

# Broadland catch-up



*Newsletter of the Broadland Catchment Partnership - May 2013*

The aim of this newsletter is to share information on initiatives and evidence across the Broadland catchment.

The Broadland Catchment Partnership is seeking to provide a clear understanding of the issues in the catchment, an idea of what is already happening to address the issues and what more can be done and who can help.

The Partnership is at an early stage of involving individuals, communities, organisations, companies and farmers in working together to improve the Broadland rivers. If you want to join the partnership and to help in any way to make the rivers even more of a wonderful resource for wildlife and people please get in touch. We want to hear your views, suggestions and offers of help to make the valleys a better place.

## Broadland Catchment Partnership Officer

Neil Punched commenced his post in March. Neil grew up in the Broads and is delighted to return to Norfolk after 12 years working for Wessex Water and developing a catchment plan for the Frome & Piddle in Dorset. He will be co-ordinating the production of our catchment wide plan for the Broadland Rivers and facilitating collaborative working between the relevant organisations that are active in the area. Neil is based at Yare House, Norwich but is keen to visit all areas of the catchment and listen to your ideas. Contact Neil Punched: 07900 266496 [neil.punched@broads-authority.gov.uk](mailto:neil.punched@broads-authority.gov.uk)

## Updates

### Information collation, sharing and case studies

Reports and data are being collated with regard to catchment background, facts and current activity. Information relating to issues and supportive evidence is also being gathered including relevant plans, strategies and frameworks.

Examples of catchment plans from the 25 Defra pilot catchments have been reviewed for content and style. A Dropbox account has been set-up for file sharing and Groupspace and Insightly are being trialled for sharing and managing stakeholder information, events and project activity.

A page has now been published on the Broads Authority website: [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/managing/broadland-catchment.html](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/managing/broadland-catchment.html)

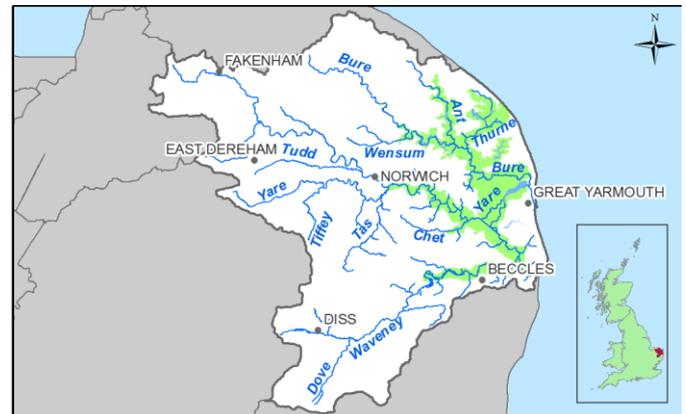
Case Studies have been produced to summarise the key learning and benefits from collaborative approaches already underway within the catchment: Upper Thurne, Wensum, Waveney, and the Trinity Broads.

## Virtual catchment groups

EA virtual catchment group meetings are underway where members of different teams share knowledge and understanding of issues and failures relating to Water Framework Directive requirements. Neil has been sitting in on these - the Yare meeting occurred in March with the Ant & Thurne in April. The Wensum meeting will take place later this month.

## River Waveney Trust

The River Waveney Trust had an inception meeting on 16th April to form a Steering Group and discuss the catchment plan that will be developed for the Waveney. Project Officer, Mark Atherton, commenced his role in April. He is originally from the Broads region and is a graduate in Ecology & Conservation. Mark will be assisting the Trust in the development of a community led plan before heading off to do an MSc in Environmental Water Management in October. Mark is based at the River Waveney Study Centre in Earsham and will be working closely with local groups in the catchment and has already developed a close working relationship with Neil. Contact Mark for catchment planning issues: [markathertonrwt@gmail.com](mailto:markathertonrwt@gmail.com) or Geoff Doggett for other Waveney Trust matters [Geoff@smartangles.com](mailto:Geoff@smartangles.com)



## Resources

### Wensum Demonstration Test Catchment

The monitoring result highlights from the Blackwater sub catchment are available at: [www.wensumalliance.org.uk/monitoring.html](http://www.wensumalliance.org.uk/monitoring.html)

The fascinating findings and their implications were presented by Faye Outram and Kevin Hiscock to the Broads Water Quality Partnership meeting on 3rd May. This provoked some insightful and lively discussion from attendees.

The annual stakeholder meeting will be held at Hunters Hall, Swanton Morley on 4th July 2013. Contact: Trudie Dockerty for further information: [t.dockerty@uea.ac.uk](mailto:t.dockerty@uea.ac.uk)

## Biobeds

Also at the Broads Water Quality Partnership meeting Rob Holland gave an interesting presentation on his experiences in biobed design and construction. This was based on newly constructed biobeds funded by Essex & Suffolk Water within the Waveney catchment that are used for receiving water from pesticide handling and wash down areas on farms to reduce the contamination of ground and surface water. Contact: [Robert.holland@nwl.co.uk](mailto:Robert.holland@nwl.co.uk) for further information.

## Source apportionment

The percentage contribution of different sources of phosphorus in rivers is being modelled by the EA using source apportionment geographical information system (SAGIS) simulation of river catchment (SIMCAT). The model is calibrated using water quality monitoring data and incorporates sewage treatment works discharges and export co-efficients for different land use categories. Further quality assurance is required of the results when run at a local waterbody level.

## Risk mapping and GIS

SCIMAP [www.scimap.org.uk](http://www.scimap.org.uk) is a model that attempts to provide catchment wide risk areas and overland flow pathways for sediment and phosphorus. It incorporates land use, slope and rainfall data. It has been run for the Wensum catchment and is a useful catchment wide model. The EA are exploring funding the model to be run for the entire catchment. Limitations include failure to include soil erosion rates, infiltration, barriers and drains although values in the model can be altered according to local knowledge.

A meeting with Andrew Lovett, Gilla Sunnenberg and Sarah Taigel from the UEA Environmental Science department discussed the possibility of a student placement being used to improve and refine the SCIMAP model and use 3D visualisation to present the outputs. There may be scope for projects to cover community planning using communityViz software: <http://placeways.com/communityviz/index.php> and to make catchment information easily accessible through Google earth mapping.

## Habitat mapping

Preliminary results from habitat mapping commissioned by Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service are now available. This covers the whole of Norfolk using remote sensing data (aerial photography and satellite imagery). This is likely to prove useful in pollution and surface water flood modelling and design of mitigation schemes in the rural catchment as it will include much more detail than previous land use data (CORINE or Agricultural Census data 2004/2010). Opportunities exist for partners to trial the GIS data and potentially ground truth predicted habitat types. Contact Martin Horlock, Biodiversity Information

Officer, for further information:  
[martin.horlock@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:martin.horlock@norfolk.gov.uk)

## Recent events

### Hydrology on the Broads seminar

Andrea Kelly chair of the Broads Biodiversity Group and Water Quality Partnership organised a joint seminar which took place on 19th April 2013. Presentations informed stakeholders about the range of hydrological tools and processes available to assess site hydrology and water abstraction. Sarah Hollingsworth, EA, described the Restoring Sustainable Abstraction (RSA) programme including how water abstraction licences are identified for the RSA programme and the process involved. Anna Sharpin, EA presented the regional groundwater model including how this is refined and calibrated for local investigations using Broads case studies. Mike Acreman, CEH, presented his Wetland Vision climate change impacts model and is keen for feedback: [www.ceh.ac.uk/sci\\_programmes/Water/Wetlands/ClimaticChangeAssessmentToolforWetlands.html](http://www.ceh.ac.uk/sci_programmes/Water/Wetlands/ClimaticChangeAssessmentToolforWetlands.html) Presentations from the seminar: [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/managing/broads-biodiversity-and-water-forum.html](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/managing/broads-biodiversity-and-water-forum.html)

### Modelling with stakeholders to support catchment management: Why? When? How?

Neil attended the workshop held in London on 11th April and organised by Tobi Krueger, UEA. Learning outcomes from the Rural Economy Land Use programme were shared and discussed. The Upper Thurne catchment was one of the case study areas where use of local knowledge improved trust and acceptance of models in the farming community.

## Upcoming events

### Community Led Catchment Planning and Delivery Conference & Workshop

Thursday 16th May 2013 - 10.00 to 16.45 - The Watershed, Harbourside, Bristol, BS1 5TX  
[www.rivertrust.org/seminars/catchment\\_planning/index.html](http://www.rivertrust.org/seminars/catchment_planning/index.html)

### Diffuse Pollution: Evidence, Effective Practice and Lessons for Policy, Practice and Investment

Wednesday 20th June 2013 - 09:45 to 16:30 - Brunei Gallery, SOAS, University of London  
[www.coastms.co.uk/conferences/476](http://www.coastms.co.uk/conferences/476)

### Issues, current evidence and activity in the Broadland Rivers catchment: What more is required for community engagement?!

Wednesday 10th July 2013 - 09:30 to 13:30  
Venue TBC