



the River Restoration Centre

Working to restore and enhance our rivers

Technical Advice

Deddington Brook, North Oxfordshire Pressures, Impacts and Restoration Assessment

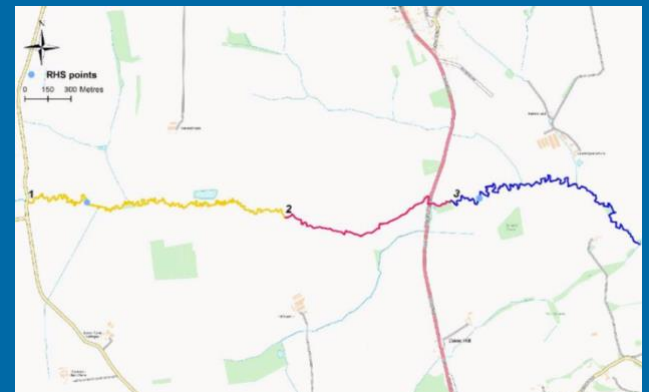
KEY INFO

Date: October 2018

Client: Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Type: Identification of pressures, impacts and restoration options

Themes: Biodiversity enhancement



Deddington Brook is a 17km long small tributary to the River Cherwell and has been historically modified. Now judged to have a poor ecological status, the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust commissioned the RRC to identify the main pressures and restoration options for the river stretch with a focus on improving the ecology.

Following a three-day walkover, a River Habitat Survey, a Geomorphological Assessment and Desk Based Assessments, the RRC provided recommendations for restoration for the river. These were broken into 5 reaches each with their own assessments and recommendations. Five main problems were identified including poor water quality from agricultural practices and stock grazing, low water quantity, barriers to fish migration, historic modification (dredging and realignment) and poor geomorphic features. Each reach was ranked against these pressures.

The RRC recommended a range of options such as fencing to prevent fine sediment build up in the river channel and tree planting to stabilise the riverbanks and create shade. Removal of several structures and continued monitoring of water quality was also suggested. The importance of educating citizens and particularly farmers was also emphasised as agriculture and stock were two of the most prominent pressures here.

	Reach contribution to catchment impacts					
	Water quantity	Water quality - chemical	Fine sediment	Barriers	Historic modification	Poor geomorphological processes
Reach 1	3	?	3	2	1	0
Reach 2	1	2	3	2	3	1
Reach 3	1	1	3	3	3	2
Reach 4	1	2	3	2	2	1
Reach 5	1	2	3	2	2	3