



A clear solution for farmers

CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

Priority Catchment Targeting Summary March 2011 – March 2014

River Basin District: Severn

Catchment: River Tern

Total Area: 416 km²

Reasons for designation

Most of the Tern catchment is a Drinking Water Protected Area and a Groundwater Protected Area, because the catchment is predominantly a principle aquifer and generally highly vulnerable to diffuse pollution. The hydrogeology is complex due to varying drift cover and underlying groundwater conditions. Some rivers, including the Strine, have been altered and maintained over time to improve drainage of agricultural land. This has resulted in poor habitats and potential inputs of silt and nutrients. Good Ecological Status – the majority of the catchment is classified as moderate or poor with one stretch classified as good. The designation is based on Environment Agency monitoring data which shows high levels of phosphate, nitrate and pesticides in many watercourses in the catchment. Sediment due to soil loss is also an issue locally.

Priorities

There are 4 sub catchments in the Tern target area. These are Bailey Brook, Ellerton Brook, Lonco Brook and River Tern between Coal Brook and Bailey Brook. The key priority is to protect the groundwater and surface drinking water areas from pollutants derived from agriculture: nitrates, pesticides (including metaldehyde) and phosphates.

Objectives

Catchment Sensitive Farming is working with farmers to try and reduce the amount of nutrients, pesticides and sediment entering watercourses.

In the River Tern catchment the aims of Catchment Sensitive Farming are:

- To advise farmers on appropriate changes in land management and the value of their soil to reduce the loss of sediment and soil-bound phosphate particles.
- To help farmers make better use of fertiliser, slurry and manure to increase nutrient efficiency. This will also reduce the amount of nutrients entering watercourses and water bodies.
- To improve knowledge of the impacts of pesticides (inc. metaldehyde) within the catchment and ways to reduce the inputs. Highlight use of alternatives to metaldehyde
- To advise farmers on improvements to farm infrastructure. This helps to reduce nutrients and sediment entering water from farm yards, tracks and other areas. Farmers are encouraged to apply for the CSF Capital Grant Scheme if appropriate. The following capital items are included in the scheme: farm yard works for separation of clean and dirty water, roofing of manure storage and livestock gathering areas, roofs for slurry and silage stores and livestock and machinery tracks.
- To encourage the use of suitable resource protection Entry Level Scheme options. The following options should be encouraged in the catchment for reducing water pollution: management of maize crops and in-field grass areas to reduce soil erosion and run-off, maintenance of watercourse fencing, winter cover crops and permanent grassland with low or very low inputs. In addition to these, appropriately located buffer strips, wild bird seed and flower mixes, beetle banks and un-fertilised cereal headlands can all help to reduce water pollution from agriculture.

Delivery

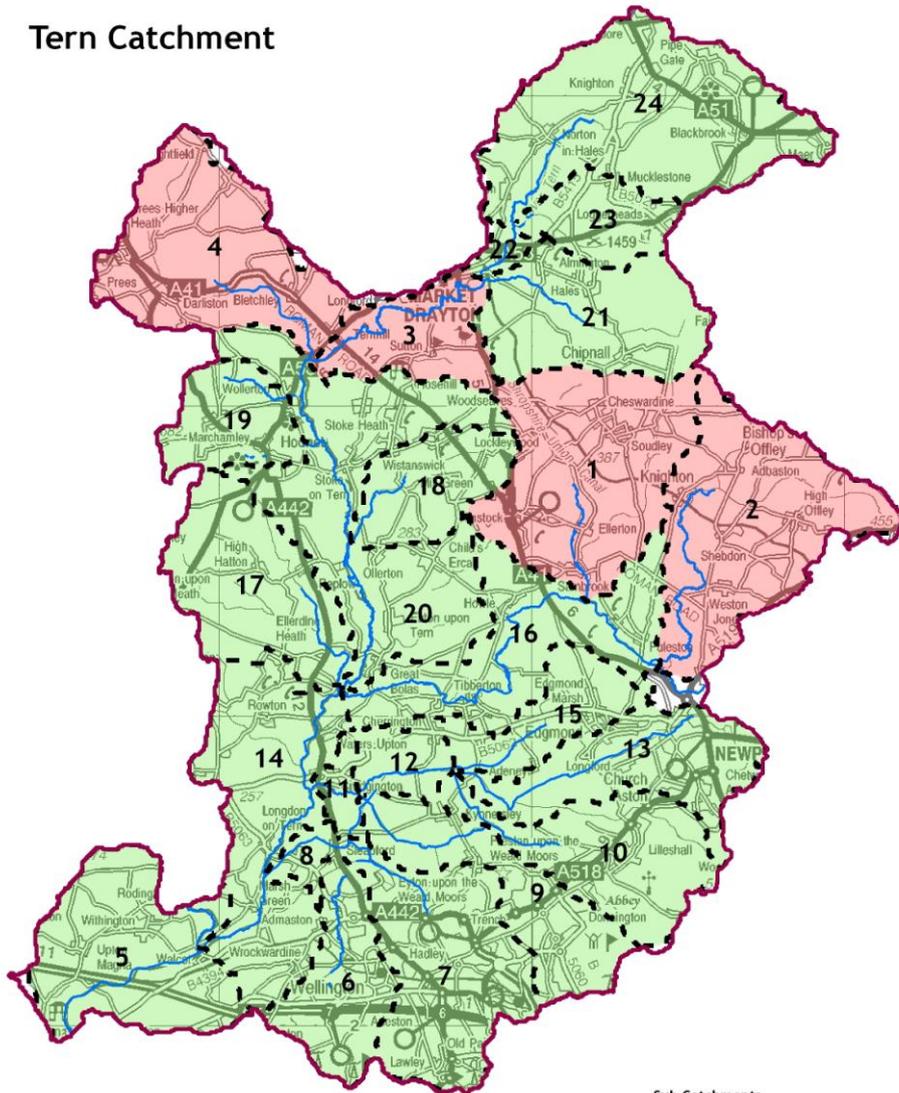
Delivery will be concentrated on offering the following training to farmers in target areas –

- 1:1 visits offering soil sampling with nutrient management planning
- Slurry and manure sampling with nutrient management planning
- 1:1 visits for Fertiliser spreader calibration
- 1:1 visits focusing on slurry storage
- Pesticides training (NPTC PA1, PA2 and PA4S, plus pesticide handling 1-to-1's)
- CSFO visits to advise on Capital Grant scheme
- Farm Infrastructure Audits
- Whole-Farm Appraisals

Also farmers will be targeted for Environmental Stewardship scheme (subject to budgets)

Targeting Map

Tern Catchment



Key

- River Tern Catchment Boundary
- Sub-Catchment Boundary
- Primary River
- Priority Sub-Catchment
- Non Priority Sub-Catchment

Sub-Catchments

Priority

- 1 - Ellerton Bk - source to conf R Meese
- 2 - Lonco Bk - source to conf R Meese
- 3 - R Tern - conf Coal Bk to conf Bailey Bk
- 4 - Bailey Bk - source to conf R Tern

Non Priority

- 5 - R Tern - conf R Roden to conf R Severn
- 6 - Beanhill Brook source to shawbirch B4394
- 7 - Ketley Brook source to Ketley Flood Mead
- 8 - North Telford Interceptor
- 9 - Red Strine - source to conf R Strine
- 10 - Wall Bk - source to conf Pipe Strine

- 11 - R Strine - conf Red Strine to conf R Tern
- 12 - R Strine - conf Pipe Strine to conf Red Strine Bk - source to conf Wall Bk
- 13 - Strine Bk - source to conf Wall Bk
- 14 - R Tern - conf R Meese to conf R Roden
- 15 - Pipe Strine - source to conf R Strine
- 16 - R Meese - conf Lonco Bk to conf R Tern
- 17 - Platt Bk - source to conf R Tern
- 18 - Unnamed trib - source to conf R Tern
- 19 - Unnamed trib - source to conf R Tern
- 20 - R Tern - conf Bailey Bk to conf R Meese
- 21 - Coal Bk - source to conf R Tern
- 22 - R Tern - conf Loggerheads Bk to conf Coal Bk
- 23 - Loggerheads Bk - source to conf R Tern
- 24 - R Tern - source to conf Loggerheads Bk

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Scale - 1:150,000