

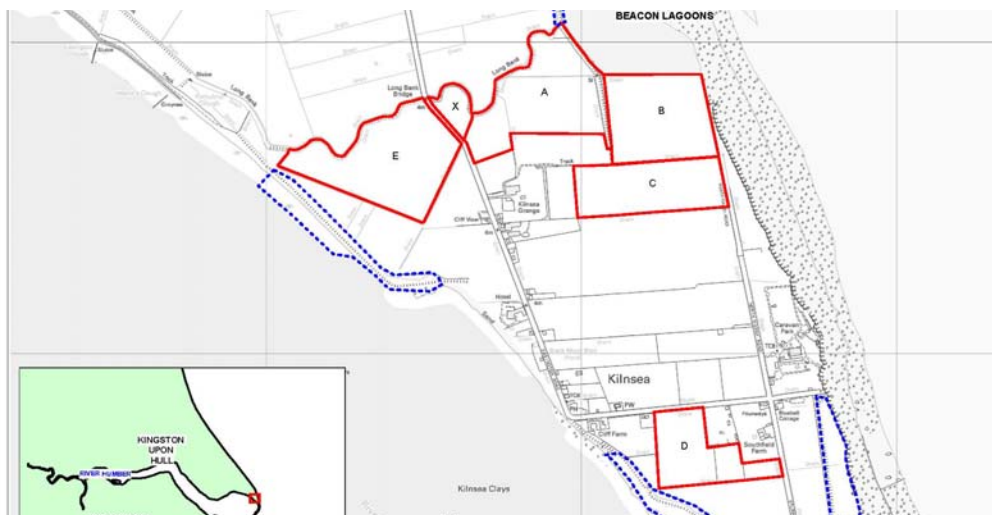
Creating wildlife habitat in Kilnsea

Update December 2011

We've been working in the Kilnsea area since August 2011. We are creating a new habitat area next to Beacon Lagoons Nature Reserve, north of Kilnsea, to replace habitat that is being lost due to coastal erosion.

The car park area currently is being used as the temporary site compound. We'll use the material we've laid down here once the project is finished to rebuild a new car park.

Members from the biodiversity steering group have met regularly on site to review progress of the project and help steer the development of the wetlands. The map below shows the areas (in red outline) where we are working:



Area A- detailed archaeological study was required for works in this area as this is where the deepest excavation was to be undertaken. During the excavation a number of interesting finds have been unearthed (See right).

Most recently a full skeletal form of what is considered likely to be of a bronze/iron age man.

The archaeological work is now complete.



To the south we have used the mud from the scraped site ground to create a mound wall around the area. It will act as a habitat for birds. The next stage of this work will create some shallow scrapes, they will have a mound approximately one metre high around

Area B – We've finished creating two scrapes here. All surplus material from this area has been transferred to Area C to form a screening wall (a bund) along the southern edge of the field. The existing bund to the Northern end of this area will be lowered to the 4.3 metres.

Area C - The main scrapes have been finished here. The excess material from field B and C have been used to form a bund along the length of the field.

Area D - YWT field off Kilnsea Road was the first area to be worked on. Two large scrapes of varying depths have been excavated. The land drain across the site has been replaced. This will ensure that the scrapes do not drain away and remain wet. An existing open ditch to the east of this field has been reprofiled and widened. A cattle crossing point has been created over the drain from the south east corner of the field into the adjacent field.

Area E - Long Bank Marsh - Several scrapes across the field have been created. The excavated material has been used to create a screening bund along the south eastern fence line and used to block some of the northern drain.

This has been done to ensure:

- ➔ grazing is still available for 2012.
- ➔ field levels do not affect the land acting as a wetland,
- ➔ there are biodiversity benefits such as habitat for Roesel's bush cricket and other wildlife and
- ➔ screened access to the site

We have now lowered the new bund to ease residents concerns about height.

We've also been working on the land drains in this field by to ensure the land remains wet and waterlogged. Drains have been located as deep as 1.3 metres.

During the next weeks:

We plan to have the major earthworks complete by the Christmas break. Work after this time will be on fencing, finishing work and future management of the site.

The site will be in use between 0700 and 1800 Monday to Friday, and 0800 and 1300 Saturday, unless otherwise advised.

If you have any specific questions please call us on 03708 506 506 or email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk