

Rivers Parrett and Tone Dredging Project

Part of the Somerset Levels and Moors Flood Action Plan

Progress over the last week

We continue to work on the River Parrett between Westonzoyland Pumping Station and Raymonds Farm and further upstream between Home Farm and Fenners Cottage along Riverside in Burrowbridge. On the opposite bank of the River Parrett we are working between Millbrook Farm and Coates Farm.

On the Tone we continue to dredge between Stanmoor Bridge and Brooks Farm with 2 excavators and waterbased floating plant. Altogether we have 7 gangs working.

We have dredged a length of 3.5 km of river (7 km of total river bank length) on the Parrett and Tone. We've removed approximately 73,000m³ of silt and remain on programme to complete work by the end of October.

This week's visual update of the dredge can be found on our [Wessex Facebook](#) page.



Before and after photographs of the first fields where we spread dredged material from the Parrett showing a good recovery and the growth of mustard crops.

Road and footpath closures and diversions

The road at Moorland between Northmoor Pumping Station and Winslade Farm is now open and we have swept the road clear since our works have finished. We continue to complete refurbishments to Northmoor Pumping Station.

This week we have hand delivered letters to residents regarding the road closure between Saltmoor Pumping Station and Coates Farm on the left bank of the River Parrett. We have also put the letter on social media. It looks likely that we will close the road towards the end of next week (week

commencing 11 August). Please check the local road signage for updates and diversions as well as social media. You can also find out more by contacting Kay Wilton at Land and Water Services on 07967 461 175.

Unfortunately in this location we will not be able to allow for timed openings and there will be a full road closure in place. This is due to an immobile ramp being positioned in the road from which a long arm excavator will work. We will be working 7 days a week in order to complete the dredging as quickly as possible whilst the road is permanently closed.

The road closure on Riverside between the A361 and Meadow View in Burrowbridge remains in operation, though the road will be open during the evenings and at weekends. We are dredging between Shepherds Drove and Meadow View. We hope to have completed this section of works in the next fortnight.

Forward look

Over the next couple of weeks:

- We will start dredging between Athelney road bridge and Brooks Farm on the River Tone.
- A large crane will arrive early next week to install a pontoon on the River Parrett outside Westonzoyland Pumping Station. Floating dredging plant will arrive to complete further dredging in the Parrett including sections we were previously unable to reach.
- We will be starting work between the upstream side of the A361 road bridge and the confluence of the Rivers Parrett and Tone.
- We are planning to hold a community open morning at the dredging compound in Burrowbridge on Saturday 30 August. More details will follow.
- We continue to hold Wednesday drop-ins at Gillards (Samways Farm) from 16:30 until 18:30. Look for the Land and Water sign on Riverside, Burrowbridge.

Local asset repairs

As well as completing the dredge, we are repairing local 'assets' like river banks, pumping stations, sluices, gates and coastal flood defences that were damaged in the floods. These repairs include work mentioned in the [20 year flood action plan](#) for the Somerset levels and Moors.

You can find out more on our [blog](#) this week where we have focussed on further information about asset repairs.

How will we keep you updated on progress?

Weekly updates will be sent to our partners, District and County Councillors and Parish Councils for wider dissemination. We are also putting the latest weekly updates on the [Environment Agency's website](#).

You will find frequent updates on the Environment Agency's [Wessex Facebook](#) page where we will be posting frequent updates, alongside continuing to use our [@EnvAgencySW](#) Twitter account.