

Finding your way around the River Basin Management Plans (2015-2021)

River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) are strategic plans which gives everyone concerned with the River Basin District (RBD) a measure of certainty about the future of water management in that district. It includes objectives for each water body and a summary of the programme of measures necessary to reach those objectives.

There are three RBMPs that cover part of Wales - Western Wales, Dee and Severn. Natural Resources Wales leads on the RBMPs for Western Wales and Dee, and we work closely with the Environment Agency who lead on the Severn RBMP.

The RBMP is made up of several documents and data. For the Western Wales and Dee RBMPs these are outlined in figure 1 and described below. The supporting documents which contain the required statutory assessments of the RBMP are also outlined. Further information on the documents which make up the Severn RBMP can be found on the GOV.UK web site.

Figure 1: Contents of the RBMP and supporting documents for Western Wales and Dee RBMPs

River Basin Management Plan	
River Basin Management Plan Summary/Part 1: Severn RBD RBMP	Summary of the environmental objectives and programme of measures
River Basin Management Plan Overview Annex/National planning overview and additional information (part 2)	Summary of the technical, economic and engagement processes used to develop this plan
Water Watch Wales/Maps, data & supporting information	Interactive maps which meet requirements under Annex VII of the Directive.
River Basin Planning Progress Report for Wales 2009 – 2015	Summary of the progress since the first plan
Inventory of Emissions, Discharges and Losses of Substances & Chemical Analysis	Diffuse and direct discharges in each RBD for chemicals where data available and chemical analysis information, e.g. limits of quantification.
Protected Areas Register	Updated register of Protected Areas in the river basin district
Supporting documents	
Statement of Particulars	Meets statutory requirements of the Strategic Environment Assessment Regulations
Habitats Regulation Assessment	Meets statutory requirements of the Habitats Regulations

The River Basin Management Plan

‘River Basin Management Plan Summary’ (summary) and ‘Part 1: Severn river basin district River basin management plan’

These documents meet the statutory requirements of the Water Framework Directive, aimed at strategic stakeholders and the European Commission. They describe the current condition of the RBD, what we have achieved since 2009, Programme of Measures for improving the water environment by 2021, water body objectives and a forward look to the planned review in 2021.

‘River Basin Management Planning Overview Annex’ (Wales) and ‘National planning overview and additional information’ (Part 2) (England)

The **Annex** provides the technical detail for Wales behind the decision making which has shaped the RBMP. It refers to a number of supporting documents for the more technical information and guidance. For the Dee in England this information is presented in the **Part 2** document.

‘Water Watch Wales’ and ‘Maps, data & supporting information’ - supporting local information, data, and maps

Much of the information is best presented in map or spreadsheet format. Information on the current state of the water environment, measures and objectives for improving it can be found on **Water Watch Wales**¹. This is an interactive spatial web based tool that provides supporting information and data to assist partners. It enables the user to navigate to their area of interest and review the available information about that specific area. For the English part of the Dee the **Catchment Data Explorer**² is a web application to help explore and obtain detailed information about local catchments and individual bodies of water in England. You can find GeoPDF maps, statistics and main findings for England on the Environment Agency's **Sharefile platform**².

‘River Basin Planning Progress Report for Wales, 2009 – 2015’ (Progress Report)

The **Progress Report** sets out the detailed information on the current state of the water environment in Wales and the Dee RBD including analysis of improvements and deterioration since the 2009 plan. It includes a review of the outcomes since 2009 and a look at the lessons learnt which will help us to improve delivery over the next six years.

‘Inventory of Emissions, Discharges and Losses of Substances and Chemical Analysis Information’ (Emissions Inventory)

The Environmental Quality Standards Directive (2008/105/EC) (as amended by Directive 2013/39/EU) is a ‘daughter directive’ of the WFD that have subsequently specified the assessment, reporting, and objectives required for Chemical Status. The inventory of emissions, discharges and losses of priority substances and pollutants is required under The Environmental Quality Standards Directive. It includes diffuse and direct discharges in each RBD for chemicals for which data is available. The inventory will be used to verify that emissions, discharges and losses are making progress towards reduction or cessation objectives for chemicals listed under the Directive. The chemical analysis information is

¹ <http://waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/>

² <https://ea.sharefile.com/d-s5a5e886fd664e818>

required by the Priority Substances Directive to present the limits of quantification of the methods of analysis applied, and information on the performance of those methods in relation to minimum performance criteria.

Protected Area Register

The register of the Protected Areas lying within the river basin districts has been reviewed and updated. It provides information on each protected area including: bathing (recreational) waters, shellfish waters, drinking water protected areas, Natura 2000, nutrient sensitive areas, Nitrate Vulnerable Zones.

Supporting Documents/Information

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations) requires that a Statement of Particulars is made available as soon as reasonably practicable after the production of the plan. This document sets out how the wider environment has been taken into account by the plan, the reasons we are adopting the plan as proposed in light of other reasonable alternatives and also how we propose to monitor potential significant effects of the plan when it is implemented.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

A Habitats Regulations Assessment of the final updated RBMP has been carried out to consider whether the plan is likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 sites. This concluded that the plan will have no adverse significant effect on European sites, and the delivery of statutory objectives to improve these sites. This has been published alongside the RBMPs.

Catchment Data Explorer

The Catchment Data Explorer³ is a web application to help explore and obtain detailed information about local catchments and individual bodies of water in England.

³ <https://ea.sharefile.com/d-s5a5e886fd664e818>