



**THE RIVER CAM
CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

January 1995



ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

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**National Rivers Authority
Anglian Region**

The River Cam Catchment Management Plan

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Summary

An inherent part of Catchment Management Planning is that each plan is monitored and reported on annually.

This report summarises the progress achieved during the year since the Action Plan was published in April 1993, and should be read in conjunction with that plan.

The format is tabular annotated with comments to indicate progress against the identified actions.

Notable achievements are:

- The River Mel has improved to a class 1B and the Bourn brook and part of the Cam to a Class 2.
- The study on the Sawston groundwater contamination has been completed and a scheme of remedial works agreed with Eastern Counties Leather
- In-stream habitat improvements have been carried out on the Cam and the Bourne Brook
- The low flow support scheme for the Lodes became operational in October 1993



ISSUE	ACTION	93/ 94	94/ 95	95/ 96	96/ 97	97/ 98	FUTURE	RESPONSIB' Y	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
R Mel - 2km Class 2, improve to Class 1B	Improve Melbourn STW							Anglian Water Services Ltd		NRA monitoring showed that Melbourn STW complied with the River Needs Consent in 1993
Bourn Brook - 7.4km Class 2/3, improve to Class 1B/2	Improve Bourn STW							Anglian Water Services Ltd		NRA monitoring showed that Bourn STW complied with the River Needs Consent in 1993
R Cam - 4.2km Class 3, improve to Class 2	Improve Cambridge STW							Anglian Water Services Ltd		NRA monitoring showed some improvement in the performance of Cambridge STW - the works still fail to comply with the River Needs Consent
R Cam - 2.7km Class 2, improve to Class 1B	Improve Riverside pumping station (already started)							Anglian Water Services Ltd		R Cam 1993 quality Class 2 - Riverside Pumping Station improvements nearing completion
Whaddon Brook - 2.5km Class 3, improve to Class 1B	Improve Royston STW Improve Eternit trade effluent and surface water quality							Anglian Water Services Ltd Eternit		Whaddon Brook 1993 quality Class 3 - No change re Royston STW. Following negotiations by NRA new treatment works at Eternit are currently being installed. Effluent has been variable recently due to these works but better quality should be seen in the near future

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
Risk of groundwater contamination as a result of rapid development	Groundwater Protection Policy	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA		Ongoing pollution prevention site inspections within catchment - 60 sites visited
Four Cambridge Water Company boreholes could exceed nitrate levels for drinking water	Derive protection zones Reduce fertilizer usage Blend/treat to meet standards							NRA MAFF, Farmers Cambridge Water Company	Not known	MAFF have proposed and are consulting nationally on designation of nitrate vulnerable zones. NRA have derived Protection Zones. MAFF have proposed inclusion of these as part of the national consultation on designation of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones
Cambridge Water Company borehole at Sawston fails EC Directive in respect of pesticides	Install activated carbon treatment		*	*				Cambridge Water Company	250	CWC still considering option of installing activated carbon treatment
Groundwater at Sawston contaminated with chlorinated solvent	Assess options for clean-up Carry out best option							Eastern Counties Leathers or NRA	£1m + over 10 years	NRA study complete. Remediation involving pump and treat scheme agreed with Eastern Counties Leather

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	91/92	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
Degraded in- stream habitat in rural non- navigable rivers	Improve habitat by enhancing riffles, placing current deflectors etc.	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	40.5	River Cam. Riffle recharge work carried out at Hinxtton - Duxford section. Riffle recharge and current deflector constructed on Chesterford area. £3.5k Fisheries capital and Flood Defence maintenance enhancement
Degraded in- stream habitat in navigable rivers	Review weed cutting to maximise environmental value of aquatic plants. Ongoing	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	22	Ongoing - monitoring and advising on Flood Defence maintenance works

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
Sections of the embankments along the Lower Cam are in poor condition and require improvement	Improvement work to be carried out as part of the Ely Ouse Flood Defence Scheme	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	3,700	Strategy study now indicates that Cam banks are of low priority need and therefore works unlikely for some years
Health and Safety facilities are currently lacking at Bottisham and Swaffham Lode Pumping Station	Provide improved access, security and safety facilities to meet current health and safety standards	*	*					NRA	50	Ongoing
Public pedestrian access along many stretches of riverbank is limited	Cambridgeshire Lodes Walk Scheme will increase access to this area		*	*	*	*	*	NRA/County Council	30	Feasibility study relating to NRA land starting in 1994/95
Increased runoff due to rapid development creating further impermeable surfaces	Improvements at Byrons Pool sluice and weir to deal with increased runoff						*	NRA	95	On target
	Improvements between Shelford and Littlebury on the Upper Cam to meet future demand						*	NRA	300-400	
	Automation of Sluices at Bishops Mill		*					NRA		
New flood warning sites required to improve catchment coverage	Provide new flood warning sites on the Cam tributaries		*	*				NRA	30	Feasibility of site for Bourn Brook underway
Need to investigate current standards of flood defence protection in the catchment	Study to be carried out by Consultants to determine current levels of service. (Cam Catchment will form part of overall study)	*	*					NRA	40	Standards of Service Study underway : report due December 1994

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
The water resources are fully developed so embargo in force on future development from groundwater	Regional Water Resource Strategy - examine implications for this catchment	*	*	*				NRA		On target to issue the Regional Water Resource Strategy in Summer 1994
	Develop water resources methodology / modelling work etc	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	5	
	Import water into area									
	Construct winter storage reservoirs	*	*	*	*	*	*	Cambridge Water Co Farmers Cambridge Water Co		
The existing River Support Scheme for the Lodes needs to be completed	Completion of works for the Lodes Scheme	*						NRA	75	The Lodes Granta Scheme construction has been completed and scheme operational from October 1993
	Develop operating rules			*	*					The control rules for operating the scheme now need to be developed
The need for the Cam River Support Scheme to be examined and completed	Completion of works for the Cam scheme, subject to an environmental impact assessment			*	*	*	*	NRA	640	Scheme has been delayed. The priority of the work has been reassessed in comparison with other Water Resource issues in the Region
The operation of the Rhee River Support Scheme needs to be reviewed	Review of operation of Rhee scheme, including effects on the environment			*				NRA		Work rescheduled to enable more data to be collected
Review of Hydrometric Monitoring installations needed	Review of Hydrometric Network and update network as necessary	*	*					NRA		Work on target

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
Short stay moorings are lacking	Purchase of land and construction of short stay (24hr) moorings at Burwell Lode				*			NRA	15	
Permanent moorings at Upware in need of repair	Repairs and improvements to existing moorings and replacement of existing piles		*	*				NRA	28	Brought forward in programme using additional grant in aid allocation. Materials purchased and work in progress. Scheduled for completion early in 1994/5.
Lack of pumpout facilities at marinas	Contribution to pumpout facilities at marinas	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA/Marinas		None installed in 1993/4. Progress dependent on marina collaboration. Ongoing.

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (3k)	COMMENTS
Grassland habitat	Investigate potential for greater use of floodplain for flood storage and conservation in rural areas by use of schemes such as countryside stewardship and long term set-a-side	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	25	1. Analysis of Rivers Environmental Database and collaborative project being progressed with County Wildlife Trust 2. Bourn Brook - Riffle weir and backchannel creation to enhance instream habitat and create wet meadow. Conservation capital and countryside stewardship
Wetland Conservation sites at risk	Carry out hydrological and hydrogeological study to assess wetland site catchments	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	50	Research is underway In the Rhee this will be undertaken in conjunction with a review of the operation of the scheme. For Lodes-Granta review after 5 years operation Priority list established by NRA in consultation with English Nature of most "at risk" site in Anglian Region. Assessment methodology to be tested in 1994
	Review effectiveness of groundwater support	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA		
Erosion of Washland within Cam Washes SSSI (as part of the Ely Ouse Strategy)	Evaluate the use of soft option solution to washland erosion	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA	200	Ongoing as part of Ely Ouse Flood Defence Scheme
<u>In River Needs</u> (are not quantified scientifically)	National R+D Methodology Study Apply methodology to this catchment			*	*				250	No progress on the River Cam system to date. Methodology being developed elsewhere in the Region. Will be applied to River Cam when complete

* Action to be carried out

ISSUE	ACTION	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	FUTURE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST (£k)	COMMENTS
NRA Anglian Region Model Policies	Endeavour to persuade planning authorities to adopt the policies in their structure and local plans	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA/Planning Authorities	0	Ongoing - reasonable success
DoE Circular 30/92	To raise the awareness of Planning Authorities to the Circular and its importance in formulating structure and local plans and in the determination of planning applications	*	*	*	*	*	*	NRA/Planning Authorities	0	Ongoing

* Action to be carried out