

# Floating Pennywort – Thank you!

With your help we are successfully managing the spread of Floating Pennywort on the River Thames and its tributaries

## What we have been doing to manage Floating Pennywort in 2018

- We have removed approximately 20 tonnes of Floating Pennywort from the River Thames this year – over 40 tonnes less than last year. This fall is because our work has meant that there is less of the plant growing in the river
- In the Wey catchment, a tributary of the Thames, we have dedicated more resources and new equipment to the management of Floating Pennywort which has had a real effect on the growth of this plant
- Together with our partners we have actively monitored over 200 km of the river Thames and its tributaries giving us a clear picture of the extent of Floating Pennywort
- We have been using reports of Floating Pennywort from the public to help target our management of it



Abbey overflow channel on the River Wey near Newark Priory in 2017 (left) and 2018 (right) following our management work

## Floating Pennywort partnership working

Across the Thames catchment a number of different groups have been working together to manage the spread of Floating Pennywort in their local rivers. This work is essential to the long term management of this plant

Below are two examples of this excellent partnership working

### Foudry Brook and River Kennet in Reading

The Reading & District Angling Association, Canal & River Trust and Green Park Business Park have been working together for a year to control the spread of Floating Pennywort in the watercourses they share. As part of this partnership working they have been sharing information on the spread of Floating Pennywort, combining their management of the plant and meeting regularly to review effective working practices.



Foudry Brook with Floating Pennywort (left) and without (right). Photos shared by Green Park Business Park

### River Blackwater on the Berkshire / Hampshire border

On the River Blackwater local groups, such as the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership & Loddon Fisheries and Conservation Consultative, have been working with each other and us to manually remove Floating Pennywort and treat it with herbicide. As can be seen in the photos below this has made a real difference to the river environment.



River Blackwater at Yateley before and after management

## What's next?

We have had a successful year but the management of Floating Pennywort is a long term project and we can only continue this success in the future with your help:

**Please keep telling us** if you see Floating Pennywort in the River Thames or its tributaries upstream of Teddington Lock by emailing us at [enquiries\\_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**Boaters:** Please do not pass through clumps of the plant as it can break off and spread. Visually check your craft regularly and, if safe to do so, remove any visible weed placing it well away from the river.