

## About the Project

The Magdalen Fen Strategy Project is a vital initiative aimed at safeguarding communities, properties, and agricultural land within the Magdalen Fen catchment, part of the King's Lynn Internal Drainage Board (IDB). The project focuses on replacing aging infrastructure and upgrading key water management assets to improve resilience against future flooding. Planned works include the installation of new pumping systems, a 30-metre culvert, and the decommissioning of outdated facilities. These improvements will not only enhance drainage efficiency, but also consider ecological impacts, ensuring the project supports both people and nature.

Delivered in partnership with experienced contractors and consultants, and supported by funding from an Environment Agency Grant-in-Aid alongside a contribution from the Board, the project represents a significant investment in long-term flood resilience.

At present, 64 households are classed as being at significant flood risk and a further 55 at moderate flood risk. By upgrading infrastructure that is nearing the end of its service life, the project will reduce these risks, securing land, homes, and livelihoods for years to come. In doing so, it reflects the Board's mission to provide sustainable water management solutions that protect communities and the environment alike.



### Magdalen Bridge Outfall: Culvert Works Near Completion

Work at the Magdalen Bridge Outfall on Magdalen High Road is nearing completion. This part of the project included the installation of a new 30-metre culvert with inlet and outlet headwall structures, both fitted with modern flow control devices to improve drainage efficiency.

The works are expected to complete in September. By ensuring the system meets current standards, the improvements will strengthen flood resilience while also taking account of ecological requirements, including water vole surveys carried out earlier in the year.

This milestone marks significant progress and allows the project team to turn attention to the next major works.

*Left above: The new culvert pipework is installed in July 2025.  
Photo Credits Breheny Civil Engineering*

*Left below: The new outfall headwall is lifted into place in August 2025.  
Photo Credit WMA*

## CONTACT US

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## Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station: Major Upgrades Begin in September

From September, work will begin at Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station on Stow Road, Stowbridge. The station's outdated systems will be replaced with two new 1.125 cumec fish-friendly pumps and modern motor control centres (MCC).

These upgrades will not only extend the life of the pumping station, but also improve efficiency and reduce environmental impact, with fish-friendly technology supporting local river ecology. The site will also be landscaped as part of the decommissioning of the old diesel station in 2026, ensuring the area blends back into its surroundings once construction is complete.

This upgrade is a key step in securing long-term protection for nearby homes, farmland, and infrastructure.



*Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station April 2025.  
Photo Credit WMA*

## Waltham Farm Pumping Station: Replacement Archimedes Screw Pump Installation Starts October



*An Archimedes screw pump*



In October, the focus will shift to Waltham Farm Pumping Station, located on Fen Road near Stowbridge village. Here, the existing pump system will be replaced with a 0.213 cumec Archimedes screw pump, supported by a new MMC, weedscreen, discharge pipe with flap valve, and headwall.

The upgrades will significantly enhance local drainage capacity, ensuring reliable flood protection well into the future. Together with improvements at Crabbs Abbey and Magdalen Bridge, this work completes the package of improvement works across the Magdalen Fen catchment.

Once finished, the Waltham Farm upgrades will provide modern, sustainable infrastructure that underpins both community safety and environmental resilience.

*Left: The current Archimedes screw pump at Waltham Farm Pumping Station.  
Photo Credit WMA*



### Get in touch

We're here to help. If you have any questions or feedback about the ongoing works, please contact the WMA Project Team:  
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