

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Isle of Wight Catchment Sensitive Farming Project

Quarterly Report – July - September 2010

Introduction

In September 2009 the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, The Environment Agency and Natural England signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding to undertake a Catchment Sensitive Farming Project on the Isle of Wight on the principles laid out by the England Catchment Sensitive Farming Delivery Initiative. The inaugural steering group meeting was held on 2nd October 2009 although interest had been cultivated before this time by the Catchment Sensitive Farming Project Officer, Lucy Temple.

Meetings were held with local Environment Agency officers and a Catchment Appraisal and Delivery Plan drafted. This report is compiled against the delivery plan and original MOA and its amendments.

Overall the watercourses of greatest concern when considering diffuse pollution are :

Area 1 : Eastern Yar : from source to Brading Marshes with Wroxall stream tributary

Area 2 : NW Coast from Cranmore to Thorness Bay : including Newtown catchment ie Caul Bourne, Rodgebrook and other smaller freshwater inputs

Area 3 : Thorley Brook : from source to western Yar estuary

Area 4 : Whale to Grange Chines : south-west coast freshwater inputs into SAC.

Area 5 : Medina River : source to Newport and estuary catchment

Table 1 : IW CSF Delivery Plan

Area		Predicted		Actual		Cum (actual)	
		Jul-Sep 10		Jul-Sep 10		Oct 09 – Sep 10	
		N	F	N	F	N	F
1	Eastern Yar	2	3	3	4	15	9
2	NW Coast		3	3	8	10	13
3	Thorley Brook		1		1	1	2
4	SW Coast		3	1	11	7	17
5	Medina	2	2	2	7	8	9
Total		4	12	10	31	41	50

Note : N = Novel visit : F = Follow up visit : Cum = cumulative

Farms visited

Eastern Yar

Roud Manor Farm (RP)
Macketts Farm (RP) + follow-up*
Rowlands Farm (RP & GW) + follow-ups

North-west Coast

Locks Farm, Porchfield (RP) – follow-ups
Youngwoods Farm (RP) + follow-ups
Apesdown Farm (GW)
Hamstead Farm (RP) + follow-ups

Thorley Brook

Lee Farm (RP) – follow-up

SW Coast

Atherfield Farm (RP & GW)+ follow-ups
Limerstone Farm, Limerstone (RH+RP) – follow-ups
Haslett Farm, Shorwell (RP) – follow-ups

Medina

Werrar Farm (RP) - follow-ups
Idlecombe Farm (GW & RP) + follow-ups
Little Whitcombe Farm (RP & GW)

Also Briddleford Lodge Farm (RP)* (not in target catchment – see note below)

* Macketts Farm and Briddlesford Lodge Farm were visited at the specific request of the local Environment Agency staff

Key to Visit themes

GWP = groundwater protection

RP = resource protection

RH = rainwater harvesting

Workshops

No workshops were held or planned for this quarter

Steering Group

The Steering Group will meet every quarter throughout the project to update members on progress and to gain strategic direction from the attendees on particular issues of concern as they arise.

A meeting has been scheduled for October 6th. It was not held earlier due to the commitment of many of the Groups members at the end of the quarter.

Newsletter

No newsletter was planned for this quarter but one is currently in production for early next quarter.

Website

The website was on-line in early December – www.iwcsf.org. The website carries details of the previous report and featured the newsletter when it was published. It is up-dated monthly with local information as we receive it.

Contractors and Professional Fees

Natural Enterprise (formerly Island 2000 Trust) have a software programme which enables them to plot slope maps for farmers to emphasise areas most at risk with regard to soil erosion, chemical run-off and diffuse pollution. This software will be invaluable in helping farmers interpret their soil protection reviews, ELS and HLS options and help advisors target advice across the farm.

Natural Enterprise have produced slope maps for eleven farms during this period (16 in total for the project). These will be required to help farmers with their NVZ maps and Soil Protection Review renewals

Training

The IW CSF Officer attended continued to attend training courses on grassland assessment (ecology and NVC communities) with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on 12th July and 27th September 2010.

Notes

The appearance of new farm visits in this quarter can be attributed to the renewal of Entry Level Stewardship Schemes which require a number of re-visits to conclude appropriate options in the areas / catchments concerned. Due to the time taken to apply, implement and assess the changes caused by these applications the Project will concentrate on re-visiting these farms in the last quarter of the project to assess their efficacy

Lucy Temple

IWCSF Project Officer

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

September 2010