



Southern Region Habitat Creation Programme



Delivering Sustainable Flood Risk Management in the South East

The Environment Agency are seeking opportunities to create and develop new coastal and wetland habitats to secure sustainable flood risk management solutions for the South East. This work is being undertaken in partnership with Natural England and other interested organisations and landowners through the Southern Region Habitat Creation Programme.

The aim of the Habitat Creation Programme is to provide an overview and delivery mechanism of the habitat required to offset losses caused by flood risk management schemes. The programme searches for suitable sites to recreate this habitat and will ensure compensatory habitat is in place prior to any habitat loss. This allows important flood risk management schemes to progress in the most sustainable way, whilst ensuring that our internationally important wildlife sites are protected. The programme will also create habitat to help us meet national Biodiversity Action Plan targets.



We are seeking to create intertidal habitat (saltmarsh and mudflat) around the coast and estuaries to make up for any losses caused by sea level rise and flood risk management works along the coastline of South East England, and freshwater habitats, including reedbed and grazing marsh, to counteract

any losses due to intertidal habitat creation and to secure their long term sustainable management.

We are currently looking for suitable sites in the following locations and would welcome your interest in the programme:

- In the wider coastal zone of Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.
- On the Thames, Medway and Swale estuaries in Kent.
- Along river valleys.
- Around the Solent, and Portsmouth, Langstone, Chichester and Pagham harbours.



Options for landowners who may be interested in working with us to create new areas of habitat include:

- Land purchase
- Legal agreement
- Joint approach with Natural England to secure High Level Stewardship payments.

We are looking for opportunities in the short and longer term; the next decade and beyond. Please contact us if you think you might be interested and want to discuss whether your land would be suitable, timing and future options.

For more information contact:

Ruth.Jolley@environment-agency.gov.uk

Rebecca.Reynolds@environment-agency.gov.uk

or for Natural England contact:

Nikki.Hiorns@naturalengland.org.uk