



## SHILLINGFORD 'RIVER OF LIFE' HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

Habitat improvement works to a section of the River Thames at Shillingford, Oxfordshire have resulted in new backwaters, wet woodland, reed beds, ponds and scrapes as well as improved pasture and arable fields, which now attract a range of wildlife to this carefully developed section owned by the Earth Trust.

Two kilometres of river were improved during this project for the Environment Agency which saw the installation of culverts to link the wetland features with the River Thames, and clay lining of a ditch. In typical Land & Water fashion, the excavated materials were also re-used to improve nearby arable fields.

### Project Delivery

- Bulk movement of 35,000m<sup>3</sup> of earth around the site
- Formation of 12no ponds (1.3ha)
- Formation of 2no reed beds (0.57 ha)
- Formation of 5no backwaters (1.73 ha)
- Formation of a fen
- Culverts to link wetland and river

Public footpaths and bridleways were diverted during the works and while weather conditions were extremely challenging at times, the project was completed on time.



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The Land & Water Group are award-winning inland waterway and coastal project specialists based in the UK. Throughout their 37-year history, they have become synonymous with finding creative and effective solutions to complex challenges in the specialist environment where land and water meet. Often working in difficult or unpredictable landscapes, their work is always completed with attention to the local surroundings, people and environment.



### Project Particulars

- Project was carried out for the Environment Agency on land owned by the Earth Trust
- Project took place in sub-optimal weather period of October – December 2013
- Habitat improvement project



PROJECT  
VALUE:

£445,000