

Project Review and Future Plans

Nene Catchment Partnership

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for farmers**

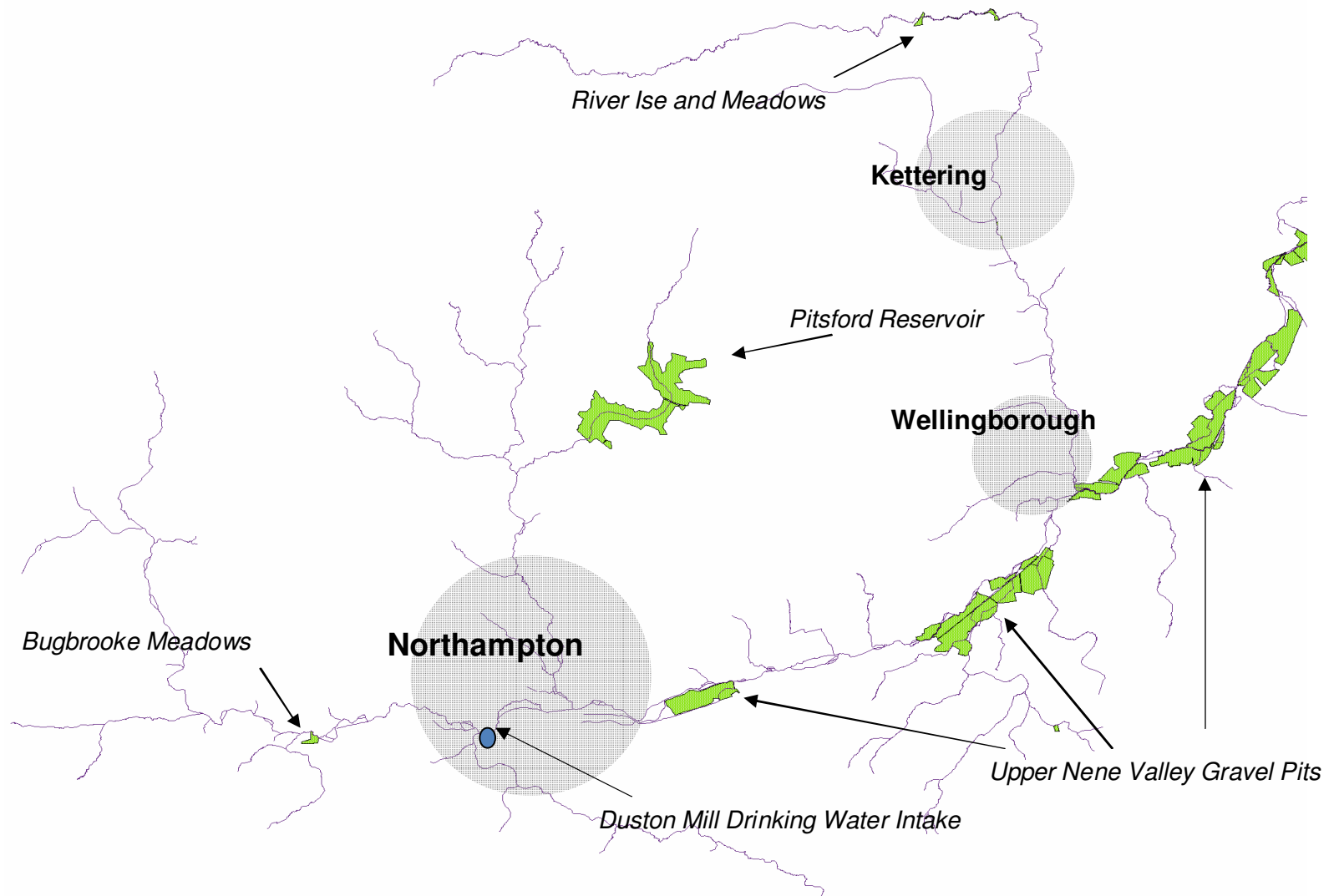
ENGLAND CATCHMENT SENSITIVE
FARMING DELIVERY INITIATIVE



Why the Upper Nene & Ise

- Modelling identified watercourses to be at risk from sedimentation, phosphate and pesticide loading – Water Framework Directive
- Smaller upper reaches of watercourses deemed more suitable for CSF approach to tackling diffuse pollution
- Links with RNRP & EA project work
- Opportunity to develop links with MSG and Anglian Water – Pitsford Reservoir
- River Ise SSSI
- Protected Drinking Water Area – Upper Nene





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River Ise

- Upper River Ise is generally of good water quality
- Review of general monitoring data did not identify Metaldehyde as a problem, though high concentrations of phosphates are present which could cause exceedence of WFD standards
- River Ise SSSI is sensitive to deterioration in water quality, and is therefore at risk
- Review of risks to SSSI have identified that diffuse pollution is an issue, and that CSF is suitable tool to tackle this problem



Upper Nene – Brampton & Whilton Branches

- Detailed review of water quality data from Whilton and Brampton arms of Nene undertaken
- From localised sampling Metaldehyde not identified as problem during sampling programme, though high concentrations detected at Duston Mill intake
- Phosphates are present in concentrations which exceed WFD standards
- However attempts to apportion the relative input from STW has not been successful. More focused sampling necessary at smaller sub-catchment level to assess this. 2011 / 12 WFD work will assist locating and apportioning source of phosphates



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Pitsford Reservoir Catchment

- Detailed review of water quality data from localised sampling in the three feeder streams of Pitsford Reservoir
- Carbetamide did not appear to be a problem from any of the sample points monitored even during heavy rainfall. However AWSL data indicates issues
- Metaldehyde appears to be a problem in all streams, with Walgrave Brook being the largest contributor
- Propyzamide detected at low concentrations however at times of heavy rainfall, levels may exceed drinking water limits. Clopyralid currently being sampled for.
- Phosphates are not present in concentrations which exceed WFD standards, though some seasonal variation which could impact on classification



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So, what did we do – Metaldehyde...

- Slug Pellets session included in launch event
- 2 no. Free slug pellet seminars with PA4 assessment – 48 attendees / 100% pass rate
- Slug pellet leaflets and advice distributed with newsletters
- Additional farmers and agronomists engaged via MSG work in Pitsford Catchment
- AWSL – session at Pitsford WTW – detailed catchment modelling ongoing



So, what did we do – Phosphates...

- Nutrient Management Event
- 2 no. Soils Protection Review Events – 52 + attendees



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General Project Delivery Summary

- 105 Farm One to One visits by project team
- 150 Farmers engaged through workshops
- 7 workshops including SPR and Slug Pellet Seminars
- 7 specialist One to One visits
- Additional farmers and agronomists engaged via MSG work in Pitsford Catchment
- Partnership newsletters produced
- Generally very positive feedback from all activity



Meadow creation along rivers or in the floodplain to combat seasonal flooding



Flooded 7ha field on the River Nene at Upper Heyford in March 2008



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Environment
Agency



RIVER NENE REGIONAL PARK
INSPIRED SPACES



Projects at:

- Dovecote Farm, Upper Heyford (13.5ha) sown 2008
- Manor Farm, Gt Doddington (7ha) sown 2011
- Hall Farm, Grendon (40ha) sown 2010
- Oundle Lodge, Stoke Doyle (20ha) sown 2010, 10ha sown 2011



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Wildlife protection – fencing for wildlife



Poached area of the Swanspool Brook at Wilby in March 2010



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Establishment details:

- Fenced to keep stock off
- Temporary drinking points made
- Six metre buffer strips left on either side of the stream
- Left uncut during summer

Benefits:

- Nearly 1km of habitat protected for water voles
- Reduction in sediment going into the stream
- Capital works paid for by EA, work carried out by farmer
- Drinking points recovered quickly



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Lessons Learnt and to learn...

- How to improve uptake of visit requests
- Book events well in advance – annual programme
- Smaller study catchments?
- Early completion of catchment appraisal
- Better science – more focused water quality monitoring
- Use stakeholder group expertise / resource
- How to engage with hard to reach farmers?



What's Next...

- EA River walk-over WFD investigations will identify key sites for CSF visits
- WFD source apportionment work
- Development of Metaldehyde Risk Maps
- CSF visits / workshops to be delivered through project



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What's Next...

- Revisits to Farms – progress / further advice / impact / why?
- Potential for capital grants from 2012
- Better links with other catchment work
- Further development of AWSL & MSG Partnerships
- Role of Steering Group

