

## 2014/15 Capital Grants: Natura 2000 (N2K) Targeting Plan

River Basin District Plans outlining the proposed targeting approach to Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) Capital Grants in 2014/15.



River Basin District	Thames and South East	Plan prepared	November 2013
<p><b>Natura 2000 Catchments covered by this plan</b></p>	<p>Rivers Kennet and Lambourn Rivers Test and Itchen Downs and Harbours Clean Water Partnership (DHCWP) Isle of Wight (IOW) Catchment partnership</p> <p>All target areas and capital item lists must meet all three of these criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They benefit a water-dependent N2K catchment to help achieve objectives set in the first cycle of River Basin Management Plans by 2015.</li> <li>• They help meet a remedy (identified in ENSIS) which has not been started or not fully implemented.</li> <li>• Items are shown to be potentially effective (using CSF Evidence Effectiveness data).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Natura 2000 sites covered by this plan</b></p>	<p>Natura 2000 sites and which catchment they lie within:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - Kennet and Lambourn CSF catchment</li> <li>2. River Lambourn SAC - Kennet and Lambourn CSF catchment</li> <li>3. River Itchen SAC - Test and Itchen CSF catchment</li> <li>4. The Solent SAC – Test and Itchen CSF catchment, DHCWP, IOW CSF Partnership</li> </ol>
<p><b>Natura 2000 Catchment(s) not being considered for grants</b></p>	<p>Upper Lee and Stort – Rye Meads SAC Arun and western Rother – Arun Valley SAC Eastern Rother and Walland Marsh – Dungeness SAC</p>	<p><b>Rationale</b></p>	<p>There is currently no evidence that the condition of these Natura 2000 sites is being adversely affected by Diffuse Water Pollution from Agriculture (DWPA).</p>

## Catchment 1

<b>Catchment where grants will be offered</b>	Kennet and Lambourn
<b>Rationale for offering grant</b>	<p>There are 2 relevant N2K Sites for this CSF catchment:</p> <p><b>Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC</b> Chilton Foliat Meadows SSSI – unit 6 running water, unfavourable no change. Reasons for adverse condition: water pollution – agriculture/run-off and siltation. Remedy: DWPA and CSF delivery. N2K features of interest include high populations of desmoulin’s whorl snail dependant on good hydrological conditions and appropriate chalk river flora.</p> <p><b>River Lambourn SAC</b> River Lambourn SSSI – all 3 units unfavourable no change. Reasons for adverse condition: water pollution – agriculture/run-off and siltation. Remedy: DWPA and CSF delivery. N2K features of interest include bullhead and brook lamprey that depend on high water quality and the presence of coarse stream bed sediment.</p> <p>Many other riparian SSSI units on the River Kennet have similar adverse condition and remedies but are not N2K sites so are therefore excluded from this plan although those downstream of Chilton Foliat Meadows and the River Lambourn confluence will benefit from capital works being carried out.</p> <p>The effectiveness scores for the Kennet and Lambourn catchment are 3.09 for phosphate and 2.0 for sediment indicating a high agricultural Diffuse Water Pollution (DWP) contribution.</p>

<p><b>Description of theme</b></p>	<p>Grants will address phosphate and sediment from agriculture to target the issues and actions identified by the DWPA, SSSI condition assessment, and WFD evidence projects. Agriculture is believed to be a major source of phosphate and sediment for both sites, although sewage treatment works and highways are also implicated.</p> <p>It is believed that a significant proportion of agricultural run-off is related to tracks, gateways and other hard surfaces such as uncovered concrete in farm yards. Many of these lack adequate surfaces or separation of rainfall from soiled areas. In parts of the target area the condition of By-Ways Open To All Traffic (BOATs) is a significant factor, and in some cases these are acting as significant pathways. It is unlikely that these will be addressed directly by the Capital Grant Scheme (CGS) in the time available due to the complexity of tenure and access rights, CGS will be deployed to prevent agricultural run-off to BOATs in the first instance. Infrastructure improvements to reduce run-off from hard surfaces are likely to reduce phosphate and sediment loss to the watercourses. Livestock grazing livestock adjacent to water courses is also a local source of phosphate and sediment.</p>																										
<p><b>CSF Capital Grant Scheme (CGS) items to be deployed</b></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>CSF003</td> <td>Watercourse fencing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF007</td> <td>Hard bases for livestock drinkers and feeders</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF008</td> <td>Pasture pumps and associated pipework</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF009</td> <td>Ram pumps and associated pipework</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF010</td> <td>Livestock Troughs with associated pipework</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF011</td> <td>Cross drains on or in farm tracks or within farm yards for clean and dirty water separation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF012</td> <td>Sediment ponds and traps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF014</td> <td>Yard works for clean and dirty water separation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF016</td> <td>Resurfacing of gateways</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF017</td> <td>Rainwater storage tanks, first flush rainwater diverters and downpipe filters</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF021</td> <td>Livestock and machinery tracks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF023</td> <td>Roofing of manure storage and livestock gathering areas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSF026</td> <td>Roofs for slurry and silage stores including self-feed silage stores</td> </tr> </table> <p>The above items will be deployed to reduce run-off from tracks and farm buildings by preventing rainwater from reaching polluted surfaces, and by diverting water carrying phosphate and sediment to safe areas. Also, by preventing livestock access to watercourses, and reducing run-off from heavily used in-field areas such as gateways, feeders and drinkers. All of the items</p>	CSF003	Watercourse fencing	CSF007	Hard bases for livestock drinkers and feeders	CSF008	Pasture pumps and associated pipework	CSF009	Ram pumps and associated pipework	CSF010	Livestock Troughs with associated pipework	CSF011	Cross drains on or in farm tracks or within farm yards for clean and dirty water separation	CSF012	Sediment ponds and traps	CSF014	Yard works for clean and dirty water separation	CSF016	Resurfacing of gateways	CSF017	Rainwater storage tanks, first flush rainwater diverters and downpipe filters	CSF021	Livestock and machinery tracks	CSF023	Roofing of manure storage and livestock gathering areas	CSF026	Roofs for slurry and silage stores including self-feed silage stores
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	<p>listed address sources and pathways of DWP that occur frequently in the Kennet and Lambourn catchments, and take up of these CGS options will contribute to a reduction in one or more of the pollutants contributing to adverse condition.</p>
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## Catchment 2

<p><b>Catchment where grants will be offered</b></p>	<p>Rivers Test and Itchen, Downs and Harbours Clean Water Partnership, Isle of Wight CSF Partnership.</p> <p>These catchments have been combined for the purposes of this project as they all contribute diffuse nitrate pollution to the Solent SAC. The surface water sources and pathways for nitrates in the River Itchen catchment are largely the same as those for phosphates and sediment so will therefore be addressed by the same CGS items. The specific CGS requirements for the River Itchen and Solent SACs therefore overlap and where different are identified by exception. Combining these catchments into a single campaign enables a single grant package to be offered in all of the overlapping and adjoining target areas providing a much simpler and clearer CGS offer to farmers and stakeholders, together with delivery efficiencies for the CSFOs concerned.</p>
<p><b>Description of theme</b></p>	<p><b>River Itchen SAC</b></p> <p>Grants will address phosphate and sediment from agriculture to target the issues and actions identified by the Diffuse Water Pollution Plan (DWPP), SSSI condition assessment, and WFD evidence projects. Agriculture is believed to be a major source of phosphate and sediment for both sites although sewage treatment works and watercress beds are also implicated.</p> <p><b>The Solent SAC</b></p> <p>Rising nitrate levels in transitional and coastal waters of the Solent SAC leading to the formation of dense algal mats. Grants will be offered to facilitate a reduction in losses of dissolved nitrates in groundwater and run-off to surface water catchments.</p> <p>It is believed that a significant proportion of agricultural run-off is related to tracks, gateways and other hard surfaces such as uncovered concrete in farm yards. Many of these lack adequate surfaces or separation of rainfall from soiled areas. In some areas (especially Downs and Harbours Clean Water Partnership area) there are concentrations of small to medium equestrian holdings where infrastructure, grazing and manure management is unsatisfactory. The most significant equestrian holdings will therefore be targeted as a part of this project. Infrastructure improvements to reduce run-off from hard surfaces are likely to reduce phosphate and sediment loss to the watercourses. Livestock grazing livestock adjacent to water courses are also a local source of nitrate phosphate and sediment.</p>

<p><b>Area / holdings to be targeted</b></p>	<p>No geographic targeting has been applied in these catchments because, on the basis of the evidence available, most surface water catchments are contributing significant nitrate loads to the Solent. Furthermore, a significant proportion of the nitrate in the surface water catchments is derived from ground-water bodies underlying a large proportion of the area. Previous catchment walk over surveys carried out on the river Itchen have identified some farm specific sources of phosphate and sediment, but have not clearly shown any significant differences in the contribution from the different sub-catchments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. River Test (entire catchment).</li> <li>2. River Itchen (entire catchment).</li> <li>3. Downs and Harbours Clean Water Partnership (all catchments covered by Partnership), with priority given to livestock, mixed and equestrian holdings.</li> <li>4. Isle of Wight CSF Partnership (all catchments covered by partnership), although livestock and mixed holdings will be prioritised.</li> </ol>																																
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