

Appendix E

SSSI Hydrological Management Requirements

SSSI Name	Policy Unit	Within 10% AEP flood event outline?	Within 1% AEP flood event outline?	Condition	Relevant Feature, Habitat or Species Type	Hydrological Management Requirements
Aldermaston Gravel Pits	Kennet	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Alvescot Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	92% favourable	Neutral grassland	For the damper sites, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Amwell Quarry	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	100% favourable	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Arcott Bridge Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	72% unfavourable recovering	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Ash to Brookwood Heaths	Hoe Stream	No Data	Y	83% unfavourable recovering	Valley mire	Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are

						maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
Ashford Hill Woods and Meadows	Kennet	No Data	Y	73% unfavourable recovering	Neutral hay meadow and neutral pastures	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided
					Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years. Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the source of groundwater to springs or flushes, or to reduce the area of surface they irrigate.
Barrow Farm Fen	Ock	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years. Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the source of groundwater to springs or flushes, or to reduce the area of surface they irrigate.
Basingstoke Canal	Loddon, Upper & Middle Blackwater, Hoe Stream	No Data	Y	83% unfavourable declining	Canals	Management should aim to maintain water levels appropriate for the conservation interest of the canal. For example, lowering of water levels in the canal by excessive draw down within a given length of the canal could be damaging to aquatic communities, leaving a narrow strip of marginal vegetation exposed high above the water level.
Bentley Priory	Brent	Y	Y	70% unfavourable recovering	Natural waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year, according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present. Water level management should take into account the requirements of submerged aquatic plants that are restricted to areas where there is sufficient light for growth and minimal wave action. Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes.

					Flushes and Springs	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years. Drainage schemes should not intercept the source of groundwater to springs or flushes, or reduce the area of surface they irrigate.
Bestmoor	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided
Blackwater Valley	Upper & Middle Blackwater	No Data	Y	72% Favourable	Neutral hay meadow, neutral pasture and marshy grassland	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
					Lowland wet woodland	Areas usually benefit from minimum intervention and are often best left undisturbed to limit damage to their fragile soils.
Blenheim Park	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Bourley and Long Valley	Loddon	No Data	Y	85% unfavourable recovering	Valley Mire	Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
Boxford Water	Kennet	No data	Y	100% favourable	Floodplain grazing	Management should allow winter flooding to occur.

Meadows						
Brent Reservoir	Brent	No Data	Y	100% favourable	marsh Artificial waterbodies	Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided. Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Broadmoor to Bagshot Woods and Heaths	Addlestone Bourne, Emm Brook	No Data	Y	81% unfavourable recovering	Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
Cassington Meadows	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Charleshill	Rural Wey	Y	Y	100% unfavourable no change	Valley Mire	Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
Charterhouse to Eashing	Rural Wey	Y	Y	39% favourable	Ditches	Most ditch systems are subject to water level control, which should be managed to ensure that there is a sufficient depth of water (0.3-0.5m) in ditches throughout the year. Rapid or extreme changes in water level should be avoided unless they are known to be important to plant or animal communities relying on such fluctuations.
					Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For

						<p>example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.</p>
Chilton Foliat Meadows	Kennet	No Data	Y	45% unfavourable recovering	Wet grassland with breeding and wintering bird interest	<p>Partial winter flooding is important in maintaining suitable habitat conditions for wintering birds. A mosaic of winter flooded grassland and permanently un-flooded grassland is desirable, with both temporary and permanent pools present. The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed as raised sward height makes feeding on the drier areas more difficult.</p> <p>Careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable practice, but abandonment or deepening of ditches can be harmful.</p>

					<p>Rivers and streams</p> <p>The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p> <p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
					<p>Ditches</p> <p>Most ditch systems are subject to water level control, which should be managed to ensure that there is a sufficient depth of water (0.3-0.5m) in ditches throughout the year. Rapid or extreme changes in water level should be avoided unless they are known to be important to plant or animal communities relying on such fluctuations.</p>
Chimney Meadows	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	<p>Neutral hay meadows</p> <p>For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>

Chingford Reservoirs	Lower Lee tribs	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Cock Marsh	Sandford to Cookham	Y	Y	100% favourable	Floodplain grazing marsh	Management should allow winter flooding to occur. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Colony Bog and Bagshot Heath	Addlestone Bourne, Emm Brook	No Data	Y	69% unfavourable declining	Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
					Valley mire	Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
					Lowland raised bog	The aim of management is to re-start the peat-forming process, ideally without going through the fen phases that in most cases preceded acid peat formation in the first instance. Management must restore a high and stable water table in the peat, not falling more than about 10 cm below the surface over the course of the year. In damaged bogs this is done by blocking ditches and repairing baulks left by peat extraction or by creating new ones
					Neutral pasture and marshy grassland	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Cornmill Stream	Lower Lee	Y	Y	100% favourable	Rivers and	The physical features of the river or stream (its natural

and Old River Lea					streams	<p>structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p> <p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
Cothill Fen	Ock	No Data	Y	65% favourable	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years. Drainage schemes should not intercept the source of groundwater to springs or flushes, or reduce the area of surface they irrigate.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp.
Cotswold Water	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	51% favourable	Artificial	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for

Park					waterbodies	the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Croxley Common Moor	Colne tributaries and Wye	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Wet grassland	Careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable practice, but abandonment or deepening of ditches can be harmful. Cultivation, increased drainage or the application of pesticides, including herbicides, or fertilizer is likely to be damaging and should be avoided.
Decoy Pit, Pools and Woods	Kennet	No Data	Y	52% favourable	Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can also alter the amount of water reaching the pond and can result in drying out; for example, ponds may be particularly vulnerable to drying out where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Denham Lock Wood	Colne	Y	Y	100% favourable	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
Ducklington Mead	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadow	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Dumsey Meadow	Lower Thames	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Neutral pasture	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species

						composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Easton Farm Meadow	Kennet	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Neutral pasture	For damper pasture, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Epping Forest	Upper Roding / Lower Lee tributaries	Y	Y	34% unfavourable recovering	Dry and wet lowland heath	Although careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable, the abandonment or deepening of ditches or drains should be avoided. Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible
Fernham Meadows	Ock	No Data	Y	87% favourable	Broadleaved, semi-natural woodland with ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Fleet Pond	Loddon	No Data	Y	94% unfavourable declining	Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby. A range of water depths should be retained.
					Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
Forest Mere	Rural Wey	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Natural waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year, according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present. Water level management should take into account the requirements of submerged aquatic plants that are restricted to areas where there is sufficient light for growth and minimal wave action. Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes.
					Wet lowland heath	Water levels within wet heaths should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. Although careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains may be acceptable, the abandonment or

						deepening of ditches or drains should be avoided. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
Fray's Farm Meadows	Colne	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Wet grassland with breeding and wintering bird interest	Partial winter flooding is important in maintaining suitable habitat conditions for wintering birds. A mosaic of winter flooded grassland and permanently un-flooded grassland is desirable, with both temporary and permanent pools present. The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed as raised sward height makes feeding on the drier areas more difficult.
Freeman's Marsh	Kennet	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Neutral pasture	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided
Frilford Heath, Ponds and Fens	Ock	No Data	Y	92% unfavourable no change	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Frogmore Meadows	Colne tribs & Wye	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable no change	Neutral pasture	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided
Grafton Lock Meadow	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species

						composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided
Greywell Fen	Loddon	No Data	Y	46% favourable	Valley Mire	Drainage schemes should not intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
					Neutral Hay Meadow	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Hazeley Heath	Loddon	No Data	Y	97% unfavourable declining	Dry and wet lowland heath	Although careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable, the abandonment or deepening of ditches or drains should be avoided. Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
Hook Meadow and the Trap Grounds	Oxford	Y	Y	68% unfavourable recovering	Neutral grassland	For the damper sites, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Horsell Common	Addlestone Bourne, Emm Brook	No Data	Y	61% unfavourable recovering	Heathlands	<p>Careful maintenance of existing ponds to retain a mosaic of open water and marginal/submerged vegetation is usually acceptable practice. Where pond management is required, silt and plant material should only be removed from a portion of the pond at any one time, allowing sufficient time for recovery before other areas are dredged.</p> <p>Although careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable, the abandonment or deepening of ditches or drains should be avoided. Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse</p>

						changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
Hunsdon Mead	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	78% unfavourable no change	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Ingrebourne Marshes	Ingrebourne	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral pasture and marshy grassland	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp.
Inner Thames Marshes	Ingrebourne	Y	Y	72% unfavourable recovering	Wet grassland with breeding and wintering bird interest	Partial winter flooding is important in maintaining suitable habitat conditions for wintering birds. A mosaic of winter flooded grassland and permanently un-flooded grassland is desirable, with both temporary and permanent pools present. The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed as raised sward height makes feeding on the drier areas more difficult.

					Floodplain grazing marsh with breeding and wintering bird interest	<p>This mosaic of unflooded, intermittently flooded, and permanently flooded land provides suitable habitat for breeding and wintering birds and management should aim to maintain this.</p> <p>The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed</p> <p>Regular and careful maintenance of ditches and drains may be necessary. Ideally, ditch management should be undertaken on a rotation to create a range of different management stages ranging from open water to denser vegetation growth. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain	Kennet	No Data	Y	88% favourable	Floodplain grazing marsh	Although very wet in winter, these marshes are generally dry in the summer except for the water that remains in the network of ditches that are a common feature of these marshes. Winter flooding can improve summer grass productivity and such marshes are often known as water meadows. Management should allow winter flooding to occur. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Kennet	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Lowland wet woodland	Areas usually benefit from minimum intervention and are often best left undisturbed to limit damage to their fragile soils
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp.
Kingcup Meadows and Oldhouse	Colne tribs & Wye	No Data	Y	48% favourable	Neutral hay meadow, neutral	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be

Wood					pasture and marshy grassland	essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Langham Pond	Lower Thames	Y	Y	63% favourable	Natural waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year, according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present. Water level management should take into account the requirements of submerged aquatic plants that are restricted to areas where there is sufficient light for growth and minimal wave action. Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes.
					Floodplain grazing marsh	Winter flooding can improve summer grass productivity and such marshes are often known as water meadows. Management should allow winter flooding to occur. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Langley's Lane Meadow	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadow	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Little Hallingbury Marsh	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality of the waterbody will affect the swamp.
Little Tew Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Neutral grassland	For both the damper sites, regular and careful maintenance

						of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Little Wittenham	Sandford to Cookham	Y	Y	100% favourable	Ponds / Great Crested Newt	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby. Some ponds may dry out naturally in summer and this can be beneficial as it prevents the build-up of aquatic predators
Long Herdon Meadow	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Mapledurwell Fen	Loddon	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
Mid Colne Valley	Colne	Y	Y	55% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
New Marston Meadows	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral grassland	For both the damper pastures and meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches

						and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
North Meadow, Cricklade	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Odiham Common with Bagwell Green and Shaw	Loddon	No Data	Y	93% unfavourable recovering	Neutral hay meadow	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Old Rectory Meadows	Colne tribs & Wye	No Data	Y	83% unfavourable recovering	Neutral pasture	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Otmoor	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	79% unfavourable recovering	Floodplain grazing marsh with breeding and wintering bird interest	<p>This mosaic of unflooded, intermittently flooded, and permanently flooded land provides suitable habitat for breeding and wintering birds and management should aim to maintain this.</p> <p>The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed</p> <p>Regular and careful maintenance of ditches and drains may</p>

						be necessary. Ideally, ditch management should be undertaken on a rotation to create a range of different management stages ranging from open water to denser vegetation growth. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
					Hay meadow, neutral pasture and marshy grassland	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
					Ditches	Most ditch systems are subject to water level control, which should be managed to ensure that there is a sufficient depth of water (0.3-0.5m) in ditches throughout the year. Rapid or extreme changes in water level should be avoided unless they are known to be important to plant or animal communities relying on such fluctuations.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Pamber Forest and Silchester Common	Kennet	Y	Y	89% unfavourable recovering	Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat.
					Neutral hay meadow	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Papercourt	Rural Wey	Y	Y	48% unfavourable recovering	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters

					Rivers and streams	<p>The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p> <p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
					Swamp	<p>Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp</p>
Pike Corner	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Neutral grassland	<p>For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Pixey and Yarnton	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay	<p>For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance</p>

Meads					meadows	of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Port Meadow with Wolvercote Common and Green	Upper Thames	Y	Y	99% favourable	Neutral pasture	<p>For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p> <p>The low-lying wet areas of Port Meadow contain populations of the nationally rare plant, creeping marshwort. These areas should be flooded for short periods during the winter when river levels are high. In summer grazing is essential to maintain the short turf necessary for the maintenance of the species.</p>
River Kennet	Kennet	Y	Y	100% unfavourable no change	Rivers and streams	<p>The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p> <p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be</p>

						managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.
River Lambourn	Kennet	Y	Y	82% unfavourable no change	Rivers and streams	<p>The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p> <p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
Roding Valley Meadows	Upper Roding	Y	Y	53% unfavourable no change	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Rushy Meadows	Upper Thames	N	Y	100%	Neutral pasture	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of

				unfavourable recovering		surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Rye Meads	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	68% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in waterlevels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
					Wet grassland with breeding and wintering bird interest	Partial winter flooding is important in maintaining suitable habitat conditions for wintering birds. A mosaic of winter flooded grassland and permanently un-flooded grassland is desirable, with both temporary and permanent pools present. The maintenance of a mosaic of shallow surface pools and un-flooded areas during the winter will provide roosting and feeding habitat for wintering wildfowl and waders. From April onwards, the area of standing surface water should be reduced to increase the area available for nesting waders and also by concentrating aquatic invertebrates in small pools to provide suitable feeding areas for their young. Some shallow areas of flooding should be maintained until late June to provide patches of bare muddy ground on which the birds and their young can feed as raised sward height makes feeding on the drier areas more difficult.
Salmonsbury Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Neutral grassland	For both the damper pastures and meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.

Sandhurst to Owlsmoor Bogs and Heaths	Upper & Middle Blackwater	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Dry and wet lowland heath	Careful maintenance of existing ponds to retain a mosaic of open water and marginal/submerged vegetation is usually acceptable practice. Where pond management is required, silt and plant material should only be removed from a portion of the pond at any one time, allowing sufficient time for recovery before other areas are dredged.
					Valley mire	Drainage schemes should not intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
Sarratt Bottom	Colne tribs & Wye	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable no change	Neutral pasture	For damper pastures, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Sawbridgeworth Marsh	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	100% favourable	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp

Shortheath Common	Rural Wey	No Data	Y	88% unfavourable recovering	Valley mire	Drainage schemes should not intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
					Basin fen	The characteristics of the water supply that has resulted in the development of that particular type of fen must be maintained
Spartum Fen	Thame	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can also alter the amount of water reaching the pond and can result in drying out; for example, ponds may be particularly vulnerable to drying out where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Staines Moor	Lower Thames	Y	Y	73% favourable	Rivers and streams	The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.

						<p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
					Artificial standing waterbodies	<p>Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters</p>
					Floodplain grazing marsh	<p>Management should allow winter flooding to occur. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Stanford End Mill and River Loddon	Loddon	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Rivers and streams	<p>The physical features of the river or stream (its natural structure and form) should be maintained as far as possible in their natural state. This will support a natural flow regime that will help conserve the geomorphological features of interest. It will also ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish and other animals, such as otters. Natural barriers to the movement of fish (such as waterfalls) should be left alone. Where artificial modifications have occurred - such as weirs and impoundments, embankment, straightening and dredging – the restoration of natural channel profiles and dynamics is desirable where appropriate. Any new infrastructure, such as road and rail bridges should be carefully designed to avoid the constriction of the river or blockage of its floodplain. Opportunities should be taken to create additional riparian areas where flooding is acceptable, in order to reconnect the river with its floodplain.</p>

						<p>Management should maintain the natural flow regime of the river or stream, including natural erosion and sedimentation processes, in order to meet the requirements of the full range of flora and fauna it supports. Abstraction levels should be managed to protect the characteristic flow regime of the river, including seasonal base flows and flushing flows. Compensation flows are generally not an acceptable alternative to reducing abstraction, and river transfers may also have an undesirable effect on river ecology.</p>
					Neutral hay meadow	<p>For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Sulham and Tidmarsh Woods and Meadows	Kennet	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	<p>For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Syon Park	Crane	Y	Y	85% favourable	Floodplain grazing marsh	<p>Management should allow winter flooding to occur. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.</p>
Taynton Quarries	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	76% favourable	Flush and spring fen	<p>The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years. Drainage schemes should be designed not to intercept the source of groundwater to springs or flushes, or to reduce the area of surface they irrigate.</p>
Tewinbury	Upper Lee	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Artificial standing waterbodies	<p>Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters</p>

					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
Thatcham Reed Beds	Kennet	Y	Y	80% favourable	Desmoulin's Whorl Snail	Ground conditions to be maintained damp all year round by protection of the existing hydrological condition. This should be achieved by retaining swampy ground with the water table at or immediately below soil surface with areas of standing water throughout the year both within and surrounding the areas of snail habitat. Rapid flows of surface water to be avoided as this may wash away snails/snail eggs.
					Reedbed	Maintain watercourses to supply flowing water to reedbeds. Watercourse management to follow best practice, with rotational bankside vegetation clearance and desilting. snail habitat to be retained during such maintenance works.
					Fen	Maintain a high water table fluctuating with the seasons but avoiding summer droughts.
Thorley Flood Pound	Middle Lee & Stort	Y	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
Thorpe Hay	Lower Thames	Y	Y	100%	Neutral hay	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance

Meadow				unfavourable recovering	meadow	of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Thorpe Park No. 1 Gravel Pit	Lower Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
					Swamp	Management should either seek to retain swamp in the same place (for example, reedbeds can be maintained by cutting following an appropriate regime), or where succession from swamp into fen is allowed, new opportunities for the development of swamp should be created elsewhere along the margins of the open water
Thursley, Hankley and Frensham Commons	Rural Wey	Y	Y	47% favourable	Dry and Wet Lowland Heath	Although careful maintenance of existing ditches and drains is usually acceptable, the abandonment or deepening of ditches or drains should be avoided. Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.
					Valley Mire	Drainage schemes should not intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.

					Ditches	Most ditch systems are subject to water level control, which should be managed to ensure that there is a sufficient depth of water (0.3-0.5m) in ditches throughout the year. Rapid or extreme changes in water level should be avoided unless they are known to be important to plant or animal communities relying on such fluctuations.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby.
Tring Reservoirs	Thame	No Data	Y	98% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Tuckmill Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
					Neutral pasture	For damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.

Turnford and Cheshunt Pits	Lower Lee	Y	Y	100% favourable	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
					Neutral grassland	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Waltham Abbey	Lower Lee	Y	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Heronry	Grey Herons forage over extensive areas including shallow water, marshes, lagoons, estuaries, reservoirs, ditches, rivers, ponds, lakes and canals. Any open water or wetland habitats present on site should be retained to maintain local foraging habitat.
Walthamstow Marshes	Lower Lee	Y	Y	63% unfavourable recovering	Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
Walthamstow Reservoirs	Lower Lee	Y	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Water End Swallow Holes	Colne	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Geological site	Any development or activity that restricts natural processes is likely to damage the interest features of the site. Direct damage can be caused by activities such as the construction of structures and defences, or the removal of material such as sand and gravel. Changes in drainage patterns can also damage active process sites (Geological sites where the natural processes that produced the important scientific

						features are still occurring). As processes within a site can be affected by developments beyond the site boundary, it is important to take a broad and integrated approach to the management of active process sites.
Wendlebury Meads and Mansmoor Closes	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	86% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Weston Fen	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years.
					Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
Weston Turville Reservoir	Thame	No Data	Y	100% favourable	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Whelford Meadow	Upper Thames	No Data	Y		Floodplain fen	Winter flooding is an important factor in the management of floodplain habitats and management should ensure the frequency and extent of flooding is appropriate for maintaining the nature conservation interest of the site. For example, river engineering has in many cases reduced the frequency and extent of flooding. Changes in agriculture and the use of floodplains for built development have also often resulted in smaller floodplains and the requirements of floodplain habitats should be considered in the design of such schemes in the future. The balance between groundwater and floodwater influence on the floodplain should be identified and maintained when designing the

						extent and frequency of controlled flood events.
Whitmoor Common	Hoe Stream	No Data	Y	69% unfavourable no change	Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat.
					Ponds	Changes to the use of surrounding land can alter the amount of water reaching the pond, often resulting in the pond drying out. Ponds may be particularly vulnerable where large volumes of groundwater are abstracted nearby. The water bodies on this site are particularly important for the muddy margins which support rare and scarce plant species.
Wildmoorway Meadows	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Neutral grassland	For both the damper pastures and meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be essential to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Windsor Forest and Great Park	Lower Thames	No	Y	48% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters.
Wolvercote Meadows	Oxford	Y	Y	100% favourable	Neutral hay meadows	For the damper meadows, regular and careful maintenance of surface drainage including ditches and drains can be necessary to prevent adverse changes in the plant species composition of the sward. Deepening of surface drainage should be avoided.
Woolhampton Reed Bed	Kennet	No	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Swamp	Management should ensure that appropriate water quality is maintained according to the requirements of the wetland communities present. Where swamp is in continuity with a waterbody, the water quality in the waterbody will affect the swamp
Woolmer Forest	Rural Wey	No Data	Y	77% unfavourable recovering	Dry and wet lowland heath	Water levels within areas of wet heath should be maintained to avoid adverse changes to the characteristic plant composition of the habitat. In some instances it may be appropriate to restore natural drainage where this is possible.

					Valley mire	Drainage schemes should not intercept the sources of ground and surface water to the valley mire. The bed of the watercourse should not be lowered, nor should its water level be artificially raised, other than as part of a well thought-out conservation scheme. This will ensure the various vegetation components of the valley mire are maintained in their ideal proportions, and that 'head-ward' erosion is not triggered, in which increased flow gradually erodes the peat and silt on which the valley mire has developed.
					Natural standing waterbodies	Management should aim to retain their natural characteristics such as the lake shape and shoreline profile. Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year, according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present. Water level management should take into account the requirements of submerged aquatic plants that are restricted to areas where there is sufficient light for growth and minimal wave action.
					Great Crested Newt	Great crested newts are dependent on both terrestrial habitats (to provide foraging areas and refuge) and aquatic habitats (for breeding). . Breeding pools should ideally have gently sloping sides and shallow areas that will warm up quickly in sunlight and deeper areas to provide additional cover. Some ponds may dry out naturally in summer and this can be beneficial as it prevents the build-up of aquatic predators
Wraysbury and Hythe End Gravel Pits	Lower Thames	Y	Y	85% favourable	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Wraysbury No. 1 Gravel Pit	Lower Thames	Y	Y	100% unfavourable declining	Artificial waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes as well as change the available area of

						some habitats. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Wychwood	Upper Thames	No Data	Y	100% unfavourable recovering	Artificial standing waterbodies	Sympathetic management of water levels is necessary for the maintenance of optimal water depths throughout the year (according to the requirements of the plant and animal species present). Changes in water levels can also alter nutrient regimes. Management should aim to maintain the habitats associated with shallowly sloping margins that are not too exposed to wave action, as they are important for many species associated with standing open waters
Wytham Ditches and Flushes	Upper Thames	Y	Y	100% favourable	Flush and spring fen	The quantity and quality of the groundwater must be maintained, though the quantity is not likely to be naturally constant throughout the seasons or between wet and dry years.
					Ditches	Most ditch systems are subject to water level control, which should be managed to ensure that there is a sufficient depth of water (0.3-0.5m) in ditches throughout the year. Rapid or extreme changes in water level should be avoided unless they are known to be important to plant or animal communities relying on such fluctuations.