

Outstrays to Skeffling MRS: Plans for Interpretation Boards

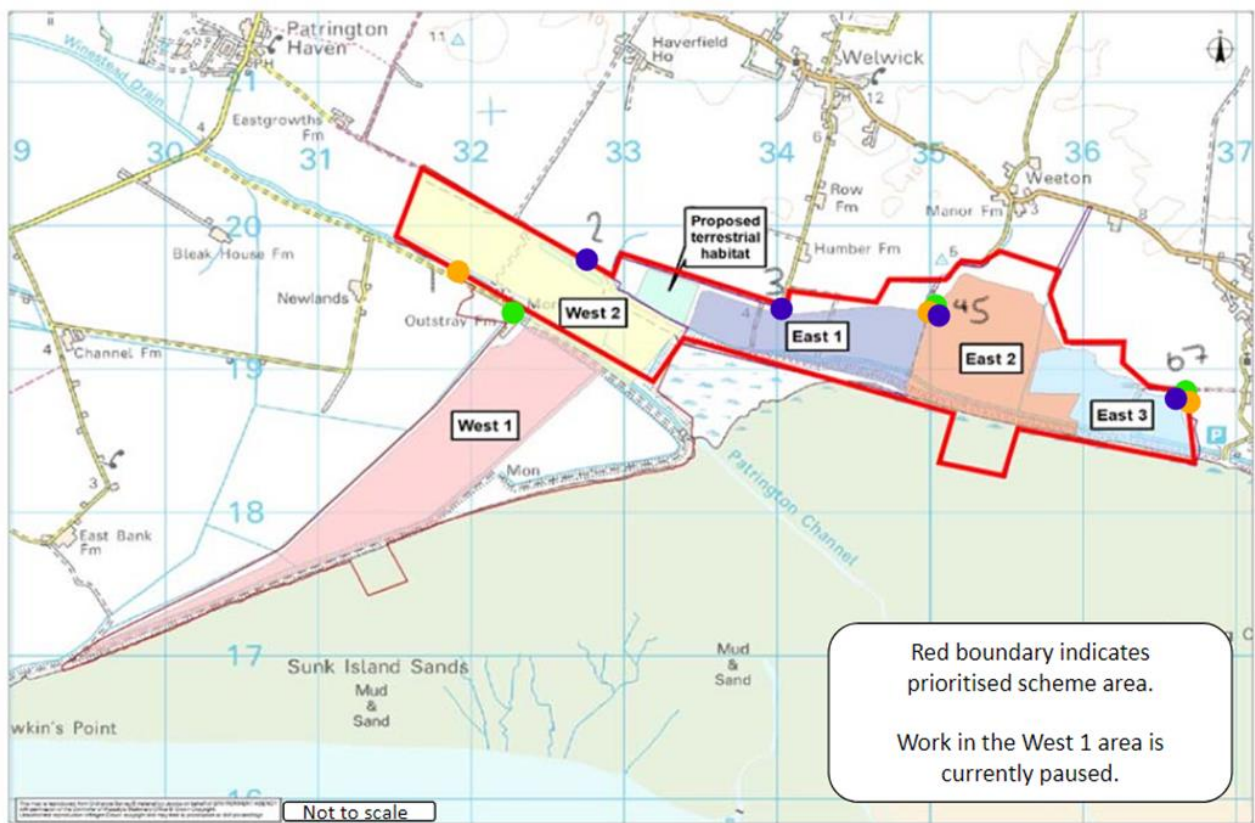
We need to produce a set of interpretation boards for this scheme. These will provide information to visitors to the site about its purpose and benefits in terms of wildlife, habitats, heritage, and flood risk management.

Provisionally 8 boards have been suggested with locations; enough for a large site with several entrances but not too many to add 'clutter' to the site.

The task: we need to finalise designs and have them ready for installation by our contractors before they finish work on the scheme this year.

Location of boards

Based on our knowledge of the site, we have produced the following proposal:



Green dot = car park (not a board)

Yellow dot = welcome board with site plan (3 in total, all close to a car park or entry point to the site)

Purple dot = located at/near bird hides: information usually with a wildlife + 1 other focus (eg historic/bird hide design) – 5 proposed

	Interpretation boards	Information needed
1	By New Clough Bridge, West 2	Site plan and description of habitats and species, explain the purpose of the managed realignment scheme (same as 5 and 6)
2	At refurbished bird hide near Haverfield Quarry	Bird/wildlife specific - breeding birds - consider whether this is free standing or attached to the bird hide - information on this specific habitat being quite different to other areas and eg mining bees, relict sand dune habitat
3	At a point along the path at the end of Humber Lane	Bird/wildlife specific and heritage - overwintering - finding food in the mudflats (same as 4) -WW2 Battery information/history
4	at the main bird hide near the new car park	Bird/wildlife specific - overwintering - finding food in the mudflats (same as number 3) - input on bird hide design from Bishop Burton College students
5	at Main car park	Site plan and description of habitats and species, explain the purpose of the managed realignment scheme (same as 5 and 6)
6	Skeffling Pumping Station Car park	Site plan and description of habitats and species, explain the purpose of the managed realignment scheme (same as 5 and 6)
7	At the bird hide close to Skeffling PS car park	Bird/wildlife specific - overwintering - finding food in the mudflats (same as number 3)
8	Precise location to be decided	Roman and Medieval history of the site: oyster farm, Burstall Abbey and lost villages? Potential to link to climate change messages.

Text to include

Welcome board:

1 Purpose of the site – a managed realignment scheme to create new habitats for wildlife in the Humber Estuary and reduce the risk of flooding for people living in the area

2 What can you see from this site – combination of saltmarsh, mudflat and wet grassland to provide the right sort of conditions for a variety of species. (also relict sand dune at Haverfield Quarry) Also new woodland and scrub – all losses during construction replaced and additional areas planted up. Refer to map

3 The breach – how it works

4 Management for wildlife – intertidal areas of mudflat and saltmarsh are left to develop naturally. Other parts of the site to be managed to maintain grassland habitats.

5 Access – new car parks and a new bridleway installed along the route of the new embankment, giving access to views across the estuary and taking visitors to new bird hides.

6 How you can help

- Keeping safe on this site: general safety
- Stick to the paths
- Keep dogs on leads
- Take your rubbish home

Boards for each bird hide

Focus on what you might see in this location: common and rare birds

Species chosen specific to each location; include plants and insects as well as bird species.

Heritage

This is a landscape that has changed dramatically over time and continues to evolve; changing coastline, lost villages

Over the centuries this area has been settled by different groups of people, taking advantage of environmental conditions to shape the landscape to make a living from it:

- Roman oyster farming
- Medieval
- Burstall Priory – part of the changing landscapes narrative
- WW2 battery

Potential audiences/visitors to the site

Residents in the area: local walkers, dog walkers, and horse riders – possibly the most frequent regular visitors

Amateur naturalists, lepidopterists and ornithologists – as above; already a lot visiting the site, even during construction and reporting on sightings

People interested in military history (but the site is less likely to attract archaeologists – not a lot to see)

Fishing enthusiasts – Winestead Drain is of interest for this.

Visitors from outside the area; families and others, possibly also visiting Spurn Point, walkers on English Coastal Path

Wildfowling enthusiasts visiting their land

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust members visiting Welwick Marshes

Minority interests, eg. People on pilgrimages, calling at St Helen's church.