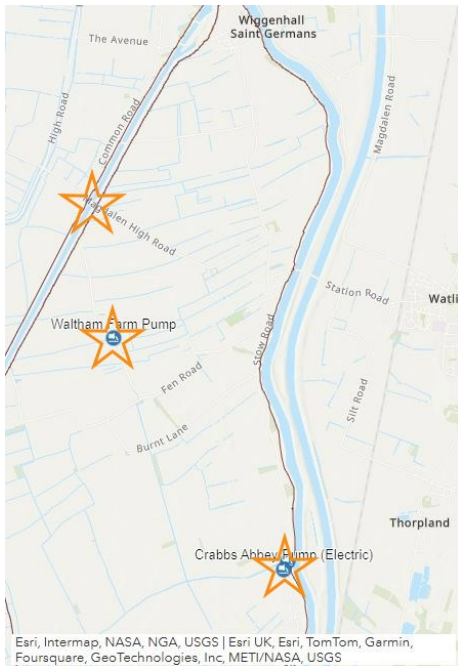


Progress across the Project



The Magdalen Fen Strategy Project continues to make strong progress, with key milestones achieved and the final phase now in sight. The project is focused on upgrading essential water management infrastructure to improve flood resilience across the catchment, protecting homes, farmland and the wider fenland environment.

Two major elements of the scheme have now been successfully completed, marking significant steps forward in delivering a more reliable and efficient drainage system. Attention will soon turn to the final phase at Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station, as the project moves closer to completion.

The project covers three key sites:

Magdalen Bridge Outfall: Completed August 2025

Waltham Farm Pump Station: Completed January 2026

Crabbs Abbey Pump Station: Ongoing

Left: Map showing the locations of the pumping stations and outfall

Magdalen Bridge Outfall: Works Complete

Works at Magdalen Bridge Outfall were successfully completed in August 2025.

This phase included the installation of a new 30-metre culvert (piped watercourse), along with upgraded inlet and outfall structures fitted with flap valves (non-return valve that allows flow in one direction and automatically prevents backflow). These improvements have enhanced flow control and increased drainage capacity along Magdalen High Road, providing a more reliable outfall for the wider drainage network.

Find out more: www.wlma.org.uk/projects/magdalen-fen-magdalen-bridge-outfall



Right above: The new outfall headwall is lifted into place in August 2025. Photo Credit WMA

Right below: The new outfall headwall of completed project. Photo Credit WMA

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Waltham Farm Pumping Station: Upgrade Complete

Works at Waltham Farm Pumping Station are now complete, providing a modern and efficient replacement for the previous asset.

The station has been upgraded with a new Archimedes screw pump and motor control centre (MCC) panels (mechanical and electrical command centre), alongside a weedscreen (collects large debris stopping it entering the pumps), discharge pipe, and flap valve (non-return valve that allows flow in one direction and automatically prevents backflow). Additional improvements include replacement steel mesh flooring to enhance on-site safety and new telemetry monitoring systems to improve operational efficiency.

Together, these upgrades deliver a more reliable and resilient system for managing water levels across the surrounding area. This investment plays an important role in reducing flood risk and supporting the long-term resilience of the Magdalen Fen catchment

Find out more:

www.wlma.org.uk/projects/magdalen-fen-waltham-farm



*New Archimedes Screw being lifted into position in November 2025
Aerial Image of the upgraded Waltham Farm Pumping Station. Photo Credits WMA*

Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station: Final Phase Ahead

The final phase of the project will focus on Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station, where significant upgrades are planned. These include the installation of **two new fish-friendly pumps** and modern motor control systems, as well as the decommissioning of the redundant diesel station.

The new motor control systems were installed before Christmas 2025, however further progress at this site has been delayed due to the challenging winter weather conditions and the inability to safely overpump drainage network flows across the road (Stow Road, north of Stow Bridge) during prolonged wet periods.



Aerial Image of the Crabbs Abbey Pumping Station. Photo Credit WMA

Work on installing the new pumps is planned to take place in late Spring, completing the final stage of the project, by Summer 2026.

Find out more: www.wlma.org.uk/projects/magdalen-fen-crabbs-abbey/

Stay Informed



To learn more about the project, please explore our project webpages and earlier news updates at www.wlma.org.uk/projects/magdalen-fen. If you would like to be notified

of project news updates you can subscribe to our email news updates by emailing project.delivery@wlma.org.uk

Get in touch



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

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