Strategy to address water pollution in Teign Catchment

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Executive summary

Only 14% of water bodies meet good ecological status in England, and 0% of water bodies meet good chemical contamination status. This is caused by agriculture, mining, road run-off, industrial waste, and sewage pollution. This report focused on these water pollution measurements; Phosphate, Total dissolved solids and Turbidity.

Polluted freshwater rivers are a growing concern within the UK. In this paper, pollution data given by the Westcountry Rivers Trust Citizen Scientist scheme is analysed to map the water pollution trends in the river Teign catchment using QGIS. This dataset is then used to infer sources of pollution and identify potential nature-based solutions to these pollutants.

This report uses the strategic planting of Oak trees (Quercus robur), Comfrey (Symphytum officinale) and Fat Hen (Chenopodium album) and the implementation of a sedimentation pool to tackle the pollution issues in the Teign river catchment. The viability and efficacy of implementing these nature-based solutions are discussed alongside the limitations of this project and how to take the project further.