Catchment Approach
Steering Group Meeting
December 2011
The Leam catchment

Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) Catchment Partnership

Philippa Mansfield
CSF Senior Adviser for Partnerships
Phase 3 CSF

9 Catchment Partnerships covering 10 catchments

4 National partnerships on DWPA themes

Extending CSF free advice to more farmers and advisers

A clear solution for farmers
CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

Environment Agency
defra Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Funding is from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Invest in Rural Areas.
## 9 Catchment Partnerships in 10 catchments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catchment</th>
<th>Partners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. River Taw &amp; Torridge</td>
<td>EA, Devon CC (Biosphere proj)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Rivers Chelmer &amp; Blackwater</td>
<td>EA, Essex Suffolk Water</td>
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<td>3. River Nene</td>
<td>EA, River Nene Regional Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Upper River Ouse</td>
<td>EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Upper Avon</td>
<td>EA, Severn Trent Water</td>
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<td>6. Isle of Wight</td>
<td>HIW Wildlife Trust, EA</td>
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<td>7. River Nidd</td>
<td>Nidderdale AONB, Yorkshire</td>
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<td>Water, York Dales Rivers Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Semerwater &amp; Upper Lune</td>
<td>Yorkshire Dales National Park</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and Yorks Dales Rivers Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Downs and Harbour Clean Water Partnership</td>
<td>Portsmouth Water and EA</td>
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<td>(New)</td>
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(Blue Anchor – not continuing as CSF catchment partnership)
Evaluation of CSF Partnerships in phase 2 – Partners’ feedback

• Partnership projects provided a source of funding CSF+ Partner

• Partners found partnerships to be of great value in providing a united approach to tackling diffuse water pollution issues.

• Partnerships were able to engage farmers quickly because of the partners existing local presence or profile and networks

• Partnerships enabled a sharing of resources and information helping to facilitate farmer engagement and advice provision.

• Partnerships provided catchment sensitive farming with a joined up and collaborative approach

• Recommended – simplify MoA process and capital grants
Upper Avon Catchment Partnership

Upper Avon catchment including the Leam

Partners

- Severn Trent Water (lead)
- Environment Agency
- Natural England on behalf of Catchment Sensitive Farming

- Set up Memorandum of Agreement in 2009 - ran to March 11
- Set up new MoA to extend to March 2013 (potential to 2014?)
- Steering Group: Jodie Whitehead (STW), Steven Bailey (CSF) and Paul Meakin (EA)
Upper Avon Catchment Partnership 2011–13

Objective: Reducing DWPA

Approach: advice on farming practices and capital grants for farm infrastructure up to £10K in target area for priority items

Evaluation - CSF telephone survey and audit of 10% farm visits 1 year later

Issues: pesticides and nutrients

Target: Farmers, agronomists

Catchment Coordinator: Melissa Hoskings
Upper Avon - Farm Advice Programme

• Visit to Water Treatment Works
• Farm demonstrations on biobeds
• PA1, PA2, PA4 pesticide training
• Soil moisture Deficit and text service
• PLANET workshops
• Nutrient management plans for farms
• Precision Farming event
• Slug control workshop
• Oilseed rape weed control workshop
• ELS/HLS on farm event
• River Walk
• Pesticide handling/grant scheme demo
• Farm visits - new and follow up
  • EA advice, biobed design visits
• Fertiliser spreader/sprayer calibrations
• Newsletter
Natural England Interests

• Natural England local team leader Jennie Hughes
• HLS Target area to South - farmland birds
• HLS outside target areas - multi-objective agreements. Resource protection theme statement - options to reduce soil erosion and run off to improve water quality - CSF priority catchments
• ELS
• SSSI Long Itchington and Ufton Woods
• Leam Valley Local Nature Reserve

www.naturalengland.org.uk
www.natureonthemap.org.uk

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CSF Catchment Partnership and Catchment Approach – Discussion

Dispel confusion?

Join up between catchment partnership and catchment approach?

Better integration?

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4. Voluntary Initiative
(with AIC, NFU, AEA, CPA)

Theme: Pesticides best practice
Target: Agronomists, CSF, farmers, sprayer testers/operators

- **Biobeds** - guidance, costed examples, design manual, training
- **H2OK** Water protection booklet + bentazon - updated
- **Grassland weed control** - training agronomists and
  - Leaflets on hand-held sprayers and grassland weeds control
- **Check it out farm audits** - pesticide handling/field use on FWi
- **Sprayer Testers workshops**
- **Media/NFU journal articles/FW Academy**
- **7 CSF catchments** - pesticide monitoring graphs and text messages on spray risks

[Website Link] [VI website]
[Agronomists focus group]
1. Professional Nutrient Management Group
   AIC, FWAG, LEAF, CLA, NFU

New booklets: Think Manures, FACTS leaflet,
New to Nutrient Management and Feed Plan 2012
Surveys on soil nutrients/farm practice, case studies

www.nutrientmanagement.org or call 024 7685 896