



# New Life ON THE OLD WEST



Before

After

## Habitat Monitoring Guide



Made possible with

**Heritage  
Fund**

# Monitoring for NLOW

The NLOW project has been delivering small-scale habitat enhancements in green spaces and the surrounding countryside within areas close to the Old West River.

Examples include:

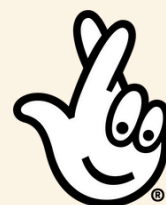
- New wildlife ponds
- Enhancing wildflower meadows
- Planting native mixed hedges
- Creating bug hotels and installing bat boxes
- Reprofiled farmland ditches by creating berms and scrapes

Together, these improvements will create a more resilient landscape in the Cambridgeshire Fens; connecting dispersed species and habitats, while creating demonstration sites for others to learn from.

***We need  
YOUR help!***



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# Monitoring for NLOW

## Can you help us?



We need as many volunteers as possible to help us monitor the work started by NLOW in order to protect the habitats for future generations.

### What is involved?

This is a flexible volunteering opportunity which will provide vital updates and support local wildlife into the future.

Visit a local habitat enhancement site, take a photograph ([video guide available here](#)), note any changes (since your previous visit) and record any wildlife you encounter on your visit.

Share this information with the NLOW team directly or email [info@newlifeoldwest.org.uk](mailto:info@newlifeoldwest.org.uk).

### How often do I need to visit?

Visit as often as you like - the sites are for the benefit and enjoyment of wildlife and the local community!

We recommend visiting the site once every 3 months to carry out the monitoring activities. This will provide seasonal updates and allow time for noticeable changes to occur between each visit.



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# Cottenham: Old Rec/Dog Walking Field

Monitor the development of a new pond complex



**Address:** Broad Lane,  
Cottenham, CB24 8SW

**Grid reference:**  
TL 44730 68460

**What3Words:**  
///meant.creatures.crystal

**Parking:** Small car park available  
**Walking:** Access via Broad Lane

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Grasses
- Butterflies
- Moths
- Birds



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# Cottenham: WARG Field

Monitor the colonisation of a new wildlife pond and growth of a small orchard



**Address:** Histon Road,  
Cottenham, CB24 8UQ

**Grid reference:**  
TL 44580 66488

**What3Words:**  
///hopefully.pianists.laminate

**Parking:** Strictly residents only

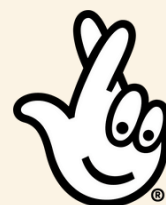
**Walking:** Access via Histon  
Road

## Wildlife to see:

- Dragonflies
- Butterflies
- Amphibians
- Bees
- Birds



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# Rampton: Recreation Ground

Discover the network of wildlife found within a wildflower meadow and small orchard



**Address:** King Street, Rampton,  
CB24 8QJ

**Grid reference:**  
TL 42423 67793

**What3Words:**  
///clockwork.carpeted.jolly

**Parking:** On street parking

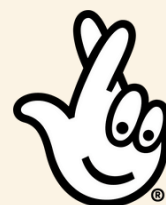
**Walking:** Access via King Street

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Grasses
- Dragonflies
- Butterflies
- Moths
- Birds



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# Willingham: Queenholme Farm

Enjoy a walk along the Old West River to monitor habitat enhancements on farmland



## Scrape along the Old West:

### Grid reference:

TL 42105 72758

### What3Words:

///decking.unimpeded.jacket

## Berm (Queenholme Drain)

### Grid reference:

TL 43514 71878

### What3Words:

///blame.conquest.revamping

## Wildlife to see:

- Wetland birds
- Dragonflies
- Water voles
- Aquatic plants

## Access:

Walking routes  
from Aldreth,  
Earith or  
Willingham





# Over: Village Green

Monitor this existing mini wildflower meadow and watch seasonal changes in plant species



**Address:** Long Furlong, Over,  
CB24 5PG

**Grid reference:**  
TL 37721 70519

**What3Words:**  
///axed.centally.pull

**Parking:** On street parking

**Walking:** Many routes - central location in Over

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Grasses
- Moths



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# Over: Duce's Pond

Monitor this reprofiled village pond to discover the wildlife which is benefitting from the NLOW project.



**Address:** Hitherford, Over,  
Cambridge CB24 5NY

**Grid reference:**  
TL 38070 70840

**What3Words:**  
///trophy.sublet.tender

**Parking:** On street parking (along  
Fen End or Long Furlong)

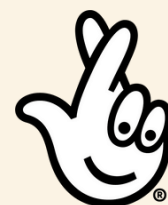
**Walking:** Central location in Over

## Wildlife to see:

- Birds (regularly swans, moorhen, grey heron)
- Dragonflies
- Aquatic plants
- Aquatic invertebrates



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# Haddenham: Closed Cemetery

Monitor the wildlife living within this key habitat site  
(including a wildflower meadow and bug hotel)



**Address:** Church Lane,  
Haddenham, CB6 3TB

**Grid reference:**  
TL 46273 75631

**What3Words:**  
///filled.syndicate.putts

**Parking:** On street parking

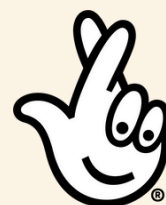
**Walking:** Many routes - central  
location in Haddenham

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Grasses
- Butterflies
- Invertebrates



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# Haddenham: Fairchild's Meadow

Practice your species ID skills while monitoring this wonderful local green space



**Address:** Chewells Lane,  
Haddenham, CB6 3SS

**Grid reference:**  
TL 46656 75780

**What3Words:**  
///boss.vouch.stylists

**Parking:** On street parking

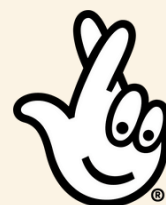
**Walking:** Many routes - central location in Haddenham

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Grasses
- Butterflies
- Grass snake
- Common Lizard
- Birds



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# Little Thetford: Cemetery

Monitor the development of a new hedge and wildflower strip



**Address:** The Wythes, Little Thetford, CB6 3HG

**Grid reference:**  
TL 52927 76592

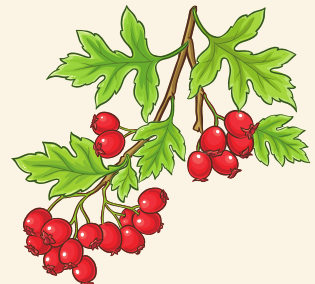
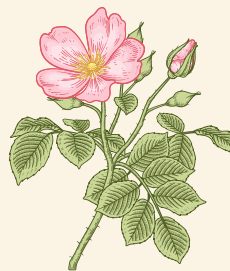
**What3Words:**  
///wades.nightfall.items

**Parking:** Park in the layby

**Walking:** Many routes - central location in Little Thetford

## Wildlife to see:

- Wildflowers
- Butterflies
- Birds
- Hedgerow species



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# Little Thetford: Holt Fen

Monitor the development of a new wildlife pond



**Address:** Holt Fen, Little Thetford, CB6 3HB

**Grid reference:**  
TL 53415 75950

**What3Words:**  
///grapevine.checked.curbed

**Parking:** On street parking

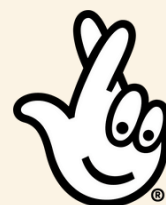
**Walking:** Many routes - central location in Little Thetford

## Wildlife to see:

- Aquatic plants
- Aquatic invertebrates
- Dragonflies
- Butterflies
- Garden birds



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# Little Thetford: Bedwell Hey

Enjoy a walk along the Old West River to monitor habitat enhancements on farmland



## Grid reference:

TL 53504 77163

## What3Words:

///consoled.launched.custom

**Parking:** Park in Little Thetford village

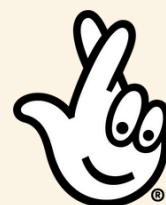
**Walking:** Visible from the public footpath (at TL 53397 77200) and by following [our NLOW walking guide](#)

## Wildlife to see:

- Birds
- Dragonflies
- Butterflies
- Mammals (including deer)



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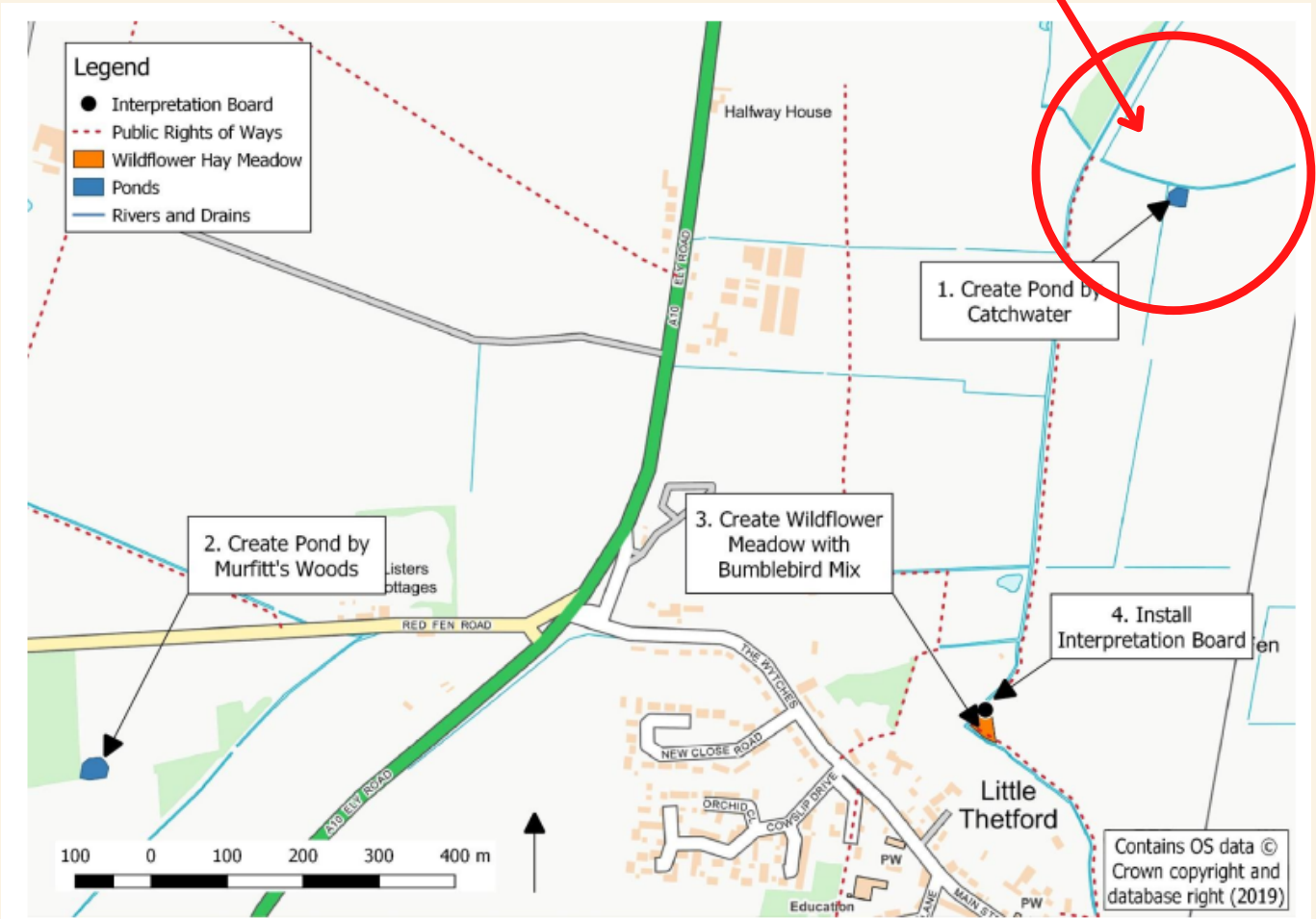


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# Little Thetford: Bedwell Hey

Enjoy a walk along the Old West River to monitor habitat enhancements on farmland





# Wicken: Recreation Ground

Monitor the colonisation of a new wildlife pond... can you see any signs of use?



**Address:** Chapel Lane, Wicken,  
CB7 5XZ

**Grid reference:**  
TL 56979 71221

**What3Words:**  
///alike.spout.album

**Parking:** On street parking

**Walking:** Many routes - central  
location in Wicken

## Wildlife to see:

- Birds
- Dragonflies
- Butterflies
- Mammals (including  
deer tracks)





# Monitoring for NLOW: Useful links

Our guide to fixed point photography:

<https://youtu.be/keTPj9GnpPo>

Our guide to recording your wildlife sightings:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mB7AkT4fl-o>

## ID sheets

Birds, wildflowers, hedgerows, butterflies (NLOW):

<https://www.newlifeoldwest.org.uk/volunteer-resources/>

Bees:

Bumblebee Conservation Trust guides - [click here](#)

Dragonflies:

British Dragonfly Society - [click here](#)

Grasses:

The Wildlife Trusts - [click here](#)

**We need  
YOUR help!**



# Help with habitat management!

We're providing lots of opportunities to get involved in the project and effect real change in the landscape you call home. There are activities to suit every age and commitment level.

All sessions are FREE and flexible! Whether you can join us for an hour or stay for the whole session - we are very grateful for your help.

Visit our website for all upcoming sessions - [www.newlifeoldwest.org.uk](http://www.newlifeoldwest.org.uk)

## Share your photos and records with us

Email a member of the team directly or contact us using [info@newlifeoldwest.org.uk](mailto:info@newlifeoldwest.org.uk).

*If you would like any additional information please do get in touch with us!*

**Thank you!**

