

# Case Study: Ouse Washes

Status: In Progress

Type: A Conventional Seeding, Hydroseeding and Vegetation Management Project



*Aerial Photo courtesy of the EA.*

The Ouse Washes is a linear 2,513.6 hectare biological Site of Special Scientific Interest between the Old and New Bedford Rivers stretching from near St Ives in Cambridgeshire to Downham Market in Norfolk. The area between the rivers is 20 miles (32 km) long and almost a mile wide and acts as a floodplain during the winter and, increasingly, also in summer.



*The middle level barrier bank looking from salters lode towards Welney prior to grading and hydroseeding (left) and conversely the other way once established and in the maintenance phase (right).*

the hydroseeding to the banks by CDTs Ltd required specially selected seed mixes and careful management to ensure compliance with all the environmental elements.

***Stockpiled topsoil and Gault (clay) where hydroseeded in the later autumn months to stabilise and protect the site against water erosion and silt run off to into the environmentally sensitive counterdrains.***



The hydroseeding also needed to provide temporary protection to the slopes whilst ensuring rapid establishment of the grasses and wildflowers.



***Before and after seeding, looking northeast from Welney towards Downham market.***

If you require any further information about this project, please get in touch via the Contact page [here](#).