



Slug It Out April 2020 Update

Pitsford, Hollowell and Ravensthorpe Catchments



Hello everyone,

It was a difficult end to last year with the rain and has become unimaginably worse since then. All I can say is that we are all in this together. Fortunately, the spring weather has been kinder to us and crops are now going in, which brings a bit of positivity and shows that life moves on.

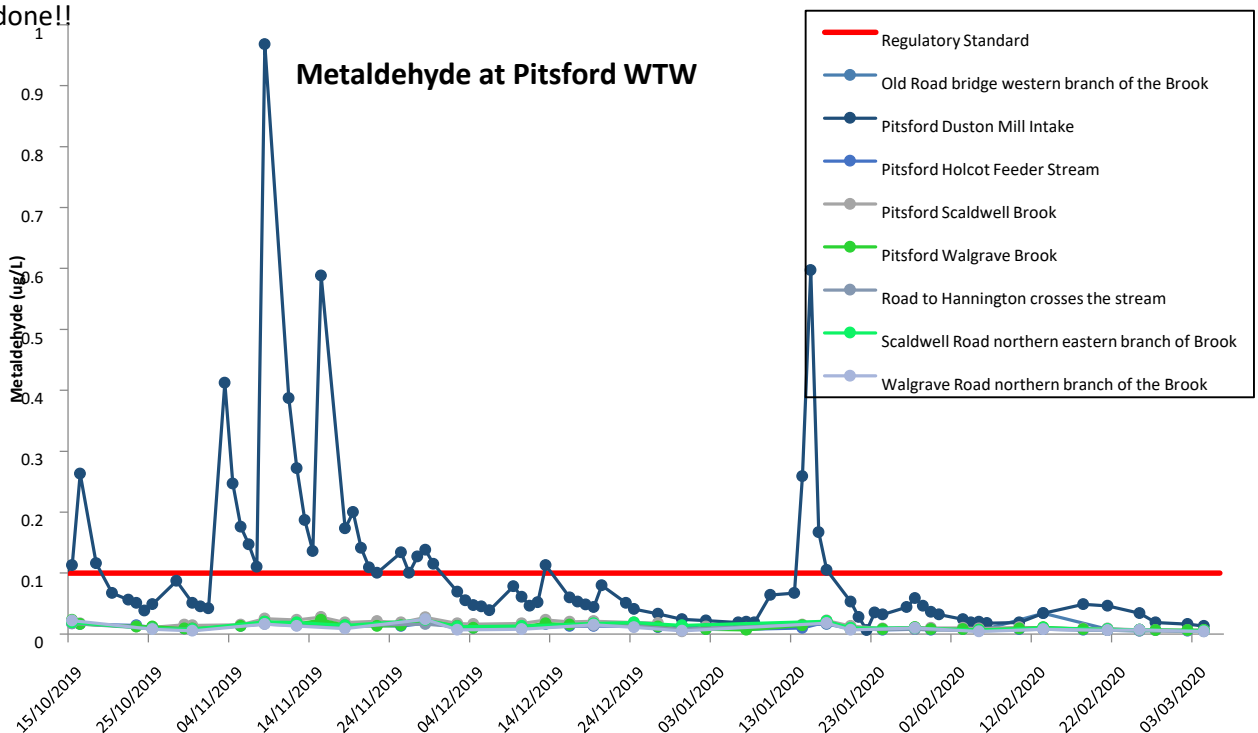
I also wanted to take the opportunity to offer my support if you need help around water quality, leaks, queries, contacts or just fancy a chat. Please call or email – I'm happy to help where possible.

Water Quality

Massive thank you from all of us in the Catchment Team to every farmer within the Slug it Out trial, across the 7 reservoir areas. To those Spring Cropping please do not forget the trial runs until June so if pellets are required use the Ferric options.

A further thank you to **the stakeholders and individuals** I have worked with over the past year within the catchments and beyond. I look forward to catching up with you and getting back on it with our work once this is over.

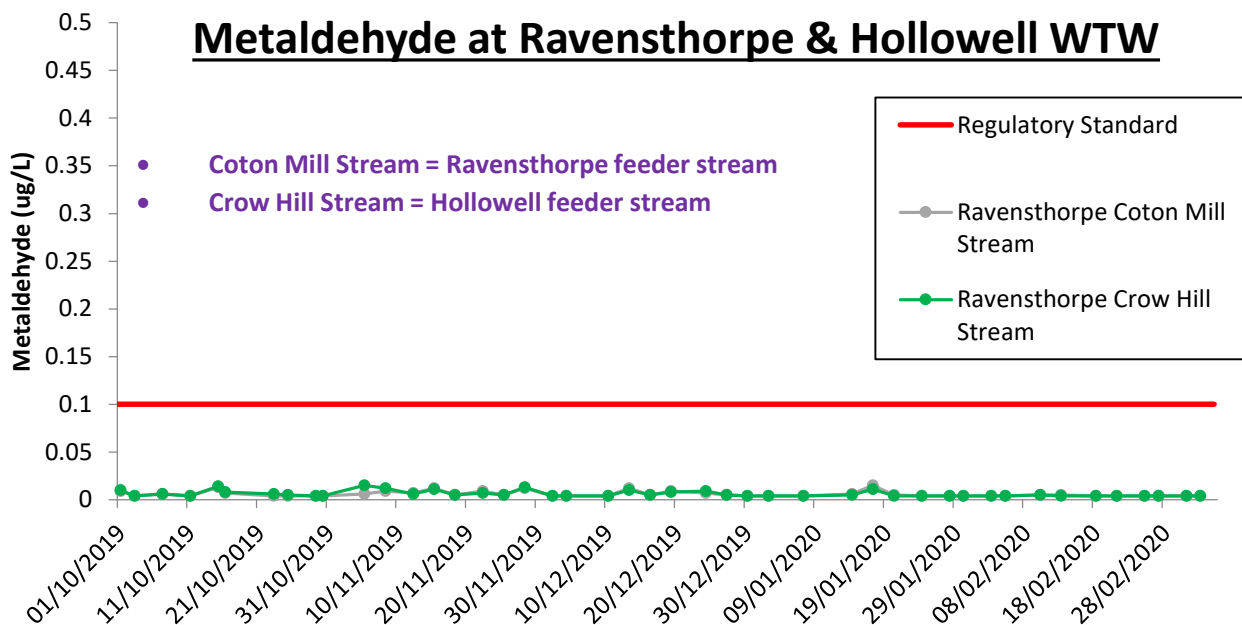
In the graph below you can see the red regulatory limit of 0.1 ug/L metaldehyde, which is exceeded in the main river Nene by the dark blue line, but not in the natural feeder streams to the reservoir. So well done!!



To us a rainy day is like a payday.
We bank it, so you can spend it wisely.
We love every drop, come rain or shine.
Find out more at AnglianWater.co.uk



Metaldhyde at Ravensthorpe & Hollowell WTW



Reservoir status

We have had record breaking rainfall over the last few months and although its caused a fair few problems we have (at least) been able to keep the reservoirs full. The luxury of having enough water to meet demand has allowed us to use abstraction management (turning pumps on/off) to avoid the Metaldhyde spikes within the River Nene where we could.

Currently Hollowell is 99% full, Pitsford 99.31% full and Ravensthorpe is 100% full. All of us at **Anglian Water** are **working hard to ensure water supply and water recycling runs as smoothly as possible at this critical time.**

Slug it Out 2020/2021 and wider Catchment Management

You will all be aware from previous conversations that Metaldhyde is still legally available for use. We have not heard further regards new restrictions so **plan to continue with Slug it Out for the 2020 season.**

From the feedback we have received during the trial it appears that the performance of Ferric Phosphate pellets are now well understood, trusted and coming down in price.

Over the last 5 years we have sought to raise awareness of land connectivity and local water quality with you, while you have helped us understand and appreciate land use, local risks and opportunities to explore together. **Between us I feel we now are at a point where our soil and water resources are much better understood and protected** – which is heavily reliant on the two-way communication we have locally. Not only has the trial unmasked risks to water quality external to agriculture but many of you have also notified me of leaks and shared other issues, allowing quicker reporting, identification and eventual repair.

I hope I also have been able to support queries and contacts within Anglian Water to help resolve concerns.

Looking forward to the coming season - we do not anticipate changing the Slug it Out trial significantly– but I will be in contact early May with a more detailed update.

Please do keep yourselves safe and if I can be of any help please get in touch.

Thank you,

Georgina Wallis

Anglian Water, Catchment Advisor

Catchment Management Team

Mobile: 07764 986927

Email: gwallis2@anglianwater.co.uk

Twitter: @AWCoastCountry

Web: www.anglianwater.co.uk



Being careful with water is an all-year-round challenge. Not just when there's a dry spell.

We love every drop, come rain or shine.

Find out more at AnglianWater.co.uk

love every drop
anglianwater