

Water quality – waterways and bodies of water in the Welsh Harp area.

The information below was taken from a short email received from Neale Hider, Conservation Officer at the Environment Agency on 13 March 2012

'The Environment agency have carried 7 routine sampling points in the Brent catchment and compared these to the Water Framework Directive standards, specifically looking at ammonia and dissolved oxygen readings. They have used 3 years' worth of data (which is the standard period used for Water Framework Directive classification) up until to 1st August this year, to demonstrate the current situation.

On the basis of this data it looks like the Silk stream is worse than the Brent above the Brent Reservoir. The Brent at Neasden Lane (just below the reservoir) doesn't look too good for ammonia, but the Environment Agency believes this is because there was a polluted outfall just upstream of this sample point. Wealdstone Brook at Fourth Way is a new sample point for the Environment Agency, but so far it appears poor for ammonia. Water Quality on the Brent seems to improve for ammonia downstream at Western Ave, but then seems to drop off again after it's joined by the Grand Union Canal at Brentford. Meanwhile, dissolved oxygen levels on the Brent are highest below the Brent reservoir, which the Environment Agency were not surprised about.'