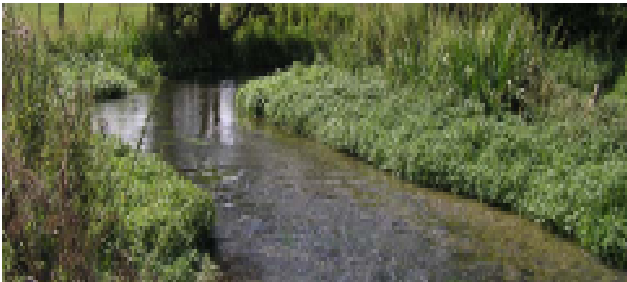


Loddon Catchment Plan

NEWSLETTER

This is a summary of the Loddon Catchment Implementation Plan (CIP). The Loddon CIP builds on the Thames River Basin Management Plan, published in December 2009, setting out how we will meet the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive. The full version of these documents can be obtained from WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Loddon Catchment



The CIP sets out how the Environment Agency and its local partners will help deliver the work that is needed in the Loddon catchment during the 1st River Basin Planning cycle, between now and 2015.

Implementing the Plan

Sub-catchments

To help determine where to focus efforts we have divided all the **water bodies** (river, canal, lake & groundwater) in the Loddon into 4 'sub-catchments'. These are:

- Main River Loddon, Lyde & small tributaries (Twyford Brook, Vyne Stream, Barkham Brook, Emm Brook, Bow Brook);
- Blackwater & Cove Brook;
- Whitewater; and
- Hart & Fleet Brook

Monitoring

We are monitoring the biology and chemistry of water bodies to enable us to classify their **ecological status** and help understand any problems affecting them.

The information we obtain will provide evidence to identify those actions required to achieve **Good Ecological Status / Potential** (GES/GEP) or ensure **No Deterioration**.



Investigations

We are carrying out over 40 investigations on the Loddon to determine:

- Whether or not the water body meets good status / potential;
- Likely reasons for failing to meet good status / potential; and
- What actions are needed to tackle those failures

Actions

We have identified **priority water bodies** in the Loddon catchment to undertake specific actions where we are confident of the pressures impacting the river.

Over 30 different actions are included in the plan; some are targeted to specific locations, whilst others can apply in many places.

You can see the investigations programme and actions associated with the Loddon catchment in the full Loddon CIP which is available from us.

What's already happening?

A Lot...

We are already working with people and organisations that can help us to get things done, but we need more help if we are going to meet the targets in the Plan. Here are some issues we are already tackling together:

Enabling fish to migrate freely

We are working with land owners and local angling clubs to install a number of 'fish passes' in the Loddon catchment.

At Arborfield Mill work is being done to enable fish to freely migrate and access spawning areas allowing them to complete their life cycle.



Improving habitat for wildlife

A number of projects to improve and create additional habitats for wildlife are being delivered by partnership projects on the River Whitewater.

This work will help us to preserve and improve the wildlife in our rivers and ensure they are more resilient to future pressures.



Urban and transport pollution

High population densities and transport networks put pressure on the water environment. Discharges from water industry sewage works, industrial sites and urban run-off can impact on the quality of water.

On the Blackwater and Cove Brook we are already working with planners and developers, local authorities and water companies to address waste water infrastructure, investigate specific industrial estates, and ensure future development is sustainable.

Nutrients and sediment

High levels of nutrients in rivers, such as phosphates, can lead to excessive plant growth and in turn affect the river's wildlife. Sources of nutrients in this catchment include effluent from sewage treatment works and agricultural pollution.

Silt, land run-off, and fine sediment can impact rivers; smothering plants and animals and killing wildlife.



The upper Loddon has a number of sensitive chalk streams, such as the River Lyde, Whitewater and Hart. The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's Loddon Farm Advice Project promotes resource protection and best practice in farming to help reduce diffuse sediment and diffuse phosphate pollution.

What can you do?

We believe that the Loddon CIP will help to ensure that the water environment is protected and enhanced for future generations.

To make it work we need help from locally based organisations and people.

If you know your local water bodies you might be able to help us deliver the CIP. We want to work with you to improve the Loddon catchment in your area.

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