



# A clear solution for farmers

CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

## Priority Catchment Targeting Summary March 2011 – March 2014

**River Basin District: South West    Catchment: River Exe    Total Area: 1,500 km<sup>2</sup>**

### Reasons for designation

1. Drinking water protected areas failures due to nitrates
2. Failing Shellfisheries due to faecal indicator organism contamination
3. Failing Water framework directive (WFD) good ecological status for sediment, phosphorous, nitrates, fisheries and biology.

### Priorities

1. Drinking Water Protected Area (Groundwater): Duckaller & Dowrich Source Protection Zones: Nitrates
2. Exe Shellfisheries: The whole catchment but focusing on the Culm, Clyst & Creedy as these also match failing Good Ecological Status: Faecal Indicator Organisms (FIOs).
3. Good Ecological Status: Rivers Clyst, Culm and Creedy; Nitrate, Phosphate, sediment/fish failures

### Objectives

1. Drinking Water Protected Areas:
  - a. Reduce inputs of fertilizer to reduce leaching to groundwater and run-off to surface waters.
2. Shellfisheries:
  - a. Reduce the contribution of FIOs to water courses from livestock.
3. Good Ecological Status:
  - a. Reduce the loss of sediment, and associated and soil-bound phosphate particles through appropriate changes in land management.
  - b. Reduce impact of livestock on watercourse.
  - c. Reduce connectivity between the land and surface water, through promotion of track management.
  - d. Improve separation of clean and dirty water in yards to reduce risk of runoff.

### Delivery

1. Drinking Water Protected Areas:
  - a. 9 farms will be offered advice with Nutrient Management Planning, soil husbandry and infrastructure where fields are within Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZ) I and II associated with boreholes failing Drinking Water Protected Area status. Capital Grant Scheme (CGS) visits will be prioritized here to encourage yard works for clean and dirty water separation to encourage better use of nutrients and hence reduce inputs of Nitrogen at inappropriate times.
- 2 & 3 Shellfisheries & Good Ecological Status:
  - a. Farms (above 25 ha) within target area will be offered Infrastructure, Soil and Nutrient planning advice to address nutrients and sediment associated with soil wash and run-off.
  - b. Riparian owners will also be targeted through Environmental Stewardship and capital works under existing Environmental Stewardship where applicable.
  - c. Within target areas stretches of watercourse identified by the EA Waterbody Implementation Plan will be prioritized for advice.

## Targeting Map

