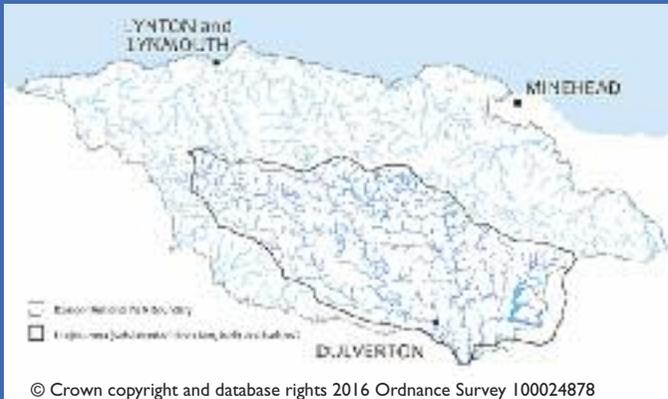


Headwaters of the Exe Catchment Programme

Headwaters of the Exe is a partnership project between Exmoor National Park Authority, South West Water, Exmoor Hill Farming Network and the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group SW. The work of the project is guided by a steering group, with members from a variety of organisations including the Exmoor Rivers and Streams Group, Exmoor Society, Environment Agency and Natural England. The project was formally launched by Stanley Johnson at Hawkridge Village Hall on 22nd January 2016.



The project will run until 2020 and is funded by South West Water and Exmoor National Park Authority. It covers an area of 27,559 hectares and includes the upper Exe, the Rivers Barle, Quarme, Pulham, Haddeo and smaller tributaries, as well as Wimbleball Reservoir.



Further information

If you would like to know more about the project please contact:



Bea Davis
Programme Manager
(Headwaters of the Exe),
on 01398 322278, 07970 099136 or
bdavis@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk



Katherine Williams
Exmoor Hill Farming
Network Officer,
on 01643 841455, 07970 795808 or
kwilliams@northdevonplus.co.uk

For farming advice please contact:



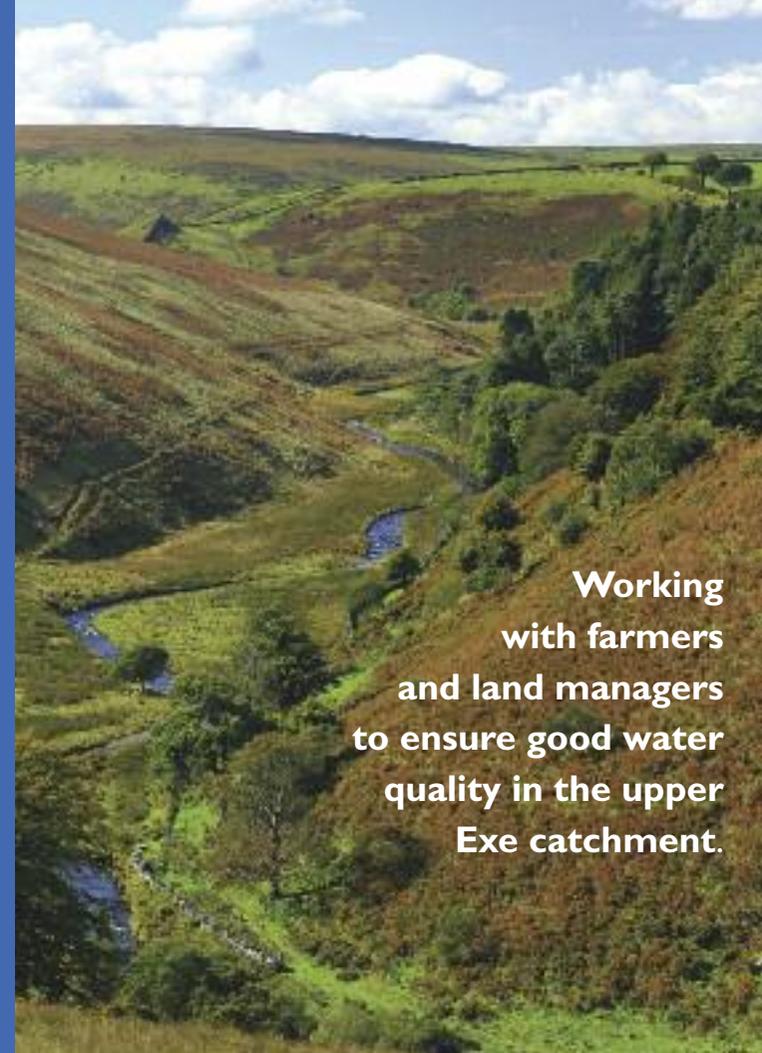
Adam Lockyear
FWAG SW Adviser,
on 01823 660684, 07711811980 or
adam.lockyear@fwagsw.org.uk.

For woodland advice please contact:



James Mason
ENPA Woodland Development
Officer, on 01398 322275 or
jmason@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk.

Please visit our website at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/headwaters



**Working
with farmers
and land managers
to ensure good water
quality in the upper
Exe catchment.**



The Headwaters of the Exe project is working with farmers and land managers to ensure good water quality in the catchment of the River Exe. It is part of South West Water's Upstream Thinking programme.

The project will deliver a range of work, including:

- Advice to farmers, foresters and game shoot managers;
- A capital grant fund;
- Training events, site visits and demonstrations to promote good practice;
- Rights of way maintenance to reduce erosion and run-off in high risk areas;
- Monitoring to identify any localised water quality issues relating to sewerage; and
- Control of invasive species.

Farming

The programme of support for farmers will consist of advice, training and events. Specialist advisers from FWAG SW are available to carry out free farm advisory visits to 50 farms in high priority parts of the catchment and provide confidential reports. Farmers wishing to take up the advice will also be eligible for small grants to carry out work on the farm to help protect water quality.



Forestry

There is a programme of support for woodland owners and managers, including events, advice and capital grants. Woodland creation will be encouraged in appropriate parts of the catchment. Exmoor National Park Authority's specialist woodland officers can provide free advice.



Game Shoots

The catchment is a premier game shoot location, which is vitally important to the local economy. The project is able to offer capital grants and advice to shoot owners and managers for improvements to water management.



Access

The widespread network of public rights of way, permitted paths and open access land are an important asset for Exmoor. However surveys have shown that silt and mud can rapidly enter rivers and streams from these tracks and paths.



A programme of work is being carried out by Exmoor National Park Authority focussing on those paths which have the highest risk of erosion and run-off affecting watercourses.

Sewerage

Localised monitoring is being carried out to collect data relating to sewerage, particularly around discharge points for the smaller sewage treatment works. This monitoring will be undertaken by volunteers through the Riverfly Partnership and the River Exe and Tributaries Association. This will provide an evidence base for action under any future funding programmes.



Ecology

The catchment includes the River Barle Site of Special Scientific Interest, parts of which are assessed as being in unfavourable condition,



partly because of the presence of non-native invasive species including Japanese knotweed (above), montbretia, Himalayan balsam and signal crayfish (left).



The programme is supporting the control of non-native invasive species in the Exe catchment through existing partnership projects.