

Hampshire Avon DTC News flash



February 2011

Monitoring activities

Soil drainage monitoring:

Installation of porous pots

Installation of porous pots is ongoing. We have now completed installations in the control sub-catchment and have installed 160 in the Cholderton Borehole sub-catchment. We have also buried these down to below cultivation depth where they will be left over the summer.

Target sub-catchments	Location	No. of pots
Control	U/S of Kingston Deverill	80
EA WPZ project	Cholderton borehole catch zone	160

Surface water monitoring:

The autosampler station at Priors Farm on the River Sem has been installed and is now up and running and collecting samples /data.



The concrete pad has been laid for the high spec unit on the river Ebbles and plans are now in place for the mains electricity cables to be laid to connect the unit. We hope that the kiosk and instrumentation will be installed in the coming weeks.

The autosampler kiosk upstream of the high spec station has also been installed. Instrumentation will be put in shortly.



The historical village pond neighbouring the wetland at Ebbesbourne Wake will be cored in early March to provide a basis for examining recent historical sediment pressures.



The installation of the gauging station at Cools cottage on the River Sem is also underway.

Tamar:

We have met with the EA SW to discuss obtaining permissions for the monitoring activities in the Tamar Associate DTC. A route forward has been agreed with respect to fast tracking installations for the Neet

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(control) and Caudworthy at Caudworthy Bridge (manipulated).

More work is required at the lower site on the Caudworthy at the ford and we are considering options for installing a box culvert bridge, funding permitting, as this will minimise barriers for fish migration.

Farm surveys:

Baseline farm spatial surveys have begun, recording run-off pathways during heavy rainfall and areas of erosion. These surveys are being carried out using toughbooks. We are starting in the Priors Farm manipulated sub-catchment.

Mitigation measures

The Avon DTC was well represented at the recent workshop held in London on the 17th February. The discussions were useful and the Avon consortium is planning some field walking to finalise options in the Priors Farm manipulated sub-catchment over the next few weeks.

KE activities

The project website (www.avondtc.org.uk/) has recently been updated to include information on 'Farmscoper' a tool to optimise diffuse pollution mitigation.

The new logo for the Tamar Associate DTC catchment is also being showcased on the website. Text about the Tamar will follow shortly.



Imminent meetings

A consortium meeting is being held in the next few days to discuss alternative sources of funding e.g. NERC, INTERREG etc.

A local stakeholder meeting is being organised for early spring. This will be held at the GWCT HQs in Fordingbridge. Please contact [Fiona Grant](#) if you are interested in being added to our stakeholder list, or know someone else who is.