

## What are we telling you about?

Essential work that we are planning in your area to remove trees and bushes from seawalls to allow us to inspect their condition so that we can improve the maintenance of these walls.

## Where is this work happening?

The maps attached indicate the stretches of the defence banks we will be working on.

## When are we doing this work?

Work will start in November 2011 and be completed before the end of December 2011.

By doing the work between November and December, we aim to minimise disruption for users of local footpaths and avoid disturbance to overwintering birds during their most vulnerable period between January and March or any breeding birds between March and July.

Footpaths will remain open during the work with a member of the workforce guiding footpath users safely through the sites.

## What will we be doing?

Work will involve cutting the grass along the bank as normal to a minimum height of 150mm.

Larger shrubs and trees will also need to be cut from the front face toe (or tide line) to the back face toe of the bank.

Work will be carried out using an excavator or tractor mounted flail, together with chainsaws and strimmers where necessary.

Cut material will be left on site to naturally decompose as habitat for lizards and other species, chipped on site or taken off site depending on the size and amount of material.

## Why are we doing this work?

In order to maintain the standard of the banks, it is important that no large vegetation is growing on or through the banks with the potential to undermine the protection they offer.

Having the banks clear of large vegetation removes the possibility of fallen trees causing breaches of the defence and allows us to inspect the banks more easily.

This means that we can identify any early signs of failure and ensure where necessary, we maintain the banks appropriately. It also encourages more beneficial species of flora which help protect and bind the surface of the bank.

## How will this benefit you?

We want to make sure that sea defences offer the best standard of flood protection to people and their property. By doing this work now the structural integrity of the bank is ensured for many years to come. This work will help us to continue to protect people and valuable agricultural land.

## How can I get involved or get in touch?

This information is to let you know about vital work going on in your community and adjacent to/on your land. Please contact us if you would like to discuss this in more detail, need further information or would like to comment on this work. We will keep you up-to-date with any further developments.

## Contact

✉ [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

☎ 08708 506 506 (Weekday daytime calls to 0870 numbers cost 8p, plus up to 6p per minute from BT Weekend Unlimited. Mobile and other providers' charges may vary).

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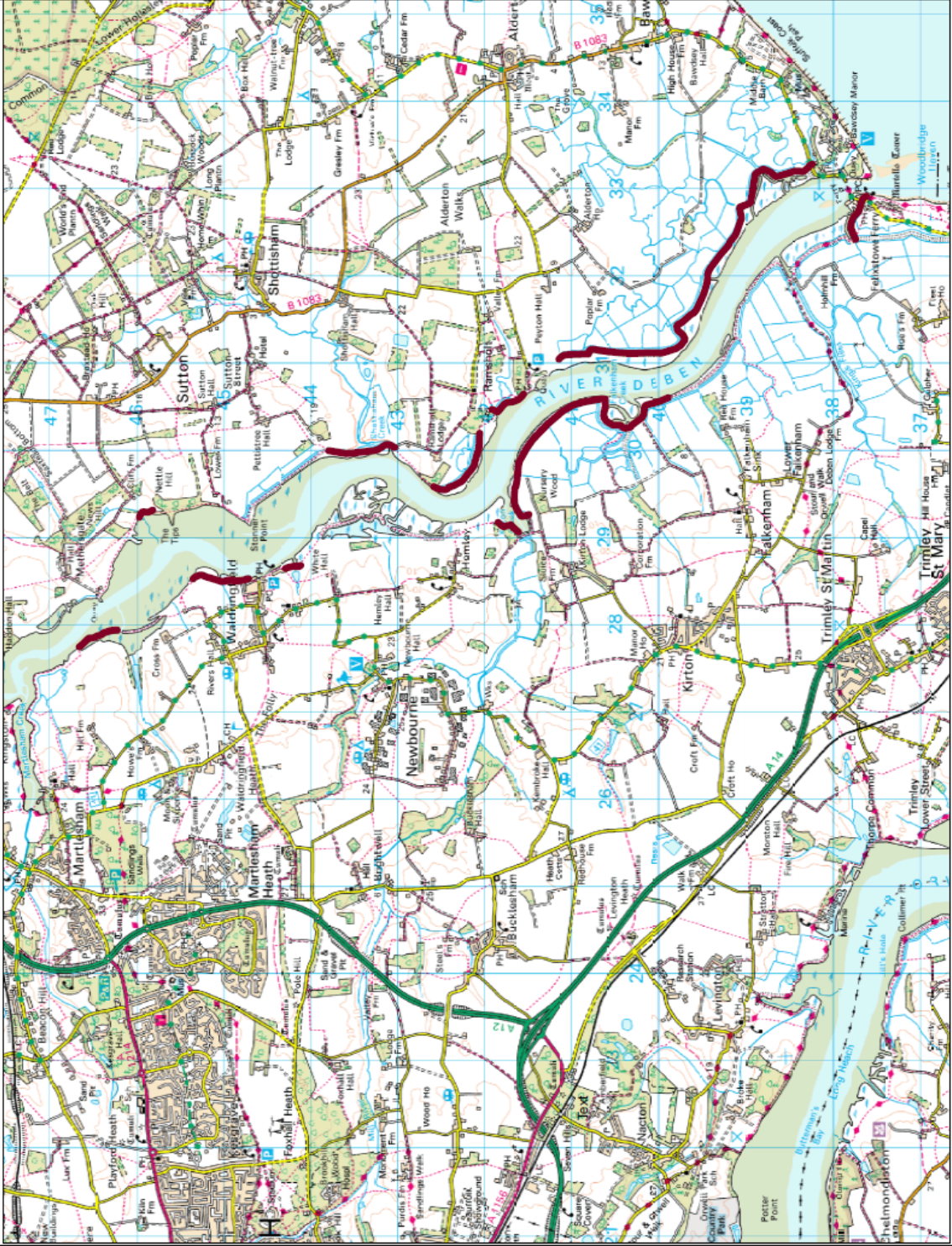
# Norfolk and Suffolk Sea Wall Scrub Clearance Work Plan - River Deben



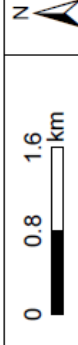
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Legend  
1m Wall Vegetation Clearance



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