

Isobella Wise
Wiltshire Council
Development Control West
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Our ref: WX/2025/139204/01-L01

Your ref: PL/2025/05596

Date: 22 August 2025

Dear Isobella,

CREATE WETLAND INCLUDING PONDS, SCRAPES AND DITCHES

LAND AT STOCKHAM MARSH NEAR FOXHAM, WILTSHIRE

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on this application.

Environment Agency position – no objection

We have no objection to this application as both the ponds and culverts are located within flood zone 1, as documented in the 'Flood Risk Scoping Report' by Hydro-Morph (Rev 4, MAY 2025)

Advice to Applicant – Fisheries, Biodiversity & Geomorphology

The ponds, ditches and culvert are not directly on-line with the Cade Burns stream therefore impacts to fisheries interests are limited. It is assumed that fish will not be intentionally stocked into these ponds, though fish may naturally find their way into the ponds by the transfer of eggs. There is a risk that if fish are present and water levels recede during dry weather conditions, fish may become stranded and risk dying, therefore the applicant needs to be aware of this risk. The local Environment Agency's Fisheries Team would be happy to provide advice regarding fisheries management aspects of the site if fish are to be stocked to the ponds in the future. If the applicant wants to contact the Fisheries Team, they can do so by Email: sw_nwessexfrb@environment-agency.gov.uk or Tel: 03708 506506.

It is noted from the Flood Risk Scoping Report that re-meandering of the Cade Burns stream was rejected as a project opportunity at the current time. A greater benefit to fish populations would be achieved through habitat restoration and re-meandering of the Cade Burns stream and it is hoped that this could be progressed in future years. There is a missed opportunity to design an anastomosed system that utilises a more sinuous main channel, with a series of minor 'high flow activated' scrapes/ channels.

There are no details regarding future maintenance of the ponds. As there is no through-flow (they are not online with the watercourse), there is a risk over time they will become silted up as sediment is not being flushed through. Also, plants may encroach to the point they are preventing open water being available. These aspects should be considered.

Note to LPA

Please provide us with a URL of the decision notice, or an electronic copy of the decision notice or outcome.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Sherrard
Sustainable Places - Planning Advisor

wx.sp@environment-agency.gov.uk