

Good success with the trees but a few small issues:

- Trees in shorter guards have been more affected by deer browsing
- Trees planted beneath larger existing trees are struggling a bit (likely inexperience of the planters)
- Maintenance of trees does not appear to have occurred
 - Many have grass and weeds growing out of the tubes (competing with and/or outcompeting the trees) – likely down to the way that they were planted (again, possibly inexperience)
 - The success rate is generally OK, but would have been higher if the trees had been maintained/weeded
 - I removed some of the grass and weeds where I had time and the ability to do so (some guards were too narrow to get my hand in and I was only on site for 1.5h)
- Someone has deliberately cut the top wire of the buffer fence at NGR NY2219783296 (see photos DSCN7285 & DSCN7286) – this could be a relatively easy fix but also highlights the requirement to look out for these sites
- The riverbed was in an appalling state, indicative of greatly elevated nutrient and sediment inputs further upstream (see photos DSCN7280 & DSCN7292)

Otherwise, the fence appears to have been professionally installed, with water-gates in the appropriate areas. The buffer strip is developing well, with luxuriant growth of grass and areas of herbaceous vegetation regeneration adding to species diversity.