

Hampshire Avon DTC News flash



August 2011

Monitoring Activities

Surface water monitoring:



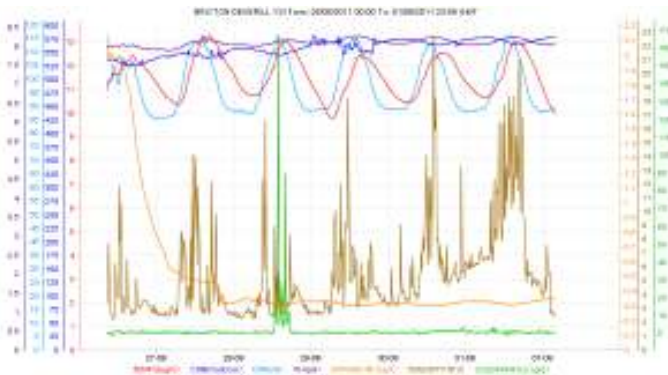
A portable multi-parameter YSI sonde has been deployed at the Brixton Deverill high spec monitoring site.

This is collecting data every 15 minutes and is

measuring: ammonia, pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, temperature and turbidity.



The graph below shows the data collected last week:



Please note that this data is collected in real time and is not quality assured.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Matt Lowenthal at EA Thames for his invaluable support in lending us this equipment.

Groundwater monitoring:

A further 30 pots will be installed in the EA Cholderton WPZ sub-catchment in order to

help measure the impact of mitigation measures due to be implemented in this area including those associated with cover cropping options.

Biological monitoring:

The summer sampling of macroinvertebrates, macrophytes and diatoms was completed at the end of July by the River Communities Group from Queen Mary University of London. Adrian Brown of the EA Bodmin office joined the team for the Tamar sites.

The annual River Habitat Survey for the Avon target sub-catchments has been carried out by the local Environment Agency.

Mitigation measures:

We will initially concentrate our efforts in the Priors Farm sub-catchment where we will focus on improved integration of manure and fertiliser management using industry standard DSTs and improved timings of dirty water application.

Our working partnership with CSF is going extremely well.

Together we will be co-funding improvements on two farms in the Priors Farm sub-catchment; namely: to resurface a problem farm track and provide roofing and clean and dirty water separation for a problem yard.



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Additional measures we hope to implement in this target sub-catchment are v-notch weirs in problem ditches, extension of current riparian buffers, improvement/insertion of stream bank fencing and arable reversion (maize to grass).

Data management

A meeting was held at the Freshwater Biological Association in



Windermere to discuss the DTC data archive. The workshop covered the types of data the DTC project will produce and how the data will be interrogated in the future by different end users.

Imminent meetings

14th – 16th Sept Catchment Science 2011, Dublin, Ireland

An International Conference aimed at scientists, policy makers, farmers and land managers; jointly hosted by the Irish Agricultural Catchments Programme (Teagasc/DAFF) and the UK Demonstration Test Catchments Projects (Defra/Environment Agency).

The FARMSCOPER tool will be presented at this meeting by the Avon consortium.

Please don't forget to check out the project website for all project updates and news: www.avondtc.org.uk