



# Benacre & Kessingland Flood Management Project

April 2025

## Work is underway

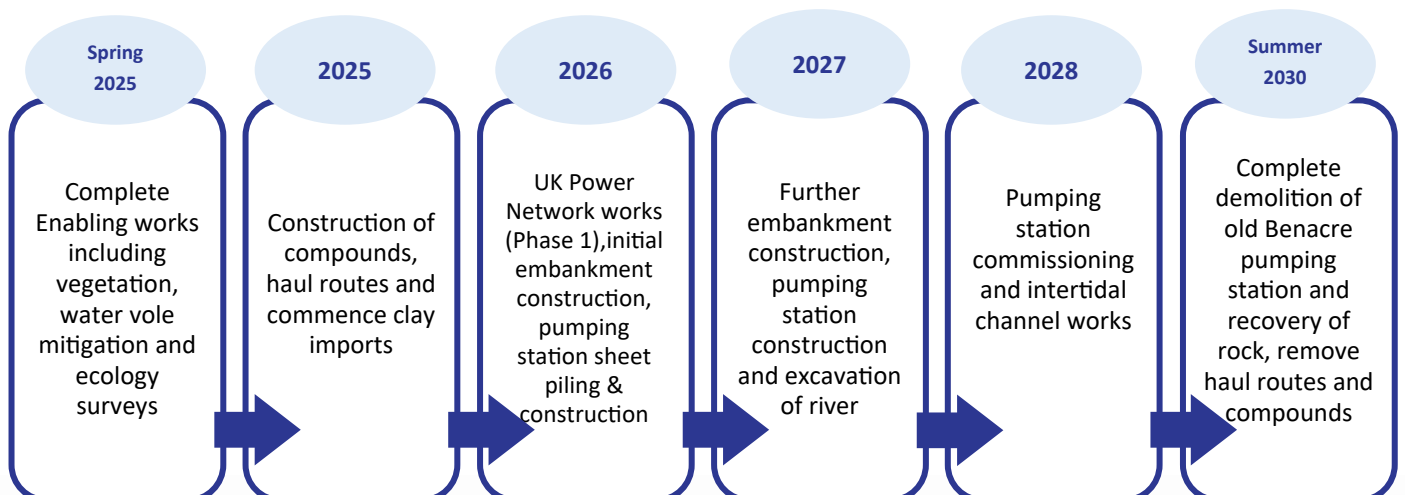
Since 3 March 2025 our contractors Balfour Beatty have been on site ensuring we can complete the enabling works within the ecology window. This prevents delays to the project and ensures we keep to delivery programme. These Enabling Works include:

- Installing a temporary site compound and improving compound access
- Vegetation clearance
- Significant water vole mitigation
- Updated species surveys



Aerial view showing Google Earth and proposed layout of embankments, new river and breach. © Edward Vere Nicoll ©Google Earth (2024)

## Timeline



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## Design and construction



The project consists of two embankments and two pumping stations.

The pumping stations will use Archimedes screw pumps, to provide efficient, fish-friendly water management and greater capacity to manage increased water volumes, accounting for the added flood risk caused by climate change.

The existing PS has a capacity of just over 4 cumecs. The new Lothingland pumping station will have a capacity of 10.2 cumecs and the Kessingland pumping station will have a capacity of 0.75.

The embankments will be clay with design heights of 4.5metres , 4.5metres width at the crest. They will have 1:4 slopes to a 1:20 graduated slope into the Intertidal area.

During construction the public footpath along beach farm road will remain open via a diversion and public access to the beach will be maintained until intertidal channel works commence.

*Top left: Design view (looking south) of the Kessingland pumping station intake*

*Bottom left : Design view (looking east) of the Lothingland pumping station intake*

## Intertidal Enhancement

The flood risk management project will complete with the demolition of the old Benacre pumping station and the construction of a intertidal channel through the existing coastal defences, creating 82 hectares of intertidal habitat.

The Benacre Estate are leading on the design and construction of new islands and landforms through this area to enhance the intertidal habitat. The aim is to make provision for the creation of an enhanced mosaic of intertidal and coastal habitats that will be valuable for

migratory and breeding farmland birds, waterfowl and seabirds. These landforms are designed to blend in with the local landscape, tying in with higher natural ground or grading into the front slope of the new embankments. In places the landform is designed to elevate into the zone where upper saltmarsh-transitional habitat will develop creating high tide roosting areas for migratory waterfowl and seabirds.



Read more or subscribe to project news updates at [www.wlma.org.uk/news](http://www.wlma.org.uk/news)