NATURAL AREA: **19 Charnwood Forest**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
Charnwood Forest has a distinctive character, which separates it from the surrounding area. Although habitat loss has been significant, the area is one of the best for wildlife in the Midlands.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	9/20 (45.0%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	3 (15.0%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - gravel pits (1), reservoir (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	2 oligotrophic, 5 mesotrophic, 6 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W1, W5, W6, W7); aquatic (A10, A13, A15); swamp (S4, S5, S6, S7, S10, S12, S14, S22b); fen (S28); streams (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 99 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Juncus filiformis	S
Luronium natans	S
Nymphoides peltata	S
Callitriche truncata	S

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) bryophyte communities of wet woodland
2) breeding and wintering wildfowl associated with open water
3) aquatic invertebrates of open water
4) crayfish, breeding birds and fish associated with streams

KEY ISSUES: fragmentation, afforestation, drainage, recreation, water quality - eutrophication, acidification, lack of management, lack of catchment control, fish stocking, alien species - Crassula, algae, agricultural intensification, crayfish plague, river engineering

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 6 (67%) Water levels 4 (44%) Recreation 6 (67%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly aquatic and swamp communities.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly during restoration of mineral workings.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **20 Lincolnshire Limestone**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
This Natural Area constitutes the limestone ridge running north to south through western Lincolnshire. Calcareous flushes and marshes are important along the springline with the clay.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	12/46 (26.1%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	1 (2.2%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	fen (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	6 mesotrophic, 6 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W1); fen (M13, M22a, M24, M25); wet grassland (M23); flooded quarries - swamp (S3, S4, S5, S6, S7)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 475 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Cuscuta europaea	*S*	*Stratiotes aloides*	*S*
Carex vulpina	*RDB(R)*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*
Sium latifolium	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*
Pilularia globulifera	*S*	*Callitriche truncata*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) wintering and breeding wildfowl associated with flooded quarries
2) invertebrates and crayfish associated with calcareous streams

KEY ISSUES: lack of traditional woodland management, water quality, water quantity, grazing

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 2 (17%) Water levels 2 (17%) Recreation 4 (33%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **21 Lincolnshire Clay Vales**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
Much of this Natural Area is based on Jurassic clay overlain by Pleistocene boulder clay, although a significant area of Fen Edge sands and gravels are found in the south of the vales. The Fen Edge gravels contain the principal wetland habitats with areas of wet heath, woodland and gravel pits.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	4/10 (40%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	1 (10%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	wet woodland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 3 mesotrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: gravel pits-swamp (S4, S6, S13, S14, S17); wet grassland (MG10b, M23); wet woodland (W5, W7); wet heath (M16); fen (M22, M24); gravel pits-aquatic (A4, A5, A8, A9, A10, A11)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 335 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Lycopodiella inundata	*S*
Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*
Potamogeton trichoides	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrates associated with wet heath and aquatic habitats
2) wintering wildfowl of gravel pits

KEY ISSUES: water abstraction, scrub invasion, fragmentation, gravel extraction, water quality, gravel pit restoration

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 0 Water levels 2 (50%) Recreation 2 (50%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly during restoration of mineral workings.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **22 Lincolnshire Wolds**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **LOW**

DESCRIPTION:
The chalk of the Lincolnshire Wolds has been greatly changed by glacial and periglacial action, such that the chalk has been overlain with boulder clay, dissected by rivers or eroded to expose Lower Cretaceous sands, clays and ironstones. River headwaters and chalk streams constitute the main aquatic and riparian habitats. Small areas of marsh and spring-line flushes occur in the steep river valleys.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	4/22 (18.2%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	1 (4.5%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	wet woodland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 3 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W2a, W5a, W6a, d, W7a); fen (M13c, M22, M24b, S28); wet grassland (MG4, MG9a, MG10, MG10b); swamp (S3, S6, S7, S12)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 198 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*
Myriophyllum verticillatum	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrates associated with calcareous marsh and flush habitats
2) crayfish and fish assemblage associated with river systems

KEY ISSUES: water abstraction, recreation, lack of woodland management, grazing, agricultural improvement, need to improve management of riparian grasslands, degraded stream habitats, fish farming, low water flows, crayfish plague

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 0 Water levels 0 Recreation 1 (25%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **23 Lincolnshire Marsh and Coast**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
This Natural Area can be divided into three zones: the boulder clay to the east of the wolds, outwash gravels and the marine derived, alluvial coastal plain. The area is underlain by Cretaceous chalk and where sand and gravel lenses occur "blow-wells" allow chalk water to the surface. Where the boulder-clay has been extracted, "clay-pits" contain brackish water and reedbeds. There are still some important coastal grazing marshes and in areas of sand dune accretion dune-slack communities are present.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	8/17 (47.0%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	3 (17.6%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - gravel pits (3)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	3 mesotrophic, 5 eutrophic, 6 brackish

KEY WETLAND TYPES: swamp (S4, S5, S6, S7, S12, S13, S14, S20); fen (S26d, M22a, b); wet woodland (W1); blow wells/clay pits - aquatic (A2, A3, A4, A8, A11); saline lagoon - aquatic (A6, A11, A21); rivers, ditches, streams (no data); wet grassland (MG6, MG11, MG12, MG13); dune - slack (SD17)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 518km

KEY WETLAND SITES: SSSIs of the Humber Flats and Marshes, Saltfleetby - Theddlethorpe Dunes, North Lincolnshire Coast
RAM 2, SPA 2, NCR 2

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Myriophyllum verticillatum	*S*	*Stratiotes aloides*	*S*
Ruppia cirrhosa	*S*	*Iris spuria*	*RDB(V)*
Carex divisa	*S*	*Equisetum ramosissimum*	*RDB(E)*
Lathyrus palustris	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) breeding and wintering wildfowl associated with coastal wet grassland and reedbed bird species
2) amphibians, including natterjack and great crested newt
3) invertebrates associated with coastal wetlands and ditch sytems

KEY ISSUES: flood defence, lack of reedbed management, recreation, saline intrusion, falling water tables, water pollution, tipping, development, wildfowling, change to sea banks, drainage, inappropriate management, eutrophication, river engineering, agricultural improvement, stream/ditch management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 1 (13%) Water levels 2 (25%) Recreation 3 (38%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly coastal wetlands.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly during the restoration of mineral workings.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with coastal wetlands.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly coastal

NATURAL AREA: **24 Middle England**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **HIGH**

DESCRIPTION:
A gently undulating landscape dominated by intensive agriculture and expanding centres of population. The wetland interest is principally associated with artificial water bodies and wet grasslands.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	41/116 (35.3%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	24 (20.7%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - gravel pits (5), spring fen/flush (1), river (1), open water - reservoirs (5), mire (1), flood meadow (4), wet grassland (5), fen (3), canal (1),
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	2 oligotrophic, 23 mesotrophic, 17 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (MG4, MG11); open water (no data); fen (M22)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 2,957 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Rutland Water, Portholme, Orton Pit
RAM 1, SPA 1, NCR 2, SAC 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Oenanthe silaifolia	S	*Potamogeton compressus*	S
Myriophyllum verticillatum	S	*Potamogeton trichoides*	S
Potamogeton coloratus	S	*Persicaria laxiflora*	S
Cuscuta europaea	S	*Limosella aquatica*	S
Sium latifolium	S		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrates associated with aquatic habitats and pollards
2) breeding waders and wildfowl associated with gravel pits and reservoirs
3) spined loach associated with river and ditch systems

KEY ISSUES: grazing, expansion of permanent pasture, restoration of riparian habitat, river management, agricultural improvement, mineral extraction, water level management, water quality, recreation, fishing

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 17 (41%) Water levels 15 (37%) Recreation 24 (59%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly wet grassland, fen and open water habitats.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly associated with existing and proposed artificial water bodies.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with wet grassland, fen and open water habitats.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **26 Bedfordshire Greensand**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The Bedfordshire Greensand is a ridge of greensand interleaved with sandstones. Glacial boulder clay over the greensand has largely been eroded, but where it persists the soils are poorly draining. A few wetlands have formed where impermeable layers in the greensand impede drainage and where perched water tables occur between the sand and clay.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	6/15 (40.0%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	4 (26.7%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), fen (2), wet woodland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	3 oligotrophic, 4 mesotrophic, 2 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W2, W4); fen (M24, M27); open water - sand pits (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 74 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Limosella aquatica	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) bryophyte assemblages and fungi associated with wet woodland
2) invertebrates associated with fen, mire and wet woodland habitats

KEY ISSUES: lack of management, abstraction, water pollution/eutrophication, fragmentation

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3 (50%) Water levels 4 (67%) Recreation 4 (67%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **27 Fenland**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
Fenland is made up of post-glacial peats, silts and clays, crossed by the rivers Nene, Ouse, Welland and Glen. It is an open, flat landscape currently dominated by intensive arable enterprises. Most of the original fen and saltmarsh communites have been lost as a result of drainage and the subsequent intensive agriculture. Holme, Woodwalton, Wicken and Chippenham Fens are the principal remaining sites of semi-natural fenland vegetation. The river washlands, particularly of the Nene and Ouse valleys, are important for their wet grassland and ditch flora, and the associated invertebrate and bird populations.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	27/40 (67.5%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	22 (55.0%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - gravel pits (4), fen (3), swamp (1), wet woodland (4), river (2), flood meadow (1), wet grassland (7), ditch (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	3 oligotrophic, 20 mesotrophic, 8 eutrophic, 1 brackish

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M13, M22, M24, S2, S4, S24, S24, S25, S28); wet heath (no data); swamp (S2, S4, S5, S6, S7, S8, S9, S12, S13, S14, S19, S20, S21, S22); ditches and open water (A1, A2, A3, A5, A11, A12, A16); wet woodland (W2, W6); wet grassland (MG11, MG13)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 2,063 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Woodwalton, Chippenham, Holme and Wicken Fens, Nene and Ouse Washes, Gibraltar Point, Calceby Marsh
RAM 4, SPA 3, NCR 5, SAC 7

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Alisma gramineum	*RDB(E)*	*Potamogeton coloratus*	*S*	*Carex divisa*	*S*
Carex approprinquata	*S*	*Potamogeton compressus*	*S*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Cuscuta europaea	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*	*Rupppia cirrhosa*	*S*
Dachtylorhiza traunsteineri	*S*	*Selinum carvifolia*	*RDB(V)*	*Althaea officinalis*	*S*
Lathyrus palustris	*S*	*Senecio paludosus*	*RDB(V)*	*Persicaria laxiflora*	*S*
Luzula pallidula	*RDB(R)*	*Peucedanum palustre*	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*
Myriophylum verticillatum	*S*	*Sonchus palustris*	*S*	*Viola persicifolia*	*RDB(E)*
Nymphoides peltata	*S*	*Stratiotes aloides*	*S*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*
Oenanthe silaifolia	*S*	*Dactylorhiza incarnata ochroleuca*		*RDB(E)*	
Equisetum ramosissimum	*RDB(E)*	*Teucrium scordium*	*RDB(V)*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) rare and scarce aquatic and fen invertebrates
2) breeding and wintering wildfowl and waders, and reedbed species

KEY ISSUES: water availability, water abstraction, nutrient enrichment, recreational disturbance, water quality, reedbed management, scrub encroachment on some fens/grasslands, agricultural improvement

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 12(44%) Water levels 11(41%) Recreation 20(74%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly the remaining fen, wet grassland and aquatic communities.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly in relation to the effects of agricultural improvement.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly by linking and/ or buffering esisting sites.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with fen, wet grassland and aquatic communities.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **28 East Anglian Heights**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The East Anglian Heights is a chalk ridge running north-east from the Chilterns to Breckland. The area is dominated by arable farming, with the wetland interest largely associated with the spring-lines.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	10/26 (38.5%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	6 (23.1%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	fen (1), wet woodland (2), river (1), spring fen/flush (1), wet grassland (2), swamp (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 7 mesotrophic, 1 eutrophic, 1 unknown

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (no data); spring fen/flush (no data); wet woodland (W5); swamp (S4); fen (M22)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 254 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Selinum carvifolia	*RDB(V)*
Lythrum hyssopifolia	*RDB(V)*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrates associated with wet grassland and swamp habitats
2) breeding reedbed birds

KEY ISSUES: water abstraction, agriclutural improvement, poor management, scrub encroachment

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 0 Water levels 8 (80%) Recreation 5 (50%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly related to water abstraction.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **29 Breckland**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **HIGH**

DESCRIPTION:
Breckland is a low-lying plateau underlain by chalk and covered by glacial sandy drift. These conditions resulted in the formation of ground-ice depressions (pingos) of high wetland interest. Breckland is primarily important for its heathland, acid/calcareous grassland communities, but also has considerable wetland interest. This includes the pingos, fluctuating meres, calcareous spring-fed valley fens and basin mires. The chalk rivers, such as the Wissey, Lark and Thet are also important.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	19/48 (39.6%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	12 (25.0%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (2), open water - gravel pit (1), fen (7), wet woodland (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	8 oligotrophic, 16 mesotrophic, 5 eutrophic, 1 unknown

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M13, M22, M24, M27, S24, S25, S26, S27); wet grassland (MG11); swamp (S1, S2, S4); wet woodland (W2, W4, W5, W6); rivers (no data); open water - lakes (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 243 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Lackford Pits, Foulden Common, Great Cressingham Fen, Weston Fen SPA1, SAC 3

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Alisma gramineum	*RDB(E)*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*	*Peucedanum palustre*	*S*
Calamagrostis stricta	*RDB(R)*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*		
Crassula tillaea	*S*	*Nymphoides peltata*	*S*		
Carex appropinquata	*S*	*Potamogeton coloratus*	*S*		
Dactylorhiza traunsteineri	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) wetland invertebrates, particularly water beetles, flies, spiders and Habitats Directive snails
2) breeding wildfowl and waders of wet grassland and open water
3) otter associated with river systems

KEY ISSUES: abstraction, agric improvement, lack of management, poor understanding of hydrology, military use, grazing, drainage, need for mowing management, water quality, industrial pollution, navigation, recreation, river transfers, poplars planted on carr sites

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 11 (58%) Water levels 18 (95%) Recreation 12 (63%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly the rare pingos, meres and fens.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to water abstraction, drainage and agricultural pollution.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with the pingos, meres and fens.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly relating to the issues of water abstraction, drainage and agricultural pollution.

NATURAL AREA: **30 North Norfolk**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
This Natural Area is notable for its wide range of coastal habitats, which include a large number of freshwater and brackish water features. The western excarpment has internationally important mire communities and the Holt - Cromer ridge includes important valley mires.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	22/52 (42.3%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	16 (30.8%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), open water - pool (1), mire (6), fen (6), wet woodland (3), wet heath (2), grazing marsh (1), river (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	10 oligotrophic, 18 mesotrophic, 5 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: mire (M1, M2); wet heath (M16); fen (M13, M14, M22, M24, M25, M27); river (river types 1, 2, 3, 4); grazing marsh and dykes (no data); swamp (S4); brackish lagoon (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 565 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Sheringham and Beeston Regis Common, Buxton Heath, East Walton Common, Holt Lowes, Dersingham Bog, Roydon Common, North Norfolk Coast, Booton Common, Southrepps Common

RAM 3, SPA 1, NCR 6, SAC 9

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Hammarbya paludosa	*S*	*Ruppia cirrhosa*	*S*	*Juncus acutus*	*S*
Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*	*Lathyrus palustris*	*S*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Dryopteris cristata	*RDB(V)*	*Peucedanum palustre*	*S*	*Dactylorhiza traunsteineri*	*S*
Deschampsia setacea	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*	*Carex divisa*	*S*
Lycopodiella inundata	*S*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*	*Carex appropinquata*	*S*
Fritillaria meleagris	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*	*Potamogeton coloratus*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:

1) invertebrates associated with fen, mire, open water and brackish habitats
2) natterjacks associated with dune slacks
3) otter associated with river systems
4) breeding waders and wildfowl of wet grassland, mire and other breeding birds of reedbeds

KEY ISSUES: lack of management, water abstraction, grazing, pollution, low river flows, river engineering, agricultural intensification, coastal defence, recreation, improved reedbed management, water level control

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 14 (64%) Water levels 16 (73%) Recreation 17 (77%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:

1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly mire and fen communities and coastal wetlands.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to water abstraction.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with coastal wetlands and fen/ mire communities.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly coastal defence.

NATURAL AREA: **31 Broadland**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
Broadland is a large wetland complex, which includes the valley systems of the rivers Bure, Yare, Waveney and their major tributaries and is of international importance. The mosaic of wetland habitats includes open water, reedbeds, carr woodland, grazing marshes and fen meadows.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	29/31 (93.5%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	26 (83.9%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	fen (12), wet woodland (4), grazing marsh (11), flood meadow (2), swamp (3)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	3 oligotrophic, 23 mesotrophic, 16 eutrophic, 4 brackish

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M5, M10, M13, M22c, d, M24, S24, S25, S26, S27); aquatic (A3, A4, A9); wet woodland (W2, W5, W6, W7); wet grassland (MG8, MG10, MG13, M23); swamp (S4); rivers (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 245 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Broads SSSIs
RAM 23, SPA 23, NCR 5, SAC 22

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Lathyrus palustris	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*	*Najas marina*	*RDB(V)*
Althaea officinalis	*S*	*Cicuta virosa*	*S*	*Alopecurus bulbosus*	*S*
Carex appropinquata	*S*	*Pyrola rotundifolia*	*S*	*Stratiotes aloides*	*S*
Carex divisa	*S*	*Potamogeton coloratus*	*S*	*Persicaria laxiflora*	*S*
Dactylorhiza traunsteineri	*S*	*Luronium natans*	*S*	*Dryopteris cristata*	*RDB(V)*
Puccinellia rupestris	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*	*Ruppia cirrhosa*	*S*
Potamogeton acutifolius	*RDB(R)*	*Pilularia globulifera*	*S*	*Liparis loeselii*	*RDB(E)*
Thelypteris palustris	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*	*Sonchus palustris*	*S*
Peucedanum palustre	*S*	*Potamogeton compressus*	*S*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) breeding warblers (especially Cetti's), breeding and wintering wildfowl associated with wet grassland and swamp habitats
2) natterjacks associated with temporary pools
3) wet woodland, fen, swamp invertebrates, including Desmoulin's snail
4) bryophytes of fen habitats

KEY ISSUES: enrichment, inappropriate wet woodland management, water level control, flood defence, recreation, grazing, abstraction, restore aquatic plant communities in dykes, phosphate removal, saline intrusion, reduce wildfowling, need for site restoration, habitat creation, angling, improve reedbed management, sewage, turf stripping

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 19 (66%) Water levels 27 (93%) Recreation 26 (90%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly the internationally important mosaic of wetland communities.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to pollution, drainage and abstraction issues and restoration of Broadland habitats.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with the fen, aquatic and wet grassland communities.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly coastal and flood defence.

NATURAL AREA: **32 Suffolk Coasts and Heaths**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **HGH**

DESCRIPTION:
The wetland habitats of this Natural Area are principally associated with the rich coastline, where grazing marsh, large reedbed systems and lagoons are all present.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	15/45 (33.3%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	6 (13.3%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), fen (1), grazing marsh (3), swamp (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	12 mesotrophic, 4 eutrophic, 4 brackish

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M22, M25, M27, S26); wet grassland (M23, MG12), swamp (S4, S21); grazing marsh ditches - aquatic (A21); brackish lagoon (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 522 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Benacre to Easton Bavents, Minsmere and Walberswick, North Warren & Thorpeness Mere, RAM 2, SPA 3, NCR 1, SAC 2

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Peucedanum officinale	S	*Sonchus palustris*	S
Myriophyllum verticillatum	S	*Thelypteris palustris*	S
Ruppia cirrhosa	S	*Persicaria laxiflora*	S
Althaea officinalis	S	*Potamogeton compressus*	S
Crassula tillaea	S	*Potamogeton trichoides*	S
Fritillaria meleagris	S	*Carex divisa*	S
Carex elongata	S	*Puccinellia rupestris*	S
Dactylorhiza traunsteineri	S		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) breeding and wintering waders and wildfowl associated with open water and wet grassland
2) invertebrate assemblages of dyke systems
3) birds and invertebrates associated with reedbed and other wetland habitats

KEY ISSUES: application of ESA, water abstraction, water level control, grazing and mowing regime, wildfowling, coastal defence, reedbed creation, dyke management, lack of knowledge of dyke invertebrate distribution

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 6 (40%) Water levels 6 (40%) Recreation 9 (60%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly coastal wetlands.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with coastal wetlands.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly coastal defence.

NATURAL AREA: **33 East Anglian Plain**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
The character of the East Anglian Plain stems from the calcareous clay soils deposited in glacial times over the chalk bedrock. Glacial and pre-glacial sands and gravels occur in places. It is an ancient landscape changed considerably by modern agriculture. The wetland habitats include valley fens, river valleys, ponds and reserviors.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	53/140 (37.9%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	23 (16.4%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (2), open water - gravel pit (1), fen (15), wet woodland (6), sewage lagoon (1), marsh (1), swamp (1), river (2), grazing marsh (1), wet grassland (1), flood meadow (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 dystrophic, 16 oligotrophic, 39 mesotrophic, 18 eutrophic, 1 hypertrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M13, M22, M24,M25, M27, S24, S25, S26, S28); swamp (S2, S4); wet grassland (MG4, MG6, MG7, MG8, MG9); rivers (river types 1, 2, 3, 4); wet woodland (W2, W5, W6); open water - ponds, reservoirs (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 2,692 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Rye Meads, Redgrave and Lopham Fens, Badley Moor, Coston Fen, Swangey Fen, Flordon Common, Potter and Scarning Fens, Blo'Norton/Thelnetham Fen
RAM 2, SPA 1, NCR 1, SAC 6

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Crassula tillaea	*S*	*Cuscuta europaea*	*S*	*Pyrola rotundifolia*	*S*
Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*	*Dactylorhiza traunsteineri*	*S*	*Alopecurus bulbosus*	*S*
Chamaemelum nobile	*S*	*Peucedanum palustre*	*S*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Fritillaria meleagris	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*
Oenanthe silaifolia	*S*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*	*Stratiotes aloides*	*S*
Althaea officinalis	*S*	*Callitriche truncata*	*S*	*Cicuta virosa*	*S*
Calamagrostis stricta	*RDB(R)*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*	Potamogeton compressus	S
Carex appropinquata	*S*	*Dryopteris cristata*	*RDB(V)*	*Potamogeton coloratus*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrate assemblages associated with the fen communities
2) breeding waders, bats and otter associated with river valleys
3) wintering waders associated with wet grassland

KEY ISSUES: inappropriate fen management, grazing, scrub encroachment, water abstraction, river engineering, need for turf stripping, enrichment, diffuse slurries, low flows in rivers, drainage, agricultural improvement, poor farm pond management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 16 (30%) Water levels 26 (49%) Recreation 20 (38%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly the internationally important valley fen sites.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly related to water abstraction and agricultural pollution.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with the valley fens.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly relating to water abstraction.

NATURAL AREA: **34 Chilterns**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **LOW**

DESCRIPTION:
The chalk escarpment of the Chilterns is a dominant landscape feature, dissected by a number of small stream valleys. Wetland interest is limited to the chalk streams.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	14/82 (17.1%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	4 (4.9%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - reservoir (2), fen (1), marsh (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 1 mesotrophic, 9 eutrophic, 1 unknown, 2 marl

KEY WETLAND TYPES: chalk streams (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 339km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Fritillaria meleagris	*S*	*Nymphoides peltata*	*S*
Cuscuta europaea	*S*	*Pilularia globulifera*	*S*
Sium latifolium	*S*	*Persicaria laxiflora*	*S*
Limosella aquatica	*S*	*Damasonium alisma*	*RDB(E)*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS: 1) invertebrate assemblages, trout and Atlantic stream crayfish associated with chalk streams

KEY ISSUES: loss of ponds, abstraction, water quality, pollution, agricultural improvement, recreation, fisheries, stream engineering

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3(4%) Water levels 5(6%) Recreation 5(6%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **35 Oxford Clay Vales**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
The Oxford Clay Vales comprise a low-lying river valley landscape of flood plains, small fields, with numerous hedges. Most of the Natural Area is within the Thames catchment, with the north-eastern area in the Great Ouse catchment and the south-western area in the Bristol Avon catchment. In places, gravel pits are increasingly common. The Natural Area is divided for much of its length by a ridge of Coralian limestone. To the north of the ridge lies the Thames Valley overlying Oxford clay, which is covered by extensive gravel deposits. To the south the deposits are Kimmeridge and Gault clay with some limestone outcrops.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	33/78 (42.3%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	17 (21.8%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), open water - gravel pit (2), wet woodland (3), flood meadow (7), ditch (1), wet grassland (2), river (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	4 oligotrophic, 28 mesotrophic, 3 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (MG4, MG13); open water - gravel pit (no data); fen (M22); river systems and ditches (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 1,527 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Cotswold Water Park, Pixley and Yarton Meads, Clattinger Farm NCR 3, SAC 2

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Carex vulpina	*RDB(R)*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*	*Equisetum variegatum*	*S*
Apium repens	*RDB(E)*	*Potamogeton nodosus*	*RDB(R)*	*Nymphoides peltata*	*S*
Carex filiformis	*RDB(R)*	*Cuscuta europaea*	*S*	*Potamogeton compressus*	*S*
Fritillaria meleagris	*S*	*Limosella aquatica*	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*
Leucojum aestivum	*RDB(R)*	*Dactylorhiza traunsteineri*	*S*	*Oenanthe silaifolia*	*S*
Lythrum hyssopifolia	*RDB(V)*	*Persicaria laxiflora*	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*
Viola persicifolia	*RDB(E)*				

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS: 1) aquatic invertebrates and breeding waterbirds associated with open water
2) breeding birds and Atlantic stream crayfish associated with river systems

KEY ISSUES: decline of hay making, horsiculture, development, enrichment, mineral extraction, water quality, agricultural improvement, recreation, angling, succession, water levels in rivers, abstraction, river management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 12 (36%) Water levels 10 (30%) Recreation 21 (64%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly the flood-plain grasslands and their transitions.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to river pollution and the hydrological effects of gravel extraction.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly relating to the restoration of mineral workings.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with the flood-plain grasslands.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly

NATURAL AREA: **36 Oxford Heights**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The Oxford Heights is a narrow, coralian limestone ridge that bissects the Oxford Clay Vale. The ridge was heavily eroded during the Ice Age and is associated with bands of greensand and Kimmeridge clay where it merges with the Vale. Spring-lines and flushes are common at the junction with the Vale, in places forming extensive calcareous fens. The size and position of this Natural Area means that agriculture and development prove a serious threat to the nature conservation interest.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	9/22 (40.9%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	2 (9.1%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	fen (1), wet woodland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	7 oligotrophic, 2 mesotrophic, 1 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen (M13, M24, S26); wet woodland (W5)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 165km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Cothill Fen
NCR 1, SAC 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Dactylorhiza traunsteineri	*S*
Potamogeton coloratus	*S*
Persicaria laxiflora	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS: 1) invertebrate assemblages of calcareous fens

KEY ISSUES: succession, lack of management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3 (33%) Water levels 5 (56%) Recreation 8 (89%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **37 Wessex Downs**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The Wessex Downs is a chalk escarpment, dissected by the river valleys of the Upper Kemet and the Lambourn, supporting important flood meadow communities.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	10/36 (27.8%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	6 (16.7%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	mire (1), fen (1), flood meadow (1), river (2) grazing marsh (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	2 oligotrophic, 8 mesotrophic, 2 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: river (river type 3); flood meadow (MG8); wet woodland (W7)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 233 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: River Avon, River Kennet
SAC 2

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Leucojum aestivum	*RDB(R)*
Sium latifolium	*S*
Potamogeton trichoides	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) Atlantic stream crayfish and fish assemblage associated with river valleys
2) invertebrate assemblages of river valleys and associated habitats
3) breeding wafers associated with wet grassland

KEY ISSUES: water quality, abstraction, fish farming, agricultural improvement, signal crayfish, navigation, inappropriate management, recreation, tree planting, water level control, gravel extraction, reedbed management, sewage, development, roads, low river flows, waste disposal, flood alleviation

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3 (30%) Water levels 7 (70%) Recreation 9 (90%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly river valleys and associated habitats.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to water abstraction.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with coastal wetlands and river systems.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning, particularly flood defence.

NATURAL AREA: **38 London Basin**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **OUTSTANDING**

DESCRIPTION:
The London Basin is a large syncline comprising mostly of sand and clay sediments. The Natural Area is dominated by London, with a network of surrounding commuter towns, farmland and recreational land. The wetland interest largely consists of mature and newly-created open water sites and river valley grasslands.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	94/140 (67.1%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	37 (26.4%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (2), open water - pools (3), gravel pits (4), wet grassland (5), fen (3), canal (2), reservoirs (5), mire (3), wet woodland (8), river (2), wet heath (1), flood meadow (4), swamp (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 dystrophic, 26 oligotrophic, 50 mesotrophic, 29 eutrophic, 9 unknown, 3 hypertrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (MG4, MG7,MG11, M23); fen (S28, M13, M22, M25); river (no data); swamp (S5, S6, S9); open water - aquatic (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 3,220 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Sandhurst to Owlsmoor Bogs, Walthamstow Reservoirs, Basingstoke Canal SPA 2, NCR 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*	*Cuscuta europaea*	*S*	*Carex elongata*	*S*
Lycopodiella inundata	*S*	*Dactylorhiza traunsteineri*	*S*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Carex divisa	*S*	*Damasonium alisma*	*RDB(E)*	*Oenanthe silaifolia*	*S*
Persicaria laxiflora	*S*	*Elatine hexandra*	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*
Potamogeton nodosus	*RDB(R)*	*Limosella aquatica*	*S*	*Fritillaria meleagris*	*S*
Sonchus palustris	*S*	*Mentha pulegium*	*RDB(R)*	*Nymphoides peltata*	*S*
Crassula tillaea	*S*	*Pilularia globulifera*	*S*	*Chamaemelum nobile*	*S*
Illecebrum verticillatum	*S*	*Ranunculus tripartitus*	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*
Viola lactea	*S*	*Bupleurum falcatum*	*RDB(E)*	*Callitriche truncata*	*S*
Carex filiformis	*RDB(R)*	*Cyperus fuscus*	*RDB(E)*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*
Dryopteris cristata	*RDB(V)*	*Leersia oryzoides*	*RDB(V)*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) wet grassland and riparian invertebrate assemblages
2) breeding waders associated with wet grassland
3) breeding and wintering wildfowl associated with open water habitats

KEY ISSUES: scrub encroachment, neglect, development, habitat restoration, water level control, abstraction, recreational use of gravel pits and reservoirs, agricultural improvement, industrial pollution, urban and sewage pollution, wet grassland survey, inappropriate management, flood control, river engineering, need for better water body zoning, algal blooms

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 56 (60%) Water levels 55 (59%) Recreation 48 (51%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly open water sites and river valley grasslands.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to pollution and water level issues.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats, particularly relating to artificial water bodies.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with aquatic and wet grassland communities.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **40 North Kent Plain**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The North Kent Plain is a generally low-lying area. The Blean woodland complex lies to the west on heavy clay soils. To the east, the North Kent agricultural plain is intensively farmed. The Isle of Thanet is a chalk outlier to the north. The wetland interest is principally concentrated in the river valleys of the Stour and Wantsum which dissect these three areas.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	4/11 (36.4%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	3 (27.3%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	gravel pit (1), fen (1), wet woodland (2)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 3 mesotrophic, 2 eutrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (MG6, MG7); dune slack (SD14); swamp (S4, S6); open water - pond (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 124 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Stodmarsh
RAM 1, SPA 1, NCR 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Potamogeton coloratus	*S*	*Wolffia arrhiza*	*S*
Myriophyllum verticillatum	*S*	*Carex divisa*	*S*
Potamogeton acutifolius	*RDB(R)*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Juncus acutus	*S*	*Ruppia cirrhosa*	*S*
Althaea officinalis	*S*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*
Thelypteris palustris	*S*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) breeding and wintering waders and wildfowl associated with wet grassland
2) invertebrate assemblages of wet grassland, reedbed and aquatic habitats
3) breeding reedbed birds

KEY ISSUES: subsidence, agricultural improvement, turf removal, water level control, ditch management, saline intrusion, reedbed management, scrub encroachment, fragmentation, habitat creation

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3 (75%) Water levels 3 (75%) Recreation 4 (100%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **41 North Downs**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The North Downs comprises a chalk outcrop, which supports an outstanding variety of wildlife associated with the calcareous soils. The wetland interest is largely found in the river valleys of the Wey, Mole, Darent, Medway and Great Stour.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	4/51 (7.8%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	1 (2.0%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	fen (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	4 mesotrophic

KEY WETLAND TYPES: fen/mire (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 181 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Chamaemelum nobile	S	*Carex divisa*	S
Althaea officinalis	S	*Pyrola rotundifolia*	S
Sonchus palustris	S	*Potamogeton trichoides*	S
Persicaria laxiflora	S	*Callitriche truncata*	S
Pilularia globulifera	S		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:

KEY ISSUES: grazing, water abstraction, scrub invasion, drainage, development

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 0 Water levels 1 (25%) Recreation 0

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **42 Romney Marsh**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **HIGH**

DESCRIPTION:
Romney Marsh is an area of low-lying land formed behind a shingle barrier beach. Much of the area is arable, with fragments of grazing marsh and two areas of sand dune.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	9/13 (69.2%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	5 (38.5%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - gravel pit (1), grazing marsh (3), wet woodland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 1 mesotrophic, 8 eutrophic, 4 brackish

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (no data); swamp (S4); ditches, canals and ponds (no data); wet woodland (W1); open water - gravel pits (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 193 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Walland Marsh, Rye Harbour, Pett Level
RAM 1, SPA 3, NCR 1, SAC 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Carex divisa	*S*	*Ruppia cirrhosa*	*S*
Myriophyllum verticillatum	*S*	*Puccinellia rupestris*	*S*
Potamogeton acutifolius	*RDB(R)*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*
Potamogeton trichoides	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*
Althaea officinalis	*S*	*Wolffia arrhiza*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) breeding and wintering wildfowl and waders associated with coastal wetland
2) breeding reedbed birds
3) aquatic and fen invertebrates

KEY ISSUES: grazing marsh creation, agricultural improvement, drainage, grazing, road construction, water abstraction, lack of management, recreation, coastal protection, gravel extraction

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 3 (33%) Water levels 4 (44%) Recreation 4 (44%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly coastal grassland.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition, particularly relating to water abstraction.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with coastal wetlands.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **43 Low Weald**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
This Natural Area largely coincides with the area of Weald clay which surrounds the older rocks of the High Weald. It is mainly low-lying and gently undulating with wet, heavy clay soils, but with some beds of limestone and sandstone. It includes major stretches of the rivers Wey, Mole, Adur, Ouse, Eden, Medway, Teiver and Beult. There are rare examples of damp neutral grassland and small farm ponds are fairly numerous on the clay.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	14/49 (28.6%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	7 (14.3%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), open water - reservoirs (1), fen (1), grazing marsh (1), river (2), pond (1), wet grassland (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	1 oligotrophic, 5 mesotrophic, 9 eutrophic, 1 unknown

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W6, W8, W10); wet grassland (MG5, MG6, MG10b, M23a); rivers and streams (no data); fen (M22a, M24a, c)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 1,335 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: -

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Cardamine bulbifera	*S*	*Carex divisa*	*S*
Potamogeton acutifolius	*RDB(R)*	*Alopecurus bulbosus*	*S*
Chamaemelum nobile	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*
Oenanthe silaifolia	*S*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*
Althaea officinalis	*S*	*Ranunculus tripartitus*	*S*
Carex elongata	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*
Carex vulpina	*RDB(R)*	*Potamogeton trichoides*	*S*
Puccinellia rupestris	*S*	*Wolffia arrhiza*	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) invertebrates of wet woodland and aquatic habitats
2) great crested newt and invertebrates associated with ponds
3) breeding and wintering birds associated with wet grassland

KEY ISSUES: woodland management, recreation, grazing, fragmentation, threat of reservoir construction, pollution, abstraction, sewage, agricultural improvement, loss of wet grassland, loss of ponds, drainage, eutrophication, water level control, ditch maintenance, road construction, river engineering, hay meadow management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 2 (14%) Water levels 0 Recreation 4 (29%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **44 High Weald**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **HIGH**

DESCRIPTION:
The High Weald lies at the core of the Wealden anticline and is geologically complex. This is made up largely of sandstones and clays, which forms a landscape of high wooded ridges and steep valleys. The rivers Medway, Ouse and Rother have cut steep-sided valleys which are wet and clayey. Open water habitats include ponds originating from the iron industry, ornamental lakes and reservoirs.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	27/49 (55.1%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	6 (12.2%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	open water - natural (1), open water - pools (1), open water - reservoir (1), fen (1), gill valley (1), grazing marsh (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	4 oligotrophic, 14 mesotrophic, 15 eutrophic, 2 marl

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet woodland (W5a, b, W6a, W7a, b, c); wet heath (M16); fen (M24, M25); open water - aquatic (no data)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 1,249 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Pevensey Levels
NCR 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Gentiana pneumonanthe	*S*	*Peucedanum palustre*	*S*	*Carex divisa*	*S*
Lycopodiella inundata	*S*	*Sium latifolium*	*S*	*Myriophyllum verticillatum*	*S*
Cardamine bulbifera	*S*	*Thelypteris palustris*	*S*	*Pilularia globulifera*	*S*
Cicendia filiformis	*S*	*Elatine hexandra*	*S*		
Viola lactea	*S*	*Mentha pulegium*	*RDB(R)*		
Chamaemelum nobile	*S*	*Lobelia urens*	*RDB(V)*		
Carex elongata	*S*	*Potamogeton acutifolius*	*RDB(R)*		

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) bryophytes and lichens associated with wet woodland
2) aquatic invertebrates, particularly Odonata
3) amphibian community associated with ponds

KEY ISSUES: inappropriate woodland management, recreation, water pollution, low flows, grazing, succession, fragmentation, agricultural improvement, neglect of ponds, pond creation/management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 1 (4%) Water levels 1 (4%) Recreation 4 (15%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.

NATURAL AREA: **45 South Downs**	WETLAND SIGNIFICANCE: **MEDIUM**

DESCRIPTION:
The South Downs is a narrow, chalk escarpment dissected by the rivers Arun, Adur, Ouse and Cuchmere. The wetland interest is principally concentrated in the flood plain wetlands of the river valleys.

WETLAND SSSI COVERAGE:

SSSIs CONTAINING WETLAND HABITATS	7/26 (26.9%)
SSSIs DOMINATED BY A WETLAND HABITAT	3 (11.5%)
SSSI WETLAND DOMINANTS	grazing marsh (2), river (1), swamp (1)
SSSI NUTRIENT STATUS	3 mesotrophic, 4 eutrophic, 1 brackish, 1 marl

KEY WETLAND TYPES: wet grassland (MG6, MG10); river (river types 1, 2, 3, 4)

LENGTH OF RIVERS: 91 km

KEY WETLAND SITES: Seaford to Beachy Head
NCR 1

NATIONALLY RARE AND SCARCE WETLAND PLANT SPECIES:

Althaea officinalis	*S*
Ruppia cirrhosa	*S*

ASSOCIATED INTERESTS:
1) riparian invertebrate assemblages
2) breeding and wintering wildfowl and waders associated with wet grassland
3) otter associated with river systems

KEY ISSUES: agricultural improvement, drainage, ESA implementation, riparian habitat management

WETLAND SSSI ISSUES: Pollution 1 (14%) Water levels 1 (14%) Recreation 1 (14%)

KEY OBJECTIVES:
1) Maintain and enhance the current extent, diversity and condition of the wetland habitats through appropriate monitoring and subsequent management, particularly flood-plain grasslands.
2) Meet all the requirements of international treaties relating to wetland conservation, namely the Ramsar convention, Birds Directive and Habitats and Species Directive.
3) Restore and enhance the hydrology, water quality and management of wetland sites that are currently in sub-optimum condition.
4) Seek opportunities for habitat creation of wetland habitats.
5) Maintain and enhance important populations of wetland plants and animals and carry out appropriate monitoring to determine their status, particularly species associated with flood-plain grasslands.
6) Liase with the Environment Agency and other government bodies over policy issues and planning.