

Appendix 1: Detail information on the watercourses within Norfolk County Council Area

Subject: Rationalisation of the Main River Network (De - maining Pilots)

1. Overview

The Environment Agency want to strengthen local decision making around flood risk management by ensuring the right bodies are managing the right watercourses.

The Environment Agency has been working with a number of internal drainage boards (IDBs), lead local flood authorities and district councils to consider the option of re-designating several sections of watercourse, in a number of locations across England, from main river to ordinary watercourse – a term we refer to as de-maining.

This transfer would result in these stretches of river being removed from the statutory main river map. They would be re-designated as ordinary watercourses, with flood risk management activities passing to the new Risk Management Authorities.

2. Background

2.1 Legal mechanism

The Main River Network was first developed in the 1930s, primarily to improve land drainage, reduce the frequency of flooding to agricultural land, and boost UK food production. The Main River Network has largely remained unchanged for the last 30 years.

The Environment Agency is responsible for maintaining a map of the main river (the Main River Map) and making any changes to it, and determining whether or not a watercourse, or part of a watercourse, is to be treated as a main river or part of a main river.

Flood risk from Main Rivers is highly concentrated in England; 90% of properties at risk are within the floodplain of approximately 40% of the Main River network.

DEFRA issued guidance to the Environment Agency on the designation of “main rivers” in October 2017. The guidance is issued under section 193E of the Water Resources Act 1991 and can be found on GOV.UK [here](#). This guidance has been issued by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Environment Agency is required to have regard to it.

Using this guidance, the Environment Agency is exploring the opportunity of re-designating several sections of watercourse in the Norfolk County Council Area as outlined under section 2.3 and Appendix 1.

The Norfolk and Suffolk Pilot is part of a national pilot called the 'Rationalising the Main River Network' project. There are 4 Pilots taking place across the country which are being used to test the de-mainment process.

2.2 Policy, roles and responsibilities

This section outlines the policy, roles and responsibilities under which each organisation or individual operates on any given watercourse within the District Area.

Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is classed as a Risk Management Authority under Section 6 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and operates its permissive powers to regulate and maintain watercourses classified as 'main rivers'.

The Environment Agency prioritises maintenance activities on main rivers based on flood risk to people and property, and therefore focusses management at locations with high flood risk. This means that local main river watercourses, deemed at low risk of flooding, can suffer from intermittent funding.

Internal Drainage Boards

In the Norfolk County Council area there are two internal drainage boards that operate, Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board and Broads Internal Drainage Board (IDB). Both of these are members of the Water Management Alliance, a consortium of six internal drainage boards across East Anglia and Sussex.

Each IDB has permissive powers which allow them to undertake work to reduce flood risk to people and property and manage water levels within their internal drainage district. They also have statutory duties with regard to the environment and recreation when exercising their permissive powers. IDBs are not, however, responsible for watercourses designated as main rivers within their drainage districts; this sits with the Environment Agency.

Much of their work involves the maintenance and improvement of rivers, drainage channels, outfalls and pumping stations. They also oversee drainage issues in connection with new developments and advise on planning applications. This means that anyone constructing or altering a weir, bridge, embankment, culvert or similar obstruction must apply for an ordinary watercourse consent from the IDB before undertaking works.

District Councils

District councils are a risk management authority and they play a role in managing flood risk from ordinary watercourses outside the IDB Districts. They operate and maintain existing sea defenses and carry out other work to manage

flood risk from the sea (if Coastal Authorities and with the consent of the Environment Agency).

They manage risk by working with lead local flood authorities and others to:

- take flood risk into account when making decisions on development in their area
- use permissive powers to carry out flood risk management works on ordinary watercourses to supplement riparian owner responsibilities

The maintenance funding allocation to Local Authorities is very variable throughout the country and requires local partnership working to determine where best to source the funds.

Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs)

Norfolk County Council, as the LLFA, are responsible for providing leadership and strategic co-ordination across all sources of local flood risk (i.e. risk of flooding from surface run-off, groundwater and ordinary watercourses) and establishing local flood risk management strategies (covering all of the local risk management authorities).

Under the Land Drainage Act 1991, Norfolk County Council is the 'regulatory body' for ordinary watercourses in the 79.3% of Norfolk outside the IDB Districts. Whilst riparian owners are responsible for maintaining watercourses. Norfolk County Council may take action where an event has or is likely to increase flood risk and relates to:

- Internal flooding of a residential property which can include an attached garage (please note - a detached garage or shed is not considered internal)
- Flooding of critical infrastructure eg hospitals
- Flooding of main roads eg priority 1 and 2 winter gritting routes

In such circumstances the Council will, in line with the Council's Flood and Water Management Enforcement Protocol:

- Inspect ordinary watercourses
- Contact riparian owners where maintenance is required and if necessary, serve notice to require maintenance if water flow is seriously impaired
- Take action to prevent unauthorised piping or culverting of watercourses

Riparian Owners

Riparian owners have responsibilities to look after the stretch of watercourse that they own. A riparian owner must let water flow naturally through their land. If a blockage on their stretch of watercourse reduces the flow or causes flooding, they may be liable to pay damages to other landowners.

They should:

- remove any blockages

- cut back trees and shrubs only if they could reduce the flow and cause flooding
- keep any trash screen, weir, mill gate or other structure clear

2.3 Norfolk and Suffolk Pilot

The Environment Agency has been working closely with Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Rivers and Broads Internal Drainage Boards (all part of the Water Management Alliance) to deliver the 'Rationalising the Main River Network' Project.

The Environment Agency are currently proposing to take forward 14 watercourses in Norfolk and Suffolk for de-mainment, A number of these watercourses are currently being managed by the Internal Drainage Board under Public Sector Cooperation Agreements via the Integrated Main River Maintenance Programme.

Should de-mainment go ahead, these stretches of river would be deleted from the statutory main river map. They would be re-designated as 'ordinary watercourse', and would then be managed, regulated and/or maintained under permissive powers by the Internal Drainage Board or Lead Local Flood Authority and District Council.

During October, the Environment Agency held a number of drop-in events, where the local community had the opportunity to ask questions and influence the proposals. A consultation also took place in 2015 on the possibility of de-maining the River Whitewater, Spixworth Beck, Stone Beck and the River Tud. No objections were received during this consultation.

Formal consultation on the proposals in Suffolk took place in January 2018. Formal consultation on the proposals in Norfolk is scheduled to take place in spring 2018, following approvals from the Districts, Norfolk County Council and the Broads and Norfolk Rivers IDB Boards.

There are 11 watercourses proposed for de-mainment with sections that fall within the Norfolk County Council Authority area:

- Spixworth Beck
- Stone Beck
- Tunstall Dyke
- River Tud
- River Whitewater
- Wendling Beck
- River Tiffey
- River Hun
- River Blackwater
- Waxham Cut
- Tunstall Dyke

A detailed account of each watercourse (including distance proposed to be transferred to each RMA is set out in Appendix 1)

All of these sections of watercourse have low levels of flood risk (in line with the Statutory Main River Guidance) to people and property and are not associated with major rivers or major population centre. The Environment Agency will only look to de-main where the new RMA has the appropriate governance arrangements in place and the local community supports the change.

Information packs for the new Risk Management Authorities taking responsibility for de-mained watercourses will be produced. These will describe the main characteristics of the rivers and assets that will be transferred, and any known management and environmental issues which need to be considered.

The table below sets out the roles and responsibilities currently and in the future if the proposals go ahead.

Role	Current responsibility	Future responsibility
Responsibility for maintaining the bed and banks of the watercourse, and the trees and shrubs growing on the banks. Responsibility for managing flood risk to land adjacent to the watercourse. Please refer to the guide 'Living on the Edge' for more information on the rights and responsibilities associated with riverside ownership (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/riverside-ownership-rights-and-responsibilities).	Riparian landowner – the owner of land or property next to a river, stream or ditch.	Riparian landowner – the owner of land or property next to a river, stream or ditch. The responsibilities of riparian landowners would not change following de-mainment.
Overall responsibility for the flood risk management of the watercourse	Environment Agency	Broads or Norfolk Rivers IDB or Norfolk County Council
Regulation – issuing permits for works on or	To undertake any flood risk activities on these	To undertake flood risk activities on these

<p>near to the watercourse</p>	<p>stretches of these watercourses, an applicant must apply to the Environment Agency for a Flood Risk Activity Permit or exemption under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. The Environment Agency currently charges £170 for a single activity under a Flood Risk Activity Permit, with an additional £40 charge applied for each additional activity on the same application. These charges are currently under review.</p>	<p>watercourses, you would be required to contact Norfolk Rivers or Broads IDB or Norfolk County Council (depending on the location of the activity) to check if you need to apply for consent. Consents will cost £50 per activity from the IDB and £50 per structure from Norfolk County Council.</p>
<p>Permissive power to maintain the watercourse</p>	<p>The Environment Agency has permissive powers to maintain the watercourse. They use these powers to reduce flood risk to people and property.</p>	<p>Norfolk Rivers IDB, Broads IDB or District Councils would have the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse.</p> <p>The IDB would usually use its powers to reduce flood risk to people, property and critically important infrastructure.</p> <p>District Councils may use its permissive powers, however the responsibility to maintain the watercourse rests with the riparian owner.</p> <p>The Environment Agency would no longer have these powers.</p>

3. Technical requirements of de-mainment

3.1 Bye-laws to protect the environment when de-maining to a LLFA and District

Environment Agency (EA) proposals to de-main main river watercourses, must be advanced with direct reference to specific legal and departmental criteria. These criteria not only relate to the importance of the watercourse in flood risk terms (people and property potentially affected) but also to the impact that the proposal may have on the environment. It is also legally incumbent on the EA to protect and further the conservation of specific habitats and species which may be affected by our proposals. As part of the de-maining pilot we must ensure that these legal requirements are fulfilled.

All watercourses proposed for de-maining by definition fall under the protection of the FCRM Environmental Permitting Regulations, which take a risk based approach to environmental risk. If this protection is disapplied via de-maining, we must ensure that any new regulatory regime would not add unacceptable environmental risk to the environmental receptors over and above that which presently exists.

The Agency believes that environmental risk is sufficiently mitigated through regulatory change if:

- i) The receiving Risk Management Authority has equivalent powers and duties to protect the environment as the Agency
- ii) There is or will be a regulatory regime in place to afford appropriate levels of protection as presently exists.

As internal drainage boards and local authorities also have powers relating to the environmental protection of rivers, albeit under separate statutory regimes and duties relating to the environmental protection of rivers, the risk of de-maining is low depending on how the powers have been used. However, due to limitations (within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 amendments to the Land Drainage Act 1991), de-maining to LLFAs (County Councils) can potentially leave rivers with a reduced level of regulatory protection from activities which directly affect the river environment and the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

A major part of addressing this potential risk is to ensure that all reaches proposed for de-maining are afforded an appropriate level of regulation by a competent authority with comparable powers and duties as the Agency i.e. IDB or District Council. In this way we ensure that we have fulfilled our Environment Act 1995, Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 requirements.

To ensure the satisfactory regulation of de-mained watercourses the Agency will insist that all de-mained watercourses will have the protection of byelaws under a RMA with similar environmental powers and duties as those which the present main river enjoys.

In the case of the pilots, the EA will consider it an acceptable legal risk to de-main once there is a MOU with the Districts that they will undertake to put bye-

laws in place. It is felt that this is the limit of the obligation to which district authorities can commit. It would not be possible for them to formally agree to introduce byelaws, as introduction can only follow approval by the Secretary of State, and so would be outside district control

Beyond the pilots, in order to de-main to a LLFA the EA will expect the Districts to have bye-laws in place prior to de-maining taking place. This will demonstrate that the new RMA has the capability to protect the environment.

3.2 Water Framework Directive

The Environment Agency (EA) is the competent authority for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and must ensure that the proposals do not jeopardise the achievement of the objectives of the Directive or are likely to result in waterbody deterioration.

In relation to de-maining, the EA needs to be convinced that the objectives of the Directive and the risk of not meeting the expected status are not compromised. This issue can be complex based on issues including the watercourse objectives, mitigation measures and standards of protection e.g. appropriate bye-laws being in place and the use of best environmental practice when planning and undertaking flood risk activities.

Some waterbodies require few works to achieved the desired status and these may already have been identified and costed within the River Basin Plan, whilst others may be heavily modified waterbodies for specific reasons including flood risk. The risk of failing the WFD objectives in these cases may be quite different, as would be the ecological consequences of failure or the use of sub-optimal practices.

WFD requirements as they apply to a particular watercourse need to be assessed on a case by case basis depending on the river's classification, stated objectives and actions identified within the relevant River Basin Management Plan (RBMP).

Whilst the Agency is the competent authority for WFD and other public bodies e.g. IDBs /District councils need only take the RBMP into account, this is not in itself a reason to prevent de-maining if it can be demonstrated that the marginal risk to WFD from de-maining is acceptably low or the consequences of failure are insignificant in ecological or classification terms.

This decision can be made at an Area level using expert advice from EA's Fisheries, Biodiversity and Geomorphology team.

3.3 Assets of Uncertain Ownership

The EA position's on assets of uncertain ownership is as follows:

- *As part of the RMRN project, we aim to have no ongoing liability for the land or assets on the watercourses we transfer.*

- *For FCERM assets we own, our preferred option is to transfer ownership of these to the new RMA. Where this is not possible, we will dispose of (or be in the process of disposing of) the assets on de-maining the watercourse.*
- *For other assets such as bridges which we don't own, we will require confirmation from the new RMA that it takes on responsibility for ensuring that these assets don't cause problems for flood risk. This includes assets that we have maintained but that we do not own. We will also need the new RMA to provide an indemnity to the Environment Agency to ensure that we have no responsibility in respect of future claims in relation to these assets.*
- *In order to confirm which FCERM assets we owned or have responsibility for on the watercourse, we have carried out searches of our databases, and where appropriate, have carried out land registry searches. We have also undertaken public consultation on the de-maining which has given riparian owners the opportunity to talk to us about asset ownership. Using this information it has allowed us to detail those assets where we have clear ownership.*
- *We will provide the most accurate information that we are able from our records, but it is up to the new RMA to undertake their own due diligence work associated with the project.*
- *In the event that evidence comes to light in the future that shows that assets or freehold land which have not been transferred does belong to us, then we would consider how to transfer this on a case by case basis.*

The EA and new RMAs are in discussion around the legal complexities of transfer of asset liability as outlined above.

4. Next steps

De-maining has proved to be a complex legal and environmental challenge but significant progress has been made towards establishing a process that involves local communities and protects the environment. Co-operation between all sectors has been open and constructive.

Based on the legal complexities around WFD and byelaws for environmental protection, the EA are proposing to take forward 4 watercourses as part of the RMRN Pilot for formal consultation in summer 2018.

These watercourses are:

- River Tud
- River Hun
- Waxham Cut
- Tunstall Dyke

The majority of the length of these watercourses fall within the Internal Drainage District.

Consultation:

As part of the formal consultation for these watercourses the EA will ensure that the proposals are distributed via the following channels:

- MP briefs
- Community Newsletters
- Letters to Parish Councils and landowners
- Social media campaigns,
- Advertising the statutory notice in papers and on local community notice boards

The EA will take all comments, received during the consultation, into consideration and share this information with the new RMAs.


The EA will then look to take forward the remainder of the Norfolk watercourses at a later date.


The Internal Drainage Boards are currently engaging with the each District Council to discuss taking forward all watercourses to de-mainment. These discussions include setting out roles and responsibilities post de-mainment including the use of Public Sector Cooperation Agreements. These discussions also include the technicalities around fulfilling the technical requirements to de-main as outlined in section 3.


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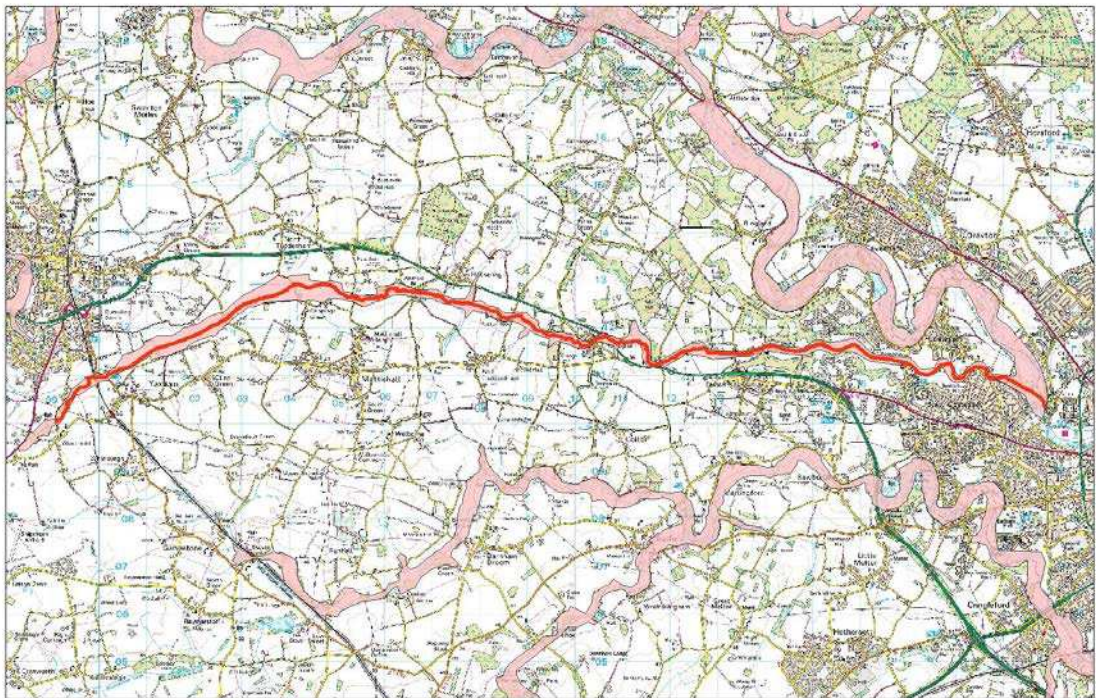
Appendix 1


Main River	Spixworth Beck, Norfolk. (13.6km, TG 16950 17322 to TG 28403 17151)
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and regulate the Spixworth Beck from the Environment Agency to Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board or Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council. This will result in the entire 13.6 km of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse inside the IDB boundary is 7.464 km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 6.145 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (7.4km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (6.1km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to Broadland District Council. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (6.1km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
Flood risk	<p>Spixworth Beck falls within the Tidal River Bure system. There are no properties at high risk of fluvial flooding and 31 properties at medium risk of fluvial flooding. There is a Natural England water level retention structure downstream of Crostwick Marsh, and a Hydrometry and Telemetry Gauging Station at TG 25992 16501 which will remain an EA asset.</p>
Location	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Norfolk IDBs (IDB) — Spixworth Beck demarcation stretch


Main River	Stone Beck, Norfolk. (6.8km, TG 18842 18915 to TG 23821 16473)
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and the regulatory the Stone Beck from the Environment Agency to Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board or Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council. This will result in the entire 6.8 km of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the IDB boundary is 0.533 km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB Boundary is 6.7 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (0.5km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (6.7km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to Broadland District Council. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (6.7km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
Flood risk	Stone Beck falls within the Tidal River Bure system. There are no properties at high or medium of fluvial flooding. There are no flood risk assets on this watercourse.
Location	


Main River	Tunstall Dyke (1.4 km, TG 42009 09038 to TG 43257 09569)
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and the regulate the Tunstall Dyke from the Environment Agency to Broads Internal Drainage Board or Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council or Great Yarmouth District Council. This will result in the entire 1.4 km of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The majority of the watercourse is within the IDB boundary. 21 m falls within the Broadland District Council Authority Area and 10 m within the Great Yarmouth District Council Authority Area.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (1.3km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Broads Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (21m and 10 m) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to Broadland District Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (21m and 10 m) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
Flood risk	<p>The Tunstall Dyke falls within the Tidal River Bure system, however this watercourse. There are no properties at high fluvial flood risk (Flood Zone 3) or at medium risk of fluvial flooding (Flood Zone 2), though the area is at risk of tidal flooding. There are no flood risk assets on this watercourse.</p>
Location	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Norfolk IDBs — Tunstall Dyke demarcation stretch

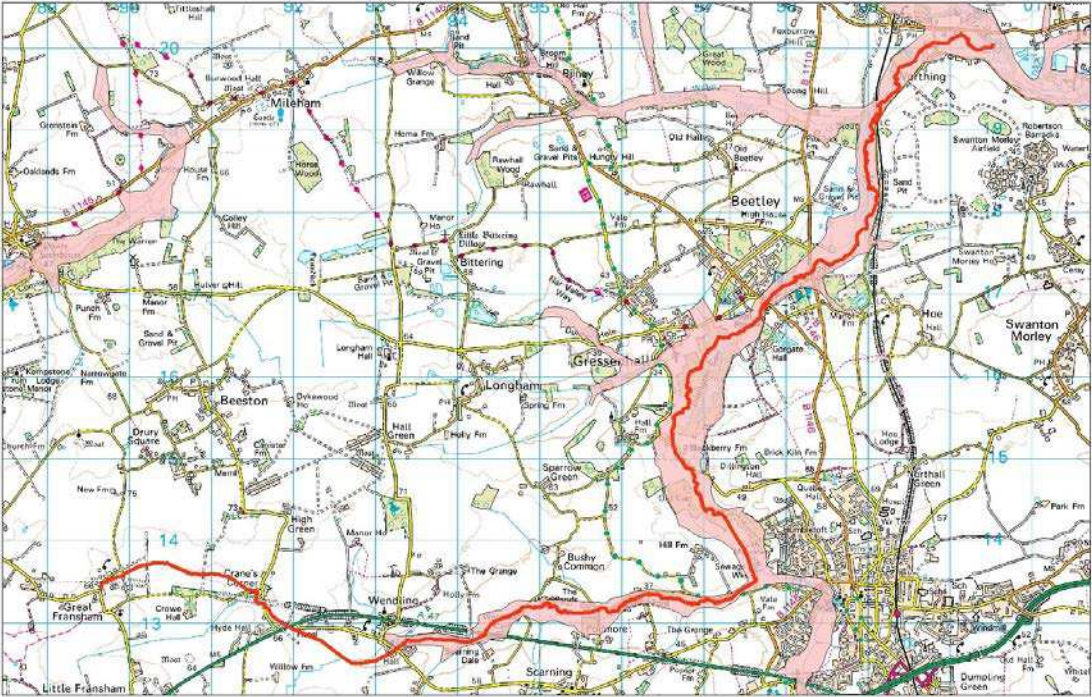
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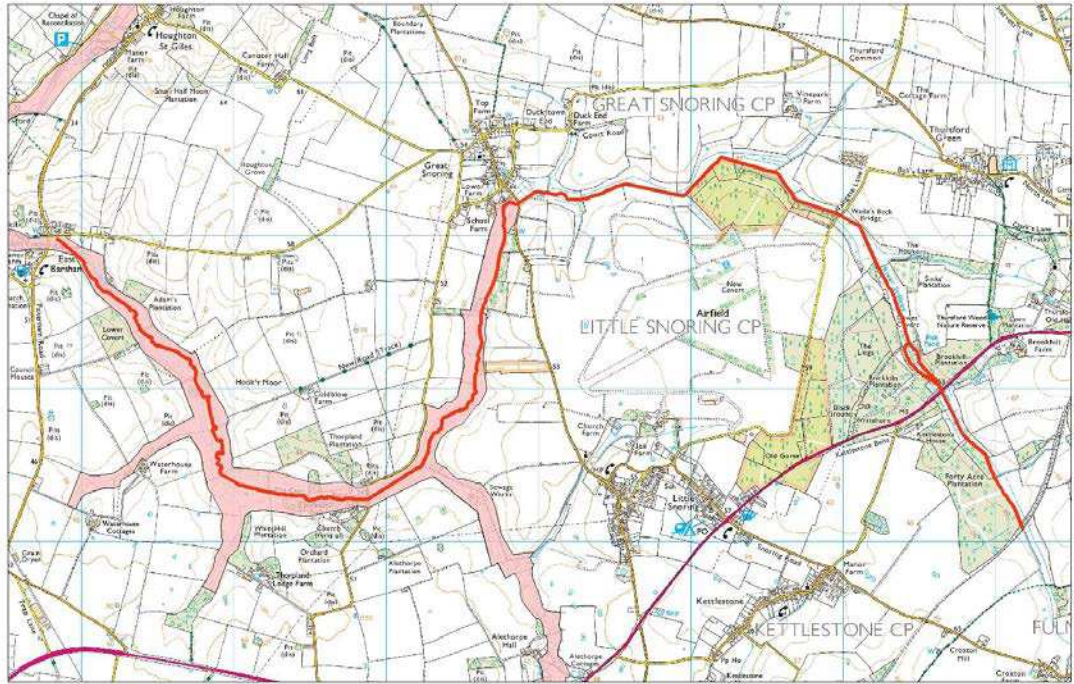
Main River	River Tud (25.4 km, TF9908510033 to TG1986010343)
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and regulate the River Tud from the Environment Agency to Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. This will result in the entire 25.4 km of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The entirety of the River Tud falls within the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board District.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (25.4km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board.
Flood risk	<p>The River Tud falls within the Lower and Upper Tud low and high consequence systems, however the majority of the watercourse reaches are considered low consequence due to the low likelihood of flooding to people and property, except a 4.45 km reach through the village of Honingham. There are 17 properties at medium risk of fluvial flooding (Flood Zone 2) and 4 properties at high risk of fluvial flooding.</p> <p>There are no functional flood risk assets on this watercourse, though the transfer will include Berry's Bridge Sluice which is no longer operational. There is also an Hydrometry and Telemetry gauge at Stone Road Farm and Costessey Park which will remain the responsibility of the Environment Agency.</p>
Location	 <p>The map displays the River Tud domain stretch in red, which runs horizontally across the middle of the frame. Surrounding this stretch are various Norfolk IDBs (Internal Drainage Boards) shown in pink. The background is a detailed topographic map with roads, fields, and other geographical features. A legend at the bottom left identifies the red line as the 'River Tud domain stretch' and the pink areas as 'Norfolk IDBs IDBs'.</p>

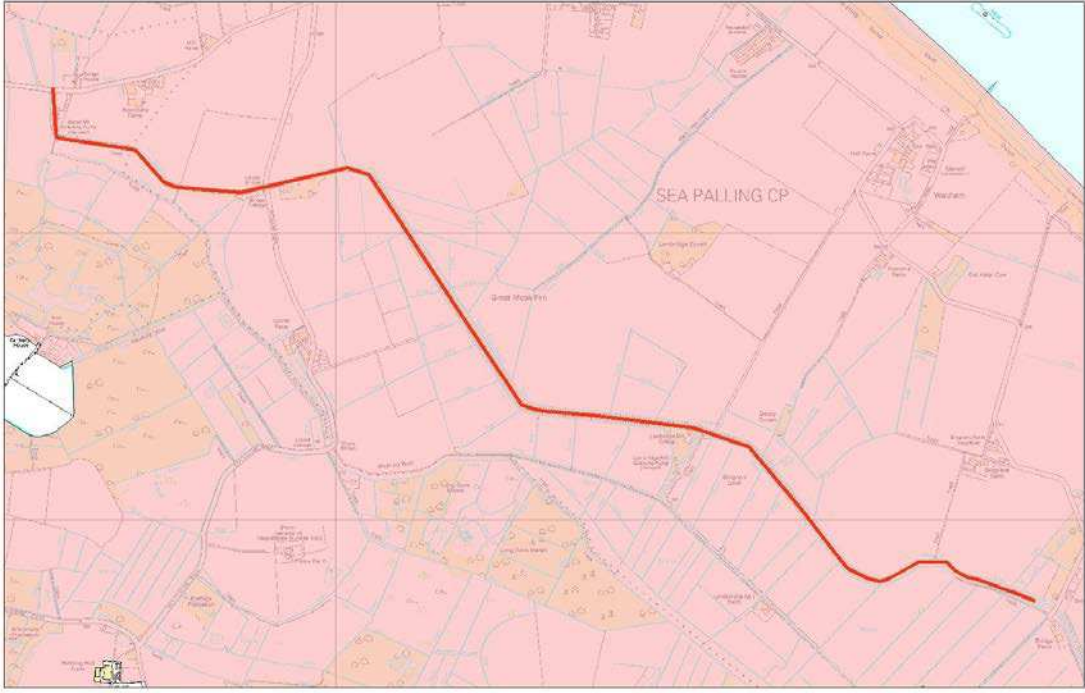
<p>Main River</p>	<p>River Whitewater (9.4 km, TG0415723197 to TG1083318690)</p>
<p>Proposal</p>	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and regulate the River Whitewater from the Environment Agency to Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board or Norfolk County Council. This will result in the upper 4.4 km of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the IDB boundary is 7.8km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 0.05km (Broadland District Council area) and 1.5km (Breckland District Council area).</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (7.8km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. Outside the IDB boundary (0.05m and 1.5km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to Broadland District Council and Breckland District Council. Outside the IDB boundary (0.05m and 1.5km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
<p>Flood risk</p>	<p>The River Whitewater falls within the River Whitewater low consequence system. There are no properties at high risk of fluvial flooding (Flood Zone 3) and one property at medium risk of fluvial flooding (Flood Zone 2). There are no known flood risk assets on this watercourse.</p>
<p>Location</p>	 <p>The map displays the River Whitewater (highlighted in red) flowing through several civil parishes: Sparham CP, Reepham CP, and Bylaugh CP. It also shows the Norfolk IDBs (Internal Drainage Boards) boundary in pink. The map includes various geographical features such as roads, fields, and buildings. A legend at the bottom left identifies the pink shaded areas as Norfolk IDBs and the red line as the River Whitewater.</p>

<p>Main River</p>	<p>River Hun (6.9 km NGR TF6894042306 - NGR TF7270145939).</p>
<p>Proposal</p>	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to manage and regulate the River Hun from the Environment Agency to Norfolk County Council and/or the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board (IDB).</p> <p>This will result in the entire 7.0 km stretch of the watercourse being deleted from the statutory Main River map and designated as ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the Internal Drainage Board boundary is 4.4 km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 2.4 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (4.4km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (2.4km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (2.4km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
<p>Flood risk</p>	<p>There are 0 properties at medium risk of fluvial flooding and 0 properties at high risk of fluvial flooding along the River Hun. There are no assets in place to provide protection from fluvial flooding.</p> <p>Many properties in the area are at risk of tidal flooding due to their proximity to the coast. The area is protected by coastal defences, including an outfall with tidal flap and penstock on the Hun, preventing tidal changes in river water levels. This asset is integral to coastal defence, and therefore will remain the responsibility of the Environment Agency.</p>
<p>Location</p>	 <p>The map displays the River Hun demarcation stretch in pink, extending from the coast near West Sands and Galle Point, through the village of Holme next the Sea, and towards Thornham. The map also shows the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board (IDB) boundary. Key locations labeled include Old Hunstanton, Whinn Farm, Niverville, Long Furze, Thornham, and Long Wood. The map includes a grid with NGR coordinates and a legend at the bottom left.</p>

Main River	River Blackwater (12.6km NGR TF9506806717 - NGR TG0477506170).
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to manage and regulate the River Blackwater from the Environment Agency to Norfolk County Council and Breckland District Council. This will result in the entire 12.7 km stretch of the watercourse being deleted from the statutory Main River map and designated as ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the Internal Drainage Board boundary is 0.3km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 12.3 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (0.3km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (12.3km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to the Breckland District Council ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (12.3km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
Flood risk	There are 2 properties within the high risk of fluvial flooding and 3 properties within the medium risk of fluvial flooding.
Location	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Norfolk IDB boundary — River Blackwater de-main stretch

<p>Main River</p>	<p>Wendling Beck (20.2 km NGR TF 89643 13422 - NGR TG 00525 20059).</p>
<p>Proposal</p>	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to manage and regulate the Wendling Beck from the Environment Agency to Norfolk County Council, Breckland District Council and Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board (IDB).</p> <p>Additionally, it is proposed that management of the weir and control gate at Gressenhall Mill will be transferred from the Environment Agency to Norfolk Rivers IDB. This will result in the entire 20.2 km stretch of the watercourse being deleted from the statutory Main River map and designated as ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the IDB boundary is 15.8km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 4.3 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (15.8km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (4.3 km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to the Breckland District Council ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (4.3 km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
<p>Flood risk</p>	<p>There are 7 properties at medium risk of fluvial flooding and 23 properties at high risk of fluvial flooding along the Wendling Beck. The majority of the properties at risk are located towards the downstream end of the reach in Worthing. There are additional properties at risk of flooding along ordinary watercourses that flow into the Wendling Beck. These properties are not protected by any flood defence assets.</p>
<p>Location</p>	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Norfolk IDBs (IDBs) — Wendling Beck demarcation stretch

Main River	River Stiffkey (10.9km NGR TF 98179 32077 - TF 91838 33981).
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the management and regulation of the River Stiffkey from the Environment Agency to Norfolk County Council and/or North Norfolk district Council and Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board (IDB), part of the Water Management Alliance group of IDBs. This will result in a 10.9 km stretch of the uppermost watercourse being deleted from the statutory Main River map and designated as ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The section of watercourse within the IDB boundary is 5.7 km. The section of watercourse outside the IDB boundary is 5.25 km.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (5.7km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board. ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (5.2 km) the permissive powers to maintain the watercourse will transfer to the Breckland District Council ▪ Outside the IDB boundary (5.2 km) the powers to regulate the watercourse will transfer to Norfolk County Council.
Flood risk	<p>There are 0 properties at high risk fluvial flooding along the River Stiffkey and 11 properties at medium risk of fluvial flooding. The majority of these properties are located in East Barsham around the downstream end of the reach to be de-mained. There are several additional properties at risk of fluvial flooding immediately downstream of the reach to be de-mained. These properties are not protected by any flood defence assets.</p>
Location	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Norfolk IDBs River Stiffkey de-maintenance stretch

Main River	Waxham Cut (4.3km NGR TG4101826504 - TG4443024717)
Proposal	<p>The Environment Agency proposes to transfer the powers to maintain and regulate the Waxham Cut from the Environment Agency to Broads Internal Drainage Board IDB.</p> <p>This will result in a 4.4 km stretch of the upper section of the watercourse being removed from the statutory Main River map and re-designated as an ordinary watercourse.</p> <p>The entirety of the Waxham Cut falls within the Broads IDB District.</p> <p>The new responsibilities will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Within the IDB boundary (4.4km) the permissive powers to maintain and regulate will be transferred to the Broads Internal Drainage Board.
Flood risk	There are no properties at medium or high risk of river flooding along this stretch of the watercourse.
Location	 <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Norfolk IDBs IDBs — Waxham Cut demarcation stretch