

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Isle of Wight Catchment Sensitive Farming Project

Quarterly Report – October - December 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)	
		Oct-Dec 10		Oct-Dec 10		Oct 09 – Dec 10	
		N	F	N	F	N	F
1	Eastern Yar	0	4	2	3	17	12
2	NW Coast	0	4	1	3	11	16
3	Thorley Brook	0	0	0	1	1	3
4	SW Coast	0	1	0	0	7	17
5	Medina	0	3	1	0	9	9
Total		0	12	4	7	45	57

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

Farms visited

Eastern Yar

Sainham Farm (RP)
Dean Farm (RH) + follow-up
Rowlands Farm/Wydcombe Estate (RP & GW) + follow-up

North-west Coast

Locks Farm, Porchfield (RP) – follow-up
Durrants Farm (RP) - follow-up
Corf Farm (RP)
Thorness Cross Farm (RP) - follow-up

Thorley Brook

Lee Farm (RP) – follow-up

SW Coast

Medina

West Standen Farm (RP) + follow-up

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 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 January 27th. The earlier meeting scheduled for 9th December was postponed due to the commitment of many of the Groups members.

Newsletter

A newsletter highlighting the work done by the project to date has been produced and this will be available on the website shortly. This second edition also includes an update on the recent draft Nitrate & Pesticide Groundwater Pollution Prevention Action Plan 2010-2012 and some good practice guidance for soil and water protection.

Website

The website was on-line in early December 2009 – 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 and completed the ITC Outdoor First Aid on 15th & 16th November.

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

December 2010