

RIVER TAW

CATCHMENT ACTION PLAN



NRA

*National Rivers Authority
South West Region*

C O N T E N T S

MAP OF NRA SW REGION SHOWING TARGET CATCHMENT

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|----|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION | PAGE 1 |
| 2. | ROUTINE SERVICES | PAGE 1 - 2 |
| 3. | CHALLENGES & PROPOSED ACTIONS | PAGE 3 |

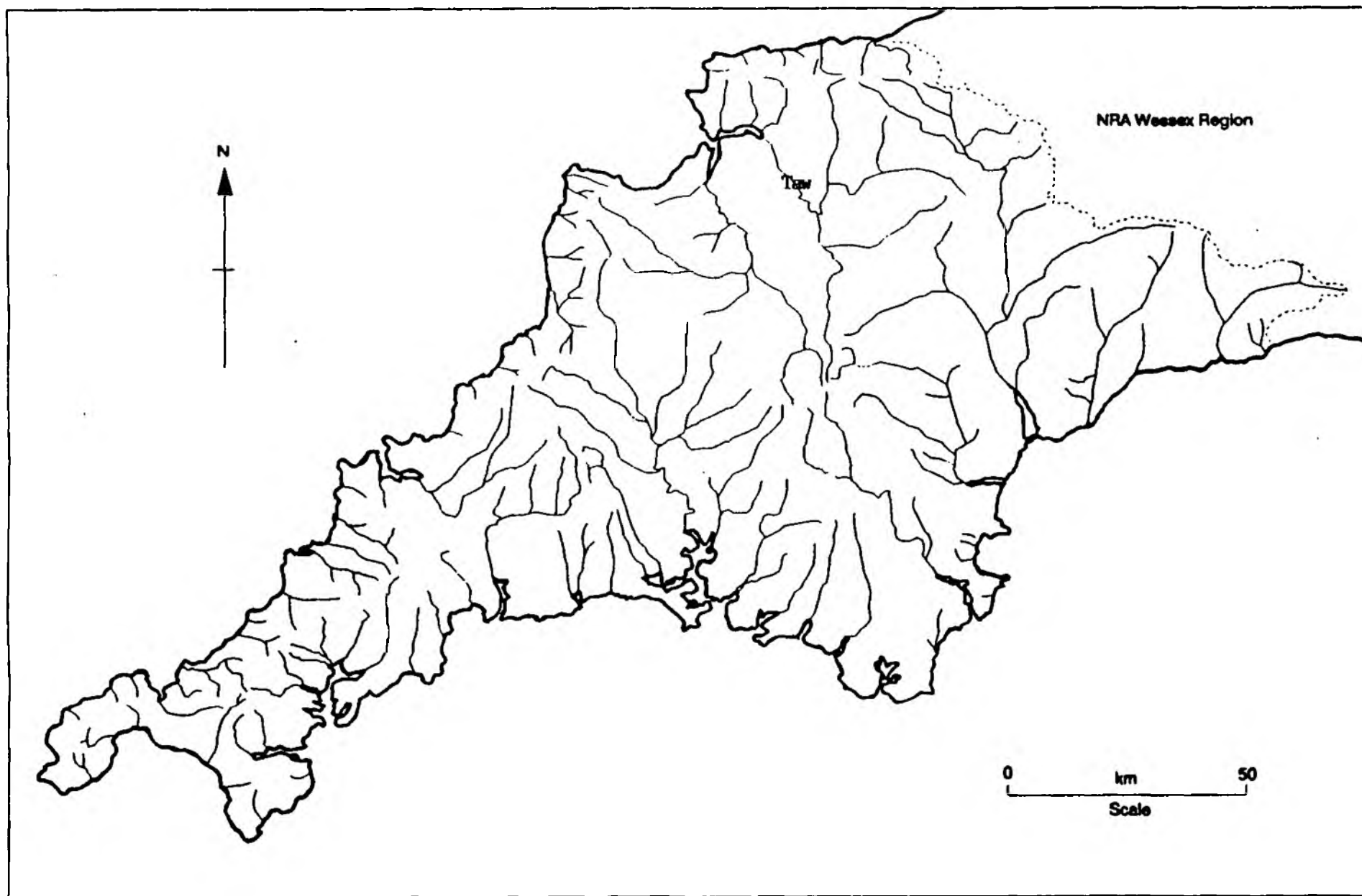
APPENDIX 1 - CATCHMENT MAPS

APPENDIX 2 - NRA DUTIES, POWERS AND TARGETS

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



125119



1. INTRODUCTION

CATCHMENT ACTION PLANS are designed to be a simple, practical means of directing resources to achieve environmental improvements on a priority basis, between and within catchments. They set out the essential routine tasks, and a five year programme of specific actions for each catchment to meet regional and national targets. Changes may occur where unplanned work such as an extreme drought requires priority.

The NRA has inherited a legacy of environmental challenges arising from the use and abuse of our natural resources. Although significant progress has already been made it will be many years before all the work needed can be assessed, funded and carried out.

To achieve the environmental objectives will require not just the clear, vigorous direction of the NRA towards priority work but the help and support of the whole community.

The NRA has consulted with the Regional Advisory Board and Advisory Committees and the local interests about the draft action plans and the format is the outcome of those discussions.

Progress to achieve the Action Plan objectives will normally be reviewed on an annual basis but more frequently where severe problems have been identified.

2. ROUTINE SERVICES

Despite the fact that the NRA is largely a reactive, regulatory body it is possible to plan for much of the environmental protection work even the fact that unpredictable events will occur!

Much of the routine workload such as monitoring, enforcement of statutes and dealing with pollution and flooding incidents needs to have clear priority to ensure that it is dealt with to satisfactory standards throughout the region.

This essential work is carried out according to need in all catchments.

The NRA SW handles over 3000 pollution incidents a year, the majority of which are reported by members of the public. Many are attended within minutes and most within a few hours. In some cases major operations are undertaken to control the pollution and minimise impact on the environment.

Several thousand routine inspections of industrial premises, farms, weirs, fish passes and treatment works are also undertaken. In many cases improvements are required to minimise the risk of pollution or to ensure protection of fish and conservation of the water environment.

As part of the overall environmental protection exercise many flood defence schemes and thousands of planning applications are screened; hundreds of farm pollution grant proposals and effluent discharge applications are processed each year. Many new or varied abstraction licences and drilling consents are also processed to protect surface and underground waters.

Each year about 67,000 samples of rivers, lakes, ground and tidal waters and effluents are taken. Around 1.25 million chemical tests are made on these samples to ensure water quality standards are met and to identify where enforcement action is needed.

In addition detailed studies of samples of invertebrates, fish, algae and plants are undertaken to provide information on the status of the aquatic communities and to test the accuracy of the conclusions of chemical monitoring.

The key abstractions, discharges and monitoring sites for this catchment are marked on map(s) in Appendix 1.

Routine regulatory action is taken to ensure the conditions of thousands of discharges, abstractions and other legal requirements are enforced and illegal fishing is curtailed.

The NRA SW also handles many hundreds of letters and enquiries for information from the Water Act Register and provides press releases, reports and other information to a wide range of interests in the community.

3. CHALLENGES AND PROPOSED ACTIONS

Functional officers have identified the main challenges to the achievement of environmental objectives specific to this catchment.

Where solutions are clear they have been programmed. In other cases further investigations are needed to determine the way forward.

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>TIMETABLE</u>				
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
<u>FISHERIES</u>					
Enforce and monitor fixed net legislation.	_____				
Monitor sea fishing activity within estuary and determine any restrictions needed to protect migratory fish. Consider ban on drift netting.	_____	-----			
Enforce bass legislation.	_____				
Increase estuary enforcement to maximise escapement of game fish.	_____				
Implement NLO of 14 nets.	_____				
Compensate licensed netsmen not to fish for 5 years - linked to joint agreement.	_____				
Re-define sea fishery limit at mouth of estuary to control trawling.	_____				
Consider byelaw to control dredging for mussels.	_____	-----			
Introduce byelaw to stop snatching for sea fish (Barnstaple Yeo).		_____			
Introduce Mandatory Bag Limit for rod fishing.	_____	-----			

ACTION

TIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

Survey all weirs/fish passes. Plan and implement fish pass installation/improvements.

Install new fish pass at Head Weir.

Consider the installation of new fish pass at North Tawton.

Monitor effectiveness of pass at Sticklepath and consider pass at Rowden.

Survey for trash dams and clear. Areas identified - Little Silver, Crooked Oak, Lapford Yeo.

Plan and implement spawning gravel rehabilitation. Areas identified Filleigh (Bray), Lapford Yeo.

Consider gravel improvements/spawning channels - Taw Marsh and Challacombe (Bray).

Annual juvenile survey - extend to tributaries ie Little Silver, Crooked Oak.

Annual redd count - priority upstream new fish passes and rehabilitated gravels.

Survey fish counter sites and install.

----- Programme to be determined

Monitor movements of fish from estuary beyond Newbridge intake by radio tracking to assist in setting prescribed flows and assessing spate sparing.

Programme to be determined

ACTIONTIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

Monitor effects of Exe
Taw transfer if continued

Programme to be determined

Maintain trap at Filleigh

CONSERVATION

Establish new areas of
tree planting at
Umberleigh to encourage
wildlife.

Undertake an environmental
assessment of NRA river
maintenance works and
implement, where possible,
the recommendations of the
river corridor survey.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Carry out review of causes
of water quality
deterioration.

Followed by completion
of the Farm Campaign and
then Task Force Inspection
Programme of remedial
action.

Assess impact and review
remedial actions on
pesticide usage at North
Radworthy, Spire's Cross
and Little Dart River

Assess impact of acidic
run-off in headwaters
(Taw).

Assess impact of
termination of abstraction
at Taw Marsh.

Assess impact of historic
mining activities on
water quality (Mole and
Taw).

Assess impact of 1990
drought at four sites.

ACTIONTIMETABLE

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995

Investigate cause of high zinc concentrations in the Venn Stream.

Pre-scheme appraisal of the following STW prior to improvements as part of SWWS capital improvement programme.

South Molton
Morchard Bishop
Chawleigh
Bishops Nympton

Assess impact of North Tawton and Chittlehamholt STW as part of consent review.

Assess impact of North Tawton Cheese Factory (Taw) and quarrying (Bray) as part of consent review.

Pre-scheme appraisal of proposed sewage improvement in Taw/Torridge Estuary.

Baseline water quality survey of groundwater to establish:

(a) suitability of potable use.

(b) Extent of contamination by substances controlled by E.C. Directives.

Determine deemed discharge consents.

WATER RESOURCES

Formulate and promote low flow alleviation schemes at:

ACTIONTIMETABLE

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Taw Marsh (Taw)	_____				
Snapper Weir (Barnstaple/ Yeo)	_____				
Leehamford (Bray)	_____				
Blakewell (Bradiford Water)		_____	-----		
Review conditions needed for use of Newbridge abstraction.		_____			
Produce catchment strategy following overview of use of water resources in the catchment.		_____			

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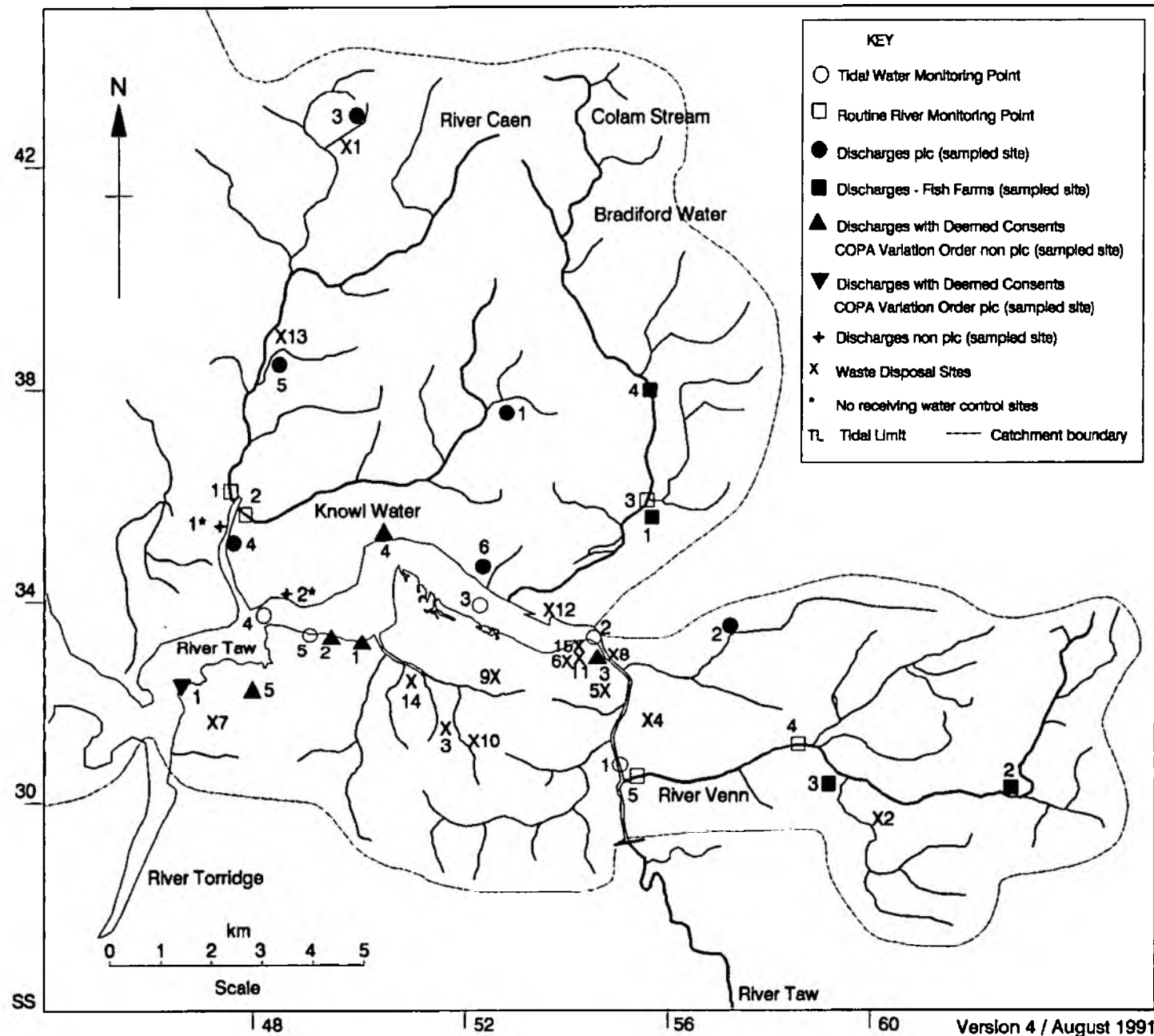
APPENDIX 1

CATCHMENT MAPS

KEY

- Tidal Water Monitoring Point
- Routine River Monitoring Point
- Discharges plc (sampled site)
- Discharges - Fish Farms (sampled site)
- ▲ Discharges with Deemed Consents - COPA Variation Order non plc (sampled site)
- ▼ Discharges with Deemed Consents - COPA Variation Order plc (sampled site)
- + Discharges non plc (sampled site)
- X Waste Disposal Sites (licenced)
- TL Tidal Limit
- * No receiving water control sites

River Taw Catchment 30A



RIVER TAW CATCHMENT 30A

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	P30A/P/25	SS48503530	Veratec Ltd	Site for current dangerous substances
2*	P30A/P/36	SS49803390	RAF Chivenor	Trade Effluent (Treated) Sewage treatment works
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW3184FE	SS53653765	Marwood	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW3112FE	SS59843395	Goodleigh	Sewage treatment works
3	WWTW3316D	SX51154230	West Down	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW3038FE	SS48703520	Braunton (Velator)	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW3165FE	SS49203838	Knowle (Braunton)	Sewage treatment works
6	WSTW3013FE	SS53503440	Ashford, Barnstaple	Sewage treatment works
DISCHARGES WITH DEEMED CONSENTS - COPA VARIATION ORDER NON PLC				
1	P30A/P/402	SS51383308	Pill Cottage, Fremington	
	P30A/P/403	SS51353300	The Pill, Fremington	
2	P30A/P/404	SS50853350	Training Camp, Fremington	
3	P30A/P/407	SS55713290	Raleigh Works, Barnstaple	
4	P30A/P/408	SS51403488	Heaton Court PH, Ashford	
5	P30A/P/409	SS49193251	Lower Yelland Farm, Fremington	
DISCHARGES WITH DEEMED CONSENTS - COPA VARIATION ORDER PLC				
1	OUT3411	SS47553220	Yelland	Outfall Site for current and proposed dangerous substances
FISH FARMS				
1	P30A/P/1	SS565358	Blakewell Fisheries	
2	P30A/P/2	SS638299	Riverton Fisheries	
3	P30A/P/3	SS603307	Venn Fisheries	
4	P30A/P/6	SS56703770	Plaistow Mill	
WASTE DISPOSAL SITES				
1	11BM	SS506421	South Dean Farm, Ilfracombe	
2	11BN	SS613301	Marsh Farm, Landkey	
3	11BS	SS526318	Bickington, Barnstaple	
4	11CR	SS568320	Park School, Barnstaple	
5	11CY	SS558323	Seven Brethren Ind. Est, Barnstaple	
6	11DG	SS550328	Cleave Rd, Barnstaple	
7	11ET	SS483324	E Yelland Power Stn, Barnstaple	
8	11EV	SS557327	Junction Yard, Barnstaple	
9	11EW	SS543323	Quarry, Linden Close, Sticklepath	
10	11FJ	SS529317	Claypit Coverts, Bickington	
11	11FK	SS550327	Cleave Road, Barnstaple	
12	11GC	SS548337	Pottington Ind Est, Barnstaple	
13	11GF	SS492388	Challowells, Knowle	
14	1113	SS521325	Fremington, Barnstaple	
15	11BJ	SS55531	Taw Wharf, Barnstaple	
TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - ESTUARY QUALITY				
1	E30A5	SS56103059		Routine monitoring site
2	E30A6	SS55623310	Barnstaple	Routine monitoring site
3	E30A7	SS53103393	Off Ashford STW	Routine monitoring site
4	E30A8	SS48853372	RAF Chivenor	Routine monitoring site

RIVER TAW CATCHMENT 30A (cont)

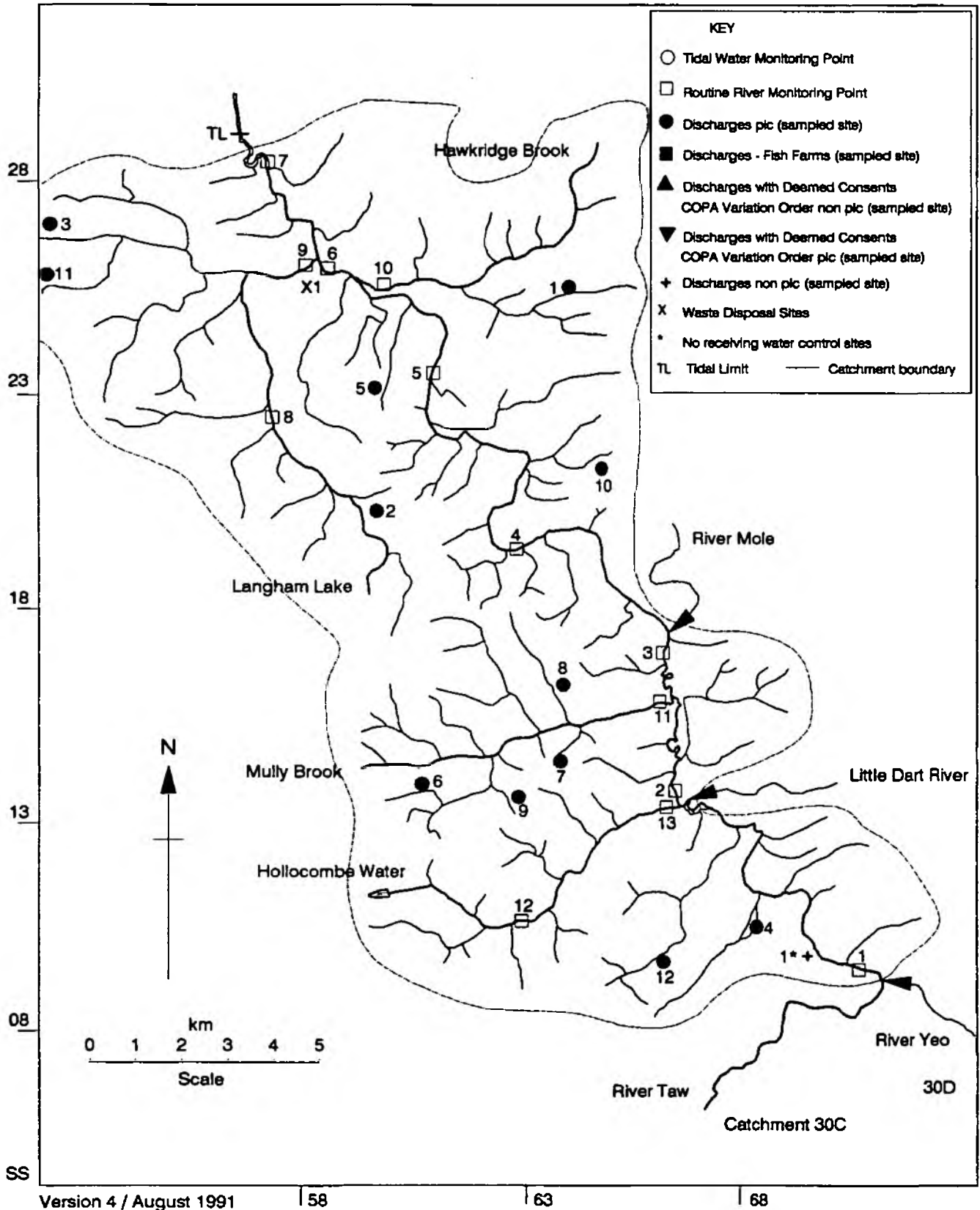
TIDAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING POINT - BIOTA SAMPLING

5 E30A2 SS482387 Taw Estuary - Yelland

ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING

1	R30A002	SS48553572	Velator Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
2	R30A006	SS48783567	Old Railway Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
3	R30A001	SS56633583	Blakewell	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
4	R30A003	SS59083102	Landkey	Chemical/biological site
5	R30A004	SS56793031	Bishops Tawton	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive

Taw Catchment 30B



TAW CATCHMENT 30B

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	P30B/P/2	SS69700950	Hawkridge Farm	STW Domestic
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW3070FE	SS63502520	Chittlehampton	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW3130FE	SS594202	High Bickington	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW3178FE	SS52302723	Lovacott	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW3093FE	SS68220997	Eggesford, Four Ways	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW3009FE	SS59382315	Atherington	Sewage treatment works
6	P30B/P/1	SS60801380	Riddlecombe	Sewage treatment works
7	WSTW3137FE	SS63551115	Hollocombe	Sewage treatment works
8	P30B/P/15	SS63901625	Burrington	Sewage treatment works
	WSTW3056FE	SS63601680	Burrington	Sewage treatment works
9	WSTW3007FE	SS624138	Ashreigney	Sewage treatment works
10	WSTW3069FE	SS64742110	Chittlehamholt	Sewage treatment works
11	WSTW3289FE	SS51432577	Stoney Cross	Sewage treatment works
12	WSTW3312FE	SS66051006	Wembworthy	Sewage treatment works

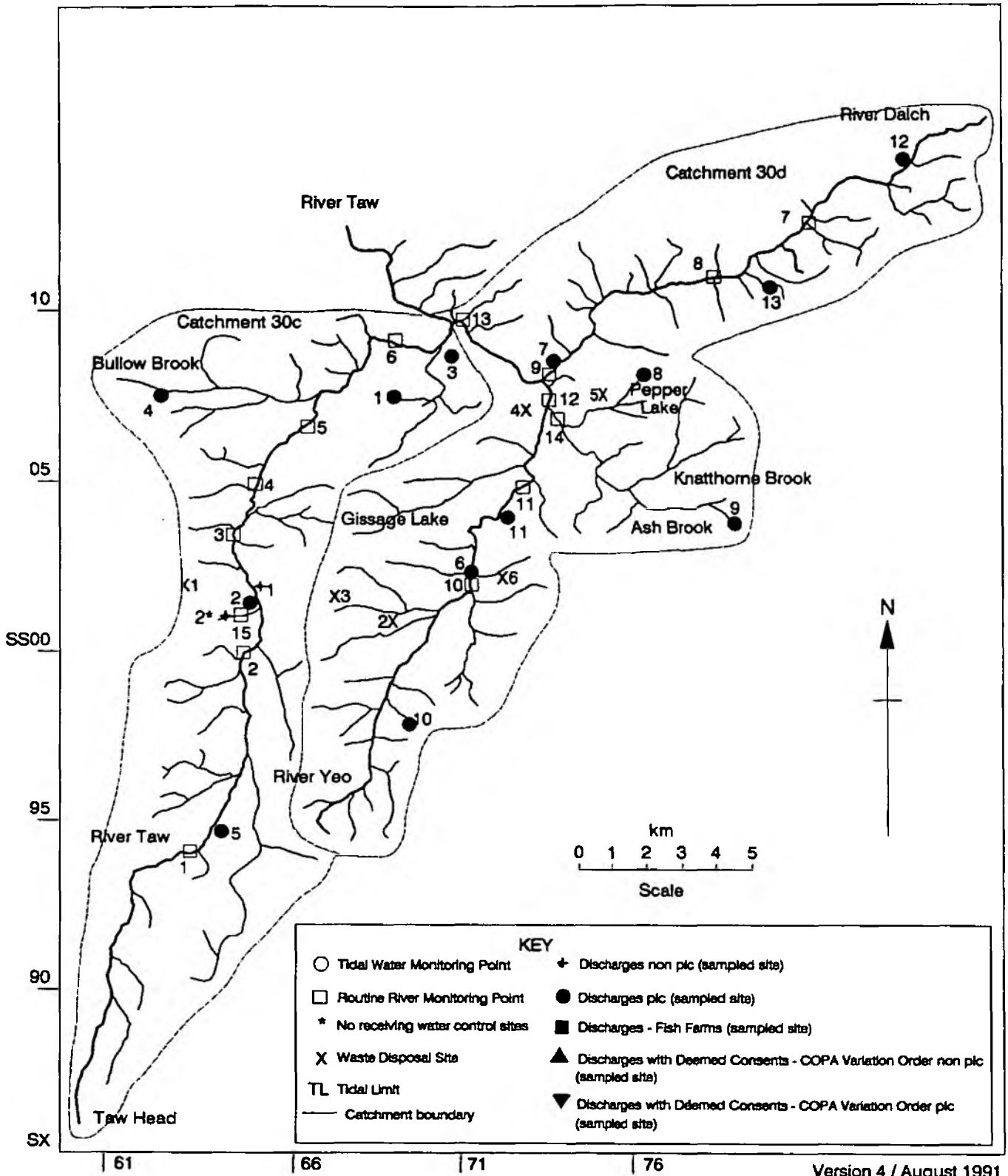
WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

1 11CE/11DJ SS582259 Chapleton, Umberleigh

ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING

1	R30B001	SS70210952	Chenson	Chemical/biological site
2	R30B002	SS66201356	Kersham Bridge	Chemical/biological site
3	R30B003	SS66031732	Newnham Bridge	Chemical/biological site
				Freshwater Fish Directive
4	R30B004	SS62391925	Kingford	Chemical/biological site
5	R30B015	SS60782372	Umberleigh	Chemical/biological site
6	R30B014	SS58222610	Chapelton Footbr	Chemical/biological site
				Freshwater Fish Directive
				Dangerous substances site
				Harmonised monitoring point
				Redlist site
7	R30B005	SS56992828	New Bridge	Chemical/biological site
8	R30B016	SS57152237	Langbridge Ford	Chemical/biological site
9	R30B006	SS57962610	Langham Bridge	Chemical/biological site
				Freshwater Fish Directive
10	R30B012	SS59472534	Hawkridge Bridge	Chemical/biological site
11	R30B007	SS65831582	Hansford Bridge	Chemical/biological site
				Freshwater Fish Directive
12	R30B008	SS62801075	Woodroberts	Chemical/biological site
13	R30B009	SS66171345	Bridge Reeve	Chemical/biological site

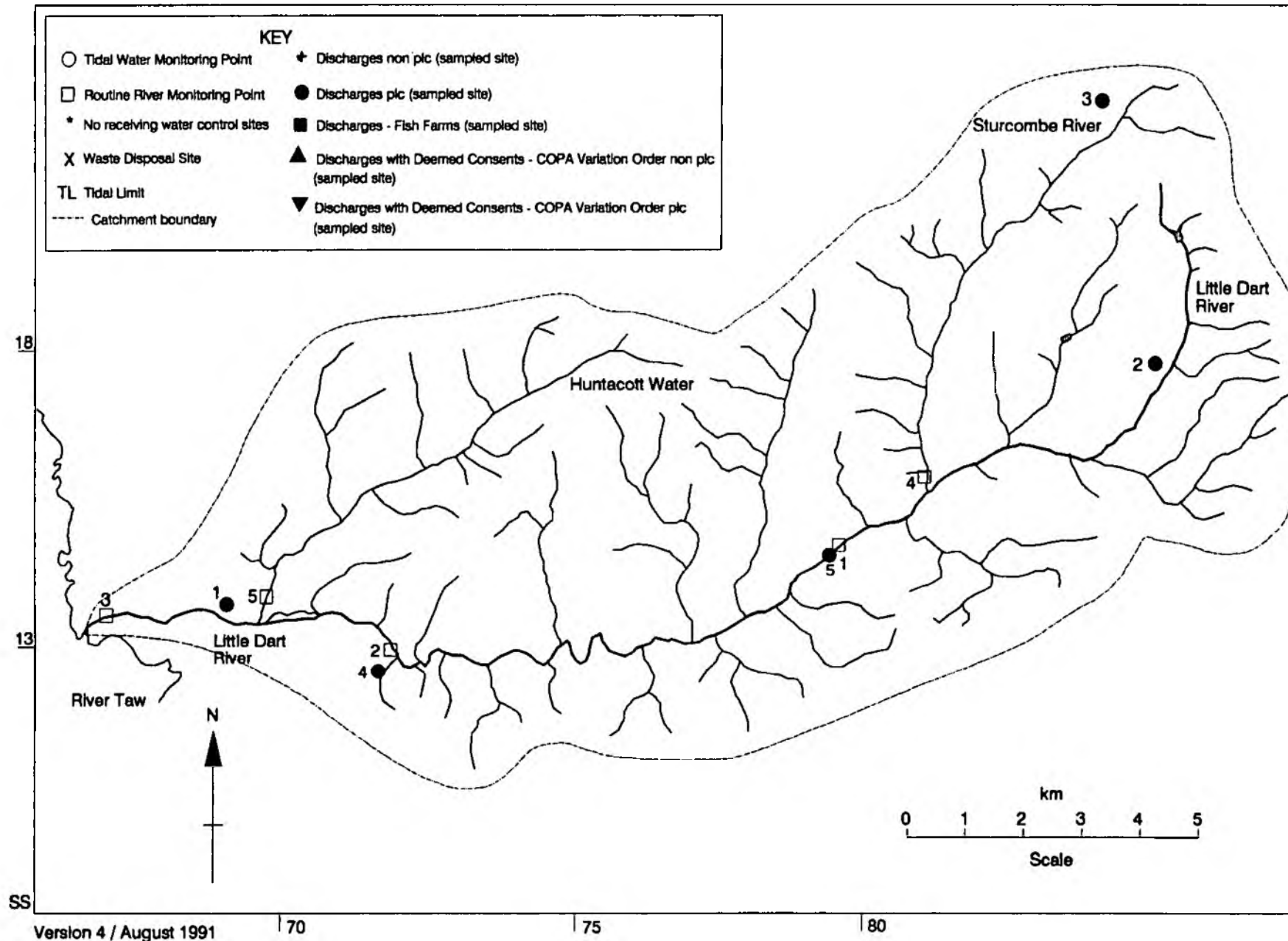
Taw Catchment 30C & 30D



TAW CATCHMENT 30C & 30D

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1	P30C/P/7	SS65510152	Express Dairy	Treated trade effluent
	P30C/P/6	SS65520140	Express Dairy	Treated trade effluent
2*	RPL30C	SS64600065	Spires Cross	River sample d/s discharge
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW3076FE	SS70160684	Coldridge	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW3225FE	SS65460196	North Tawton	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW3227FE	SS71270807	Nymet Rowland	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW3326FE	SS638727	Winkleigh	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW3017FE	SS647948	Belstone/S.Tawton	Sewage treatment works
6	WSTW3028FE	SS715021	Bow	Sewage treatment works
7	WSTW3172FE	SS73500780	Lapford	Sewage treatment works
8	WSTW3202FE	SS76380765	Morchar Bishop	Sewage treatment works
9	WSTW7688FE	SS794035	Newbuildings	Sewage treatment works
10	WSTW3282FE	SX69829757	Spreyton	Sewage treatment works
11	WSTW3348FE	SS72550380	Zeal Monachorum	Sewage treatment works
12	WSTW3211FE	SS84101370	Nomansland	Sewage treatment works
13	WSTW3024	SS801101	Black Dog	Sewage treatment works
WASTE DISPOSAL SITES				
1	11DA	SS645015	Langmead & Week Fm, North Tawton	
2	11DB	SS702005	Broadnymett Farm, Bow	
3	11DC	SS679013	Stone Quarry, North Tawton	
4	11EC	SS738067	Bury Bridge, Crediton	
5	11EE	SS757073	Higher Middlecott, Crediton	
6	11FY	SS722012	East Langford Farm, Bow	
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	R30C001	SX64369402	A30 Br Sticklepath	Chemical/biological site
2	R30C002	SX65499947	Rowden Moor	Chemical/biological site
3	R30C003	SS65130286	Yeo Farm	Chemical/biological site
4	R30C004	SS65780453	Bondleigh	Chemical/biological site
5	R30C005	SS67290659	Taw Bridge	Chemical/biological site
				Freshwater Fish Directive
6	R30C006	SS69680861	Higher Park	Chemical/biological site
7	R30D001	SS81471234	Mill Barton	Chemical/biological site
8	R30D011	SS78511049	Cann's Mill Bridge	Chemical/biological site
9	R30D003	SS73580745	Confluence R Yeo	Chemical/biological site
10	R30D004	SS71730174	Bow Bridge	Chemical/biological site
11	R30D012	SS73170449	Zeal Monachorum	Chemical/biological site
12	R30D005	SS73770679	Bury Bridge	Chemical/biological site
13	R30D006	SS71450926	Nymet Bridge	Chemical/biological site
14	R30D013	SS73730658	A377, Easton Barton	Chemical/biological site
15	R30C009	SS65500090	U/S N. Tawton Dairy	Chemical/biological site
				Drought monitoring site
				Dangerous Substances Directive

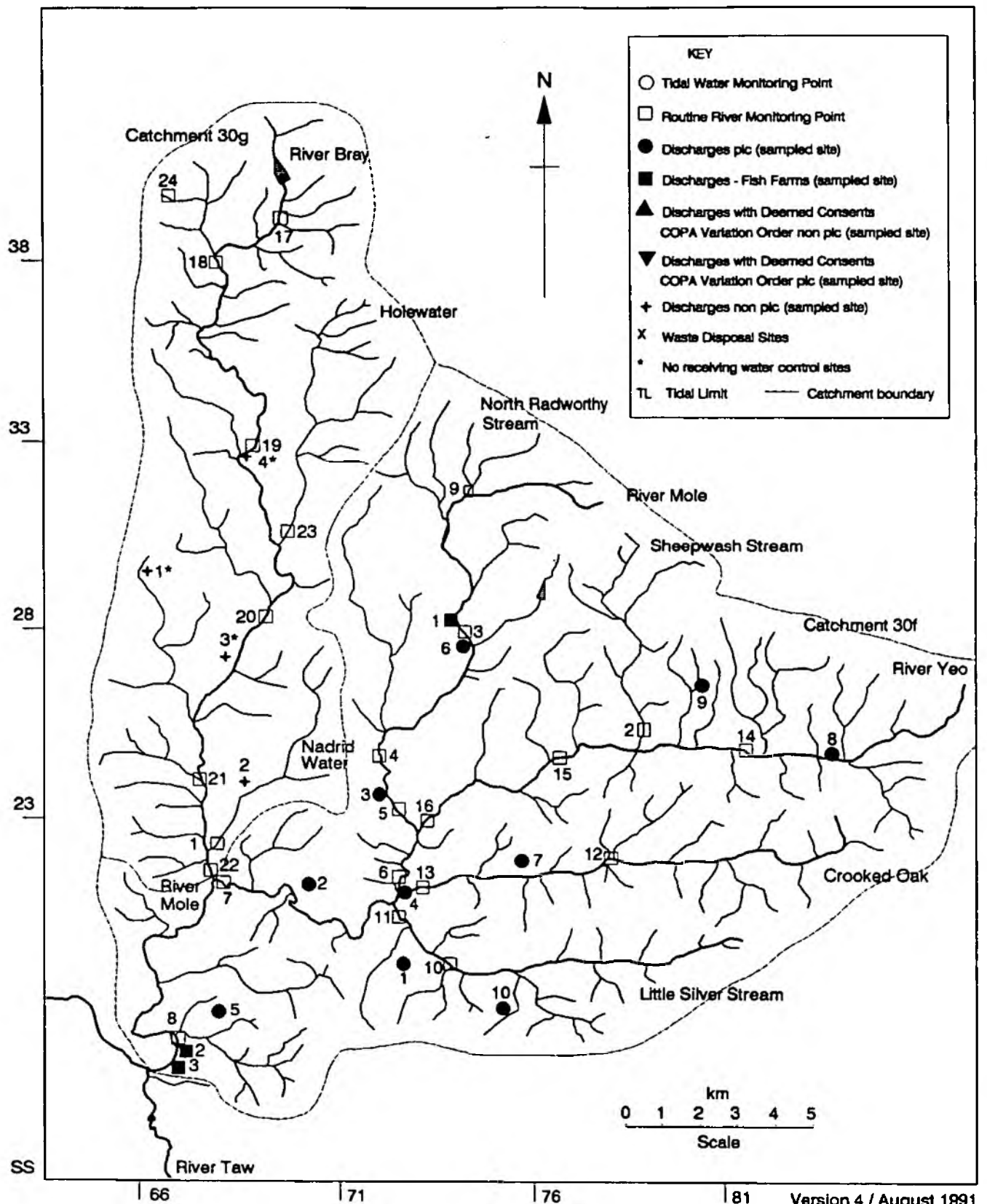
Little Dart Catchment 30E



LITTLE DART CATCHMENT 30E

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW3072FE	SS68801390	Chumleigh	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW3245FE	SS85041786	Rackenford	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW3168FE	SS836232	Knowstone (East)	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW3064FE	SS71701280	Chawleigh	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW3328FE	SS79351475	Witheridge	Sewage treatment works
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	R30E001	SS79671492	New Bridge	Chemical/biological site
2	R30E002	SS71991310	Stone Mill Bridge	Chemical/biological site
3	R30E003	SS66911372	Dart Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
4	R30E006	SS81281623	Bradford Tracey	Chemical/biological site
5	R30E005	SS69671384	Chumleigh	Chemical/biological site

Taw Catchment 30F & 30G



TAW CATCHMENT 30F & 30G

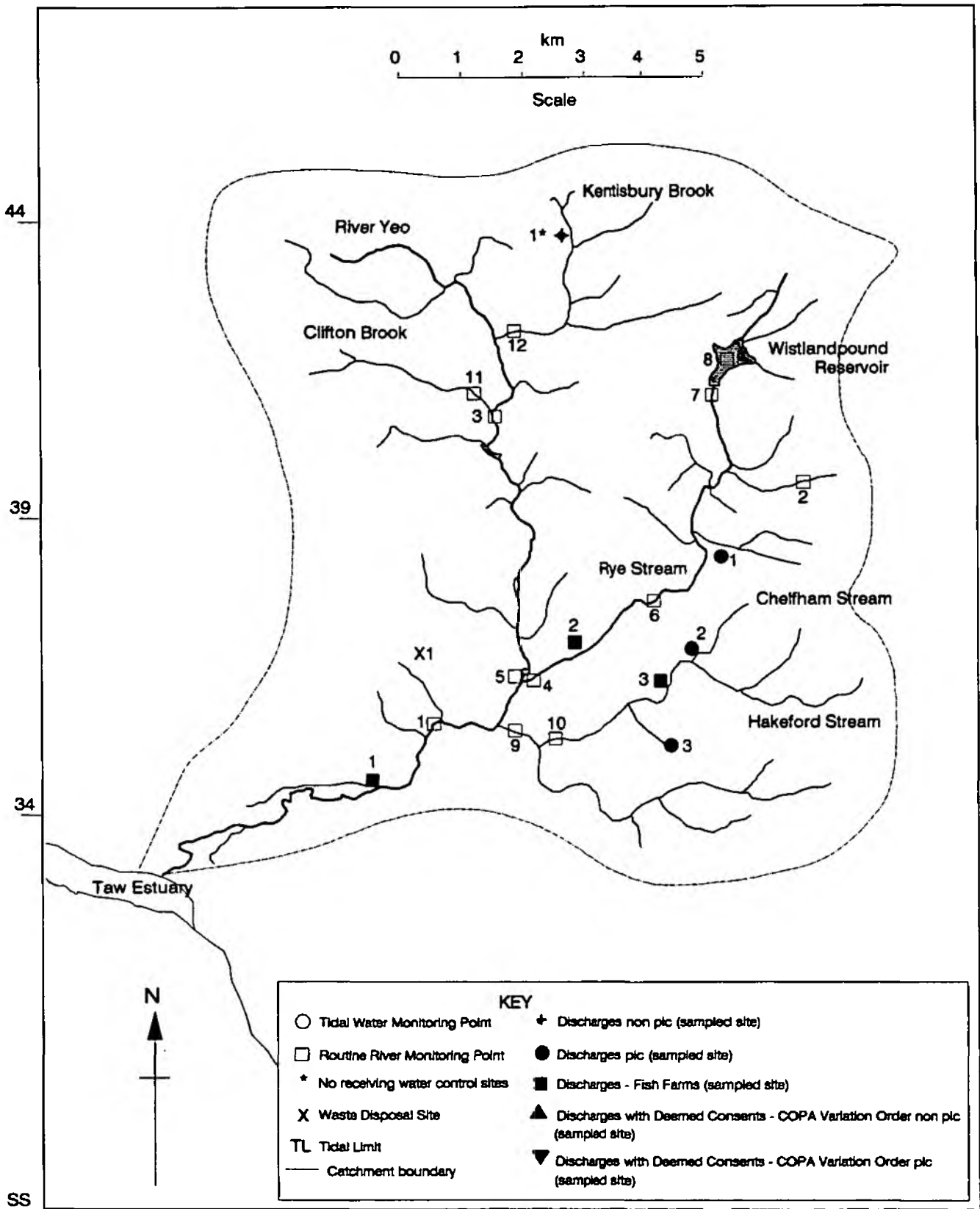
NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	P30G/P/3	SS66463144	West Buckland Sch	Sewage treatment works
2	P30G/P/22	SS68642574	Aaransons	Trade effluent (Treated)
3*	P30G/P/4	SS67602880	Knowslade Cotts	Sewage treatment works
4*	P30G/P/20B	SS68803370	Notts Quarry	
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WSTW3249FE	SS72702040	Romansleigh	Sewage treatment works
2	WSTW3110FE	SS70062284	George Nympton	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW3280FE	SS72202560	South Molton	Sewage treatment works
4	WSTW3004FE	SS724222	Alswear No 2	Sewage treatment works
5	WSTW3162FE	SS68491898	Kings Nympton	Sewage treatment works
6	WSTW3218FE	SS74502970	North Molton	Sewage treatment works
7	WSTW3022FE	SS759235	Bishops Nympton	Sewage treatment works
8	WSTW3313FE	SS84202630	West Anstey (Mill)	Sewage treatment works
9	WSTW3196FE	SS80802850	Molland (East)	Sewage treatment works
10	WSTW3192FE	SS75731961	Meshaw	Sewage treatment works
FISH FARMS				
1	P30F/P/1	SS74302990	Exmoor Trout Farm	
2	P30F/P/17	SS666182	Headmill Trout Farm	
3	P30F/P/17A	SS66671798	Headmill Trout Farm	
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	R30G013	SS67612406	Clapworthy	Chemical/biological site Dangerous substances directive
2	R30F022	SS79022663	Yeo Farm	Chemical/biological site
3	R30F001	SS74352984	North Molton	Chemical/biological site Dangerous substances directive
4	R30F002	SS72062649	Parkhouse	Chemical/biological site
5	R30F003	SS72612474	Prior To River Yeo	Chemical/biological site
6	R30F004	SS72482257	New Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
7	R30F005	SS67672295	Mole Bridge	Chemical/biological site
8	R30F006	SS66741827	Head Barton	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
9	R30G010	SS74653363	D/S Barham Bridge	Chemical/biological site Dangerous substances directive
10	R30F010	SS74212060	Odam Bridge	Chemical/biological site
11	R30F011	SS72362208	Alswear	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
12	R30F023	SS78362338	Ashmill	Chemical/biological site
13	R30F007	SS72472228	A373 Br Alswear	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
14	R30F008	SS82112638	Bottreaux Mill	Chemical/biological site
15	R30F024	SS76642632	Veraby	Chemical/biological site
16	R30F009	SS73162435	Grilstone	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive

TAW CATCHMENT 30F & 30G (cont)

ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING

17	R30G001	SS69294105	Challacombe	Chemical/biological site
18	R30G008	SS67763994	Leeham Ford	Chemical/biological site
	R30G016	SS67743992	Leeham Ford	EC surface water abstraction directive monitoring point
19	R30G002	SS68793473	Brayford	Chemical/biological site
20	R30G003	SS69073033	Brayley Bridge	Chemical/biological site
21	R30G012	SS67542567	Bray Bridge	Chemical/biological site
22	R30G004	SS67552299	Meethe Barton	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
23	R30G005	SS696325	Linkleyham Bridge	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
24	R30G017	SS66294175	Brockenburrow Intake	EC surface water abstraction directive monitoring site

Taw Catchment 30H



TAW CATCHMENT 30H

NO	REFERENCE	NGR	LOCATION	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
DISCHARGES NON PLC				
1*	P30H/P/4	SS61804390	Kentisbury Grange	Domestic STW/Caravan Park
DISCHARGES PLC				
1	WWTW3804D	SS64153870	Bratton Fleming	Water treatment works
2	WSTW3036FE	SS64003730	Bratton Fleming	Sewage treatment works
3	WSTW3288FE	SS63033540	Stoke Rivers	Sewage treatment works
WASTE DISPOSAL SITES				
1	11GH	SS59-37-	Waytown Farm, Barnstaple	
FISH FARMS				
1	P30H/P/1	SS584344	Bulldog fish farm, Snapper Weir	
2	P30H/P/3	SS61763684	Brocks Meadow, Loxhore	
3	P30H/P/2	SS633365	Southwood Farm, Chelfham	
ROUTINE RIVER MONITORING				
1	R30H006	SS59563569	Collard Bridge	Chemical/biological site. Harmonised monitoring programm Freshwater Fish Directive Red list site
2	R30H016	SS65373974	Sprecott Spring	EC surface water abstraction
3	R30H001	SS60344083	Brockham Bridge	Chemical/biological site
4	R30H004	SS61163658	Loxhore Cross	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive
	R30H017	SS61313666	Bratton Stream	EC surface water abstraction
5	R30H018	SS60963658	Loxhore	EC surface water abstraction
6	R30H009	SS63183774	Bratton Fleming	Chemical/biological site
7	R30H008	SS64324134	Wistlandpound Res	Chemical/biological site Freshwater Fish Directive EC surface water abstraction
8	R30H021 R30H020 R30H019	SS643415	Wistlandpound Res	EC Surface water abstraction
9		SS60893565	Chelfham Mill Sch	Biological site
10		SS61333551	50m u/s Road Bridge	Biological site
11		SS60324103	The Old Rectory	Biological site
12		SS61204220	Patchole Farm	Biological site

NRA DUTIES AND POWERS

The Authority has statutory duties and powers in relation to water resources, pollution control, flood defence, fisheries, recreation, conservation and navigation along with various other functions given under the 1989 Water Act.

Whilst most of the Authority's duties and powers are exercised in respect of inland waters in England and Wales, it also has substantial responsibilities for the marine environment around the coast of England and Wales. For pollution control and fisheries purposes it has duties and powers out to distances of three nautical miles and six nautical miles respectively, the six miles being for salmonid protection. For flood defence it is responsible for a large number of sea defences (but not coastal protection which falls within the remit of local authorities).

As well as new duties, the NRA has also inherited other duties and powers under earlier legislation such as the 1963 Water Resources Act, 1975 Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, and 1976 Land Drainage Act.

The Authority also has responsibility for implementing a number of Statutory Instruments, Orders, Notices and Directives relating to the 1989 Water Act. Various European Community Directives on the protection of the aquatic environment eg. Bathing Water Quality, Surface Water Quality, and Freshwater Fishlife also strongly influence its work.

NRA MISSION STATEMENT

The National Rivers Authority will protect and improve the water environment. This will be achieved through effective management of water resources and by substantial reductions in pollution. The Authority aims to provide effective defence for people and property against flooding from rivers and the sea. In discharging its duties it will operate openly and balance the interests of all who benefit from and use rivers, ground waters, estuaries and coastal waters. The Authority will be businesslike, efficient and caring towards its employees.

NRA AIMS

To achieve a continuing improvement in the quality of rivers, estuaries and coastal waters, through the control of water pollution.

To assess, manage, plan and conserve water resources and to maintain and improve the quality of water for all those who use it.

To provide effective defence for people and property against flooding from rivers and the sea.

To provide adequate arrangements for flood forecasting and warning.

To maintain, improve and develop fisheries.

To develop the amenity and recreation potential of waters and lands under NRA control.

To conserve and enhance wildlife, landscape and archaeological features associated with waters under NRA control.

To ensure that dischargers pay the costs of the consequences of their discharges, and as far as possible, to recover the costs of water environment improvements from those who benefit.

To improve public understanding of the water environment and the NRA's work.

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

The overall priority is to continue the improvements which were started in the last year in the following key areas.

WATER RESOURCES

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Improve response to licence applications.
- Establish Water Resources planning forum.
- Progress schemes to ameliorate low flows.
- Implement groundwater protection policy.

POLLUTION CONTROL

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Introduce charging for discharges scheme.
- Implement new consenting policy; begin review of deemed consents.
- Complete 1990/91 survey and consult on water quality objectives.
- Carry out EC Directive requirements.
- Introduce new monitoring programmes for effluents and controlled waters.
- Establish a regional laboratory service.

FISHERIES

- Develop regional strategy document.
- Review licence and other charging schemes.
- Harmonise stock assessment techniques.
- Extend programme of restoration and rehabilitation of fish stocks.
- Increase action to control illegal fishing.
- Submit new fishery byelaws to MAFF for confirmation.

RECREATION

- Continue implementations of Water Act Code of Practice.
- Produce strategy for regional sites.
- Improve cost recovery from the recreation service.

CONSERVATION

- Establish database for regulatory purposes.
- Produce strategy for regional sites.
- Promote conservation schemes.