



Dike displacement



Moving dikes further inland broadens the forelands and gives the river extra space.

Future situation

What will the area look like in the future?

- The dike will be situated further inland, increasing the size of the foreland. The channels will act as an overflow for the river at high tide.
- The larger channel will have an open connection to the IJssel, giving nature a chance to develop in the transition between water and land. The area to the south of the channel will be grassland.
- Upstream, water will be supplied by means of a culvert (a shaft or tube that connects waterways with each other). This will enable replacement of the water in the channels. When the water level rises, the forelands will fill up first via the downstream connection with the IJssel. It is expected that the overflow will be filled in several weeks at a time, and will be flooded into the area.
- The land outside the dike(s) will be redesigned as a nature reserve and include recreational facilities.

Groot Salland Water Board and Space for the River

The Westenholte dike displacement is not the only 'Space for the River' project in the Zwolle area. South of the railway bridge over the IJssel, the excavation of the forelands of the Scheller en Oldeneler Buitenwaarden will also take place. In Deventer, Groot Salland Water Board will also conduct excavations in the forelands of the Keizers-, Stobben- and Olsterwaarden and Bolwerksplas, Worp and Ossenwaard.

Facts and figures

Motivation for 'Space for the River'

- In 1993 and 1995, the river's waters were extremely high
- In 1995, 250,000 people had to be evacuated due to high-water level

Schedule

- Plan development: Up to 2009
- Predesign of zoning plan: 2009
- Adoption of zoning plan: 2010
- Commencement of work: 2011
- Completion of work: 2015

Scale/details

- By normative high-water levels, 16,000 m³ per second at Lobith equates to an 14 cm reduction
- Length of new dike: approximately 2.2 m
- Average width of new channels: 50-100 m
- Maximum excavation depth: 4 m
- Maximum amount of excavated earth: 1,300,000 m³
- Relocation of four houses, of which three will become dike residences
- Relocation of two farms
- Creation of new farmland (approximately 10 hectares)
- Construction of footpaths
- New cross-channel connections

Financing

- Budget: approximately € 38 million

'Prevention of floods
is the number one priority'