



NEW PLAN LAUNCHED TO PROTECT SWANS

A joint plan has been launched to protect swans on the River Cam during upcoming rowing races.

The plan will involve escorting the swans into a safe area of the River during races and keeping them out of harm's way. Once in the protected area the swans will be looked after by volunteers. The first instance of this will be during the May Bumps (8-11 June).

The plan has been developed jointly by the Conservators of the River Cam, the Cambridge University Combined Boat Clubs, the Cambridgeshire Rowing Association and local residents.

During the development of this plan expert advice was obtained from Natural England and the Queen's Royal Swan Marker. Many options were considered in this process and this plan is the best option for the swans.

Jed Ramsay, River Manager for the Conservators said "Protecting swans on the River Cam is an essential part of our work. I think the plan to escort the swans out of harm's way during the races will keep the swans safe, whilst also allowing the races to go ahead without the fear of injuries to wildlife".

Previous reports that stated oiling or pricking of swans' eggs was being considered have been refuted. Jed Ramsay added, "I was personally horrified by the suggestion that we would even consider oiling swans' eggs. I can categorically state that we would never consider this an option. It entirely goes against our ethos as an organisation that looks after the river."

Notes for Editors

- 1) The Conservators of the River Cam are the navigation authority for Cambridge. Their aims are to maintain the river for navigation, balance the needs of river users and protect environmental interests on the river.
- 2) Further information on the Conservators can be found online via their [website](#), [Facebook page](#) or [Twitter page](#).