

Ouse Washes

Habitat Creation Project Update

June 2013

The Ouse Washes are a vital part of the defences that protect the Fens from flooding. They are also of great importance for wildlife. However, in recent decades the numbers of certain bird species using the Washes has reduced. This habitat creation project has been set up to reverse the decline, while allowing us to continue operating the Washes for flood defence.



Coveney planning application submitted

We have recently submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) a planning application for our Coveney habitat creation scheme.

Following public consultation about the scheme last autumn we spent the winter modifying the proposals to take account of the comments received. In particular we have responded to concerns expressed by local residents at Wardy Hill by reducing the amount of proposed new public access to the site and have included features to deter possible anti-social behaviour. In addition we have made changes to reduce the visual impact of the scheme. The updated scheme design was presented to Wardy Hill residents at a drop-in event in March.

The reference number for the application is 13/00478/ESF. The application and supporting documents, which includes the Environmental Statement, can be viewed on the ECDC website at the following address: www.eastcambs.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications-online and searching the 'Public Access' online service using the above reference number. Comments on the application can also be submitted through the website.

Alternatively the application can be inspected at the ECDC offices at The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely CB7 4EE by prior arrangement with the planning department (48 hours notice required). The telephone number of the ECDC office is 01353 665555.

Further information or comments?

Please contact the project team using the email address: OWHCP@environment-agency.gov.uk

Alternatively write to: Peter Doktor (Project Manager), Environment Agency, Dragonfly House, 2 Gilders Way, Norwich NR3 1UB or telephone 01473 706578.

