Seawall embankment routine maintenance



What are we telling you about?

This factsheet is about our routine grass cutting work on the seawall embankments in your area. This information is to let you know about vital work going on in your area.

Where is this work happening?

We will be working on a number of seawalls on the Blackwater Estuary and North Dengie. The map overleaf shows where we will be working.

When are we doing this work?

The cutting will start in mid July 2015 and we aim to be completed by the end of September 2015.

We usually cut the grass on the banks once a year to keep vegetation at a manageable level.

What will we be doing?

We will be cutting the grass on the crest and landward faces of the seawall, to a minimum height of 150mm.

We will be using either mechanical plant fitted with a flail, or remote controlled mowers where slopes are steep or unsuitable for larger plant.



Footpaths will remain open during this work. Signs warning footpath users of our work will be displayed and operatives will be on site to guide footpath users around the works safely.

Why are we doing this work?

Cutting the grass on flood banks is essential to ensure that they are as effective as possible during floods. Cutting the grass also allows us to inspect the banks more easily, and identify any early signs of deterioration. This enables us to maintain the banks appropriately where necessary.

It also encourages more beneficial species of flora which help protect and bind the surface of the bank, and limits larger shrubs and trees from taking hold on the seawall. Larger roots growing through the banks can cause the condition of the seawall to deteriorate.

We work in consultation with Natural England and other environmental bodies to minimise any impact on the environment, and ensure that they agree with the work we are doing.

How will this work benefit you?

This work will help to keep the seawall in the best possible condition, and continue to reduce the flood risk to people, property and the local environment.

How can I get involved or get in touch?

Please contact us if you would like to discuss this in more detail or need further information. If you would like to comment on this work we would also be pleased to hear from you.

Contact:

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Environment Grass Cutting Locations - 2015/16 - Blackwater Estuary and Dengie North Legend Seawall Grass Cutting 2015-16 WEST MERSEA Little London Chappel Fm til Rook Hall Bradwell Marshes MALDON DISTRICT St Lawrence Steeple Batt's Fm Ordnance Survey 100024198 Miles © Environment Agency copyright and/or database rights 2013. All rights reserved.