

ACOMB LANDING WATER TREATMENT WORKS , GALLIFORDTRY



BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

Yorkshire Water commissioned ETM, a joint venture between GallifordTry and Aecom Design Build, to undertake work at Acomb Landing Water Treatment Works (WTW). Acomb Landing WTW supplies the centre of York with potable water. The project scope was to construct a new river intake and treatment plant on the existing site.

100 tansy plants were planted at four locations along the River Ouse embankment by project staff after completion of work at Acomb Landing WTW. The rare tansy beetle is one of Britain's most endangered insect species and is only found at one location in the UK. Its distribution is currently restricted to a 45 kilometre stretch of the River Ouse near York, North Yorkshire.

Tansy Beetles feed on tansy plants and lay their eggs on tansy plant leaves between April and June. The distribution of tansy plants vary due to competition by invasive plants such as Himalayan Balsam. As tansy beetles do not fly they must find new clumps of tansy plant by walking. As tansy beetles have a poor sense of smell they find it hard to detect this aromatic plant, hence the importance of planting at regular intervals. ETM collaborated with City of York Council and Yorkshire Water to identify appropriate locations for planting along the river bank. Planting was completed at these locations to narrow the distance between tansy plant clumps and enhance planting already completed by The Conservation Volunteers.

This biodiversity enhancement has helped ETM achieve its biodiversity enhancement target for financial year 2013/14, and supported ETM's strategic alignment with Yorkshire Water's Strategic Business Objective of 'Excellent Catchments, Rivers and Coasts'.



Fact box

Company name:

GallifordTry

Project name:

Acomb Landing Water Treatment Works

Location:

York

Biodiversity enhancement:

habitat for the tansy beetle

Size:

N/A

Cost:

£100

Tips:

- The ideal planting location is away from shade and competition from other tall growing plants.
- The gap between clumps should be less than 200 metres.

Year completed:

2014

Categories:

- Small scale permanent