

Partnership Meeting

Supplement 2 to the agenda for

Wye Catchment Nutrient Management Board

Wednesday 16 July 2025

2.00 pm

**Conference Room 1 - Herefordshire Council, Plough Lane
Offices, Hereford, HR4 0LE**

	Pages
6. DIFFUSE WATER POLLUTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT	3 - 20
Content provided by Martin Quine, Environment Agency: We are still finalising the Diffuse Water Pollution Plan for the English Wye, but in the meantime, I have attached Part 2 which covers priorities and actions. A DWPP is a non-statutory document and whilst not formally published on gov.uk, we make them publicly available. I am aware that the some of this may feel out of context without seeing the full document. I will be able to discuss this further at the NMB. A full glossary of the acronyms will also be included in the final report.	

Part 2. List of Actions Needed to Achieve Favourable Condition

Four tables.

Table A: Strategic Priorities: Priorities identified through the DWPP Options Appraisal process

Table B: Options Appraisal Actions: Actions identified as important for achieving strategic priorities and reducing nutrient loads at pace and at scale.

Table C: Delivery Actions: Existing delivery activities using current approaches.

Table D: Evidence Actions: Investigative actions either planned or currently underway in the catchment.

Table E: Completed Actions: Completed activities used to inform current delivery.

Table A. Strategic priorities identified through the DWPP Options Appraisal process.

Strategic Priority	Rationale	Related Actions
1: Farm gate nutrient balancing	Phosphorus inputs from feed, fertiliser, and other sources should not exceed outputs in crops and livestock products. By accounting for phosphorus at the farm gate, we can identify surpluses that contribute to pollution, support efficient nutrient use, and address legacy phosphorus accumulation in soils.	Delivery Actions and Investigations: Wye CMP, Wye Soils, Nutrients and Compliance Project (SNAC), CSF, ELM scheme, farm regulatory inspections, RePhoKUs 3. Options Appraisal actions: “Unlocking” and “mining” P project, Standardising calculation of farm gate nutrient balances, Substrate sediment sampling trial, Evaluate Water Protection Zone as a mitigation mechanism.
2: Catchment-scale management of bulk organic nutrients	By managing organic materials (slurry, poultry litter, digestate, and biosolids) to match nutrient supply with land that can use it safely and effectively, we can reduce localised nutrient overloads, make better use of existing resources, and support long-term soil and river health. This approach can be supported through collaboration with agri-food supply chains across farming sectors, spatial mapping and planning to match nutrient supply with land that can absorb it safely (in future supported by farm gate nutrient balancing), CSF and ELM scheme incentives and regulatory oversight through environmental permitting and Farming Rules for Water. Other innovative options for managing bulk organic nutrients should be explored.	Delivery Actions and Investigations: Wye CMP, Herefordshire Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan, Avara Sustainable Poultry Roadmap, Farm/AD regulatory inspections, CSF, ELMs, Agri-food Supply Chain group, Wye Soils, Nutrients and Compliance Project (SNAC), RePhoKUs 3. Options Appraisal actions: Standardising calculation of farm gate nutrient balances, Evaluate Water Protection Zone as a mitigation mechanism.
3: Reducing the impact of high-risk crops on high-risk land	Maize, potatoes and other root vegetables are important crops in the Wye catchment, but when grown on vulnerable land, such as sloping, light, or poorly drained soils, or near watercourses, they significantly increase the risk of nutrient loss and soil erosion. This priority recognises the importance of working with growers to identify practical ways to reduce environmental impacts, such as improving soil cover, refining rotations, or adjusting field selection. While land use change may need to be considered in some cases, the focus is on supporting farmers to make informed decisions that better balance productivity with catchment health. This will be supported through mechanisms such as Catchment Sensitive Farming, ELM schemes, collaboration with the agri-food supply chain, targeted farm inspections, and ensuring compliance with the Farming Rules for Water.	Delivery Actions and Investigations: Wye CMP, Farm regulatory inspections, CSF, ELMs, Wye Soils, Nutrients and Compliance Project (SNAC), RePhoKUs 3. Options Appraisal actions: Sediment fingerprinting, Learn from innovative work in other catchments, Evaluate Water Protection Zone as a mitigation mechanism.

4: Strategic use of ELM schemes and advice	Environmental Land Management (ELM) schemes are evolving, with recent updates offering more flexible options and improved incentives for farmers who deliver environmental benefits. This priority aims to support farmers in capitalising on these opportunities by aligning ELM participation with the specific needs of each catchment. A key part of our approach is promoting the new Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CSHT) schemes, complemented by targeted, collaborative advice to ensure farmers receive the right support in the right places.	Delivery Actions and Investigations: Wye CMP, Landscape Recovery projects, ELMs, farm regulatory inspections, Wye Soils, Nutrients and Compliance Project (SNAC), RePhoKUs 3, Herefordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Wye Catchment Management Plan. Options Appraisal actions Learn from innovative work in other catchments, sediment fingerprinting, Evaluate Water Protection Zone as a mitigation mechanism.
5: Supply chain engagement and accountability	Agri-food businesses have the reach and influence to accelerate the adoption of nutrient management practices across large areas. By embedding environmental standards, incentives, and support into supply chains, this priority enables action at pace and scale, helping to deliver measurable improvements in water quality while supporting resilient, sustainable farming systems.	Delivery Actions and Investigations: Agri-food supply chain project, Avara Sustainable Poultry Roadmap, Standardising calculation of farm gate nutrient balances. Options Appraisal actions: Learn from innovative work in other catchments, Appraisal actions: Evaluate Water Protection Zone as a mitigation mechanism.

Table B. Options Appraisal Actions

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
“Unlocking” and “mining” P	Phosphate, soil health	Investigation	English Wye	EA	Prospective	Field research is needed to investigate methods for maintaining productivity with lower soil P indices and drawing down legacy P.
Standardising calculation of farm gate nutrient balances	Phosphate	Investigation	English Wye	EA	Prospective (related work with PLANET and the P Loss Tool is ongoing)	Standardised approaches are needed to support farm gate nutrient balancing. Alternative methodologies could be based on PLANET , the P Loss Tool, or another tool. The SNAC project is using the existing version of PLANET. EA is working with the potato sector to refine and test the P Loss tool (at farm and field scale).
Sediment Fingerprinting	Phosphate, sediment	Investigation	Lugg	EA, NE	Prospective	Sediment fingerprinting will improve our understanding of sources of sediment in the Wye and Lugg catchments. Some sediment fingerprinting has been undertaken in the Lugg above the confluence with the River Frome (Stopps, 2018).
Substrate sediment sampling	Phosphate	Investigation	EA	EA	Prospective	Sediment in substrate is a source of phosphate that may drive algal growth in the Wye catchment. EA wish to trial methods for sediment sampling. This work will likely need to be outsourced.
Learn from innovative work in other catchments	Multiple	Investigation	English Wye	EA, NE	Prospective	Lessons can be learned from Severn Vale CaBA's collaborative, nature-based projects , including Wilder Frome and Forest to Sea . These case studies provide examples of how strategic planning and community engagement can improve water quality and biodiversity. Natural England's Protected Site Strategy in the Clun will also offer a useful model for aligning nutrient management with habitat protection.

Evaluation of Water Protection Zone (WPZ) as a mitigation mechanism	Phosphate, sediment	Investigation	English Wye or only the Lugg catchment	EA, Defra	Uncertain	A WPZ under the Water Resources Act 1991, could help reduce nutrient pollution in the Lugg or wider Wye catchment. WPZs provide strong regulatory powers but require careful design, solid evidence, and assessment of feasibility. Investigations in this Action Plan may support WPZ development. This option remains under review.
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Table C. Delivery Actions: Existing actions using current approaches

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) – Wye Catchment Partnership	Multiple	Collaborative governance and stakeholder coordination	Whole Wye	Wye & Usk Foundation, NRW, EA, NE, local authorities, NGOs	Ongoing	Supports multiple initiatives e.g. Farm Herefordshire facilitates alignment between funding, policy goals, and on-the-ground action. A key platform for integrated catchment management
Wye Catchment Management Plan	Multiple	Catchment Planning	Whole Wye	Wye Catchment Partnership	In development	The CMP will be a holistic, catchment-wide plan aimed at restoring the Wye SSSI/SAC. It will address issues relating to climate (flow and water temperature), water quality, biodiversity and geomorphological issues. It will be based on a participatory systems mapping exercise and modelling from an EA-funded “Understanding the Wye” catchment project.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
ELM schemes	Multiple	Incentives	English Wye	Defra, EA, NE	Ongoing	ELMs will play an ongoing role in improving land management. Schemes include the SFI, CS, Landscape Recovery and Capital Grants. EA and NE will work together to optimise the use of new CSHT options.
Catchment Sensitive Farming	Multiple	Advice, incentives	English Wye	NE, EA, Defra	Ongoing	Provides farmers with tailored advice, support, and grants to protect water, air, and soil. Existing and new ELM schemes.
Farm/AD regulatory inspections	Nutrients, sediment	Regulation/ Enforcement	English Wye	EA	Ongoing	Routine compliance visits (SSAFO, NVZ, FRfW). Additional resources for regulatory visits were allocated to N2K sites in 2021, including the Wye/Lugg catchments. In April 2026, overall funding for farm inspections nationwide will increase.
River Wye Bare Ground Project	Soil, land management	Remote sensing, regulation	Whole Wye	EA	2023. Will resume in 2025-26	Undertaken by the National Agriculture Remote Sensing team with West Midlands Area.
River Wye Water Quality Page @ Engagement HQ	Multiple	Engagement/ outreach	English Wye	EA	Ongoing	A web portal with reports and other information about monitoring and catchment management activity in the Wye.
Delivering Innovative Markets for Ecosystems (DIME)	Multiple	Green finance investigation and delivery	English River Monnow headwaters	Wye and Usk Foundation, The Rivers Trust, Nature Finance, EA	Ongoing	Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) project. Working with farmers to improvement catchment resilience through improved land management practices.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Herefordshire Integrated Wetlands project	Phosphate, unlocks development under NN	Nutrient Neutrality	Lugg catchment	Herefordshire Council	Ongoing (Luston fully operational. Tarrington due early 2025)	A Nutrient Mitigation Scheme to enable home building. Wetlands have been constructed at a site close to the Welsh Water STW at Luston. Work has begun on second wetland site at Tarrington STW. Another site at Titley STW has planning permission. Other sites are under consideration. Refer to EA Regulatory Position Statement 260 .
WINEP sewage treatment and sewer overflow improvements	Nutrients	Reduction in loads from sewage treatment and sewer overflows	Whole Wye	Welsh Water	Ongoing	Upgrades at sewage works and storm overflows in AMP8 will result in the point sector meeting its fair share of nutrient load reductions required to meet the SSSI/SAC water quality targets.
Welsh Water tree planting schemes	Carbon, climate change resilience	Tree planting, INNS management	Whole Wye	Welsh Water	Ongoing (included in AMP8)	Tree planting, INNS management. Part of Welsh Water's Carbon Net Zero Plan.
Wye Soils, Nutrients and Compliance Project (SNAC)	Soil health, nutrients	Research, education	Herefordshire	EA, Herefordshire Rural Hub, Farm Herefordshire, NFU	Additional funding has been sought to continue the project beyond March 2025	WEIF project. Work with farmers to address issues of soil health and nutrient losses. The project helps fund the Farm Herefordshire partnership. As part of the SNAC project, videos have been produced which promote good practice on farms. The project includes work with the Herefordshire Agri Group to develop farm nutrient balances.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Herefordshire Agri Group	Nutrients. Soil health.	Education	Herefordshire	Herefordshire Rural Hub	Ongoing	Supported by Defra's Facilitation Fund. A group open to farmers that wish to collaborate to reduce agriculture's impact on water quality. The group aims to increase knowledge of actions that will reduce diffuse pollution. The group participates in the SNAC project.
Herefordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Biodiversity	Catchment planning	Herefordshire	HC, NE, EA	In preparation	The Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to reverse the ongoing decline of nature and biodiversity through practical and coordinated action. Partners involved in working groups include Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, Wye Valley and Malvern National Landscapes, Forestry Commission, Countryside Land and Business Association and Herefordshire Biological Records Centre.
Restoring our Rivers	NFM, habitat, biodiversity, fish	NFM, NbS	Lugg: Wellington catchment, Yazor Brook	Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, NE, EA	Ongoing	WEIF project. Commenced 2023 and delivered in the Lugg catchment over a 5-year period. Aims to use NFM interventions and nature-based solutions within the Wellington catchment.
Wye Adapt to Climate Change	Multiple	NFM, NbS	Whole Wye	Radnorshire Wildlife Trust (Wales), Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, Wye Valley National Landscape	Ongoing	Funded by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund. Engaging with land managers and communities in the Wye catchment to work together and build landscape resilience to climate change. Explores NFM and NbS to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Arrow Valley Diversity Project	Sustainable farming, nutrients, soil erosion, soil health	Changes to land use and land management	River Arrow catchment	Wye and Usk Foundation, EA	Ongoing. Business case being developed for 2025-26	Work with farmers to co-develop farm plans that help them adopt regenerative food production methods that reduce nutrient pollution and soil erosion and naturally improve water infiltration and retention. ELMs are used to deliver capital interventions.
Wilder Lugg	Hydrology, flood mitigation	Advice, natural flood management	Lugg river corridor (England and Wales)	Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, Radnorshire Wildlife Trust (Wales)	Ongoing	Aims to empower the local rural community to bring about a long-term vision for the health and maintenance of the River Lugg. Funding and other support is provided for NFM works.
Project TARA	Nutrients	Regulation/ Enforcement	English Wye	EA	First phase completed March 2025. Will resume in 2025-26	Regulatory inspections of dairy and poultry farms and anaerobic digester sites. Aspects of the project continue through the agri-food supply chain project, EA remote sensing unit, EA engagement officer, and farm and AD site inspection methodologies.
Wyescapes (Landscape Recovery)	Multiple	Changes to land use and land management	Herefordshire	EA, NE, Herefordshire Rural Hub, Wye Valley AONB Partnership, Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, Wye and Usk Foundation	In 2-year development phase	A Landscape Recovery Project . If development phase completed successfully, the project will progress to a 20-year Implementation Phase. Farmers will be supported to improve the sustainability and resilience of food production and create more diverse habitats in the floodplain.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Wye Valley Ridge to River (Landscape Recovery)	Soil health, nutrients, biodiversity	On-farm mitigation, regenerative farming	Blakemere	Duchy of Cornwall Estate, Moccas Estate. Local farmers	In development phase	A Landscape Recovery Project . Soil health, habitat and water quality improvement on farms near Lower Blakemere Farm.
Farm Herefordshire on-farm events	Nutrients, soil health	Engagement, education	Herefordshire	NE, Rural Hub, Farm Herefordshire	Ongoing	Calendar of events coordinated and delivered by Farm Herefordshire .
EA agricultural engagement	Multiple	Engagement, education	English Wye	EA	Ongoing	Evolved from Project TARA. EA have appointed an Agricultural Engagement Specialist to work with the farming community. Activities include video production, social media and attendance at farming events. Additional content creation and outreach is also planned, including the production of a new video demystifying the Farming Rules for Water.
“River Friendly Farming”	Multiple	On-farm mitigation	Whole Wye	Wye Catchment Partnership	Ongoing	A suite of mitigation measures that will be included in the Wye Catchment Management Plan.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Power for Soils	Multiple. Visual amenity	On-ground action	Wye Valley National Landscape	Wye Valley National Landscape, Herefordshire Meadows	Starts April 2025	Partnered through WEIF. National Grid Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI). Provides funding for projects aimed at improving the visual impact of its National Grid infrastructure. The initial LEI project, named "Wye Valley Magnificent Meadows, Tremendous Trees and Wonderful Wetlands", focuses on a 3km buffer zone near power lines. Activities funded include pond restoration, NFM, woodland planting, orchard tree planting, and the creation of species-rich grassland.
The Severn Trent Environments Protection Scheme (STEPS)	Pesticide	Farm infrastructure upgrades	Drinking water safeguard zone (SWSGZ210)	Severn Trent Water	Ongoing	Funding available for parts of the Wye/Lugg catchment under the STEPS Pesticide Washdown Offer.

Table D. Evidence Actions

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
SSSI/SAC Condition Assessment and	Multiple	Investigation	SSSI/SAC	NE, EA	Ongoing	A two-year assessment of the management units and designated features of the Wye SAC. Update feature condition in CMSi and Designated Sites View

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
Citizen Science Investigations	Multiple	Monitoring	Whole Wye	Volunteers, the Wye Alliance, Wye and Usk Foundation, EA, Welsh Water, Cardiff University	Ongoing	Volunteers collect and analyse data, conduct experiments and contribute to scientific investigations. Information is being recorded and downloaded onto EPICOLLECT. Citizen Scientists have also created their own dashboard using the data they have collected which is publicly accessible via the Wye Viz platform . P monitoring is undertaken using Hanna P meters. EA supports citizen science through the EA Supporting Citizen Science Project.
Rephokus 3	Phosphate, soil health	Investigation	Whole Wye	EA	Ongoing	A research project to better understand the fate and transport of P through the soil profile. Measuring P at different soil depths helps quantify how much P is retained or lost within the soil profile, enabling more accurate accounting of phosphorus stocks and flows across agricultural and environmental systems.
Sonde and autosampler investigation	Water quality, water temperature, algal blooms	Monitoring	Wye SAC	EA	Ongoing	EA undertakes monitoring using sondes and autosamplers to monitor water quality and temperature, investigate local sources of pollution leading to algal blooms, and priorities regulatory inspections. Live readings from the sondes are publicly available on the internet .
Algae Surveys	Algal blooms	Monitoring	Wye SAC	EA	Ongoing	Water column and RAPPER surveys in the growing season, plus reactive surveys when algal blooms are present.
NEW-Harmonica	Nutrients	Investigation	Whole Wye	Lincoln University	Ongoing. Completes August 2025	Supported by UKRI grant 10047759. A project to support authorities and policy-makers in taking measures to prevent nutrient pollution.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
PLANET tool revision	Nutrients	Decision Support Tools	National	Defra, EA	Ongoing	EA are working with Defra on a revised nutrient management tool that will be an update of the PLANET nutrient management decision support tool.
Nature Restoration Fund	Nutrients, biodiversity	Financial mechanism/offsets	National	Likely NE, developers	In development	Announced by the government in the 2024 budget. Potential replacement for the nutrient neutrality Nutrient Mitigation Fund. The Nature Restoration Fund (NRF) is a proposed initiative by the UK government in the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, specifically targeting England, to streamline environmental mitigation processes associated with select impacts of certain development projects. The NRF aims to balance the acceleration of infrastructure and housing development with the restoration and protection of natural habitats and species.
£1M Wye cross-border research fund	Multiple	Research	Whole Wye catchment (England and Wales)	Defra and others	Announced	A cross-border research programme that aims to investigate sources of the pollution and pressures, study the impacts of changing farming practices and land management, develop and test new ways to improve water quality, and examine what is driving declines in river health.
£15M Farming Futures Research and Development fund	Nutrients	Research	National	Innovate, Defra	Ongoing	The £15 million Farming Futures Research and Development Nutrient Management Fund supports innovative solutions in nutrient management.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	Progress	Comments
UK Chemicals Strategy (to be incorporated in the 2025 EIP)	Nutrients (and other chemicals)	Planning	National	Defra, JNCC, UKCEH	In development. To be absorbed into the 2025 EIP	A new UK Chemicals Strategy was expected to be included in the 2025 revision of the EIP. However, in May 2025, it was announced that the EIP would include the government's approach to managing chemicals into the plan, rather than publish a Chemicals Strategy as a separate document. The strategy is expected to include updated guidance on which nutrient forms should be prioritised for monitoring, how monitoring should occur, and how chemical and biological indicators should be integrated to assess ecosystem health.

Table E. Recently Completed Actions

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	When?	Comments
RePhoKUs 1	Phosphate	Research	Whole Wye catchment	Lancaster University, EA	2021-22	A study of P inputs and outputs in the Wye catchment, their impact on river water quality, and stakeholder responses to maintaining food and water security. The report concluded that the catchment has an annual P surplus of around 3,000 tonnes. P accumulates in soils (as "legacy" P) and poses an ongoing risk to water quality.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	When?	Comments
RePhoKUs 2	Phosphate	Research	Whole Wye catchment	Lancaster University, EA	2023	A study of land use change and phosphorus balances. The research found a build-up of surplus P in soils, creating a legacy equivalent to 1.86 tonnes per hectare in the arable and productive grassland in the catchment. Only 30-60% of the legacy phosphorus input is found in the top 30 cm of soils, suggesting significant migration of P into the subsoil and water (see RePhoKUs 3).
“Understanding the Wye Catchment” Project	Multiple	Catchment Planning	Whole Wye catchment	EA, Wye Catchment Partnership, Mott Macdonald	2023-24	A project undertaken by WCP members to understand links between catchment interventions and outcomes. The project included two parts – a participatory systems mapping exercise, and numerical modelling using WSIMOD to understand the impact of potential interventions. The outputs will inform development of the Wye Catchment Management Plan.
Wye Algae PhD Project	Algal blooms, nutrients	Research	Whole Wye catchment	Cardiff University, Wye and Usk Foundation	2022-24. Report produced in 2025	An investigation into the causes of algal blooms. The research found that the causes of algal blooms are complex, and may relate to issues relating to flow, water temperature, retention times, solar radiation, as well as nutrient dynamics.
Johnson-Su Compost Trial	Phosphate	Research/trials	Ross-on-Wye	Townsend Farm, EA, Wye and Usk Foundation	2022	WEIF project. project to establish a sustainable method to unlock legacy phosphate in soils. Funding was in place to develop coordination and demonstration of best practice through 2022.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	When?	Comments
<u>Go Wild in the Curl</u>	Nutrients and sediment. Biodiversity	Sustainable farming, community engagement	Curl Brook (Arrow)	Wye and Usk Foundation, local farmers	2016-21	A project to improve water quality and biodiversity in the Curl Brook catchment. The project tackled pollution from phosphorus, sediment, and nitrates through sustainable farming practices, habitat restoration, and public engagement. It achieved a reduction in phosphorus levels and enhanced local wildlife habitats while promoting long-term environmental stewardship. Learning from the project was used in the Wye – P on the Arrow project.
Wye – P on the Arrow	Water quality, biodiversity	Sustainable farming	Arrow catchment	EA, Wye and Usk Foundation	Completed March 2025. May extend into 2025-26	WEIF project. Promoted regenerative farming practices to increase water quality, biodiversity and reduce diffuse pollution. Followed on from the “Go Wild on the Curl” project. Farmers were offered a detailed farm report that identified opportunities and maps for agricultural and natural capital improvements.
Rooting for Better Soils	Biodiversity, nutrients, soil health (infiltration and water holding)	Habitat creation	Lugg catchment (Arrow, Frome)	EA, Herefordshire Meadows	Completed March 2025	WEIF project. Restoring water dependent habitats including Lowland Meadows. Farm visits; stakeholder events; feasibility work on evidence-base and barriers to uptake of increasing sward diversity as a key part of the transition to sustainable farming practices that limit soil and nutrient loss to water.

Action/Measure	Benefits and pollutants addressed	Type of action/measure	Where?	Who?	When?	Comments
Woodlands for Water	Multiple	Tree planting	Dore, Dulas and Lugg catchments	Defra, Riverscapes Partnership, Rivers Trust, Beaver Trust, Wye and Usk Foundation	Completed March 2025	Delivered through Nature for Climate funding. The aims of the project were to improve water quality, preventing erosion, manage flood risks, enhance biodiversity, make rivers more resilient against climate change by providing shade and lowering water temperature, and aiding fish adding to create wildlife corridors.
Sustaining Soils	Sediment, soil health, nutrients	Investigation	Garren Bk catchment	Wye and Usk Foundation	Finishes March 2025	WEIF project. A desk-based feasibility study on mitigating soil erosion risk in the Garren Catchment and Gamber catchments. The study aimed to develop a risk mapping tool that identifies areas of the Gamber catchment are most at risk of soil erosion, and a methodology that can be applied elsewhere in the West Midlands and beyond. Pilot implementation may be delivered through agri-food supply chain work.
Wye/Lugg Agroforestry Project	Multiple	Tree planting	English Wye	EA, Wye and Usk Foundation	Ongoing	WEIF project. Established agroforestry (wood pasture, shelterbelts and riparian planting) in priority locations for water quality and riparian shading.

