

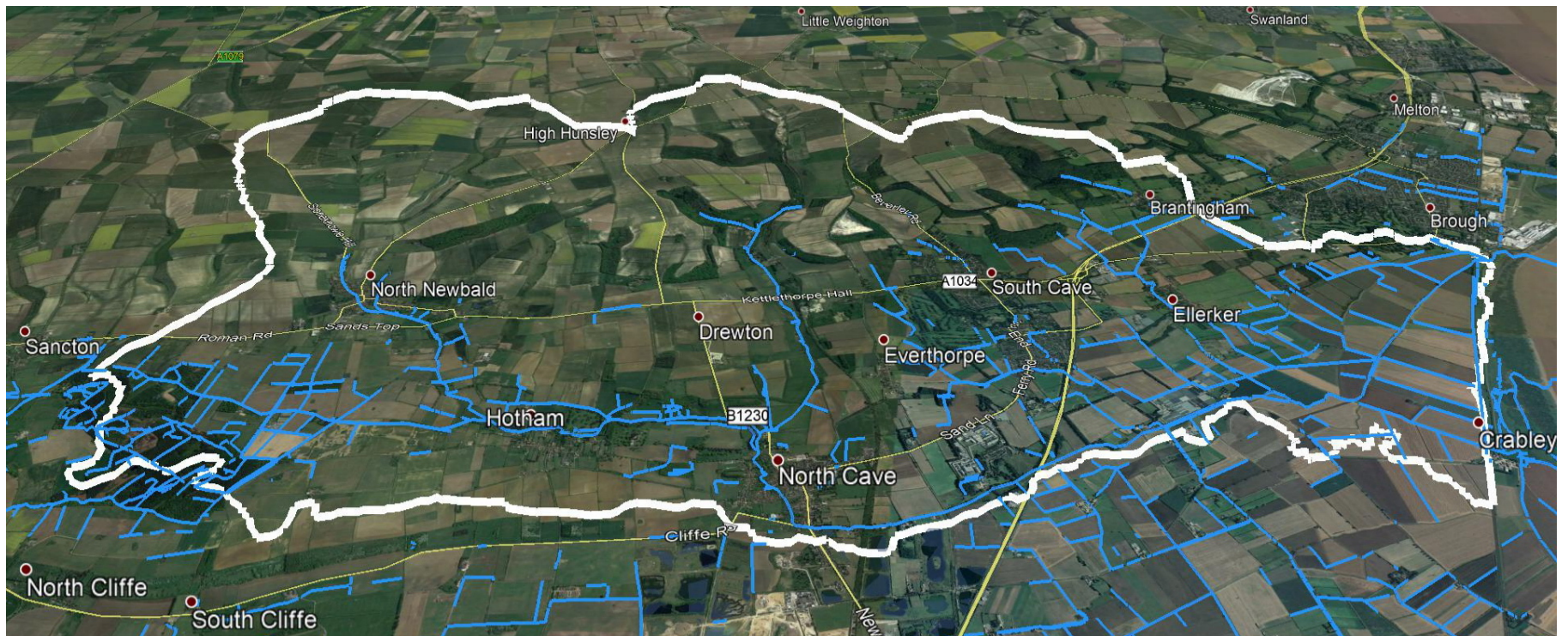
2: Natural Flood Management (NFM) in the West Wolds

The purpose of this project is to assess the potential capacity, effectiveness, management, funding and delivery of NFM within the Mill Beck Catchment.

It will review topography, hydrology, geology, tree/shrub/hedge cover, and land use (arable/pasture) to establish how much scope there is for NFM measures, and where they would best be placed to be most effective and cause the minimum of inconvenience for landowners and farmers.

Which NFM techniques might be applied in these areas not only without detriment to, but potentially to the benefit of, agriculture (link to Strategic Project 3) and whilst benefiting the water environment? What density of intervention would be needed to make a difference to flooding along the becks? (Link to Project Site P-NC-01 Drewton).

There are many questions emerging around landscape and agricultural management and funding in a post-Brexit UK. These include the use of Environmental Land Management (ELM) payments (“for the public good”) stacked with possible biodiversity credits and carbon credits, yield improvements and reduction of high-cost inputs. These directly relate to



multiple NFM measures and the ability to both fund work initially and to manage it in the long term.

The project will also look at delivery of NFM, whether by landowners, contractors or specialist providers.

After creation of NFM interventions, who is responsible/liable?

- Who monitors the condition of NFM measures?
- What funding is likely to be able to maintain / replace on a timescale of years / decades?

These are questions being asked across the UK and beyond. We want to work with farmers and landowners to help find the answers.