

# Broads Authority Development Management Policies DPD

Appropriate Assessment (schedule of Proposed Minor Changes) - March 2011

Changes to the Appropriate Assessment document are proposed below. Previous versions of text are shown with removed text formatted as ~~strikethrough~~. Revised versions are shown with additional text **highlighted**.

## Page 3 paragraph 6

*Previously read:*

“this report presents screening and assessment of a strengthened document, ~~allowing less~~ scope for likely significant effects.”

*Now reads:*

“this report presents screening and assessment of a strengthened document, **adjustments to the document have reduced** scope for likely significant effects.”

## Page 6

*Now includes:*

“Ramsar Sites (wetlands of international importance, designated under the Ramsar Convention):

- Breydon Water
- Broadland”

## Page 7

Figure 1 has been updated.

## Page 8 paragraph 3

*Previously read:*

“Broadland is a low-lying wetland complex straddling the boundaries between east Norfolk and northern Suffolk and comprises some 5865.60 hectares. The Broads are a series of flooded medieval peat cuttings within the floodplains of five principal river systems. The area includes the river valley systems of the Bure, Yare and Waveney and their major tributaries. Component sites include Alderfen Broad SSSI, Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI, Broad Fen, Dilham SSSI, Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI, Calthorpe Broad SSSI, Ludham-Potter Heigham Marshes SSSI, Priory Meadows, Hickling SSSI, Smallburgh Fen SSSI and Upper Thurne Broads and Marshes SSSI. Throughout the District the SPA and SAC sites overlay each other. ~~Two additional component SSSIs that contribute to the Broads/Broadland are situated a little way outside the District boundary and might be affected by this plan. These SSSIs are Upton Broad and Marshes SSSI and Shallam Dyke Marshes, Thurne SSSI.~~”

*Now reads:*

“Broadland is a low-lying wetland complex straddling the boundaries between east Norfolk and northern Suffolk and comprises some 5865.6 hectares. The Broads are a series of

flooded medieval peat cuttings within the floodplains of five principal river systems. The area includes the river valley systems of the Bure, Yare and Waveney and their major tributaries. Component sites include Alderfen Broad SSSI, Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI, Broad Fen, Dilham SSSI, Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI, Calthorpe Broad SSSI, Ludham-Potter Heigham Marshes SSSI, Priory Meadows, Hickling SSSI, Upton Broad and Marshes SSSI, Shallam Dyke Marshes, Thurne SSSI, Smallburgh Fen SSSI and Upper Thurne Broads and Marshes SSSI, and Trinity Broads SSSI. Throughout the District the SPA and SAC sites overlay each other.”

**Page 9 first column heading for table**

Previously read:

“Broadland SPA/SAC”

Now reads:

“Broadland SPA/SAC/Ramsar”

**Page 11 the following rows have been added to the table:**

<p>Broadland Ramsar 1</p>	<p>The site supports a number of rare species and habitats within the biogeographical zone context, including the following Habitats Directive Annex I features:          Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion avallianae</i>; Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge); Alkaline fens; Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens; Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>), Alder woodland on floodplains, and the Annex II species Desmoulin’s whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>, Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>, Fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i>.</p>	<p>Topography, hydrology, drainage, water quality</p>
<p>Broadland Ramsar 2</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 6 - species/populations occurring at levels of international importance. Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation):          Species with peak counts in winter:          Tundra swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (196 individuals, representing an average of 2.4% of the GB population); Eurasian wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> (6769 individuals, representing an average of 1.6% of the GB population); Gadwall <i>Anas strepera strepera</i> (545 individuals, representing an average of 3.1% of the GB population); Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> (247 individuals, representing an average of 1.6% of the GB population).          Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.          Species with peak counts in winter:          Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (4263 individuals, representing an average of 1.7% of the population); Greylag goose <i>Anser</i></p>	<p>Relative tranquillity, hydrology, water quality.</p>

	<i>anser anser</i> (1007 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population).	
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**Page 13 paragraph 6**

Previously read:

“and ~~Sea-Poa~~ *Puccinellia maritima*.”

Now reads:

“and **Common Saltmarsh Grass** *Puccinellia maritima*.”

**Page 14 first column heading for table**

Previously read:

“Broadland SPA/SAC”

Now reads:

“Broadland SPA/SAC/**Ramsar**”

**Page 14 the following rows have been added to the table:**

Breydon Ramsar 1	Assemblages of international importance: Species with peak counts in winter: 68175 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)	Relative tranquillity, estuarine processes, water quality
Breydon Ramsar 2	Ramsar criterion 6 - species/populations occurring at levels of international importance. Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): Species with peak counts in winter: Tundra swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (171 individuals, representing an average of 2.1% of the GB population); Northern lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> , (20142 individuals representing an average of 1.3% of the GB population). Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6. Species with peak counts in winter: Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (5816 individuals, representing an average of 2.4% of the population); Eurasian wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> (15624 individuals, representing an average of 1% of the population); Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> , NW & C (478 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population); European golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (10656 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population); Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (1100 individuals, representing an average of	

	3.1% of the population).	
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**Page 15 paragraph 1**

*Previously read:*

~~“The Breydon Water estuary is a robust ecosystem, the most sensitive feature being the high tide roost at its northern end. However efficient drainage, recent droughts and poor water management systems have adversely affected the wet grassland part of the site (Halvergate Marshes). A Water Level Management Plan and a feasibility study to overcome the water resource problems have been completed, and it is hoped that a scheme will commence shortly with MAFF support. The Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme has helped to raise water levels and encouraged sensitive management, particularly of the ditches. Appropriate standards of flood defence are required for the wet grassland part of the site; works are currently underway via the Environment Agency Broads Strategy. Breydon Water and its hinterland lie within the Broads, one of the family of National Parks. As such, it is largely free from development pressures. Future pressure for development may arise around the site, associated with Great Yarmouth, but regulation of such plans is covered by the by the Habitats Regulations 1994.”~~

*Now reads:*

“Breydon Water is sensitive to changes in water levels, siltation and pollution events. The site contains species that have restricted ranges in the UK and a careful balance needs to be struck between use of the area for recreation and its conservation objectives. However efficient drainage, recent droughts and poor water management systems have adversely affected the wet grassland part of the site (Halvergate Marshes). A Water Level Management Plan and a feasibility study to overcome the water resource problems have been completed. The Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme and subsequent ELS/ HLS schemes are helping to raise water levels and encouraged sensitive management, particularly of the ditches, though much further work needs to be done. Appropriate standards of flood defence are required for the wet grassland part of the site; works have been completed via the Environment Agency’s Broads Strategy. Breydon Water and its hinterland lie within the Broads, one of the family of National Parks. As such, it is largely free from development pressures. However, its qualifying features may be vulnerable as a result of recreational pressure. Future pressure for development is likely to arise around the site, associated with Great Yarmouth.”

**Page 16 paragraph 1**

*Previously read:*

~~“Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA: Of the 26.28 hectares, or 17.6% of the protected area, within the Broads Authority area, 0% is considered to be in “favourable” or “unfavourable recovering” condition.”~~

*Now reads:*

“Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA: Of the 26.28 hectares, or 17.6% of the protected area, within the Broads Authority area, 100% is considered to be in “favourable” condition as of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011.”

**Page 16 paragraph 2**

*Previously read:*

“Winterton - Horsey Dunes SAC: Of the approximately 129 hectares, or 30.2% of the protected area, within the administrative boundaries of the Broads Authority, ~~approximately 66.7%~~ is considered to be in “favourable” or “unfavourable recovering” condition.”

*Now reads:*

“Winterton - Horsey Dunes SAC: Of the approximately 129 hectares, or 30.2% of the protected area, within the administrative boundaries of the Broads Authority, **77.79%** is considered to be in “favourable” or “unfavourable recovering” condition.”

### **Page 16 paragraph 3**

*Previously read:*

“Within this part of the SPA only the section from Warren Farm to ~~Bramble Hill,~~ ~~about 17.6%~~ is within the Broads Authority Area.”

*Now reads:*

“Within this part of the SPA only the section from **south of** Warren Farm to **North Wood** is within the Broads Authority Area.”

### **Page 17 first column of table headings**

*Previously read:*

“Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA/SAC”

*Now reads:*

“Great Yarmouth North Denes **and Winterton - Horsey Dunes** SPA/SAC”

### **Page 17 paragraph 1**

*Previously read:*

“The little tern colonies within the Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA are dependent upon the maintenance of high accreting beaches. Coast protection schemes have the potential to disrupt or reduce sediment supply to the SPA. However, Beach Management Plans are required before works proceed. These require mitigation measures should an adverse effect occur in the future. The success of the colonies at both sites is dependent upon wardening in order to exclude people and dogs and the control of predators. The wardening is jointly undertaken by the Natural England ~~and~~ the RSPB, with ~~assistance~~ of Great Yarmouth Borough Council.”

*Now reads:*

“The little tern colonies within the Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA are dependent upon the maintenance of high accreting beaches, **though the associated formation of embryonic dunes can swamp nesting habitat.** Coast protection schemes have the potential to disrupt or reduce sediment supply to the SPA. However, Beach Management Plans are required before works proceed. These require mitigation measures should an adverse effect occur in the future. The success of the colonies at both sites is dependent upon **the fencing off of breeding areas and** wardening in order to exclude people and dogs and the control of predators. The wardening **at North Denes** is jointly undertaken by the Natural England **with occasional assistance from** the RSPB, with **permission** of Great Yarmouth Borough Council. **The full range of issues affecting little terns in Norfolk and the actions being**

carried out to manage and conserve the species is detailed in the Norfolk little tern SAP. This can be found at <http://www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/actionplans/species/#Birds>”

## Page 18 paragraph 2

*Previously read:*

“A concrete wall constructed in the 1960s, together with sea defence works up-drift which reduce sediment supply, constrain and prevent the site from responding naturally to coastal processes. The embryonic shifting dune communities are most vulnerable. Beach-feeding operations pose a threat through the possible use of sand with shell fragments, particularly to the Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes. A Coastal Habitat Action Plan (ChAMP) was produced in 2002, and this provides guidance on how to address these issues. Recently the Shoreline Management Plan has been reviewed. The site is backed by intensively-farmed arable land, and water abstraction from this area is a threat to the humid dune slack communities. Visitor pressures are high especially in the summer, resulting in erosion, fire and disturbance effects. The site relies on rabbits to maintain open habitats, and is therefore vulnerable to outbreaks of disease.”

*Now reads:*

“A concrete wall constructed in the 1960s, together with sea defence works up-drift which reduce sediment supply, constrain and prevent the site from responding naturally to coastal processes. The embryonic shifting dune communities are most vulnerable. Beach-feeding operations, when required, pose a threat through the possible use of sand with shell fragments, particularly to the Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes. A Coastal Habitat Management Plan (CHaMP) was produced in 2003, and this provides guidance on how to address these issues. Recently the Shoreline Management Plan has been reviewed. The site is backed by intensively-farmed arable land, and water abstraction from this area is a threat to the humid dune slack communities. Visitor pressures are high especially in the summer, resulting in erosion, fire and disturbance effects. Winterton - Horsey SAC relies on rabbits to maintain open habitats, and is therefore vulnerable to outbreaks of Myxomatosis.”

## Page 18, paragraph 2

*Previously read:*

“The East of England Plan was adopted in May 2008. —It sets..”

*Now reads:*

“The East of England Plan was adopted in May 2008. It sets”

## Page 22, paragraph 4

*Previously read:*

“Those policies which are considered not to have a significant effect on any European Site within or outside of the Area boundaries at this stage, need be considered no further.”

*Now reads:*

“Those policies which are considered not to have a significant effect on any European Site within or outside of the Area boundaries at this stage need be considered no further.”

## Page 22, paragraph 7

*Previously read:*

“This is particularly relevant to birds, where normally only roosting/nesting sites are protected whereas feeding/foraging areas are often overlooked and can therefore be located beyond the borders of the European site.”

*Now reads:*

“This is particularly relevant to birds, where normally only roosting/nesting sites are protected whereas feeding/foraging **or even outlying nesting areas** are often overlooked and can therefore be located beyond the borders of the European site.”

## **Page 22 bullet point 2**

*Previously read:*

- “Increased traffic effects from construction activities.”

*Now reads:*

- “Increased traffic effects from construction **and operational** activities.”

## **Page 22 bullet point 4**

*Previously read:*

- Increased predation from pets and animals associated with urban areas (cats, foxes, ~~maggies~~, rats).

*Now reads:*

- Increased predation from pets and animals associated with urban areas (cats, foxes, rats).

## **Page 22 paragraph 2**

*Previously read:*

“The Broads SAC/ Broadland SPA and Breydon Water SPA could be affected by increased sediment discharge and deposition.”

*Now reads:*

“The Broads SAC/ Broadland SPA and Breydon Water SPA could **therefore** be affected by increased **storm flows**, sediment discharge and deposition.”

## **Page 22 paragraph 23**

*Previously read:*

“Any depletion or contamination could ~~disastrously~~ affect these sites as all protected species and habitats would be highly sensitive to such changes.”

*Now reads:*

“Any depletion or contamination could **adversely** affect these sites as all protected species and habitats would be highly sensitive to such changes.”

## Page 22 paragraph 24

*Previously read:*

“The capacity of the current sewerage system to process increased levels of human waste could form a limitation to development where nutrient levels are likely to exceed targets set for European sites, including the Broads SAC where phosphate levels are of critical importance to site condition.”

*Now reads:*

“The capacity of the current sewerage system to process increased levels of human waste could form a limitation to development where nutrient levels are likely to exceed targets set for European sites, including the Broads SAC where phosphate levels are of critical importance to site condition. There is already evidence that the current infrastructure within the Broads area is insufficient, particularly around Sutton Staithe and Ludham. Whilst solutions to current problems fall within nearby districts, there is a need for a coordinated approach by all authorities where their plans and policies could have significant effects on the Broads designated sites.”

## Page 24 paragraph 1

*Previously read:*

“The Greater Norwich Housing strategy aims to deliver up to 2000 new homes per year up to 2026.”

*Now reads:*

“The Greater Norwich Housing strategy aims to deliver up to 2000 new homes per year up to 2026. In addition, North Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and Waveney District Council aim to deliver 400, 300 and 290 new homes per annum respectively up to 2021. In combination, these 2990 new homes per year within the region could lead to increased use of the Broads area for recreational activity and tourism.”

## Page 24 paragraph 4

*Previously read:*

“Navigational effects also fall into this category. These effects are possible where there are extensions to existing navigational limits, or new infrastructure associated with navigation.”

*Now reads:*

“Navigational effects also fall into this category. These effects are possible where there are extensions to existing navigational limits, unauthorised disturbance by users within current limits, or new infrastructure associated with navigation.”

## Page 26 table heading

*Previously read:*

“Task 1 - Identifying whether a policy is likely to have a significant effect”

*Now reads:*

“Task 1 - Identifying whether a policy is likely to have a significant effect [refer to addendum]”

Page 26-27 changes to contents of table

Previously read:

DP5: Historic Environment	No	No	<del>European Site Affected: Broadland SAC</del> <del>Possible Mechanism: Policy adequately covers the potential for large scale habitat restoration projects to influence historic landscapes.</del> <del>Possible Feature Affected: Broads SAC habitats</del>	No
DP6: Re-use of Historic Buildings	No	No	<del>European Site Affected: Broadland SPA</del> <del>Possible Mechanism: Policy has adequately addressed the potential for re-use of historic buildings to adversely affect European Sites</del> <del>Possible Feature Affected: SPA birds</del>	No
DP22: Residential Development within Defined Settlement Boundaries	No	No	<del>European Site Affected: Broadland SPA/ SAC</del> <del>Possible Mechanism: Policy adequately addresses the potential for residential development to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites</del> <del>Possible Feature Affected: All SPA/SAC features</del>	No
DP26: Permanent and Temporary Dwellings for Agricultural, Forestry and Other Workers	No	No	<del>European Site Affected: Broadland SPA/ SAC</del> <del>Possible Mechanism: Policy adequately addresses the potential for temporary dwellings to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites</del> <del>Possible Feature Affected: All SPA/SAC features</del>	No
DP27: Visitor and Community Facilities and Services	No	No	<del>European Site Affected: Broadland SPA/ SAC</del> <del>Possible Mechanism: Policy adequately addresses the potential for visitor and community facilities to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites</del> <del>Possible Feature Affected: All SPA/SAC features</del>	No

Now reads:

DP5: Historic Environment	No	No	Policy adequately covers the potential for large scale habitat restoration projects to influence historic landscapes.	No
DP6: Re-use of Historic Buildings	No	No	Policy has adequately addressed the potential for re-use of historic buildings to adversely affect European Sites	No
DP22: Residential	No	No	Policy adequately addresses the potential for residential development	No

Development within Defined Settlement Boundaries			to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites	
DP26: Permanent and Temporary Dwellings for Agricultural, Forestry and Other Workers	No	No	Policy adequately addresses the potential for temporary dwellings to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites	No
DP27: Visitor and Community Facilities and Services	No	No	Policy adequately addresses the potential for visitor and community facilities to create adverse effects for Natura 2000 sites	No

**Page 29 paragraph 1**

*Previously read:*

“As, through the iterations of this document, and the subsequent strengthening of some policies, all likely significant effects on European sites have been avoided by the Broads Authority, no policy is now required to undertake Task 2 - the Appropriate Assessment.”

*Now reads:*

“As, through the iterations of this document, and the subsequent strengthening of some policies, all likely significant effects on European sites have been avoided by the Broads Authority, no policy is now required to undertake Task 2 - the Appropriate Assessment. **If a proposal is considered in the context of a given policy to have an effect on an internationally designated site then it will need to be considered against the Habitats Directive and a project level Appropriate Assessment undertaken.**”

Robert Yaxley/ Kelly Moyes,

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