus in wastewater discharges to meet long term limits. This will form part of the PR19 to review schemes to go into PR24 looking at options to reduce P coming out of wastewater discharges	W-DWP016	AWS					
POL-018	STW P Removal by Wetlands	Continue to do feasibility studies, landowner engagement and explore funding and (seasonal) consenting mechanisms for Constructed Wetlands from small water recycling centres (<1000? population equivalent)	W-DWP016	WCP					

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POL-019	Rural Pollution - Septic Tanks	Action on poor septic tank management/mis connections. Implement action on the findings of W_DWPP_007 Septic tank risk mapping, Investigate on site on a case by case basis. Alongside this, undertake a communications campaign on good practice management for septic tanks.	W-DWP008	WCP		2023			Natural England are reporting All sub-catchments within the SSSI catchment have been subject to risk mapping in order to understand where the risk is and further targeting etc. Implement and action the findings
POL-020	Rural Pollution - Farming Practice	Investigate unconsented discharges from farms, for example specific farms with poor management practice e.g. Slurry pit/field corner management etc. when reported to Environment Agency or if officers identify issue during compliance or advisory visits or when identified during investigations into failing stretches. If the issue is significant then identify appropriate ways to tackle the issue.	W-DWP017	WCP		2027			Where reported to EA or identified during visits or through investigations into failing stretches.
POL-021	Rural Pollution - Unconsented urban discharges	Investigate and remedy unconsented discharges from the urban or industrial environment, for example e.g. misconnections etc when reported to Environment Agency or identified through investigations into failing stretches.	W-DWP018	WCP	EA	2027			Specific catchments where urban is responsible for significant (>25%) portion of the phosphate load, and/or intermittent sources have been identified in the SAGIS model.
POL-022	Rural Pollution - Septic Tanks Engagement	Undertake engagement with Parish Councils along the Wensum Valley to implement actions on poor septic tank management/miss connections.	W-DWP008	WCP	John Flowerdew	2023			
POL-023	Rural Pollution - River Wardens	Engage with Parish Councils and local groups to build a group of river wardens on the Wensum to support the aims of POL-011	W-DWP011	WCP	John Flowerdew	2023			

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MOR-001	River Restoration Communications	Better communication of a common agreed vision		WCP	EA				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better communication of a common agreed vision (by all user groups, interested parties and organisations). Everyone has a better understanding of the benefits that this vision will provide (ecosystem services approach – why is the river more valuable in a more natural state?)
MOR-002	River Restoration Review	Undertake a review of the strategy with all material from the last 3 decades and refresh the project plans within the previous restoration document		WCP	EA				Need to review the overall strategy based on previous recommendations from 1998. River Rehabilitation Feasibility Study Phase I & II, so the Partnership has a feasible and agreed plan for the Wensum aligned to the DEFRA 25yr aspiration.
MOR-003	Enablement of Natural Recovery	Reduction in the need for, and severity of, ongoing maintenance as recorded by EA, IDB and riparian landowners. This may need some promotion of sensitive practices and exemplar site visits.		WCP	EA				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow natural recovery of the river – appropriate maintenance by EA / IDB / landowners.
MOR-004	Appropriate Channel Dimensions	26.9 km already delivered by the restoration strategy in 10 years. If we include the tributaries and IDB works we should aim for 30 km in the next 5 years.		WCP	EA				Regain appropriate channel dimensions – aim for a self-sustaining channel which requires very limited routine maintenance. This will likely involve active river restoration in unimpounded areas of the river such as bed raising and berms
MOR-005	Impoundments	X (number) of impoundments removed / impact reduced. The number will depend on the size of our ambition but why not aim for SEA TROIUT TO SWANTON MORLEY within 10 years as a strategic stranline		WCP	EA				The river is less impounded – freer flowing. Aim to spread the gradient over the whole length of the river rather than impounded steps by removing or bypassing obstruction.
MOR-006	Floodplain Reconnection	X (number) of backwaters reconnected. X (number) of hectares more frequently inundated at higher flows and WEBS wading bird counts increased.		WCP	NRT				Reconnect the floodplain where appropriate. Re meandering and reconnection of relic channels and reducing flood embankments where appropriate. Benefits include reduced flood risk, increased biodiversity, decreased sediment, better drainage of affected land.
MOR-007									