

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update –27/10/25

River news

- ➔ 24 October 2025: [21 years of Thames21!](#): Congratulations to one of London's best-known and most inspiring community river groups, which celebrates a milestone birthday this year.
- ➔ 24 October 2025: [McGill researchers find rivers high on antibiotics](#): A new study of world rivers reports a worrying double whammy: antibiotic resistance in humans and dangers to aquatic life in freshwaters.
- ➔ 24 October 2025: [Tyne rivers become "calendar girls"](#): Stuck for a Christmas present? Tyne Rivers Trust's newly revealed 2026 calendar features stunning shots of inspiring northern waterways.
- ➔ 23 October 2025: [Environment Agency continues to call for urgent action as water company performance declines](#): An insipid press release from the Environment Agency (EA) has "called on water companies to urgently improve their performance as the latest Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA) for 2024 reveals the lowest ratings since the process began in 2011".
- ➔ 23 October 2025: [Water companies league of shame - see how yours ranks for sewage spills](#): Lucy Heath of the I Paper singles out Southern Water and Thames Water for particular criticism.
- ➔ 23 October 2025: [WildFish wins on Welsh farmers' pesticide records](#): Following pressure from WildFish, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has ruled that the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) must comply with its obligations under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and disclose records of pesticide use by farmers in Wales: "Members of the public have a right to see what is going into our rivers. This decision will ensure the public can be properly informed."
- ➔ 23 October 2025: [Thetford River Group calls for legal action over foam spill](#): A mysterious pollution episode in Norfolk has killed fish and left clean-water campaigners calling for urgent action.

- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Community projects could be powered by Cheddar!](#): Not cheese, but a long-neglected waterfall at Cheddar Gorge, where enthusiasts hope to install a small water turbine to raise money for local causes.
- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Government promises faster sewage fines](#): Will accelerated water fines help make sewage spills a thing of the past? Not until we have better ways of handling flash floods and stormwater overflows, but it may help reduce the worrying trend of reckless spills.
- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Lyme greens reject tainted water cash](#): Lyme Regis environmental charity Little Green Change has refused a £4,825 grant from South West Water, which it says has "continued to prioritise huge shareholder payouts over much-needed investment in infrastructure which is outdated and in need of urgent improvement".
- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Inside the illegal eel trade: is there a way to stop Europe's biggest wildlife crime before it's too late?](#): The Guardian explores why efforts to stop the multibillion-euro eel trafficking industry have failed, and how to save the endangered fish.
- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Supreme Court upholds Habitats Regulations](#): Wildlife and Countryside Link has welcomed a Supreme Court judgment upholding the Habitats Regulations. The ruling makes clear that the Habitats Regulations provide continuing protection for sites of international and national importance throughout the development process. By rejecting arguments that duties to assess environmental impacts are limited to the earliest stages of planning, the Court has ensured that nature protection remains a live duty throughout the entire planning consent procedure.
- ➔ 22 October 2025: [Welsh waterway consultation gets underway](#): Natural Resources Wales (NRW) has opened its second public consultation as it takes the next steps towards future plans to manage the health of Wales rivers, streams, lakes, groundwaters and coastal waters. The consultation will run between 21st October 2025 and 21st April 2026, and gives people the opportunity to have their say on the current challenges facing Wales's waters, and the actions needed to overcome them.
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [UNEP announces new efforts to turn the tide on plastic](#): The first Annual Plastic Reboot Conference kicks off in Salvador, Brazil from 22-24 October 2025, bringing together 15 countries and global partners tackling plastic pollution through the Plastic Reboot programme.

- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Still time to win Atlantic Salmon Trust's auction!](#): If you've money to spare, there are some very impressive fishing slots up for grabs in AST's fundraising auction, which runs until 30 October.
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Paddling for water reform](#): Paddle UK's Head of Access and Environment, Ben Seal, reports progress lobbying for "clean water and clear access" in the Water Reform bill.
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Rivers Trust makes space for water at 10 Downing Street](#): On the 15th October, representatives from the Riverscapes Partnership, supporting MPs, river ambassadors and champions, hand delivered a letter advocating for the Making Space for Water campaign to the Prime Minister at Number 10, calling on the Government to support the creation of nationwide river corridors.
- ➔ 13 October 2025: [Simon Francis speaks to Fly Culture](#): Wild Trout Trust chairman Simon Francis sets out his vision for the future in a chat with Fly Culture Podcast host Pete Tyjas.
- ➔ 13 October 2025: [Ken Whelan: a river runs free](#): Atlantic Salmon Trust vice president Ken Whelan, also of the East Wicklow Rivers Trust, discusses the importance of removing barriers that impede fish migration with RTE.
- ➔ 9 September 2025: [Citizen science: BART's river results are in](#): Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) presents the results of its annual Bristol Avon RiverBlitz, which, this year, saw 303 volunteers collect 267 water samples from across the catchment.

[More news...](#)

Jobs and other opportunities

The closing dates for jobs are in brackets.

- ➔ [Director, Central Team: Freshwater Habitats Trust](#) (21 November 2025)
- ➔ [Farm and Water Advisors: Wiltshire Wildlife Trust / Wessex Rivers Trust](#) (17 November 2025)
- ➔ [Engagement Officer, Roding Rises: Thames21](#) (16 November 2025)
- ➔ [Project Manager, Roding Rises: Thames21](#) (16 November 2025)
- ➔ [Project Officer - Barriers and Biodiversity: East Yorkshire Rivers Trust](#) (14 November 2025)
- ➔ [Tyne Catchment Officer: Tyne Rivers Trust](#) (14 November 2025)
- ➔ [Conservation Officer - Guardians of our Rivers: Next Steps: Buglife](#) (10 November 2025)
- ➔ [Senior Project Officer: River Waveney Trust](#) (9 November 2025)

- [Eel Restoration Project Officer: Galloway Fisheries Trust](#) (7 November 2025)
- [Marine and Freshwater Project Coordinator: North Wales Rivers Trust](#) (6 November 2025)
- [Catchment Manager: Thames21](#) (31 October 2025)
- [River and Wetlands Assistant Project Officer: River Thame Conservation Trust](#) (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)

River of the week



The River Thet, Norfolk, currently under investigation following a mysterious foam spill. Photo by [Geographer](#) originally published on [Geograph](#) under a [Creative Commons \(CC-BY-2.0\)](#) licence.

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