

DERBYSHIRE DERWENT CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Intro / area information

The catchment of the River Derwent covers an area of 1,197km², covering much of the county of Derbyshire and much of the Peak District National Park. Rising on Howden Moor, the Derwent is impounded by Howden, Derwent and Ladybower Reservoirs. It flows south through a rural landscape and also passes through the significant towns of Belper, Matlock and Derby. There are several important tributaries, the largest including the rivers Ashop, Noe, Wye, Amber, Ecclesbourne and the Markeaton Brook. The river is steeped in history, containing a series of mills and neighbouring settlements developed for workers during the 18th century industrialisation, including the world's first water-powered cotton spinning mill. The area is enjoyed by local communities and tourists alike and well known for both its beauty and heritage. The Derwent finally joins the River Trent to the southwest of Long Eaton where it then starts its journey north to the Humber Estuary.

Catchment (high-level) issues

High-level issues identified from catchment partners, Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plans for the catchment include:

- Habitat creation & restoration
- Improved fish and eel passage
- Rural land management
- Urban land management
- Bathing waters
- Water resources
- Flood risk and NFM
- Protecting against INNS

Delivery priorities

The Derbyshire Derwent Catchment Partnership will prioritise actions to address the following themes:

- Improved Water Quality

- Facilitating Nature Recovery
- Increasing Habitat Connectivity
- Mitigating Climate Change
- Engaging Communities
- Controlling Invasive Non-Native Species

This plan has been designed with reference to the local River Basin Management Plan, Peak District National Park Nature Recovery Plan.

Action Plan

Table 1. Derbyshire Derwent Action Plan.

Action Carried Out	Derbyshire Derwent Priorities Addressed	Priority Locations	Recent/Ongoing Projects
Removal or easement of barriers to fish migration	Improved Water Quality Facilitating Nature Recovery Increasing Habitat Connectivity Mitigating Climate Change	Derwent, River Ecclesbourne, River Amber, Bottle Brook	Derbyshire Derwent Fish Passage, Ecclesbourne Restoration, Bottle Brook Fish Passage
Restoring natural river courses	Improved Water Quality Facilitating Nature Recovery Increasing Habitat Connectivity Mitigating Climate Change	Derwent, River Ecclesbourne, River Amber, Bottle Brook, River Wye	River Ecclesbourne Restoration
Increased catchment scale natural flood management	Facilitating Nature Recovery Mitigating Climate Change	River Wye, River Amber, Bottle Brook, Derbyshire Derwent, River Noe, Dale Brook, Beely Brook,	Derwent Connections, Moors for the Future: Building Blocks, Wye Valley Nature Recovery Project

Assess the feasibility of beaver introductions within the catchment	Facilitating Nature Recovery Mitigating Climate Change	River Derwent	Derwent Connections, Willington Wetlands
Reduce pollution from point sources	Improved Water Quality Facilitating Nature Recovery	Bottle Brook, River Derwent, River Amber, Chaddesden Brook, Black Brook, River Ecclesbourne, Bentley Brook, Mackworth and Markeaton Brooks, River Wye, Highlow Brook,	
Control entry from diffuse pathways	Improved Water Quality Facilitating Nature Recovery Engaging Communities	Bottle Brook, River Derwent, River Amber, Westwood Brook, Chaddesden Brook, Blackbrook, River Ecclesbourne, Mackworth and Markeaton Brooks, River Wye	MMB, Clear Amber
Establish the Living Derwent Forest, linking the National Forest to the Northern Forest	Improved Water Quality Facilitating Nature Recovery Mitigating Climate Change Increasing Habitat Connectivity	River Ashop, River Noe, River Derwent, River Wye	Derwent Connections
Enhance, connect and protect new and existing areas for nature	Facilitating Nature Recovery Mitigating Climate Change Increasing Habitat Connectivity	Catchment Wide	Derwent Connections, Moors for the Future: Building Blocks, National Trust High

			Peak Peat Restoration, Wye Valley Nature Recovery Project
Establish a programme for the eradication of invasive species	Facilitating Nature Recovery Engaging Communities Controlling Invasive Non-Native Species	Catchment Wide	River Ecclesbourne Restoration, Clear Amber
Protect and increase native White Claw crayfish populations	Facilitating Nature Recovery Engaging Communities Controlling Invasive Non-Native Species Engaging Communities	River Amber, Markeaton Brook	Crayfish Ark Site Identification & Translocations
Increasing opportunities for people to learn, enjoy and volunteer for rivers	Facilitating Nature Recovery Engaging Communities	Catchment Wide	River Ecclesbourne Restoration, Wye Valley Nature Recovery Project