



RIVER RESTORATION SUCCESS AT PEVENSEY-LITTLE PARK

RESTORATION MEASURES: In 2023, twenty-seven wood deflectors were installed along 500 m of the River Crane at Little Park.

RESTORATION AIMS: to support the development of a more sinuous river channel with a more diverse mosaic of physical habitats

EVIDENCE: MoRPh surveys conducted in 2022, before the restoration, and in 2025, two years after the restoration, including surveys conducted by volunteers, provide evidence of the changes induced by the restoration

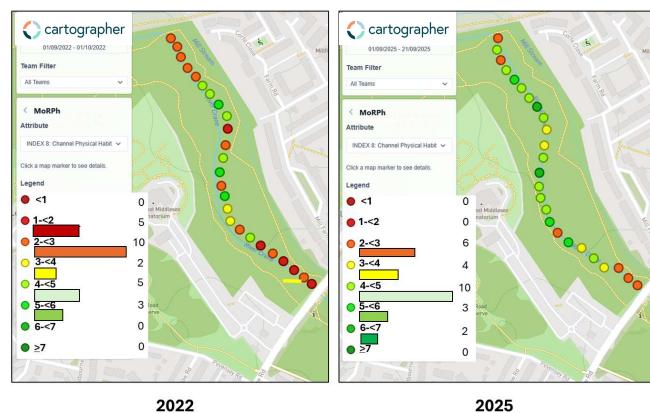
RESULTS: After only two years, MoRPh surveys show clear increases in the complexity of the physical habitat mosaic on the river bed, bank faces and bank tops



IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMPLEXITY OF PHYSICAL HABITATS:

There have been notable improvements in physical habitat complexity in virtually all of the 20m long reaches surveyed using MoRPh. These improvements are observed on the channel bed and also on the (riparian) bank faces and bank tops.

INDEX OF CHANNEL BED PHYSICAL HABITAT COMPLEXITY



INDEX OF RIPARIAN PHYSICAL HABITAT COMPLEXITY

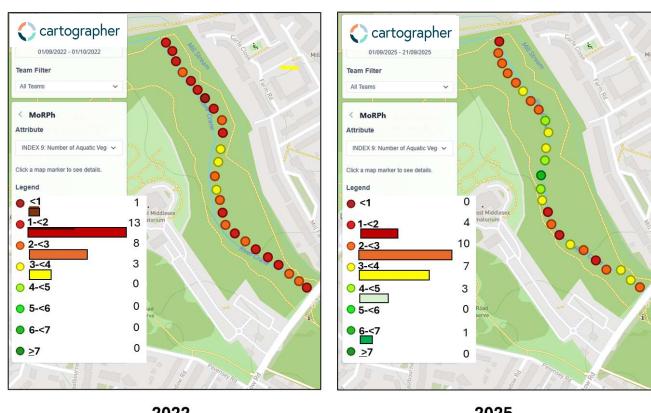


GOOD AND NOT SO GOOD NEWS ON VEGETATION CHANGE:

The good news is that changes in physical habitat have been accompanied by an increase in the number of types of aquatic plant growing along the channel margins.

The not so good news is of a change that has not been directly caused by the restoration: an invasion of the bank tops, bank faces and in-channel bars by Himalayan balsam – a Non-native Invasive Plant Species (NNIPS). Fortunately, Himalayan balsam is a relatively straightforward NNIPS to control.

THE NUMBER OF AQUATIC PLANT MORPHOTYPES



INDEX OF NNIPS INVASION SEVERITY

