



A clear solution for farmers

CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

Priority Catchment Targeting Summary March 2014 – March 2015

Catchment: Seaton, East Looe and Fowey (27b)	CSFO: Kate Allingham	
Target Area: 16038	Total Area: 32859	Total N° of Farms: 192*

*Total target Area no. of farms

Reasons for designation

Seaton and East Looe catchments are designated as target areas due to the risk of failing Water Framework Directive (WFD) standards for Bathing Waters in 2015. Bathing water quality in the south west has improved dramatically over the last 20 years - however new WFD standards means a number of beaches in the south west are at risk of failing.

The Fowey catchment has also been identified due to Bathing Water and shellfisheries. However, due to limited resources, only a small area of sub-catchments at the bottom of the catchment is targeted. The sub-catchments have been prioritized by the EA for being most at risk due to agricultural impacts.

Priorities

The water quality assessment of fecal indicator organisms shows raised levels of bacteria resulting in potential Bathing Water failure. East Looe and Seaton Beach, (the latter being slightly less risk); are at risk of failing 2015 WFD standards. The bacteria are carried to the coast by rivers and streams which drain the surrounding area. Bacteria get into the rivers and streams from a range of sources, including run-off from agricultural and urban areas, as well as sewage discharges.

Shellfish Water failing because of fecal indicator organisms - Fowey Shellfishery (recent guideline failure)

Objectives

Within the catchment the aim is to raise the awareness of farmers to diffuse water pollution from agriculture.

- To increase farmers understanding of yard runoff, clean and dirty water separation and manure storage systems. Also reduce connectivity between the land and surface water, through promotion of track management and promote better understanding of soil and water relationship.
- To promote the fencing of water-courses to keep livestock out of rivers and provide alternative drinking.
- To increase their understanding of issues surrounding soil management and reduce the loss of sediment, and associated and soil-bound phosphate particles through appropriate changes in land management and soil husbandry.
- To improve nutrient management and improve efficiency of organic and

inorganic fertilizer through soil testing and adoption of recognized nutrient management methods (PLANET or paper-based). Also promote machinery calibration to increase accuracy.

- Provide training to reduce the impact of high risk methods used in agriculture (e.g. forage maize) via improved management

Delivery

Farms over 20 ha and those identified by the Environment Agency will be the main focus of activity for advice.

The following 1:1s and workshops will be offered:

- 4x Infrastructure 1:1s
- 1 x Riparian Management workshop (June/July)
- 5 x Soil analysis and NMP (PLANET or paper-based)
- 4 x Soil husbandry 1:1s
- Fertiliser spreader calibration 1:1s
- 1x Infrastructure workshop and Capital Grant Scheme (Nov).

The Capital Grant Scheme may be offered in 2015 with visits and on-going support. Within the target areas further priority targeting will aim specific advice to specific problems.

Bathing Waters –as a result of high connectivity due to high rainfall and steep ground, many livestock farms are offered nutrient, soil, and infrastructure training and advice.

Targeting Map - Seaton, East Looe and Fowey

