



**middle level  
commissioners**

*Proudly managing water levels in the Fens since 1862*

## **Middle Level Commissioners and administered / associated Internal Drainage Boards Moorings Policy**

If you wish to erect a mooring, you will require consent or permission from The Commissioners as flood defence and navigation authority; the landowner (often the Commissioners) and the local Planning Authority. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary consents. The Application form for Consent for works in and around watercourse, and the relevant guidance notes, can be found on the Consent page of our website.

### **Nene-Ouse Link Route**

The Commissioners are generally prepared to allow the construction of individual landing stages (apart from the conditions mentioned below), and the mooring of vessels on the Nene-Ouse Link Route (Kings Dyke – Whittlesey Dyke – Old River Nene – Well Creek). This is as long as they fit in with the use and environment of the watercourses and do not cause any hindrance to the operations and functions of the Commissioners or obstruction to the Navigation.

Any applications for multiple landing stages or individual landing stages greater than 10 metres in length would be considered on an individual basis and would be subject to you providing us with impact assessments, covering flood risk, navigation and environmental (including Water Framework Directive) impacts.

### **Other Middle Level navigable waters**

The Commissioners' policy is to encourage off-line moorings, whether in marinas or elsewhere. The on-line construction of landing stages and the mooring of vessels would therefore only be permitted where the overriding merits of the case could be justified. In such cases, the assessments referred to above will have to be prepared for the Commissioners' consideration.

### **General**

The construction of landing stages or mooring of vessels is not permitted on narrow channel sections, tight bends or within 30 metres of the junction of 2 (or more) watercourses, an inlet or outfall structure or a bridge.

The construction of landing stages or mooring of vessels is not permitted within 30 metres of a lock or lock landing stage, unless the stage is constructed in connection with the passage of vessels through a lock, or for mooring while using a lock.

If the construction of a landing stage requires a flood bank to be cut into or otherwise undermined, it will not be permitted.

The Commissioners' policy is not to permit on-line moorings for the residential use of boats.

The Commissioners' byelaws prohibit excavations within 20 metres of a watercourse or the landward toe of a flood bank without the prior approval of the Commissioners. All landing stages therefore require the permission of the Commissioners before any work is undertaken. The Commissioners can require the removal of any unauthorised work at your expense. Planning permission is also likely to be required for any landing stages.

The mooring of two or more vessels abreast is prohibited by the Commissioners' byelaws, as is any mooring which disrupts or hinders the passage of other vessels.

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