



Broadland
Futures Initiative

Horsey Marshes © Gavin Ramsey

Progress Newsletter

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UPDATE TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Welcome to the 11th edition of the BFI newsletter. In this latest edition we provide an update on the hydraulic modelling work that will provide important insight and data to decisions now and in the future.

Secondly, a general progress update on how the strategy development has been coming along, as well as a summary of recent stakeholder engagement work that has been undertaken in recent months.

Progress on new flood model

To understand how the risk of flooding will change in future due to sea level rise, or whether different possible management measures will reduce flooding, we rely on computer-based models of the Broadland rivers and the adjacent sea.

These hydrological or flood models enable us to predict what water and flood extents will be depending upon different conditions. There are several different models each covering different parts of the BFI strategy area.

Work continues on the update of the four existing coastal models that consider the possible impact of sea defences being overtopped or breached.

A key update for these is to include the latest sea level rise scenarios. Moving inland from the coast there is a new model being developed that will cover most of the Broadland River system.

This model considers the possible risk of flooding due to high river levels swollen by heavy rainfall, or from high

river levels caused by spring and surge tides.

In addition, to finalising the different methodologies for updating and creating the models, recent development work includes the prediction of coastal wave overtopping, analysis of the river flow regime at the upstream end of the strategy area, and the subdivision of the floodplain into different units that together make up the model.

Lastly, the need for some up to date ground level and river channel dimension surveys have been identified, these to be undertaken in the next few months.

As a general introduction to hydrological modelling check out our short animation on the topic. You can view it via our webpage [Broadland Futures Initiative \(broads-](#)

[authority.gov.uk](https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk)) and scrolling down to links section and selecting [Hydraulic Modelling Video](#)



General progress update

So far within the BFI we have looked at the current risk of flooding, how this risk could change with increasing amounts of climate change, and the objectives or outcomes we want to achieve through managing flood risk in future.

The next steps leading on from this is to identify the different possible ways there are for managing flood risk in future.

Such actions could operate at different scales and manage the risk in very different ways. We had anticipated our consultants starting this work in the autumn of 2022.

However, there have been delays which prevented them from making a start, but we now expect they will be able to do so very shortly. In the meantime, we have taken the opportunity to plan in more detail the other activities to be

undertaken this year. These largely concern how the identified possible actions will be short listed and then appraised in detail to determine their suitability.

As a reminder we produced a short video on Youtube that neatly explains in more detail the process that the BFI must go through in the next stage of its development. If you're interested to find out more about what this entails, you can view it via our webpage [Broadland Futures Initiative \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk) and scrolling down to links section and selecting [BFI - Options Appraisal Methodology](#).



Getting out and about

As a result of the delay in starting the next steps, this has meant we have had to push back our planned engagement activity around identifying future potential flood risk management actions, but nevertheless we have been continuing to raise awareness of the BFI and the development of the strategy.

Recent times saw the BFI team interacting with interested stakeholders such as the Norfolk and Suffolk Boating Association and The Upper Thurne Working Group.

We also recently presented to the Great Yarmouth Environmental Committee to share more about the BFI strategy with its members and allow opportunities for them to share their thoughts.

Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association

[The Broadland Futures Initiative](#) hosted a virtual event for NSBA members to attend. This was an opportunity for members to listen to the project team speak about the flood risk management strategy that is being developed as well ask questions and raise topics of interest.

The event took place on 3rd November 2022 – 19:30pm - 20:30pm and was well attended by NSBA members - There was a range of topics brought forward and discussed such as salinity, the prospect of a tidal barrier and responsibilities of risk management authorities.

The overall reception was positive and welcomed by the NSBA and we will continue to

keep the channels of communication open with this important stakeholder group.

Upper Thurne Working Group

This was a pilot workshop, and we had a good attendance with a mix of influential stakeholders taking part in the exercises.



These included how the attendees might prioritise the BFI strategy objectives, and to identify what possible flood risk management actions might be suitable in future within the Upper Thurne catchment or possibly further afield.

The BFI has been reviewing and collating the information, excellent knowledge and useful experiences provided on the day.

Once this is completed, we will publish via email a summary report of the workshop as well as making it available on the webpage.

We will also provide a brief update at the next UTWG meeting in 2023. It was great to also see members of the BFI Initiative Project Team support the event and take part.

Great Yarmouth Environment Committee

Great Yarmouth is a key part of the BFI strategy area and on 15th November 2022 the project team were invited by the Borough Council to give a presentation to their Environment Committee.

We were able to highlight the importance of the town within the BFI area, as a concentration of people and property at risk, and a potentially influential location at the mouth of all the Broadland rivers.

The coastal location also means the town is exposed to sea level rise and increasing food risk. It was also an opportunity to emphasise the links between the BFI and the recently started Resilient Coasts project being managed by Coastal Partnership East on behalf of Great Yarmouth Borough and East Suffolk councils.

The project runs for five years covering several coastal communities and its vision is to

create a 'toolkit' of options that enable the people, economies, and environment to transition to a climate resilient coast.

This ambition matches that of the BFI, and we anticipate working closely with the Resilient Coasts project.

CONTACT US

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Horse Wind pump, National Trust © Gavin Rumsey