

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update –15/9/25

River news

September 2025

- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Wild, scenic, and toxic](#): Heavy metals released by thawing permafrost are turning some of "the most remote and protected watersheds in North America" orange with dangerous levels of metals, according to a new study reported in PNAS this week, rendering them too toxic for aquatic life.
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Dumfries and Galloway community woodland plans World Rivers Day celebration](#): Musicians, sound artists and storytellers will be performing at Glaisters Bridge Community Woodland on September 28.
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Volunteers cleared more than 11km of river in Tyne catchment](#): The Tyne Rivers Trust team have been busy balsam busting... and here's news of their amazing progress!
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Swim the Tiber soon?](#): Rome's mayor hopes swimmers will be splashing and paddling their way through the city's horribly polluted river within five years.
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Busting giant hogweed with Teen Rivers Trust](#): Celebrating the efforts of David and Ros Butler, now in their 70s, who've been volunteering with their local rivers trust since 2012.
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Thawing permafrost turns Alaskan rivers orange](#): Heavy metals released by thawing permafrost are turning rivers in Alaska's Brooks Range orange with dangerous levels of metals, according to a new study.
- ➔ 12 September 2025: [Bristol storyteller Corinne Harragin celebrates ancient river folklore](#): The Bristol-University-based storyteller has a new project, Storying the Avon, which "dives deep into the ancient myth and folklore surrounding our waterways, reconnecting people with their importance of our rivers and springs at a time when they are experiencing severe environmental degradation".

- ➔ 11 September 2025: [Country diary: Half a century of watching this river change](#): Phil Griffiths reflects on his 49 years beside the River Wear.
- ➔ 11 September 2025: [New chief for the Tyne Rivers Trust](#): Tyne Rivers Trust has appointed Sophia Stovall as its new Chief Executive Officer, signalling a new chapter for the charity as it looks ahead to the next decade of protecting and celebrating the River Tyne.
- ➔ 11 September 2025: [Are dirty rivers a gift to Reform? \(£££\)](#): The Times (paywalled) has an article arguing that dirty rivers play to the strengths of Nigel Farage's Reform party.
- ➔ 11 September 2025: [River Lim Action Group welcomes sewage upgrade](#): BBC News reports that campaigners in Lyme Regis have applauded news of a long-overdue upgrade to their local sewage system.
- ➔ 10 September 2025: [Reasons To Take Part in Dip a Day This October](#): Join Surfers Against Sewage in preparing for your daily dip next month.
- ➔ 10 September 2025: [Doncaster Celebrates Recovery of the Don](#): City of Doncaster Council is celebrating the news that wild-born Atlantic salmon have been found in the River Don for the first time in over 200 years.
- ➔ 10 September 2025: [Huge project to map England's longest river will inspire new vision for all](#): The Wildlife Trusts and their partners have just announced a new 18-month project to map and analyse the economic, environmental and societal benefits of restoring nature along the Trent, England's longest river from source to sea. The opportunities for nature-based solutions along its 223.5 miles will be examined allowing the partners to create a transformational vision for the Trent's future, and a blueprint for restoring all rivers in England for the first time.
- ➔ 10 September 2025: [Water voles return to the River Wey... again!](#): More on that story from a couple of weeks ago, and a cute video to go with it from the National Trust.
- ➔ 8 September 2025: [More homes protected from floods... or are they?](#): Another misleading press release from the Environment Agency today brags that "In the last winter storm period... around 167,000 properties were protected from flooding". But let's not forget a [recent guardian analysis](#) showing "more than 100,000 homes in England could soon be built in highest-risk flood zones" in the government's not-entirely-joined-up push for new housebuilding.
- ➔ 8 September 2025: [All set for the biggest river race event in Europe](#): With nearly 300 crews rowing more than 21 miles of the Thames, the 2025 Great River Race on 20 September is set to be the biggest event of its kind in Europe.

London's river marathon covers 21.6 miles from Millwall in the east to Richmond in the west, travelling under all the landmark bridges of the capital, including Hammersmith.

- ➔ 5 September 2025: [Twenty-five years of the Water Framework Directive](#): Yes, it seems like only yesterday that we were looking forward to the introduction of the WFD, Europe's comprehensive freshwater legislation. With only 39.5% of surface waters in good ecological condition, the European Rivers Network reports that there's still a long way to go.
 - ➔ 5 September 2025: [Releasing sewage onto beaches and into rivers 'threatens Gwynedd's economy'](#): Wales Online considers powerful economic arguments for stopping sewage discharges. Environment Agency data shows there were 118,276 discharges in Wales in 2024 alone.
 - ➔ 1 September 2025: [Why don't Britains collect more rainwater?](#): Bill McGuire contrasts rain collecting in Britain and Germany... and asks why we're so poor at doing something so obviously helpful
- [More news from earlier in 2025 on our website...](#)

Jobs and other opportunities

The closing dates for jobs are in brackets.

Jobs

- ➔ [River Chelmer Projects Manager: Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust](#) (5 October 2025)
- ➔ [Rivers Project Officer: Groundwork South](#) (2 October 2025)
- ➔ [Evenlode Catchment Partnership Project Manager: Wild Oxfordshire](#): (30 September 2025)
- ➔ [Legal Coordinator: River Action](#) (30 September 2025)
- ➔ [Lawyer: WildFish](#) (30 September 2025)
- ➔ [Development Ranger \(Rivers Run Through Us\): Devon County Council](#) (25 September 2025)
- ➔ [Finance Director: The Rivers Trust](#) (24 September 2025)
- ➔ [Senior Woodland Officer: Ribble Rivers Trust](#) (22 September 2025)
- ➔ [Project Officer/Senior Project Officer: South East Rivers Trust](#) (21 September 2025)
- ➔ [Project Officer: South Yorkshire: Waterlife Recovery Trust](#): (19 September 2025)
- ➔ [Part-time Project Officer: South Wales Waterlife Recovery Trust](#) (19 September 2025)

- [Technical Advisor - Transform Bottom Trawling Coalition: Blue Ventures](#) (16 September 2025)
- [Volunteer and Citizen Science Coordinator: Western Sussex Rivers Trust](#) (15 September 2025)
- [Policy and Advocacy Manager: River Action](#) (15 September 2025)
- [Knowledge and Evidence Officer – Riverwoods project: Scottish Wildlife Trust](#) (14 September 2025)
- [Campaigns and Policy Coordinator: Surfers Against Sewage](#) (14 September 2025)

River of the week



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