

# 2013 Response to EA Challenges & Choices – Water for Life and Livelihoods

## Bungay Cherry Tree Angling Club via D. Gladwell (Secretary) endorsed by its Committee

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### **“JUST NO GOOD” or “NOT GOOD ENOUGH” - particularly regarding the River Waveney!**

For accuracy and equitable viewpoints, it is a very poor performance is reflected when we arrive at the Main document page 29 for the Broadland Rivers Catchment Area! Why? Because **no mention is made whatsoever of the River Waveney**. It totally ignores that most of the Upper Waveney is not allied to the Broads or in the Broads Authority area. The majority of the Waveney’s problems are related to its Upper reaches where there is a history of disastrous effects from low dissolved oxygen levels including mortalities. The importance of the River Waveney needs significant improvement and recognition in the attitude of the Environment Agency and there should be pressure from the MP’s (to whom a copy of this Report Response is circulated), within the Area via DEFRA, to achieve this. Page 14 (Item 7 may) well include “changes to natural flow” but in many places flow is blocked and overgrown dykes and parts of the River Waveney prevent the flow being what it once was, because EA budgets have been cut by successive Governments subsequently debilitating the environment.

***It is important to obtain and view this cited supporting document below because its statistical tables’ relevance reveal the true disappointing and under-achieving situations:***

□ **Anglian River Basin District facts and statistics** – Further information on the statistics for the Anglian River Basin District. This contains information such as water body classification results and reasons for being classified at lower than good ecological condition. It contains details on the protected areas that fall under special legal protection. To access the document, visit <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/140076.aspx>

“• The best way to address these issues and what should be done first (the choices)” – **more attention to importance of Dissolved Oxygen levels!**

### **EA DOCUMENT – “Facts and Statistics Summary” References:**

It is clearly not good enough that none of the entries whatsoever throughout the entire publication, contain **any** categories of “GOOD” only having “MODERATE”; “POOR” AND “BAD” !

It should be noted that throughout the Document the Showings within “*Top elemental Failures*” for most of the various Regions, include Readings and calculated entries for “**Dissolved Oxygen**”.

Almost without exception (no reference for the Nene on p. 22) these are categorized as “BAD”.

It must be mentioned that for the “Old Bedford and Middle Level (p. 36) an appalling amount is “BAD” and NO “FISH” returns are recorded.

As low **Dissolved Oxygen** levels affect the health of fly larvae, invertebrates, insect life and fish present, with life and death possibilities, it should be the case that **Dissolved Oxygen** merits special attention.

However throughout the entire Document there is **not one single paragraph** devoted to **Dissolved Oxygen** whereas it should be a priority for the Environment Agency with its obligations to “**SUSTAINIBILITY**” and its claims to profess such a responsibility within its statutory duty as allied to DEFRA.

□ **The significant issues that are limiting the benefits society obtains from the water environment. (the challenges)**

An even more blatant abrogation of responsibility is revealed upon page 12 where **Dissolved Oxygen** is not even listed among the bulleted six “significant issue” items.

These omissions constitute an inadequate and incomplete assessment in the Document.

**BROADLAND CATCHMENT** - In the Broadland analysis (p.26), the expressed data shows “BAD” for 25% within the scales in relation to the **Dissolved Oxygen**.

Further attention needs to be drawn to the entry for “**FISH**” where the presentation records 45% is “**POOR**”. **AGAIN** there is clearly room for a vast improvement as Leisure activities and Tourism have established revenues that rely heavily upon a respectable Fish presence.

**Finally it has to be said that the National TV News on 9 August featured a widespread EA problem in its Rivers**