Appendix B

Recent history of the changes to the Saltmarshes of the River Deben – 2014

(a personal view)

By

Robert Simper

Flea Island eroding

Houseboats in creeks and dock increasing silting, but ouze mud appears to be dropping

Silting in front the Ferry dock and Whisstock quay, probably because Yacht Harbour extension pushing the tidal flow to the Sutton shore.

Crab holes increasing eroding of saltings.

Shallow bar across / the river low water, silt from Loder's cut?

> Below Cross Farm crab /hole damage increasing since -2007.

Flooded marshes below Cross Farm, from bomb dropped during world war I I, now a wide channel cutting thorough saltings. Spinney marshes left flooded after 1938. Water escaped out under DEP 2010 barrier, but increased silting due to dredged mud being pumped on the ooze.

Sutton Hoo Farm bay ooze mud level dropping.

River wall repaired by landowners and planted grass slightly increased silt levels.

Ferry Cliff eroding due to Tide Mill yacht harbour extension causing the channel to shift over towards the Sutton shore.

Sutton shore RDA tide deflector 2009. No visible sign of change.

Loder's Cut getting wider and deeper. Saltings eroding rapidly on west side.

Upper River

Waldringfield beach eroding. Possibly from tidal flow over twenty years of floating boatyard jetty.

Before 1904 the Waldringfield cement works dug out about 10 acres of saltings near Waldringfield, mostly toward Hemley Point. After about 2000 this area started to erode further due to crab holes. River in front of saltings. Now crab damage.

Early Creek after the sluice was abandoned in 1939 has silted up.

Spinney Creek has got deeper and _____ wider since sea wall was abandoned.

Saltings off Kirton Creek eroding since about 1968.Tidal action on shore bend?

Top of Kirton Creek is silting up slightly

After the 1953 flood ditch dug out outside river wall to get soil for wall. Down river side of Kirton Creek.

Ooze mud dropped in 1982 to a level to expose nineteenth century Ramsholt Ferry

Falkenham used by barge before 1914, now almost silted up

Black stakes: Water skiing floating pontoon appears to act, like Waldringfield jetty that causes the tide to swirl on the ebb tide and creates erosion.

The outfall channel at the King's Fleet sluice silted up. About 1998 a pump was placed, cost £35,00 a year to run by electricity. Pumping fresh wate out of the marsh ditches _ has eroded the saltings, including washing out a channel to south of sluice which had been created in 1953 when soil was dug out to build up rhe river wall.

In 2013 DEP putting in three dams to try and get the silt to build up again in the 1953 channel in front of the wall.

The Back Creek, probably to old closed sluice, through saltings at the back of Felixstowe Ferry silting up. Has been dug out in about 2002 at the mouth to launch boats. Houseboats started to be kept here in 1930 and the main channel has silted up slightly since 1957.

The Hams. The silt between the two sand Tips has increased and an area of the foreshore below the lower Tips has grown reeds.

About 1940 saltings at the top of Stonner Island eroded away so that at high water boats can use the Stonner Channel. Remained shallow at the top end of channel.

Saltings on Stonner Island collapsing rapidy due to increased crab activity.

Ditch dug for silt for river wall, both sides of Shottisham Creek, silting up on the down river side.

Ooze eroding.

There is continued erosion at Hemley Point, presumably due to the ebb tide. The point that dried out in 1959 has gone, but there is a shallow patch further up river. Tide has also washed away oozes and hard so that the saltings cliff now collapsing into the river at the rate of over one metre a year. Erosion due to Channel change.

Ramsholt Cliff beach in the Rocks Reach. Cliff still eroding, but sand on the foreshore.

Ramsholt Dock quay was rebuilt in 1957. After about 1970 clearly silting up on sides of the quay and near Dock Marshes gate. However level of ooze mud appears to have dropped.

All the saltings on both sides of Ramshot Reach are eroding, mostly due to crab activity.

Green Point. Erosion has increased rapidly in this area since about 2005. Crab damage and channel change? All saltings in Sea Reach moving back.

Shingle has built up since 1945 below Bawdsey Quay. While about quay small sandy beach appeared between quay and boat landing yard.

Shingle wash off Knolls on the bar created a new point to port of Bawdsey buoy in 1997 opposite the FFSC. This appears to have deflected the tide stream on to Bawdsey Manor side and created a hole in the beach.

The shingle spit on which Felixstowe Ferry Boatyard etc. stands built up from shingle coming in from the bar after about 1880. When the Quilter Breakwater was built about 1930, to build up shingle in front of Felixtsowe Ferry this slowed down the rate of Ferry Point growth. Since about 1962 this point appears to have stopped growing.

Lower River