



This festival is run in association with the Little Ouse Headwaters Project, who are leading and hosting the Bioblitz



Little Ouse

Wildlife Recording Festival

Join us to find as much wildlife as we can!

18th—26th June 2016

Along the River Ouse between Redgrave and Lopham Fen and Brandon Bridge

See inside for
FREE workshops,
walks and talks,
and to find out
how your kayak
could be useful!

Get involved enough
during the week and
you could be eligible
to receive a % off
discount at Cotswolds
Outdoor for a
generous time period

Little Ouse River, Thetford, Nun's Bridge by Alan Winter <https://flic.kr/p/gzmnCe> | Creative Commons BY-NC-ND-2.0

The Festival is a *Wildlife Recorders of Tomorrow* event, part of *Breaking New Ground Landscape Partnership Scheme* supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund | www.breakingnewground.org.uk | @TheBrecksBNG

Booking and information: www.nbis.org.uk/littleouse

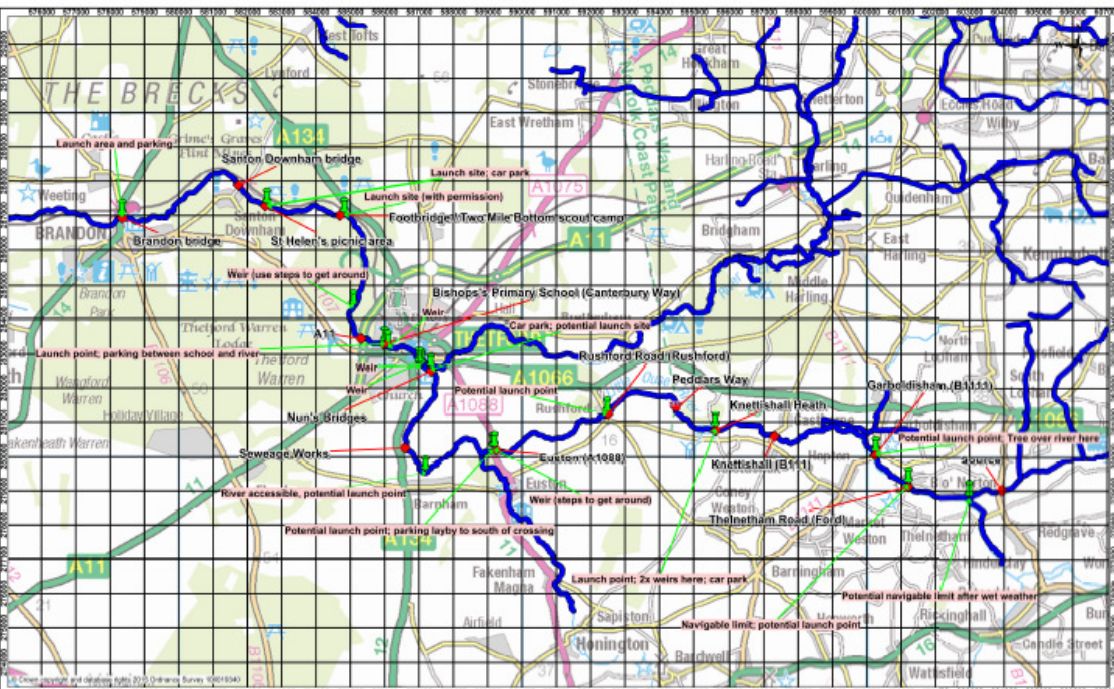
Mailing list for events: email to nbis@norfolk.gov.uk

Little Ouse Wildlife Recording Festival takes place between **June 18th—26th 2016** and focuses on recording the wildlife, both native and non-native, that lives along the river from Redgrave and Lopham Fen (the source of the river) through Thetford and on to Brandon Bridge. We need your help! —and have designed lots of great free activities to ensure that there is something suitable for all ages and levels of recording ability so everyone can get involved.

Recording wildlife is fun! It also helps us understand more about nature —recording wildlife is the first step in protecting it.



The Little Ouse non-native species survey overview map:



Ways to get involved with the Little Ouse Wildlife Recording Festival

1 Take the Little Ouse Recording Challenge

who will record the most species during the week? Can you record **100 species** and help us reach an **overall total of 500 species**

Download your recording card and instructions here from the beginning of June: **www.nbis.org.uk/littleouse**; or pick up during the festival at sites listed at bottom of the page*

2 Take part in the The BIG Little Ouse Bioblitz weekend

a team effort to record as many species as possible. Expert help with identification

10am 25th June - 3pm 26th June

A weekend recording extravaganza hosted by the [Little Ouse Headwaters Project](#) and based at [Blo'Norton village hall](#)

Booking not necessary—just turn up!

If you are able to come along and help out with the running of the day, do some recording, or are an expert who can help with ID or leading a walk, please complete our [doodle poll](#), you can also offer your help for our other bioblitzes this year in the same [doodle poll](#)

3 Non-native Species Survey of the Little Ouse

Get out your kayak or canoe (or walk along the riverbank) and help us spot non-native wildlife along the river. We need as many people as possible to [sign up](#) to take on a section of the river to survey during this week. You can [sign up HERE](#). [View the river sections HERE](#). To learn how to identify non-native species and how to survey and sign up, come along to one of our free training sessions listed under **6**. Download your recording card from the beginning of June: **www.nbis.org.uk/littleouse***

4 Take a Brecks Wildwalk along or around the Little Ouse River and record the wildlife you see

For more information see our [Brecks Wildwalks website](#)

5 Help out with setting up trail camera traps for otters and other wildlife and reviewing the footage. More info soon...

More information on this and all the other activities will be available on the [website](#) and via our email list - if you wish to keep up to date with these Little Ouse events and events during 2016 and early 2017 email us at nbis@norfolk.gov.uk



*[Brandon Country Park](#); [Santon Downham Forestry Commission](#); [High Lodge](#); [St Helen's Picnic Site](#); [Leaping Hare Tourist Information](#) and [BTO headquarters](#), Thetford; [Knettishall Heath](#); [Redgrave and Lopham Fen](#)

Ways to get involved with the Little Ouse Wildlife Recording Festival

6 Sign up for a free wildlife workshops and walks (booking essential)

June 18th Butterfly identification workshop and field visit with Andy Brazil (Butterfly Conservation). Meet at [Thelnetham Village Hall](#) for 10am start

Details and booking [HERE](#)

June 19th (part 1) Grasses and Sedges identification workshop and field visit with Bob Ellis (Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland). Meet at [Thelnetham Village Hall](#) for 9.30am start

Details and booking [HERE](#)

June 19th (part 2) Non-native species identification and survey training session with Alex Moore da Luz (Stour Valley Project). Meet at [Thelnetham Village Hall](#) for 2pm start

Details and booking: [HERE](#).

June 20th Guided bird and wildlife walk through the heart of Thetford along the [Little Ouse](#) with Su Gough (BTO). Meet at [BTO headquarters](#) for 2pm start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 21st (part 1) Guided walk on habitat management in the [Little Ouse](#) river valley with Rachel Riley (Forestry Commission). Meet at [St Helen's Picnic Site](#) for 2pm start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 21st (part 2) Freshwater bugs: River dipping and Identification with Dan Hoare (Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists Society). Meet at [St Helen's Picnic Site](#) for 6pm start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 21st (part 3) Non-native species identification and survey training session with Katy Owen (Norfolk Non-native Species Initiative Coordinator). Meet at [St Helen's Picnic Site](#) for 7.30pm

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 22nd Guided walk on habitat and species management around The Nunnery Lakes Reserve (Thetford), along the [Little Ouse](#) with Chris Gregory (BTO). Meet at [BTO headquarters](#) for 10am start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)



June 22nd Introduction to flowering plant identification and guided walk around Knettishall heath with Martin Sandford (Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland). Meet at [Knettishall Heath main car park](#) for 6pm start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 23rd Midsummer eve moths, bats and glow-worms with 1st Harling Scouts and experts TBC. Meet at Two Mile Bottom Campsite for 7pm start. More details and confirmation TBC.

Details and expression of interest: [HERE](#)

June 24th Dawn Chorus walk and bird identification with Steve Piotrowski (Wildlife Consultant and author of Birds of Suffolk). Meet at [Santon Downham Forestry Commission car park](#), start time TBC.

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

June 25th Dragonfly identification workshop and field visit with Adrian Parr (British Dragonfly Society). Meet at [Blo'Norton village hall](#) for 10.30am start

Details and booking: [HERE](#)

Possible Guided walks at Brandon Country Park, Knettishall Heath and Redgrave and Lopham Fen, to be announced at the beginning of June.

If you wish to keep up to date with these Little Ouse events and events during 2016 and early 2017 email us at

nbis@norfolk.gov.uk

You can return your recording cards to us by post, email or most easily by completing our online recording form, details below:

- [Online recording form](#)
- Postal Address: Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service, (hosted by Norfolk County Council), Community and Environmental Services, 6th Floor, County Hall, Martineau Lane, NORWICH, NR1 2DH
- Telephone: 01603 638027
- Email: nbis@norfolk.gov.uk

How do I
send my
records to
you?



NB: No workshops or walks that are on the same day overlap. Workshops/ walks that are listed as part 1, 2 or 3 are listed as such as these follow directly on from each other and can be combined as a longer activity or attended individually. You must book separately for e.g. parts 1, 2 and 3 even if you wish to attend all as a combined activity.

Wildlife Recording Festival on the Little Ouse River

The Little Ouse River rises close to Lopham Fen, passing through rural woodland and farmland before flowing through the historic centre of Thetford. This is where you can join the Little Ouse path and follow the river under bridge, over weirs, past ancient monuments and through quiet forests all the way to Brandon.

Can you help us find and record wildlife living along the riverbank? Some incredible biodiversity is found there—as well as some invasive non-native species, which can pose a threat to our native wildlife.

Find out inside this leaflet how to get involved with our Wildlife Recording Festival—all our events and activities are free and wildlife recording is fun!

The area around Thetford known as The Brecks is a real hotspot for wildlife. About five years ago, an important scientific study (The Brecks Biodiversity Audit) by the University of East Anglia showed that lots of amazing plants and animals live there—nearly 13,000 species, with over 2,000 rarities.

A new project—“Wildlife Recorders of Tomorrow” is continuing the study by recording wildlife across the Brecks. The project is being organised by Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service (NBIS) which holds wildlife information for Norfolk. It is one of 37 projects in the Breaking New Ground landscape Partnership scheme supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Wildlife Recorders of Tomorrow is running lots of free events such as workshops on species identification, to give volunteers the skills and confidence to record wildlife.

What are the Brecks?

What is this project all about?



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