



RRC Site Visit Series

River Nar, Norfolk

Tuesday May 7th 2024

Join us in Norfolk on the River Nar to see 1.8km of restored river through Castle Acre Common. The aim was to restore natural profile, gradient, meander pattern and floodplain connectivity. This project was a 2022 UK River Prize Finalist.

The Project

This River Nar Water Environment Grant restoration project was a joint effort between local stakeholders, the three primary landowners, Norfolk Rivers Drainage Board and Charles Rangeley -Wilson supported by Natural England. Pre- and post-project monitoring has and still is being carried out by the Norfolk Rivers Trust.

1.8km of river were restored through Castle Acre Common heading downstream towards West Acre. The aim was to restore natural profile, gradient, meander pattern and floodplain connectivity. The channel, roughly 5m wide and 0.90m deep, was cut down to the undamaged gravel beds under the peat, moving it back to the lowest part of the floodplain. It was sculpted into a gentle pool-riffle-meander sequence, with multiple terraces and point bars to create marginal habitat. The shape of the channel was modelled on reference natural meanders immediately upstream of the project site.

A very large volume of heavy timber, root-wads, and whole limbs of oak, alder and ash were installed, with the help of a heavy horse, to imitate natural tree-fall and wind throw wood habitat and to accelerate natural processes.

Monitoring results show a wide range of size class and good numbers of trout (key indicator species for chalk stream health). Invertebrate numbers are also starting to better that of baseline surveys in the old channels.

Site visit lead

Paul George (Water Management Alliance)
Charles Rangeley-Wilson



Information

This site visit is **FREE to RRC members** (£10 deposit to be refunded following attendance at site visit). If space is available, non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £30. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please complete a booking form at the [link here](#). Booking closes when all spaces are allocated.

- The visit will start at 10:00 and end by 15:00. This will include time for a packed lunch (not supplied).
- Meeting point will be Fullers Lane Carpark, West Acre, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE32 1UE, what3words: fried.snuggled.shuttled Link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2pAcAcm26SjntQZj9>
- There is a small car park and some additional parking towards the Ford
- Wellington boots recommended as it may be wet, along with waterproof clothing, weather dependant

[Find out more](#)

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