

A Better Biss Approach (ABBA) | 2020-21 Review

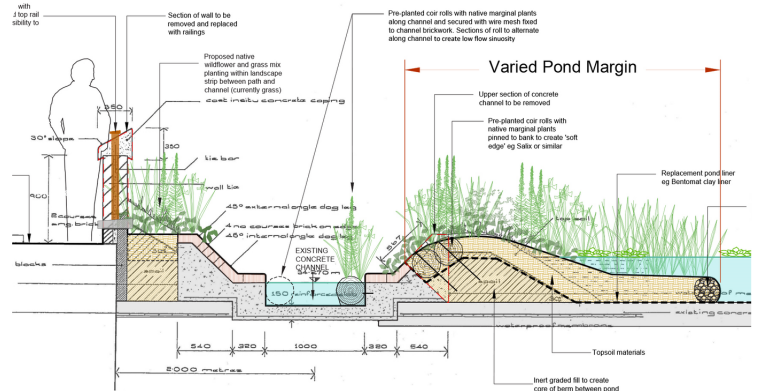
ABBA is a multi-year project lead by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust bringing together a number of partners to deliver a range of projects across the Biss catchment to:

- Restore and enhance the Biss catchment to improve habitat to create spaces that are great for wildlife and people to share.
- Increase engagement with the river among landowners, communities and businesses, leading to a legacy of protection of the river.

What have we be doing?

Trowbridge Town Pond

Working closely with Trowbridge Town Council and residents of Trowbridge we've re-designed the Town Pond for future delivery to create space for wildlife and a more inviting space for local residents to enjoy and engage with nature.



Developing Habitat Improvement Projects

We've developed two habitat enhancement projects to increase habitat quality for wildlife and will invite local residents to help deliver each. The first is on the River Biss working with the Friends of Biss Meadows, whilst the second is on the Bitham Brook working with Westbury Town Council.

Walkover Surveys and Landowner Engagement

Over 30km of the catchments watercourses have been surveyed and 28 landowners engaged, helping to identify priority areas for future habitat improvement projects.

Community Initiatives

We've produced an online Storymap to engage and inform local communities on ABBA and the Biss catchment. This will be published soon and updated throughout the project.

We're developing a programme of events for a River Week to raise awareness of Trowbridge's rivers and include Blue Business Awards to recognise businesses who take steps to reduce their impact on local rivers.

And finally, we are currently running a river based art competition for children in Trowbridge, and have recently purchased state of the art water quality testing kit to use as an engagement tool to for future school groups.

Contact water@wiltshirewildlife.org for more information or to get involved.



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