

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update – 20/10/25

River news

- ➔ 16 October 2025: [Just add water: heavy rainfall revives ancient species on the Scottish Solway Coast](#): Recent wet weather has hatched a new population of the rare and ancient Tadpole Shrimp – one of the world's oldest living animal species – at RSPB Mersehead in Dumfries, only the third population of the species in the UK.
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [River Action: It's time our supermarkets expose Red Tractor's greenwash and up their standards](#): According to River Action's Charles Watson: "Britain's rivers are in terrible shape, and our biggest supermarkets are up to their necks in it. For years, retailers like Tesco and Asda alongside their agribusiness suppliers have hidden behind the cosy logo of Red Tractor, telling customers their food is "farmed with care... from field to store all our standards are met". This week the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) called time on this charade."
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [Overconsumption and ruin: before and after images visualise how tech could harm our planet](#): The Guardian reviews a new exhibition that explores how our growing tech obsession could wreck historic places like Venice.
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [Worldview: Watching longnose gars spawn in a crystal-clear Florida river](#): A stunning river photo from Isaac Szabo is a glimpse into one of more than 1,000 waterways fed by freshwater springs renowned for their clearness.
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [What killed fish in Six Mile Water?](#): Investigators probe a "significant" fish kill in County Antrim.
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [Thames Water finishes £6 million improvements to New River](#): London's historic aqueduct, dating from 1613, has just had some major improvements to stop leaks.

- ➔ 16 October 2025: [Drinking water worldwide in danger: Researchers have a warning about tidal rivers](#): Growing salination in tidal rivers is threatening freshwater use for drinking water and irrigation.
- ➔ 16 October 2025: [The hidden sources of forever chemicals leaking into rivers - and what to do about them](#): Gemma Ware and Patrick Byrne investigate the problem of industrial chemicals that just won't go away.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [Designing a flood-friendly garden](#): Gardening tips from the Environment Agency may be welcome to those whose homes periodically disappear underwater, but might be a bit of a distraction to most of the 6.3 million properties in England alone that are now at risk of flooding.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [Greatham Beck restoration gets underway](#): The Environment Agency (EA) project is the latest stage of the Tees Tidelands Programme which aims to help the River Tees estuary adapt to climate change.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [River Action dents the Red Tractor!](#): Another campaign victory for River Action. A complaint they made about a misleading advertisement for the Red Tractor farm-assurance scheme's implied environmental benefits has been upheld... and the offending ad banned.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [Worldview: The Moroccan lake on the front line of the climate crisis](#): From the Natural History Museum, a fascinating big-picture look at how climate change is impacting Morocco, and how a clean energy transition might help.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [Wiltshire MP criticizes water companies and their rising bills](#): Sarah Gibson, Liberal Democrat MP for Chippenham, has criticised the Competition and Markets Authority's decision to allow five water companies, including Wessex Water, to raise bills beyond Ofwat's original approval.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: ["Every English river is dying." But it's not too late to save them from destruction](#): Country File presents another interview with Robert Macfarlane.
- ➔ 15 October 2025: [CPRE: More worrying government attacks on the planning system](#): From CPRE: "Late on Monday night, the government announced a raft of last-minute amendments to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. The amendments raise questions, including new powers for ministers to overrule local planning decisions and proposals to reduce Natural England's oversight on more 'minor' developments. However, we're concerned about the continued rhetoric from

government. Ministers are speaking of 'tearing up red tape' and 'removing obstacles' and taking an increasingly bullish approach which is showing little respect for scrutiny, transparency and meaningful engagement".

- ➔ 14 October 2025: [Rewiggling the River Ash!](#): An eight-year project to restore a 4.3-mile (7km) stretch of a rare chalk Hertfordshire river to its original course has been completed.
- ➔ 12 October 2025: [Pea soup duckweed chokes York's River Foss](#): Concerns have been sparked over the build-up of duckweed in York after swans were seen struggling through the dense growth.
- ➔ 12 October 2025: [Is sewage leaking into rivers, lakes or seas near YOU?](#): Even the Daily Mail, not noted for its environmental credentials, is now piling pressure on "dirty" water discharges.
- ➔ 2 October 2025: [Paving over the garden? It raises the risk of your house flooding](#): Professor Bill McGuire of University College London explains why modern paving is a natural (and unnatural) disaster.

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

Jobs and other opportunities

The closing dates for jobs are in brackets.

- ➔ [Project Officer - Barriers and Biodiversity: East Yorkshire Rivers Trust](#) (14 November 2025)
- ➔ [Senior Project Officer: River Waveney Trust](#) (9 November 2025)
- ➔ [Catchment Manager: Thames21](#) (31 October 2025)
- ➔ [Catchment Restoration Officer - Worcestershire Middle Severn: Severn Rivers Trust](#) (26 October 2025)
- ➔ [Friends of Cod Beck Project Manager: Community Works](#) (31 October 2025)
- ➔ [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)

River of the week



Six Mile Water, County Antrim, where the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) is currently investigating a major fish spill. Photo by [Raymond Okonski](#) originally published on [Geograph](#) under a [Creative Commons \(CC-BY-2.0\)](#) licence.

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