

Pennon Stakeholder Forum

Let's Talk Water

Wednesday 22 November

14:00 – 16:00



Welcome

Welcome to the 7th Let's Talk Water event -> a 2-hour webinar to share with you some of the projects and initiatives we are delivering with our partners...

The main themes of this webinar are:

- 1) Upcoming launch of WaterFit Live 3
- 2) Local Nature Recovery Strategies

Housekeeping

- Please keep cameras off and muted
- If you have questions, please post them in the chat and we will ask during the Q&A
- We will record the session (hence cameras off). Any objections, please let us know.
- *Please feel free to introduce yourselves in the chat*



What we will cover today



1. **Welcome** Nick Paling

2. **Update on key initiatives** Nick Paling

3. **WaterFit Live 3** Laura Flowerdew

4. **Q&A**

4. **Local Nature Recovery Strategies** Devon, Cornwall, West of England

5. **Our work to support Local Nature Recovery** Carolyn Cadman

7. **Q&A**

Close



WELCOME

Business Plan 2025-2030



#We'reDoingThis

Our plans tackle the biggest challenges we face head on

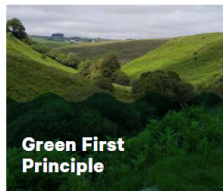
Water quality and resilience



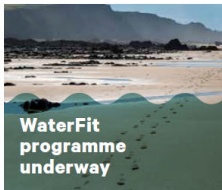
Storm overflows and pollutions



Climate change – net zero 2030



Customer affordability



Our plans What we're doing



£2.8 billion investment plan
2025-30

Resilience to a drought
worse than 1 in 200 year event

Creating over
2,000 jobs
with **1,000 apprenticeships**
– a 50% increase in workforce

Over 100,000 households
to receive financial support

Average bill increase of
£9 per month
by 2030

£3 per month
for water only customers

Maintain
highest quality
drinking water

Tackling 100%
of storm overflows at bathing waters

Increased transparency
through first of a kind monitoring system

Your water
your say

Leakage <10%
on our pipes

#We'reDoingThis

Draft Water Resources Management Plan



Draft Water Resources Management Plan

2025 -2050



- WRMP is a statutory requirement set out in legislation - we must **review and update it every 5 years**
- **Secure supply of water to customers**, while also **protecting and enhancing the environment**
- **Forecasts water supply and demand out to 2050** and identifies any risks to supplies
- Identifies the **'best value' programme of action** to maintain reliable and resilient water supply



Public consultation on draft WRMP

We held a 12-week public consultation on our dWRMP between 14 February and 09 May 2023

To promote this consultation, we undertook a wide array of engagement activities

79 responses were received to the 1st consultation

Our Statement of Response summarises the responses we received as well as indicating how we have changed our dWRMP as a result



WRMP
online
questionnaire

 **14**
respondents
to online
questionnaire

WRMP
dedicated
mailbox


79 = **26** + **53**
emails & letters organisation responses customer responses



43%

of respondents supported the **environment** in their comments with issues such as nature-based solutions



33%

of respondents proposed **leakages milestones**



30%

of respondents supported **infrastructure options** including reservoir building and management



24%

of respondents expect **ongoing consultation processes**, including continued engagement with customers and non-household businesses



30%

of respondents wanted to **encourage closer working together with retailers, partnerships and different councils**



Customers would like to see **more education for tourists about saving water** and it's consequences on the resident population, especially during the



Customers would like to see **more smart metering in homes to help save water**, as they feel it has been effective at making users aware of how much water they are



Customers would like **recognition that they are contributing to saving water** by using water butts and other water saving techniques



Customers had **proactive views on the active use of reservoirs** to collect water in the wetter months, in order to develop drought resilience

Revised draft WRMP

Second public consultation

We initially consulted on our first draft WRMP from 14 February to 9 May 2023

Following your feedback, we have significantly updated our draft WRMP

Now we are undertaking a 2nd public consultation from 11 October to 6 December 2023



Water resources in Cornwall

- Last year, prolonged dry weather resulted in a serious shortage of water in our Colliford Reservoir, Cornwall's strategic reservoir
- As a result the region became officially 'in drought', which led to a widespread hosepipe ban and the need for urgent drought resilience measures
- Our Colliford reservoir is now at **51.6%** capacity, compared to **15.3%** this time last year – **36.3%** up on where we were last year
- Actions we have taken and recent rainfall means our reservoirs are fuller than this time last year and the hosepipe ban has now been lifted
- But we need to do more to secure the region's water supplies for the future and avoid further droughts



Par desalination project

South West Water is working on the design and delivery of a desalination project near St Austell Bay.

This project would involve:

1. Extracting sea water from St. Austell Bay
2. Processing at a desalination plant built on industrial land near Par Docks
3. Returning seawater (brine) back into St. Austell Bay
4. Transferring treated water to Restormel Water Treatment Works via a buried 13km pipeline

This is a widely used process that would be carefully monitored by our regulators.



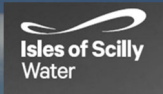
Our commitment to stakeholders



- We will always be transparent and open with our stakeholders
- We will take a collaborative, 'no surprises' approach to communications, keeping you up-to-date as the project develops
- We will undertake a thorough public consultation on the details of our planning application
- We will hold further stakeholder briefings before the end of the year
- We have set up a dedicated website and email address
- We will issue regular newsletters and updates
- We have a dedicated stakeholder team and are here to answer questions



Isles of Scilly Project





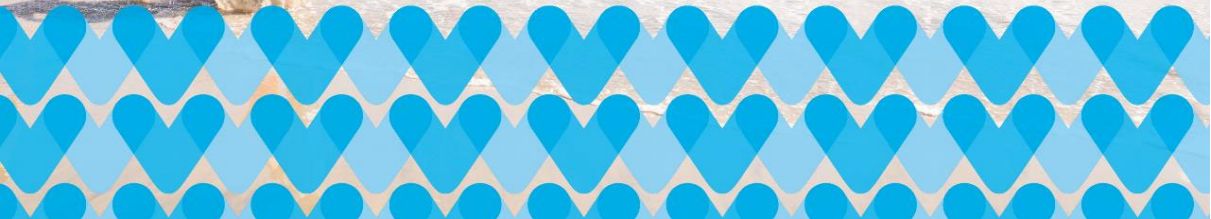
South West
Water



live

WaterFit

water fit for everyone





Now more than ever people are asking for information about beaches and rivers so that they can make decisions about when to go in the water.. The RNLI welcome any move towards improving both water quality and transparency around what's happening at our beaches.

Steve Instance, RNLI Water Safety Lead

Westcountry Rivers Trust fully support South West Water's move towards greater transparency about the operation of sewage assets. We already collect lots of data on the health of our rivers through our Citizen Science investigation campaign, but without data on the sources of potential pollution it is hard to show the cause, whether it be sewage, agriculture or other industries.

Dr Laurence Couldrick, CEO of Westcountry Rivers Trust

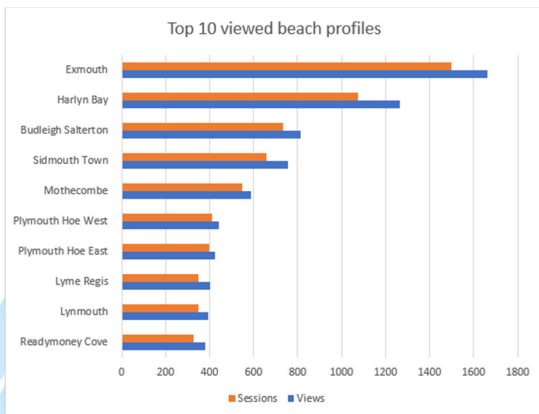
Cornwall Council is pleased to support the launch of SWW's WaterFit Live initiative, which demonstrates a greater transparency with the sharing of information about storm overflows. We encourage their commitment.

Bryan Skinner, Head of Transport,
Environment and Maritime Infrastructure,
Cornwall Council

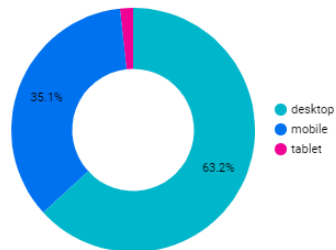
Everyone, locals and visitors, expect to be well informed, especially now we live in a digital world, so that we can make our own decisions. Therefore the increased transparency created through WaterFit Live is welcomed, it will invite discussions based on fact, not rumours

Malcolm Brown, Interim Chair, Visit
Cornwall

Most visited beach pages

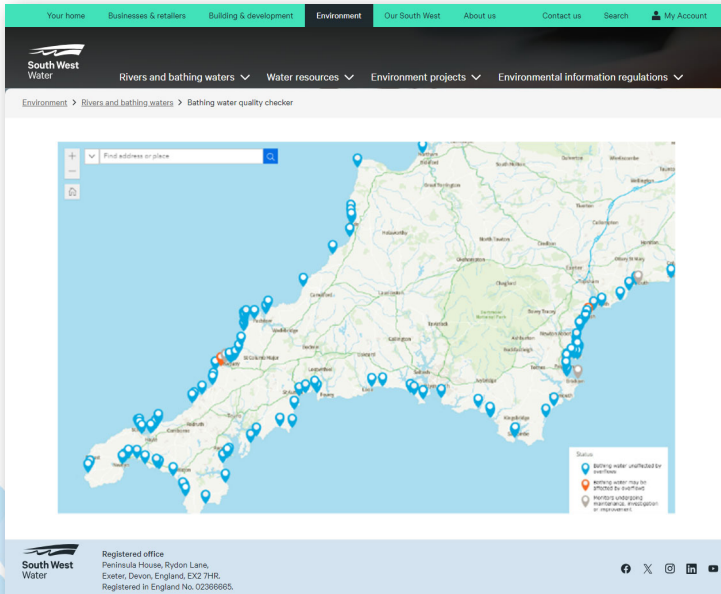


WaterFit device usage



Beach map

- Bathing water status
- Zoom function
- Search by beach name



Your home Businesses & retailers Building & development Environment Our South West About us Contact us Search My Account

South West Water

Rivers and bathing waters ▾ Water resources ▾ Environment projects ▾ Environmental information regulations ▾

Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker

Find address or place

Status

- Bathing water unaffected by overflows
- Bathing water may be affected by overflow
- Monitors undergoing maintenance, inspection or improvement

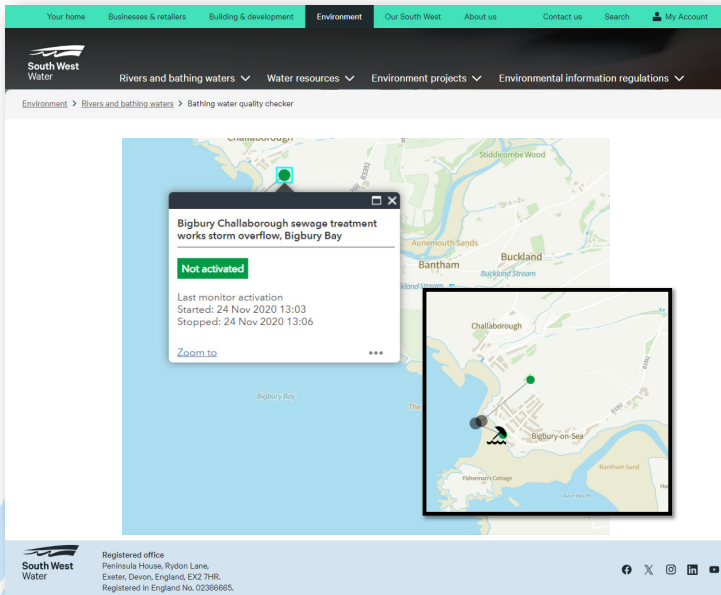
South West Water

Registered office
Peninsula House, Rydon Lane,
Exeter, Devon, England, EX2 7HR.
Registered in England No. 02386665.

f X Instagram LinkedIn YouTube

Overflow location map

- Shows EDM activation status
- 4 possible activation states (traffic light system)
- Reports near real-time data – not validated.



The screenshot shows the South West Water website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Your home', 'Businesses & retailers', 'Building & development', 'Environment', 'Our South West', 'About us', 'Contact us', 'Search', and 'My Account'. Below this, a secondary navigation bar lists 'Rivers and bathing waters', 'Water resources', 'Environment projects', and 'Environmental information regulations'. The main content area displays a map of Bigbury Bay with a green dot indicating the location of the Bigbury Challaborough sewage treatment works storm overflow. A pop-up window is open over this location, displaying the following information:

Bigbury Challaborough sewage treatment works storm overflow, Bigbury Bay

Not activated

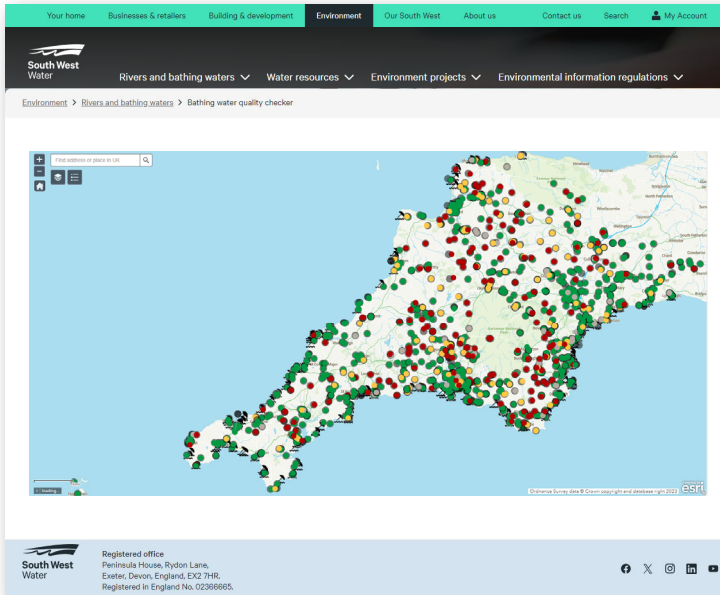
Last monitor activation
Started: 24 Nov 2020 13:03
Stopped: 24 Nov 2020 13:06

[Zoom to](#)

An inset map in the bottom right corner provides a broader view of the area, showing the location of the overflow relative to Bigbury-on-Sea and the surrounding coastline. The bottom of the page features the South West Water logo and contact information: Registered office, Peninsula House, Rydon Lane, Exeter, Devon, England, EX2 7HR, Registered in England No. 02366665. Social media icons for Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube are also present.

Overflow activation map

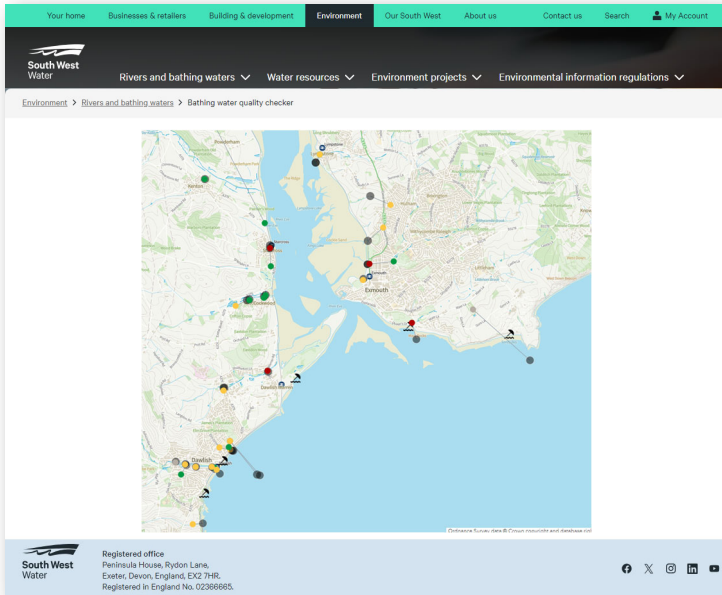
- Near real-time activation data for all of our storm overflows
- 4 possible activation states (traffic light system)
- Reports near real time data – not validated.



The screenshot displays the South West Water website's 'Bathing water quality checker' page. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'Your home', 'Businesses & retailers', 'Building & development', 'Environment', 'Our South West', 'About us', 'Contact us', 'Search', and 'My Account'. Below the navigation bar, there are dropdown menus for 'Rivers and bathing waters', 'Water resources', 'Environment projects', and 'Environmental information regulations'. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: 'Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker'. The central focus is a map of the South West region of England, densely populated with colored circles representing overflow activation data. The map includes a search bar at the top left with the placeholder text 'Find address or place in UK'. The bottom of the page contains the South West Water logo, contact information for the registered office (Peninsula House, Rydon Lane, Exeter, Devon, England, EX2 7HR, Registered in England No. 02366665), and social media icons for Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

Overflow activation map

- Zoom into an area.
- Click on an individual overflow for activation information
- Click on a parasol for bathing water level information



Your home Businesses & retailers Building & development Environment Our South West About us Contact us Search My Account

South West Water

Rivers and bathing waters ▾ Water resources ▾ Environment projects ▾ Environmental information regulations ▾

Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker

Overflow activation map showing various markers (colored circles and parasols) on a map of the South West region of England.

South West Water

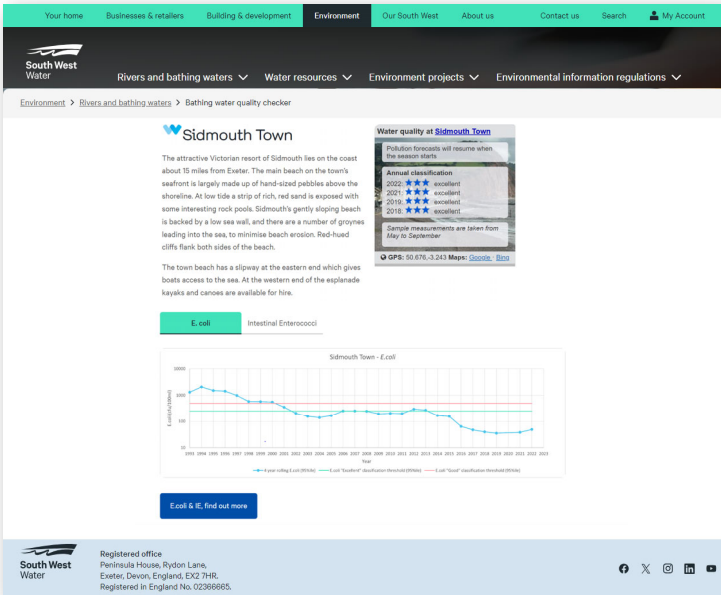
Registered office
Peninsula House, Rydon Lane,
Exeter, Devon, England, EX2 7HR.
Registered in England No. 02386685.

Facebook X Instagram LinkedIn YouTube

Beach page

Bathing water level information

- 3 years spill data
- Bathing Water classification
- Beach descriptor
- Investment information
- Historic bacti counts



The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with 'Environment' selected. The breadcrumb trail is 'Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker'. The main heading is 'Sidmouth Town'. The text describes the beach's location and features. A table shows annual classifications from 2018 to 2022, all rated 'excellent' with three stars. A line graph shows E. coli levels from 2015 to 2022, with a 4-year rolling average and classification thresholds. A button at the bottom says 'E.coli & IE, find out more'.

South West Water

Your home | Businesses & retailers | Building & development | **Environment** | Our South West | About us | Contact us | Search | My Account

Rivers and bathing waters | Water resources | Environment projects | Environmental information regulations

Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker

Sidmouth Town

The attractive Victorian resort of Sidmouth lies on the coast about 15 miles from Exeter. The main beach on the town's seafront is largely made up of hand-sized pebbles above the shoreline. At low tide a strip of rich, red sand is exposed with some interesting rock pools. Sidmouth's gently sloping beach is backed by a low sea wall, and there are a number of groynees leading into the sea, to minimise beach erosion. Red-hued cliffs flank both sides of the beach.

The town beach has a slipway at the eastern end which gives boats access to the sea. At the western end of the esplanade kayaks and canoes are available for hire.

Water quality at Sidmouth Town

Pollution forecasts will resume when the season starts

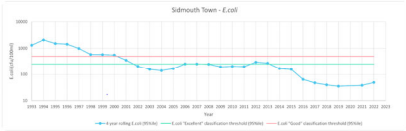
Annual classification		
2022	★ ★ ★	excellent
2021	★ ★ ★	excellent
2019	★ ★ ★	excellent
2018	★ ★ ★	excellent

Sample measurements are taken from May to September

GPS: 50.676,-3.243 [Maps](#): [Google](#), [Bing](#)

E. coli | Intestinal Enterococci

Sidmouth Town - E.coli



E.coli & IE, find out more

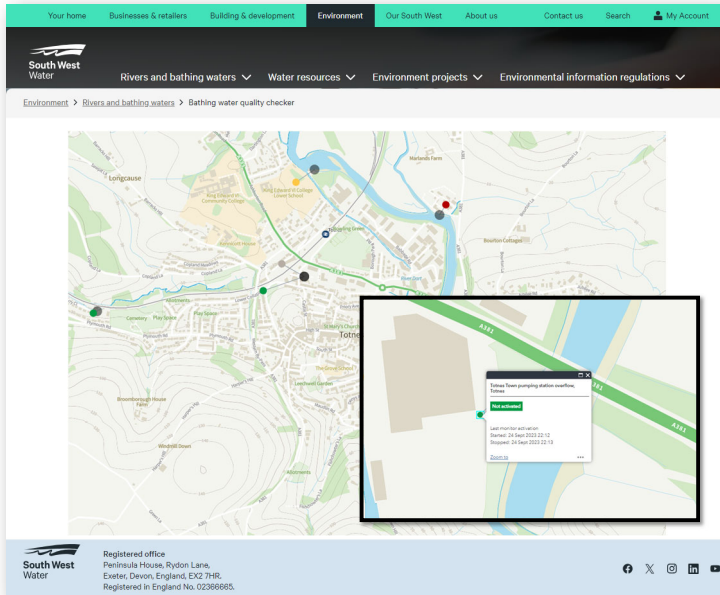
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Registered in England No. 02386865.

Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube

Overflow activations map

- Zoom into an area.
- Click on an individual overflow for activation information
- Traffic light system to indication activation status



Your home Business & retailers Building & development Environment Our South West About us Contact us Search My Account

South West Water
Rivers and bathing waters ▾ Water resources ▾ Environment projects ▾ Environmental information regulations ▾

Environment > Rivers and bathing waters > Bathing water quality checker

Longcause King Edward VI College Lower School Marton Farm Beurlton Cottages Totnes The Grove School Lambhast Garden Woodhill Down Altonmores

South West Water

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Peninsula House, Rydon Lane,
Exeter, Devon, England, EX2 7HR.
Registered in England No. 02366665.

Facebook X Instagram LinkedIn YouTube



WaterFit

What next: WaterFit roadmap

WaterFit Live Launch

Engagement with communities and stakeholders

Go live with near real-time data for all our storm overflows

Initial release of near real-time data at overflow for beaches

Updates to website, investment & delivery information

Ongoing evolution to reflect customer & stakeholder needs





Any questions?

www.southwestwater.co.uk/waterfitlive



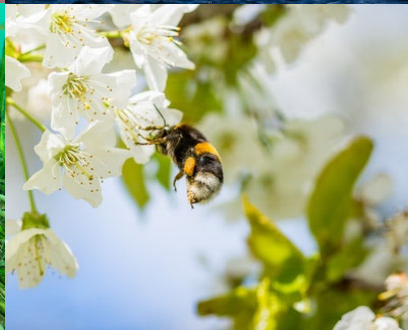
What are Local Nature Recovery Strategies?

Dougie Handford, Bethany Roberts, Dominic Acland



**CORNWALL
COUNCIL**
one and all • oñen hag oll

Nature in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

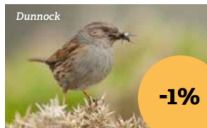




Devon species in danger of extinction



STABLE



-1%



Otter
A well-defined survey protocol and active monitoring in Cornwall

-2.1%
fewer places per year

DECLINING



-20%



The Scilly Shrew

Image credit: Ed Marshall

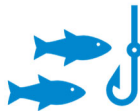
Less than 100
Oyster catcher
breeding territories



Scilly Bee
Presumed Extinct



**Climate
emergency**



**Overfishing and
harmful fishing
practices**



Development



Pollution



**Intensive and
harmful farming
practices**







**Poor water
management**

What are Local Nature Recovery Strategies?



A new statutory system of spatial strategies for nature which will plan, map, and help drive more action and investment in nature's recovery...

-  **Locally led**
-  **Collaborative**
-  **Evidence based**
-  **Reflective of the views of the interested groups**



What can they do?



Support nature to thrive

Assist planning and developments



Aid decision-making



Improve co-ordination



Tackle climate change

Prioritise investment in nature



Map priority areas



Enhance local knowledge



Focus efforts

Connect people to nature








-  **Where and how landowners can deliver for nature**
-  **Farm plans and funding for farmers**
-  **Neighbourhood Development Plans**
-  **Community projects**
-  **Biodiversity net gain**
-  **Space for nature in development planning**
-  **Wider strategic planning such as our Local Plan**





-  **Limit** land manager choice in decision making
-  **Replace** site surveys and project planning – it's a strategic tool
-  **Stop** people from taking action for nature now!





Devon



The responsible authority is Devon County Council, but work is being done under the umbrella of the **Devon Local Nature Partnership**.

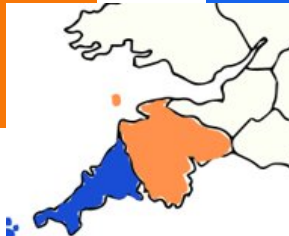
In addition to Natural England, we have 12 supporting authorities:

- 🍄 2 national parks (Dartmoor & Exmoor)
- 🍄 10 local authorities

Cornwall & IoS

The responsible authority is **Cornwall Council** and work is being done in collaboration with the **Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership** and the **Council of the Isles of Scilly**

Cornwall was lucky enough to be a pilot region for DEFRA in 2021





In Devon and Cornwall the Local Authorities are the Responsible Authority for development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy

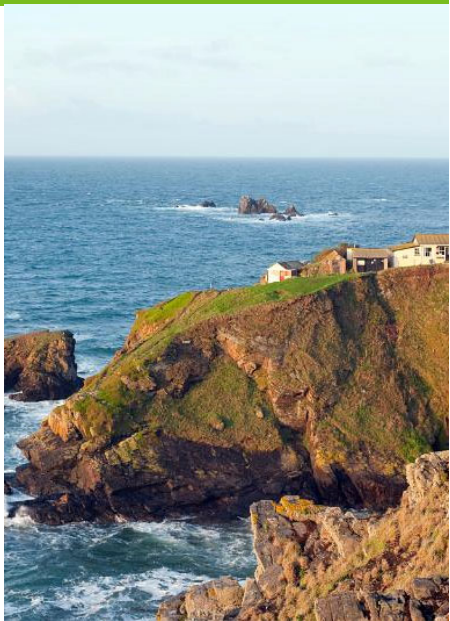


Delivery of the strategy will be reliant on a wide range of parties including land owners, strategic organisations, NGOs and communities



LAs will help support this delivery through

- Delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain
- New enhanced Biodiversity Duties for Public Authorities e.g., in Planning
- Pro-active management of our estates for the benefit of nature
- Facilitating delivery in partnership with key organisations and communities throughout the region



What does a local nature recovery strategy look like?



A **Description** of the area and its wildlife



Identify a set of **Opportunities** for recovering biodiversity



A **Statement of Priorities** on what and how to help nature recover



Actions needed to achieve the wildlife priorities and other socio-economic priorities e.g. flood control and health and well-being



A **Nature Recovery Network map** showing where existing nature areas are, and areas where nature can recover and grow

Devon LNRS

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Bethany Roberts

Nature Recovery Team



NATURE RECOVERY: Target aligned with Government



“OUR TARGET FOR CORNWALL AND THE ISLES OF SCILLY IS THAT AT LEAST 30% OF LAND, RIVERS AND SEAS WILL BE WELL MANAGED FOR NATURE BY 2030”







WHAT are the key nature recovery priorities?

Including habitat, species, natural processes, and nature-based solutions



WHERE could nature recovery take place and be prioritised?

Where is there the greatest potential to deliver nature recovery? Where are nature recovery projects already underway or planned?



HOW can we achieve nature recovery?

What are the actions needed to make this happen?



Online survey and map (open until 22nd Nov):

- **>1000** survey responses & **~750** pins dropped
- **100** further responses from Isles of Scilly Survey

Presentations to key groups:

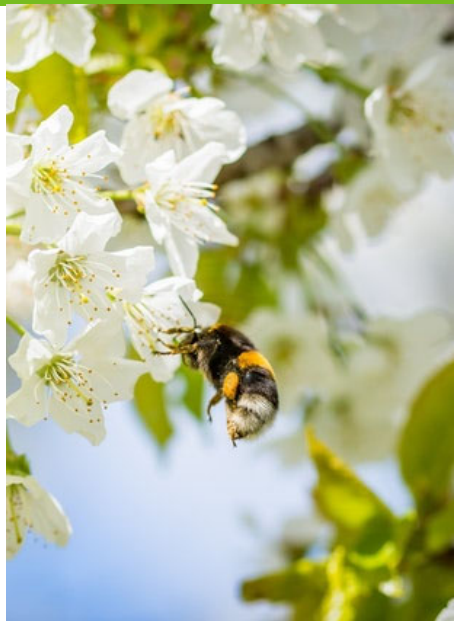
- **17+** presentations at committees and strategic meetings

Roadshow:

- **28** events attended
- **980** people engaged at in person events

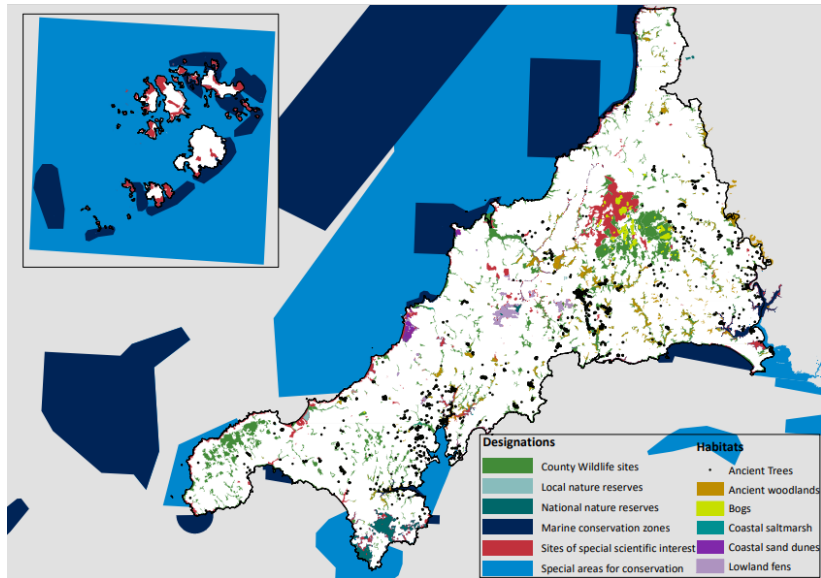
Gaps:

- Academics, fisheries
- Fewer respondents from the north and southeast of Cornwall



First look at the survey results







Nature recovery priorities from survey and expert refinement

Ecosystem services

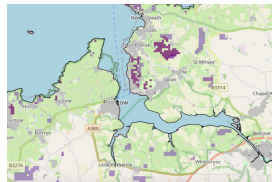
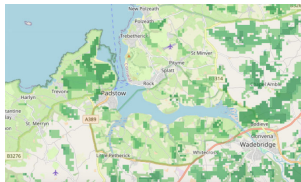
Constraints

Species distributions and nature recovery areas

Habitats



A **Nature Recovery Network map** showing where existing nature areas, and areas where nature can recover and grow





Farmer Engagement

- Working with key partners including NFU, CLA and others to deliver enhanced programme of farmer engagement



Priority Refinement

- Detailed engagement with experts and interested bodies to draft priorities for CloS and develop delivery pathways



Mapping Engagement

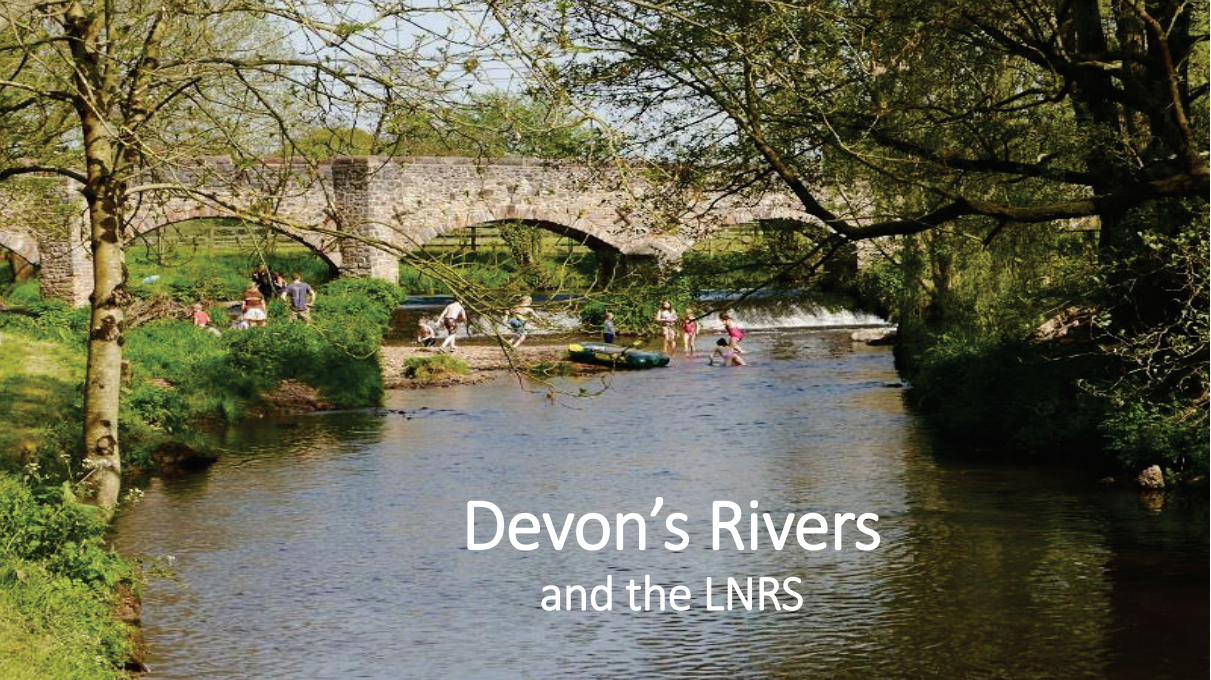
- Key decision points for input into shaping the LNRS Opportunity mapping



Thank you

letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/nature-recovery

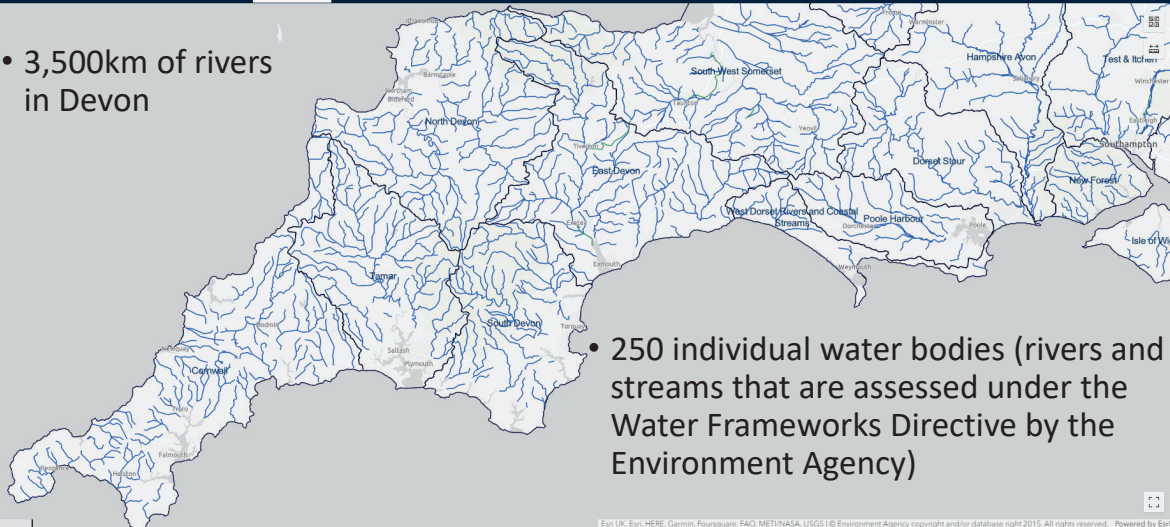




Devon's Rivers and the LNRS



- 3,500km of rivers in Devon



- 250 individual water bodies (rivers and streams that are assessed under the Water Frameworks Directive by the Environment Agency)

Photo: James Maben



The watery web of life



Photo: Chris Root



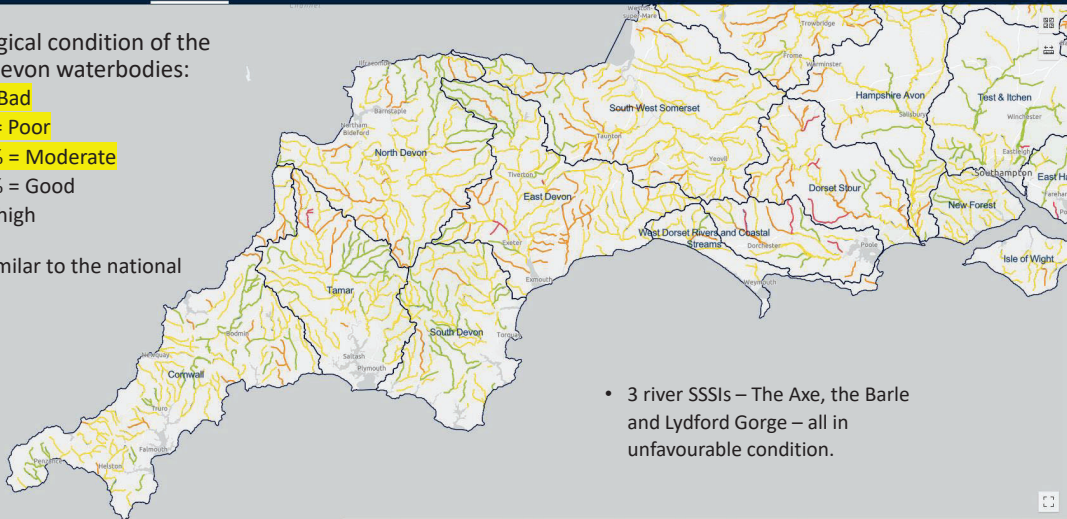
Photo: David White

How healthy are our rivers?

• Ecological condition of the 250 Devon waterbodies:

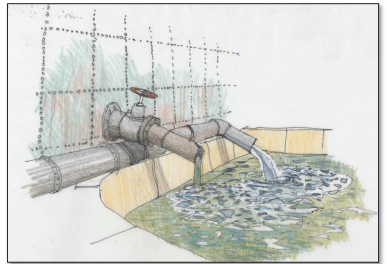
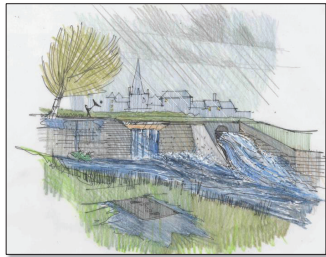
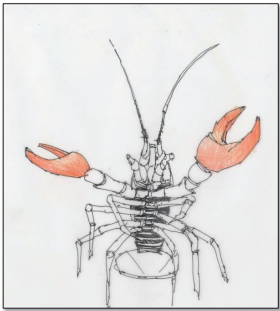
- 2% = Bad
- 16% = Poor
- 63.2% = Moderate
- 18.8% = Good
- 0% = high

This is similar to the national picture



- 3 river SSSIs – The Axe, the Barle and Lydford Gorge – all in unfavourable condition.





Some of the causes...



River bed loss





Farm advice and support



River community action groups



Species Recovery Projects



How will the LNRS help Devon's rivers?

- Identifying where we should focus efforts to make the most impact
- Bringing everyone together to work together effectively
- Targeting funding where it is most needed

Developing the LNRS in Devon

- Detailed species and habitats analysis is underway
- Drafting priority actions and focus areas
- Public consultation phase in March / April
- Local Nature Partnership Conference in May
- LNRS refined and then second round of consultation – June
- Final version submitted in August.





West of England Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Presentation to Let's Talk
Water

LNRS in the West of England



How we are developing priorities

- **Primary focus is ability to deliver nature recovery**
 - Bigger, better, more and more joined-up
- **Secondary focus on ability to deliver environmental services and adapt to climate change**
 - Prioritise areas where nature recovery can help deliver co-benefits
- **Strong consideration of other priorities such as best land for agriculture, where development is likely to take place etc.**

West of England Nature Recovery Network

Grassland

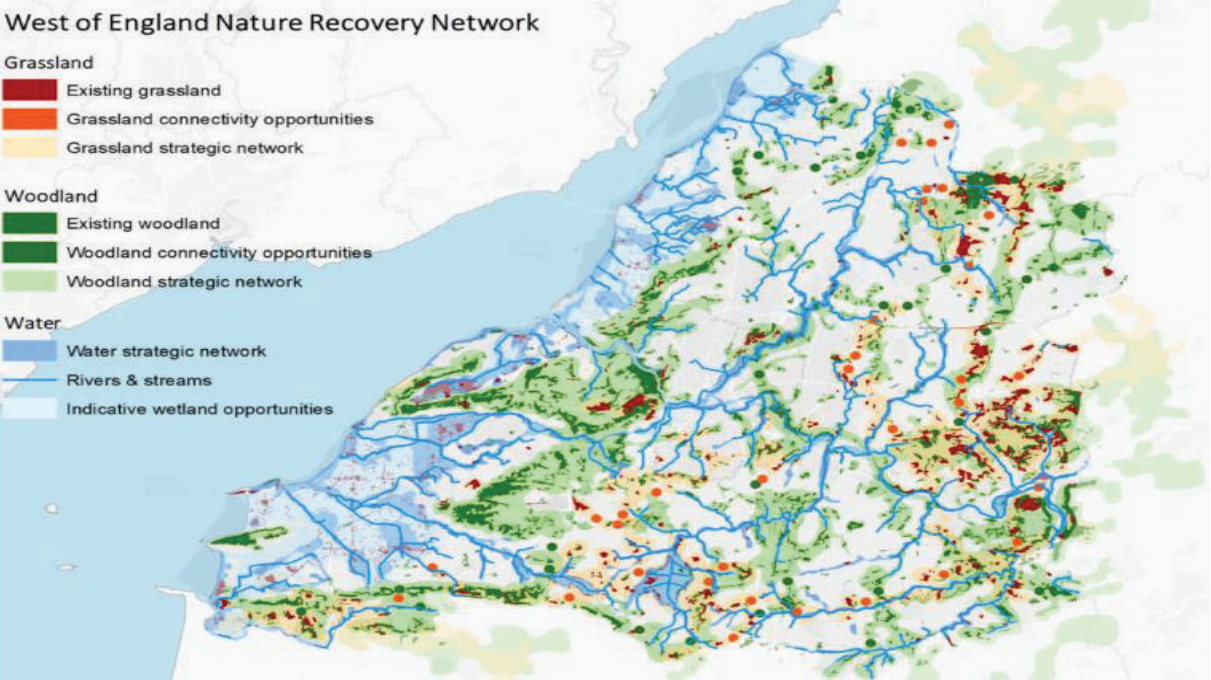
- Existing grassland
- Grassland connectivity opportunities
- Grassland strategic network

Woodland

- Existing woodland
- Woodland connectivity opportunities
- Woodland strategic network

Water

- Water strategic network
- Rivers & streams
- Indicative wetland opportunities



Water environment in the LNRS

- Integrate measures for freshwater environment throughout
 - Including improving water quality
- Recognise importance of healthy freshwater ecosystems, including rivers and wetlands
- Highlight priority freshwater species
 - E.g. European eel, Atlantic salmon, beaver, Loddon pondweed...
- All rivers and streams to be recognised as ‘areas that could become of particular importance’
 - Unique habitats and ecological corridors

Stakeholder engagement

- Working closely with West of England Nature Partnership and Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership
- Numerous 1-to-1 meetings held with **key stakeholders**
- **Community engagement :**
 - Public survey and analysis of previous engagement to inform priorities
 - Further focus on community engagement during consultation
- **Businesses engagement:**
 - Workshop held on 31st October; 1-to-1s with key businesses
- **Farmer & landholder engagement** in partnership with NFU and CLA:
 - Three in-person events plus an online survey
 - Additional engagement on draft mapping in January

LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

(Order of text demonstrates frequency of keyword/place: top and right of lists are the most frequently mentioned examples.)

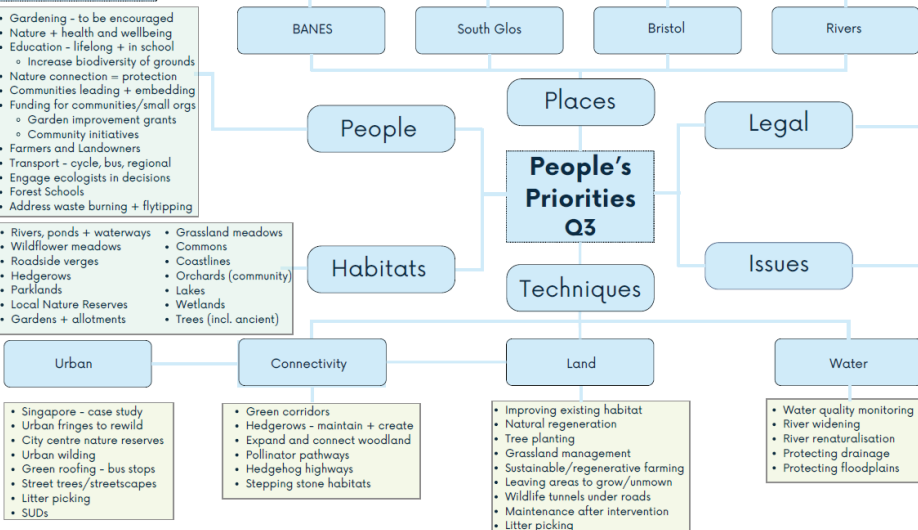
- Gardening - to be encouraged
- Nature + health and wellbeing
- Education - lifelong + in school
 - Increase biodiversity of grounds
- Nature connection = protection
- Communities leading + embedding
- Funding for communities/small orgs
 - Garden improvement grants
 - Community initiatives
- Farmers and Landowners
- Transport - cycle, bus, regional
- Engage ecologists in decisions
- Forest Schools
- Address waste burning + flytipping

- Rivers, ponds + waterways
- Wildflower meadows
- Roadside verges
- Hedgerows
- Parklands
- Local Nature Reserves
- Gardens + allotments
- Grassland meadows
- Commons
- Coastlines
- Orchards (community)
- Lakes
- Wetlands
- Trees (incl. ancient)

- Mendip Hills AONB
- Keynsham to Saltford area
- Bristol to Bath Cycle Path
- South Stoke Plateau
- Charlcombe Valley
- Warleigh Weir
- Hanham - The Batch
- Siston Common + Brook
- Frampton Cotterell
- Lower Woods + Kingswood
- Three Brooks Nature Reserve
- Northern Slopes
- Brislington Meadows
- Snuff Mills - Oldbury Court
- Bristol to Bath Cycle Path
- Yew Tree Farm
- Stoke Park
- River Avon
- River Chew
- River Frome (+Walkway)
- Siston Brook
- Cam Valley + Brook
- Severn Estuary

- Stricter planning laws
- Protection for existing spaces
- No development on Green Belt land
- Brownfield and ex-commercial development sites
- Fines for farmers causing environmental damage
- Fines for water companies - CSOs
- Increased use of local landscape designations
- Framework for valuing nature/ecoservices
- Embed Nature + wellbeing gains into projects

- Cutting grass too regularly
- Water/Air/Light pollution
- Developing on Green Belt land
- Lack of connectivity
- Farming and sewage run-off
- Proximity of housing to green space
- Inequality of access to nature
- Access to Safe Green Spaces
- Incorrect species for interventions
- Poor quality agricultural land
- Vandalism of nature
- Food security + allotments
- Balancing dog walking + damage
- Too much pesticide use
- Habitat destruction
- Invasive species
- Ash dieback/replacing trees
- Greenwashing
- Felt to be 'top-down'
- GDP vs Nature
- Loss of city centre green space



- Singapore - case study
- Urban fringes to rewild
- City centre nature reserves
- Urban wilding
- Green roofing - bus stops
- Street trees/streetscapes
- Litter picking
- SUDs

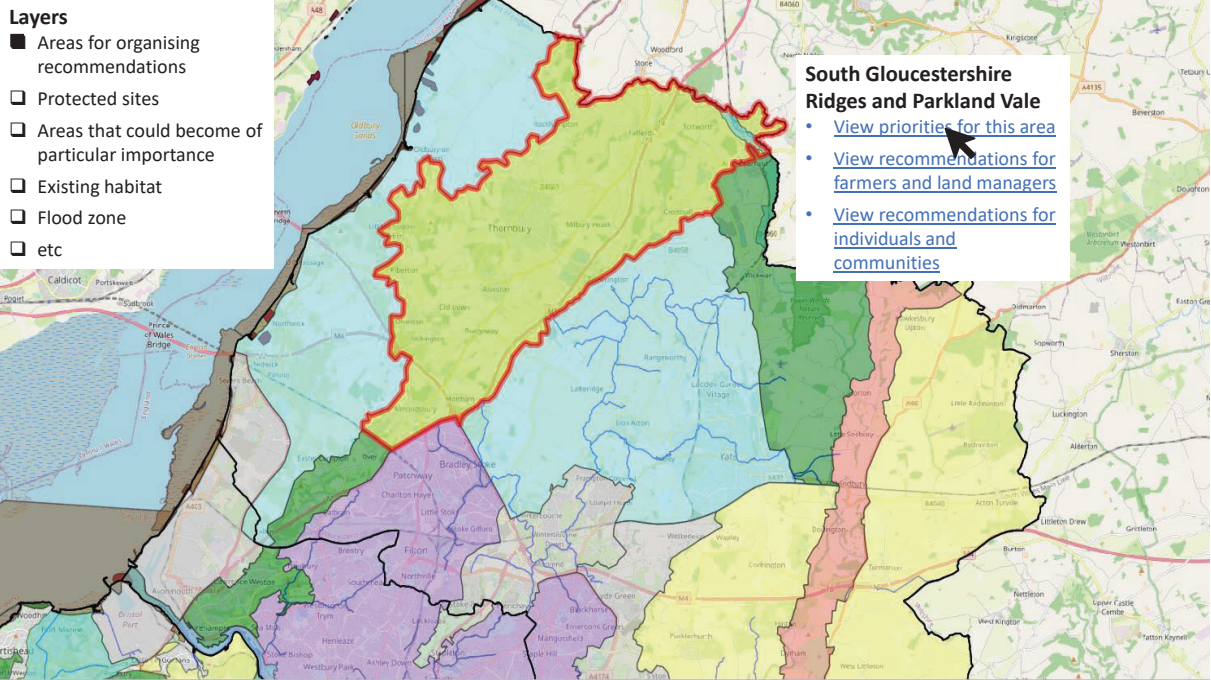
- Green corridors
- Hedgerows - maintain + create
- Expand and connect woodland
- Pollinator pathways
- Hedgehog highways
- Stepping stone habitats

- Improving existing habitat
- Natural regeneration
- Tree planting
- Grassland management
- Sustainable/regenerative farming
- Leaving areas to grow/unmown
- Wildlife tunnels under roads
- Maintenance after intervention
- Litter picking

- Water quality monitoring
- River widening
- River renaturalisation
- Protecting drainage
- Protecting floodplains

Layers

- Areas for organising recommendations
- Protected sites
- Areas that could become of particular importance
- Existing habitat
- Flood zone
- etc



South Gloucestershire Ridges and Parkland Vale

- [View priorities for this area](#)
- [View recommendations for farmers and land managers](#)
- [View recommendations for individuals and communities](#)

Milestones

Nov '23

Dec'23

Jan '24

Feb '24

Mar '24

Apr '24

May '24

Jun '24



Working version of priorities and 'areas that could become of importance' used to inform BNG



Consultation draft of LNRS sent to Supporting Authorities



Statutory consultation period opens for draft LNRS



Consultation period ends



Updated version of LNRS produced and sent to SAs



Planned publication of West of England LNRS

Key next steps

- Finalise communities, business and farmer/landholder engagement and use results to inform priorities
- Engage with key stakeholders whom we have not yet reached
- Finalise architecture of the interactive LNRS
- First draft of priorities and mapped areas that could become of importance
- Ready data for first version of data portal in New Year

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

South West Water's contribution

Carolyn Cadman

Director of Natural Resources

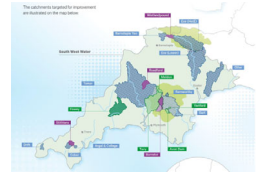


**YOUR
WATER
YOUR
SAY**

The regions we serve



Upstream Thinking...



Peatland Restoration...



Controlling invasive non-native species...



Devon
Invasive
Species
Initiative



Aquatic Biosecurity
Partnership
Funded by water
companies

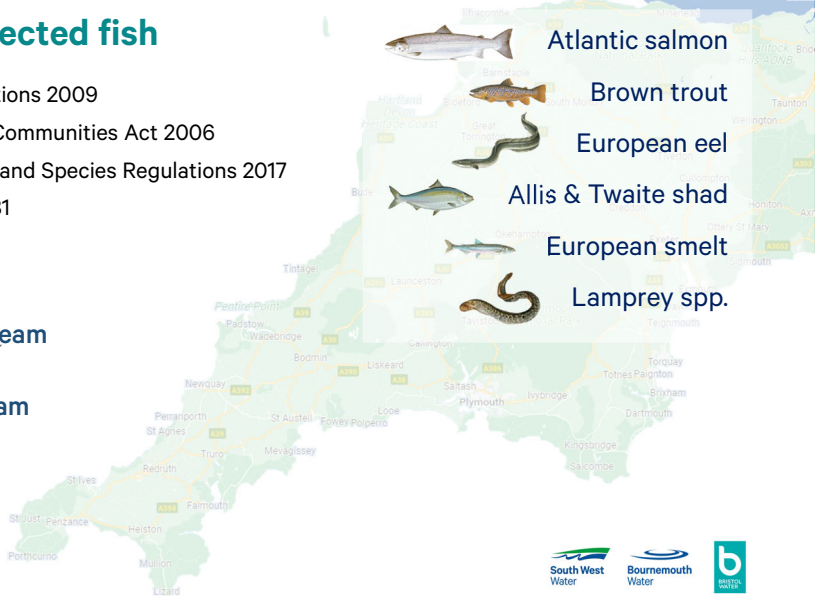


Fisheries – Eels, protected fish

- Eel (England & Wales) Regulations 2009
- Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017
- Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

 **Natural Resources Team**

 **Water Resources Team**



Increasing biodiversity on SWW landholdings

How are we actively managing our landholdings...?

Three strands -

- Delivery by SWW on our operational sites
- Delivery by SWLT around our reservoirs
- Park & Stannon Pit restoration



Our plans tackle the biggest challenges we face head on

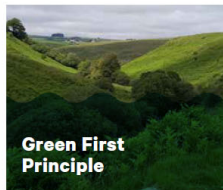
Water quality and resilience



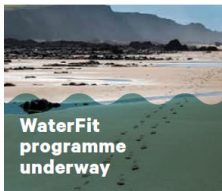
Storm overflows and pollutions



Climate change – net zero 2030



Customer affordability



Our plans What we're doing



£2.8 billion investment plan
2025-30

Resilience to a drought
worse than 1 in 200 year event

Creating over
2,000 jobs
with **1,000 apprenticeships**
– a 50% increase in workforce

Over 100,000 households
to receive financial support

Average bill increase of
£9 per month
by 2030

£3 per month
for water only customers

Maintain
highest quality
drinking water

Tackling 100%
of storm overflows at bathing waters

Increased transparency
through first of a kind monitoring system

Your water
your say

Leakage <10%
on our pipes

#We'reDoingThis

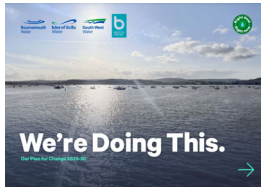
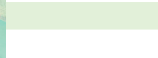
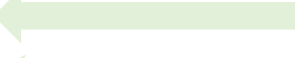
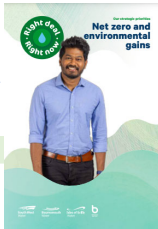
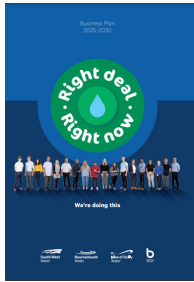
Our responsibilities

The Environment Agency and Natural England expect water companies to achieve:

- a thriving natural environment
 - expected performance and compliance
 - resilience for the environment and customers
-
- Includes duties relating to **biodiversity, protected sites, priority habitats, freshwater fish** (esp. migratory), **invasive non-native species, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Marine Conservation Zones, River Basin Management Plan** objectives, sustainable **sludge management**, etc



AMP 8: PR 24 Business Plan



Biodiversity Strategy

South West Water, as a public authority, has a duty under the Environment Act 2021 to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

We have set out our ambitions in our “**Growing Nature**” biodiversity strategy...



For more information contact
Carolyn Cadman,
Director of Natural Resources
ccadman@southwestwater.co.uk

Protecting the best: action to protect our best sites



- Understanding the condition of our priority habitats
- Maintaining and enhancing our priority habitats
- Working with neighbours and experts to restore nature at a landscape-scale

Restoring the rest: action across our operations



- Biodiversity enhancement across our operational sites
- Naturalising waterways to remove obstructions for aquatic species and controlling invasive non-native species
- Reducing the levels of phosphorous discharged to improve river health

Beyond our landholdings: catchment management in collaboration with partners



- Expanding Upstream Thinking by an additional 12,500 hectares
- Contribute to delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies and other plans
- Engage and lead environmental partnerships and innovation projects



South West Water, as a public authority, has a duty under the Environment Act 2021 to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

We have set out our ambitions in our “**Growing Nature**” biodiversity strategy...



For more information contact
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Tackling the challenges of:

- Water quality and resilience
- Storm overflow and pollutions
- Net zero and environmental gains
- Delivering for customers and addressing affordability

Investing over
£45m in nature
recovery to 2030

Delivering
measurable
biodiversity gains

Planting
300,000 trees,
creating ponds and
restoring habitats

Launching a new
Nature Recovery
Fund

“**Green first**”
framework using
nature-based solutions
to tackle storm overflows

Achieving
Net Zero
by 2030

Protecting the best:
action to protect
our best sites



What we will do:

1. We will baseline the biodiversity value of our priority habitats, including County Wildlife Sites and SSSIs
2. We will develop and deliver management plans to maintain and enhance biodiversity at priority habitat sites
3. We will work with neighbouring landowners to explore opportunities for managing these sites at a landscape scale and in line with Local Nature Recovery Strategy priorities



Restoring the rest: action across our operations

A decorative graphic for the 'What we will do' section. It features a stylized plant with thin stems and small yellow flowers, set against a background of three overlapping semi-circles in shades of green and blue. To the right, a dark blue rounded rectangle contains a list of seven action items.

What we will do:

1. We will baseline the biodiversity of our operational estate
2. We will develop and deliver management plans to maintain and deliver measurable biodiversity enhancement across our operational estate
3. We will continue to identify opportunities to plant trees on our land for biodiversity and carbon
4. We will take action to naturalise our waterways to enable fish, eels and beavers to move with minimal risk and obstruction
5. We will survey, monitor and control invasive non-native species
6. We will increase the use of nature-based solutions in tackling water management challenges, adopting the "Green first" framework
7. Enhance access and educational opportunities for our 40 lakes and reservoirs and extend access to special sites for residents and visitors.

Beyond our landholdings:
catchment
management in
collaboration with
partners

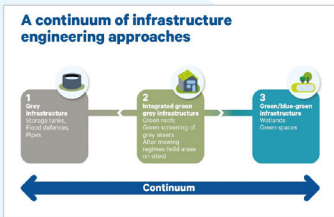
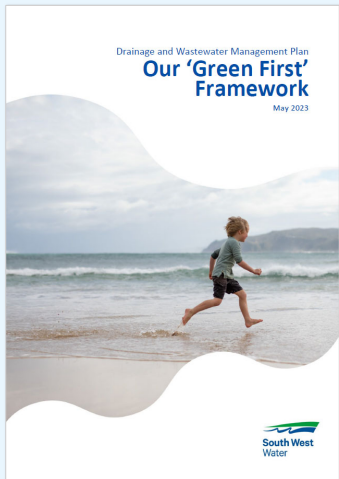


What we will do:

1. We will support farmers and landowners to farm in ways which enhance water quality and availability, biodiversity and other environmental benefits
2. We will create and restore terrestrial, marine and river habitats to enhance biodiversity, including peatland restoration
3. We will work in partnership and contribute to the delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies, taking a catchment and coastal based approach
4. We will actively engage and lead environmental partnerships to align resources and identify collaboration opportunities
5. We will research innovative ways to tackle water management challenges and enhance biodiversity

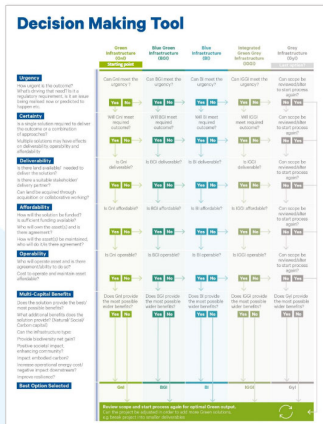


Our 'Green First' framework...

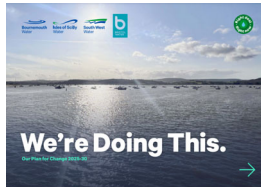
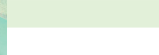
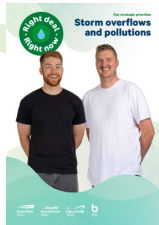
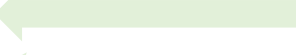
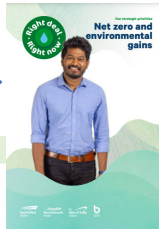
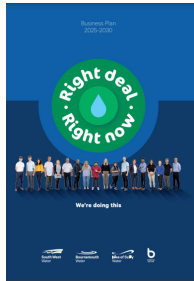


Decision-framework to support selection of right blend of solutions:

1. Urgency
2. Certainty
3. Deliverability
4. Affordability
5. Operability
6. Multi-capital benefits



AMP 8: PR 24 Business Plan





Net Zero and Environmental Gains

<https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/siteassets/documents/about-us/business-plans/2025-30/net-zero-and-environmental-gains.pdf>

Our strategic priorities
**Net zero and
environmental
gains**

Right deal.
Right now.

South West
Water

Bournemouth
Water

Isles of Scilly
Water

b
BRITISH
WATER



We will:

- Continue to decarbonise our operations by reducing our emissions of Nitrous Oxide and repurposing Methane
- Innovate and trial new techniques to recover energy from bioresources and to use that energy to fuel our own operations
- Support our supply chain to adopt low carbon materials and processes.





We will:

- Expand our nature recovery programme by extending Upstream Thinking into new drinking water catchments, plant 300,000 trees, re-naturalise our waterways for wildlife, control invasive non-native species, launch a new nature recovery fund and our 1,000 ponds initiative
- Upgrade treatment works across the region to remove harmful contaminants and nutrients from treated discharges to improve river health
- Enhance access and educational opportunities for our 40 lakes and reservoirs and open up access to special sites.





We will:

- Explore with farmers and landowners how we can work with natural processes and nature-based solutions to store more water in landscape, learning lessons from our Ofwat Innovation Water Net Gain project.
- Explore climate independent sources of water for our region, such as desalination and former industrial quarries
- Continue to support customers and communities to reduce the amount of water they use.

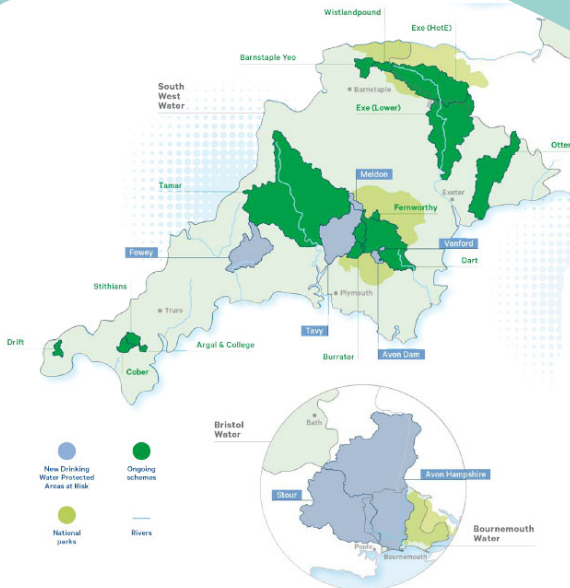


Maintain existing schemes (£10.9m):

- Drift, Cober, Stithians, Argal & College, Tamar, Burrator, Dart, Wistlandpound, Yeo, Exe and Otter.

New schemes and investigations (£15m):

- Stour (BW area) (SWB) – DrWPA_IMP
- Avon (Hampshire) (SWB) – DrWPA_IMP
- Fowey/Colliford (SWB) – DrWPA_ND
- Avon Dam Reservoir (SWB) – DrWPA_ND
- Meldon Reservoir (SWB) – DrWPA_ND
- Lower River Tavy (SWB) – DrWPA_ND
- Venford Reservoir (SWB) – DrWPA_ND
- Tamar Lakes bait fishing investigation (SWB) – DrWPA_INV
- Natural capital investigation on Burrator leat – DrWPA_INV
- Impact of catchment management on water resources and flows at abstractions (SWB) – DrWPA_INV
- The carbon storage/flux impacts of the UST investments (SWB) – DrWPA_INV



Thank you...!

