

River maintenance and flood prevention - April 2024 to March 2025

River Yare (Middle) - Spring 2024

What We Do

The Environment Agency inspect and maintain rivers and flood defences. We target this work to reduce the risk of flooding to people and property.

Landowners are responsible for maintaining rivers. You can find more information on rights and responsibilities by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>

Our maintenance work keeps rivers and flood defences working together to prevent flooding. Regular maintenance helps our flood defences last longer, which saves money.

You will see us clearing blockages in rivers, cutting vegetation on flood embankments, and keeping our structures tidy and in good working order.

You can find out what maintenance we are doing and when we plan to do it by visiting:

<https://environment.data.gov.uk/asset-management/index.html>

Maintenance In Your Area

You can see on the map where we are working on the rivers near you. We have planned the following maintenance:

Targeted Channel Maintenance

We prevent blockages and flooding by removing carefully selected branches, reed, and debris.

We remove as little as possible whilst making sure we are still preventing flooding.

Fish and eels use branches and roots in the water for habitat and breeding. Trees also provide shade that keeps water temperatures steady and prevents too much weed growing.

We usually use hand tools to do this and work from within the channel or from a boat.

Weed Cutting

River weed is cut in specific locations to help water flow. This can help prevent flooding.

We cut weed in a meandering pattern that follows the natural path of the river. This creates a clear way for water to flow and leaves habitat.

Weed boats, amphibious machines, and machines working from the bank are used for this work.



We carefully remove weed from rivers to prevent flooding and avoid disturbing wildlife.

Contact Us

Feel free to contact us if you have comments or questions about our work or would like one of our officers to share our work with your community group.

Norfolk Asset Performance Team

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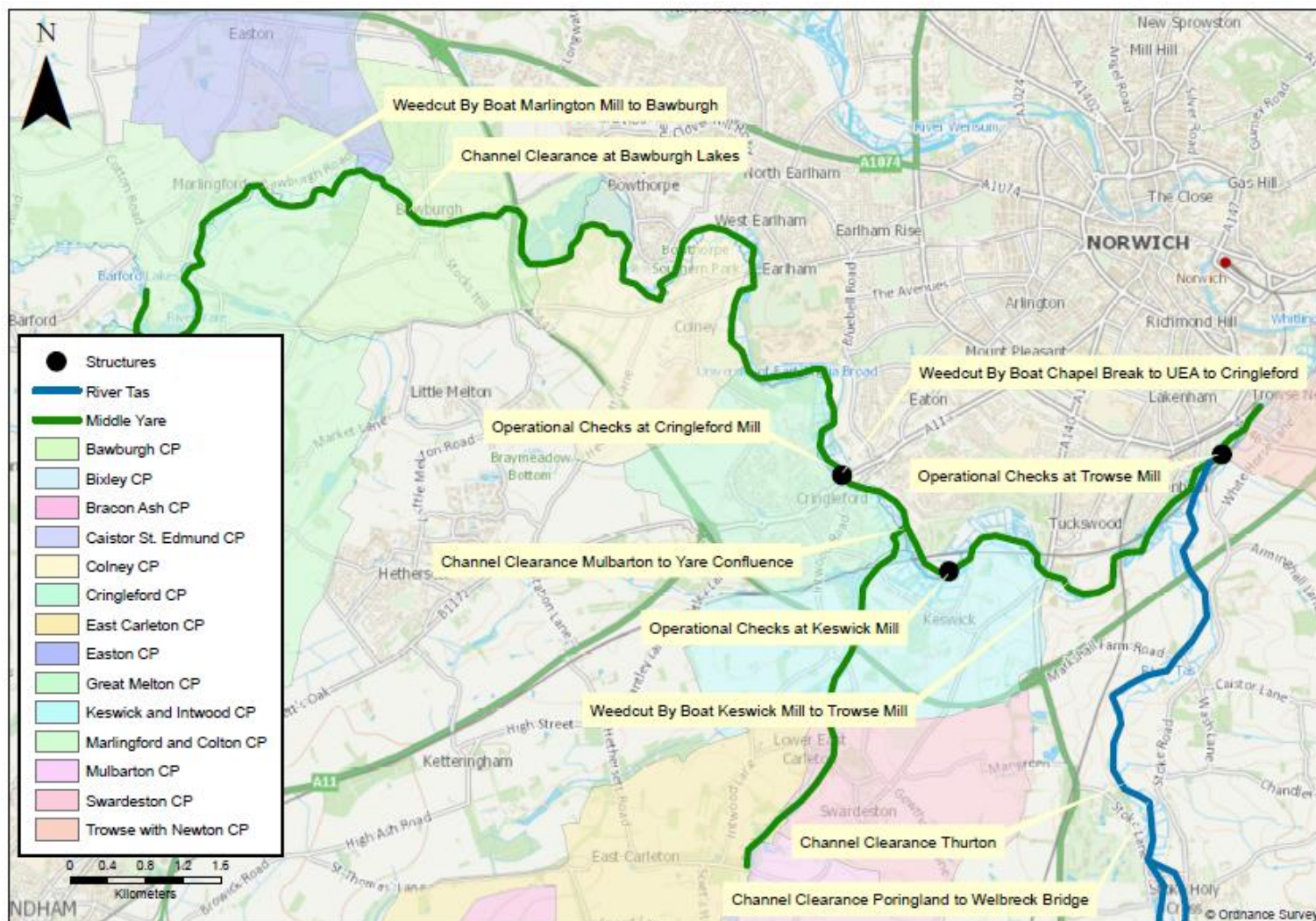
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