

Abi Williams

From: [REDACTED]@wildtrout.org>
Sent: 01 October 2026 17:25
To: Abi Williams
Cc: Maureen Brierley
Subject: Management of Stockbridge Meadows ponds

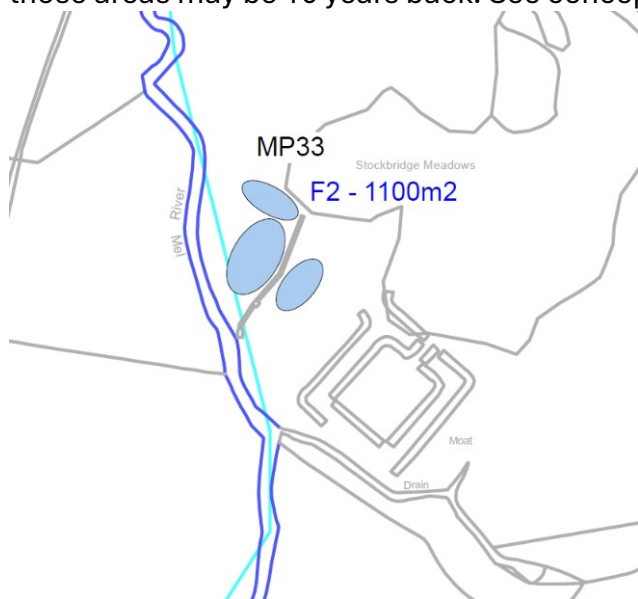
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Hello Abi,

I believe that in the spring Les and Maureen shared news of our intention to support the parish with maintenance of the Stockbridge Meadows ponds. I have been able to show the site to my project partners, and we would like to pursue the opportunity.

A little background to the matter, Cambridge Water Company (CWC) are tasked with delivering habitat improvements to the Mel (and a number of other local rivers), I have partnered-up with Ruth Hawksley (Cambs Wildlife Trust) and Stuart Bennett + Simon Saggars (South Cambs Conservation Consultants). Simon has persuaded CWC that we are the best local people to find the opportunities and to deliver them. We have been given a rate per feature for delivery.

To make maintenance of the ponds cost-effective we proposed to clean-out at 3 areas. I established those areas may be 10 years back. See concept map extract below:



The spoil would stay on site and be deposited beneath the willows to the NW of site (as done before). Ecology matters would be addressed by Ruth Hawksley (an experienced water vole surveyor).

I seek your written approval to the offer. We expect to deliver in later Aug/Sept 2027 (yet to be refined). We require written approval by mid-November so that we can take your permission to CWC.

I have kept Les and Maureen informed, they remain supportive. They asked about maintenance costs, maintenance is crucial to sustain what is created. You should seek a quote from a local

landscape management company for 1-2 days work of brush-cutter work to take down all standing reed over the ponded areas (not the entire wetland) together with its raking-up and piling at agreed sites (such as a pile in full sun and the remainder taken beneath trees). If you could arrange for some cutting this winter that would be ideal as I would then be able to mark out areas for later excavation. I urge you to get that done this side of Christmas before the water table rises. In subsequent years it would be done in Sept (once birds have bred and the ground is generally dry. Cutting should not be needed in 2027 if we undertake the excavation).

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Kind regards

Rob Mungovan
Conservation Officer East Anglia and Central, The Wild Trout Trust



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