



Floating Pennywort Project Update

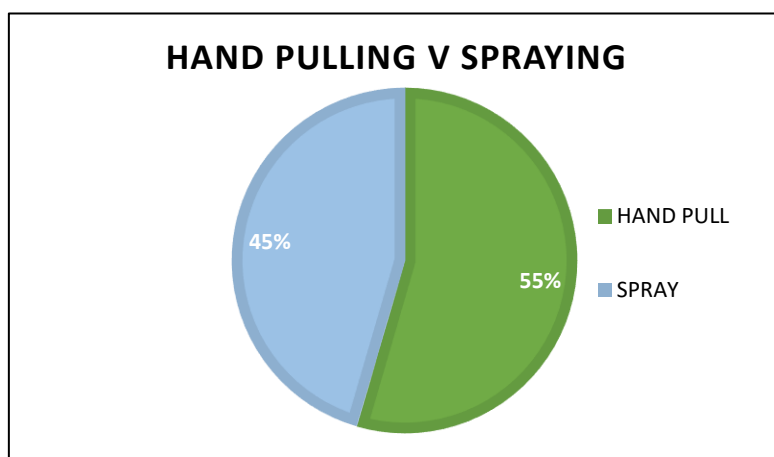
March 2022

Treatment by area:

AREA	PATCHES TREATED	DIFFERENCE
UPPER FOSSDYKE – BURTON WATERS TO TORKSEY LOCK	0	-1
LOWER FOSSDYKE – BURTON WATERS TO BRAYFORD POOL/STAMP END	4	-2
FOSSDYKE DRAIN	14	Not treated in Feb
RIVER TILL	9	-6
CATCHWATER DRAIN	38	-14
STAMP END TO SOUTHREY	64	+8
SOUTHREY TO BELLE ISLE	5	Not treated in Feb
OLD WITHAM	0	-3
SOUTH DELPH	5	+5
UPPER WITHAM	72	+27
SINCIL DIKE	0	No change
TOTAL	211	+17

Hand Pulling v Spraying

Compared to February, 45% of patches were sprayed showing an increase of 20%, and 55% of patches were hand pulled showing a decrease of 25%.

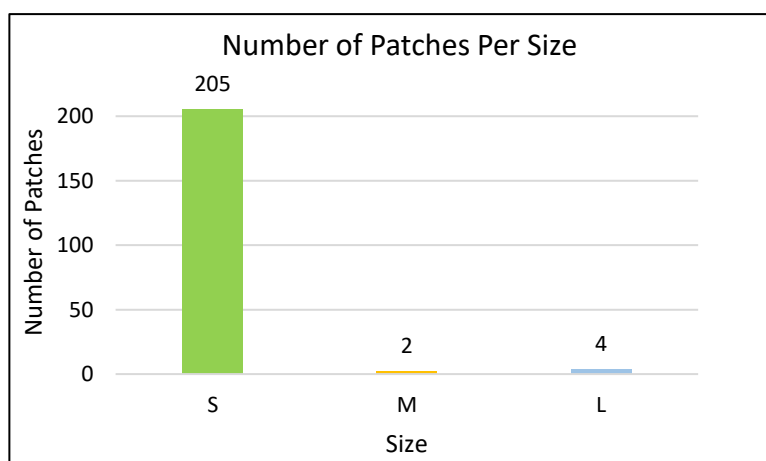


Patch Size Data

97% of patches were small (<1m²)

1% of patches were medium (1-2m²)

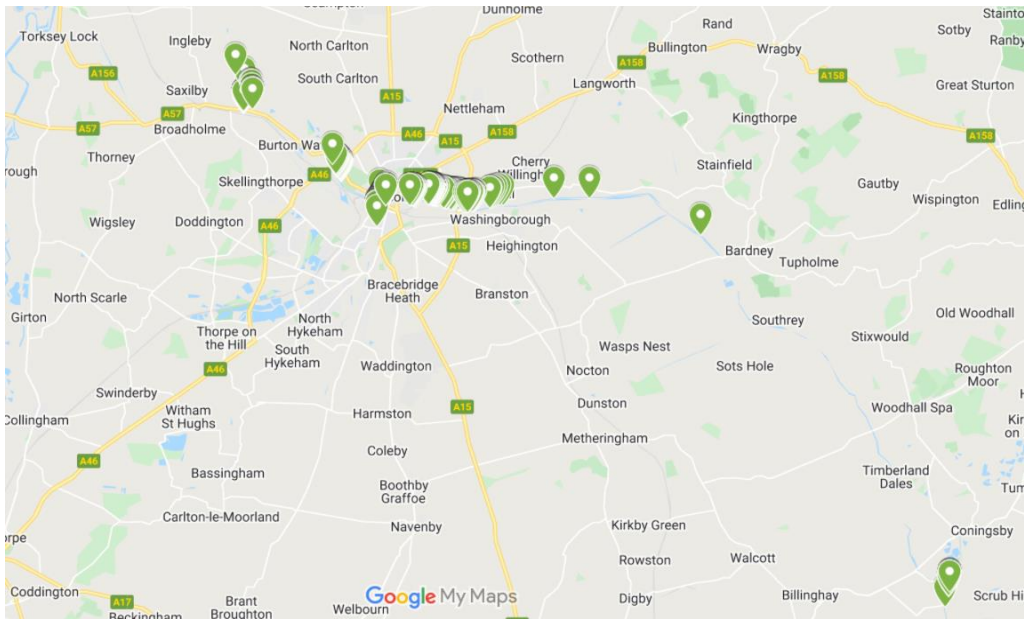
2% of patches were large (>2m²)



Distribution

The furthest upstream patch was found on the Foss Dyke Drain before Saxilby. The furthest downstream patch was found near Chapil Hill past Belle Isle Marina. It is most abundant on the Upper Witham from Brayford Pool to Bargate Sluice, and beyond Stamp End along the Lower Witham.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/1/edit?mid=1i7X9OZYyivCu0halq0pn4RJ9WBUIHeaO&usp=sharing>



RiverCare Volunteers

“This year, RiverCare officially launched their Pennywort Alert project, encouraging volunteer groups, community members, angling and paddling clubs to get out along their local stretch of the river Witham to report and remove floating pennywort fragments.

Across March, volunteers from RiverCare Lincoln Paddlers patrolled the Upper Witham, from the Brayford Pool, under the three bridges outside the Engine Shed, to Dixon Street. They monitored this area 6 times over the month, aware that the large mats of floating pennywort in this area were recently sprayed by the contractor. They removed 10 trugs of small pennywort fragments in total, ensuring that as few patches as possible moving downstream regrow.” – Catherine Holborn



Photo: RiverCare Volunteers