

Hampshire Avon DTC News flash



January 2011

Monitoring activities

Installation of porous pots

We are in the process of installing 400 porous pots in our target sub-catchments. We have currently installed a total of 190 porous pots in our control sub-catchment and the Cholderton borehole catch zone.

Control sub-catchment:

We have successfully installed 70 porous pots in 7 arable fields (10 pots in each field) in the control sub-catchment, upstream of Kingston Deverill on the River Wylfe.



Cholderton borehole catch zone:

We have secured 10 fields, 6 arable and 4 grass, in the Cholderton borehole catch zone where we will install 200 pots (20 in each field). At present we have installed 120 pots, 80 in arable fields and 40 in grass fields.

Manipulated sub-catchment:

We are in the process of meeting with landowners in the manipulated sub-catchment, upstream of Ebbesbourne



Wake, to secure 12 fields for the installation of 120 pots (10 pots in each field).

Source apportionment work

Source apportionment work for multiple pollutants has started in the Cools Cottage (control) and Priors Farm (manipulated) sub-catchments in the Hants Avon, plus the Burracott (control) and Caudworthy Water, (manipulated) sub-catchments in the Tamar with the installation of retrievable basket samplers in bed gravels and the collection of inorganic source samples.

KE activities

Engaging with the EA SW

Adie Collins (ADAS) and Dylan Bright (West Country Rivers Trust) recently presented at a very successful meeting designed to engage with the EA SW following the adoption of the River Tamar as an Associate DTC. The meeting was organised by Neil Murdoch (EA, Exeter) and was attended by 25 people.

Successful local launch

The Hampshire Avon DTC Local Launch was held on the 18th January at the Mercure White Hart hotel, Salisbury.



The event was well attended from members of the project consortium, DEFRA, EA, Natural England, the NFU, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Wessex Water and champion farmers.

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We had an excellent array of speakers, a poster display from PhD students from Exeter and Reading

Universities and a fascinating demonstration from Matt Dibbs (Meteor) on data telemetry for the project sensor web.

Thank you to everyone for helping make the day such a success.



Catchment newsletter contributions

The latest newsletter delivered by the Wessex Chalk Streams Project contains a piece of the Hants Avon DTC.

Recruitment

An advert has just been released for the project PDRA based at the University of Bristol who will work on data uncertainties and statistical comparisons.

An advert will be released shortly for the project PhD studentship based at the University of Reading working on ecosystem functional response to on-farm mitigation.

Imminent meetings

We have a planned meeting in the next 4-6 weeks for the wider consortium to discuss their potential roles in future components of the Hampshire Avon DTC project (at North Wyke Research, Devon).

A meeting is also organised for early February with the EA SW to discuss obtaining permissions for the monitoring activities in the Tamar Associate DTC.

The project monitoring team will be meeting with the suppliers of river discharge monitoring kit next week to finalise options.