Dales to Vale
Rivers Network

CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Working in partnership in the Swale, Ure, Nidd, Ouse, Foss, Wiske and Wharfe Catchments

2024-2029

YorkshireDales
Rivers Trust

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

The DVRN is a catchment partnership under the Catchment Based Approach (CaBA). CaBA is an inclusive, civil society-led initiative that works in partnership with Government, Local Authorities, Water Companies, businesses and more, to maximise the natural value of our environment.

CaBA partnerships are actively working in all 100+ river catchments across England and cross-border with Wales, directly supporting the achievement of many of the targets under the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, with the catchment being judged as the right scale for the work required.

The stages of the Catchment Based approach are shown in the graphic below.

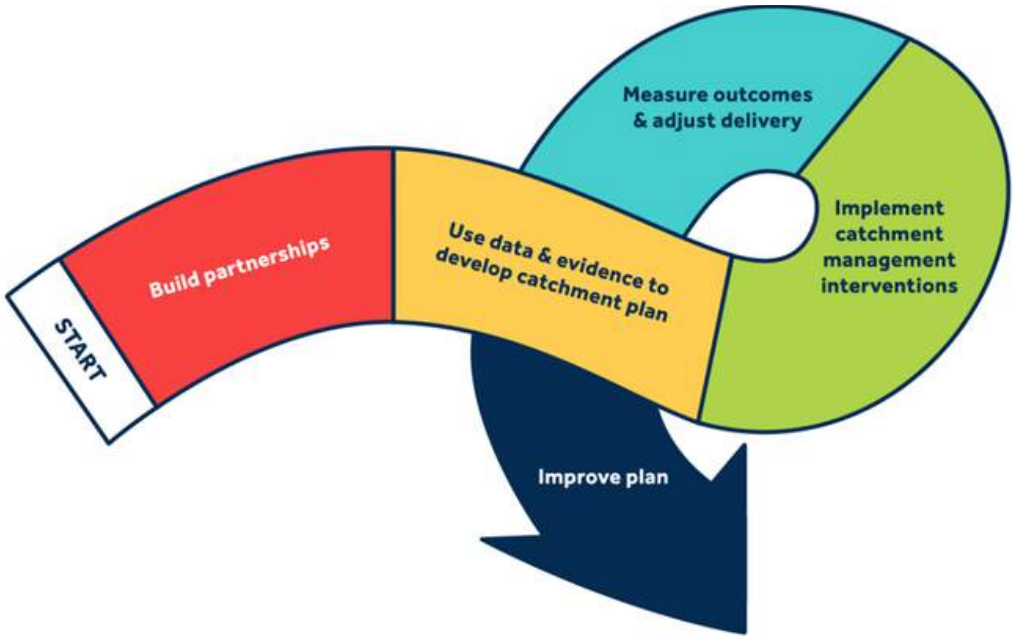


Image 1: Catchment Based Approach Stages

Formed in 2013, we bring together local people, communities, organisations, charities, and businesses to make decisions on managing our riverine ecosystems, turning our collective vision and plans into action on the ground. Through working in partnership, we strive to ensure that our rivers and their catchments are thriving and supporting biodiversity, as well meeting the needs and well-being of communities, now and in the future.

The DVRN is led and hosted by the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and the board includes representatives from the Environment Agency, Local authorities, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Nidderdale National Landscape, Yorkshire Water, Natural England, White Rose Forest, Forestry England, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Woodland Trust, Wild Trout Trust and the Yorkshire Peat Partnership.

Connecting with a wide range of partner organisations, charities and businesses, collaborating at scale means we can level-up positive environmental change for our rivers.

The next page shows the achievements of the Catchment Partnership since the first projects started in 2016

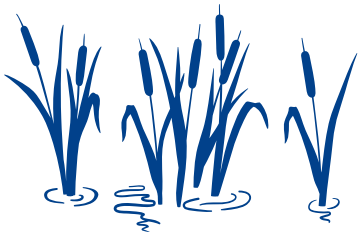
Dales to Vale
Rivers Network

Since 2016 the Network has delivered projects that have been funded to the tune of £15.3m, with match funding of £934k and in-kind contributions of £522k.

Our projects have:

held over 4,200 volunteer/citizen science days

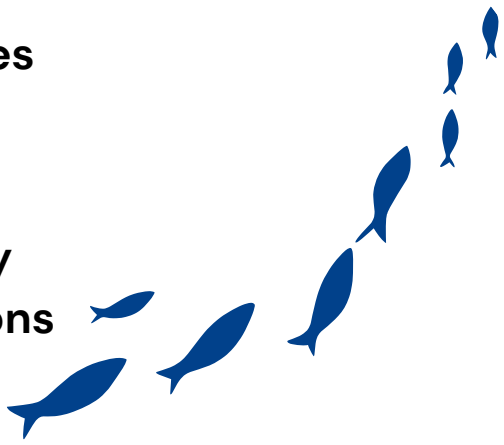
engaged 2,436 farmers/landowners through events, workshops and farm visits



protected/enhanced 497km of river and created 221 ha of habitat

planted 21 ha of trees

opened up 46km of river to migratory fish and overcome 16 river obstructions



As a Catchment Partnership, the DVRN works to the principles of

- Using a strategic, ecosystem, whole catchment based approach.
- Engaging at catchment level, with active involvement of all interested parties, including the local communities.
- Drawing on the high-quality data, expertise, knowledge, experience and aspirations of all interested parties to drive a co-ordinated range of measures and catchment activities.
- Developing high quality citizen science to improve the knowledge base and support more actions.
- Linking up with other partnerships and groupings (e.g. Local Nature Partnerships, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Nature Recovery Networks, Championing the Farmed Environment) and organisations (National Parks, National Landscapes, Water companies, local authorities in relation to both planning and flood risk management) to co-ordinate and maximise the opportunities for catchment improvements.
- Identifying and working up project ideas that fit within the DVRN strategic themes and can provide a range of benefits (e.g. for wildlife and habitats, natural flood management, access and recreation, etc).
- Prioritising projects that provide the biggest range of benefits and therefore maximise funding sources.
- Setting out all relevant measures and proposed measures in a collectively owned catchment.

Generally, delivering wider environmental and catchment outcomes than if partners operate in isolation.

2. OUR VISION AND ASPIRATIONS

Our vision is to take the Swale, Ure, Nidd, Ouse & Wharfe river catchments from surviving to thriving by reconnecting rivers, landscapes and communities.

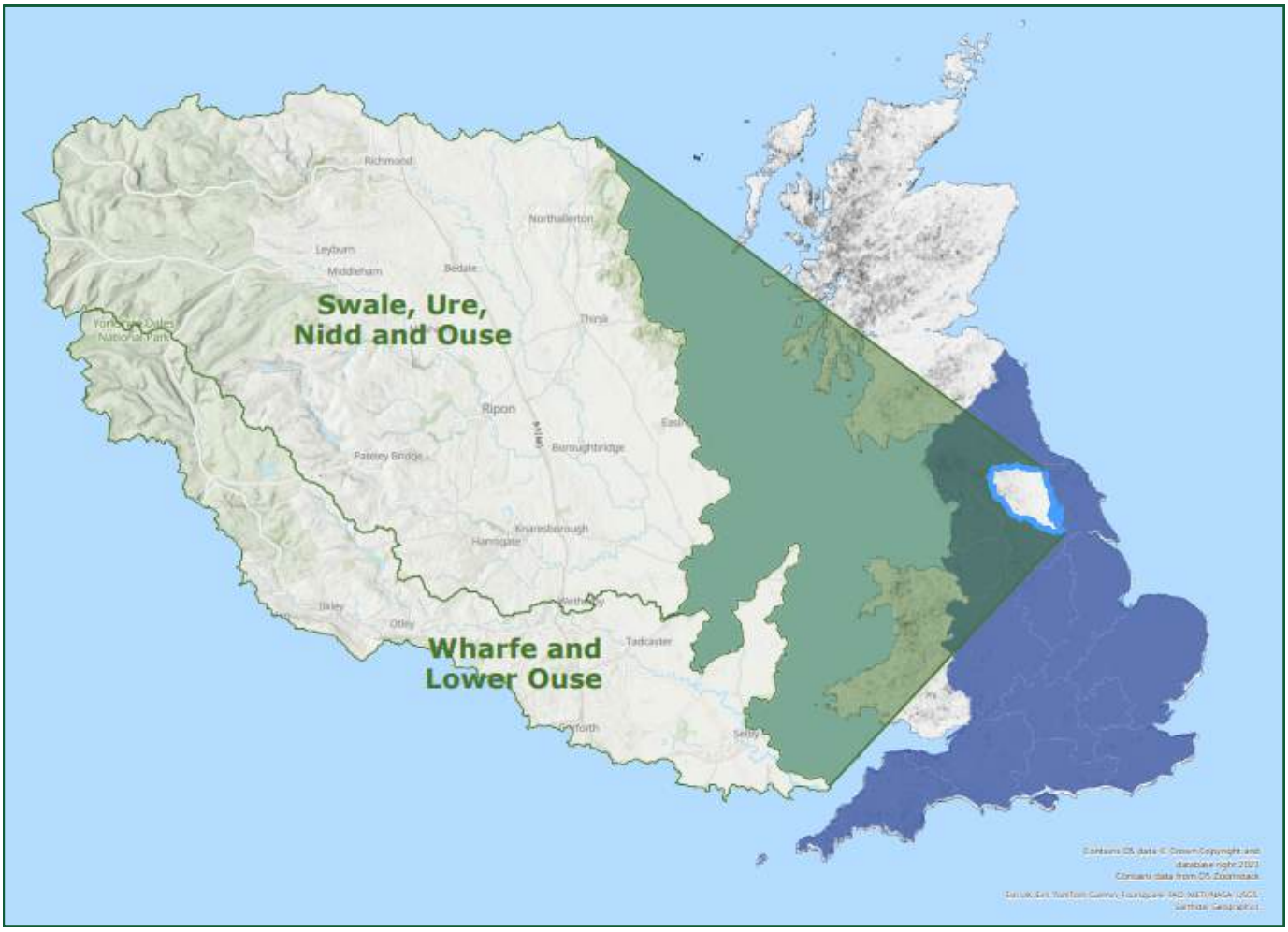


Image 2: Map of our catchments

The Dales to Vale Rivers Network will drive collective actions within our strategic themes to enable people and wildlife to be resilient to environmental pressures whilst maximising the Natural Capital of our catchments.

Our Aspirations

The aspirations of the partnership are to have:

Healthy rivers, which are cleaner, connected to their catchments and more resilient to climate change.

Abundant wildlife with connected, biodiverse catchments.

Valued by communities who are connected with, aware of the issues on and champions of their watercourses.

And to enable us to deliver these objectives we will:

Develop, share and use a robust evidence base and expertise to inform our decisions, including the use of citizen science.

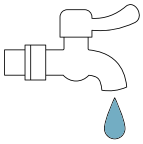
Work collaboratively with our stakeholders and other partnerships across the catchments.

Engage, support and include local communities so that their concerns are listened to, and that they are part of the development and delivery of projects on the ground.

Adopt a source to Humber approach along our rivers, supporting all habitats from upland peatlands down to lowland floodplains and the habitats in between.

Deliver projects within our strategic themes.

DVRN Strategic Themes

 Clean water	Improve water quality to meet Water Framework Directive Ecological Status (Potential) in the waterbodies within the catchment.
 Too much/too little water	Enhance flood resilience and maximise water resources through the creation of floodplain habitat and the attenuation of water in the wider rural and urban landscapes using Nature Based solutions.
 Water for wildlife	Create a landscape-scale ecological network of habitats, representative of location, along the river corridors by increasing the connectivity, diversity and quality of bankside habitat, and restoring fish passage and in-stream habitats to enable the recovery and sustainability of aquatic fauna and flora in both urban and rural areas. Taking appropriate steps to reduce the impact and spread of Invasive Non-Native species upon our native species and habitats.
 Water friendly farming	Engage with land managers across the wider catchment to encourage sustainable businesses practising sensitive land management and land-use to maximise water attenuation, carbon sequestration and address the problems of rural diffuse pollution.
 Urban water	Identifying point and diffuse urban pollution sources and working to overcome their impact.
 Learning about water	Engaging with communities to broaden their understanding of how healthy rivers work and encourage greater connections with the water environment, through educational outreach, events, exhibitions and citizen science.
 Enjoying water	Improve peoples' access to the waterways in a way which maximises the recreational resource and avoids detrimental impacts on wildlife.

We will measure progress against our aspirations in terms of

- Length of river protected/enhanced (km)
- Area of habitat created (ha)
- Volunteers involved (number)
- People engaged through events, workshops and farm visits (numbers)
- Trees planted (number)
- Length of river opened up to migratory fish (km)
- River obstructions overcome (number)

Each project will have appropriate metrics as part of the project plan.

3. HOW WE WORK

As a partnership we consult with stakeholders to gather their views on the:

- Issues affecting the rivers in our catchment.
- Aspirations and priorities for projects in the catchment
- Project ideas and areas for project development

To guide us in developing and delivering projects that address the issues of concern and meet the aspirations of the catchment partnership.

Evidence based decision making

Within each catchment we will establish/confirm the issues that are adversely impacting on the natural environment and use this information to identify the actions required to enhance the waterbodies concerned.

This requires a robust evidence base that is available to all. The DVRN will collect information on the catchment and use this to inform decision making. We will use the best available evidence and look to work with our partners and citizen scientists to fill the gaps.
The DVRN will produce a Catchment Monitoring Hub holding information on all the monitoring that has been conducted, what was being looked at and who holds the data that can be shared. The Hub will be available to stakeholders through the DVRN webpage and stakeholders will be able to add the details of their own monitoring data as it becomes available.

The DVRN will engage, develop and support citizen science within the catchment to monitor watercourses and increase understanding of the issues of the catchment. Methods may include Riverfly monitoring, water quality testing, electrofishing, MoRPH assessments and walkover surveys, as appropriate.

Where several issues are present at a location, these will be considered as part of the development and delivery of multiple objective projects.

Collaborative working

An underlying principle of the catchment-based approach is collaborative working to achieve the best outcomes. The DVRN will

- Share and disseminate information to all partners through our newsletter, website and in-person events.
- Have a shared understanding of the issues and objectives for each project by sharing updates through six monthly project updates shared on our webpage.
- Use the Catchment Monitoring Hub to share the details of monitoring that has taken place and is on-going.

Engaging with Local Communities

The DVRN has carried out consultations in 2017 and 2023 with the 2023 consultation being carried out online with 265 respondees. The results of the latest consultation have formed the basis of the catchment management plans – see below for latest.

We will continue to engage with local communities and action groups, listening and acting on the issues they are concerned about and developing projects with them.

We will also increase the knowledge and understanding of the issues, the state of watercourses and what can be done by everyone to make a positive difference with

- Consultation
- Volunteering opportunities
- Education programmes in schools and to the general public
- Encouraging and enabling access to nature
- Talks to interest groups.
- Encouraging links between groups up, down and across catchments

Linking with Plans and Guidance

Catchment Management Plans are important for shaping and driving of activity and they underpin the River Basin Management Plans produced by the Environment Agency.

Within our CMP we are also aligned with regional and non-statutory plans, which include, but are not limited to:

- Local Biodiversity Action plans
- YWT Living Landscape Plans
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies
- Local Authority Flood Action Plans
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan
- Nidderdale National Landscape Management Plan

The CMP will be the basis of comments to strategic plans, working with partners to identify and deliver common goals to maximise enhancements to our catchments. To date we have commented on plans relating to River Basin Management, Yorkshire Dales National Park Management, Yorkshire Water's submissions for Asset Management and are represented on advisory groups /forums covering Catchment Sensitive Farming, Local Nature Recovery Strategy for North Yorkshire and York and the Yorkshire Invasive Species forum and the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum.

4. THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR CATCHMENTS

The story maps found on our webpage give you information on the state of our catchments and the issues that are impacting on them https://www.ydrt.org.uk/dvrn-org-uk/dvrn-catchments/
Each surface water body is assessed for its ecological and chemical status by the Environment Agency. Water bodies are then classified as being high, good, moderate, poor or bad status. The results from 2019 are shown in the tables below.

Ecological Status

	Number of water bodies	Bad/Poor	Moderate	Good/High
Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse Upper	129	17%	64%	19%
Wharfe and Ouse Lower	53	16%	65%	19%

Chemical Status

	Number of water bodies	Good	Fail
Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse Upper	129	0%	100%
Wharfe and Ouse Lower	53	0%	100%

Table 1: the classifications for the waterbodies across our catchments.
Data source – Environment Agency Catchment data explorer

For any stretch of a watercourse, the status of the lowest determinant sets the status for stretch. For the 2019 assessment of chemical status the EA have changed some methods and increased the evidence base. Due to these changes, all water bodies now fail chemical status and this assessment is not comparable to previous years assessments.

There are four groups of global pollutants (Ubiquitous, persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic substances or uPBTs) causing these failures. There is actually little underlying change in chemical status for chemicals that are not uPBTs. The slight difference is attributable to newly introduced substances, such as cypermethrin. If uPBTs are excluded, then chemical status assessment is comparable to previous years assessments.

Our catchments are not reaching good/high status for the following reasons – which are not listed in priority order.

- Changes to the natural flow and level of water
- Invasive Non-Native Species
- Physical Modifications
- Pollution from abandoned mines
- Pollution from rural areas
- Pollution from towns, cities and transport
- Pollution from wastewater

How these relate to the consultation responses and the DVRN strategic themes is laid out in Table 3

5. HOW OUR CATCHMENTS ARE SEEN

- from the 2023 Consultation

To ensure that the DVRN vision and aspirations for our catchments matched those of our partners and wider network, an open consultation took place in 2023.

Our Rivers are seen as a defining part of the landscape and are valued as important homes for wildlife and a source for recreation. Many people find peace and calm beside them, and all want to see improvements in the health of the rivers.

The top two issues raised were pollution - be that from Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) discharges, farming or urban areas - and the spread of Invasive Non-Native species (INNs). Both of which contribute to the third biggest concern - the decline in wildlife along our rivers.

The full concerns and their relative priorities are listed by river in Section 6: River Catchment Scale Actions

From the consultation the top priorities for projects under the DVRN are:

	DVRN Strategic Themes						
Priorities for projects	 Clean water	 Too much/ little water	 Water for wildlife	 Water friendly farming	 Urban water	 Learning about water	 Enjoying water
Improving water quality	Y			Y	Y		
Habitat and biodiversity improvements			Y				
Natural flood management		Y		Y			
Water friendly farming	Y			Y			
Clean rivers to swim in							Y
Increasing climate resilience		Y					
Reducing the impact of man on the rivers, looking at reconnecting rivers to floodplains and measures to allow fish passage up and down our rivers.			Y				

Table 2: Project priorities in relation to the DVRN Strategic themes.

Priorities for DVRN Projects and Reasons for Not Achieving Good Status

REASONS FOR NOT ACHIEVING GOOD STATUS

PRIORITIES FOR PROJECTS: DVRN Strategic themes	Changes to natural flow and level of water	Invasive Non Native Species	Physical modifi-cations	Pollution from abandoned mines	Pollution from rural areas	Pollution from towns, cities and transport	Pollution from waste water
Improving water quality				Y	Y	Y	Y
Habitat and biodiversity improvements	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Natural flood management	Y						
Water friendly farming	Y		Y		Y		
Making rivers clean to swim in				Y	Y	Y	Y
Increasing climate resilience							
Reducing the impact of man on the rivers, floodplain reconnection, fish passage	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y

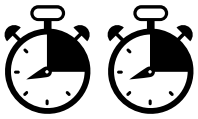
Table 3 - Priorities for DVRN projects against strategic themes, showing the reasons for not acheiving good status being addressed.

6. RIVER CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

The Issues and Priorities for projects have been identified in the 2023 consultations and the actions listed are aimed to address the issues and result in improved river catchments.

The aim is for partners to identify actions most relevant to their organisation and encourage co-ordination and collaboration within the DVRN to deliver improvements to the catchments.

For each catchment scale action a timeframe for the work has been set using the symbols below

Short	Medium	Long
		

RIVER SWALE

Issues	Priorities for projects
Pollution from wastewater, farming and urban areas	Improve water quality
Declining wildlife	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Invasive non-native species	Natural flood management
Flooding	Water friendly farming
Impact of man-made structures	Making the river fit to swim in
Impact of drought	Improving climate resilience
	Improving fish passagge
	Invasive non-native species control

RIVER SWALE CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
	Reduce the impact of pollution from historic metal mines	Pollution and impact of man-made structures	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Improve the habitat for migrating species	Impact of man-made structures	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Declining wildlife, pollution, flooding and drought	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER URE

Issues	Priorities for projects
Declining wildlife	Improve water quality
Pollution from wastewater and farming	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Invasive non-native species	Water friendly farming
Pollution from urban areas	Natural flood management
Flooding	Improving climate resilience
Impact of drought	Making the river fit to swim in
Impact of man-made structures	Improving fish passagge
	Invasive non-native species control

RIVER URE CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
	Reduce the impact of pollution from historic metal mines	Pollution and impact of man-made structures	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Build on work to protect and extend habitat available to Water voles, including mink eradication	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control	Invasive non-native species	
	Improve fish habitat with riparian tree planting to reduce the impact of increasing water temperatures and provide habitat diversity along the river	Declining wildlife	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Improve the habitat for migrating species	Declining wildlife	
	Work with conservation bodies and mineral extraction companies on a strategic approach to mineral extraction after use, including NFM, biodiversity and access	Declining wildlife, flooding and drought	
	Investigate opportunities to reconnect the river with its floodplain – including washlands	Declining wildlife, flooding and drought, impact of manmade structures, pollution	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Declining Wildlife, pollution, flooding and drought	

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Pollution from Urban Areas and wastewater, impact of man-made structures	
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER NIDD

Issues	Priorities for projects
Pollution from wastewater, farming and urban areas	Improve water quality
Declining wildlife	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Invasive non-native species	Making the river fit to swim in
Flooding	Natural flood management
Impact of man-made structures	Invasive non-native species control
Impact of drought	Water friendly farming
	Sustainable urban drainage
	Improving climate resilience

RIVER NIDD CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
	Reduce the impact of pollution from historic metal mines	Pollution and impact of man-made structures	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Work with Anglers and the EA to identify and mitigate barriers to fish passage and improve the habitat for migrating species	Impact of man-made structures	
	Continue to develop opportunities for wetlands, ponds and connecting these with each other and the river	Declining wildlife	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Pollution from farming, flooding and drought, declining wildlife	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Using Citizen science and third party data to improve our collective understanding of issues affecting water quality in relation to river health and bathing water quality	Pollution from urban and rural areas, declining wildlife	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER OUSE

Issues	Priorities for projects
Pollution from wastewater, farming and urban areas	Natural flood management
Declining wildlife	Improve water quality
Bank erosion	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Water abstraction	Water friendly farming
River temperature	Invasive non-native species control
	Improving climate resilience
	Improving fish passagge

RIVER OUSE CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species	
	Identifying and delivering opportunities for habitat connectivity with emphasis on green corridors	Declining wildlife	
	Implement specific conservation methods that build on and extend the habitat vital for Tansy Beetles	Declining wildlife	
	Improve fish habitat with riparian tree planting to reduce the impact of increasing water temperatures and provide habitat diversity along the river	Declining wildlife	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Pollution from farming, water abstraction, bank erosion	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER FOSS

Issues	Priorities for projects
Pollution from wastewater and farming	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Declining wildlife	Improve water quality
Pollution from urban areas	Water friendly farming
Invasive non-native species	Invasive non-native species control
Flooding	Natural flood management
Impact of man-made structures	
Impact of drought	
Management of drainage ditches	

RIVER FOSS CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Implement specific conservation methods that build on and extend the habitat vital for Tansy Beetles	Declining wildlife	
	Build on work to protect and extend habitat available to Water voles, including mink eradication	Declining wildlife	
	Identifying and delivering opportunities for habitat connectivity with emphasis on green corridors	Declining wildlife	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Pollution from farming, flooding and drought, declining wildlife	
	Work with Internal Drainage boards to improve the habitat provided by watercourses	Land drainage management	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER WISKE

Issues	Priorities for projects
Declining wildlife	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Pollution from wastewater, farming and urban areas	Water friendly farming
Invasive non-native species	Improve water quality
Flooding	Invasive non-native species control
Impact of drought	Natural flood management
Impact of man-made structures	Education
Management of drainage ditches	Floodplain reconnection

RIVER WISKE CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Pollution from farming, flooding and drought, declining wildlife	
	Work with Internal Drainage boards to improve the habitat provided by watercourses	Management of drainage ditches	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

RIVER WHARFE

Issues	Priorities for projects
Pollution from wastewater, farming and urban areas	Improve water quality
Declining wildlife	Improve habitat and biodiversity
Invasive non-native species	Natural flood management
Impact of man-made structures including canalisation	Water friendly farming
Impact of drought	Making the river fit to swim in
Flooding	Improving climate resilience
Moorland management	Improving fish passage
Litter	Invasive non-native species control

RIVER WHARFE CATCHMENT SCALE ACTIONS

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Clean water	Influence land management practices and deliver interventions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff	Pollution from farming	
	Identify hotpots of urban and wastewater pollution and develop a programme of works to reduce pollution and its impact on the water system	Pollution from wastewater and urban areas	
	Reduce the impact of pollution from historic metal mines	Pollution and impact of man-made structures	
	Make the river safer for swimming by reducing pollution in the river, working land managers, Yorkshire Water, Environment Agency and local residents and swimmers	Pollution from wastewater, rural and urban areas	
 Too much/ little water	Identify pressures from all types of flooding and look for multi-benefit, integrated options to manage water and build resilience to fluctuating water levels	Flooding and drought	
 Water for wildlife	Build on the current Riverfly scheme and create a citizen science monitoring scheme	Declining wildlife	
	Carry out a systematic approach to controlling invasive non-native species through surveys, record results on INNS mapper, identify hotspots for treatment/control.	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Protect the remaining white-clawed crayfish populations in North Yorkshire, working with the North Yorkshire Crayfish Forum to achieve their key aims	Invasive non-native species and declining wildlife	
	Improve the habitat for migrating species	Declining wildlife	
 Water friendly farming	Identify opportunities to and then deliver interventions across the catchment that encourage multi-beneficial land management practises including slowing the flow of water, improving soil health, reducing sediment and nutrient loss and sustainable water usage	Pollution from farming, flooding and drought, declining wildlife	
 Urban water	Identify pressures from all types of water management in urban areas and look for multi-benefit, integrated water management solutions (including SuDS) and opportunities to build resilience	Impact of man-made structures, flooding and drought	

Theme	Action	Issue being addressed	Timeframe
 Learning about water	Generate local interest in river management through public engagement and learning opportunities	All	
	Using Citizen science and third party data to improve our collective understanding of issues affecting water quality in relation to river health and bathing water quality	Pollution from urban and rural areas, declining wildlife	
	Identify key sites and projects for education, engagement and promotion of the issues affecting our water environment	All	
 Enjoying water	Work with volunteer groups to deliver practical tasks such as water quality monitoring, outfall surveys, opportunity mapping and species monitoring	All	

7. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Catchment – is the area of land, including the hills and mountains, woodlands, and buildings which water drains from, before flowing into the streams, rivers, lakes and tarns.

Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) – an inclusive, civil society led initiative that works in partnership with Government, Local Authorities, water companies, businesses and more, to maximise the natural value of the environment.

Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) – overflow valves to reduce the risk of sewage backing up sewer pipes during heavy rainfall.

Diffuse pollution - Diffuse pollution is the release of potential pollutants from a range of activities that, individually, may have no effect on the water environment, but, at the scale of a catchment, can have a significant effect. Problems occur in both rural and urban environments.

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) – those species that occur outside their natural current or historic range and have a negative impact on the environment, the economy or the human population.

MoRPH – a modular river physical habitat survey and assessment method for recording and analysing the form and functioning of rivers and streams.

Nature Based Solutions - the sustainable management and use of natural features and processes to tackle socio-environmental issues. These issues include for example climate change (mitigation and adaptation), water security, food security, preservation of biodiversity, and disaster risk reduction.

Natural Capital - the natural resources and environmental features in a given area, regarded as having economic value or providing a service to humankind.
"in addition to labour and productive capital, we should also take into account natural capital such as water, air, forests, oceans, and biodiversity"

Natural Flood Management (NFM) – using natural processes to reduce the risk of flooding. These processes protect, restore, and mimic the natural functions of catchments, floodplains and the coast to slow and store water. NFM measures can include: soil and land management. river and floodplain management.

Point source pollution – a single identifiable source of pollution.

River Basin Management Plan – plans on a river basin scale that describe the challenges that threaten the water environment and how these challenges can be managed.

UPBTs – Ubiquitous, persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic substances

Water attenuation – to temporarily store storm water for a period of time, to then release it back into a watercourse or sewer network.

Water body – a unit of surface water, being the whole 9 pr part) of a stream, river or canal, lake or reservoir, estuary or stretch of coastal water. A groundwater body is a defined area of an aquifer with geological and hydrological boundaries to ensure consistency and avoid fragmentation.

Water Framework Directive (WFD) – the EU's Water Framework Directive (WFD) which was adopted by the UK in 2000, imposes standards for the improvement of all aspects of water environments, including rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal waters and groundwater. It requires surface water of "blue space" to be of good quality by 2027.

Dales to Vale
Rivers Network

Catchment Management Plan 2024 - 2029

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