

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update –6/10/25

River news

October 2025

- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Rivers, Community and Connection: ImMerse Festival Celebrates Annandale's Waterways](#): More than 100 people from across Dumfries and Galloway came together during the ImMerse Festival last week to explore the River Annan's journey from sea to source.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Rescued crayfish released back into river](#): Critically endangered native crayfish that were rescued from a Yorkshire river impacted by drought conditions have been safely released back into the wild, the Environment Agency reports.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Hidden Bristol river celebrated with immersive artwork](#): Bristol's increasingly engaged river community has been celebrating the hidden river Malago with help from composer Liam Taylor-West.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Dam-busting boost to Yorkshire fish migration](#): Yorkshire rivers are benefiting from a £21 million clean-up of "damnable" old mill structures and barriers of other kinds to help fish migration and improve habitats.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [King's Lynn campaigners celebrate the Gaywood River](#): Local residents gathered at the South Quay in King's Lynn last week to celebrate World Rivers Day with stories, poems, and songs.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Government gives £10 million in water fines to local projects... but what about the rest?](#): "Over £10 million in water company fines directed to restore local waterways through 51 projects aimed at cleaning up rivers, lakes and seas", according to the Environment Agency. Sounds great, but if you have more than a goldfish memory, you'll recall the sum promised in June 2025 was [£100 million](#). So where has the rest gone?

- ➔ 3 October 2025: [Exciting new Blueprint for South Hams \(Devon\) rivers](#): A South Hams collaboration, BLUEprint-for-Rivers, is pulling farmers, councils and residents into the same room to cut pollution at source and push for tougher accountability from water companies.
- ➔ 3 October 2025: [New educational game teaches children about climate change and coastal flood resilience](#): Bringing the impacts of the dynamic processes shaping the coastline to life in an engaging way, CoastCraft (based on Minecraft) challenges players to respond to rising sea levels and the impacts of climate change such as flooding, balancing the needs of different communities while protecting the environment.
- ➔ 2 October 2025: [Thames Water wants to escape river pollution rules](#): According to The Guardian, creditors of the embattled water company are seeking exemptions from environmental legislation until the company is back in the black, between 2035 and 2040.
- ➔ 2 October 2025: [Will new packaging regulations finally make a difference to pollution and litter?](#): Companies who pollute the world with excessive packaging will soon get bills for doing so, but will the new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system make the difference we need? Surfers Against Sewage's Plastic Pollution Policy Officer, Ruby Free, investigates.
- ➔ 1 October 2025: [Will London rivers actually benefit from water pollution fines?](#): New Environment Secretary Emma Reynolds is making much of the government putting £3 million of pounds from water company pollution fines back into London river projects. But it's merely huff-and-puff PR unless the water companies are actively stopped from polluting any further; not if they try to dodge future environmental regulations, as Thames Water (see previous story) is now trying to do.
- ➔ 1 October 2025: [World view: How China just wrecked a Zambian river](#): If you think British rivers are in crisis, spare a thought for people in Zambia who are dealing with the aftermath of a giant chemical spill from a Chinese state-owned copper mine.
- ➔ 1 October 2025: [Shrewsbury campaigners are still Up Sewage Creek](#): Why an anti-pollution group in Shrewsbury is still arguing for round-the-clock monitoring of the River Severn.
- ➔ 1 October 2025: [Liverpool Mayor unveils ambitious new vision to clean up rivers, prevent flooding and maintain water supplies](#): Mayor Steve Rotherham has unveiled an ambitious vision setting out how the Liverpool

City Region will clean up its rivers, canals and coastline, protect against flooding and maintain a reliable water supply.

- ➔ 1 October 2025: [Toxic road run-off is back](#): Almost 30 years ago, in the mid-1990s, we did a lot of work on polluted road run-off with the Newbury Bypass Monitoring Project and Neil Ward, then a chemistry professor at Surrey University who had previously studied the toxic chemical impacts of the M25. According to campaigners at Transport Action Network, Highways England (formerly the Highways Agency) still hasn't learned the importance of keeping road runoff out of nearby watercourses.

➔ September 2025

- ➔ 30 September 2025: [Welcome back, mass sewage discharges!](#): Months of drought have pushed sewage overflows slightly from the news, but the Big Stink is back again: according to The Rivers Trust, 1,300 storm overflows have been pumping out sewage at hundreds of locations around the UK after heavy rain and strong winds.
- ➔ 29 September 2025: [School pupils help to monitor River Tweed's health](#): After a summer of high water scarcity across the Scottish Borders, pupils at Earlston Primary school have been helping to check on the health of the River Tweed.
- ➔ 28 September 2025: ['I live near a Labour "new town" - they'll build on land which always floods'](#): Tempsford, a candidate for one of the government's flagship new towns, is seriously prone to flooding, according to wary locals.

[More news from earlier in 2025 on our website...](#)

Jobs and other opportunities

The closing dates for jobs are in brackets.

- ➔ [River Catchment Director: Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board](#) (Unspecified: October 2025)
- ➔ [Wild Salmon Conservation Manager: Fisheries Management Scotland](#) (26 October 2025)
- ➔ [Exe Catchment Fisheries Officer: Westcountry Rivers Trust](#) (23 October 2025)
- ➔ [Individual Giving Manager: Thames21](#) (21 October 2025)
- ➔ [Senior Project Officer - Urban Water Quality: Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust](#) (15 October 2025)

- [Exe Catchment Fisheries Officer: Westcountry Rivers Trust](#) (12 October 2025)
- [Junior Catchment Restoration Officers x3: Severn Rivers Trust](#) (12 October 2025)
- [Environment and Farming Advisor: Trent Rivers Trust](#) (8 October 2025)
- [Deputy Director of Communications: The Rivers Trust](#) (6 October 2025)
- [River Chelmer Projects Manager: Essex and Suffolk Rivers Trust](#) (5 October 2025)

River of the week



River Malago, Bristol: Lost beneath the urban underground but far from forgotten, Bristol's hidden gem has been celebrated this week by the city's increasingly active river community! © Copyright [Anthony O'Neil](#), originally published on [Geograph](#) and licensed for reuse under a [Creative Commons \(CC BY-SA 2.0\)](#) Licence.

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