

**Construction, Maintenance and Environment Work Programme  
Progress Update**

Report by Head of Construction, Maintenance and Environment

**Summary:** This report sets out the progress made in the delivery of the 2014/15 Construction, Maintenance and Environment Section work programme.

Members' questions regarding Construction, Maintenance or Environmental works programme are welcomed.

**1 Construction Programme Update 2014/15**

- 1.1 The progress of the Construction and Maintenance work programme is described in this report. A detailed breakdown shows that up to the end of October 2014, 26,450m<sup>3</sup> of sediment has been removed from the Rivers and Broads, and the details of quantities and costs achieved so far are set out in Appendix 1. This represents 53% of the programmed target of at least 50,000m<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.2 The first phase of dredging the bends on the River Bure near Horning Hall has been completed. The crew have now relocated to the River Ant, to dredge between How Hill and Barton Broad, whilst Grab 7 is headed downstream to drive marker posts on the lower Bure and two king piles for a new pontoon mooring near Runham Swim.
- 1.3 The Environment and Design Team have gained landowner agreements and have submitted the application for planning consent, for the planned dredging and riverbank enhancement work between Coltishall and Wroxham on the River Bure. Three locations where dredged arisings will be used to recreate eroded riverbanks are planned, aiming to make beneficial re-use of 3,000 m<sup>3</sup> of dredged sediment.
- 1.4 Also on the upper reaches of the navigable River Bure, the Environment and Design Team, have arranged mud pumping of the section to Coltishall Lock. The pumped sediment will be dewatered in earth bund lagoons on arable land to the south of the river, being spread for arable benefit. Ground works are planned for early December using one of the BA excavators, with mud pumping happening through to March 2015, again using the BA mudpump vessel.
- 1.5 The second dredging crew are currently located on the St Olaves end of the Haddiscoe Cut and disposing of arising into set-back areas at Black Mill. In early December the crew will have relocated to the Reedham end of Haddiscoe Cut, with arisings destined for a setback just upstream of Reedham swing bridge.

- 1.6 Progress with the new fen harvester has so far proved very rapid. Jobs at Barton Fen and Whitlingham Marshes have both been completed much quicker than anticipated, demonstrating the high performance and improved design of this machine. The quality of cut, the transport of cut fen vegetation off-site and the ground conditions following the repeated tracking have all been very good. The swift progress of the fen harvester at Whitlingham Marsh has subsequently allowed more time on clearing trees and scrub from the site this winter.

## **2 Maintenance Programme Update 2014/15**

- 2.1 November has been a good window to catch up on some of the 24 hr moorings maintenance and repair tasks, with safety ladders at Sutton Staithe repaired and at St Olaves new safety chains and upgraded gauge boards have been installed. Contractors have completed work at Potter Heigham to repair some timberwork on the staithe. Contracts set up for completion in the next few months are 65m of quay heading repair at Thorpe River Green: 300m path repair behind the mooring at How Hill; and at Aldeby timber replacement along the whole length of the mooring is planned.
- 2.2 Riverbank scrub clearance work has started with Broadsword volunteers. The current task is completing the clearance of the west side of Ranworth Dam which is due to end this winter. A new area on NWT land at Ranworth, facing onto the main river has also been arranged for this winter. A new portable petrol winch has been purchased, and is already proving a successful purchase, with Rangers using it on the Bure upstream of Wroxham. The powered winch enables more efficient retrieval of trees felled on the river banks, speeding up the whole process.

## **3 Environment Team Programme Update 2014/15**

- 3.1 Tender submissions for the re-piling of Turntide Jetty were received from three firms (from six invited) on the Authority's Standing List of Contractors for such works. Minor adjustments to the scope and design of the re-piling were completed by the Authority's design consultants for this project following review of the tenders. At the time of writing, post-tender negotiations are underway to gain best value, with resubmissions from the two most favourable tenderers due on 4 December.
- 3.2 Planning permission is being sought for a joint project with the landowner and neighbouring residents at Hill Common, Hickling. An erosion protection project with some minor capacity for dredged sediment is planned, to prevent further erosion and enhance the reedbed habitat that fringes the broad.

## **4 Fitters**

- 4.1 Wherry Senior was lifted out of the water at the Dockyard, and shot blasted in late November, so that the examination of the hull thickness has shown that repairs are not cost effective or viable. Wherry Junior has also experienced some leakage problems in its steel hull, and recent inspection has shown that it is not capable of being repaired. The age and heavy use of some of these

old wherries has brought them to the end of their service on the Broads. This situation will be relieved with the arrival in the next few months of the second brand new wherry. A tender and contract for a third new wherry has been brought forward to delivery in the 2015/16 financial year, and the potential to lease the wherries from the Environment Agency is being investigated.

Background papers: Nil

Author: Rob Rogers and Dan Hoare  
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Appendices: APPENDIX 1 – Dredging Programme 2014/15 update

Dredging Progress 2014/15 (April 2014 to end October 2014)

APPENDIX 1

Project Title	Project Element	Active dredging weeks Completed (Apr-Oct)/Planned	Volume Removed m <sup>3</sup>		Annual project cost	Actual project cost <sup>1</sup> (Apr-Oct)
			Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
<b>Mid Bure</b>	Thurne Mouth to Horning Hall	23/28	19,000	14,400	£165,000	£122,615
<i>Moved to Horning Hall setback in October</i>						
<b>Waveney</b>	Burgh St Peter bends	20/16	12,000	12,050	£112,500	£112,560
<i>Arisings to setback area at Black Mill on the lower Waveney</i>						
<b>Haddiscoe Cut</b>	Reedham entrance	0/4	2,000	0	£22,700	£1,060
<i>Arisings to setback area upstream of the swing bridge</i>						
<b>River Ant</b>	How Hill to Barton Broad	0/12	6,000	0	£99,500	£1,525
<i>Arisings to setback area at Buttle Marsh</i>						
<b>Upper Bure</b>	Belaugh to Horstead Mill	0/12	6,000	0	£91,000	£2,220
<i>3,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sediment to be incorporated into bankside erosion protections schemes; 3,000 m<sup>3</sup> to be mudpumped to arable land</i>						
<b>River Chet</b>	Pye's Mill to Hardley Flood	0/10	5,000	0	£53,800	£11,870
<i>Restoration of 2013-14 dredging completed. Winter 2014-15 dredging to follow.</i>						
<b>Heigham Sound</b>	Restoration of lagoon area	0/0	0	-	£17,500	£16,270
<i>Replanting of lagoon baskets and on-going maintenance. Part PRISMA funded in 2014/15</i>						
<b>Postwick Tip</b>	Restoration of disposal cells & on-going management	0/0	0	-	£16,000	£4,340
<i>Dry sediment to be moved from wet cell to allow future deposition of wet dredgings</i>						
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>50,000m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>26,450</b>	<b>£578,000</b>	<b>£272,460</b>