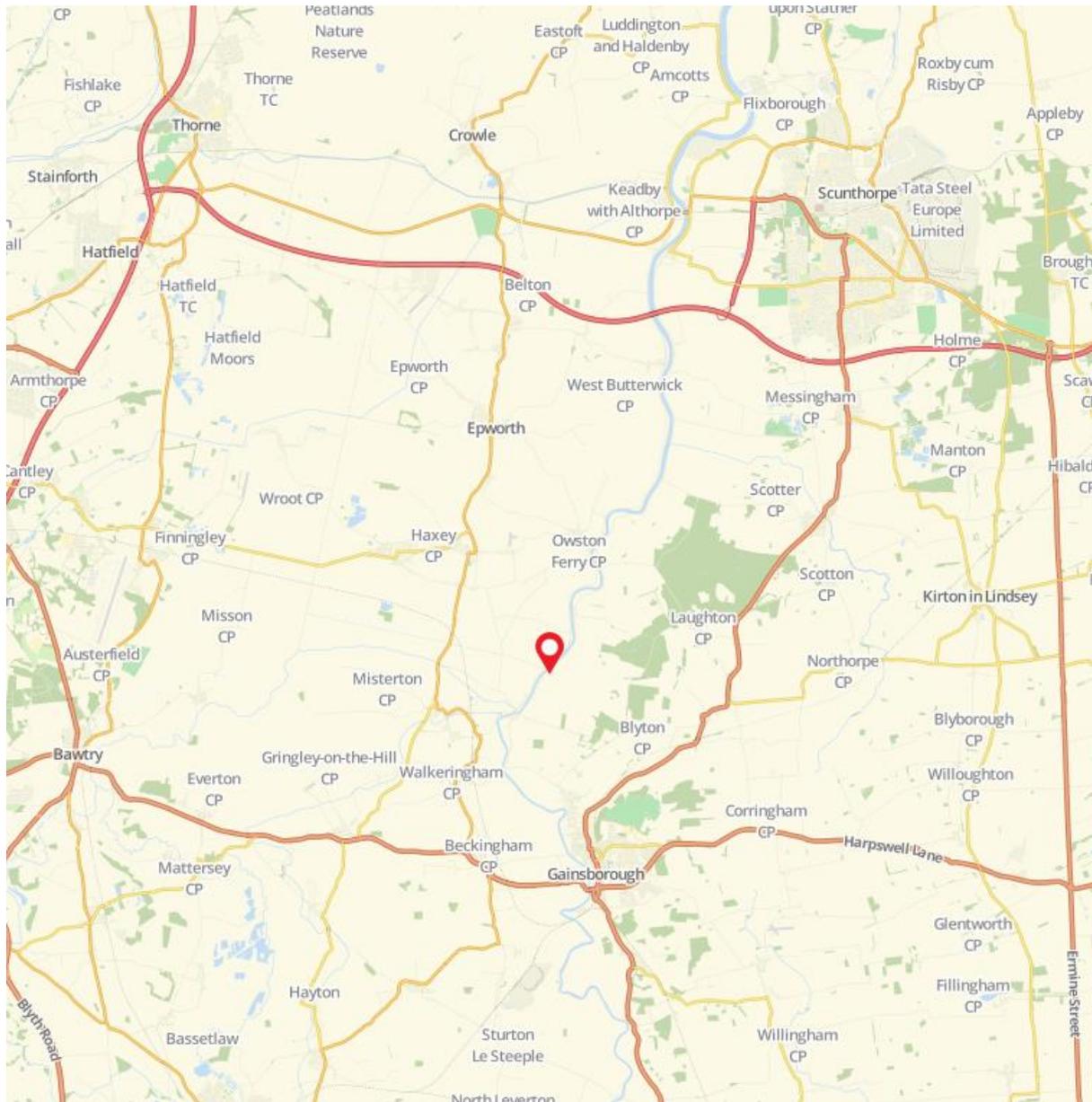


GISmapp



GISmapp

General details

Drain Name

Ravensfleet Area

Location

Lon: -0.7954009529210584

Lat: 53.4536312241605032

Accuracy: 5

Location source: GPS

Local X: 480089

Local Y: 395884

Local system: OSGB36

Survey Date

12/04/2016 10:40

Surveyor

Alison Briggs BSc, MSc Environment Officer

Site description/conditions

Extremely wet conditions, heavy rain, saturated ground.

Drains surveyed:

Ravensfleet Warping Drain – 3000m

Plowland Drain – 240m

Ten Foot Drain – 1500m

Princes Drain – 825m

GISmapp

General Photographs

Plowland Drain to Ten Foot Drain section. Large stands of broad leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*), native to slow flowing freshwater habitats. Scattered small stands of the large perennial grass Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) at drain edges. Small stand of water starwort (*Callitriche sp.*) at junction with Ten Foot Drain. No evidence of water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*).



Ten Foot Drain

Large stands of broad leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*), water starwort (*Callitriche sp.*) and small stands of ivy-leaved crowfoot (*Ranunculus hederaceus*), which prefers sandy soils with fine organic covering in slow flow ditches. Ochre (hydrated iron oxide (Fe_2O_3)), a natural pigment, was found in this drain. No evidence of water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*).

Princes Drain

First half of Princes Drain from Laughton Road is map marked as Board maintained however it is not, mainly because of landowner installed fencing and associated access issues. The drain is maintained by the Board from NGR: 482162, 394246.

Drain contains large stands of broad leaved (*Potamogeton natans*), water starwort small stands of ivy-leaved crowfoot (*hederaceus*), with areas of common rush (*Juncus effusus*) at the toe of each this drain had soft sand bottom and the marked by incursion/erosion of the horizon. An extensive rabbit (*Oryctolagus*) occupies the north bank of this drain, no vole (*Arvicola amphibious*) was seen.



pondweed (*Callitriche sp.*) and (*Ranunculus* also known as soft bank. Sections of water level was overlying peat (*cuniculus*) warren evidence of water

GISmapp

Ravensfleet Warping Drain

The drain carries extensive stands of broad leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*) and stands of water starwort (*Callitriche sp.*). The section of the drain within the 50m section either side of NGR: 481813, 394703 and its bank tops are formed from well-rounded grains of sand with evidence of use by multiple deer, evidenced by footprint and faeces, fresh with a high moisture content, likely made within the previous 6-12 hours.



Further downstream the south bank contains an abandoned badger (*Meles meles*) sett which it is understood was closed by the Board a number of years ago. The opposite bank contains a large number of burrows however there was no visible evidence of tracks to the upper bank which badger would create and it is assumed the burrows are likely occupied by rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), size being created by sand crumbling away during use.

Within 50m downstream of this point, more burrows are evident with a large amount of spoil on the bank and tracks through the vegetation were evident. This could be a new badger (*Meles meles*) sett but without further investigation of the north bank this cannot be confirmed. Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) was observed flying downstream over the drain. No evidence of water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*) was seen.



The presence of water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*) is not identified in this area of the Board's district, which may be due in part to the sandy ground conditions, unsuitable for small mammals to sustain.