

P38a Habitat improvements for wading birds

Theme(s):	A: Conserve and restore river habitat, and adapt to / mitigate for the physical impacts of weather extremes and climate change. B: Improve people's understanding of rivers, catchments, weather extremes and climate change. Increase community participation
Goal(s):	A2: Retain or restore biodiversity, taking account of weather extremes and climate change. B3: Engage widely to educate about river issues and encourage positive behavioural change.
Sub-goal(s):	A2a: Improve habitat and protect biodiversity in the tidal zone. A2d: Create better, and improve existing, in-river and riverside habitat.

Protection, enhancement and interpretation of intertidal habitats including the management of conflicts and issues. To specifically include wintering wading bird habitats, including high tide roosts, and breeding habitat improvements on agricultural land. Would require research to identify current high tide roosts and monitoring of populations.

Install information boards about the birds using the mud flat habitat in the tidal Tyne area, particularly on walking/cycling routes, and could include information about fish and other river flora and fauna.

Update as at April 2013: Projects P38a and P38b were previously grouped together as P38, however the Tyne Kittiwakes element is now being developed separately. There is a lot of interest and support for this project, with a lot of overlap with local authorities' green infrastructure strategies and future Sustainable Drainage Systems.

Project Status:	Proposed
Potential Deliverer(s):	RSPB, Newcastle City Council, Gateshead Council, North Tyneside Council, Northumberland Wildlife Trust and bird groups
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£100,000 to £250,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Esmee Fairburn trust, Sir James Knott trust, Heritage Lottery Funding, developer contributions, landfill trusts
Green Infrastructure link:	The Tyne estuary is identified as a series of Opportunity Areas in the Gateshead & Newcastle Green Infrastructure Strategy.