

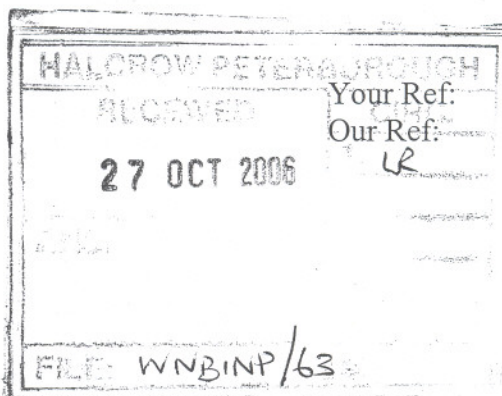
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## Four Counties Team

Ham Lane House Ham Lane Orton Waterville Peterborough PE2 5UR  
Tel +44 (0)1733 405850 Fax +44(0)1733 405860  
www.naturalengland.org.uk

Laura Roberts  
Environmental Scientist  
Halcrow Group Ltd  
Endeavour House  
Forder Way  
Cygnet Park  
Hampton  
Peterborough  
PE7 8GX



Your Ref:  
Our Ref:

WNBINP/63/761  
BI.SUP.28

26 October 2006

Dear Ms Roberts

### Bin Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme; Project Update

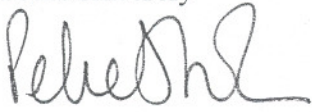
Thank you for your consultation dated 17 October 2006 regarding the above scheme. Natural England (formerly known as English Nature) supports the uptake of Option 4 (Store floodwater upstream of the M11 motorway). The Flood Storage Reservoir Plan attached to your correspondence is welcome, but does not contain enough detail for further comment at this time. Natural England advises that in any detailed design plan, the following factors should be taken into account:

1. Inclusion of water controls (ie sluices) to allow the manipulation of levels and flow of water within the wetland area
2. The creation of shallow areas (ie scrapes)
3. The appropriate planting of native vegetation
4. The creation of small islands within the proposed pond made from excavated material
5. Management of the Bin Brook to benefit extant habitat and the flora and fauna it supports (eg Otter, Water Vole)
6. Control and eradication of Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) from the Bin Brook
7. Detailed plans for future management of the wetland area
8. Monitoring of key indicators of success (ie wintering and breeding bird surveys, invertebrate sampling, botanical surveying)

You may be aware of the Kingfishers Bridge Wetland Creation Project near Upware that has now been running for the past nine years. This is considered to be a prime example of wetland creation from land that was previously in arable production. Excellent habitat has been created within a relatively short space of time, benefiting a wide range of bird, invertebrate and plant species. The key lessons at this site focus on the continued management of created habitat combined with ongoing monitoring of key species to better understand what works and what does not work.

I hope the above is of use to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Stroh', written in a cursive style.

Peter Stroh

Conservation Officer

Direct Dial: 01733 405854