

# Hampshire Avon DTC News flash



April 2011

## Monitoring activities

### ***Soil drainage monitoring:***

370 porous pots have been installed across the Hampshire Avon catchment. These have all been buried below cultivation depth where they will be left over the summer. There are still 30 more to be installed in the Cholderton borehole catch zone.

Target sub-catchment	Control/ Manipulated/ EA WPZ project	Total number of pots
Kingston Deverill, River Wyle	Control	80
Brixton Deverill, River Wyle	Manipulated	70
Ebbesbourne Wake, River Ebble	Manipulated	60
Cholderton borehole catch zone	EA WPZ project	160

### ***Surface water monitoring:***



The high spec station at Ebbesbourne Wake has now been calibrated and is yielding data. We currently have a temporary water sampler at the Brixton Deverill site which is collecting daily water samples for water and particulate chemistry analysis. A weekly grab sample is also being collected.

Autosampler stations have been installed at four target sub-catchment monitoring stations (Priors Farm, Cools Cottage, Ebbesbourne Wake and Kingston Deverill). These are collecting turbidity and DO data, plus daily water samples for water and particulate chemistry analysis.

### ***Mitigation measures***

A meeting was held with Ellie Mantell (CSFO) and Chris Westcott (EA) to discuss the improvement of a problem track and ditch at one of our key farms in one of our manipulated target sub-catchments (Priors Farm).

### **Knowledge Exchange**

A local stakeholder group meeting was held at the Game and Wildlife Conservancy Trust headquarters in Fordingbridge.



There was good attendance at the event, which updated stakeholders on the project progress and discussed further funding opportunities. The minutes and the presentations given at the meeting can be found on the project website.



In the afternoon there was a KE session to foster a community of practice and cultivate the

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Avon DTC networks through knowledge exchange and transfer. This activity received great feedback from the attendees. The session included a table top exercise to capture people's opinions on the key messages from DTC.

Bob Harris (DEFRA) visited our target sub-catchments with Rob Soley (Entec) viewing our surface water monitoring kit and our manipulated target sub-catchments. We met with some champion farmers in both of these target sub-catchments and discussed the potential mitigation measures we'd like to implement.

## **Recruitment**

PhD at Reading University: Moragh Stirling,  
looking at ecosystem processes

PDRA at Bristol University: Charlotte Lloyd,  
looking at statistical and uncertainty analysis of  
monitoring data

## **Imminent meetings**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of May there is a meeting between SEPA, DEFRA, EA and DTC to explore links between the DTC and SEPA's priority catchments. Adrian Collins will be attending and presenting.