

The Environment Agency is proposing to vary (change) the abstraction licence numbers mentioned below to protect the Ant Broads and Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Broad Fen Dilham SSSI, Alderfen Broad SSSI and Smallburgh Fen SSSI part of The Broads Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Broadland Special Protection Area (SPA).

The Environment Agency is required to give notice of these proposals. The Environment Agency give this notice under section 52 of the Water Resources Act and regulation 31 of the Water Resources (Abstraction and Impounding) Regulations 2006.

Details of the proposals

Licence number 7/34/8/GS/40 allows the licence holder **H E Alston (Bradfield) Ltd**, Hall Farm, Bradfield, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0NY to abstract a total of 682 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and a total of 40,000 m³ a year, from a reservoir fed by Bradfield Beck, Trunch at National Grid Reference (NGR) TG 2745 3384 (Point 2) and from Antingham Ponds, Bradfield at NGRs TG 2596 3333 and TG 2608 3295 (Point 3). The licence holder can abstract 9,100 m³ a year from Point 2 and 30,900 m³ a year from Point 3 for spray irrigation (May to September inclusive).

Licence 7/34/08/*S/0042 allows the licence holder Francis James Clabon, Susan Mary Clabon, Robert James Clabon and Phillip John Clabon trading as **F J Clabon & Partners**, Rookery Farm, Mundlesley Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0RF to abstract a total of 728 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and a total of 20,400 m³ a year from the North Walsham and Dilham Canal at North Walsham, Norfolk. This is between NGRs TG 2795 3210 and TG 2837 3217 (Point 1) and between TG 2850 3202 and TG 2880 3182 (Point 2). The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation during the months April to October inclusive.

Licence 7/34/08/*S/0044 allows the licence holder Francis James Clabon, Susan Mary Clabon, Robert James Clabon and Phillip John Clabon trading as **F J Clabon & Partners**, Rookery Farm, Mundlesley Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0RF to abstract a total of 182 m³ of water a day, and a total of 1,800 m³ a year from the Trunch Beck in Trunch, Norfolk. This is at NGRs TG 2749 3364 and TG 2759 3353. The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation during the months April to October inclusive.

Licence 7/34/08/*S/0048 allows the licence holder Francis James Clabon, Susan Mary Clabon, Robert James Clabon and Phillip John Clabon trading as **F J Clabon & Partners**, Rookery Farm, Mundlesley Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 0RF to abstract, in aggregate with licence 7/34/08/*S/0044, a total of 546 m³ of water a day, and a total of 15,400 m³ a year from the Bradfield Beck in Swafield, Norfolk. This is between NGRs TG 2779 3326 and TG 2837 3217. The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation during the months April to October inclusive.

Licence 7/34/09/*S/0070 allows the licence holder **Church Farms (Gimingham) Limited**, The Hall, Walcott, Norwich, NR12 0NR to abstract a total of 523 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and a total of 9,000 m³ a year, from the Hundred Stream at East Ruston, Norfolk. This is at NGR TG 3435 2905. The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation from 1 May to 31 October inclusive.

Licence 7/34/09/*S/0074 allows the licence holder William George Cubitt, Geoffrey Thomas Cubitt and Robin Patrick Cubitt trading as **Honing Fruit Farms**, Park Farm, Honing, North Walsham, NR28 9QJ to abstract a total of 910 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and a total of 95,000 m³ a year, from Marsh drains at Crostwight Farm, North Walsham, Norfolk. This is at NGR TG 34215 29558. The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation from 1 April to 30 September inclusive.

The proposal is to vary the six licences above in the following ways:

- From 1 October 2024, include a hands off flow condition which ceases abstraction when the flow in the River Ant measured at Honing Lock gauging station at NGR TG 33119 27041 is less than or equal to 96 litres per second
- From 1 October 2024, include a condition to require a 2 millimetre aperture fish screen is installed at the point(s) of abstraction

- Time limit the licences to expire on 31 March 2030

Licence 7/34/9/GS/59 allows the licence holder **J H & P E Nicholson Limited**, Neatishead Hall, Norwich, NR12 8XX to abstract from a reservoir fed by underground strata at Neatishead Hall Farm, Norfolk at NGR TG 3555 1864 (Point 1). The licence holder can abstract 682 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and 27,200 m³ a year for spray irrigation during April to October inclusive and 23 m³ of water a day, and 1,600 m³ a year for agriculture (including stock watering) but excluding spray irrigation all year, from Point 1.

Licence 7/34/9/GS/59 also allows the licence holder to abstract from marsh drains at Barton Turf, Norfolk at NGRs TG 3630 1890, TG 3621 1905, TG 3600 1920, TG 3595 1865, TG 3585 1940 and TG 3568 1928 (Point 2). The licence holder can abstract 455 m³ of water a day, and 3,100 m³ a year for spray irrigation during April to October inclusive, from Point 2.

Licence 7/34/09/*S/0076 allows the licence holder Derek Wellwood Tillett, Louis Edward Baugh and Frances Eleanor Baugh trading as **DW Tillett & Partners**, Neatishead Hall, Neatishead, Norwich, Norfolk, NR12 8XX to abstract a total of 410 cubic metres (m³) of water a day, and a total of 4,500 m³ a year, from a reservoir fed by springs and marsh dykes at Neatishead, Norfolk. This is at NGR TG 3504 1943. The licence holder can abstract water for spray irrigation from April to September inclusive.

The proposal is to vary the two licences above in the following ways:

- From 1 October 2024, include a condition to require a 2 millimetre aperture fish screen is installed at the point(s) of abstraction
- Time limit the licences to expire on 31 March 2030

For administration purposes, we also propose to separate groundwater and surface water abstraction to issue one licence per groundwater abstraction, one licence per surface water abstraction and update licence numbers and NGRs where appropriate. The proposed licence conditions will apply to surface water abstractions only.

The Environment Agency has made these proposals as part of a programme to help restore sustainable abstraction and to conserve, and secure the proper use of, water resources.

1. Viewing the proposals

You can inspect a copy of the proposals and any other relevant documents at:

Environment Agency
Dragonfly House
Gilders Way
Norwich
Norfolk
NR3 1UB

The office is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (except bank holidays).

You can also get details of the existing licences from the address above.

Alternatively, please visit Citizen Space on <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/ant-broads-and-marshes-broads-sac-rsa-surface> to view a copy of the proposals and any other relevant documents.

2. Your chance to comment

If you want to comment on these proposals, email OCS_SA@environment-agency.gov.uk or write to:

Environment Agency

Sustainable Abstraction Team, c/o Sarah Timms
Operations Catchment Services
Aqua House
20 Lionel Street
Birmingham
B3 1AQ

Your email or letter must quote Ant Broads and Marshes. The Environment Agency must receive your comments by 7 April 2023.

If you have any questions about this notice, phone Andrew Chapman on 0203 025 1786.

Signed: Matt Vale
Date: 10 March 2023