

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update –7 July 2025

Welcome to our weekly newsletter, available on our website (in HTML and PDF) and (soon) by email. You can help us grow by subscribing to the feed for free: <https://www.ukrivers.net/rss.xml>. We'll have an option to subscribe by email very soon. Please send us your news, events, and anything else to: hello at ukrivers dot net

River news

July 2025

5 July 2025: [New project to save Atlantic salmon in Southampton](#): Dave Rumble of Wessex Rivers Trust tells the BBC he fears for the future of the species if young salmon can't travel from the River Itchen in Hampshire, to the ocean.

5 July 2025: [Hector swims three lakes for SAS](#): Intrepid open-water Olympic swimmer Hector Pardoe will be swimming Loch Lomond in Scotland, Windermere in England, and Lake Bala in Wales back-to-back in under 24 hours (a total of 34.5 miles) to raise money for Surfers Against Sewage.

5 July 2025: [Beavers beat drought campaigners say](#): The Eastern Daily Press reports on how beaver reintroduction can be a win-win for landscapes threatened by both floods and drought.

5 July 2025: [Swimming in the Seine once again!](#): A century-long ban on swimming in the great Parisian river has been partly reversed.

4 July 2025: [Henley River and Rowing Museum to close](#): We've often reported news from the RRM in Henley, and it's sad to hear that the project will be closing this September due to financial pressures running the huge building.

4 July 2025: [Biocide chemicals in rivers could power superbugs](#): Widespread use of antibacterial chemicals could spark the rise of superbugs, according to new research reported by The I.

4 July 2025: [Major fish kill in the River Lew](#): The Environment Agency is investigating the death of at least 90 fish in the Lew near Okehampton, Devon following a suspected chemical spill.

3 July 2025: [Can trees save salmon in the River Dee](#): Will "Save the Spring", a controversial tree planting and river restoration scheme in Scotland, help the decline of the salmon?

3 July 2025: [Thames Water can't cope with sewage](#): Research from the Oxford Rivers Project shows 181 of Thames Water's sewage treatment works (over 51%) can't handle the volume of sewage they receive.

3 July 2025: [Flooding Along the Uruguay and Ibicui Rivers seen from space](#): It used to be said that you could see only two things from space: the Great Wall of China and the burning rainforests. Today, you can see your house on Google Earth... and thanks to NASA, you can also see spectacular flooding in Brazil this week.

2 July 2025: [£8 billion boost to flood defence?](#): The government is loudly trumpeting what it calls "the largest flood defence investment programme in history", but critical readers will be asking how that's measured against a background of massive recent cuts to the Environment Agency's budget, how it factors in the increasing problem of climate change, and how it squares with the continuing rash rush to develop housing in the wrong places (a 2024 survey by Allianz revealed 7,000 new homes are planned for areas at highest risk of flooding).

1 July 2025: [Photographer to recreate childhood river trip in dad's canoe](#): Photographer Ed Smith is making a spectacular journey down the 98-mile (158km) River Spey.

1 July 2025: [Revealed for National Marine Week: seven secrets of our amazing seabeds and three ways to help save them](#): As a taster of National Marine Week later in July, the Wildlife Trusts reminds us that half of marine habitats are deteriorating and only 29% of estuaries and coastal bodies are in good ecological condition.

June 2025

30 June 2025: [Does the Environment Agency's farm inspection budget boost really stack up?](#): Widely reported and welcome news that Environment Agency "farm inspections [are] increasing by around 50%" doesn't really stand up to scrutiny if you put it in context. Back in 2023, Dr Richard Benwell of Wildlife and Countryside Link [told parliament](#) that "The Environment Agency has seen cuts of 60 per cent in funding from 2010 to 2019; Natural England cuts are more like 70 per cent", while a 2019 [report](#) by Unchecked noted that EA prosecutions fell by 80 between 2009/10 and 2016/17. So "increases" are, at best, are only a reversal or partial reversal of previous cuts.

23 June 2025: [River Action granted permission to proceed with legal challenge against Ofwat](#): The intrepid campaigners at River Action are taking Ofwat to court to make sure the right people pay for the historic neglect of water infrastructure.

Jobs and other opportunities

The closing dates for jobs are in brackets.

Jobs

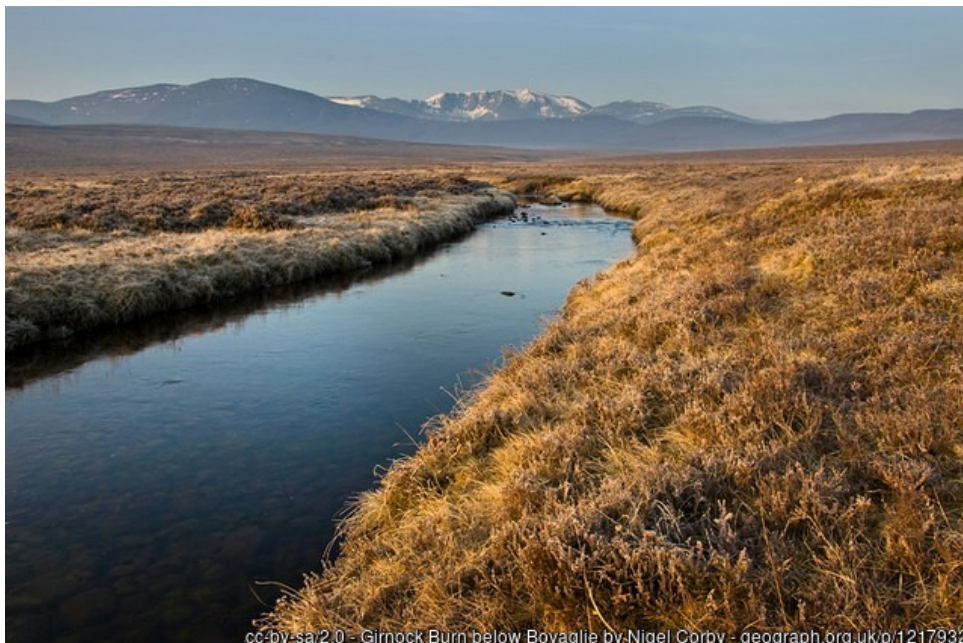
- [Groundwork: Rivers Technical Specialist \(Colne Valley Park Visitor Centre\)](#) (15 July 2025)
- [Wiltshire Wildlife Trust: Water Project Officer](#) (8 July 2025)
- [Avon Wildlife Trust: Nature Recovery Officer \(Maternity cover\)](#) (8 July 2025)
- [River Waveney Trust: Catchment and Farming Officer](#) (6 July 2025)
- [Wild Oxfordshire: Evenlode Catchment Partnership Project Officer](#) (6 July 2025)
- [River Lark Catchment Partnership: Catchment Officer](#) (4 July 2025)
- [Wessex Rivers Trust: Catchment Partnership Officer](#) (4 July 2025)
- [Forth Rivers Trust: Ecologist](#) (4 July 2025)
- [River Lark Catchment Partnership: Catchment Officer](#) (4 July 2025)

Trustees and other voluntary posts

- [Green Seas Trust: Social Media volunteers](#) (17 July 2025)

River of the Week

Girnock Burn below Bovaglie, subject of The Guardian article above about restoration work on the River Dee in Scotland.



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