

# Marlingford Natural Flood Management (NFM) scheme

## What are we telling you about?

We are working with Great Melton Farms, Natural England and Broadland Catchment Partnership to help manage the risk of flooding in Marlingford to properties from the River Yare, whilst also improving the habitat available for wildlife. This project is one of seven projects taking place in our area forming part of a nationwide pilot by Defra looking into the impacts of Natural Flood Management.

## What is Natural Flood Management?

Natural Flood Management is a way of working with natural processes to reduce the risk of flooding to people and properties. It is only expected to have an impact during the more regular flooding events, with the types of features being trialled unlikely to have an impact during large events.

It involves techniques such as slowing the flow and storing water where it's safe to do so until flood waters recede. This usually occurs upstream of where there are properties at risk of flooding.

Natural flood management also has many benefits for the environment such as creating and enhancing habitat for a variety of wildlife including fish, invertebrates, mammals and birds.

## What will the works involve?

We're installing a series of flow deflectors and lengths of woody debris into the river channel of the River Yare at Marlingford.

These structures will add to and diversify the habitat available within the channel for wildlife, alongside physically backing up water levels to encourage it out and onto the floodplain more frequently than is currently able. Bank lowering will take place in strategic locations on the south-side of the river bank (opposite side to where there are properties) to allow flood water to better connect with the floodplain.

Scrapes will be dug within the floodplain to increase water storage capacity and provide habitat for wading birds, such as lapwing, teal, and snipe, invertebrates and other wildlife. Natural England will provide ongoing advice and support through the Countryside Stewardship scheme on grazing management of the meadows to maximise the long term benefits of this work for wildlife and we will monitor the project jointly.



## When are we doing this work?

Works are planned to start during September 2018 although this is very much weather dependent and could be subject to change. It is expected to take approximately 6 weeks to complete.

## Getting in touch

If you would like to find out more about this scheme please contact:

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## Further information about Natural Flood Management

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/natural-flood-management-part-of-the-nations-flood-resilience>

<https://www.catchmentbasedapproach.org/deliver/nfm-toolbox>

<https://nerc.ukri.org/research/funded/programmes/nfm/>