

UK Rivers Network

UK Rivers Network: Weekly News Update –3/11/25

River news

- ➔ 31 October 2025: [New Nature Adventures for Nursery Groups](#): Up in Edinburgh, Water of Leith have just launched some "new programmes for nursery-aged children, giving little learners a hands-on opportunity to explore the nature and wildlife of the river corridor".
- ➔ 31 October 2025: [River restoration improves habitats in East Anglia](#): A report on how the Environment Agency and Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland Internal Drainage Board (IDB) have reconnected habitats on Starston Beck in Norfolk.
- ➔ 31 October 2025: [Tell your tales of the River Tweed](#): Residents from north Northumberland and the south of Scotland are being invited to share their stories and love of the River Tweed. The Destination Tweed project team want the tales to help entertain, educate and inspire visitors who come to experience the new River Tweed Trail when it is completed in 2028.
- ➔ 30 October 2025: [£2m project to track 'forever chemicals' in UK rivers](#): A £2 million national research project will investigate how toxic 'forever chemicals' are polluting rivers and wildlife, starting with the Thames. The four year UNSaFE project, (UNderstanding the Scale, Sources, Fate and Effects of PFAS pollution), will look at how PFAS (manmade compounds used in everyday items like non-stick pans and waterproof coats) spread, how they affect ecosystems, and how best to monitor and reduce the risks. Scientists from Brunel University of London, Imperial College London, King's College London, and the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology are leading the research. Funded by the government's UKRI (UK Research and Innovation), they're joined by the Environment Agency and citizen science charity Earthwatch.
- ➔ 30 October 2025: [River Usk comes to life in community exhibition](#): A powerful new exhibition at Newport's Riverfront Gallery brings together

young people and the local community to celebrate and reimagine the River Usk

- ➔ 29 October 2025: [Should the River Thames have the right to go to court?:](#) Hoi Mok, a law student at King's College, explored the issue through a public stall at the Kingston River Cultures Festival recently: "Many supported the idea as an effective way to protect rivers, while others questioned its redundancy considering existing public environmental awareness".
- ➔ 29 October 2025: [Saving species in the River Irfon catchment: my time at Freshwater Habitats Trust:](#) Kirsty Allwood reflects on what she learned in her time working on the River Irfon in mid Wales.
- ➔ 29 October 2025: [Witney water fair showcases river progress:](#) West Oxfordshire District Council's Waterways Fair took place this week, informing the local community about efforts to tackle river pollution and flooding.
- ➔ 28 October 2025: [Thinking with rivers book reviews:](#) A thoughtful back-to-back review of James Scott's "In Praise of Floods" and Robert Macfarlane's "Is a River Alive?" published in Commonweal this week.
- ➔ 27 October 2025: [Thames Water bill boycott vindicated?:](#) A man who has refused to pay his "Thames Waster" bills for over two years believes the Environment Agency's latest report on failing water companies vindicates his action.
- ➔ 27 October 2025: [Could leaky dams stop flash floods?:](#) Shropshire Wildlife Trust has been building "leaky dams" (placing branches and twigs across small waterways) to slow downstream river flows and reduce flooding in Gloucestershire.
- ➔ 27 October 2025: [What happens if Thames Water falls?:](#) River Action's Samir Seddougui explores a secret government rescue plan called Project Timber.
- ➔ 24 October 2025: [Playing river bingo at Glenevin Waterfall:](#) Inishowen Rivers Trust describes its river bingo game: a fun way to help students explore the health of their local rivers.
- ➔ 24 October 2025: [Drought likely to continue into 2026 due to record dry weather:](#) The National Drought Group has warned "England must prepare for an ongoing drought in 2026, unless there is significant rain this autumn and winter. England needs at least 100% of average rainfall

(482mm) to largely recover from drought by the end of March next year. For context, only two months of 2025 have seen more than 100% so far".

- ➔ 23 October 2025: [Ilkley Clean River group keeps up the \(water\) pressure](#): One of the North's more energetic river groups is tightening the screws on Yorkshire Water: "More of the same privatised system will not deliver a clean water or water security whilst profit trumps the environment".
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Thames Water wants permission to pollute Britain's rivers until 2040. No, seriously](#): Lottie Elton, for the Big Issue, explores how Thames is seeking exemption from pollution requirements.
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Radley Lakes: Further Scything at Barton Fields](#): Step away from the tractor! Sixteen volunteers from Abingdon Green Gym scythed, raked and stacked a large meadow beside the lake at the eastern end of Thrupp Green on Saturday 4th October.
- ➔ 21 October 2025: [Draw me a river? Design me a jumper...](#): Suffolk Wildlife Trust is calling on members to "wrap up the year with creativity, warmth and a jumper that celebrates everything we love about winter... especially the wildlife and natural beauty right on our doorstep".
- ➔ 9 October 2025: [Burton's washlands river project is finished!](#): The impressively restored Burton Washlands is part of a plan to put the River Trent back at the heart of the historic brewing town, with a new play area, improved flood defence, boardwalks across the floodplain, and enhanced wildlife habitats.
- ➔ 7 October 2025: [First pine martens released in Exmoor National Park in landmark nature recovery project](#): A pioneering nature recovery project has reintroduced 19 pine martens to Exmoor National Park, marking the official return of a native species lost for over a century, according to Devon Wildlife Trust.

[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 Trent at Burton-on-Trent where habitats have been enhanced, flood defenses bolstered, and play areas improved. Photo by UK Rivers Network published under a [Creative Commons License](#).

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