

## REGULATION OF MOORING IN OXFORD BY APPLICATION OF A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

The tables below are designed to provide UMPEG with the information to prepare Schedules for a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). There will need to be three separate Schedules for the Order: **1** No mooring, **2** temporary visitor mooring (limited to 48 or 72 hours) and **3** private/resident only mooring. The Schedule for all three categories will need to be fairly comprehensive; otherwise problems will just be moved from one site to another. However, the resource required to police new areas of towpath must not be underestimated and this needs to be given very careful consideration before any commitment is made. Consideration also needs to be given to the length of time permitted for temporary visiting mooring: it may make the city a more desirable destination for leisure visitors if we limit visitor mooring to 72 rather than 48 hours (so they can arrive on a Friday afternoon and not have to leave until the Monday morning, for example), but also because this would make policing these areas less onerous (requiring only twice weekly patrols).

In addition to creating the Schedules for the three mooring regulation categories, signage will need to be resourced and erected and maps will need to be created to accompany the PSPO Schedule.

The tables list which sites could be included in each category, and what consultation and further consideration is required before they can be included. It is likely that the final Schedules based on the tables below can be simplified once all sites to be included have been confirmed as it may be possible to combine some sites/sections together. However, the Schedules are still likely to be fairly fragmented due to the complexity of land ownership, and as the sites described are often just stretches of riverbank/towpath it will also have to be partly a descriptive rather than one just based on site names (e.g. in some cases one site may have different mooring regulations along different segments of its bank).

**KEY TO TABLE:** Sites listed in the table in normal font indicate sections of riverbank/towpath owned by OCC. These can be included in the Schedule without further consideration or consultation.

Those in blue font indicate sections of riverbank/towpath which are unregistered to any owner, but where OCC own the adjacent land. In many of these cases we have already undertaken reasonable steps to clarify ownership (often clouded by piecemeal historic land transactions) and it is probable we would be permitted to apply the PSPO without further consultation (?).

Those in red font indicate sections of riverbank/towpath which are owned by other organisations but UNBEG is likely to want to include in the PSPO to regulate mooring. This category also includes sites where the towpath is unregistered, but where OCC have no reasonable claim to ownership or control as they do not own any adjacent land.

Those in green font indicate sites which belong to other organisations/agencies and which UMPEG may consider do not need to be included in the PSPO; in some cases because they are already regulated by the owner/agency which manages them, or are not but should be. If any are included, as discussed above, careful consideration needs to be given to the resources required to patrol them on a by-weekly basis and all the associated enforcement and admin this would entail. It may be that the owners could be asked to pay a fee if they wish OCC to enforce mooring on their land?

TABLE OF INFORMATION FOR SCHEDULE 1: SITES DESIGNATED AS NO MOORING

LOCATION AND WATERCOURSE	MAP	LANDOWNER	CURRENT STATUS /COMMENTS	REASON FOR STATUS AND WHO REGULATES MOORING
<b>NORTH OXFORD AND JERICO</b>				
East bank of Thames along the edge of Port Meadow.	1 + 2	Registered to OCC, but classified as common land.	Because the Meadow is Common land we will need to consult with stakeholders before a PSPO could be applied.	The meadow is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and SSSI, considered to be of national importance. It also has an eroding and unstable bank.
Farmland on west bank of Thames opposite Port Meadow.	1 + 2	Mainly owned by OCC, but leased out as farmland, except for the section adjacent to Binsey Village, which is owned by Christ Church College	Christ Church need to be consulted as to whether they want to enforce no mooring on Binsey Green section.	There is rarely mooring along this bank other than the section alongside Binsey village because of access. There is a footpath along the whole of this section, but there may be an issue as to whether the PSPOs apply to farmland?
Farmland on west bank of Thames opposite Fiddler's and Sidelings islands.	2	Farmer [REDACTED]	Consultation needed with [REDACTED] regarding whether he wants us to apply a PSPO on his land to prohibit mooring.	The bank here is unstable and eroding. There is rarely mooring along this section due to access issues. <b>There is no public access to this farmland so it is unlikely a PSPO could be applied.</b>
North bank of Castle Mill Stream which runs from southern tip of Sidelings Island (opposite northern end of Abbey Rd), under the Railway bridge and joins main N/S section of the Castle Mill Stream in Jericho.	2	Towpath at southern end of Sidelings owned by OCC. Area east of this point owned by Network Rail.	Network Rail section is currently unregulated and there is a long-term live-in boat moored across the entrance to the Sheepwash Channel. Consultation needed with Network Rail.	Boats moored across the entrance to the Sheepwash channel affect the flow of water into and out of the channel and boats moored close to or under the bridge cause physical and visual obstruction to other boats.
East bank of Thames directly behind the back of the properties on Abbey Rd. (The southern section of this stretch of towpath behind the old Avis building is designated as 48/72 hour mooring).	2	Uncertain, but almost certainly Christ Church College	<b>Can we apply a PSPO on this land when the ownership is disputed?</b>	The section lies only 10m from windows of the properties at the back of Abbey Rd, and mooring here would cause noise and smoke pollution and privacy issues.

North bank of Thames from Friar's Wharf to Folly Bridge.	3	Private residential	Unregulated	Mooring rarely occurs as it is not suitable mainly due to access issues.
South bank of Thames adjacent to Pembroke College/Geoffrey Arthur building and extending to Folly Bridge.	3	Towpath unregistered adjacent land owned by Pembroke College and private residential	Unregulated Consultation may be needed with the college and land owner of residential area?	Boats would be only 6m from the windows of the college and properties on Baltic Wharf and Jubilee Terrace. Mooring here would cause noise and smoke pollution and privacy issues.
<b>SOUTH OXFORD (SITES ON EAST BANK OR TO EAST OF THAMES)</b>				
East bank of Thames from Folly Bridge down to junction with river Cherwell (bordering Christ Church Meadow and Aston's Eyot).	3+4	Chris Church College	Unregulated	<b>The various issues at Aston's Eyot could be covered under one PSPO, but it should really be the College who police this land.</b>
South bank of the River Cherwell which runs NE from the Thames and forms the northern boundary of Aston's Eyot.	3	Chris Church College	This site needs a general PSPO covering various issues and College would almost certainly agree to this but who would enforce it?	This is currently unregulated and can be an unauthorised mooring hotspot.
East bank of Thames bordering the Kidneys/Iffley Island (except for lower lying tongue of land at southern end).	4	OCC		Nature area with fragile and eroding bank.
Thames bank along small lower-lying tongue of land at southern tip of Kidneys/Iffley Island and further section on opposite side of tributary along frontage of Sea Scout Centre.	4	Oxford Preservation Trust	Consultation needed with OPT, though likely that they would be happy for us to include it as part of Kidneys PSPO.	Nature area with fragile and eroding bank and slipway providing access to river by users of Sea Scout centre.
East bank of Thames bordering the grounds of the Falcon Rowing Club and Sea Scout centre (Donnington Riverside), under Donnington Bridge and bordering Oxford Rowing Club.	4	OCC		Access point to river by rowing clubs and schools. Boats moored here would also obstruct view of on-coming boats to crafts launching from the various the clubs, causing a hazard to both.
East bank of Thames immediately south of Salter's boat yard, bordering Meadow Lane nature Reserve.	4	OCC		Nature area with eroding and unstable bank.
East bank of Thames from southern edge of Meadow Lane Nature Reserve to Iffley lock.	4	Oriel College	College have erected no mooring signs.	Mooring rarely occurs due to access issues. Debatable whether this land could be classed as having public access anyway.

Small concrete embankment at the northern end of Abbey Rd on the Castle Mill Stream.	2	Uncertain, but almost certainly Christ Church College	Can we apply a PSPO on this land when the ownership is disputed?	This platform lies directly under the window of the property at the end of Abbey Rd, and mooring here would cause noise and smoke pollution and privacy issues.
West bank of Thames along Botley Road allotments (area opposite rear of properties on Abbey Road).	2	OCC		Area of working allotments with no access from bank.
Section of Bulstake Stream running at back of Botley Rd allotments to Tumbling Bay (Botley Park).	2	OCC		There is a chain across the western end blocking access to this stretch.
East bank of Castle Mill Stream from southern end of William Lucy Way up to Hythe Bridge Street.	2	Canal and Rivers Trust	Should be no mooring, but currently a hot spot for unauthorised live-ins.	There are no facilities for live-ins and access from the bank is poor. CaRT are in the process of beginning to enforce this section.
West bank of Castle Mill Stream from southern end of William Lucy Way up to northern end of Rewley Rd.	2	Network Rail		Access from this side lead onto railway track.
<b>WEST OXFORD, OSNEY AND CITY CENTRE</b>				
Small section of Thames embankment at frontage of Arthur Street in Osney (close to Botley Rd).	2	OCC		No access from bank
Section of Thames embankment immediately south of Arthur Street, extending down to Osney Marina.	2	University and private residential		No access from bank and access to public
North bank of Thames from railway bridge to western edge of Oxpens Meadow.	3	Network Rail	Consultation needed with NR as to whether they want us to include this under PSPO for Oxpens meadow.	Mooring rarely occurs but site should be no mooring due to narrowness of towpath.
North bank of Thames bordering the southern end of Oxpens Meadow.	3	OCC		The site has an unstable and eroding bank. There is no towpath here.
West bank of Castle Mill Stream along east edge of Oxpens Meadow.	3	OCC		The site has an unstable and eroding bank and waterway is too shallow for navigation.
East bank of Castle Mill Stream opposite Oxpens recreation ground (adjacent to Trinity Street/Dale Close).	3	OCC		Directly adjacent to properties and water too shallow for navigation.
North bank of Thames along Friar's Wharf (adjacent to play area and bin compound).	3	OCC		Bank not suitable for mooring.

TABLE OF INFORMATION FOR SCHEDULE 2: SITES DESIGNATED AS TEMPORARY VISITOR MOORING (48 OR 72 HOURS)

LOCATION AND WATERCOURSE	MAP	LANDOWNER	CURRENT STATUS/COMMENTS	REASON FOR MOORING REGULATION
<b>NORTH OXFORD AND JERICO</b>				
East bank of Thames from Western bypass to Godstow Road (at junction with bridge next to the Trout Public House).	1	Oxford Preservation Trust	Unregulated and currently an unauthorised mooring hot-spot	Does UNBEG have an opinion on mooring here? If so consultation needed with OPT to ask what they would like to do. No reason why this could not be 48 mooring (?).
West bank of Thames from Western bypass to Godstow Road (at junction with bridge next to the Trout Public House).	1	Christ Church College	Unregulated and currently an unauthorised mooring hot-spot	Does UNBEG have an opinion on mooring here? No reason why this could not be 48 mooring (?).
West bank of Thames from Godstow Rd to Godstow Lock. This section incorporates the site of Godstow Nunnery.	1	Christ Church College	Unregulated?	EA were going to control this on behalf of the college but this seems to have fallen through. No reason why this could not be 48 mooring (?).
East bank of Thames along Fiddler's and Sidelings Islands (from southern end of Port Meadow to humpback footbridge leading to Abbey Rd).	2	OCC (but not currently covered by any byelaws).	Currently maintained by Park Rangers as 48 hour mooring (free).	No facilities, so suitable only for temporary visitor mooring.
East bank of Thames behind southern section of Abbey Rd leading up to Botley Rd bridge (behind the old Avis building) The northern section directly adjacent to the properties on Abbey Rd is designated as no mooring due to proximity to properties.	2	Towpath unregistered, but the land is almost certainly owned by Christ Church College.	Currently unregulated and an unauthorised mooring hotspot for live-ins.	This could be suitable for 48 visitor mooring if cleared of the unauthorised live-ins. However, due to counter claim from boaters, an application to apply a PSPO on this site may fail without cooperation from the College.
<b>WEST OXFORD, OSNEY AND CITY CENTRE</b>				
South bank of Thames bordering Grandpont Nature Reserve (from railway bridge to Pembroke College Geoffrey Arthur building).	3	Towpath unregistered but OCC own the adjacent land	Currently maintained by Park Rangers as 48 hour mooring (free)	Do we need to do any work to clarify land ownership or will a PSPO just be accepted as we own the adjacent land and there unlikely to be any counter-claimants?

East bank of Thames from Iffley Lock to Rivermead.	4	University	Unregulated	Mooring rarely occurs due to access issues. There is no public access to land anyway so a PSPQ could not be applied.
East bank of Thames bordering Rivermead Nature Reserve in Rose Hill up to bypass bridge.	4	OCC		Nature area with eroding and unstable bank.
<b>SOUTH OXFORD (SITES ON WEST BANK OR WEST OF THAMES)</b>				
Long Bridges nature area (the Island). Section of Weirs Mill Stream.	4	OCC		The site has a fragile and eroding bank and the water is too shallow for navigation. This is also a wildlife area.
Small section of west bank of Thames outside Brookes University boat house, just north of Iffley lock. Regulated by the Brookes University.	4	Brookes University		Landing stage and slip way which provides access to river for users of boat house.
East bank of Weirs Mill Stream on west edge of Iffley Meadow Nature Reserve (from Donnington Bridge extended south to bypass).	4	Mainly OCC owned, but leased out to BBWOT. However, the Northern quarter of this section is privately owned.		Important nature reserve with fragile bank. Mooring and access would disturb fragile and important habitat.

TABLE OF INFORMATION FOR SCHEDULE 3: SITES DESIGNATED AS PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL MOORING ONLY

LOCATION AND WATERCOURSE	MAP	LANDOWNER	CURRENT STATUS/COMMENTS	REASON FOR STATUS AND WHO REGULATES MOORING
<b>NORTH OXFORD AND JERICHO</b>				
West bank of Castle Mill Stream along the rear of the properties on Rewley Rd.	2	Rewley Park Management Company	Rewley Park residents only mooring	Regulated by Rewley Park Management Company
<b>SOUTH OXFORD</b>				
Small section of concrete embankment outside Long Bridges House on west bank of Thames.		Towpath unregistered	Resident of Long Bridges house mooring only.	Regulated by OCC Park Rangers
Small section of concrete embankment outside Isis Cottage next to Isis public house on west bank of Thames.	4	Brookes University	Can be subject to occasional unauthorised mooring.	Should be regulated by Brookes but may be better to cover this in the Schedule?
Section of riverbank outside the Isis public house on west bank of Thames just north of Iffley lock.	4	The owners of the Isis pub claim they own this piece of bank.	Only boats authorised by the owners of the Isis Public House are allowed to moor here.	Regulated by owner of Isis Tavern
West bank of Weirs Mill Stream from point level with Canning Crescent (bottom of Abingdon Rd) down to bypass.	4	OCC owned, but land leased to private resident.	Private Mooring	Regulated by lease holder.

**SOUTH OXFORD**

<p>West bank of Thames from Folly Bridge down to Hertford College boat house.</p>	<p>3+4</p>	<p>Towpath unregistered and all adjacent land owned by the University (Pembroke, Magdalen, Brasenose, Queen's and University colleges).</p>	<p>Currently unregulated and an unauthorised mooring hotspot for live-ins.</p>	<p>This section close to the city centre is ideal for 48 hour visitor mooring if cleared of the unauthorised live-ins. Although the towpath is unregistered, consultation from the various colleges would be needed (maybe just whether they have any objections) as there is likely to be a counter claim and challenge to a PSPO.</p>
<p>West bank of Thames bordering Long Bridges Nature Park (from hump-back footbridges to Donnington Bridge). This includes the two small concrete mooring platforms, between and immediately to south of the two humpbacked footbridges.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Towpath unregistered but OCC own the adjacent land.</p>	<p>Currently maintained by Park Rangers as 48 hour mooring (free).</p>	<p>OCC has made considerable attempts to clarify landownership so there should be no issue with applying a PSPO here to formally limit mooring to 48 hours.</p>
<p>West bank of Thames bordering Iffley Meadow south of Iffley lock to road bridge.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Towpath unregistered OCC but OCC own the adjacent land.</p>	<p>Unregulated.</p>	<p>This section will have to be included, otherwise boats moved on from northern section will just move down here.</p>
<p>West bank of Thames from Donnington Bridge to 100m north of Isis Public House.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Towpath unregistered but OCC own the adjacent land</p>	<p>Unregulated and currently an illegal mooring hot-spot</p>	<p>OCC has made considerable attempts to clarify landownership so there should be no issue with applying a PSPO here to limit mooring to 48 hours?</p>
<p>100m section of west bank of Thames north of Isis public house. This section could be combined with above section if it can be included.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>OCC</p>	<p>Currently maintained by Park Rangers as 48 hour mooring (free)</p>	