

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Environment Agency  
Iceni House  
Cobham Rd  
Ipswich  
Suffolk  
IP3 9JD

26<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear Sir

**Ref: AW Alston Licence renewals and Snipe marsh.**

My ponds in the garden were dug, in 1973, into sand and they have been full of water ever since. There were ponds there previously but had filled in and were overgrown with plants. There is no liner. There is an overflow pipe which allows the surplus water to flow out in a controlled manner into the ditch outside the garden and into Snipe Marsh.

The level in the ponds is always about three feet above the water level in Snipe marsh and is the natural water level, the remaining land around here is kept dry by land drains and good ditch management. Snipe marsh has a series of sluices which control the water level. Also the new sluice near the river prevents water entering the ditches that used to flood Snipe marsh.

Before [REDACTED] bought the land around the house in 1999 [REDACTED] had rented the farm from Norfolk County Council since 1971. Snipe marsh was cleared of scrub trees by [REDACTED] who was a tenant of the [REDACTED] but he gave up the tenancy of Snipe marsh because it was too wet for cattle to graze. Water flows from ditches on Andrew's land alongside Sharp Street, around my garden into Snipe marsh. The water in the ditches passes the entrance to my house and I have never known that ditch to stop flowing. Water also comes from behind my house during the winter and enters Snipe marsh.

I also remember Snipe marsh being cleared of trees after [REDACTED] gave up the tenancy in about 2004. Ponies have grazed the field recently.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]