

Alison Graham-Smith
Land Management Lead Adviser
Natural England

Dear Alison

We were shocked to learn today that a significant quantity of diesel has entered the River Test catchment area from Nursling Industrial Estate and directly impacted wildlife at the Lower Test Marshes HIWWT Reserve. We understand that there have been reports of direct impacts on fish and local bird populations. This is an unacceptable situation demanding a coordinated high-level response from both Natural England and the Environment Agency.

At this stage we are seeking reassurance that the matter is being given the highest possible levels of attention, to ensure the spillage is never repeated and that the owners have provided clear and unequivocal reassurances of what they intend to do resolve the current situation.

Please could you keep Hampshire Ornithological Society informed as to how the situation is being tackled and a progress report so we can be certain that there is a plan to ensure rapid recovery of this critically important catchment?

Yours sincerely

Keith Betton
Chairman
Hampshire Ornithological Society