

Thames River Basin District

Water Framework Directive

Welcome to the latest issue of the Thames River Basin newsletter. We want to update you on the progress we have made. Work on the water framework directive (WFD) is progressing well and we are on track to get the draft Thames River Basin plan ready for public consultation on the 22 December 2008.

Summary of Significant Water Management Issues

Earlier this year we published River Basin Planning: Summary of Significant Water Management Issues (SWMI) for public consultation. It identifies the most significant issues affecting the water environment in the Thames River Basin District as set by the Liaison Panel and Environment Agency.

We have produced a document with the responses of the consultation which is available on our website. In total we received 56 responses to the Thames River Basin Planning: Summary of Significant Water Management Issues consultation. As part of the consultation we asked two main questions. the first question 'Have we correctly identified the significant water management issues?' 28 of the respondees agreed and 15 disagreed. The second question 'Have we correctly identified the sectors involved for each significant water management issue?' 24 agreed we have and 8 disagreed.

If you would like to see the full results and comments of the SWMI document then please visit our website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd or contact Andy Turton on 0118 9535100.

Thames River Basin Workshops

This summer we have held a series of workshops across the Thames River Basin area. These workshops were held in London, Surrey, Hertfordshire, Wallingford and Kent. These gave stakeholders, composed of delegates representing the various WFD sectors, a chance to meet our staff, learn more about WFD, review and comment on specific measures.

If you would like more information on these workshops or to be invited to other WFD events then please contact Andy Turton on 0118 9535100 or andy.turton@environment-agency.gov.uk.



Next steps

The 650 water bodies in the Thames Basin have been assessed and we have produced, with the cooperation of the Liaison Panel and the delegates from the workshops, measures that will improve the water environment. These measures will form the draft Thames River Basin Management Plan which will be open to public consultation on the 22 December 2008 for six months.

Update on liaison panel meetings

The Liaison Panel have now met ten times as a group and we have also met with them in individual sector meetings.

The panel are currently reviewing the draft River Basin Management Plan and helping us to produce the document.

The next meeting of the Liaison Panel is on the 22 September 2008.

Minutes from these meetings and a list of the representatives on the panel can be viewed on our web pages.

www.environment-agency.co.uk/wfd

WFD Planning Timetable

The planning process can be divided into a number of stages. In the first cycle, these are:

- **December 2008** consult on the draft River Basin Management Plan
- **December 2009** publish the first River Basin Management Plan
- **2015** review and publish the second River Basin Management plan

Do you want to hear more?

We have a large database of people interested in getting involved in river basin planning. Please tell us if we need to update our records, and if you know of anyone else that might want to get involved. If you want to opt out of future mailings please let us know.

More information

For more information on the Water Framework Directive, please contact Andy Turton on: 0118 9535100 or andy.turton@environment-agency.gov.uk

For general information on WFD, log on to: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd

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Thames Liaison Panel Members		
Representing	Organisation	Name
Boat Users	The Barge Association	Andrew Soper
Business & Industry	RWE Npower	Neil Edwards
Consumers	Consumer Council for Water (CCW)	Andrew Whetnall
Environment Agency	Environment Agency	Robert Runcie, Regional Director
Farming	Country Land and Business Association (CLA)	Rupert Ashby
Fisheries	NAFAC & IFM	Chris Poupard
Greater London Authority (GLA)	Greater London Authority (GLA)	Kevin Reid
Local Authorities	Association of Councils of the Thames Valley Region (ACTVaR)	Barry Deller
Natural England	Natural England	Russ Money
Non Government Organisations	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	Frank Lucas
Ports	Port of London Authority (PLA)	Richard Everitt
Regional Assembly	South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA)	Jorn Peters
London Councils	London Borough of Hounslow	Cllr Malcolm Grimston
River Thames	River Thames Partnerships	Jason Debney
Water Companies	Thames Water	Richard Aylard