



a better place for all

River Nene Waterway Plan



We are the Environment Agency. It's our job to look after your environment and make it a better place – for you, and for future generations.

Your environment is the air you breathe, the water you drink and the ground you walk on. Working with business, Government and society as a whole, we are making your environment cleaner and healthier.

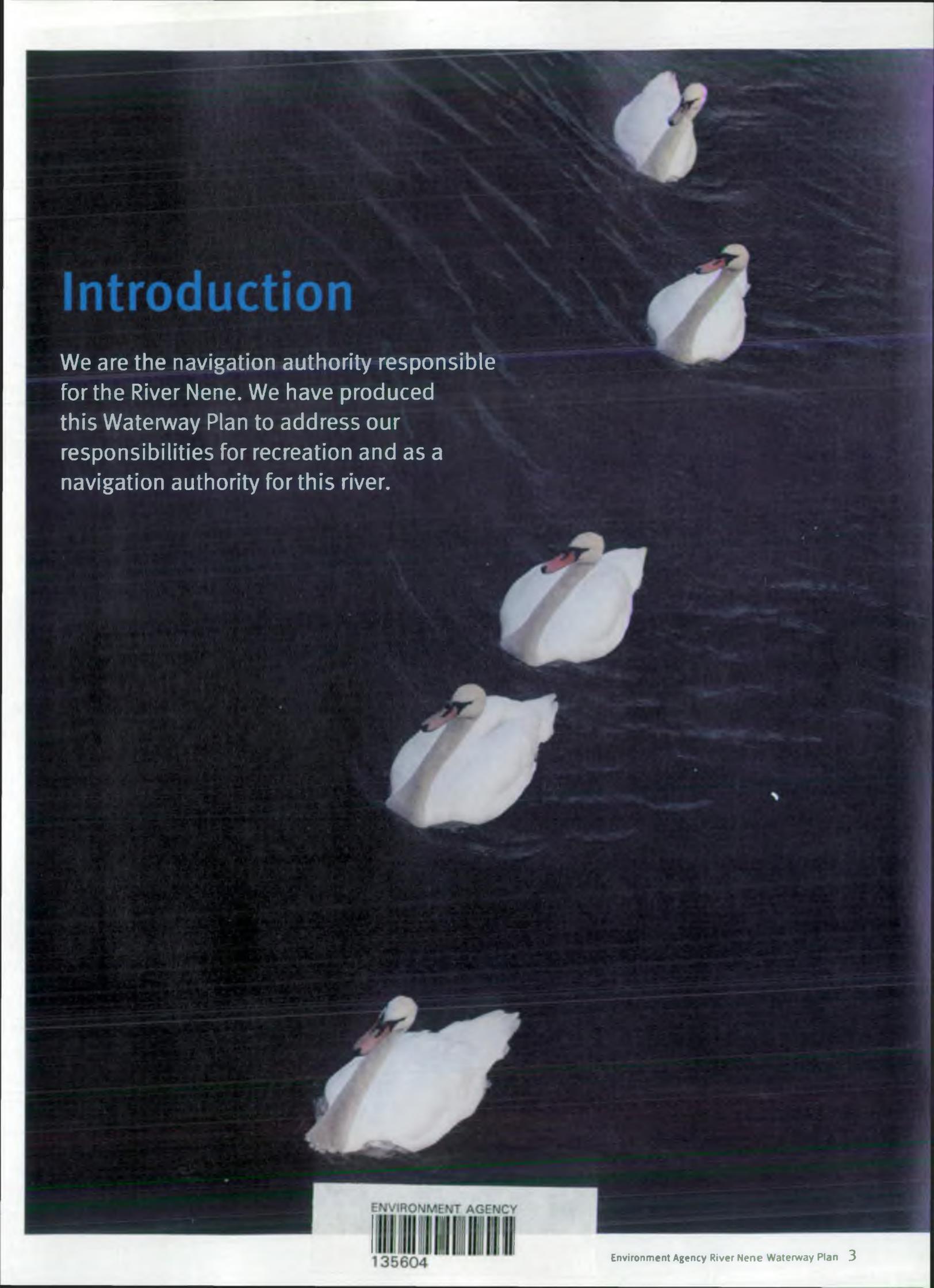
The Environment Agency. Out there, making your environment a better place.

Published by:

Environment Agency
Kingfisher House
Orton Goldhay, Goldhay Way
Peterborough PE2 5ZR
Tel: 08708 506506
Email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

© Environment Agency

All rights reserved. This document may be reproduced with prior permission of the Environment Agency.



Introduction

We are the navigation authority responsible for the River Nene. We have produced this Waterway Plan to address our responsibilities for recreation and as a navigation authority for this river.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



135604

Introduction



Our vision is that through our philosophy *Your Rivers for Life*, we will maintain, improve and develop our river navigation so that we offer all of our users safe facilities comparable with the best in Europe. We will do this in a sustainable manner.

We will ensure that our river navigations are managed in a way that maintains an equitable balance between the various uses, and recognises the full range of benefits the river can deliver for boaters and other recreation activities such as walking and fishing, and for the wildlife that depends on the natural riverine environment.



This plan is linked to the Quality of Life theme as set out in our Corporate Strategy 2006 – 2011. By taking this theme into account we will help local authorities and others to improve local environments, particularly in disadvantaged areas. We will also play our part to encourage more people from more diverse backgrounds to enjoy and care about their water environment, for example providing opportunities for them to enjoy our rivers. These goals can only be achieved through action-orientated partnerships.

We are a member of the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities and we endorse its strategy for waterways, *Steering a Fresh Course*. Government has also set out its requirements from navigation authorities in the policy document *Waterways for Tomorrow (Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, July 2000)*. Together these documents set a clear framework for which we are required to:

- Increase the economic and social benefits offered by waterways, maximising regeneration.
- Encourage people to make use of the inland waterways for leisure and recreation, tourism and sport.

- Protect historic buildings and areas.
- Maintain and enhance biodiversity and landscape value.
- Encourage freight and passenger transport by boat.

How we will achieve this is set out in our waterway strategy *Your Rivers for Life – a strategy for the development of navigable rivers 2004-2007* and our Corporate Strategy 2006-2011. The River Nene Waterway Plan translates these documents into significant action for the river.

We have developed this plan with advice from many key groups who have an interest in the river. We are very grateful for this support and are well aware that achieving many of the plan's aims will only be possible through the actions of our partners. We hope they will adopt the River Nene Waterway Plan and will modify their own plans and policy documents to reflect it. In particular, we wish our partners to recognise the role the waterways play in delivering regeneration to our rural economies.



Context

The river

The River Nene, or Nen upstream of Thrapston, is one of the most natural river valleys of any navigable river in England and Wales, offering the unspoilt beauty of the waterway and the wider countryside. The public right of navigation – a common law right of access for boating – was established before King John put his seal to the Magna Carta. The Environment Agency is the present day guardian of this right.

The Nene becomes navigable at Northampton and Environment Agency controlled navigation extends to Bevis Hall, just upstream of Wisbech. There are 38 locks that maintain water levels for navigation and discharge floodwater in times of high flow. For this reason the design of the locks differs from those on other inland navigations. Nearly all the Nene locks have upstream pointing doors and downstream guillotine gates. In times of flood, at certain locks, the pointing doors are chained back and the bottom guillotine gate controls the flow of the water. This unique design is an important heritage feature of the River Nene.

The River Nene Waterway Plan is written primarily to meet the needs of boat users; however, the needs of the diverse local population and the use they make of this river are also an integral part of this plan.

Map number 1 provides an overview of the River Nene navigation.

Sustainability

The Waterway Plan aims to be a model for sustainable development of the river. Sustainable development is all about ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations to come. By 'quality of life' we mean 'everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy a high quality environment that is clean, green and healthy, for now and for future generations. More people will care for, use, appreciate and enjoy their environment'.



Open space and access

Recognising the value of open space and access is vital to the success of the plan. There is also increasing recognition of the contribution that open space can make to people's health and well-being. Government's planning guidance defines green space as "all open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can also act as a visual amenity."

Leisure and tourism activities have significant implications for the environment, economy and social fabric of the River Nene corridor. This is especially apparent within major settlements along the River Nene itself such as Northampton, Wellingborough, Oundle, Peterborough and Wisbech. It is a tourism and leisure

resource that supports a wide range of activities and facilities, including camp sites and caravan parks, powered and non-powered boating for sport and recreation, walking, observing wildlife, cycling and angling. However, these varied uses put pressure on the river and its surroundings. We need to plan and manage the use of this unique resource in sustainable ways so that future generations can enjoy it.

The River Nene can play a significant part in meeting many aspirations that form part of Sport England's vision to drive up participation in active recreation by at least 1% year on year. The river also provides a natural resource to increase participation and to encourage informal active recreation. By working in partnership we will be able to support other organisations to meet their own targets.

Context



“Properly targeted, improvements to our waterways can make a contribution to improving the quality of life for those living in our more deprived communities along our waterways”

Environmental inequality

We know that people from deprived neighbourhoods are more likely to suffer poor health, worse air quality, more environmental crime and degraded public spaces.

Tackling issues of environmental inequality and social exclusion is complex and requires action by many different parties. However, properly targeted, improvements to our waterways can make a contribution to improving the quality of life for those living in our more deprived communities along our waterways.

The social benefits that can be gained from waterway regeneration are concisely summarised in the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities (AINA) publication *The Inland Waterways: Towards Greater Social Inclusion*. Undertaking actions outlined in this plan will contribute towards realising ours and AINA's vision to reducing inequality in deprived communities.

Biodiversity

In terms of biodiversity, the River Nene is one of the most natural river valleys of any navigable river in England and Wales, offering the unspoilt beauty of the waterway and the wider countryside.

The river and its immediate corridor include a diverse range of habitats including meadows, wetlands and reed beds that contain rare and protected species. These include sites designated for international and national importance, as well as areas afforded a regional or local status. The presence of locks and weirs protect some important sites that are water flow and/or level dependent. The richest areas are often the shallow margins where plants like reed are established, and provide habitats for invertebrates, fish and birds. The river is also a vital corridor for wildlife, linking fragmented habitats. There are many sites of wildlife interest to visit along the river, including the Nene Washes and the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The interests of biodiversity and opportunities to enhance habitat for wildlife will form an integral part of our projects as we move forwards to carry out this plan.

Global warming

Global warming is likely to have an increasing effect upon climate. The severity will depend on the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere from now on, and how the climate system response. However, we are likely to experience:

- more frequent and dangerous extreme weather events
- heavier winter rainfall
- warmer summers

Warmer, drier and sunnier summers could benefit domestic summer tourism. But they could also result in low river flows hampering recreation and damaging wetlands and aquatic habitats. A reduction in dilution of effluents could cause poor water quality and increases the likelihood of harmful algal blooms. Heavier rainfall would increase the risk of flooding and make dangerous strong stream conditions more frequent.



Implementing the plan

Maintain

The revenue and capital programmes are focussed on maintaining and improving existing navigation assets. There are some 38 locks and four Environment Agency visitor moorings, along with other assets on the River Nene navigation. Maintaining these assets to a safe and easily usable standard will remain the highest priority for investment in navigation during the life of this plan (2006/07 to 2010/11).

The precise level of investment in maintaining the existing infrastructure will, in part, be dependent on the prioritisation of available funding. Our assets are classified as being in either a 'good', 'fair' or 'poor' condition. Our immediate goal is to target our investment to improve the condition of all assets that are currently classified as being in a 'poor' condition to 'fair' or 'good'. The current range of asset condition on the River Nene navigation is – 'good' 2%, 'fair' 55% and 'poor' 44%.

We will adopt a risk based approach to achieve this target and by a structured programme of investment based on asset condition, level of use, cost of repair and smart methods of procurement, we will ensure optimal value for money is achieved.

Improve

It is recognised that in some aspects, the River Nene navigation does not reach the standard expected of a 21st Century navigation in terms of facility provision, including short-stay moorings, pump-outs, chemical toilet disposal, rubbish disposal and water points. To address these deficiencies we have adopted the Waterway Standards of the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities (AINA), and have bench marked our current provision against the AINA standards to identify the gaps.

Our aspiration is to meet with the AINA standards during the life of this plan. However, at the present time this aspiration is not fully funded and we will seek to work



with partners to bridge the current funding shortfall. Key partners are likely to be local authorities that are adjacent to the river and riverside businesses with an interest in enhancing their business opportunities.

From discussions with boat users it is clear that increasing the number of visitor moorings is the highest priority. During the life of this plan we will work with partners to fulfil this aspiration.

Map numbers 02 to 07 provide a reach-by-reach indication of the investment proposals for the whole navigation.

Develop

A key element in the Government strategy *Waterways for Tomorrow*, is the contribution the development of the waterway network can make to urban and rural regeneration. In encouraging a modern, integrated and sustainable approach to their use, we wish to maximise the opportunities the waterways offer for leisure and recreation; as a catalyst for rural regeneration; for education; and for freight transport.

“We wish to maximise the opportunities the waterways offer for leisure and recreation; as a catalyst for rural regeneration; for education; and for freight transport”

Implementing the Plan

These development initiatives include proposals to increase access to, and use of our waterways. This will include initiatives to address our aims in relation to social inclusion and healthy outdoor recreation.

All the development initiatives are classified as non-statutory improvements and these aims will be achieved in partnership with others. There is a small budget available for these initiatives, but current funding is insufficient to deliver all of our goals. Future partnership work will therefore be focussed on developing projects and associated funding, designed to provide the multiple aims of different funding partners.

The River Nene catchment affords many opportunities for regeneration and improved public access to our waterways. These opportunities fall broadly into one of two categories, either major regeneration projects such as the Fens Waterways Link, or smaller scale enhancement or extension to existing recreational use of our waterways.

“The River Nene catchment affords many opportunities for regeneration and improved public access to our waterways”

The Fens Waterways Link (FWL) is an ambitious, Environment Agency led, region wide project that will link the Rivers Witham, Welland and Glen, Nene and Great Ouse. A pre-feasibility study and implementation plan have been completed, which indicate that the project is both technically feasible, economically viable and offers opportunities for significant environmental benefit.

For the River Nene navigation, work will focus on improvements to the link between the River Nene and River Great Ouse, and the new connection between the River Welland and River Nene.

Other FWL related works will overlap with the Waterway Standards work outlined in Section 3.2. In determining the level of facility provision on the River Nene, we will take into account of the potential future requirements of the FWL.

The River Nene Regional Park (RNRP) helps to provide green infrastructure along the River Nene, mainly in Northamptonshire. The RNRP is committed to the creation of high quality public open spaces that will enhance the quality of life for people who live and work within the park area.

The RNRP ensures that there is a strategic and joined up approach among partner organisations involved in delivering Green Infrastructure. Partners include Regional Government, Local Authorities, Government Agencies and the voluntary sector.

Since its creation in 2004, the RNRP has provided £4,200,000 of green infrastructure projects and has secured a further £4,500,000 for the development and provision of future projects.

An example project is that at Stanwick Lakes, encouraging access to the countryside by combining opportunities for walking, cycling and watersports, alongside conservation of the sites wildlife.

Each year many aspirational projects are brought to our attention. Our level of support for such projects will depend on the relative costs and benefits of the project and on available resources. During the first year of this plan we will develop a framework within which we will assess all such aspirational projects against the key priority of this plan. All projects in which we become involved will be plotted on the waterway development reach maps, **map numbers 08 to 13**. These maps will be updated on a regular basis and will be available on our website, which is www.environment-agency.gov.uk. We believe that this will provide a valuable update for partners and public alike, on the progress we are making in achieving our targets.

The type of projects included on the aspirational maps cover any aspect of water based recreation and navigation. The following section of this report *Sport and Recreation* identifies examples of these projects and outlines our priorities for them over the next five years.





Sport and recreation

Rowing

Rowing is a significant recreational and sporting activity in the lower reaches of the River Nene catchment, especially in the Peterborough area.

There is an active rowing club at Peterborough with a purpose-built lake offering first class facilities and Oundle Public School has a regular presence rowing on the river, adding a diverse recreational use to the middle reaches of the river.

Although we wish to encourage rowing on the Nene, the majority of the river is not wide enough to enable powered and unpowered boats to pass each other safely. However, on the reaches of the river we control and where the rowing takes place we will work with clubs and colleges in support of competitive and recreational rowing. We will also seek to minimise potential conflict between rowers and other users of the river.

Canoeing

The River Nene offers relaxing canoeing in a pleasant rural environment. The river is enjoyed by many clubs along its length, including Proteus Canoe Club and Peterborough Area Canoeist and Kayakers Club (PACKERS). The Frontier Centre at Irthlingborough and Grendon Hall School at Earls Barton offer active canoeing and the river is very popular with Duke of Edinburgh Award participants.

The Nene Whitewater Centre, at Northampton, offers a more adventurous experience for canoeing, kayaking and white-water rafting, in contrast to the relaxing surroundings of the River Nene.

The British Canoe Union (BCU) has an individual membership of over 25,000, 469 affiliated clubs and 145 approved centres. The BCU pays us a fee that allows each of its members to register a canoe. This is recouped from the year membership fees.

As part of our plan to improve and develop facilities on the river we have developed a programme of works to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the



system. We are also keen to explore opportunities for greater canoe access on the system. At the present time much of this work is un-funded and we will seek to work in partnership with others to turn these aspirations into reality.

Sailing

Sailing is a popular pastime in the River Nene Valley, largely on enclosed or off-river lakes as the main navigation is not ideal for sailing. The Middle Nene Sailing Club, at Thrapston Lake, is home to some 200 dinghies, where both recreational and competitive sailing regularly takes place.

“As part of our plan to improve and develop facilities on the river we have developed a programme of works to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the system”

Sport and Recreation

“The development of the existing network provides an important opportunity to encourage people to enjoy the delights of our waterways”

Angling

There are some 120,000 licensed anglers in the Anglian Region, many of who fish the River Nene. Encouraging more people into fishing brings significant economic and social benefits. Angling can contribute to social inclusion, promote environmental awareness and deliver sustained reductions in crime and anti social behaviour among young people. A national *Get Hooked on Fishing* scheme, supported by the police, specifically targets young people at risk of offending and has achieved:

- zero offending
- 80% reduction in truancy
- increased literacy and general education performance

Angling is also one of the most popular sports for people with disabilities.

We will work with our internal colleagues to fulfil the aspiration of the Environment Agency strategy for angling *Angling 2015*.

Walking, cycling and horse riding

There is an extensive network of rights of way associated with the river, most notably the Nene Valley Way.

The development of the existing network provides an important opportunity to encourage people to enjoy the delights of our waterways, thereby contributing to our agenda to provide an improved quality of life by encouraging informal outdoor recreation.

We will seek to work with partners to increase the limited budget for this work.

Heritage

The River Nene provides a richly textured heritage landscape, with a significant concentration of historic buildings, parks and scheduled ancient monuments. The diversity and wealth of these heritage sites are key to the unique landscape character of the river.

There is archaeological evidence that the valley has been occupied since Iron Age and Roman times and signs of ridge and furrow are still evident today and can be seen from the river.

The Rockingham Forest, extending along a long length of the River Nene, was created as a royal hunting ground for William the Conqueror and extended by Charles I. There are still several hunting lodges that exist today.

400 years ago Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned and executed at Fotheringhay Castle. The site is both accessible and can be seen from the river today.

Many locations alongside the River Nene provide places of enjoyment for local people and visitors.

Promoting the enjoyment of these areas and sites will form a key component of encouraging greater access to the river. Working with others, we will seek to enhance the leisure and tourism potential of the area.





Visitor risk management

Visitor safety is paramount to us. We want visitors to the river to return home happy and satisfied with their experiences.

We have a legal and moral obligation to consider visitor safety, and protect them from unnecessary or unreasonable risk. Successful risk management demands a partnership between the manager of the waterway, the visitor and other groups (such as governing bodies of sport), recognising that each carries a share of the responsibility for safety, dependent on the type of activity and location.

Different types of river use have widely differing expectations: from white water canoeists seeking adventure, difficulty and challenge, to parents looking for a place for their children to picnic and play without coming to harm. In guarding against these risks, we must take care to avoid implementing safety measures that conflict significantly with our access, recreation, landscape, heritage and environmental responsibilities. Nor should we take away people's sense of adventure and freedom.

“Visitor safety is paramount to us. We want visitors to the river to return home happy and satisfied with their experiences”



Targets, monitoring and review

It is important to be able to judge over time how successful we are in meeting the plan's core aims to:

- improve and promote access and information for all users (on water and land);
- improve and maintain the river infrastructure and facilities and services for all users;
- contribute to enhanced biodiversity, heritage and landscape value in the waterway corridor;
- increase use of the river and its corridor.

We will judge our success in the following ways:

- the numbers and mix of people using the river;
- user satisfaction;
- achieving waterway standards;
- enhanced biodiversity, heritage and landscape value.

We will need to set up robust baseline data and measure changes. For boating, the number of craft registered provides a reliable measure. However, we will need to find ways to measure levels of participation in sport and recreation (for example the number of oarsmen, canoeists, walkers, anglers and cyclists).

It would also be very valuable to set up a programme of research that measures user satisfaction and identifies the extent to which use is socially inclusive.



Our key indicators of success in maintaining the river's infrastructure and facilities will be the reduction of maintenance arrears and progress in meeting the waterways standards. Advice is particularly sought on ways to measure enhanced biodiversity, heritage and landscape value in the waterway corridor. This could include areas of new riverside habitat created, and lengths of natural riverbank retained.

The following table, contains a summary of actions that we will be undertaking over the foreseeable future. Our next financial spending review with government is in 2008 and we will use this process as an opportunity to review this plan and to measure its effectiveness to deliver our actions. We will continue with the revised plan from 2008 and beyond.

“We will need to establish robust baseline data and measure changes”

Outcome	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011
Map areas of social need in relation to their proximity to navigable waterways and use this information to prioritise access projects in and around urban areas	<p>Within Waterway Plans, identify and map areas of social need</p> <p>Overlay this information with Environment Agency landholdings to prioritise access projects</p>	Provide a programme of targeted access improvements in urban and urban fringe areas	Provide a programme of targeted access improvements in urban and urban fringe areas	Provide a programme of targeted access improvements in urban and urban fringe areas	Provide a programme of targeted access improvements in urban and urban fringe areas
<p>Health and Well-being</p> <p>Working with Sport England, we will continue to promote healthy lifestyles in the countryside</p>	In conjunction with our Sports England partners and our National Office, we will actively support and conduct research into the health benefits for all; identifying the benefits and how they can be achieved	In conjunction with our Sports England partners and our National Office, we will actively support and conduct research into the health benefits for all; identifying the benefits and how they can be achieved	In conjunction with our Sports England partners and our National Office, we will actively support and conduct research into the health benefits for all; identifying the benefits and how they can be achieved	In conjunction with our Sports England partners and our National Office, we will actively support and conduct research into the health benefits for all; identifying the benefits and how they can be achieved	In conjunction with our Sports England partners and our National Office, we will actively support and conduct research into the health benefits for all; identifying the benefits and how they can be achieved
Improved information so that people with disabilities are able to make an informed decision about suitability of access		Undertake a disability audit for all relevant Environment Agency sites with public access	Carry out findings from disability audit	Carry out findings from disability audit	Carry out findings from disability audit

Outcome	2006/07	2007/08
Enhance biodiversity on our waterway	<p>Look for opportunities for wildlife enhancements in the work we are doing for both capital and revenue works</p> <p>Develop recreation honey pot sites away from conservation sensitive areas</p>	<p>Look for opportunities for wildlife enhancements in the work we are doing for both capital and revenue works</p> <p>Develop recreation honey pot sites away from conservation sensitive areas</p>
<p>Heritage</p> <p>Where appropriate, improve awareness of heritage sites along our waterways</p>	<p>Ensure heritage features are included in River Guides, relevant websites, and interpretation boards and any other literature developed with partners</p> <p>Manage Environment Agency land, buildings and structures of heritage interest, such as locks and bridges, in harmony with their setting, design, materials and construction methods</p>	<p>Ensure heritage features are included in River Guides, relevant websites, and interpretation boards and any other literature developed with partners</p> <p>Manage Environment Agency land, buildings and structures of heritage interest, such as locks and bridges, in harmony with their setting, design, materials and construction methods</p> <p>Develop heritage trails with partners</p>

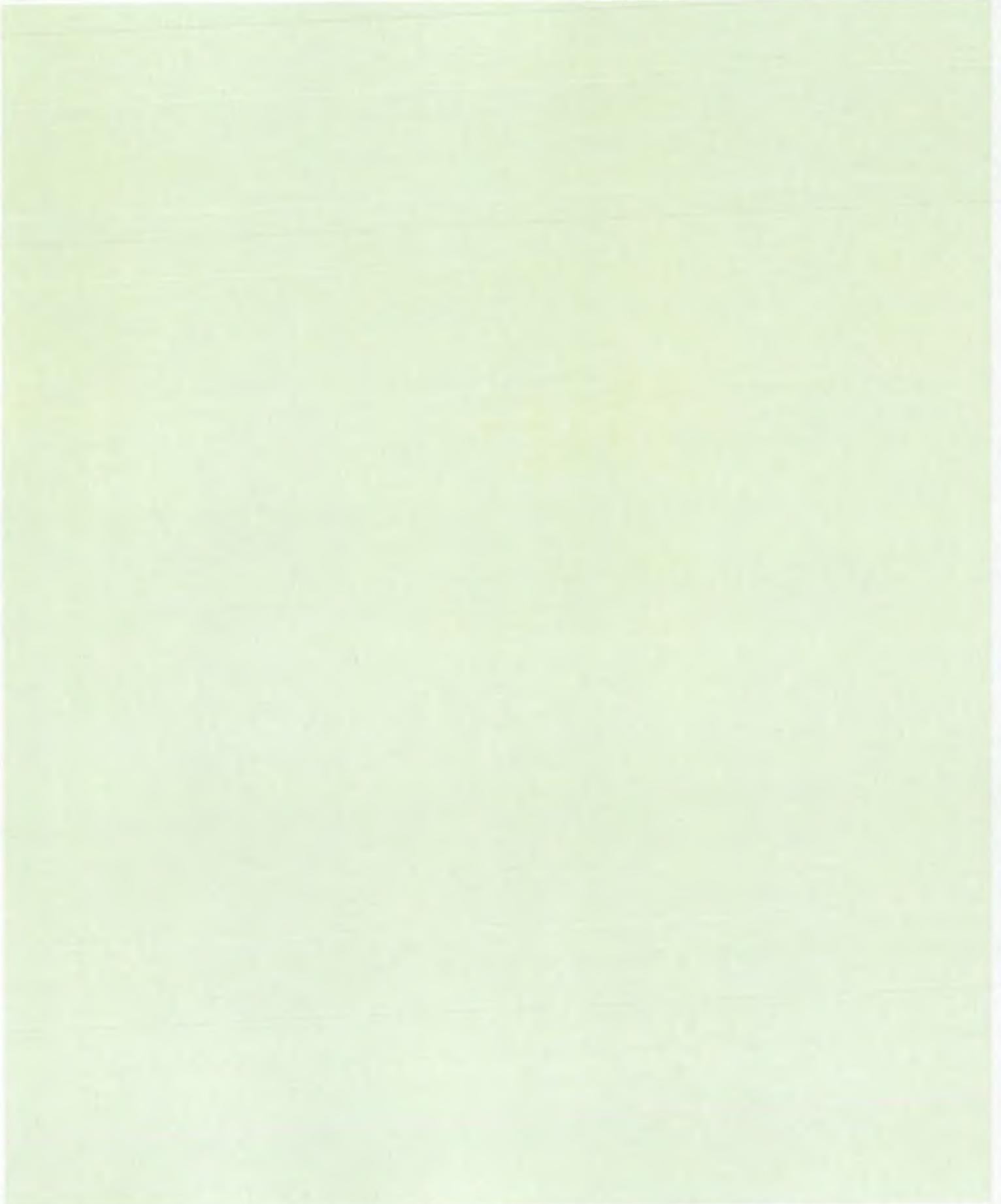
2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011
<p>Look for opportunities for wildlife enhancements in the work we are doing for both capital and revenue works</p>	<p>Look for opportunities for wildlife enhancements in the work we are doing for both capital and revenue works</p>	<p>Look for opportunities for wildlife enhancements in the work we are doing for both capital and revenue works</p>
<p>Develop recreation honey pot sites away from conservation sensitive areas</p>	<p>Develop recreation honey pot sites away from conservation sensitive areas</p>	<p>Develop recreation honey pot sites away from conservation sensitive areas</p>
<p>Ensure heritage features are included in River Guides, relevant websites, and interpretation boards and any other literature developed with partners</p>	<p>Ensure heritage features are included in River Guides, relevant websites, and interpretation boards and any other literature developed with partners</p>	<p>Ensure heritage features are included in River Guides, relevant websites, and interpretation boards and any other literature developed with partners</p>
<p>Manage Environment Agency land, buildings and structures of heritage interest, such as locks and bridges, in harmony with their setting, design, materials and construction methods</p>	<p>Manage Environment Agency land, buildings and structures of heritage interest, such as locks and bridges, in harmony with their setting, design, materials and construction methods</p>	<p>Manage Environment Agency land, buildings and structures of heritage interest, such as locks and bridges, in harmony with their setting, design, materials and construction methods</p>
<p>Develop heritage trails with partners</p>	<p>Develop heritage trails with partners</p>	<p>Develop heritage trails with partners</p>

Outcome	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011
Ensure that management and improvements to the navigation take account of any impact of climate change	For high flows, ensure we provide strong stream advice to our users	For high flows, ensure we provide strong stream advice to our users	For high flows, ensure we provide strong stream advice to our users	For high flows, ensure we provide strong stream advice to our users	For high flows, ensure we provide strong stream advice to our users
	For low flows, ensure locks are maintained as efficient structures to reduce leakage	For low flows, ensure locks are maintained as efficient structures to reduce leakage	For low flows, ensure locks are maintained as efficient structures to reduce leakage	For low flows, ensure locks are maintained as efficient structures to reduce leakage	For low flows, ensure locks are maintained as efficient structures to reduce leakage
Increase the percentage number of assets categorised as being in fair or good condition from 56% to 95%	Increase the number of waterways assets in a good or fair condition from 56% to 64%	Increase the number of waterways assets in a good or fair condition from 64% to 72%	Increase the number of waterways assets in a good or fair condition from 72% to 80%	Increase the number of waterways assets in a good or fair condition from 80% to 88%	Increase the number of waterways assets in a good or fair condition from 88% to 95%
Operation Public Safety (OPuS)	Provide an ongoing programme of inspections and carry out remedial work arising from inspections	Provide an ongoing programme of inspections and carry out remedial work arising from inspections	Provide an ongoing programme of inspections and carry out remedial work arising from inspections	Provide an ongoing programme of inspections and carry out remedial work arising from inspections	Provide an ongoing programme of inspections and carry out remedial work arising from inspections
Improve provision of facilities and services on the navigation	Develop improvement plans with partners	Update improvement plans with partners	Update improvement plans with partners	Update improvement plans with partners	Update improvement plans with partners
	Seek funding opportunities, external to the Environment Agency, to support and deliver facilities and services on the navigation, in particular through the River Nene Regional Park	Continue to seek funding opportunities, external to the Environment Agency, to support and deliver facilities and services on the navigation, in particular through the River Nene Regional Park	Continue to seek funding opportunities, external to the Environment Agency, to support and deliver facilities and services on the navigation, in particular through the River Nene Regional Park	Continue to seek funding opportunities, external to the Environment Agency, to support and deliver facilities and services on the navigation, in particular through the River Nene Regional Park	Continue to seek funding opportunities, external to the Environment Agency, to support and deliver facilities and services on the navigation, in particular through the River Nene Regional Park

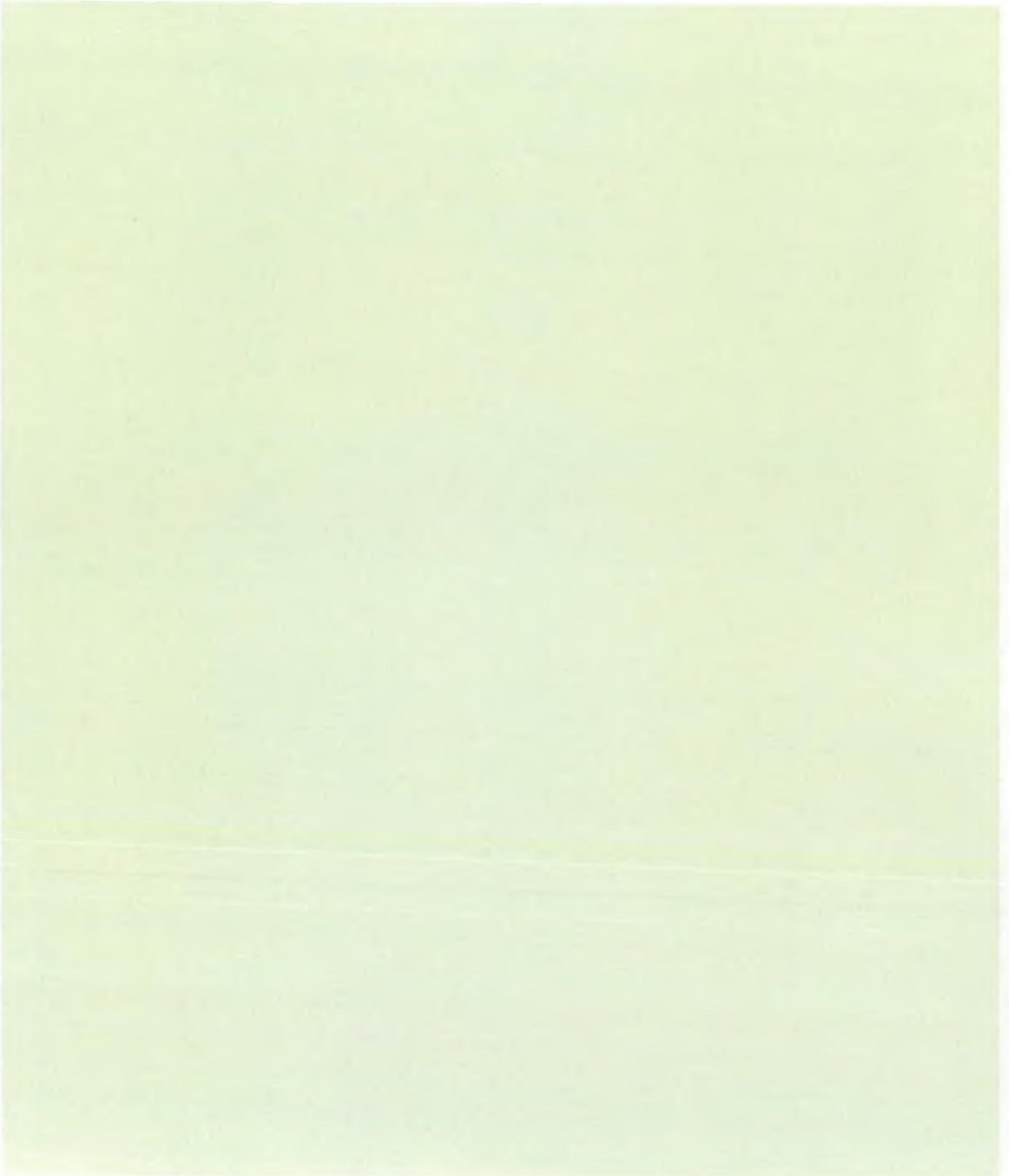
Outcome	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011
Improvements to canoe access	Seek funding opportunities, with partners, to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the river	Seek funding opportunities, with partners, to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the river	Seek funding opportunities, with partners, to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the river	Seek funding opportunities, with partners, to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the river	Seek funding opportunities, with partners, to construct canoe portage facilities at all locks on the river
Increase public access to Environment Agency sites, including those we lease as fisheries, by 7%	Increase public access to Environment Agency sites by 1.4%	Increase public access to Environment Agency sites by 1.4%	Increase public access to Environment Agency sites by 1.4%	Increase public access to Environment Agency sites by 1.4%	Increase public access to Environment Agency sites by 1.4%
Aspirational Projects Each year, many ideas for improving the navigation and recreational activities are brought to our attention. Support for these projects depends on the relative costs, benefits and available resources	Develop a framework within which to assess all aspirational projects against the key priorities of the River Nene Waterway Plan	Plot agreed projects on the Waterway Development Map and publish on our website	Plot agreed projects on the Waterway Development Map and publish on our website	Plot agreed projects on the Waterway Development Map and publish on our website	Plot agreed projects on the Waterway Development Map and publish on our website
Progress strategic development of the waterway	Seek opportunities to improve and develop the Fens Waterways Link between the River Welland, River Nene and River Great Ouse	Seek opportunities to improve and develop the Fens Waterways Link between the River Welland, River Nene and River Great Ouse	Seek opportunities to improve and develop the Fens Waterways Link between the River Welland, River Nene and River Great Ouse	Seek opportunities to improve and develop the Fens Waterways Link between the River Welland, River Nene and River Great Ouse	Seek opportunities to improve and develop the Fens Waterways Link between the River Welland, River Nene and River Great Ouse

Outcome	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011
With others, promote sport and recreation, both on and by the water, to increase awareness and use of our waterways for recreational use	Seek positive media coverage to raise the profile of opportunities on the river and promotional campaigns in national and regional press	Seek positive media coverage to raise the profile of opportunities on the river and promotional campaigns in national and regional press	Seek positive media coverage to raise the profile of opportunities on the river and promotional campaigns in national and regional press	Seek positive media coverage to raise the profile of opportunities on the river and promotional campaigns in national and regional press	Seek positive media coverage to raise the profile of opportunities on the river and promotional campaigns in national and regional press
	Support and/or attend national, regional and local shows, events or exhibitions to promote our waterways	Support and/or attend national, regional and local shows, events or exhibitions to promote our waterways	Support and/or attend national, regional and local shows, events or exhibitions to promote our waterways	Support and/or attend national, regional and local shows, events or exhibitions to promote our waterways	Support and/or attend national, regional and local shows, events or exhibitions to promote our waterways
	Promote navigation and recreation activities, on and by the river, particularly in urban areas	Promote navigation and recreation activities, on and by the river, particularly in urban areas	Promote navigation and recreation activities, on and by the river, particularly in urban areas	Promote navigation and recreation activities, on and by the river, particularly in urban areas	Promote navigation and recreation activities, on and by the river, particularly in urban areas
	Produce and promote visitor guides to our waterways	Produce and promote visitor guides to our waterways	Produce and promote visitor guides to our waterways	Produce and promote visitor guides to our waterways	Produce and promote visitor guides to our waterways
	Provide accurate and up to date information about sport and recreation opportunities on the river	Provide accurate and up to date information about sport and recreation opportunities on the river	Provide accurate and up to date information about sport and recreation opportunities on the river	Provide accurate and up to date information about sport and recreation opportunities on the river	Provide accurate and up to date information about sport and recreation opportunities on the river
	Improve signage and visitor information at key locations	Improve signage and visitor information at key locations	Improve signage and visitor information at key locations	Improve signage and visitor information at key locations	Improve signage and visitor information at key locations

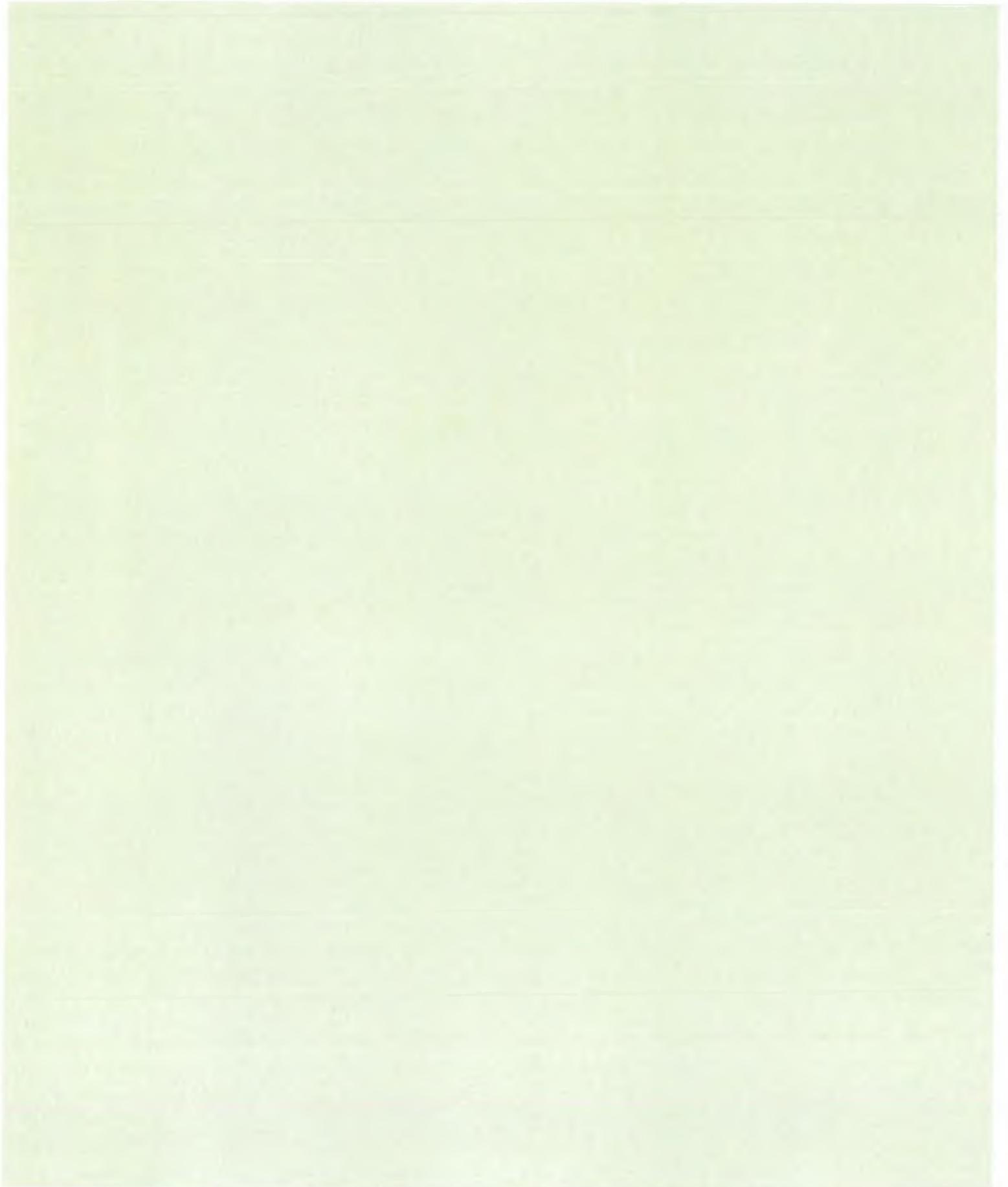
Notes



Notes



Notes



**Would you like to find out more about us,
or about your environment?**

Then call us on

08708 506 506 (Mon-Fri 8-6)

email

enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

or visit our website

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 (24hrs)

floodline 0845 988 1188



Environment first: This publication is printed on paper made from 100 per cent previously used waste. By-products from making the pulp and paper are used for composting and fertiliser, for making cement and for generating energy.