

# Ouse Washes

June 2017

## Middle Level & South Level Barrier Bank works

### Background

The Environment Agency is responsible for maintaining the safety of the Ouse Washes Flood Storage Reservoir and its structures. The Middle Level Barrier Bank (MLBB) is the dam of the reservoir extending from Earith to Welmore Lake Sluice. Works are required under Section 10 of the Reservoirs Act 1975 to maintain the safety of the dam.



### What are we doing and where?

We are importing clay material from local quarries to raise the crest level of the MLBB between Welmore Lake Sluice and Earith.

We are also raising a low section of the South Level Barrier Bank (SLBB) between Sutton Gault and Chain Corner.

### Footpath diversions

We will be working on the bank crest and using the haul road to deliver material to the bank. We will need to divert the public footpath that runs along the top of the bank to keep footpath users safe. The diversion will be clearly signposted.

A temporary permissive route along the haul road of the MLBB will be made available for use during the winter months.

Landowners and tenants will still be able to gain access over the bank. If you need access during the works, please contact Monica Stonham (contact details below).

### When will works start?

Due to the many environmental interests on the reservoir the work will be carried out during the summer months (July to October) to avoid disturbing the over-wintering and ground nesting birds.

Construction work will start in July 2017 and will take three years to complete. There will be a further two years of maintenance to ensure that the new grass cover has established properly. This is important to maintain protection of the bank.

### How to find out more

We will be hosting two public drop in events:

#### 28 June 2017

William Marshall Centre  
Hurn Drove, Welney, PE14 9SD

#### 6 July 2017

The Mepal Village Hall  
School Lane, Mepal, CB6 2AJ

Drop in any time between 4.00pm and 8.00pm

This event is open to everyone, so please come along and find out more about the project.

### Working in partnership

The project is being carried out by our Contractor JacksonHyder on behalf of the Environment Agency with support from our partners: Wildlife & Wetlands Trust, Wildlife Trust and the RSPB.

We are also supported by our stakeholders: Natural England, Middle Level Commissioners, Fenland District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Norfolk County Council and The Borough Council of West Norfolk & Kings Lynn.

### Our Public Liaison Officer

If you have any questions or comments about the project, please contact our Public Liaison Officer, Monica Stonham using the details below. The project team also welcomes the opportunity to work with the local communities and schools. Again, please contact Monica for more information.

Telephone: 07577 470803

Email: [OusewashesProjectEA@gmail.com](mailto:OusewashesProjectEA@gmail.com)

## Works programme



2017 Season	2018 Season	2019 Season	2020 Season	2021 Season	Contract completion
Year 1 earthworks	Grass establishment and footpath diversion		General Maintenance		
	Year 2 earthworks	Grass establishment and footpath diversion	Maintenance		
		Year 3 earthworks	Grass establishment and footpath diversion		