

Fen Monitoring, Research and Management

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Fen Monitoring

Surveillance Monitoring:

“To identify long-term change in fen vegetation, however it may be caused.”

Requires:

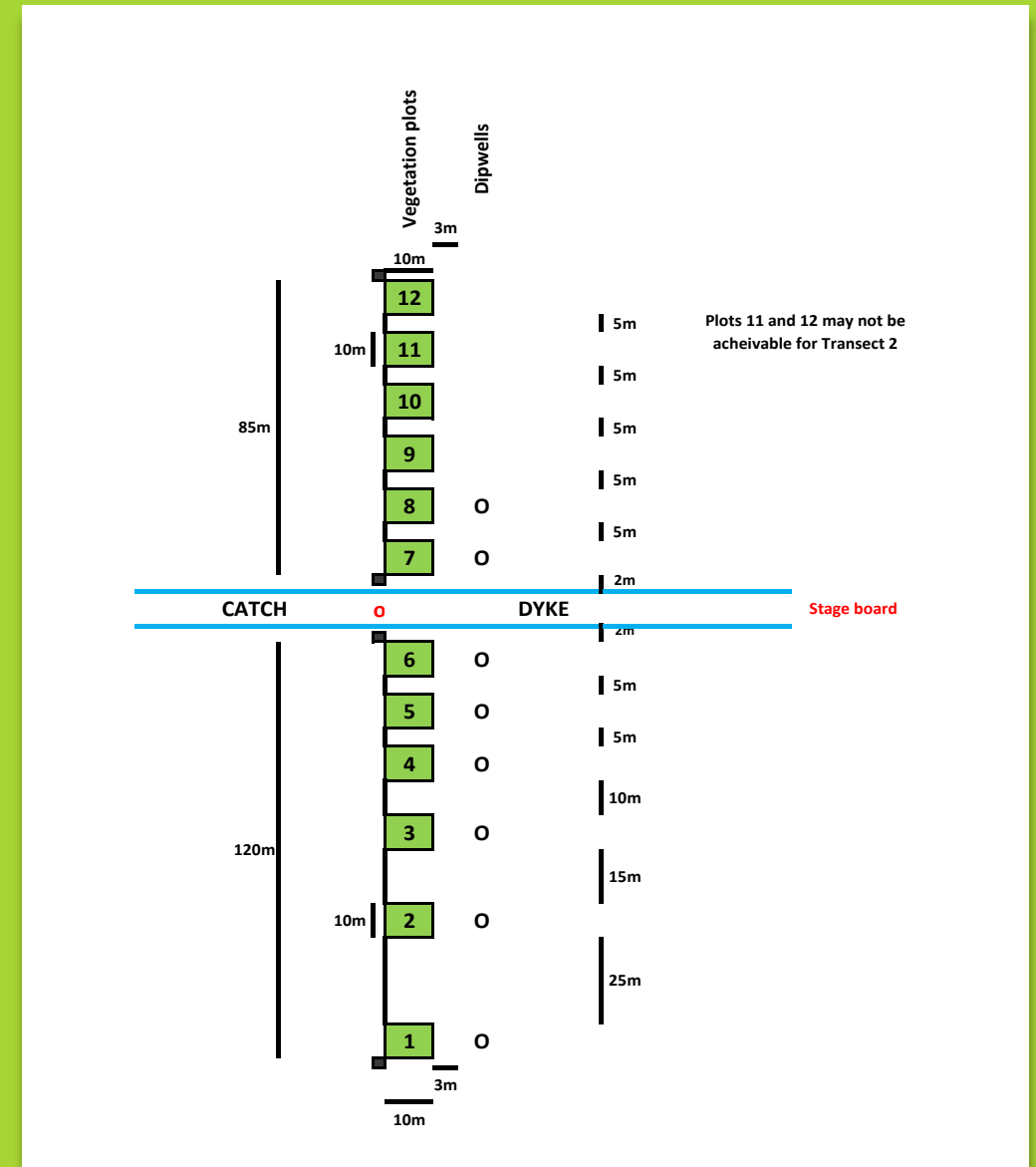
- Permanent plots
- Stratified coverage: management, fen communities, eco-hydrological types
- Collaborative approach



Reedham Marsh, a Kennison site

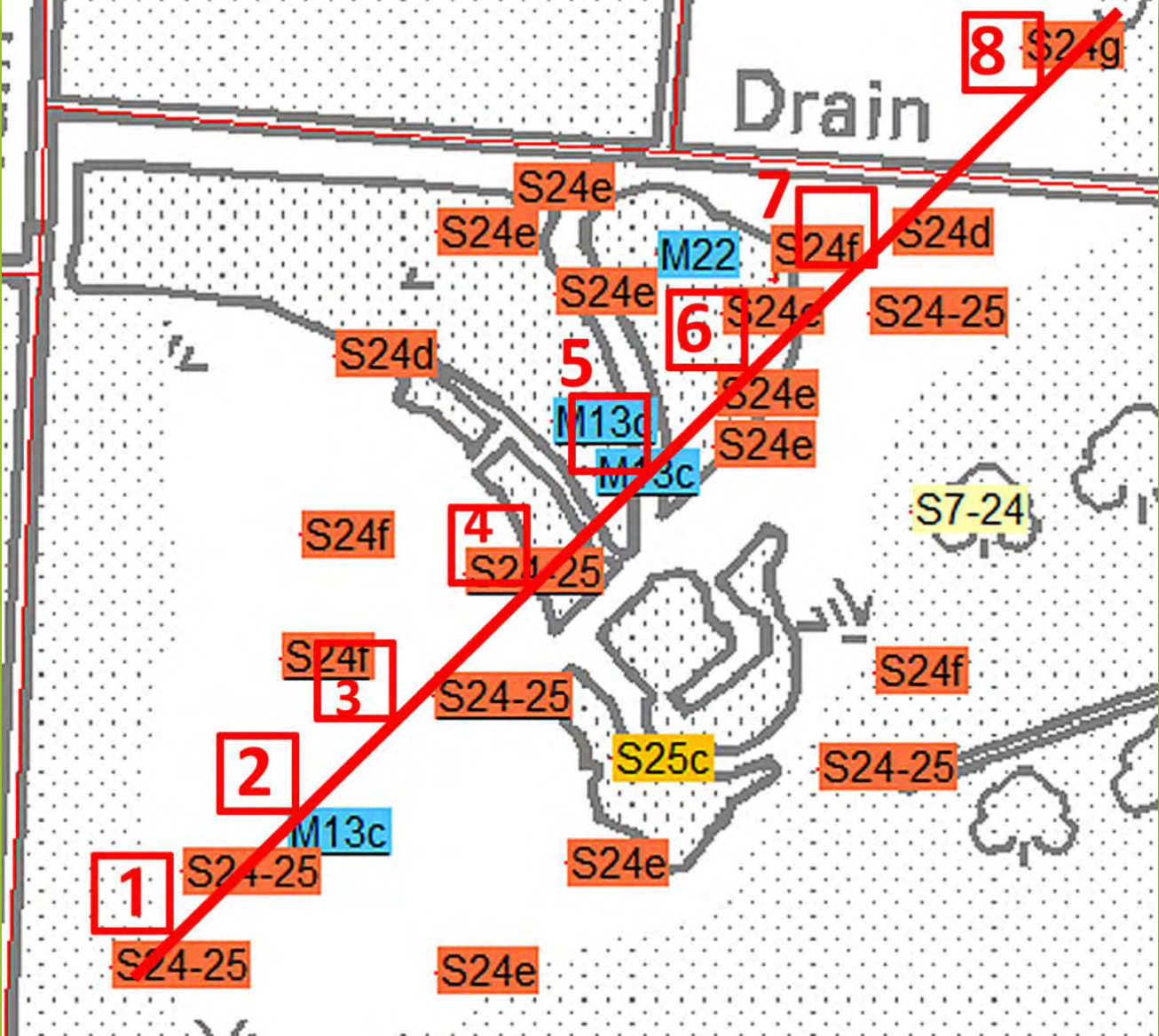
Monitoring Method

Standard method for environmental gradient



Monitoring Method

Big fens



Research: The Evidence Base

The things we need to know

Lack of understanding:

- Makes conservation work risky.
- Impedes innovation

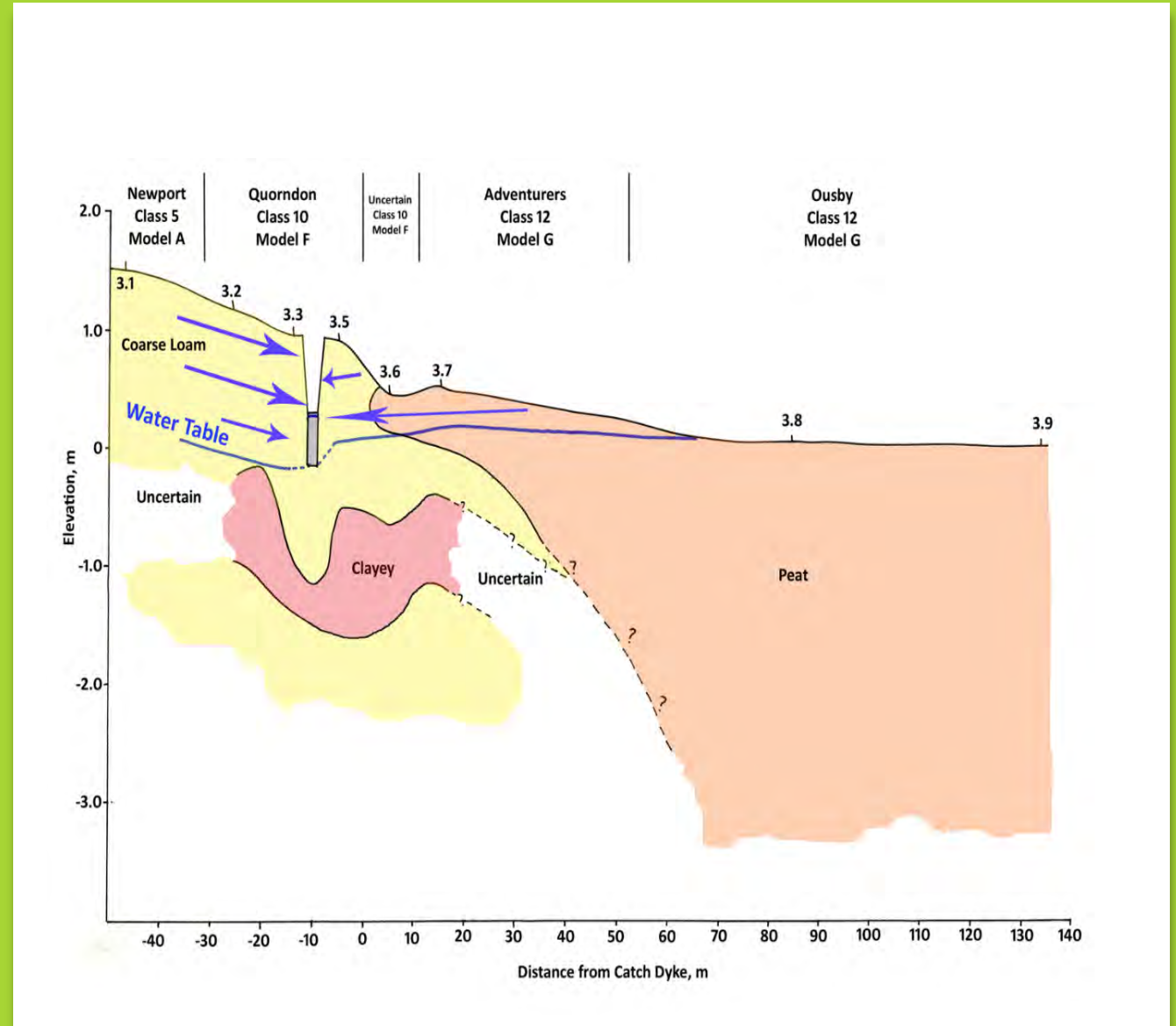
Need to reduce Risk, develop best practise



British Whites at Crostwick Marshes

Research: The Evidence Base

- 13 Themes
- Huge array of projects
- Where to start?



Impact of catch dykes at Decoy Carr, Acle

Research: Where to Start?

Somewhere, anywhere

According to key priorities and concerns.

Collaborative:
sites, themes, funding

What are the priorities?



Arisings of management: cuttings, scrub, peat, dung

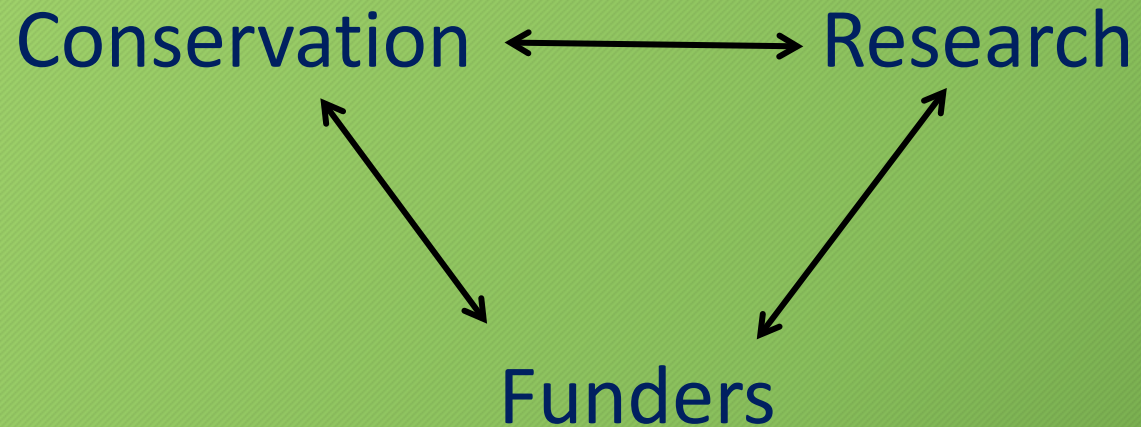
Engaging with people

- Overlooked
- Need to understand audiences, and how to change attitudes.
- About big change



Engaging Researchers and Funders

Collaborations again:



A Fen Management Partnership

8 main themes:

1. Land acquisition
2. Restoration of species or habitats
3. Landscape scale conservation projects
4. Improving connectivity
5. Economically sustainable management
6. Restoration of the Broads Hydrosere
7. Water quality and nutrient management
8. Audience engagement

