

Broadland Flood Alleviation Project: rare & scarce plants

Dittander *Lepidium latifolium*

Description & distribution: A 50 - 130 cm tall perennial found in coastal areas. Nationally scarce, it is present in the Broadland area along the floodbank at Haddiscoe Island and the south bank of Breydon Water.



Potential impacts: Flood defence works have the potential to reduce populations of the plant. Disturbance of the floodbank habitats may destroy the plant itself, & disturb the seedbank necessary for natural regeneration.

Mitigation: Baseline surveys are used to establish the presence & distribution of Dittander in the works area prior to scheme initiation. Where impacts are unavoidable, the aim is to ensure that populations are subsequently restored to at least their former levels. Mitigation involves the collection of ripe seed which is then sown onto suitable areas of the site once works are complete, to supplement any natural regeneration from the seedbank. Monitoring is undertaken to gauge the success of natural regeneration & the need for further reseeded.



Where works will affect populations of Dittander, ripe seed is collected prior to works starting, which is sown once the flood bank has been re-instated.