

Test & Itchen River Restoration Strategy - Appendix B Progress Report

River (& local name)	Reach Code	SSSI Units	Management Option
Test - Tufton	T023	84	Restore
<p>Restoration Potential- Issues to address in Appendix B of the strategy:</p> <p>SU 4565146879</p> <p>Channel is over wide and various attempts have been made to narrow the channel through willow faggoting and the creation of an island at the downstream end of the reach. A large weir exists near Tufton.</p>			
<p>Restoration actions in Appendix B of the Strategy:</p> <p>Restore the channel through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structure removal or partial removal/lowering - Continue channel narrowing through in-channel measures. 			
<p>Restoration actions carried out: 2010</p> <p>These works were carried out at the start of the T&I River Restoration Strategy, 2010, under the guidance of the then Project Officer Tim Holzer. There were initial difficulties with local residents who wanted things to stay the same and did not see the benefits of narrowing. The large weir is also very close to a private house so there were concerns over any change. Eventually a lower crescent weir was built by Robert Bull to replace the previously high, straight weir. This lowered water upstream of the weir and helped concentrate the flow away from the banks. Downstream of the weir narrowing did take place from the true left bank for a distance of approximately 200m by pushing the bank in. The true right bank is unmanaged and already provided excellent habitat. The downstream island was also improved/strengthened to increase velocities to encourage macrophyte growth. A more subtle form of vegetation management of banks and beds was also encouraged.</p>			
Map:		Photograph after (date)	
 <p style="text-align: center;">Location of weir</p>			
<p>Restoration actions carried out (continued):</p>			
<p>Actions not carried out and justification:</p> <p>Complete weir removal due to local residents and reducing upstream water levels too much for the upstream owner. Softer bankside restoration along tlb. Not able to happen due to resistance from residence.</p>			
<p>Future work and recommendations:</p> <p>That bankside and in-channel vegetation is managed to promote variation, cover and habitat throughout the year.</p>			