

Whittlesey Washes

July 2013

South Barrier Bank works

What are we doing and where?

We are strengthening the South Barrier Bank to maintain its structural stability. The work involves reshaping the slope and placing extra material at the base of the bank

The entire project will take place over four years and it has been split into phases. Year 1 works are scheduled to take place between Ring's End (Guyhirn) and Poplar House Farm (Goosetree) in 2013 and 2014, and between Poplar House Farm and Eldernell (Coates) in 2014.

Progress

We started building the access road improvements, from the lay-by near Goosetree Farm, on 11 June 2013. We will be preparing the site throughout July. We will start the main works at the end of the month.

The majority of the work will take place in the summer and early autumn to avoid disturbing overwintering birds on the Nene Washes.



Access track under construction at Goosetree, A605.

Year One works programme

- Access road construction: June 2013
- Footpath diversion: from July 2013
- Phase one construction works: July 2013 - autumn 2014

Traffic management and access

To minimise disruption and reduce traffic through Whittlesey, Eastrea and Coates we will bring material to site via the Goosetree Farm access (track 2 in drawing overleaf) using the A47, A141 and A605.

We will try to keep traffic disruption to a minimum but you may notice more lorries than usual along these routes. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Footpath diversion

The public footpath - Nene Way - has been diverted to the bottom of the bank on the northern side of the bank, which is clearly marked out by fencing. Please take care when walking along the diversion. Please keep dogs on a lead for your pet's safety and for the safety of construction site staff.

Unfortunately we will need to close the car park at Ring's End until December. We are looking into alternative parking arrangements.

Landowners and tenants will still be able to gain access over the bank into the Washes. Please contact Monica Stonham (contact details overleaf) about access.

Thank you

We would like to extend our gratitude to the communities of Ring's End and Guyhirn, and any properties disrupted by construction works, for working with us to ensure the project gets off to a good start.

Working in partnership

The project is being carried out by the Environment Agency with support from our partners: North Level District Internal Drainage Board, Whittlesey Consortium of Internal Drainage Boards, Middle Level Commissioners, Fenland District Council, Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Natural England and the RSPB.

Questionnaires

Thank you for your response to the questionnaire we sent to residents and businesses in May. Here are a few of the most frequently asked questions.

- Q1 Will construction traffic be using Eldernell Lane?**
A1 The main construction traffic will use alternative dedicated access tracks. There may be an occasional small vehicle associated with the project passing along Eldernell Lane.
- Q2 Why will it take four years to complete?**
A2 We will be working between spring and late autumn each year. This is to avoid disturbing birds using the Washes.
- Q3 Will you be raising the South Barrier Bank?**
A3 We will be filling in some localised low spots along the top of the bank. We will not be increasing the overall height of the bank.
- Q4 Will you be increasing the water volume into the reservoir?**
A4 We are making the bank safer should the reservoir fill, but we will not be changing the amount of water stored.

How can you find out more?

We are planning a public drop-in session for 24 September 2013 at Guyhirn Village Hall. We will give further details nearer the date.

Our Public Liaison Officer

Our Public Liaison Officer, Monica, is available to help deal with any questions or problems which you may have regarding our work. Monica will also be available to get involved in working with the community via schools and local organisations. If you have any questions or comments or would like to know more about the works, please contact Monica.

Name: Monica Stonham

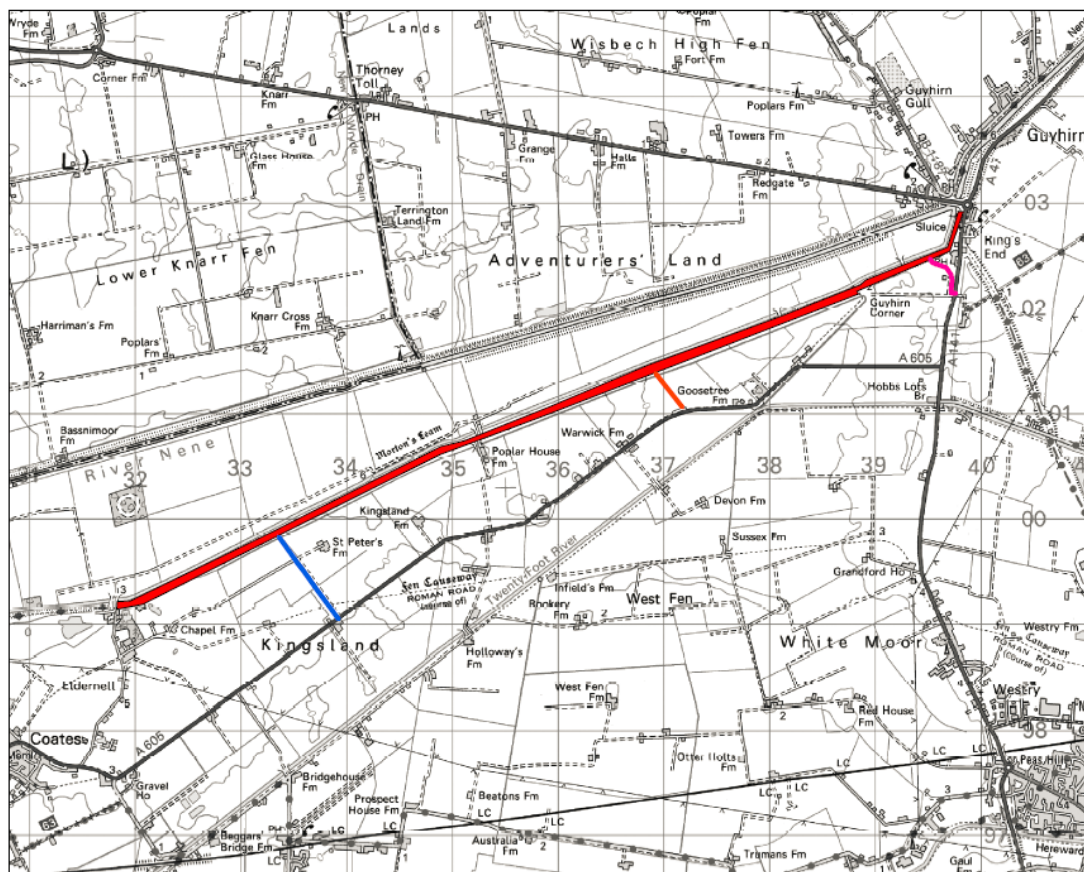
Telephone: 07951 081482

Email: WhittleseyWashesProjectEA@gmail.com

Site address: Site Office
 Poplar Farm
 Wisbech Road
 Coates
 PE7 2DU



Map showing where we will be working during Year One and the access routes we will use.



Whittlesey Washes South Barrier Bank Works

Legend

- Access Tracks**
- Track 1
 - Track 2
 - Track 3
- Works Area**
- █ Year One

0 0.5 1 1.5
 Kilometers

© Crown copyright and database rights 2013
 Ordnance Survey 100024198
 © Environment Agency copyright and/or database rights 2013. All rights reserved.

customer service line
 03708 506 506

incident hotline
 0800 80 70 60

floodline
 0845 988 1188

www.environment-agency.gov.uk