Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

Outdoor Recreation Network

Academic Research Group - 15 October 2025

Penny Burt, Emma Formoy – Environment Agency

















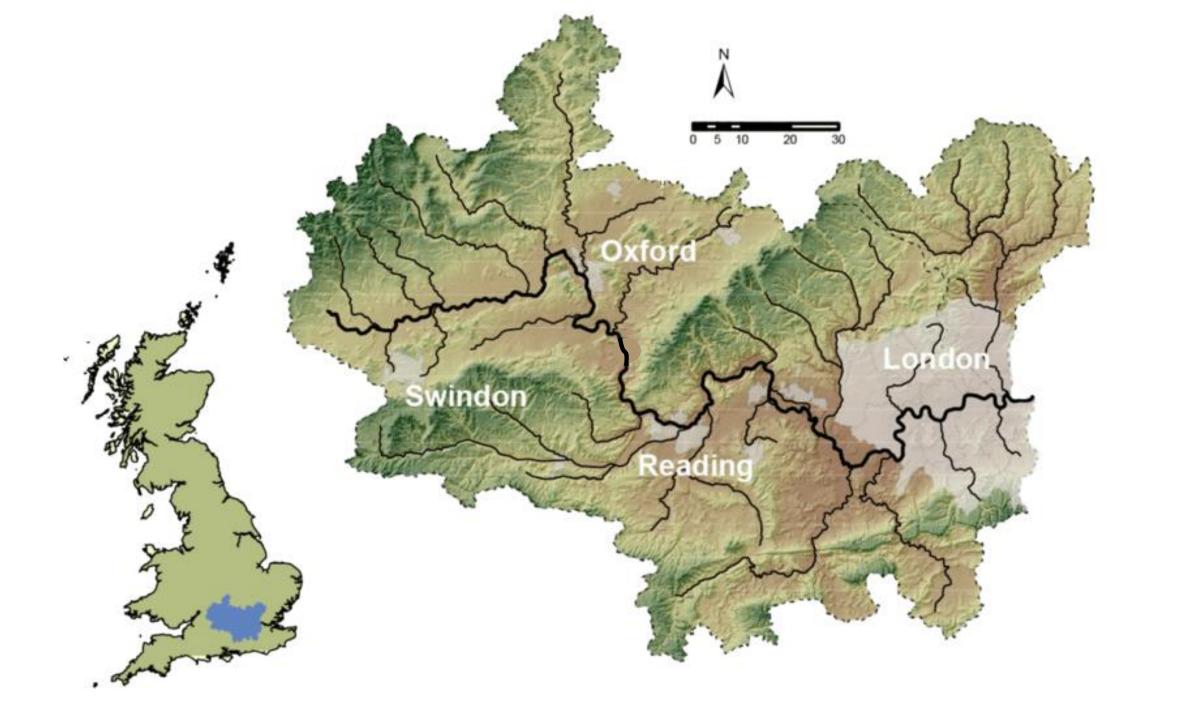


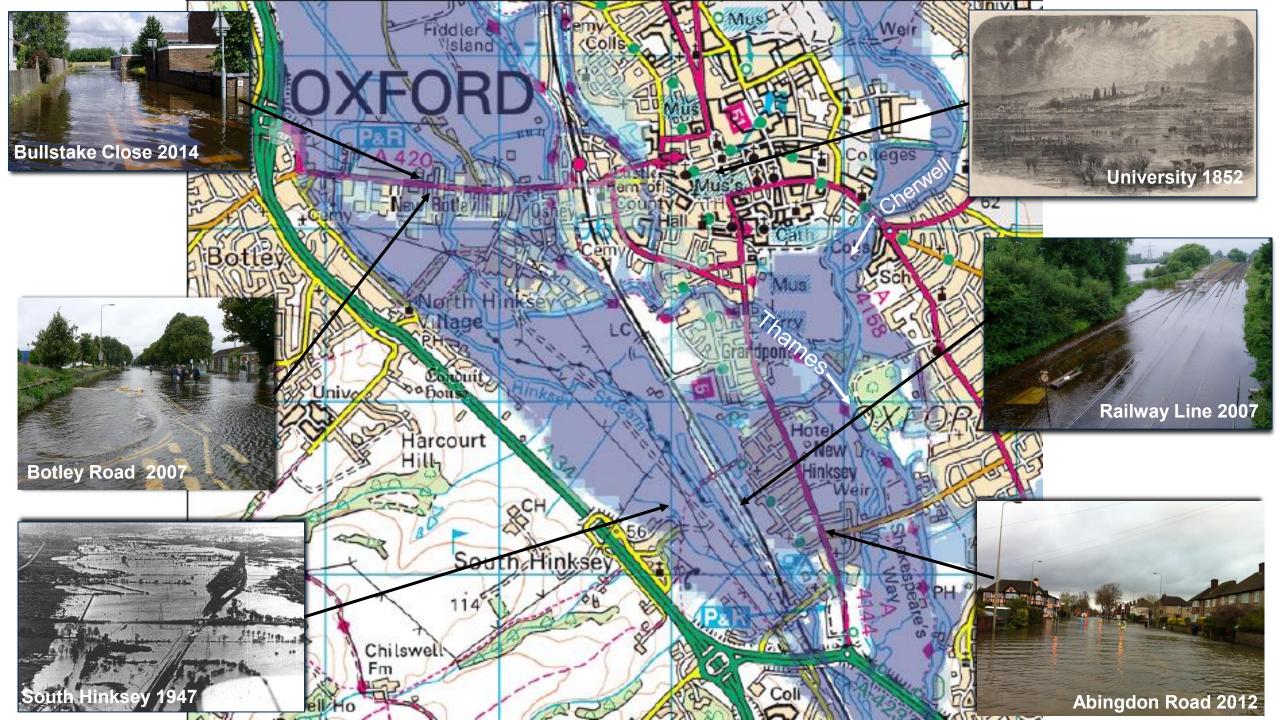












Strategic Approach





enhancing... improving... cleaning... restoring... changing... tackling... protecting... reducing... create a better place... influencing... inspiring... advising... managing... adapting...

Oxford Flood Risk Management Strategy

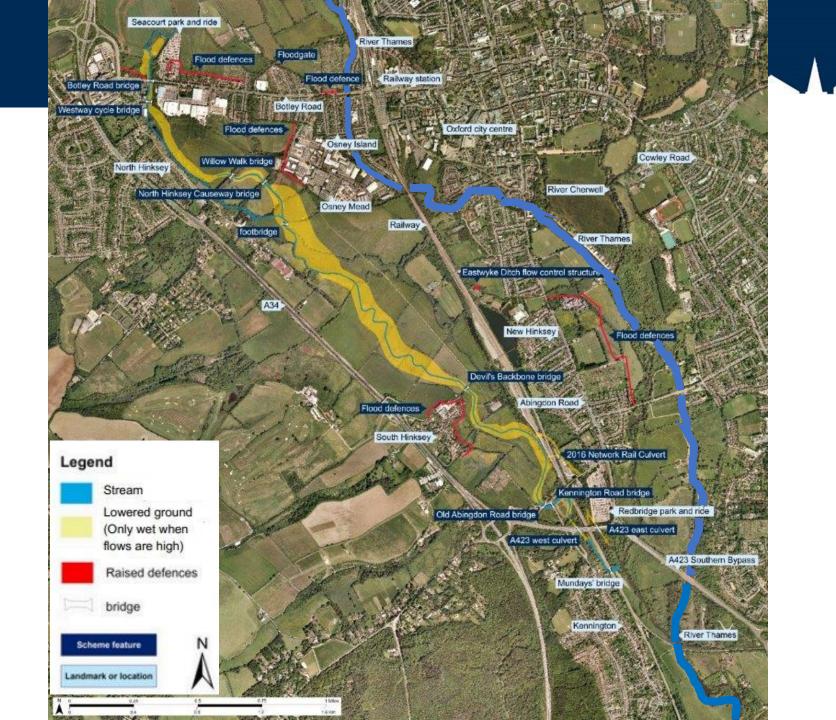
Technical Report

1. Short Term Measures

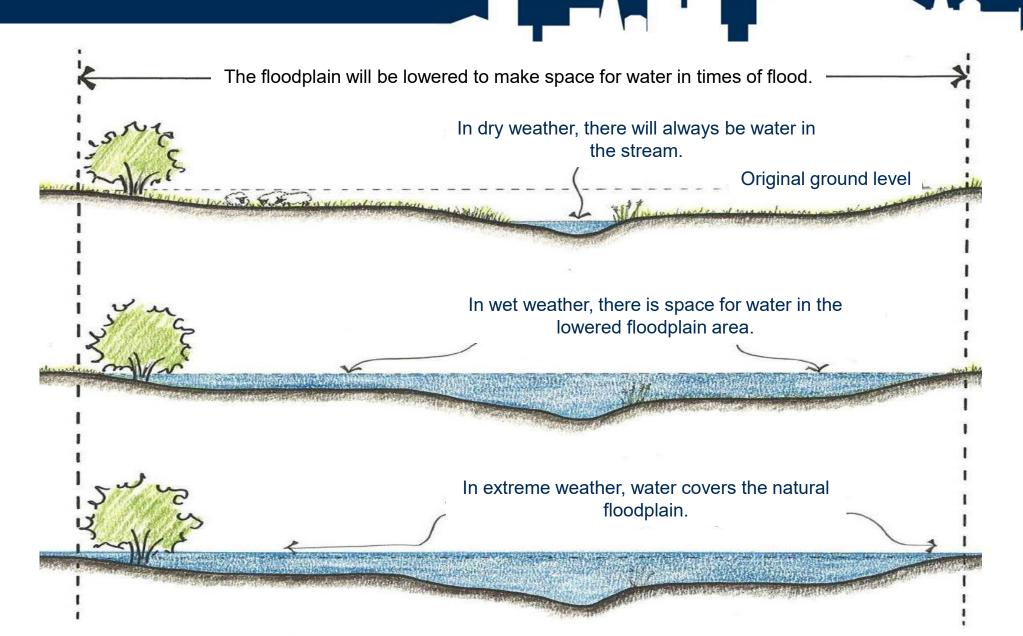
2. Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

3. Upstream Flood Storage

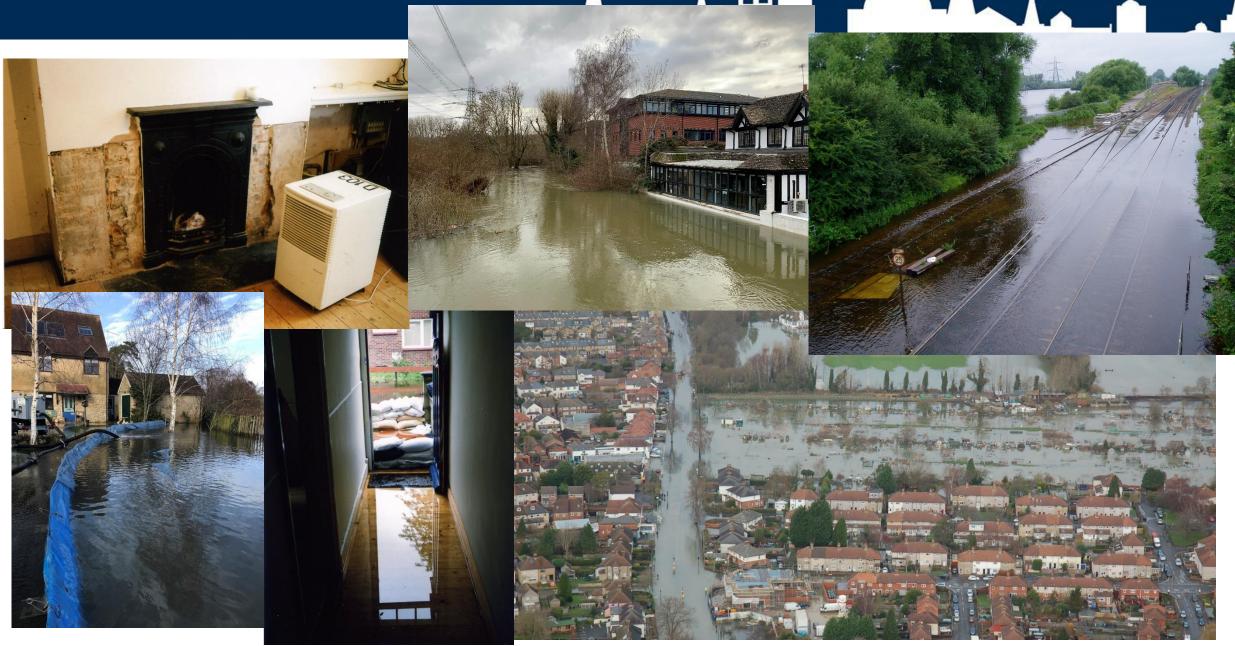
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How it works



Economic Benefits



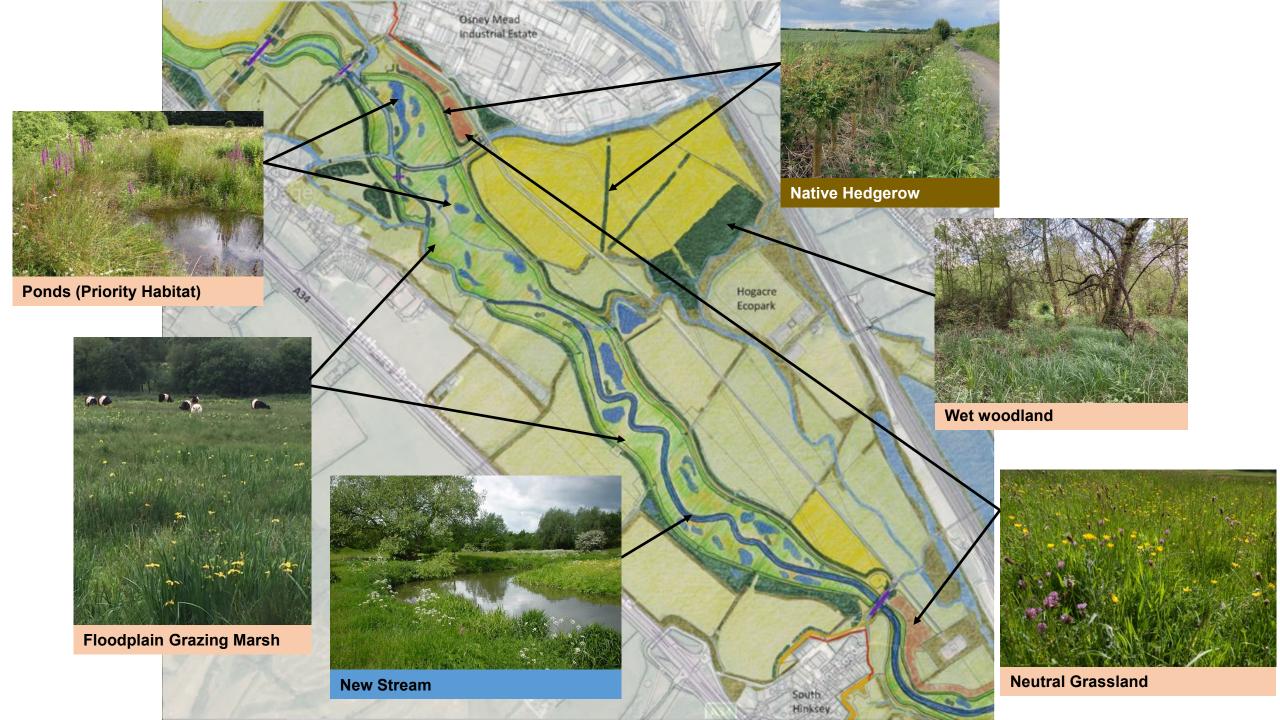




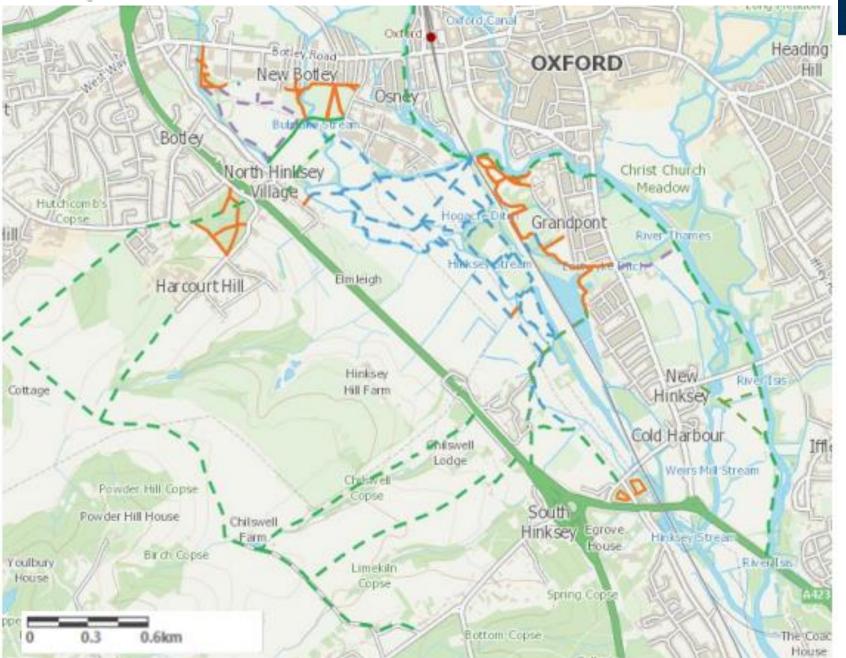
Landscape and Heritage

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Existing Path Network In and Around the Scheme Area







The Electric Road





Existing

Proposed Legend Bridleway (Public Right of Way) Footpath (Public Right of Way) Informal path Permissive path Bridge





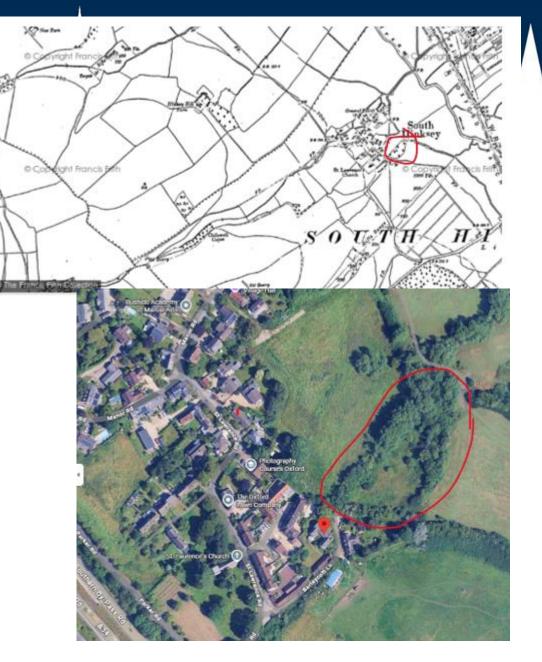






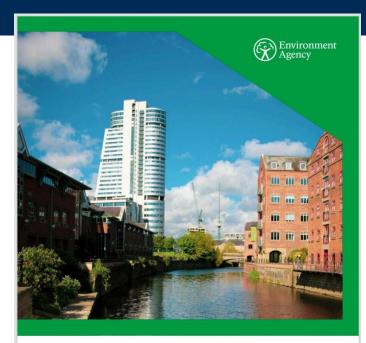


How changed is here each spot man makes or fills!
In the two Hinkseys nothing keeps the same;
The village street its haunted mansion lacks,
And from the sign is gone Sibylla's name,
And from the roofs the twisted chimney-stacks—
Are ye too changed, ye hills?
See, 'tis no foot of unfamiliar men
To-night from Oxford up your pathway strays!
Here came I often, often, in old days—
Thyrsis and I; we still had Thyrsis then.





Outcomes	Benefits
DEVELO	Improved physical and mental health
Enhanced access to water and nature	Community's increased sense of value and ownership of schemes
Foot, cycle or bridle path	Increased connection with nature
enhanced and/or created	Better connectivity of local and national trails and cycle paths, improved visitor experience
Creation of inclusive and was walk and	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION 40 REDUCED 44 SUSTAINABLE CITIES 49 RESPONSIBLE
equitable blue-green infrastructure	Unlocked the potential to increase local tourism and economic value
	Reduced number of vehicle journeys
Provision of safe, inclusive and	
universally accessible recreational, amenity and green	Improved air quality
space	Provision of sustainable and resilient community infrastructure which is inclusive and equitable



Chief Scientist's Annual Review 2024

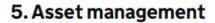
Chief Scientist's Group report

May 2025

Research and analysis

Flood and coastal erosion risk management areas of research interest

Published 8 May 2024



Flood and coastal erosion risk management assets can be any natural or man-made structure or feature, such as walls, buildings, earth embankments, shingle banks or raised areas of land. We need to understand how they can be best designed and operated.

Our research activities will support us to:

- 5.1 make assets safe and reliable through design and operation accounting for a changing climate
- 5.2 understand how assets perform in extreme situations (asset resilience), and be able to measure performance over time
- 5.3 improve how we consider assets as part of an infrastructure system that has multiple benefits for society and the environment
- 5.4 improve reliability in monitoring approaches to support the way flood and coastal risk assets are maintained

7. Net zero and sustainability

Managing flooding and coastal erosion supports government targets for UK emissions to reach net zero by 2050, mitigate any environmental loss, and enhance natural capital.

Our research activities will support us to:

- 7.1 embed environmental and biodiversity improvements in flood and coastal risk management
- 7.2 support how flood and coastal erosion risk management assets are designed and managed in a way that achieves net zero targets
- 7.3 limit emissions through the whole life cycle of flood and coastal risk assets from design to decommission



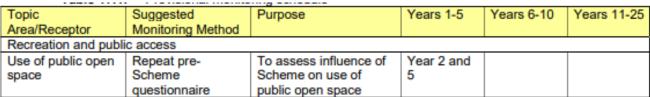
8. Integrated outcomes

Flood and coastal erosion risk management is inter-disciplinary and can provide multiple and integrated outcomes for society, the economy and the environment.

Our research activities will support us to:

- 8.1 solve existing and emerging environmental issues using solutions from different disciplines
- 8.2 use nature-based solutions that reduce flooding and coastal erosion and provide benefits for people and the environment
- 8.3 understand the effects of flooding and coastal change on rural places to improve resilience
- 8.4 understand and improve how social equity and health impacts are considered when managing flood and coastal risks

Social Value Monitoring Plans



What metrics show quality and value?

What encourages use?

How would we monitor benefits recreation brings?

How frequently should we monitor?





