



the River Restoration Centre

Working to restore and enhance our rivers

Technical Advice

River Roding, Loughton

Restoration and habitat enhancement opportunities on the River Roding, Epping Forest

KEY INFO

Date: February 2018

Clients: Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)

Type: Habitat enhancement opportunities

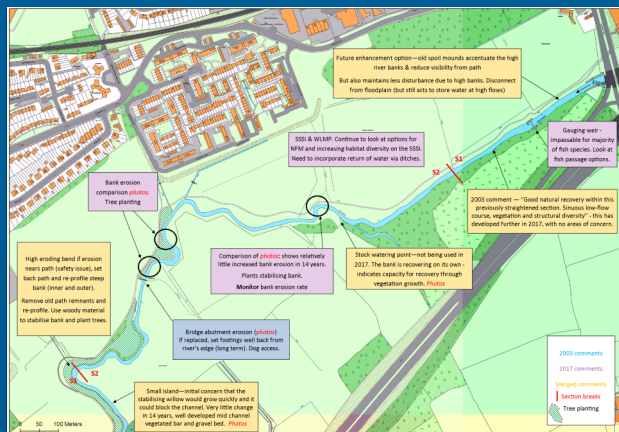
Themes: Bank erosion, Good Ecological Potential



RRC was asked by Epping Forest District Council to carry out an opportunities assessment on the River Roding near Loughton. EFDC were concerned about this meandering, actively eroding river, its high ecological diversity, and the use of flood storage in the parkland. We carried out a geomorphological walkover survey to identify pressures and opportunities for river restoration and habitat improvement with the aim of improving Natural Flood Management (NFM), biodiversity and Good Ecological Potential ([360° photo](#)).

This project followed on from a previous report RRC carried out in 2003 which assessed the channel and bank conditions. Observed changes were recorded and Fixed Point Photographs (FPP) were captured. The channel was mapped and assessed in a series of sections, same as those identified in the previous report. Based on the observed changes, we suggested a range of restoration techniques including:

- Fish passage and longitudinal connectivity at the upstream weir
- Instream habitat enhancement using woody debris
- Tree planting for bank stabilisation, floodplain roughness and NFM
- Formalising access including pathways in the park and access to the river for dogs to reduce bank erosion



Suggestions were prioritised, highlighting main actions, and it was recommended that an annual walkover survey should be carried out to record changes and capture FPP.