

Case Study Orford Beck, Orford



"The work that the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project has undertaken has improved the habitat greatly; what was once a barren ditch is now a thriving habitat. Water vole have recently colonised the stretch, which is excellent news."

Estate Manager, 2007



Chalk Streams
of Lincolnshire 

The Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project
Tel: 01507 609740
www.lincswolds.org.uk

Project location:
Orford, Lincolnshire

Date:
December 2003 - June 2004

Cost:
£25,000

Site description:
A straightened, shaded and steep sided channel with a uniform bed bounded by arable and woodland. Little habitat for wetland species.

Special considerations:
The site will be used as a demonstration project, and therefore utilise a number of differing techniques.

Completed project:

- Selective clearance of stream-side trees to increase light penetration.
- Excavation of several wetland shelves to improve marginal habitat.
- Introduction of water crow-foot.
- Installation of in-stream flow deflectors to increase scour.

Benefits:

- Increased water velocity and scour, therefore improving spawning conditions for trout and bullhead.
- Increased light penetration and therefore increased diversity of plant species.
- Creation of a multi-stage channel.
- Increased aquatic invertebrate species; up from 12 to 39 different species.

